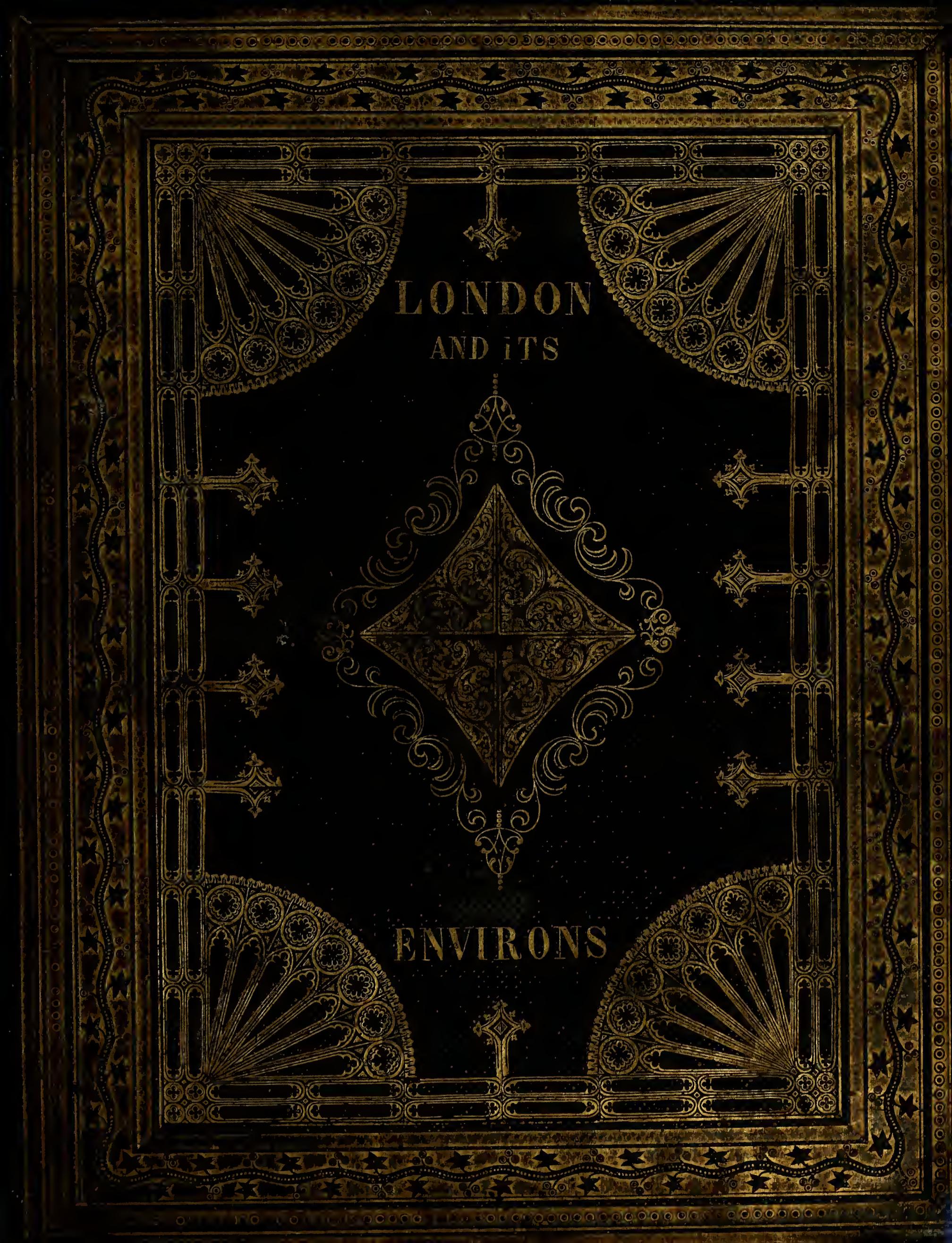


LONDON
AND ITS

ENVIRONS



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THE GREAT STREET, LONDON.

H O L M E S
VIEWS IN
LONDON, WESTMINSTER,
AND
THEIR VICINITIES.



J.R. Shepherd del.

W. Woodcut.

MONUMENT
AND
ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH.



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THE
HISTORY OF LONDON:

ILLUSTRATED BY

VIEWS

IN

LONDON & WESTMINSTER

ENGRAVED BY JOHN WOODS,

from Original Drawings

BY SHEPHERD, GARLAND, SALMON, TOPHAM, CLARKE, BROWNE ROBERTS &c.

EDITED

BY WILLIAM GRAY FEARNSIDE, ESQ.,

AND (IN CONTINUATION)

BY THOMAS HARRAL.

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LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY ORR AND CO., AMEN CORNER, PATERNOSTER ROW;

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, AND CO., STATIONERS' HALL COURT;

ACKERMANN AND CO., 96, STRAND;

J. WOODS, WOODLAND COTTAGE, POND LANE, CLAPTON:

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X

1952

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

ILLUSTRATIONS
TO THE "GREAT METROPOLIS."

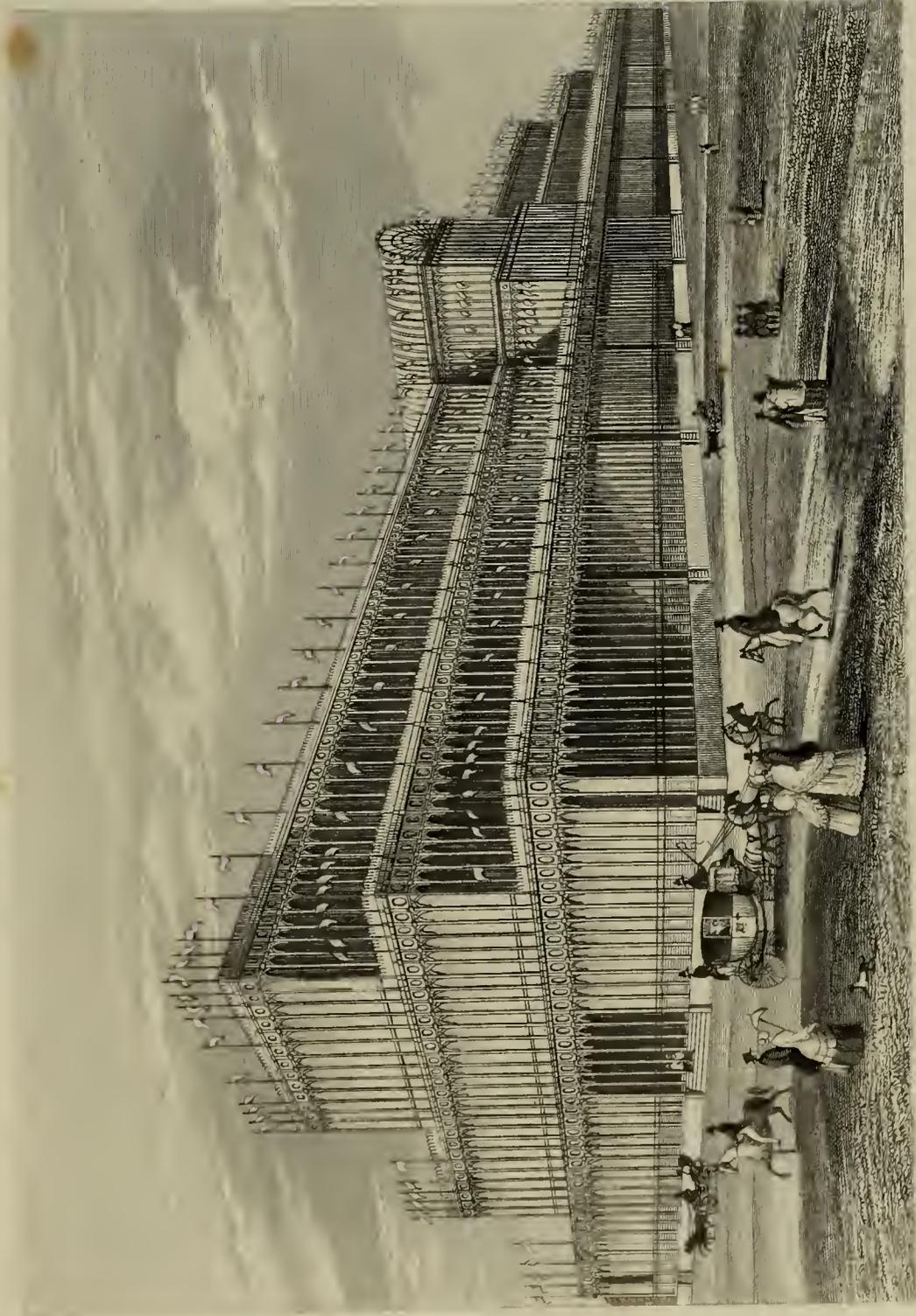
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EXHIBITION.

THE
G R E A T M E T R O P O L I S,
ILLUSTRATED.

MANY costly, erudite, and elaborate works have been compiled descriptive of the rise and progress of the vast metropolis of England, containing much valuable and historical information, but they are principally of an early date, and so voluminous, that the reader is compelled to peruse a mass of desultory matter in order to attain the leading features of the history. Knowledge is now scattered "with so prodigal a hand" that it has become essentially requisite to condense with the utmost accuracy and perspicuity, the more material and characteristic facts, by comprising in a brief review those data, which may be considered the most important in affording interesting and useful intelligence. It has been attempted in the present work by comparative details, succinct but explanatory, to exhibit in a concise form, and to demonstrate by statistical accounts, the population, opulence, resources and magnitude of the commerce of London, the emporium of the world; making manifest the means by which the British capital has attained a zenith of grandeur and importance unparalleled in the annals of civilized nations. An effort has been thus made to concentrate the various information at present widely diffused, at the same time treating the subject more philosophically than has been hitherto essayed. The local objects deserving the attention of the antiquary or more casual observer have been minutely narrated; the manners, customs, and amusements of London at the more remote periods of history carefully described; its civil, military, and ecclesiastical government cursorily reviewed, and the progress of literature and the advancement of the arts and sciences diligently traced.

Our ‘mighty capital’ and its environs possess an endless variety of ancient and modern subjects for graphic delineation, and many constituents also of beautiful landscape, which in combination with the waters of the majestic Thames, present a more diversified assemblage of picturesque objects for the pencil of the artist and the eye of the connoisseur, than any other city in Europe. In selection of the subjects for scenic illustration, every exertion has been made to depict those views, which from their individual beauty, classic association, or union with objects of an impressive character, are capable of exciting and gratifying a refined judgment or pictorial taste. The various noble structures which ornament the metropolis have been correctly portrayed; not isolated as they are usually represented, with merely the elevations of particular buildings; but in connexion with their respective localities, which not unfrequently identify the objects. The numerous delightful prospects created by the recent improvements in London, Westminster, and their vicinities, have communicated fresh incentive to admiration, as well as contributed to the establishment of the work; whilst the efforts of the artists have been unceasing, to blend originality of grouping, and fidelity to nature, with felicity of execution.

As prefatory to the main design, it is to be in addition remarked, that indulging in speculative theories on the origin of a name, and endeavouring to trace from sources dependant only on oral tradition, the founder of a city, occupied too zealously the attention of many writers of antiquity; who pleased with a fanciful etymology, made data subservient to their purpose, and preferring to deviate from the more beaten path, wandered in the mazy labyrinths of their own imaginations, being more pleased in gratifying their visionary tastes, and the predilection of the age for fabulous narratives, than endeavouring to elucidate the plain “unvarnished tale;” and in order to extol the people and cities they had undertaken to

describe, attempted to deduce their origin from gods, demigods, and heroes. A striking example is instanced in one of our earlier historians, the bishop of St. Asaph, styled Geoffery of Monmouth, whose intellectual capabilities and the opportunities the monastic profession possessed of obtaining by research and investigation, the most authentic information from the MSS. then extant, afforded him the facility of becoming the faithful chronicler of his own and previous eras; had not his inventive genius been too replete with fiction, disposing him to attach too much importance to marvellous and legendary lore, and inducing too ready an assumption of any new or fanciful definition, and thus from similar causes has posterity been often deprived of an irreparable opportunity of arriving at the truth of the remote annals of the kingdom.

Many historians of old have fallen into the common error of corrupting the origin of names, which has emanated from a natural propensity existing of substituting in the place of a difficult or obscure meaning, an appellation more trite and familiar, and which at times is suggested or authorized by affinity of sound. This pandering to the vitiated taste of the day, not only led the mind astray from following the path which would have conducted to the pure fount of historical truth, but distempered the imagination, by causing it to delight in the idle phantasies of romance; and in the instance of the Welsh and other monkish historians, was in the sequel of still graver import, having been the cause of eventually involving two nations in war and bloodshed; for on the assumed faith of these monkish legends of Britain, Edward I. founded his pretended right of feudal sovereignty over the kingdom of Scotland, which is especially exhibited in Edward's answer to the bull of pope Boniface the eighth. The passages of Geoffery relative to the foundation of London are intimately connected with our subject, as in the reign of Henry VI. they constituted the received opinion of the origin of our vast city, their veracity being

maintained even in later days. The bishop, with the view of impressing his readers with the importance and supremacy of the British capital, indirectly traces its rise from divine origin, celebrating its *beauty* by supposing it to be founded by Brutus, a descendant of Æneas, son of Venus, the *goddess of beauty*, and daughter of “Jove omnipotent;” his words are, “Brutus considering the state of the kingdom founded a design of building a city, and carefully surveyed the country to discover a place proper for its situation. At last finding a portion of ground on the bank of the river Thames suited for his purpose, erected a city, and dignified it with the appellation of *New Troy*, by which name it was known for ages, which becoming corrupted was called Trinovant, the principal seat of the Trinobantes; and in process of time, when *Lud*, brother of Cassibelaun, obtained the government, he surrounded it with a strong and stately wall, adorned with an infinite number of towers of curious workmanship, and changed the name to *Caer-Lud*, or Lud’s town, and commanding the citizens to build houses and public streets of all sorts, it soon equalled, if not exceeded, all cities at home and abroad. But some time after the new designation was again changed into *Caer-London*, and when the kingdom was afterwards conquered by foreigners, was changed into *Londres*.” This tradition, perhaps originating in the poetic fiction of the Druids or bards, when history possessed no records, save those committed to the recitative powers of their memory, acquired extensive credence; and we find it amongst the archives in the Tower, as well as being noticed in ancient writings, particularly in a work called *Recordatorium civitatis*, and others entitled *Speculum*, *Liber Albus*, &c. having been formally cited by the civic authorities in petitioning the throne for further immunities in the 7th year of the reign of Henry VI. when the mayor and aldermen pleading before the king the precedence in antiquity and dignity of the city and corporation compared with Rome, commenced “*Inter nobiles urbes orbis*,

&c. or “among the noble citizens of the world rendered illustrious by fame, not any can equal the city of London, the capital of your majesty’s realms, esteemed the wonder of the world, &c.” *Again*, “For according to the *credit of chronicles* it is considerably older than Rome, having been founded by Brutus after the form of great Troy, *before Rome was built* by Romulus and Remus, whence to this day it enjoys the liberties, rights, and customs of that ancient city of Troy. For it retains the senatorial dignity and lesser magistrates, and its annual sheriffs supply the place of consuls.” It is needless quoting other authorities of the darker ages, which have only copied this history of romance, or advanced assertions equally untenable on the ground of probability. Even Pennant appears credulous, that London was a trading port, and “a place of much resort” previous to the invasion of the Romans, about fifty-five years before the Christian era; and this belief appears the more strange, as Julius Cæsar in his Commentaries, speaking as an eye-witness, has dissipated all these visionary notions of the early grandeur of our metropolis, by minutely detailing the character and appearance of the principal settlement or town of the *Trinobantes*, and that it was merely a location of several men, with their wives and families, together with their cattle, partially defended by impassable woods, with fosses and ramparts with palisades, to prevent the sudden incursions of hostile tribes, and within which they retired when threatened with invasion. “*Oppidum autem Britanni vocant, quum silvas impeditas vallo atque fossâ munierunt, quò, incursionis hostium vitandæ causâ, conveniri consueverunt.*” Strabo also mentions that the woods served the Britons as cities; the trees being felled, hedged them round in a large circle, wherein were constructed cabins or huts, formed also of trees, and stalls for the cattle, but which were not intended for long continuance: Herodianus gives a similar description of the primitive Germanic tribes. Diodorus Seculus is rather more minute in his description,

where he says, that “the habitations of the Britons were composed of reeds and sticks interwoven in the manner of hurdles,” a mode of dwelling frequently adopted by *Nomadean* people. Dion Cassius in alluding to the Mætæ, who inhabited the northern districts of our island, mentions they had neither walls nor towns, and that some of the Britons made use of trees instead of houses; and the faithful historian Tacitus distinctly asserts that the Britons lived rude and dispersed, and were first instructed by Agricola, the Roman governor, about A.D. 80, in the art of building, being unacquainted not only with brick-making, but as far as the Romans witnessed had not attempted to lay one stone above another; and we may conclude our brief extracts from the early authorities most entitled to credit, and which we have deemed essential in illustrating the facts of our native city, by making a short compilation from those authors previously noticed, and other classic writers, in reference to the original state of the ancient Britons. “Except the chiefs, who were clothed in hides and skins, the people were generally found naked, and their bodies painted with the representation of different animals, and being gifted with few if any arts, it would have been inconsistent, in contradistinction with other uncivilized nations, had they formed themselves into communities, and inhabited constantly towns, it being greatly to their advantage to wander in small parties, in order more effectually to find the means of subsistence for themselves and cattle.”

In additional refutation of Geoffrey’s History, the earliest British historians, Gildas, who died in 570, nearly 600 years before the bishop of St. Asaph; Nennius, the Bangor historian, who flourished in 620; the venerable Bede, whose death occurred in the year 735; and William of Malmsbury in 1140; and other authors who wrote before Geoffrey, are all silent as to the pretended foundation of the city by Brutus; and Gildas and Nennius both candidly acknowledge that their chronicles have

been collected from the Roman Annals, MSS. of the primitive fathers, and other foreign historians, and doubting if their countrymen ever possessed any records, “ as their greatest scholars had but little learning and no memoirs.”

No doubt can be entertained of a species of barter having been carried on with our island and the shores of Gaul, previous to the expedition of Cæsar, who specifies that one of the reasons for his crossing the Channel was in order to subdue a people previously unknown to the Romans, but who during his Gallic wars “ had, it was understood, furnished assistance to his enemy.” From parties trading with the Britons, he obtained information of the different localities and means of defence, and from whom in return the Britons were apprised of the Roman invasion. It does not however follow that the commerce of the country was concentrated in the settlement of the Trinobantes, nor that the occasional appearance of a few travelling dealers was of sufficient consequence to have conferred upon any particular place the importance of a shipping town and port. Besides, at the period of the occupation of the country by the conquerors, *Camalodunum*, now Maldon, in Essex, was a place of more frequent than the settlement on the banks of the Thames, and which from its proximity to the sea rendered it a more convenient haven, than traversing an intricate river. It appears likewise that in Cæsar’s time it ranked next in consideration to the royal seat of Cassivellaunus, at *Verulam*; and when Britain was taken possession of by Aulus Plautius, in the reign of Claudius, the Roman general established *Camalodunum* as a *colonia*, or colony, that is, a place governed entirely by Roman laws and customs; *Verulamium* being considered a *municipium*, in which the natives were honoured with the privileges of Roman citizens, enjoying their own laws and constitutions; *Londinium* being only styled a *præfectura*, the inhabitants a mixture of Romans and Britons, who were never suffered to enjoy more than the name of citizens of Rome, being

governed by *præfects* sent annually from thence, without having either their own laws or magistrates.

We have now arrived at a period when the progress of the city of London can be described with more authenticity; but we have been anxious thus early in our undertaking to show the disposition we entertain to avoid all fabulous narrative which the ancients were too prone to substitute for fact, or to blend truth and fiction so artfully together in prose or verse, that the high-wrought imagery often led the senses captive; and the youthful mind apt to run wild and unrestrained in the airy region of romance, became imbued with the feeling that the world was like a beautiful picture, glowing with a warm and sunny sky, and the scenes of life ever tinted, *avec la couleur de rose*. This perception through a false medium is generally attended with injurious effects, as the disappointment and chagrin are relatively more severe, when the *beau idéal*, the fancy world of one's own fond creation has vanished for ever from our sight, and life in dull reality deprived of its imaginary charms, seems only a bleak and desolate waste, robbed of all objects which had endeared and rendered it worth inhabiting. We doubt even that an exception should be made in favour of the mythology of the Greeks and Romans; for teeming as their fables do with poetic beauty and interest, they have a more powerful tendency to delude and alienate the ideas, than convince the understanding, or to produce incentive for useful or practical information, which can alone work out the grand desideratum we ought ever to hold as our guiding star, the attainment of that knowledge most conducive to the developement of the human mind, promoting the means for conferring *the greatest good on the greatest portion of mankind*; and though it has been said that we can understand any epoch of the world but imperfectly, if we do not examine its romance, yet we are sceptical of the corollary, that we find as much truth in the poetry of life as in the prose.



GENERAL POST OFFICE

1840

Cæsar, who, in his Commentaries, is minute in the detailed description of the principal national characteristics entitled to note, would not have omitted allusion to the capital of the *Trinobantes*, or *Tri-now-hant*, inhabitants of the *New City*, the original name, according to the authority of Baxter, of our renowned metropolis, had it been conspicuous for buildings or fortifications, especially as Cæsar appears ever anxious during his Gallic wars to represent to the Senate and the Roman people the extent and importance of his conquests. Had the principal place of resort of the Trinobantes exceeded in magnitude and consequence the fortified town of Cassivellaunus, which the Roman conqueror specifies, little doubt can exist, that the chief seat of the people, who, on his advance towards their territory on the banks of the Thames, were the first to tender homage to his power, as they had sought protection from the tyranny of Cassivellaunus, and solicited permission to appoint the young *Mandubratius* as their ruler, who had visited Cæsar in Gaul previous to his second expedition to Britain, that their town would have formed a leading feature in the enumerations of his victorious progress in our island. But after stating that the natives informed him that the town of Cassivellaunus, *Verulam*, near the site of the present St. Alban's, was fortified, and abounded with people, cattle, and provisions, Cæsar, as a context, immediately adds the passage we have before cited, describing the kind of location the Britains called a *town*. The colony of the Trinobantes were a race of Belgic-Gauls, who having effected a landing, partly under the pretext of trading, and partly with hostile intentions, had recently made a settlement on the borders of the Thames, and had established themselves among the small nations, into which England was then subdivided, and were therefore anxious to avail themselves of a spot constituted by nature so eligible for their purpose, as the ground adjacent to St. Paul's, then almost an intrenched mount; having the "river of the Wells," or the *Fleta* or Fleet

stream, on the west, which flowed into the Thames near Blackfriars' Bridge; a river, which some Parliamentary records preserved in the Tower of the reign of Edward the First state, had been in times past of "*such depth and bredth, that 10 or 12 shippes, navies, at once with marchandizes, were wont to come to the bridge of Fleete, and some of them to Oldborne Bridge*"; having on the east a large brook, afterwards named Wall-brook, its course passing near and through the City's walls, together with the fens and marshes in the precincts of the present *Fen-church Street* and *Grass* or *Grace-church Street*; "Thames's mighty flood" in front, with its swamps and marshes, extending on the southern side as far as the *Camberwell Hills*; and on the northward, or in the rear, defended by a thick impervious forest, extending a considerable distance into the interior, which, as late as the days of Henry the Second, was infested with beasts of prey and of the chase. The place thus afforded every facility for a safe encampment, which the Belgic people had already taken advantage of; and it was not therefore to be supposed that the Romans, with their skill and experience in military tactics, would overlook so favourable a situation, which, with the assistance of art, might be readily rendered impregnable to the predatory inroads of the native tribes, while at the same time a free communication was secured with the sea.

The disposal of the feasible reasons which led to the site of our present city being fixed on is conclusively arrived at; not so, however, the designation of its name. Much antiquarian controversy has been bestowed on the subject, and derivations strenuously enforced at times as *opposite* as at others *apposite* to the probable meaning; eschewing however any prolix dissertation on this favourite theme of disputants, it may be well to notice the origin of those names which have acquired the greatest credit. The first authentic mention of the city of LONDON is found in the annals of *Tacitus* under the title of

Londinium, when recapitulating the occurrences attendant on the slaughter of the Romans and natives amounting to 70,000, in *Verulamium*, *Camalodunum*, and *Londinium*, by the forces of the heroine *Boadicea*, queen of the Iceni, a district of Britain comprising the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge, and Huntingdon. The learned and accurate historian asserts, that the city was so called from its *situation*, and *Augusta* from its stateliness; adding “*co ia negotiatorum et commeatu maxime celeberrimum*,” noted for the number of its merchants, and the abundance of its provisions. These allusions would imply to the casual reader from Tacitus having been resident in London with his father-in-law, Agricola, governor of Britain, and wrote his history from 110 to 120 years after the first invasion of Cæsar, that if the city had not arrived at an anterior importance, it must have made almost incredible progress to have entitled it to these terms of distinction; but it is to be borne in mind, that the *Barbaric* nations subjugated by the Romans at that period, had, compared with their conquerors, made slight advances towards that envied form of organized society, yeled civilization, a term assumed as a counter-distinguishment between the state we are living in ourselves, and that in which others are existing who have graduated less forward on the polished and slippery scale of modern refinement, a condition, which beyond the moral barrier is extremely problematical in its tendencies, and is too often erroneously and invidiously applied. Without, however, further digressing, taking the term in its popular signification, the Romans were centuries in advance, more especially compared with the inland nations; but the shores of Britain had no doubt from the remotest date been frequented by traders from different parts of the world; the Phœnicians and then the Greeks having carried on a traffic with the southern and south-western portions of the island in tin, lead, &c.; the Germans, Gauls, and Belgians, having had a commercial communication with the northern

and eastern divisions in other commodities. These people, the Trinobantes, who had thus placed themselves in juxtaposition with the Romans, were doubtless more apt and experienced in mercantile affairs than the natives, who, having been insulated from communion with foreign countries, would not have attained the same extended and partially enlightened views of commerce, or of the ties and benefits of social intercourse, as a people in connexion with the continent, and who therefore only required co-operation to revive and strengthen their previously formed mercantile knowledge; and as the Romans were more versed in warfare, than the interchange of produce, they were satisfied in fostering the predilections of their allies, by granting immunities and privileges, encouraging the natives as well as confederate foreigners to cultivate those advantages emanating from trade, which have gradually produced those magnificent results which we are now witnessing, of raising London to the proud pre-eminence it maintains among the cities of the world. In later years we have however an instance strongly corroborative of the rapid rise of a city, in the example of St. Petersburg, the capital of that mighty empire, whose territories extend from the regions of ice, destitute of vegetable production, and unfit for the permanent habitation of man; to the region of the vine, the olive, and the sugar-cane, and teeming with human beings; an empire 138 times larger than the whole of Great Britain; yet in 1703 the spot was merely marked by a few humble fishing huts, erected amidst the swamps and marshes of nine small islands. Situated therefore as London was, it could not fail of becoming evident to the sagacity of the Romans, that exclusive of the strength of its military position, it comprised all the requisites for recommending it as an *Emporium*; seated as it was, on the banks of a river, whose waters were,

Though deep yet clear, though gentle yet not dull,
Strong without rage, without o'erflowing, full:—

and which after flowing through some of the most productive and pastoral districts of the country, united with the ocean, almost within view of the Continent; and thus seemed self-constituted, a mart for home and foreign traffic.

While these remarks are briefly offered in contradiction to the authorities of many respectable writers, who are worthy of much credit and attention, except on points connected with the early existence and importance of our famed city, we must in furtherance adduce, that for nearly a century after the landing of Cæsar, London, notwithstanding it was a considerable mart, was not a principal town or seat of native government; and though the reverse of this and other statements we have made is insisted upon, the erroneous impression of occurrences has in some cases arisen either from an accidental or intentional confusion of data, and in one or two particular instances, where it was necessary to the elucidation of the theory, the 55 years previous to the Christian era, when Julius Cæsar first appeared on our coast, are either merged, or made "*Anno Domini*" instead of "*Before Christ*;" it is therefore we have been more minute in our research, and where we have not offered facts, but have been forced to reason hypothetically, we have endeavoured to draw our conclusions from such just suppositional grounds that they amount almost to moral convictions. We find from Tacitus, Dion Cassius, Ammianus Marcellinus, and other early historians, that in the second year of the reign of Claudius Cæsar, A. D. 43, that the refusal of the Britons to pay the tribute levied by the founder of his dynasty, induced the emperor to send Aulus Plautius, the prætor, with a considerable army for the entire reduction of our Island. The Roman forces proving successful, the general, before his final conquests were achieved, deemed it politic to solicit the appearance of the emperor to crown his victories; Claudius arrived in Britain, forded the Thames like Julius Cæsar in the sight of the Britons,

whom he routed, and marching afterwards through Essex, captured Camalodunum, the royal seat of Cinobellinus, or *Cynvelyn*. During this war which was waging near the Thames, no mention is made by Claudius of the *important* city of London, though the Britons retreated through part of Middlesex and Essex, and must have passed near the metropolis of the Triobantes; and as vanity and ostentation induced Claudius to come to Britain, it is not likely that he would have omitted noticing the reduction of this principal town; especially as *Strabo* specifies it was the custom in the triumphal pomps “to set forth in glorious scenes the places subdued.”

We must here revert to the controverted subject of the place where the Romans passed the Thames, as illustrative of the false reasoning often adopted to support favourite topics of discussion. Camden and others insist that Cæsar, who mentions expressly that there was only one known ford where foot soldiers could pass, and which on his approach he found fortified by the natives with large stakes both on the banks and beneath the water, was situated in the neighbourhood of Weybridge, between Walton Bridge and Shepperton, and where the remains of a defensive work have been discovered called “Cowey-Stakes;” a range of stakes composed of oaken piles shod with brass not *lead*, as mentioned by the Venerable Bede; but no weapons, we believe, have been ever found near the spot; though in the formation of the Weybridge lock, several feet beneath the bed of the river, a species of canoe was met with, formed of the excavated trunk of a large tree, affording an interesting specimen of a *native bark*, and which is preserved at lower Halliford; indeed it seems more likely that Cowey Stakes was a defensive work against the native hostile chiefs, than formed as an obstruction to the Roman army, exclusive of the circumstance, that that particular part of the river has been always recorded as deep and rapid, and not readily fordable; in addition, it would exceed in distance the



Drawn by Elliot Browne, from a Sketch by R. Garland.

Engraved by J. Woods.

CITY OF LONDON SCHOOL.

MILK STREET

limits ascribed by Cæsar that his passage was effected; which was eighty miles from the sea, or the port *Ritupis*, formerly near Sandwich, in Kent, and that part of the Thames which formed the boundary of the kingdom of Cassivelaunus. Others with more apparent justice have fixed on *Kingston* as the probable spot, and which during the greatest part of the Saxon era was designated *Moreford*, or the *Great Ford*; nor is it to be traced by traditionary or recorded observation that any other neighbouring portion of the river was ever known as a regular and established ford the same as Kingston. The intelligent and able author of the "Gleanings," Mr. Jesse, has given an interesting and lucid dissertation, identifying Kingston as the ford in question, and his observations are pertinent, and well worthy perusal. Teddington, Twickenham, and Fulham, have also had their advocates. Mr. Maitland determining to ascertain with accuracy and precision the decided spot, states, "I discovered that the greatest marshes on the Surrey side reached from Wandsworth in the west to Woolwich in the east; then sounding the river at several neap-tides from the first of these places to London Bridge, I discovered a ford on the 18th of September, 1732, about 90 feet west of the south-west angle of Chelsea College garden, whose channel in a right line from north-east to south-west, was no more than four feet seven inches deep. Therefore considering this is the lowermost ford in the river Thames, I take it to be not only the place where the Britons passed, but likewise that which Julius Cæsar forced, when he routed the Britons." For a writer who generally displays much literary acumen and judgment, and whose works deservedly rank high in public estimation, it is not a little absurd to adduce so futile a reason, because near Chelsea reach the water in 1732 was of a certain shallowness, that during the flow of nearly 1800 years, the river had preserved an equal and uniform depth, or that any criterion in the eighteenth century could be formed of the

current or bed of the stream half a century before the birth of Christ; when it is notorious that not only are channels frequently completely altered, and sands shifted, but also the accumulation from the sediment and deposits in rivers are immense; as recently exemplified in the excavations made for St. Catherine's Docks and the Tunnel, where distinct layers of deposits were observable at considerable depths; and more especially in those of the London Docks and foundations of warehouses on the banks of the river at Rotherhithe, where from fifteen to twenty feet beneath the level of the bed of the river, hazel-trees and nuts have been found, as well as a bed of withies. Others suppose that the passage was effected at London, at one of the two old fords, Mill-ford Lane, opposite St. Clement's church, where a corn-mill originally stood at the *ford*, or York Stairs, belonging to York House, the seat of the archbishops, which occupied the site of the present Buckingham Street, in the Strand, and streets adjacent; and now graced with the elegant and celebrated water gate of Inigo Jones.

In reference to these latter places having been assigned as the original passage of the river, an insurmountable objection, in our opinion, is opposed to the probability, in the fact, that Cæsar as an experienced general invading an hostile territory, and fording the Thames to attack the natives in a new division of the kingdom, uncertain of their resources or means of defence, would not have rashly ventured to pass his army across any portion of the river, subject to the rapid influx and reflux of the tide; as in case of retreat and the flood setting in, destruction would have inevitably awaited his troops both by land and water. Dion Cassius also expressly asserts, that "these temporary fordable passages were of a nature so dangerous as well as intricate, that they were only useful in a slight degree to the natives, who by dint of practice became acquainted with the depths and shallows; and when the emperor

Claudius in his subsequent invasion of the country, endeavoured to pursue the Britons by such a route, his soldiers were brought into the greatest peril by the attempt." Indeed of late years it is not unfrequently observed, that during a period of drought, or very low tides from the effect of wind, that a passage across the Thames at London might have been accomplished, but no one would infer from this accidental occurrence that a regular and acknowledged ford had previously existed; while on the other hand all these difficulties are obviated at Kingston; in addition to which it may in conclusion be stated, that in lately forming the coffer-dams for the new bridge from thence to Hampton, swords, spear-heads, rings, and other Roman *vestigia*, principally implements of war, were found some depth beneath the bed of the river on the Middlesex side, where the conflict must be supposed to have raged the severest; then again in digging brick-earth in a field in Surrey, near the Kingston ford, a number of *male* skeletons were discovered with Roman remains, and no marks of boundaries, inscriptions or other monumental relics which could indicate the place having been dedicated to civil sepulture. About half a mile from the ford on the Middlesex bank is a British barrow, and near it can be traced an encampment, where no doubt the bodies of the Britons were buried after the battle, the Romans soon afterwards occupying the spot; evidently denoting that a mortal struggle must have taken place at this passage between the natives and invaders; at the same time it corresponds with the distance from the sea alluded to by Cæsar, and is the first known ford where the stream is uninfluenced by the tides.

The different assumed facts to which *London* owes its derivation are too numerous and inconclusive to allow us to occupy much of our reader's attention, and we shall therefore merely allude to those which wear the semblance of any probability. Though the first application of the word *Londinium* and then *Lundinium*, to the infant city is from Roman authority, we do not

recognize any constituent Latin words in the component appellation; and think it must have been a latinized designation of the name applied by the natives, and which Mr. Maitland maintains originated from two Gaelic terms, *Lon* a plain, and *don* an eminence, or hill; from the plain which formerly extended on the northern side of the river and the hill adjoining it on the north, which by the Anglo-Saxons was called *Corn-hill*, which in former times was allotted for the sale of grain. Camden derives it from *Llawn-dinas* or *din*, a city of ships; other authorities *Caer-Lud*, or *Lud-din*, Lud's city, king Lud having been elder brother to Cassivelaun, and *renewed* the city walls, a derivation so full of anachronisms as not to need serious refutation. *Llin-din*, or the city of the lake, an appearance the Thames presented from the flooding of the low lands on the Surrey shore; after the Saxon conquest it was termed *London-Byrig*, *Lunden-Ceaster*, *Lundenne*, and *Lundain*, *Lunden-Wyc*, *Lunden-Berb*, or *Lunden-Burg*, and since the Norman possession *Londonia*, *Lundonia*, *Londine*, and *Londres*.

Previous to the defeat and death of the heroic and patriotic Boadicea in the year 61, it is authentically recorded that the queen in her revengeful march against the enemy had compelled the Roman general Suetonius to evacuate Londinium, which was reduced to ashes by her followers; the inhabitants who were attached to the Romans, sharing a similar fate to those of Camalodunum and Verulam. After this destruction of the city, the Romans on regaining their ascendancy assisted in its reconstruction, and the inhabitants having acquired the mode of making bricks, erecting houses and temples, draining and embanking, cutting roads and forming causeways, were under the judicious government of Agricola enabled to attain in those arts some degree of perfection; we can therefore readily imagine that a new city speedily arose on the same favourite site, similarly devoted to that commercial enterprise, which had been before so eminently conducive in rendering it flourishing and ensuring its

aggrandizement. We have already alluded to the rapid rise of cities, the elements of which are based on traffic, commerce being the main-spring of social intercourse, more especially if we assume that the high prerogative of man, the distinguishing characteristic of his proud pre-eminence over other animals consists, as it is stated to do by the learned author of the "Wealth of Nations," in the capability of interchanging commodities: "Man," says Dr. Adam Smith, "is an animal that makes bargains—no other animal does this; one dog does not change a bone with another." The early trade of London as alluded to by Strabo consisted of imports of salt, earthenware, works in brass, and polished bone, horse-collars, ornaments, and toys in glass, amber, and other articles of the same kind. The exports comprised cattle, especially horses, skins, corn, and dogs, those bred in England having been highly esteemed on the continent for their excellent qualifications for the chase; qualities which it is estimated by the same authority were inherent in them, and not the effect of tutorage of their foreign masters; to these must be added the dealing in *human flesh*, slaves constituting a considerable item among the exportations; and for the promotion of this revolting traffic, feuds were often provoked and warfare waged by the petty sovereigns of the inland districts of the island. We however as Britons have nobly redeemed the disgrace which attached in this respect to the character of the aborigines, having been mainly instrumental in abolishing the slave trade throughout the *old world*, and conferring the god-like prerogative on this our native land, that the foot of every stranger the instant it touches British ground is free, from that moment man becomes liberated from bondage in mind and limb; though unhappily the picture is sadly reversed in the *new world*, in that *boasted* land of liberty, "the lustre of whose *stars* it is vaunted was never dimmed," where there are nearly *one-sixth of the population* still labouring in an abject state of slavery. It is also thought

that the *gagates*, or jet stone, which may have been our native *coal*, formed part of the exports, as Solinus mentions it as one of the productions of Britain.

London, which had now become entirely a *Præfectura* under Roman government, though not subjected to the inconvenient restrictions of a garrison town, remaining a free city, where Roman and Briton mingled happily together, was not confined to the ancient limits between Fleet river and Walbrook, but extended from the eastern side of Tower Hill to the western declivity of Ludgate Hill, the width being bounded on the north by the causeway, which ran parallel with Cheapside, winding at each extremity towards the Thames, the town being intersected by a high street, or *Prætorian way*, known as *Watling Street*, or *Fosseway*. For the capability of being enabled exactly to define the northern extremity, and many other important and interesting discoveries connected with the primitive history of the city, posterity is mainly indebted to the researches and discoveries of Sir Christopher Wren, who on rebuilding the church of St. Mary-le-Bow, after the fire of London in 1666, found, on opening the ground, a foundation firm enough for the new-intended fabric, which on further inspection proved to be the walls and pavement of a temple or church of Roman construction, entirely buried beneath the level of the present street, on which he resolved to build the new church; and with the intention of bringing the steeple in range with the houses, he excavated the ground in advance to the depth of eighteen feet, when to his surprise he came to a Roman causeway of rough stone close and well rammed with Roman brick and rubbish at the bottom, and all firmly cemented, being four feet in thickness, and on which he based the tower: from this fact, and, "divers other reasons," a similar road having been ascertained to have passed by the end of Bread Street, Cheapside, no doubt exists that this highway ran along the north boundary of the town;



DUBLIN
REGENCY STREET

and that the western confines did not exceed the top of Ludgate Hill, was decided by digging up at the same period near Ludgate, a sepulchral stone, where Ludgate church is now situated; the monumental remain was dedicated by a wife to the memory of a Roman soldier of the second legion, styled Augusta; it being expressly forbidden by the Roman law to bury within the precincts of cities, an edict always scrupulously adhered to. The soldiers were usually buried *in vallo*, or in the trenches, which here bordered the river Flect, the Prætorian camp having been on the western side of the causeway, and most probably extending to the hill of Ludgate.

Under the wise jurisdiction of the Roman Præfects, especially the government of Agricola, who was eminent for his public and private virtues, London continued to advance in importance, and we find by Herodian, in his life of the emperor Severus, who reigned from 190 to 211, that it was called “ a great and wealthy city,” and there is convincing evidence that its traffic and intercourse with the interior must have been materially extended, as in the *Iter Britannicum* attributed to the emperor Antoninus, out of the fifteen roads which are laid down as having traversed our island, seven of them are concentrated in London, either leading to or emanating in all probability from the Stone in Cannon Street, at the side of St. Swithin’s Church, called now the London Stone, but by the Romans *Milliarium*, or standard mile stone, from whence the distances to their stations were measured; and though by some authorities it has been considered a druidical remain, and set apart for religious and civil uses, yet its locality to the causeways and the distances computed from it coinciding exactly with history, seems to identify it for the purport alluded to; at all times however it has been preserved with great care, having been deeply embedded in the earth and bound with iron, and seems in early ages to have been looked upon as the *palladium* of the city, and is now cased like a relic within free stone with a hole left in the

middle which discovers the original. According to Hollinshed, a certain degree of superstitious respect also was paid to it; for when the notorious *Jack Cade*, the Kentish rebel, in 1450, who feigned himself lord Mortimer, came through Southwark to London, he marched to London Stone, which striking with his sword, said "Now is Mortimer lord of this citie," as if it had been a customary ceremony in taking possession perhaps of the government of the city; or may have originated from the stone, which stood then in the principal thoroughfare, as Cheapside now is, having been the spot from whence proclamations and public notices were delivered to the citizens.

The principal military roads were Watling Fosseway, which led from port *Ritupis*, near Sandwich, now engulfed by the sea, through Kent, and Surrey, by the Kent road to *Stan* or *Stein*, or *Stoney* Street, across Clink Street, by the present Winchester wharf, where the bishops of Winchester in later years had the stairs to their palaces, connecting by the *trajectus*, or ferry, the Surrey and Middlesex shores, and entering the city by the *Dwr* or *Dourgate*, or *Watergate*, now Dowgate, and called by Stow, Downgate, from "the sodaine, descending, or downe going of that way," which now forms a continuation from Walbrook at the end of Cannon Street; taking a south-east and north-west direction, and passing to the site of the late New-Gate. The *Ermine Street* causeway traversed a south-westerly and northerly course, accompanying the Watling Street from Southwark, likewise entering by Dowgate, passing through by Cripplegate taking its way by Highbury Barn to Stroud Green, The *Vicinal Way* conducting from the city by Aldgate to Bethnel Green, and then to the *trajectus* at Old Ford, across the river Lea to *Duroleiton*, the modern Leyton, or Laytonstone, in Essex.

Though much controversy has been created respecting the period of the city having been enclosed with walls, yet little doubt can exist that in the year 296, during the reign of Diocle-

sian and Maximinian it remained unfortified, as the city narrowly escaped being pillaged by a party of pirate Franks, who after the defeat in that year of the army of the tyrant and usurper Alectus having evaded the Roman forces, determined to ransack London, and escape to sea with their booty ; but fortunately a Roman squadron, detached from the main fleet in a fog, opportunely arrived in the Thames, and liberated the city to the great joy and satisfaction of the inhabitants ; had therefore London been protected by walls, it could not have been subjected to these surprises. Some authorities are in favour of the opinion that either Constantine the Great or his mother Helena had founded the walls, which is corroborated according to Mr. Pennant, by the circumstance of a number of coins of Helena having been discovered beneath the foundation, supposed to have been placed there in her honour by her son. Mr. Maitland and others support the conjecture, and we are inclined to think with more truth, that Theodosius, governor of Britain in 368, caused them to be erected, a fact strengthened by the coincidence, that the Roman forces had been so gradually diminished in numbers during the reigns of Constantius, Julian, and Valentinian, that they had not been enabled to contend successfully against the Picts, Scots, Franks, and Saxons, who by turns invaded Britian, and reduced the country to the greatest distress, until the arrival of the Romans in triumph, “ then in the utmost misery and affliction, occasioned by the great ravages committed by those insatiate freebooters.” Had the city been environed with walls by Helena or Constantine they would have been in a good state of defence, after their recent erection, not more than thirty-seven years having transpired from the death of Constantine to the arrival of Theodosius, so that the inhabitants and garrison might have temporarily defied the occasional assaults of the predatory bands. As to the discovery of the coins of Helena, we are of

opinion, that the occurrence may be readily reconciled, when it is taken into consideration that *Chlorus Constantius*, the father of Constantine, husband of Helena, had been resident in Britain till his death, which occurred at York, little more than half a century previously, having obtained the title of Cæsar, which he merited from his victories in Britain and Gaul; therefore it was more than likely that coins in memory of his wife and the mother of the *Great Constantine* should have been deposited beneath the foundations, commemorative of the various benefits conferred, and which were fresh in the recollection of the citizens.

It is generally supposed that the name *Augusta*, which for a short period superceded the ancient appellation of Londinum, until the occupation by the Saxons, and which has been since often poetically alluded to, was applied to the city, not in honour of the empress Helena, but was assigned to it by Theodosius, as the capital of the Roman British dominions; having been at first a name of distinction conferred on seventy cities in the Roman provinces, in honour of Augustus Cæsar, but was afterwards adopted in the later years of the empire to designate any city of importance or grandeur. We are told by the historian of these times, Ammianus Marcellinus, that Theodosius, by repairing some cities and castles, and fortifying and erecting others, left every thing on so good a footing, that peace was preserved in Britain till the Romans quitted our shores, in the reign of Honorius, when their own territories being invaded by Alaric, the Goth, the emperor required the combination of all his forces, and London had to regret the final departure of the beneficent founders of her fame and greatness. Chronologers are undecided respecting the date when this event took place, some fixing it in the years 402, 422, and 437, but the greater number, among whom is M. Playfair, in 426; as, however, king Alaric, who it is assumed was the cause of the withdrawal of the last Roman legion, died in 410, and the emperor Honorius in 423, the earlier period merits the greatest credence.

The walls of the city commenced from a fort built by the Romans on the site of the present Tower, which Mr. Bagford is of opinion still remains that portion of the fortress called the "white tower." Early authorities have erroneously attributed its erection to Julius Cæsar, and it is alluded to occasionally in history as Cæsar's Tower, an application however often indiscriminately applied to a commanding part of many of the castles of antiquity; but the more authentic supposition is in favour of the White Tower having been constructed by William the Conqueror. The walls were built at first in a northerly direction towards the present *Aldgate*, passing by *Postern Row*, and across George Street, Tower Hill, adjoining which street are the most perfect remains now extant of this ancient bulwark of our forefathers; the walls appear to have been about twenty-two feet in height and nine feet in thickness, composed of Roman brick or tiles, and rag-stone, the mortar, as is usual in Roman works, cementing itself as hard as the stone itself; the walls then skirted the Minories by *Houndsditch*, traversing *Bishopsgate Street*, forming a direct line with the northern side of *London Wall* to *Cripplegate*, turning southward from the churchyard of St. Giles, where exists the only specimen of the round towers by which the walls were defended; these towers consisted of fifteen in number, including the principal eastern tower near the Thames, and calculated to have been forty feet in height; the wall then passed *Aldersgate* along the back of *Bull and Mouth Street* to *Newgate*, thence to *Ludgate*, edging the declivity which sloped towards the Fleet river to the spot afterwards occupied by the castle of *Mountfitchet*, built by a Norman noble of that name in the time of William I. and stood near Printing-house Square; from that point the wall extended to Thames Street, from whence with the towers it ran parallel with the river until united with the eastern fort or tower; the portion of the wall fortifying the banks of the Thames is alluded to by Fitz-Stephen, who

writing in the reign of Henry II. states, "the wall was high and great, well towered on the north side, with due distances between the towers; on the south side also the city was walled and towered, but the fish-abounding river Thames with its ebbing and flowing, has long since subverted them." The circuit of the walls inland comprised two miles and 208 feet, and including the river frontage three miles and 165 feet.

The city was originally entered from the country by three gates; the eastern portion by the *Ald-gate*, supposed to have been named by the Saxons *ald*, or old, from the dilapidated state in which they found it; from the north by the *Alders-gate*, or according to other highly respectable antiquarian authorities, by *New-gate*, or *Cripplegate*; the derivation of the former is uncertain, but stated to have been the "Older-gate;" that of Newgate, not from the gate having been of later origin, but from its having been renewed; and it would appear probable from the Watling Street causeway pointing in that direction to have been one of the earlier egresses of the city; and it is on record, that in the year 1218, the gate was appropriated to its present use as a gaol for felons taken in the city of London or county of Middlesex. At *Cripplegate* the lame and *cripples* were wont to station themselves craving charity, traditionary miracles having been there wrought, "so that the lame from thence did goe upright, praising God; occurrences which are stated to have taken place in the year 1010, when the coffin of King Edmund the Martyr passed through it from *Bedrisworth*, or St. Edmund's Bury, in order to preserve the sanctified remains from the indignities of the piratical Danes. The gate is therefore of considerable antiquity, and is supposed to have been erected over the Ermine Street causeway. The western division of the city was attained by the *Lud-gate*, a corruption of *Flud-gate*, from the Saxon *flod*, *vloet*, *fleote*, or *flete*; implying a small navigable watercourse, as the Fleet rivulet was in former ages.



LEADENHALL STREET.

In process of time, the suburbs becoming more extended, other gates were erected for the convenience of the citizens, as the Postern-gate, by the Tower, which was built soon after the conquest "in a beautiful manner, with stones brought from Kent and Normandy," and close to which was a famous spring, "much admired by the citizens, and well preserved," and the spot is now marked by some posts, and the pump still supplies the parishioners with wholesome water. The original gate fell down in the year 1440, in the reign of Henry VI., and according to Stow, "was never re-edified, but a homely cottage with a narrow passage, made of timber, lath, and loame, hath been in place thereof set up;" the ruin of the said postern having began in the year 1190, when William Longchamp, bishop of Ely, and chancellor of England, caused part of the city wall, "to wit, from the said gate towards the river Thames, to be broken down for the enlarging of the Tower, which tower he compassed about with a wall, and now forms the outer wall of the Tower, and caused also a broad and deep ditch to be made without the same, intending to have had the river Thames to flow about it; by means of this ditch the foundation of the gate being loosened, at length fell down." *Bishops-gate*, "but of what antiquity or by whom erected, or on what occasion named, is unknown," though generally conjectured to have been built by Bishop William, the Norman, in the reign of William the Conqueror, but not so early as the year 675, when Erkenwald was bishop of London, the foundation of the wall having been discovered to have been four feet deeper than the foundation of the gate. *Moor-gate*, situated near the north end of Coleman Street, was built in the year 1415, for the easier access of the citizens to their gardens and the adjacent fields for recreation, at which time, from its vicinity to the moors and marshes, it received its appellation. *Bridge-gate* was so named, from its situation on the old London Bridge. Dowgate, or *Dour*, or water-gate,

we have before alluded to, as being erected where the *trajectu* or Roman ferry was situated, and the entrance of the Watling Street causeway from the Surrey shore. The other gates mentioned in history, as Wolf-gate, Eb-gate, Puddledock-gate, Oyster-gate, Butolphs-gate, Billings-gate, and the water-gates by the Tower and Custom-house, were not places of thoroughfare through the city's walls, but only wharves, or certain localities for the landing of goods, and were designated from the names of the owners, neighbouring places, or articles landed, and were most probably erected long after the Conquest and the breaking down of the wall ; but as the principal wharf, or original landing place, retained the name of Dow-gate, from the gate which once stood there, the owners and builders of the wharves and quays also dignified them with the epithet of gates. Some of the city's gates were very handsome and costly structures, especially in later times, when the citizens emulated each other in benefactions and bequests for their embellishment. Ludgate, which was taken down and rebuilt in the reign of Elizabeth, was not even at that time re-constructed at a less expense than £1500. When in the last stage of decay the gates were pulled down; the old materials brought considerable prices. Aldgate was sold for £157 10s.; Ludgate for £148; and Cripplegate for £91.

The Barbican, an Arabic word for watch tower, according to Camden, called also *Specula*, or *Burhkenning*, as mentioned by Stow, was customarily attached to fortified towns, and at London stood near the walls to the east of Aldersgate, and though all vestige has been for centuries removed, and the dangers which it was erected to avert have long ceased to exist, yet the name is still preserved. The Romans kept here cohorts of soldiers, watching during the day the approach of any hostile force, and by night keeping lights on its summit to direct the course of the weary traveller, or market people coming to the city with provisions; the same was the intention of a lantern

at the top of the steeple of Bow church previous to the fire of London.

Towards the latter period of the Roman occupation of London, the fort or tower in all probability formed the mint, as it did the treasury, in which the public money was deposited; a silver ingot and some gold coins of the Emperors Honorius and Arcadius having been discovered in 1777 in digging the foundation of a new office for the board of ordnance. Though we have no certain date afforded us by which we can arrive at any distinct account of the extent or increase of the commerce of the city, previous to the secession of the Romans, yet some idea may be formed of the augmented resources of the port from extended agriculture and facility of inland communication, by the exports which are recorded to have taken place in the year 359, amounting to no less than 800 cargoes of grain. We find likewise that the Romans had not only instructed the London youth and citizens in military tactics and means of artificial defence, but imparted to them the results of their more enlightened knowledge and education, initiating them in those arts and sciences most conducive to their future comfort and prosperity. Thus in the reign of Constantine, the Britons had acquired so much celebrity in the art of building, that the emperor ordered the dilapidated towns of Gaul and fortresses on the Rhine to be repaired by British architects and artificers.

According to Bagford the Romans established in London a field of Mars in imitation of that at Rome; in alluding to which he says, "on the further side of Whitchapel Street, near Bishopsgate Street, was another station of the Romans, in that part which formerly bore the name of 'the old artillery ground,' and was then the field of Mars, in which place the Romans trained up and exercised their young soldiers, and likewise the youth of the neighbouring Britons, in the skill and exercise of arms, that they might be more expert in the use of them upon all emergent occasions, and it must needs have been a very large

place as the same is excellently described, and likewise observed to have been a Roman camp by a judicious author in the reign of Queen Elizabeth."

Of the sports and pastimes of this early period little authentic information has reached us, which is the more to be lamented, as in order to form a correct estimation of the character of any particular people, it becomes essential the investigation of the manner in which they have passed their leisure hours. It is remarked with much discrimination, that war, policy, and other contingent circumstances may effectually place men at different times, in different lights and shades, but when we follow them into their retirements, where disguise is necessary, we are more likely to see them in true colours, and may better judge of their natural dispositions. Unfortunately all the information that remains respecting our ancestors is derived from foreign writers, only partially acquainted with them as a people, and totally ignorant of their domestic amusements. We learn however from the imperfect hints of ancient historians, that our forefathers were ever tenacious of their native liberty, and inured to great bodily fatigue, being expert in hunting, for which the native dogs have been ever celebrated, in running, leaping, swimming, wrestling and hurling; to which no doubt were added those pastimes most in vogue with their conquerors; as we know that the Romans generally philosophized on most of their actions and institutions connected with the weal of the mass of the people, and seem ever to have held in view the necessity of creating not only a love of exercise in a martial point of view, but likewise as a source of amusement, and appear to have been more fully aware and more to have appreciated the knowledge than we are prone to do in the nineteenth century, that the withdrawal of the people from public games and places of amusements is the sure and gradual means of conducing to a greater degree of demoralization. The mind of the lower classes of society unoccupied during those hours it is freed from professional calling, without any decided point

of attraction or means of pastime, is thrown upon its own resources with too often few mental qualifications. The man wanting relaxation from the toils of the day, and in many instances with little means of securing much domestic comfort, is induced to resort to houses where he must drink exciting liquors in order to procure society, instead of being enabled to meet companionship in the fields, or in assemblages where sports or spectacles are carried on;—a relaxation to his nervous system, as advantageous, in a moral, as it would be, in a physical consideration, and the beneficial results would be more particularly applicable in this our densely populated city, as well as the larger towns in our manufacturing districts, where the principal portion of the inhabitants pass great part of their lives in a close and sedentary occupation, and absolutely require every facility to be afforded them of procuring fresh air and salutary recreation.

In reference to our early field sports, one fact is identified with our ancestors, which we glean from Cæsar's history, that they did not reckon hares as animals of chase, nor did they eat their flesh, although the island abounded with them; an abstinence which arose "from a principle of religion;" a principle, preventing them from being worried to death by dogs, which as a tame, inoffensive animal, was a cruelty reserved for more enlightened ages. During also the establishment of the Romans in Britain, there do not appear to have been any restrictive laws enacted for the preservation of game; but it was an established maxim in the jurisprudence of that people to invest the right of such things as had no masters with those who were the first possessors; wild beasts, birds, and fishes, became the property of those who first could take them—an honest feeling! which it would much have redounded to the honour of this country had it been handed down inviolate to the present generation, like the laws of the Persians of old and would have prevented many instances of disgraceful litigation, demoralization, persecution, and bloodshed.

The protecting genius of the kingdom seems for a time to have winged its flight from our shores on the removal of the Roman *eagles*; for shortly after the final departure of the Romans, the natives left to their own resources and means of defence, soon finding themselves incompetent to resist the desperate incursions of the Picts and Scots, were induced to solicit the assistance of the Saxons: a fierce, untamed, but courageous people, who with their leaders Hengist and Horsa, landed on the Isle of Thanet, in the years 448-49; but the Britons found out too late the fallacy of trusting their independence to a foreign power, and to their chagrin discovered that they had, in relieving themselves from the terror of one enemy, laid themselves open to the assaults of another; as the Saxons soon took occasion to violate the compact which authorized their appearance in arms in Britain. During however eight to nine years after their arrival, the Britons continued to retain possession of London, as in the year 457, having been defeated at Crayford in Kent, they fled precipitately, according to the Saxon chronicles, to their capital "*Lunden-Byrig.*" Vortigern and Vortimer were the royal leaders under whom the Britons continued the war; but Hengist unable to obtain any decisive advantage in the field, had resource to treachery and stratagem to complete his conquest; and having made Vortigern prisoner, received as the king's ransom the provinces of Essex, Middlesex, and Sussex; London becoming the chief city of the Saxon kingdom of Essex; and though during the fruitless and sanguinary struggles of the Britons to free themselves from the Saxon yoke, London, from the mercantile importance it maintained, was more than any other part of the island subjected to the evils attendant on intestine warfare, yet in the early part of the seventh century it had recovered its ascendancy, being alluded to by Bede as the "emporium of many nations," and became placed under the government of a *Portgrave*, or *Portreve*, which implies the consideration the port was held



Engraved by J. Woods.

Drawn by Hablot Browne from a Sketch by R. Garland.

SOUTHWARK, CHURCH & C

to require the specific superintendence of a magistrate or governor.

After the establishment of the Saxon heptarchy, Ethelbert, king of Kent, to whom the other sovereigns were feudatory, established his seat of empire at Canterbury, thus constituting the metropolis of England; London losing the protective and prescriptive power of the court, an influence which is reckoned mainly contributive in promoting the opulence and importance of a city; but London could not be deprived of its local advantages as a trading port, and therefore retained its commercial superiority. Unfortunately the *hiatus* which occurs in the early civil history of the heptarchy precludes any definitive information being collected respecting its mercantile relations, from the period of the reign of Eadbald, who succeeded Ethelbert in 616, to the year 764. We merely learn that in 658 the city was ravaged by a plague; in 764 and 798 it suffered severely from fire, especially in the latter year, numbers of the inhabitants perishing in the flames; and in 801 before sufficient time had elapsed for its revival, a third conflagration nearly completed the work of destruction. To this devastation the very construction of the city rendered it liable, the Romans having built the streets after the model of those in their own country, which were extremely narrow; and the houses being principally composed of wood covered with straw thatch, which had superseded the British roofings of reeds, were subject to frequent and rapid ignition. Latterly during the Roman occupation the roofs of the principal structures were protected were *scindulæ*, or shingles, and some with *tegulæ*, or tiles, and a few with *glatta*, or slates. The holes which originally formed the escape for the smoke, were by the Romans transformed into cupola chimnies; and as the valuable formation of glass for windows had not been then introduced, the windows, or *Uynt-dor*, passage for the wind, serviceable also for the admission of light, were furnished with wooden lattices or sheets of linen.

In filling up the chasm which occurs in the domestic history of London, we are indebted to the ecclesiastical annals of the country for throwing some light on the obscurity of the city during this lapse of years; and we find that in 600 the monk Augustine having been appointed archbishop of England by Pope Gregory, ordained Mellitus, bishop of the East Saxons, who having been successful in the conversion of the people, Ethelbert about the year 610 erected for him a church in London, on the site occupied by the present St. Paul's, and dedicated it to that saint, who in his migrations is supposed to have visited the British Islands. Sebert, who at this period was king of the East Saxons, and had adopted the Christian religion, witnessing the rapid advance of the new tenets among his subjects, erected another place of worship on the Isle of Thorney, where a Roman Temple stood Sacred to Apollo, which formed the origin of St. Peter's Cathedral at Westminster.

London now began to acquire an additional degree of consequence, as it was enabled to dispute the right of *ecclesiastical*, as it did of *civil* authority with Canterbury and York, though it did not attain the grandeur of either of these two cities for nearly three centuries afterwards. The Londoners on the accession of the three sons of Sebert, expelled Bishop Mellitus and returned to Paganism; the see of London remaining without a bishop till the year 653, when King Segbert espousing the Christian doctrines, Cedda, or Chad, was advanced to the bishopric. In 666 *Wulpher*, who had sole ecclesiastical control in the kingdom of Essex, committed the *first* act of *simony* in England by selling the bishopric of London to Wina, who had been *expelled* from Winchester: this bishop was succeeded by Erkenwald, who had received his education under Mellitus, and was distinguished for his sanctity, having been at the same time the instigator of several religious foundations, and a benefactor to the city; on his death the possession of his body became an object of dispute on the part of the canons of

St. Paul's and the monks of Chertsey, or according to Rapin's History, of Barking : but the inhabitants of London siding with the canons, possessed themselves of the mortal remains of the revered bishop, and had them honourably interred in his own cathedral, the revenues of which he had enriched, besides having extended its buildings.

A transient gleam of brightness again illumined the prospects of the Londoners under the reign of Egbert, who having in 823 consolidated the seven divisions of the state into one kingdom, the southern portion of which was designated England, he in 833 caused a *Witena-Gemot*, or *council of wise men*, a *Parliament* in fact, to be convened at London to deliberate on the most effectual means of protecting the island from the invasion of the Danes, and it is therefore justly inferred, that from this date London became the metropolis of the kingdom, though Pennant favours the idea that Alfred first constituted it the capital. All the Saxon efforts to repulse the Danes proved fruitless, and in 839 they effected a landing in Kent, pursuing their victorious route to London which they pillaged, massacreing great portion of the citizens. This and other successful piratical expeditions induced them to attempt the ultimate subjugation of the island, and in 851 the city was again reduced beneath the Danish yoke; and finding it a convenient garrison for making inroads into the neighbouring states, they kept up a constant and irritating system of annoyance and spoliation. At length ALFRED, with whose chivalrous name and exploits is emblazoned on the page of British history all that is noble and heroic; in whose reign dawned that liberty of privilege, that right of justice, which as Englishmen we hold as vital to the existence of a free-born citizen, as the air we breathe, and from whence emanated that excellent system of municipal government, which, with various modifications and improvements, exists at the present day. Alfred feeling that the partial establishment of the Danes in the country continued the exciting

cause of misery and disquietude to his people, and that the hostile settlers were regardless of their most solemn oaths and treaties, resolved to free his kingdom from the marauders, and having repaired his decayed fortresses, suddenly laid siege to London, which he forced to capitulate in 884. After improving the buildings and strengthening the city's walls, he appointed his son-in-law Ethered, governor, with the title of the Earl of Mercia. This nobleman seems to have held the city in fee, being vested with more than ordinary authority as governor, and had no doubt some tenure of power delegated to him, but which is not clearly defined by historians; for on his death, his widow Ethelfleda formally delivered up the custody of the city, with that of Oxford, to her brother, King Edward the Elder. During the last-named year Alfred caused several large vessels to be constructed on an improved system both as to sailing and stowage, which he allowed the merchants of London to hire, assisting them also with the loan of money, to undertake lengthened voyages; some of these traded to the east, most probably to the Levant, and amongst other commodities brought home precious stones, with which the regal crown was embellished. In 893 Alfred had the mortification of witnessing an extensive demolition of his capital by another accidental fire. The wise and prudent regulations however of the monarch had already made considerable advancement in the mode of building the houses, not only by improving the style of their construction, but their durability and partial safety against fire, having erected his palaces with stone and brick instead of wood. The opulent citizens and resident nobility by degrees emulated each other in copying this novel and "wonderous style" of architecture, though it did not come into general adoption for some ages afterwards; but the dwellings from this date became less subject to the destructive element which had so frequently laid waste the city.

The restless and ambitious spirit of the Danes, and the rich

booty our island afforded, still led them onward with the hope of its final conquest. Their hordes therefore again appeared off the coast, and effecting a landing near Tilbury, in Essex, under the command of *Hæsten*, or Hastings, erected a strong fort at *Beamfleote*, now called South-Benfleet, near the Isle of Canvey, from whence they were eventually routed and their castle taken by Ethered. So rapidly had proceeded the renovation of the city, and the revival of the spirit of its citizens, that they were in a condition, for the first time since the departure of the Romans, not only to defend their walls against aggression, but to sally forth and meet the invaders ; and under the command of Ethered, were by their brave and intrepid conduct mainly instrumental in the success of the engagement. Thus in the earliest records of London it is authenticated, that though the inhabitants had become addicted to commercial pursuits, they were not incapacitated by their peaceful occupations from signaling themselves in the field, when their country needed their services, and rendering themselves as conspicuous in deeds of arms as they had done in their ability and diligence in traffic. Indeed the heroic acts which distinguished the citizens at various periods of our history are so numerous, that our limits prevent their constant specification, and therefore it is to be inferred, that on all occasions where their presence was required, they ever opposed a dauntless front to danger, and were as remarkable for their individual courage as they were for their loyalty. Fitz-Stephen in eulogizing the citizens says, "they were always glorious in manhood, and notable beyond all other citizens in urbanity of manners, attire, table, and talk ; the matrons being the very modest Sabine ladies of Italy."

London, which had claimed the especial regard of Alfred, experienced all the benefit which would naturally accrue to a city from the direction of a mind embracing in its comprehensive grasp the requisites to constitute its possessor a great and enlightened statesman : but as neither his authority nor

example could be omnipotent, without it had the effect of stimulating the spiritless nobility to similar acts of political wisdom and patriotic virtue, we find that as he had *no model*, it was some years before he had *an imitator*. It is uncertain the exact character of the civil government of the city at this era, but we collect from the "Saxon Chronicle," that "the king moved by the importance of the place, and the desire of strengthening his frontier against the Danes, restored London to its ancient splendour, and observing that through the confusion of the times, many both Saxons and Danes lived in a loose and disorderly manner, without owning any government, he offered them now a comfortable establishment if they would submit and become his subjects. The proposition was better received than he expected; for multitudes grown weary of a dissolute kind of life, joyfully accepted such an offer." In continuation, we do not think it inconsistent to assume, that as Alfred in his regulations of the commonwealth divided the counties of his kingdom into *hundreds*, and *tythings*, he may have first separated the city into *wards* and *precincts*, and as the king constituted the office of *Scyre-Gerefa*, or Shire-reive, the present sheriff of counties, the nature of the office would require a similar institution in London, though no record extant establishes either of the facts in reference to the metropolis.

During the succeeding reign of Edward the Elder, the welfare of the city which had been based on such admirable foundations by the king's father, continued to reap the advantage of his salutary laws; and on Athelstan, or *Adelstan*, ascending the throne, London attained a brilliant era of prosperity, which was not equalled by any other city in the Kingdom; as illustrative of which it may be instanced, that in 939, when it received the distinguished privilege of coining, a greater number of mints were allotted to it, than even Canterbury. But the maritime commerce does not seem to have extended in proportion to its internal improvement, as in 925, Atheistan



WHITE STREET, WHITECHAPEL

enacted "that every merchant who made three voyages to the Mediterranean on his own account, should be raised to the honour and enjoy the privileges of a gentleman. The monarch resided in the centre of the city, and seems to have been endeared to the people, his palace being situated on the spot where *Addle Street* now runs, commencing from No. 58, Aldermanbury, to Wood Street, Cheapside, and is mentioned in ancient records as King Addle Street, and the church of St. Alban, in Wood Street, is traditionally related to have been founded by him. In 945, during the reign of Edmund I., another parliament was held in London for the discussion of ecclesiastical affairs. Little worthy of note occurred during the sovereignties of Edred and Edwy; but after Edgar had been proclaimed king, 959, the fame of the king's abilities and wise administration caused a considerable number of foreigners to resort to his capital, but this more intimate intercourse with distant nations appears to have been injurious to the morals of the inhabitants, drunkenness having become so habitual, that Edgar in order to check the vice, instituted a law that within every drinking cup of certain dimensions there should be pins fixed at particular distances, and if any person was convicted of "*drinking beyond the mark*," he should be mulcted.

In 961 the cathedral of St. Paul fell a sacrifice to the flames, while a malignant fever proved fatal to a great number of the citizens. According to the narrative of several early historians St. Paul's was rebuilt during the same disastrous year, which would at once lead to the conclusion, that the public buildings of London had, even in the tenth century, attained little architectural importance, and must have been on a small scale, and composed of wood.

It may be noted among the earlier references to agricultural subjects, that land in this reign was not valued at more than *one shilling* per acre; and among other politic measures adopted by Edgar, was the enactment, that the *Winchester measure*

should become the standard of metage. He also ordained that one and the same money should be current throughout his kingdom, and that the king's coin was alone to be received; though the practice of having private mints was not wholly abolished until some time after the Norman conquest.

The zenith of London, as the Saxon capital had now passed its meridian and the state of agitation in which it was kept from the reign of Ethelred II., who succeeded Edward the Martyr in 979, until the Danes had gained sole possession of the kingdom, rendered the chance of any improvement almost impracticable; though its commercial interests obtained all the attention and protection that the turbulency of the times could be expected to permit. At the commencement of the feeble and pusillanimous sovereignty of Ethelred, the devoted city was again nearly consumed by fire, and had scarcely recovered from its desolation, when a powerful Danish armament threatened a general invasion; and in 982 seige was laid to London, but successfully repulsed by the gallant citizens. At this date, owing in all probability to the partial dread of fire, the greater number of the dwellings were outside the city to the west of Ludgate, the houses within the walls being irregularly built, and few contiguous to each other.

In 992 a numerous fleet was fitted out at London in order to prevent the landing of another army of Danes and Norwegians, in which the Londerers performed a conspicuous part, and the enemy were dispersed. Two years afterwards Anlaf and Sweyn, or *Swegen*, kings of Norway and Denmark, appeared before the city with a fleet of *ninety-four* ships with the dire intent of burning and sacking it: but to the valour of her own undaunted citizens, to their unshaken loyalty, did London at this momentous crisis owe its salvation, and the Danes were obliged to raise the siege. It appears that if Ethelred had possessed a *spark* of British courage, it would have caught *flame* from the heroic conduct of his faithful citizens, and he might have driven back the

invaders discomfited to their inhospitable shores, but he had recourse to the despicable expedient of purchasing a respite by paying a large sum, amounting to 36,540*l.* in silver, equivalent to 400,000. of the present value of money, and whence arose the onerous tax of *Danegelt*, of which London bore a large proportion. The expedient, however, proved only an alternative of temporary efficacy ; as it was based on pusillanimity and inertness, arising from a wish to avoid an imminent peril without any personal effort or risk of danger, which could have been alone obviated by nervous, instant action, and chivalric conduct. In 1013, London being the only city left in possession of the irresolute Ethelred, he retired to Normandy ; the city, deserted by its king, was ultimately induced to open its gates to the Danes ; and in the same year, Sweyn was proclaimed in London king of England, but dying in the spring of the succeeding year, and his son, *Cnut*, or Canute, not obtaining the affections of the people, Ethelred was recalled, and for a short period resumed the reins of government ; ending his inglorious career in the early part of 1016, his remains being deposited in the chancel of the old cathedral church of St. Paul's. During his sovereignty we find the first reference made to the exaction of any toll in the port of London on the importation of foreign merchandize ; it appearing by the Saxon Chronicles, that Ethelred when at Wantage fixed certain regulations of customs on ships and goods to be paid at the principal quay of *Belinsgate*, *Blynesgate*, or Billingsgate. In one of the clauses allusion is made to the "*Emperor's men* coming with their ships," who were accounted worthy of good laws, though not allowed to forestall the markets from the burghers of London ; referring, it would seem, to persons usually residing in London. Now, as the German merchants of the *Steel-yard* were very early established here as a trading company, it is probable that by the *Emperor's men* were designated that

society, none other than that of the Steel-yard having ever existed in the Metropolis.

Edmund Ironside, who succeeded his father, was unanimously elected to the throne, and was the first king crowned in London; the coronations having been latterly performed at Kingston-on-Thames. The courage and ability of the youthful monarch ought to have insured him the confidence and love of his subjects, but the defection of the nobility and powerful opposition of the clergy, rendered his cause extremely desperate, though it was the occasion of exhibiting another striking instance in our city's history of the loyalty of its inhabitants. At this juncture, when the aristocratical and clerical influence, an influence which seems ever to have been co-existent in history, and too frequently combined in the cause of oppression, or protection and perpetuity of abuse, having transferred its preponderating power in favour of the pretensions of the "Royal Dane," he was proclaimed by this lordly faction king of England. But amidst the gathering storm of rebellion, the citizens of London stood dauntless, their honour still unimpeached, which they stamped on their annals in crimson characters of blood. Canute, apprized of the disaffection in the land and his proclamation at Southampton, hastened to the Thames with a large fleet, and appeared before London with two hundred ships. Finding the city impregnable to his attacks on the east, as it was enabled to draw succours from the westward, and being prevented passing through the BRIDGE, owing to its *fortifications*, he resolved on the Herculean task of cutting a trench through the marshes of Surrey, in order to circumvent the bridge and bring his ships to bear on the western division of the city, thus completing its blockade, his troops having invested the walls by land. In this historical event we observe the first recurrence to the existance of a *bridge* across the

Thames, and though no precise data are afforded to determine the period of its erection; yet, as King Anlaf, in the year 993, is stated to have sailed up the river as far as Staines, ravaging the counties on each bank, and in 1016 the progress of Canute's navy was checked by a bridge, it must have been constructed within the intervening twenty-three years, and during the reign of Ethelred, which is partially corroborated by the tenor of the custom-regulations enacted by this king, wherein it is recited, that tolls shall be levied on vessels coming to *Belinsgate* or "*ad pontem.*" According to the traditionary account of Bartholomew Linsted, *alias* Fowle, the last prior of *St. Mary of the Ferry, or St. Mary Overie's* convent in Southwark, he asserts that "a ferrie was kept in a place where now the bridge is builded; at length the ferryman and his wife deceasing, left the same ferrie to their only daughter, a maiden, named Marie, which with the goods left by her parents, as also with the profits arising of the said ferrie, builded a house of sisters, in a place where now standeth the east part of *St. Marie Overie's* church, above the *Queere*, where she was buried, unto the which house she gave the oversight and profits of the ferrie; but afterwards the said house of sisters being converted into a college of priests, they builded the bridge of timber, as all the other the great bridges of this land were, and from time to time kept the same in good reparations; till at length, considering the great charges of repairing the same, there was by ayd of the citizens of London and others, a bridge builded with arches of stone." Many learned authorities doubt the truth of this narrative, as no record or tradition, except the one cited, is discoverable of any convent having existed in Southwark before that of *Bermondsey*, founded by *Alwin Childe* in 1082; *St. Mary Overie* having been established in the reign of *Henry the First*. *Stow* is the only early authority supporting the *Prior's* history, though in *Doomsday-book* a reference is made in Southwark

to a *Monasterium*, which it is urged by Bishop Tanner in contradistinction to Dugdale, that if it denoted anything more than an ordinary church, may be thought to mean this religious house. The Prior's account also is incorrect as to the repairs of the bridge, as it is on record, that the expenses were defrayed by a public charge. Nor is it likely that a small sacred order could have afforded the heavy outlay of its erection; but more probably received a consideration and allowance for the loss of the profits arising from the ferry, which formed its chief support. More probability being attached to the suggestion, that the bold enterprize of Anlaf might have instigated the citizens and government in building a bridge, not only in a political point of view in preventing the future invasion of the upper districts of the Thames, but as a source of convenience for the more ready egress and ingress into the city from Surrey.

The circuitous extent of the cut or trench through which the Danish vessels were towed is not correctly ascertained, but its commencement is generally acknowledged to have been at *Dockhead*, by Rotherithe or *Redriff*; fascines of hazel, willows, and other small wood, fastened down with stakes, having been discovered in digging the dock in 1694. But it is difficult to subscribe to the opinion formed by Maitland:—"That after diligent search of several days, he found the *vestigia* of the canal to have traversed Rotherhithe fields, across the Deptford-road, to Newington Butts; thence to the Lambeth-road on the north of Kennington, running west and by south through the Spring Garden at Vauxhall to its influx into the Thames, at the lower end of Chelsea-reach." No doubt a water-course may have, at some former time, existed in this direction; but it is almost incredible that Canute would have attempted so needless a labour in excavating such a lengthened canal, of sufficient depth and breadth to admit his transports, or that he would have had time to

execute the design in an enemy's country, even if contemplated. The supposition is, therefore, more feasible, that from Dockhead the cut formed a small semicircle by Margaret's-hill into the Thames by St. Saviour's-dock. The citizens, though now entirely surrounded by the enemy, sustained the fury of their assault, and defended themselves with so much bravery, that Canute withdrew his army, leaving the fleet to preserve the blockade; but his troops on land being defeated by Edmund, he was obliged to recall his ships to cover the retreat of his own army in case of necessity. During Edmund's absence from England, in order to recruit his army from West Saxony, Canute again attacked the city, but in vain, until a peace was concluded: and Mercia being ceded to Canute, of which London was the capital, the city submitted to the Danish dominion. On the assassination of Edmund, Canute arrived at the plenitude of his power, and the citizens felt the weight of the sovereign's resentment for their attachment to the ancient monarchy. The *Danegelt* was increased from one shilling to seven shillings for every hide of land, equal to about 100 acres, out of which about a seventh part of the assessment on the whole kingdom was imposed on the citizens, an instance not only of the disposition of the Danish sovereign, but the increased opulence of the city to liquidate so enormous a tax. Canute eventually relaxed his severity towards the Londoners, and endeavoured to reconcile the people generally to his government by his justice and impartiality, and London became indebted to him for the extension of its foreign commerce, the source from whence has sprung all its splendour. Canute scrupulously maintained the codes previously enacted for the protection and furtherance of the mercantile interests, and directed peculiar attention towards the cultivation of a commercial intercourse, by which the prosperity and security of the people might be guaranteed. William of Malmsbury has preserved an interesting document, instancing the attention

Canute paid to the mercantile advancement of his subjects during the performance of a pilgrimage to Rome. Addressing the authorities left in charge of his kingdom, the king writes :—“ I have conversed with the pope, the emperor, and all the princes whom I found at Rome, respecting the grievances imposed on my subjects, whether English or Danes, on visiting their several states, and have *insisted* that in future they shall be treated more favourably, and exempted from the tolls and exactions of various kinds with which they have been hitherto harrassed. The emperor, king Rodolphus, and the other sovereigns, have accordingly listened to my remonstrances, and have assured me that henceforth no subject of mine, whether *merchant* or *pilgrim*, passing through their territories, shall meet with any obstruction, or be made liable to the payment of any impost whatever.”

Canute, dying in 1036, did not reap the fruits of his wise and politic measures, though at this era the traffic of London, and indeed England generally, attained the height of its prosperity during its first *Millennium* ; yet how prodigious has been its augmentation during the succeeding epoch of only eight centuries ; what a contrast does the year 1036-37 afford with 1836-37 ; in what strong antithesis is placed the social interests of the subject, and the organized state of society in Britain. Mr. Hunter has so truly depicted the feelings naturally arising in forming any comparative analogy between the periods, that we cannot refrain from quoting his words :—“ We now,” he continues, “ laugh to scorn the idea of invasion ; the tongue in parliamentary debate, and the pen in political pamphlets, are the only weapons of our warfare. Every breath of wind carries out or brings home exhaustless mines of treasure ; the slave becomes free from his master the moment his foot alights on these hallowed shores ; unnumbered mansions and palaces swell the cities and embellish the plains, and golden harvests wave on the lately barren wastes.” If we pursue the contrast



BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

further, we note that about this period, not any city, except London and Westminster, contained 10,000 inhabitants, being one seventy-fifth part of the population of the present day, or as 20,000 to 1,500,000; and that the amount of 10,000 people is only now equivalent to the number of retailers of spirits and beer within the metropolis; and while the houses within the city's walls and western precincts were then thinly scattered, the eye at a single survey being enabled to estimate their extent and number, that now there are upwards of 10,000 courts, alleys, streets, lanes, squares, places, and rows; and from the opposite points of their respective situations, no individual would pass through them in the space of a whole year. It may be added, that in the early part of the 11th century, agriculture was at so low an ebb that land sold at equal to four shillings per acre of our present money, which was likewise the value of four sheep.

On the demise of Canute a *Witena-gemote* was held, (the term Parliament, according to Sir Robert Cotton, not occurring until the sixth year of the reign of John,) to which was summoned as usual the nobles; and for the first time, in 1036, London sent its representatives to the State Council under the name of *Lidromen*, a Saxon designation, the translation of which is disputed, being rendered *nautæ* or *mariners*, but evidently indicating the *magistrates* or *principal merchants* of the city. At this assembly was discussed the succession to the throne, Harold, surnamed *Harefoot*, son of Canute, being elected, during whose short reign and that of his brother, Hardicanute, few occurrences took place relative to the city. Edward the Confessor, in whom was resumed the Saxon dynasty, was recalled from Normandy and declared King of England, in the City of London, by the general voice of the nation. Two years after his accession, in 1043, a dreadful famine prevailed throughout the country, and wheat sold at the then exorbitant rate of five shillings per quarter. The

bigotry of this king, and his neglect of *temporal* for *spiritual* affairs, caused him to slight the international interests, and little improvement or advance was made in the mercantile prospects of London. Though Edward is accused of disregarding the existing state of his kingdom, and paying comparatively trifling attention to current circumstances, he was not unmindful of his own future state in building and endowing churches. He re-edified, with architectural magnificence, the monastic pile of St. Peter, Westminster, and endowed it munificently, granting to it all the rights and privileges which papal decrees could enforce. While this royal foundation was erecting, Ingilricus and his brother, Edwardus or Gerardus, founded, in 1056, a large and beautiful college in St. Martin's-lane, Aldersgate, and endowed it for a dean, and secular canons or priests by the name of *St. Martain's le Grand*.

Among the principal laws, however, which Edward did enact is a statute, wherein he acknowledges the pre-eminence of London over all his cities, confirms to it all its ancient customs and usages, so as not to be violated by his successors, and particularly grants to the citizens the privilege of holding and keeping "*the hustings*," a court or council, every Monday. As additionally illustrative of the condition of society in the middle of the 11th century, and the state of London and Westminster, may be recounted the history of Godwin, the powerful Earl of Kent, and father-in-law of the kings, who by base insinuations made to Edward, principally by the Normans at court, had been cited to appear before the Great Council assembled at London, to investigate the truth of the allegations. Godwin, aware that his ruin was pre-determined, refused to attend, unless his personal safety was guaranteed by pledges, which being denied, he was banished the country, and his estates confiscated. Confident in his own innocence, the earl had recourse to arms to enforce the restitution of his rights: and having induced many of the citizens to espouse his

cause, he raised a considerable army, and fitted out a fleet, with which he sailed up to London Bridge, and meeting with no opposition from the Londoners, passed through the arches on the Southwark shore, with the intent of attacking the *Royal Navy*, consisting of fifty sail, *lying off Westminster*—a fact, implying that the ships of war could not have been very formidable, as they were enabled to pass and repass with so much facility the wooden arches of the bridge. The warlike array, however, of the Earl's army, which had taken a position on the southern banks of the river, induced some of the influential nobility to interfere as conciliators, and the effusion of native blood was spared. Godwin being reinstated in the possession of his titles and estates, and the Norman courtiers dismissed the kingdom.

During the reign of Edward, we find that the *rights* and *privileges* of the citizens received their first *statutory recognition*, having previously depended on usage and tradition; but it is to be lamented that we cannot recapitulate the nature and extent of these liberties, which would be illustrative of the immunities which had incited them to commercial operations, forming the fundamental principles of that greatness which the city has now attained. There is, however, so much romance, blended with the few accounts extant "of London being after the manner of *Old Great Troy*," that no certainty prevails, except that London possessed from time immemorial the noble right of conferring *freedom* on such slaves and vassals as should reside for a *year and a day* within the city, unclaimed by their lords; and hence London received the distinguished appellation of "The Free Chamber of the King." Exclusive of the high and noble character of this prerogative, it was of inestimable value to the mass of the population, as it was the first ray of liberty dawning on a people still nearly benighted in the gloom of the darker ages; the state of vassalage, being only a slight amelioration from that of slavery. It was, therefore, the means

of pointing out to them that there were other sources from whence the blessing of freedom could spring, than the caprices of their feudatory lords; and so scrupulously did the citizens appreciate the privilege which for some time they exclusively enjoyed, that cases are on record, of individuals having been degraded from the rank of citizens, solely from the circumstance of their having descended to hold in *villinage* lands without the limits of the city.

On the death of Edward the Confessor, in January, 1066, Harold, the son of Earl Godwin, was placed on the throne; the citizens, in conjunction with some of the nobles and a few of the clergy, having been foremost in repelling the claims to the succession of William, Duke of Normandy, a descendant of Canute. Harold, however, in opposing the advance of the Duke's troops into England, was killed the same year, in the battle fought near Hastings. On the approach of the Normans to London, the citizens sallied forth, but were repulsed in Southwark, and compelled to retreat within their walls. This "courageous onslaught," however, induced William, after destroying Southwark by fire, to march his army into the Western counties, fearful in winter of attacking the stronghold of the metropolis. Disaffection and treachery among the nobles, and intrigues of the clergy, made his eventual conquest more easily attainable; and William, on his re-appearance near the walls, was met by the magistrates and citizens, who tendered the city's keys, and acknowledged him sovereign, when he assumed the name of *Conqueror*. The submission of London was effected entirely by internal faction, and not the absence of means and power to have withstood the siege; the peaceful acquiescence to his rule having been principally effected by treaty and compact. But the king seems to have been fully aware of the necessity of holding in check the gallant spirit of the inhabitants, as one of his first acts was to augment and strengthen the fortress of the Tower, and the

additions he then made have now become an interesting architectural relic of his reign.

Whatever feelings of displeasure or animosity William might have harboured against the Londoners for the hostile disposition they had evinced, he was wise enough to perceive that the opulence and commercial importance of the city would act as the mainspring to the successful issue of his future political designs, and the reconciliation of the citizens was the sure method of establishing his dominion on a firmer basis; he, therefore, granted to them a *written* CHARTER, which is now preserved with sacred veneration among the archives at Guildhall. As it is the first document of the kind the citizens are recorded ever to have possessed, it merits a more particular description. The charter consists of four lines and a quarter, well and legibly written on a slip of parchment, six inches long and about one inch broad, in the Saxon character; and not in French, which was then beginning to supersede the Saxon, the national language.

“ WILLIAM the KING *friendly salutes* William the Bishop and Godfrey the Portreve, and all the Burgesses within London, both French and English, and I declare that I grant you to be all Law-worthy, as you were in the days of King EDWARD; and I grant that every child shall be his father's heir, after his father's days, and I will not suffer any person to do you wrong. God keep you.”

To which is attached a seal of white wax, impressed with the *Conqueror* on horseback, and on the reverse, sitting in a chair of state; the only words remaining of the superscription being M. WILL. In elucidation of this charter it may be necessary to remark, that being *law-worthy*, implied that the individual, in all cases of disputed right or alleged crime, should be entitled to a legal trial, and not like men under vassalage, liable in their persons or possessions to arbitrary rule, insuring at the same time the secure transmission of

property on the decease of a relative to the nearest of kin; whereas, holding lands and goods at the will of feudal lords, the owners were never certain that any part of the fruits of their industry would be inherited by their relatives and friends. The importance of the grant was still further enhanced by being given at a time when the feudal system was acquiring a firmer and wider range, by the settlement of the Norman Barons in England under the military tenure.

We have now arrived at one of the most eventful periods of the history, not only of our island but also of London, when the sceptre of the Saxon no longer controlled the destinies of the British, and when new characteristics were on the eve of influencing the manners and customs of the people. During the Saxon rule, the turbulency and disorganized state of society had induced the Londoners, in their hours of relaxation from business, to apply their attention to those pastimes requiring exertions of bodily strength, which naturally communicated to the mind a predilection for military pursuits, especially as it was likewise the sole occupation of the aristocracy. Emulation was soon created in the youthful breast to excel in some of the usual pastimes of the day, as hunting, hawking, leaping, running, wrestling, slinging, casting of darts and stones, the use of the bow, the club, and the buckler; and which, in accordance with the public taste, far exceeded the utility or necessity of mental accomplishments; study, beyond that of the ledger, was deemed superfluous, and literature thought more congenial to the gloom and retirement of the cloister. But the infatuation of gaming, especially with dice, had unhappily become too prevalent among all classes; a vice which the Anglo-Saxons inherited from their ancestors, as Tacitus assures us, the Germans would not only risk their whole fortunes on the turn of the die, but even stake their personal liberty, the winner having the option of selling the loser as a slave. Chess formed another favourite source of



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amusement, and also backgammon, which is stated to have been invented about the tenth century. It is related that Bishop Ætheric, having obtained admission to Canute about midnight upon urgent business, found the king and his courtiers at play, some at chess, others with dice. At the termination of the Saxon era, little alteration occurred in the people's pastimes; the Normans only diverting more of the popular attention towards jousts and tournaments; and we then find, that the sons of the citizens and yeomen practised various attacks and evolutions on horseback, and also on foot, as running at the *quintain*, &c., the youth being armed with shields and pointed lances, resembling the *ludus Trojæ*, or "Troy game," described by Virgil, and doubtless the origin of tournaments.

The most destructive fire which had befallen London occurred in 1077, and in the succeeding year William caused the present large square tower to be erected, called now the *White Tower*, under the direction of the celebrated military architect, Gundulph, Bishop of Rochester, which remains as a noble specimen of the prelate's innovation in the art of castle building. A similar plan was adopted by the bishop in the construction of Rochester Castle. Fitzstephen designates this tower as the *Arx Palatina*, or Palatine Tower, the commander having the title of Palatine conferred on him, being at the same time endowed with regal powers. Within the tower is a chapel, which, according to *Stow*, was coeval with the structure, but even in his time was used as a repository for records.

During the reign of William *Rufus*, London bore a large proportion of the heavy taxes imposed by the king, in order to rebuild of wood London Bridge, which had been in great measure destroyed by a serious flood occurring in 1091; also for the erection of Westminster Hall, and the enlargement of the Tower, the king having caused the addition of the castellated

building on the south-side facing the Thames, afterwards called St. Thomas's Tower, beneath which is *Traitor's Gate*.

On the accession of Henry I., in the year 1100, to the exclusion from the throne of his elder brother Robert, who was in Normandy, the king deemed it politic to obtain the favour and co-operation of the citizens by granting them the confirmation of their prescriptive rights, with additional municipal advantages. Indeed, throughout the history of our city it is observable, that its preponderating importance in the state secured to it privileges, which, in the usual course of occurrences, no metropolis could have hoped to have attained; and the city seems, in a more especial degree, to have profited by the intrigue, perfidy, schemes, or extravagance of the sovereigns, compelling them to require the influence or money of the citizens. It was, however, in this reign, that the first detailed and circumstantial account is found of the immunities enjoyed by the city, contained in a charter of ratification of the usages ascertained and established, and which henceforward were not to be dictated or regulated by the caprice and humour of favouritism. The charter was granted in the first year of Henry's sovereignty; and besides radicating all former customs, added to the city the jurisdiction of Middlesex in fee-farm, without homage or other condition than a quit rent of £300, with power of appointing a sheriff, and also a justiciary from among their own body for holding the pleas of the Crown. This sum, however, considering the prosperous condition of the country, must have been equivalent to £12,000 of our present currency, provisions having since increased at least forty-fold; for it appears that Henry, who was more in want of money, than sustenance for his army and retainers, ordered that his tenants in future, instead of finding *bread* for a meal for a *hundred men*, should pay in lieu *one shilling*; for a stalled or fat ox, *one shilling*; for a night's feed of oats for *twenty*

horses, fourpence; and for a ram or other sheep, *fourpence*; a pint of wine selling at the London taverns for *one penny*, with bread included! The citizens became now also exempted from *Scot* and *Lot* and *Daneguild*; and were not obliged to plead to any charge *without their walls*; the rule which is at present observed by the king's courts, of holding sittings in each term in Guildhall, being merely the practical result of this privilege. They were, from the same date, freed from having any of the king's household, or of the "*king's livery*," or *soldiers* quartered upon them, with exemption from all toll, passage, and lastage, "in all parts and sea-ports of the kingdom." The stability of their liberties thus guaranteed and shielded from the arbitrary will of the king, the citizens were desirous of securing their municipal usages, by causing them to assume the appearance of legal authority, and converting them into written statutes. Hence "their arts and mysteries," which had been kept up merely by prescription, became strengthened by established *fraternities*, and *gildes* of trade and professions; the king, however, reserving to his right the nomination of the Portreve, or chief officer of the city. Without disputing the subject, though not yielding to the assertion, that Secular Gilds did not originate with our Saxon progenitors, thinking it more probable that the "**Gildam**" were adopted from Germany and not France, it is worthy of remark, that with the exception of the *Gilda Teutonicorum*, or Steel Yard Guild, and the "*Sadlers' Guild*," the *Tellarij*, or Woollen-Cloth Weavers' Guild, is the most ancient in the corporation, as it appears on record, that they rendered to the crown a rent or *ferme* for their *gilde* in this reign; the "*Baker's company*" claims also an early rank in antiquity, circumstances which, in reference to the two latter, are of themselves a natural sequence, food and clothing being the essentials of humanity.

The religious and charitable spirit of the age began to be conspicuously exemplified about this period, by the erection

and endowment of various religious fraternities, churches, and hospitals, which we shall more fully detail, in narrating the past and present state of the different wards.

On the death of Henry, the contentions for the crown between the Empress Matilda or Maud, the daughter of the late king, and Stephen, his nephew, fermented by the treachery and perjury of the bishops, not only involved the Londoners, as partizans, in heavy losses and ameracements, but caused serious infringements of their charter; while the agitation of the times proved adverse to the advancement of commerce. But it afforded the citizens a fresh instance of displaying their firmness and consistency of conduct, as well as their national importance: for when the fortune of Matilda, during a brief space, was ascendant, and the citizens were summoned to Winchester, to give their concurrence in recognizing Matilda Queen of England, they refused to accede, though the council and nobles and prelates had tacitly yielded to the proposal before their arrival; denying their consent on the ground of having, in the first instance, sworn allegiance to Stephen, and eventually they were instrumental in restoring the crown to the king.

The fire which occurred during this reign was the most grievous with which the metropolis had been visited, destroying London Bridge, and great portion of the city, together with part of St. Paul's Cathedral. Another memorable circumstance happened in 1140, a total eclipse of the sun, which occasioned the good people of London much consternation, dreading that "chaos was come again;" having then acquired little general knowledge of the law or motion of the heavenly bodies.

It is difficult, amid the romance of this age, to penetrate the veil of fiction and legend which conceals the historical facts. Fitzstephen, who too frequently indulges in hyperbole, desirous of communicating grandeur of effect to the description of his

favourite city, states in allusion to the population in the reign of Stephen, that at a great review of the King's troops, London sent into the field 60,000 foot, and 20,000 horse soldiers, all *its own citizens*; whereas, part of these 80,000 men consisted of the marshal retainers of the various nobles assembled from different portions of the country, and part of the Royal forces of the King; and therefore little idea is conveyed of the existing population. But Peter de Blois, who was Archdeacon of London, resident in the metropolis, estimates the number of inhabitants at 40,000, an amount more correspondent with probability; though still considerable, recollecting that it was composed of the people dwelling *within* the walls. This is the earliest date afforded of judging of the extent of the internal power of the city, and presents an interesting and important basis on which we can construct a comparative analogy of the relative capabilities and resources of the people during the succeeding reigns which intervened, before the first authorized census was taken in 1631, and which was ordered by Government in anticipation of a dearth; the leading queries requiring a return of "the number of mouths esteemed to be in the city of London and Liberty, and what proportion of corn would suffice to feed that number by the month." The result we have annexed in a tabular form.

In reviewing the population of the twelfth and seventeenth centuries, for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of commerce from the proportionate differences in the total amounts between the two periods, however impressed we may be with the certainty, that more diligence and perseverance were practised by the merchants and dealers of olden times, their lives more closely dedicated to commercial pursuits than in later years, and that individual exertion was forced to its extreme bounds, which would lead to the inference that more business was in a proportionate degree transacted in

the earlier than the later mercantile history of the city ; yet we must not omit to make allowance for the facilities which have from time to time been afforded to commerce by the means of machinery ; as even the most simple invention, which first proved a substitute for manual labour, conferred on the people so vast an advantage over their predecessors, that the premises become very uncertain for attempting to work out any comparative problem. The commerce of Venice, of Amsterdam, and of Antwerp, more than rivalled London, nor was it till the reign of Elizabeth, that the British flag was wafted over every sea, and that British merchants and British produce were found at the marts of the most distant climes. In the ensuing reign the foundation of the colonies in America gave a powerful impulse to trade, which was still farther promoted by the free and liberal institutions established at the Revolution ; and England and its metropolis began to occupy a foremost rank among the European powers as a commercial and manufacturing nation. It was not, however, until towards the close of the eighteenth century, that the mighty revolution was effected in commerce, which was to place London on the pinnacle of its mercantile glory, nullifying all previous calculations of gradationary aggrandizement. This wonderful epoch in trade was effected by the invention of *Hargreaves*, in 1767, of the *spinning jenny*, for the manufacture of cotton, of the *spinning frame* by Wyatt, for which Arkwright took out a patent in 1769 ; by the invention of the *mule*, by Crompton, succeeded by the *power loom* of Dr. Cartwright, and other improvements, the whole being stimulated by the application of steam power to machinery ; added to which, the supply of the raw material by the invention of Whitney's machine for separating and cleansing the cotton from the pod, enabling the Americans to meet the rapidly increasing demand, all co-operated in returning the enormous products exhibited by the

following figures; the success of the different inventions strikingly exemplifying how essential each individually was for the completion of the grand result, so true is it, "*Omnes artes quæ ad humanitatem pertinent, habent quoddam commune vinculum, et quasi cognatione quadam inter se continentur.*" From these ever memorable periods manufactures and commerce, wealth and population, have increased in a ratio far exceeding all human anticipations, and have been the means of rendering the British capital the largest exporting and consuming city in the world, and, with the exception of *Pekin* and *Nankin*, the most populous. The annexed short summary will exhibit the magnitude of our exporting capabilities at the different periods referred to. The earliest historical allusion to cotton manufacture in England is in the year 1641, and the first authentic account of the imports of cotton wool previous to the improvement in the manufacture, is from the year 1697.

Years.	Raw Cotton Imported.	Official value of Exports of Cotton manufactures, Cotton-Twist, and Yarn.
	lbs.	£
1697	1,976,359	5,915
1701	1,985,868	23,253
1751	2,976,610	45,986
1764	3,870,392	—
1772	4,764,589	—
1780	6,766,613	355,060
1790	31,447,605	1,662,369
1800	56,010,732	5,854,057
1810	132,488,935	18,951,994
1820	151,672,655	22,531,079
1830	263,961,452	41,050,969
1836	406,959,057	58,520,876

Recurring again to the subject of population, much exaggeration and absurd theory have existed, at various times, respecting the number of the inhabitants of the city; and even so late as the year 1683, *Sir William Petty*, F. R. S., and

who was considered on some points an authority, gavely asserts, in an essay he wrote on "*Political Arithmetic* concerning the Growth of the City of London, with the Measures, Periods, Causes and Consequences thereof," "That as in the year 1840 the population of London would grow to 10,718,880, it must stop before that period, and be at its greatest height in 1800, when it would be *eight times* greater than now;" the estimated population being then 669,930, which would give a product of 5,359,440, and the mode of calculation adopted by the author is seriously stated to have been "necessary to *justify the Scriptures* and all other good histories concerning the number of people in ancient times;" yet though we are now in the 19th instead of the 17th century, how little is still known of the laws which govern and influence the animal economy of man. The above extract also fully illustrates the dangerous consequences of erroneous data, and proves how essential it is to endeavour to wean the public mind from the hitherto controlling influence of mere assertions, opinions, and vague generalities, and from giving too willing credence to abstract reasoning. It is, however, with pleasure we perceive a growing avidity to seize hold of facts, especially when conveyed through the valuable medium of statistical knowledge, which enables the inquiring mind, from comparative results, to gain by direct and certain means sterling information, qualifying society more readily to balance, duly regulate and scrutinize the complications emanating from the machinery necessarily attendant on the relative position and workings of so dense a mass of population. But at present our statistical knowledge of trade is more incidental to our fiscal regulations, more confined to the object of taxation, as applicable to the revenue, than prosecuted with the view to the advancement of civilization, and developing the combined resources of the nation; and when we reflect that this important science comprehends the materials



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on which alone we can with safety found our deductions respecting the soil, climate, population, and the internal and external connexions of the country; the state of its physical, technical, intellectual, and moral culture, its constitution and government, we must join in expressing our surprise, with others of our contemporaries, that in this age so many are still found who exclusively indulge their appetite for works of fiction and imagery, and “starve their reasoning faculties by abstaining from the rich nourishment” afforded by statistical information.

We have been induced to make this short digression, and dwell with more attention on the subject, being deeply impressed with its importance; as in evidencing the augmentation of the inhabitants of a city or country, we are affording incontestable proof of the growth and vigour of its constitution, of the waxing strength of its sinews and muscles of war, its power to resist any invasion of its rights, and to promote and consolidate its commercial and political prospects.

Cities of London, Westminster, and Suburbs.	1631.		1801.		1811.		1821.		1831.	
	Popu- lation.	Houses	Popu- lation.	Houses	Popu- lation.	Houses	Popu- lation.	Houses	Popu- lation.	Houses
LONDON, within the walls,	73,126	12,000	74,594	9,985	55,484	8,158	56,174	7,826	55,778	8,002
LONDON, without the walls,	57,142	—	53,027	6,523	63,629	7,949	67,714	7,634	66,634	7,546
Total of London	130,267	—	127,621	16,508	119,113	16,107	123,888	15,764	122,412	15,548
SOUTHWARK, - - -	—	—	67,448	10,933	72,119	11,802	85,905	1,477	91,501	13,430
INNS OF COURT, - - -	—	—	1,907	1,230	1,796	1,406	1,546	1,406	1,271	1,187
WESTMINSTER, - - -	—	—	153,272	17,462	162,085	17,555	182,085	18,502	201,842	20,616
OUT PARISHES, - - -	—	—	514,597	75,017	654,433	94,962	832,270	116,532	1,054,915	145,885
Total of Metropolis,	—	—	864,845	121,150	1,909,546	141,732	1,225,694	164,681	1,471,941	196,66

The numerical results of the above tables afford, on comparison, some remarkable details. We have omitted the population of the city between the years 1135 and 1154, which we have shown was estimated at 40,000, though necessary to be kept in view. From these dates to 1631, a space of five centuries, an apparent diminution took place in the city of London, and during the present century the decrease has

continued, and thus paradoxically, as the prosperity advanced, the population has fallen off; but the fact is, that exclusive of the late improvements in the city, as the widening streets, enlarging buildings and wharfs, the habit of only resorting to the counting-houses during hours of business, and returning at night to the suburban or country-houses, has so much increased, that the cause of the fluctuation is readily accounted for within the walls, while the population has become more condensed without the older precincts of the wards; the population of the whole metropolitan district having augmented, between 1801 and 1831, from 864,845 to 1,471,941, or more than 70 per cent.; but having within the walls decreased more than 25 per cent.; and from a comparison of the houses in London at the two periods, we find that there were 773 persons in 100 houses in 1801, and 787 in 1831.

During the reign of Stephen's successor, Henry the Second, a more enlightened and liberal political view was taken of civil society, which became the fruitful source of benefit and advantage to the various towns and cities, and more especially to London, being the means of communicating a fresh stimulus to its home and foreign traffic. This desirable improvement in the social state of the country was instigated by the arbitrary and imperious conduct of the barons, whose feudal sway not only impeded the progress of commercial intercourse and adventure, but threatened at times the freedom and independence of the throne itself. The antiquarian, Selden, informs us, that Henry after his accession demolished 1115 castles, which had been erected during the civil wars of Stephen and Matilda. This reduction of the strongholds of feudalism was succeeded by the adoption of a new system of creating a revenue and levying a military force, free from the despotic will of the nobles, by granting charters and sundry privileges to the principal towns, in consideration of their paying certain

sums of money or an annual fine or tallage to the crown, which, while it restrained the power of the barons and feudal lords and weakened the general system of their tenure, was highly instrumental in fostering and encouraging trade.

Irrefutable evidence is adduced during Henry's reign, that some radical reform was demanded in the moral state of society, the civic authorities retaining little or no influence in controlling the unruly spirits of the age. Midnight brawls, robberies, and murders, being of frequent occurrence in the streets of London, and the committal of these depredations and crimes, not confined to the lower and more depraved classes, but the sons of wealthy citizens, and even citizens themselves, being found among these predatory gangs. *John Senex*, a rich, and, previously considered, a reputable merchant, was convicted of burglary, and "offered for his pardon the prodigious sum of 500 pounds weight of silver, which was rejected, and he was hanged according to his deserts."

Another striking instance is exhibited in the Royal charter granted to the city, which, after confirming the immunities bestowed by Henry the First, renders the citizens free from certain fines, such as *Jeresgive* and *Scotale*, the former being a bribe given to the king's or other officers for connivance and being favourable in their respective judicial duties; and the latter exactions made by the king's officers who kept alehouses, invited the people to drink, and fraudulently extorted money from them under pretence of preventing their informing against them for some imaginary crimes; and "these villainous practices were countenanced by some great men, the citizens requiring a special clause in their charter to liberate them from their continuance."

The growing opulence of the merchants, the advancement of the arts, and improvement in public and private buildings, now induced the citizens to contemplate the plan of substi-

tuting a stone in place of the wooden bridge across the Thames, the latter requiring constant repair and incurring heavy expense. In briefly alluding, however, to the improvement in the *private buildings* of this period, it does not appear that the comforts in the domiciles of the worthy citizens had arrived at any luxurious extent; for in the following reign of Richard the First, houses of stone or brick were very limited in number, being still composed of timber covered with reeds or straw. But their insecurity from depredation and liability to destruction by fire, led to the issue of an order in 1191, for settling any dispute arising from the enclosure of ground and erecting *new houses*, the party-walls of which were to be made of stone and *at least sixteen feet in height* and three in thickness, which would imply that much space was not allowed in the altitude of "these more commodious" residences. These dimensions were to be regulated by jurats, consisting of twelve aldermen, "chosen in full hustenge, who decided and appeased all the contentions in question."

The stone bridge was commenced in the twenty-second year of the reign of king Henry the Second, in the year 1176, and the site chosen rather to the westward of the original bridge, which abutted Botolph's Wharf. The event was looked forward to with so much interest, that the king, clergy, and laity, subscribed funds for its completion, and a tax was imposed on wool towards defraying the expenses, which occasioned the vulgar belief that "the bridge was built on woolpacks." The great architect of the day, *Peter, of Cole-church*, was employed to superintend the construction; this clergyman, who had attained much skill in architecture, was minister of St. Mary, *Cole-church*. The church, previous to the fire of London, in 1666, forming the western corner of the Old Jewry, having received its latter appellation from its

founder, who was named *Cole*; the parish being now united to that of St. Mildred, Poultry. The Reverend Architect did not live to complete his great undertaking, for among the records in the Tower, is a letter, dated in the third year of the reign of King John, recommending "The learned and worthy clerk, *Isenbert*, as a proper person to finish the bridge;" he having superintended the erection of the bridges of Xainctes and Rochelle; though the bridge at Rouen, built by King John's grandmother, the Empress Matilda, which remained in use 500 years, seems to have formed the model of that of London. But the citizens appear not to have paid much attention to the Royal recommendation, as no historical notice is made of Isenbert's labours, the superintendence of the work having been entrusted to *Serle Mercer*, *William Almaine*, and *Benedict Botewrite*, merchants, "who finished the first stone bridge in London in the year 1209."*

* In addition to the remarks we have already made in reference to the first construction of this bridge in the reign of Ethelred, we would here allude to a passage found in the works of *Snorre*, detailing an occurrence that seems generally to have escaped historical notice, or to have been confounded with the expeditions of Canute, and which recounts a successful attack against the wooden bridge of London, previous to its assault by Canute at the time the Danes were in possession of the city. The enterprise is stated to have been undertaken by Olaf, chieftain of a band of Northern adventurers, at the instigation of Ethelred. The bridge was partially destroyed, by the piles of some of the middle arches having been broken or torn away, and the besieged obliged to retreat, some into the city, and others taking refuge in the *South-works*, or *fortifications*, *vulgo dictum Sudverkium*. Snorre supports his narrative by citing contemporary war-songs, descriptive of the exploit, adding, that Olaf, who was afterwards king of Norway, became converted to Christianity, and being massacred by his Pagan subjects, was eventually canonized, and a church in Southwark near the bridge named after him St. Olavus, in memorial of his success. Torfæus repeats this legend, and proceeds to prove that Olaf never co-operated with Canute.

Previous to the demise of Peter of Colechurch, "a chapel of beautiful arched structure," dedicated to St. Thomas, had been erected at his own expense on the east side of the ninth pier from the north end, and endowed by him for two priests, four clerks, &c., and where, according to Stowe, the architect himself was afterwards buried. The chapel, which communicated with the water by a circular flight of steps round one of the pillars of the bridge, remained nearly in its original form until the total demolition of the houses. The century had however not elapsed, before the bridge had become so ruinous from various accidents, such as destruction of the starlings, and five of the arches "being borne down by the ice and floods," that according to the tenour of a brief granted in 1280, by King Edward the First, "unless it be speedily repaired it must inevitably fall down, and the great numbers of inhabitants dwelling thereon are in great danger of being destroyed;" proving, at the same time, that from its earliest date, houses were erected on it; and which, by King John's letter of recommendation, it was purposed that Isenbert should cause to be erected; the rents to be appropriated to the repairs. On the north side was constructed a draw-bridge, defended by a Tower, which proved the means of repulsing *Fawconbridge* in his assault on the city in 1471, and checked also the ill-devised insurrection of *Sir Thomas Wiat* in the reign of Queen Mary, besides that, this division of the bridge facilitated the progress of masted vessels up the river, especially those laden with provisions bound to Queenhithe. On the top of the Tower were wont to be affixed the heads or parts of the bodies of different partizans who were hostile to the reigning Government, or who had had recourse to arms to enforce redress for their real or imaginary grievances. As late as 1598, Hentzer, the German traveller,



FISHMONGERS' HALL

counted more than *thirty heads*. On the bridge was situated one of the early gates of the city, though it is not specified by Fitzstephen. The houses at different periods suffered much damage by fire, and in the general conflagration in 1666 were, with the exception of a few of the original buildings on the Southwark side, entirely destroyed; they were, however, soon rebuilt and constructed four-stories high. These houses overhung the arches, many of which they even nearly concealed, or left little visible to the passing eye beyond rude piers. The street thus formed, was about twenty-feet in width, and dangerous to foot-passengers from the number of carriages, as no direct foot-path was formed, while several arches of timber crossed the street from the tops of the houses, to prevent the probability of their falling into the eddying tide beneath, whose constant roar of water, varied at times with the shrieks of the numerous beings whose lives were sacrificed in passing through the ill-constructed arches, must have required considerable nerve and long usage, especially in the fair occupants of the houses, to have rendered their minds free from all dread and apprehension. Latterly most of the houses were tenanted by pin and needle makers, and "œconomical ladies were wont to drive from the St. James's end of the town to make cheap purchases." *Fuller*, in his "*Worthies*," tells us, that Spanish needles were made first in London in Cheapside, by a negro, who died without communicating the art; but *Elias Krowse*, a German, in the reign of Elizabeth, was more liberal, and first taught the method to the English. Fuller facetiously gives the derivation of the name NEEDLE, *equasi NE IDLE*.

In the reign of Elizabeth, mills and water-works were erected under the arches of the south end; the former for grinding corn, and to rectify the price of manufacturing flour in times of dearth, and the exorbitant rates demanded at such

times for meal, by “*Badgers, or Mealmen;*” and in the year 1582, Peter Morice, a Dutchman, contrived a water engine, to supply the citizens with Thames water, the wheels being moved by the common tide-stream. The machinery was improved by Saracold and Hadley, and ultimately occupied four of the arches; with sufficient power, it was calculated, to raise 46,896 hogsheads of water per day, to the height of 120 feet.

The civic authorities, owing to the numerous lives that were lost, from the narrowness of the arches and the immense size of the starlings, which occupied one-fourth of the water-way, and occasioned a fall, at low water, of *five feet*, creating a number of temporary cataracts, besides that the annual repairs had for several years amounted to £2,000, came to the resolution in 1746, to pull down the houses; for which purpose an Act of Parliament was passed in 1756, for carrying the plan into immediate execution; and the two centre arches of the old bridge were thrown into one, in which state the bridge remained till its total demolition, in 1831. Reverting to the period when the houses were erected after the fire of London, the bridge, according to the eulogists of the day, was the admiration of all beholders, being the most stately erection in the world.

“ Let the whole earth now all the wonders count;
This bridge of wonders, is the paramount.”

Its praises and fame were sung and recounted by poets and historians; yet had these panegyrists witnessed the present bridge, we know not what language they would have found to have celebrated with its due meed of praise, the magnificence, elegance, and beauty of this *chef d'œuvre of pontifical architecture*; and in order to place in juxta-position the dimensions and public convenience of the two bridges, we have annexed the following tabular account; adding the similar particulars of the five other splendid structures crossing the majestic

Thames, enabling a comparative view at once to be taken of their respective proportions.

Bridges.	Length.	Width.	Height.	No. of Arches.	Span of centre	Materials.	Commenced.	Opened.	Architects.	Waterway.
	feet.	feet.	feet.	—	feet.					feet.
Old Bridge.	930	20	40	19	70	Stone & rubble.	1176.	1209.	Peter, of Colechurch.	Above Starlings, 540.
Altered by Mr. Dance & Sir R Taylor.	—	48	—	20	—	—	—	—		Below, 273.
New Ditto.	920	56	55	5	150	Granite	15 Mar. 1824.	Aug. 1, 1831.	Sir J. Rennie.	690.
Westminster.	1066	42	58	15	76	Portland stone.	Jan 1739	1750.	Labelye, a Swiss.	820.
Blackfriars.	1000	42	62	9	100	Ditto.	June, 1760.	1770.	R. Mylne.	793.
Vauxhall.	809	36	—	9	78	Iron & granite.	May, 1811.	July, 1816.	Jas. Walker.	—
Waterloo.	1326	42	54	9	120	Cornish granite.	Oct. 1811.	March, 1817.	Sir J. Rennie.	1080.
Southwark.	700	42	53	3	240	Iron.	Sept. 1814.	1819.	Ditto.	660.

Before concluding the history of our once famed bridge, we must relate the heroic conduct of *Edmund Osborne*, and which has formed the subject of more than one legendary theme. About the year 1536, Sir William Hewet, afterwards Lord Mayor, inhabited a house on the bridge, carrying on the trade of a clothworker. The nursery-maid was standing at an open window overlooking the river, with Sir William's only daughter in her arms, when the child sprung from her arms and fell into the "whirling pool" beneath. The merchant's apprentice, the youthful Osborne, witnessed the melancholy catastrophe, and with knightly bravery plunged into the "mighty rush" of waters, rescuing the sinking infant from a premature grave. As the fair maiden grew to womanhood, her hand and dowry were sought for by courtiers and nobles, and among others, by the Earl of Shrewsbury; but Sir William, ever grateful to his apprentice for preserving the being in whom his fondest hopes were concentrated, decided in favour of Osborne, saying, "*Osborne saved her, and Osborne shall possess her;*"

a decision by no means adverse to the pretty maiden's wishes. Osborne, inheriting the wealth of his father-in-law, became Sheriff in 1575, and Lord Mayor in 1582, and founder of the noble and ducal house of Leeds.

We must again recur to the time of Henry the Second, as it supplies us with some other interesting facts worthy of comment. We find that the *Weavers' Company* had a confirmation of their guild from the king, "with all the freedom and customs they had in his grandfather's days," Henry the First; and Stowe quotes a charter purporting, that "if any cloth were to be found made with Spanish wool, mixed with English wool, the chief magistrate of the city should have it burnt;" which implies that the early woollen clothes used in England, were composed entirely of Spanish wool. About the middle of this reign, the importation of wine from Bordeaux first took place; and so great was the spirit of commercial enterprize, that several fraternities were incorporated without the Royal letters patent, being styled *Adulterine Guilds*, and were ultimately, in 1180, amerced to the king, for their "presumptuous proceedings." These guilds are designated, either from the name of their alderman, or their trade, and, in some instances, from their patron saint or locality; and, as it is to be surmised that only a portion of these companies subjected themselves to penalty by an infringement of the law, it bears out *Glanville's* remarks, that at this period guilds were common institutions. Madox furnishes us with a curious account of the current value of commodities: an ox selling at 4s; a working horse at the same rate; a sow, 1s.; a sheep with fine wool 10d., and ditto, coarse, 6d.; 33 cows, and 2 bulls, were purchased at £8. 7s.; 500 sheep, £22. 10s.; 15 brood mares, £2. 12s. 6d.; and 22 hogs, £1. 2s.; and according to Bishop Fleetwood, 4 hens were valued at 2d., and a ram at 8d.

The *knight-errant* spirit of Richard the First, led him into gross inconsistencies, and regardless of his nation's welfare, he, in too many instances, bartered the property of the crown in order to enable him to indulge his romantic prepossession of wresting the Holy Land from the dominion of the Infidels. London, however, through its wealth was enabled to profit by the occasion, and to purchase of the king some valuable immunities; among others the right of the removal of the *wears* in the river Thames, whereby the navigation became much improved, and as an additional encouragement to the citizens, the king resigned all his right to the annual duties arising therefrom. From this year, 1197, the city claims its jurisdiction and conservancy of the river Thames, which it has preserved to the present day, extending up the river as far as Staines, and as low down as the small Port of Leigh, in Essex, near Canvey Island; a right which, according to modern notions of reform, "would be more honoured in the breach than in the observance;" as it is doubtful whether the *ownership* of the river ought now to be confined to any local authority to which it might have been granted, particularly when that authority constituted in fact the whole metropolis; and it is an important question, whether the jurisdiction and conservancy of the river Thames, to the preservation of the navigation of which the empire owes so much of its greatness, and which is of the utmost importance, not only to the contiguous inhabitants, but those in all other parts of the dominions, is properly within the province of any local municipality, and why the administration should not be under the direct control of the general Executive Government of the country.

The gracious favour with which Richard regarded the citizens was most probably actuated by their loyalty during his absence abroad, and the ready liberality with which they

contributed towards his ransom, when detained a prisoner in Austria, on his return from his chivalrous expedition into Palestine. One of the last acts of his reign, exhibiting the confidence he reposed in their integrity and wisdom, was in 1198, when he committed to the sheriffs of London and Middlesex, the execution of a plan for affixing a standard of weights and measures for the regulation of the *whole kingdom*. In the above year, wheat, owing to the failure of the crops, advanced as high as 18s. 4d. per quarter.

At this period so great was the increasing political importance which the citizens had acquired in the State, that when John, earl of Moreton, Richard's brother, and afterwards himself king, had assembled the bishops and nobles, in order to devise the means of resisting the tyrannical conduct of Longchamp, bishop of Ely, chancellor of the kingdom, and one of the regents during the absence of Richard abroad, he convoked a *commission of the citizens*, and by the unanimous resolve of the meeting, Longchamp was degraded; the bishop having incurred the displeasure of the citizens by the arbitrary encroachments on their limits, in forming an embattled wall and fosse around the Tower, which latter he connected, as at present, with the river, having destroyed the mill belonging to the hospital of St. Catherine, standing on the spot now called the Irongate, and appropriated the ground from the White Tower to the Postern-gate, besides other small parcels of land.

The chief magistrate of the city, who officiated as *butler* at Richard's coronation, in the year 1189, was then first allowed to assume the title of *bailiff*, and though the honour of presenting wine to his Majesty at this regal ceremony was also claimed by the chief magistrate of Winchester, both referring to previous custom, yet the office was confirmed to London on a *free gift* of 200 marks, and has been claimed

in perpetuity by prescription, the Mayor receiving as perquisite the golden cup containing the wine, and likewise a golden ewer of the same precious metal. *Fitz-Alwyn*, who had been nominated bailiff, was vested by the King, two years afterwards, that is in 1191, with the rank of *Mayor*, the title with its functions being borrowed from the Norman *Maire*, though it was not till the reign of John, A.D. 1213, that the charter was granted permitting the citizens to elect their chief magistrate from their own corporate body, and allowing them to remove him from the office at the expiration of twelve months.

Before animadverting on the progressive improvement of the city during the 13th century, we must endeavour partially to familiarize ourselves with its local character and that of the environs, as well as the state of society at the close of the twelfth century. We are afforded the means of correctly ascertaining these interesting points by consulting the works of *Fitzstephen*, who lived at that period in the service of Archbishop Becket, and having written his patron's biography, has introduced a short but graphic description of London, the native place of the Archbishop, which being professedly the earliest account extant, merits our marked attention. It appears that the city was connected by an irregular line of houses along the *strand* of the river with the village of Charing, proceeding thence to the King's Palace at Westminster, a distance reckoned at about two miles. In this line of communication were situated the houses of different noblemen and wealthy citizens, who had spacious and beautiful gardens, some running to the borders of the Thames, planted with trees and flowers. The northern suburbs were composed of corn-fields, pastures, and delightful meadows, intersected with pleasant streams, "on which," in

the words of our author,* “stands many a mill, whose clack is so grateful to the ear. Beyond them an immense fores extends itself, beautified with woods and groves, and full of lairs and coverts of beasts and game, stags, bucks, boars and *wild bulls*. The fields are by no means of a hungry gravelly soil or barren sands, but may vie with the fertile plains of Asia, as capable of producing the most luxuriant crops, and filling the barns of the hinds and the farmers ‘with Ceres’ golden sheaf.’ Around the city, and towards the north, arise certain excellent springs at a small distance, whose waters are sweet, salubrious, and clear, the rivulets murmuring ‘o’er the shining stones.’ Amongst these, Holy-well, Clerkenwell, or *Fons Clericorum*, and St. Clement’s well, are most esteemed and best frequented both by scholars from the schools and the youths and maidens of the city.”

It is not our province to attempt any lengthened disquisition on the rise or fall of the drama, nor to trace the gradations in this country, from the early and rude efforts of the followers of *Thespis*, to the classic transition effected by the disciples of *Æschylus* and *Aristophanes*; but still it is pertinent to our history, in exemplifying the manners of the period we are more especially alluding to, that we should cursorily describe the scenic representations which gratified the public taste, as theatrical performances are generally indicative of the “ruling passion” of the day, depicting, in forcible colouring, the intellectual or vitiated propensities of the people. Fitzstephen mentions that the theatrical exhibitions then in vogue were called “*Miracles*,” consisting of sacred dramas, descriptive of the miracles wrought by the holy confessors, and the sufferings by which the faith of

* This description is collated from the *five* MS. copies known as authentic.



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martyrs was manifested; the stages were fitted up in the churches, the ecclesiastics and their scholars the actors, and the *capæ chorales* and other pontificals serving as dresses. These pieces afterwards acquired the name of "*Mysteries*," the most *mysterious* subjects of Scripture being chosen for the composition; and Dugdale states, "for the performance of these plays they had theatres for the several scenes very large and high, placed upon wheels, and drawn to all the eminent parts of the city for the better advantage of the spectators."

By availing ourselves of a convenient figure in rhetoric, which enables the logician to take "a part for the whole," we shall be enabled to avoid prolixity, and yet give the reader a general idea of the prevailing characteristics of these scriptural plays, by the detached portion we have selected from the ancient and celebrated *Mystery* of "*Corpus Christi*, or *Ludus Coventriæ*." The prologue to this curious drama was recited by three actors, called *vexillators*, and comprised the argument of the several *pageants* or *acts* that composed the piece, and which amounted to no less than *forty*, each of these acts referring to some particular subject from Holy Writ, beginning with the *creation* of the universe, and concluding with the *last judgment*. In the first pageant, or act, the Deity is represented seated on his throne alone on the stage, delivering a speech of forty lines, beginning—

" ' Ego sum de Alpha et Emege, principium et finis
My name is knowyn God and Kynge,
My worke for to make now wyl I wende,
In myself restyth my reyneynge,
It hath no gynnyg ne non ende."

The angels then enter singing, from the Church service, "To thee all angels cry aloud," &c. Lucifer next makes his appearance, and demands whether the hymn was chanted in honour of God or of him? The good angels readily reply in

honour of God; the evil angels incline to worship Lucifer, and he presumes to seat himself on the throne of the Deity, who commands him to depart from heaven to hell, which dreadful sentence he is compelled to obey, and with his wicked associates descends to the lower regions. These representations at times continued for three days, and sometimes longer. A play performed at Skinner's Wells, near Smithfield, was *endured* for *eight* days, displaying most of the historical events of the Old and New Testaments, and was well attended *throughout* by great part of the nobility and gentry. The dulness and length of these performances required some interlude, some pantomimic entertainment, in order to render them palatable to the plebeian taste, and to keep the spectators in good humour. The principal personage, whose mimic powers were called in to eliven the audience, was *Beelzebub*, assisted by a merry troop of *subordinate devils*, "who with variety of noises, strange postures, gestures, and grimaces," excited the laughter of the populace. When these mysteries ceased to be played, the subjects of the drama were not taken from historical facts, but consisted of moral reasonings in praise of virtue and condemnation of vice, on which account they were called "*Moralities*," and these performances, requiring some degree of imagery and inventive genius, conduced ultimately to the composition of dramas more replete with incident, connected with history or passing events; thus holding up "a mirror to the age," from whence emanated the present comedies and tragedies. The dialogues of the *Moralities* were carried on by allegorical characters, such as Clarity, Faith, Prudence, Good Doctrine, Discretion, &c., but the province of amusing the auditory was transferred from the *Devil* of the "Mystery" to *Vice* or *Iniquity* of the "Morality," who generally personified some one of the evil passions co-existent with human nature. A slight allusion to

‘*Vice*,’ from an ancient play, will illustrate the peculiar dress and bearing of the character.—“*Vice* came in like *Hokos-pokos* in a juggler’s jerkin, with false skirts like the knave of clubs;” and again, “Here is never a fiend to carry the *Vice* away, besides he has never a *wooden dagger*; *I’d not give a rush for a Vice that has not a wooden dagger to snap at every one he meets.*” Even when the legitimate drama was introduced, we may discern that the feeling of the public still favoured the appearance of the facetious descendants of “*Vice*” and “*Iniquity*,” in the clowns and jesters, whose ribaldries too often disgraced the stage. Even our immortal “*Bard of Avon*,” the great master and painter of the human passions, was obliged to be subservient to the false taste of the age in which he wrote, and to introduce this motley personage amidst his highest wrought and most noble characters.

All these representations, however, differed materially from the *secular plays* and *farces*, which were acted by strolling companies, composed of minstrels, jugglers, tumblers, dancers, bourdours, or jesters. These pastimes are of higher antiquity than the ecclesiastical plays, and were patronized not only by the lower classes, but likewise the nobility, the court of kings and the castles of barons being the constant resort of these performers, where they were well received, and munificently rewarded; and the sums lavished on these itinerants induced the monks and other ecclesiastics to adopt the *profession* of *actors*, in order to reap a share of the public bounty, jealous that so fertile a source of profit should be monopolized by this portion of the laity. The secular *shewmen*, however, retained their *popularity*, notwithstanding the exertions of their *clerical rivals*, who diligently endeavoured to bring them into disrepute, by *writing* and *preaching* against the immorality of their exhibitions.

Extravagance in living was too prevalent an evil in this era, and we are informed by Fitzstephen, that an Archbishop of Canterbury paid for a single dish of eels *five pounds*, a sum equivalent to nearly eighty pounds compared with the present amount of our currency and provisions. In reference to the average value of commodities between the thirteenth and nineteenth centuries, 10*l.* per annum would have gone as far in housekeeping as 150*l.* at present. Wheat was 3*s.* per quarter, and French wines, which were then freely imported, chiefly from Anjou, Auxerre, and Gascony, obtained from 20*s.* to 20*s.* 6*d.* per ton; the money, however, expended thus in luxuries, did not lead to much dissipation of time, or perverting the course of nature by carousing throughout the night, and incapacitating the reveller from performing the social duties required during the day, as has been too much the case in more modern times; the hour of dining, even at court and the families of the highest aristocracy, was *nine* in the *morning*, and of supping *five* in the *afternoon*, a division of time which was reckoned not only conducive to health, but favourable to business. The hours thus set apart for family arrangements have been preserved in the gingling verse of the day—

Lever à cinq, diner á neuf,
 Souper a cinq, coucher á neuf,
 fait vivre ans nonante et neuf.

To rise at five and dine at nine,
 To sup at five and bed at nine,
 Lengthens life at ninety and nine.

Among the distinguishing characteristics of superiority possessed by the citizens, was the honourable appellation they enjoyed of *Barones*; “whilst the inhabitants of other cities are styled citizens, they are dignified with the name of Barons.” Spelman, in his Glossary, renders *Barones* synonymous with *cives* or *homines*, citizens or men; and though it has been assumed that the *Barones* were composed

of the wealthiest and most illustrious citizens, yet when it appears that the inhabitants of the *Cinque Ports* without *discrimination* were distinguished as *Barones*, we may rather imply that the term, *par excellence*, was a designation of MAN in the full development of those high prerogatives bestowed upon him, as the noblest type of the creation.

“ Let us come now,” as our historian says, “ to the sports and pastimes, seeing it is fit that a city should not only be commodious and serious, but also merry and sportful.” In the holidays during summer, the young men were wont to exercise themselves in leaping, dancing, archery, cross-bow shooting, wrestling, hurling, running at the Quintain and practising their shields; the city damsels playing on their *citherns*, or, as rendered by Stow, “ on their timbrels,” and dancing, until the evening closed upon their merriment, and which was often continued by the light of the moon.* In winter, every holiday before dinner, the bears prepared for brawn were set to fight, or else bulls or bears baited. When the great lake or fen which watered the walls of the city on the north side, now *Moorfields*, was frozen over, the young men amused themselves on the ice, “ some striding as *wide* as they can, do slide swiftly, others, more expert, place leg-bones of animals beneath their feet, and with a pole shod with iron push themselves forward with a velocity equal to the flight of a bird, or bolt from a cross-bow.” The citizens also delighted in hawks and hounds, having the liberty of hunting in Middlesex,

* Stow, who wrote between three and four centuries later than the period now referred to, states, that it was then customary for the maidens, after evening prayers, to dance in the presence of their masters and mistresses, while one of their companions played the measure upon a timbrel; and in order to stimulate them to pursue this exercise with alacrity, the best dancers were rewarded with garlands, the prizes being exposed to public view. ‘ hanged athwart the street’ during the performance.

Hertfordshire, all Chilton, and in Kent to the waters of Grey.

Though the reign of John was attended with severe ameracements and oppression of the citizens, yet on the aggregate the city was ultimately benefited by the temporary privations it endured through the extravagance, evil disposition, and mercenary character of the King. At first, John appears to have been instigated either by a kindly feeling, proceeding from grateful remembrances of the attachment and loyalty of the Londoners during his regency, or by a sense of political fear which induced him to conciliate their good opinion, knowing the importance of their support, being at the time aware of the usurpation of which he had been guilty in suppressing the rightful claim to the crown of his nephew Arthur. That the government of John was generally defective, and his character vacillating and tyrannical, no doubt can exist, yet, fortunately for the city and the kingdom at large, he persevered; on ascending the throne, in the system he had adopted during the absence of his brother, King Richard, in the Holy Land, of constituting demesne towns, *free burghs*, which was a main incentive to the diffusion of commerce throughout our island; and instead of the King's collectors continuing vested with the power of levying tolls and customs from towns, they were merged into the payment of one annual sum; termed the *fee-farm* rent of each burgh, the amount being levied by the corporate body by local assessment; while the privilege was conferred on the towns-people of electing their own chief officer, a right hitherto held by the crown. Hence arose the present annual magistracy of corporations; on which Speed as well as Camden justly remark, that John was either "the first or chiefest who appointed those noble forms of civil government in London, and most cities and corporate towns of England, endowing them also with their greatest fran-



THE APPOSITE

BY

W. W. C. F. H.

chises" He granted during the first year of his reign, in 1199, *three* charters to the city, one confirming their former privileges of "being quit from toll or lastage, and every other custom," and for which the treasury received 3,000 marks, evidencing that the Royal favour was not dispensed out of pure grace, but meted in proportion to the known opulence of the citizens; another, permitting the jurisdiction of the city to be extended over the River Medway, with power to inflict a penalty on the erection of weirs in either that river or the Thames; the third was indicative of that regard towards the citizens before alluded to, as it granted them the fee-farm of the Shrievalties of London and Middlesex, of which they had been deprived by Matilda, with permission to elect their own Sheriffs, and for which the sum of 300*l.* was paid. In a fourth charter, given at the request of the Mayor and citizens, the guild of *Weavers* was "from thenceforth not to be permitted to be held in the City of London, nor to be at all maintained;" the citizens paying to the King twenty marks per annum instead of the eighteen marks usually received from the Weaver's Company. This extra-judicial proceeding on the part of the corporation was most probably prompted by jealousy, as by charter of Henry II. the weavers had been allowed to exercise their privileges in the city in almost an unlimited manner, and without any right of the citizens to intermeddle or control them.

Altercations with the See of Rome, fomented by the rebellious spirit of the Church at home, induced the Pope to lay the whole kingdom under an interdict, which was only removed by the abject submission of the King and payment of a large sum of money; towards which the Londoners contributed 2,000 marks, and received in lieu their fifth and last charter from the King, dated the 19th

day of May, in the sixteenth year of his reign; beginning, "Know ye, that we have granted to our *Barons* of our City of London, that they may choose themselves every year a Mayor, to be presented to us or our justice, and at the end of the year to amove him and substitute another, or return the same, confirming all previous liberties, saving to us our chamberlainship." At this time, the King held his Parliament at his palace at St. Bride's, where Bridewell Prison, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, now stands. In 1204, we find an incident strongly corroborative of the importance and extent of the commerce of London, from the circumstance that *Guy de Von* appears to have been indebted to the crown the sum of 1,066*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* for arrears of rent for the *Cambium*, or *Exchange of London*, which he had leased for a term of years. Another fact may be adduced illustrative of the profitable character of the office of Chamberlain; the appointment, as has been shown, belonging to the King, by William de St. Michael having obtained the situation for a fine of 100*l.*, and an annual rent of 100 marks.

At length the imbecility, misrule, and wanton rapacity of John alienated the affections and allegiance of the citizens, and knowing the perfidy and implacable temperament of their Sovereign, they directed their attention to the more effectual fortification of their city, before displaying any overt act of resistance, and with this view protected their walls by digging a deep ditch two hundred feet in width.

It is often remarked through life, "that great events from minor causes spring," though frequently the fact is at the moment overlooked, that a combination of circumstances remote at first in their origin, have been for some lengthened time gradually converging to a certain point, and require only some ultimate exciting occurrence to produce the catastrophe, while the final issue is attributed to some recent

or comparatively trifling incident. We have been led to this observation by one of the later acts of oppression, on the part of the King, in persecuting the gallant knight, *Robert Fitzwalter*, Castellain and Standard-bearer of the City, Lord of Baynard's Castle, an ancient and princely fabric, which "banked the River Thames" near St. Paul's Wharf; Addle-hill, Thames-street, skirting the western portion of the building. The daughter of Fitzwalter was famed for her personal charms, which had acquired for her the envied celebrity of Matilda the "Fair." This maiden's beauty had captivated the monarch, who proffered his affections, but not on honourable terms. His suit being in consequence indignantly refused, John intimated his determination to have recourse to violence. This tyrannical threat aroused her noble father's resentment, who appealed to his brother Barons to protect his virtuous child from the polluting grasp of their Sovereign. With chivalrous alacrity they rallied their forces round the injured parent, and the city banner floated in proud defiance from the castle-walls. John, unable to collect a force sufficient to contend against the formidable opposition Fitzwalter offered, affected to have relinquished all designs against the honour of his family, and by well-feigned assurances of respect for the rights of the Barons, prevailed upon them to disperse their forces. As soon as he found himself master of the field, he violated his plighted faith and promises, seized Fitzwalter's castle by surprize, which he destroyed, and forced him to fly the country. Matilda, who was prevented accompanying her father, fell into the power of the King, and heroically resisted all his seductive entreaties, until John, with remorseless vengeance, is recorded to have caused the destruction of that beauty by poison which he had failed when living to possess. This incident may be reckoned one of the collaterally stimulating

causes which afterwards conduced to the general resistance of the Barons, and compelled the King at *Runnymede* to accede, *unconditionally*, to their demands for a *Charter*, which would not only reinstate the nobles and people in their former rights, but bestow upon them important additional immunities, as set forth in that glorious and ever-memorable declaration of the rights of Englishmen, *MAGNA CHARTA* and *CHARTA DE FORESTA*; in the former of which it is stipulated "that the City of London should have all its ancient privileges and free customs."

London was now "a noble city," according to William of Malmesbury, "renowned for the opulence of her citizens, and crowded with the merchants who resort thither with their commodities," the trade in corn, as in the time of the Romans, forming one of the principal articles of commerce, which was entirely monopolized by the London merchants, "who had their granaries always filled, whence all parts of the kingdom were supplied."

John is said to have been the first monarch who coined the money called *sterling* or *Easterling** penny, which obtained this name from the circumstance of his sending for artists from the German states to rectify and regulate the silver coinage, gold coin not being then appropriated as a circulating medium of exchange. The penny was of silver, and the twentieth part of an ounce, and was enacted as well during the reign of John's successor, Henry III., to be round without any clipping, and "to weigh thirty-two wheat-corns taken out of the midst of the ear." The King's Exchange for the receipt of "bullion to be coined" was situated

* The Germans derived the name of *Easterlings* from there having been a commercial confederacy, first formed on the *Eastern* shores of the Baltic, in the eighth century; and Pennant styles the *Hasterlings*, "our masters in the art of commerce."

near the middle of the street now called *Old Change*, by St. Paul's.

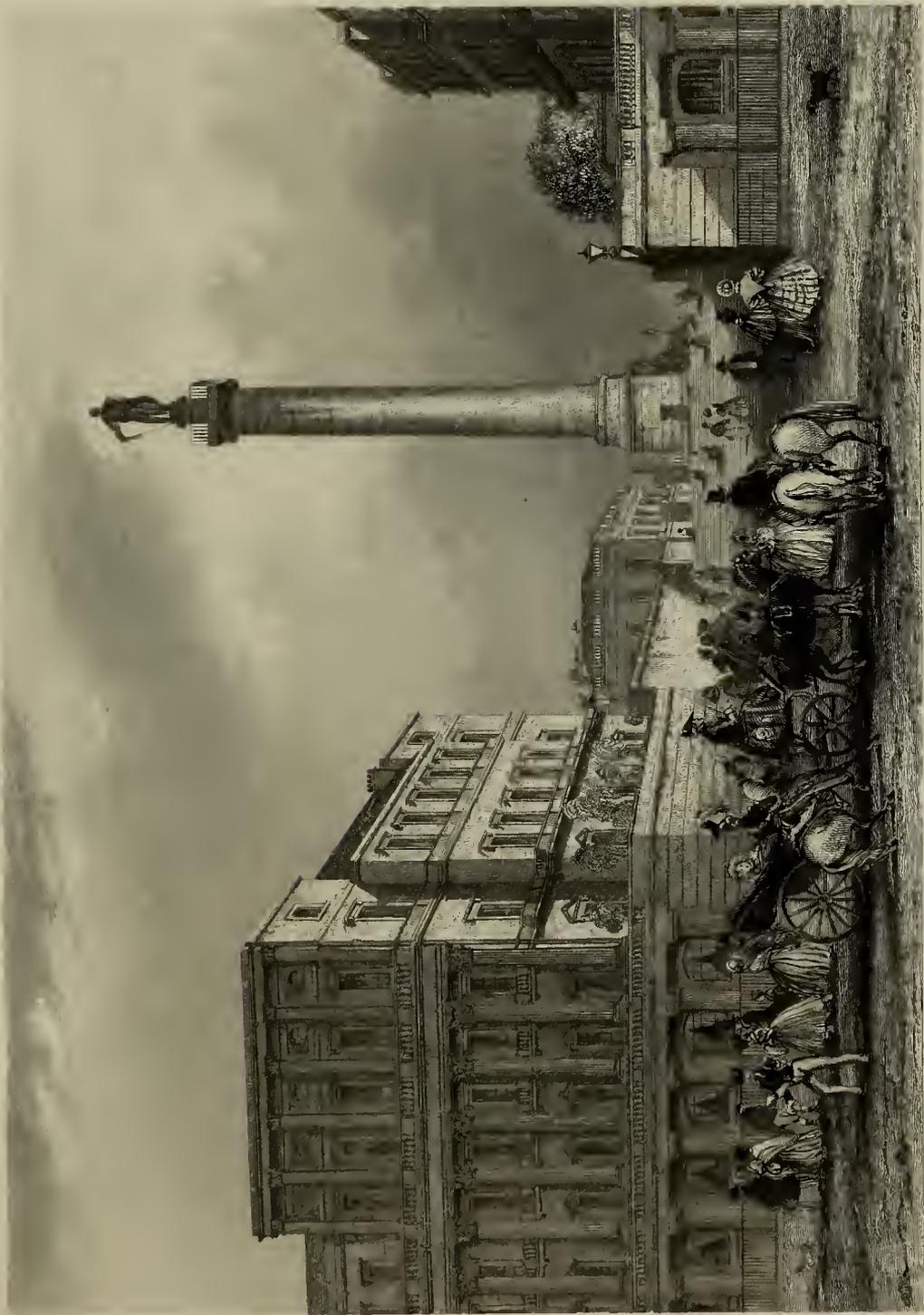
The long reign of Henry III. exhibits a disgraceful catalogue of heavy pecuniary penalties extorted from the inhabitants of London under the most frivolous and unjustifiable pretexts, levies which were made to meet the emergencies of the lavish and extravagant expenditure of the Crown. So onerous eventually became the nature of these exactions, so impressed were the citizens with the conviction that honour and justice, conscience and religion, were alike sacrificed at the shrine of expediency, and that their dear-bought liberties and charters were merely nominal, finding them no restriction against any innovation instigated by the momentary caprices of royalty, that many of the principal merchants absented themselves from business and retired into the country, resolved no longer to submit to such spoliatory and ruinous government. This determination alarmed the King, as the resources he obtained from the city were his only salvation in the hour of need; he summoned, therefore, the chief officers of London, and promised, in the presence of the nobility, not again to oppress the citizens; promises which were as readily broken as he had been free to make them; and about six years afterwards, in 1256, the nation being visited by a dreadful famine, in consequence of a wet harvest, wheat, according to the *Chronicon Preciosum*, having risen to 24s. per quarter, the City of London was so drained of money by the continual demands of the King, in addition to those of the Pope, that many of the *eminent* citizens found great difficulty in procuring provisions for their families, and the poorer classes were constrained to devour dogs and carrion, and even the wash given to swine. The spirit and energy of the Londoners, however, remained unsubdued, and though, through the

prodigality of the Court, the riches of the country were materially exhausted, yet the little wealth still remaining in the kingdom was deposited in the coffers of the metropolitan merchants. The King, therefore, when his necessities became so urgent that he was compelled to pawn the Crown jewels, was forced to have recourse to the citizens for the loan. Enraged that they should still possess the means of raising the sum required, and that they should accept a pledge which it was ignominious in him to offer, he passionately exclaimed, "Were the treasures of Augustus Cæsar exposed to sale, the City would buy them. These fellows, who call themselves Barons, are wallowing in wealth and every species of luxury, whilst we labour under the want of common necessaries." But in honest candour it must be acknowledged, that when the citizens had to negotiate with princes, who were not embarrassed through their *personal prodigality and folly*, but impoverished by enterprises undertaken for the national fame or aggrandisement, they required not securities and pledges to administer most liberally to the State exigencies. The assertions may be illustrated by the gift of the citizens of 20,000 marks to the hero of Cressy to prosecute his valiant warfare in France, and the celebrated *Whittington*, who at an entertainment given at Guildhall to Henry V. as conqueror at Agincourt, cast into a fire of spices bonds which he held from that monarch for loans of money to the amount of 60,000*l.* Yet we are prone to confess, that though liberality at times conspicuously distinguished the civic character, yet generally it may be perceived that there was much reserve on the part of the citizens in all their pecuniary transactions with the Court; and even until the reign of Elizabeth, the British Sovereigns were wont to have recourse to foreign merchants, chiefly those in Flanders, in order to raise the sums of money

required by way of loan; and though the London merchants often became security, as the money in few instances would have been otherwise granted, yet they were never induced except in the case of the Crown jewels previously mentioned, to advance the cash themselves, a line of conduct suggested by common worldly policy and mercantile forethought, especially after the experience, so dearly obtained, that grants and charters were no safeguard to property against the arbitrary will of the Sovereign; and that the King might deny to his own subjects the justice which he would be fearful of refusing to those of a foreign State. The first important loan effected in England, wholly on the personal security of the Sovereign, was negotiated by Sir Thomas Gresham for Queen Elizabeth, a fact which may be assumed as a certain index that the administration of public affairs approximated nearer a system of order and equity than England had known since the reign of our British *Lycurgus*, Alfred. The maiden Queen paid regularly the interest of the loan, and eventually the principal, exemplifying the precept, which in earlier ages as at present would have held its maxim, that it is only required to keep in view the straightforward and simple rules dictated by honesty in order to insure, throughout the kingdom, assistance to meet the pressing emergencies of the public service.

An ostentatious show of opulence, and an overweening rivalry in the sumptuousness and costliness of their living, seem from the earliest data to have characterized the London merchants; a display, not confined, which would perhaps have been more creditable, to the reception either of their Sovereigns, foreign potentates, or ambassadors, and other illustrious foreigners, but exhibited at their own corporation feasts. In 1363, *Henry Picard*, who had previously served the office of Mayor, gave a splendid entertainment at his house in

Cheapside to *King Edward III.*, *King John of France*, *King David of Scotland*, and the *King of Cyprus*. After these illustrious guests had departed, the worthy host kept his hall open for all comers that were willing to play at *dice* and *hazard*, and in like manner the lady Margaret, his wife, kept her chamber to the same intent, showing that the vicious habits of gambling were participated in by *both sexes* even in these early days. *Eels*, most lusciously dressed, before *turtle* was introduced, appear to have been the *acme* of *Corporation goat*, and considered the "one thing needful" to complete the gourmanic list of civic epicurism. At length, the extravagance of feasting became so intolerable, that the citizens, in 1554, were induced to pass a by-law to restrain this *prevailing passion*; "so huge and great," says this curious document, "had become the charges of the mayoralty and shrievalty, that almost all good citizens flee and refuse to serve in this honourable city, only because of the great excess and chargeable fare and diet used in the time of the said offices;" to remedy which it was ordered, that no mayor, sheriff, alderman, or commoner, should have at dinner or supper more courses than one, and not more dishes at one course than *six*, whether hot or cold; but as a special mark of *delicate sympathy* for the privation thus imposed, it is declared, that one or two of the same six dishes may come to the board hot, if they will, after the first *three* or *five* are served; and by way of *bonus*, that neither brawn, nor collops with eggs, nor sallads, pottage, butter, cheese, eggs, herrings, sprats, shrimps, nor any shell-fish, nor any kind of unbaked fruit, are to be accounted for as any of the said list of diminished fare! The only exception made to these "short commons" was "at their necessary meetings," when full indulgence to the appetite was permitted.



DUKE OF YORK'S COLUMN

Notwithstanding the various oppressive measures adopted by Henry III. towards the citizens, he was unable to check the improvement of the city, which emanated from sources more pure and permanent than those of courtly favour. In 1218, the forest of Middlesex was disforested, and the citizens availed themselves of the opportunity of purchasing lands and erecting houses, which was the means of considerably enlarging the suburbs. Commerce, however, though it continued to advance its numerous connexions, progressed slowly, owing to the constant irritation and distraction of the merchants from business through the factious conduct of the Court. It appears that *Queenhithe* was the principal port of the city, and *Belin's-gate* only of secondary importance; for we find that Henry III., in 1225, commanded the constables of the Tower to arrest the ships of the Cinque Ports, and compel them to bring their corn to no other place than *Queen's Hithe*, and afterwards ordered all fish to be destrained if offered for sale in any other place; all commodities paying certain tolls, chiefly in kind. The impediment, however, which London Bridge presented to the unrestricted progress of vessels coming from sea, ultimately forced the trade to *Belin's-gate*, or *Billingsgate*, though *Queenhithe*, as late as the reign of Edward IV., struggled to maintain its ancient pre-eminence. In 1264, the city purchased from Richard, Earl of Cromwell, brother to Henry, the fee-farm of *Queenhithe*, with all its rights, customs, and privileges, and in 1268, we have an interesting historical account, the earliest cited, of the customs and tolls received at the port of London, which manifests the superiority of *Queen's Hithe*.

Among the items are the following :—

Amount of customs on foreign merchandize for six months	£. s. d.
Metage of corn and customs at Belin's-gate	75 6 10
Customs of fish brought to London Bridge-street	5 18 7
Amount of the produce of Queen's Hithe	7 0 2
Stallage dues from the markets of <i>West-Cheap, Grass-Chirche, Wool-Chirche-hawe</i> with the annual scotage of the butchers of London	17 9 2
Amount of tonnages at the King's Weigh House and petty standages	42 0 0
Other sundry dues	97 13 11
	119 4 6
	<hr/>
	£364 13 2
	<hr/>

Making an *annual* average of 729*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* paid to the Crown from the port of London for customs, tolls, &c. Two years previous to this revenue account, in the year 1266, Henry granted to the Hanseatic merchants the extensive immunities which they enjoyed for three hundred years, and enabled them to realize considerable fortunes. *Werdenhangen*, the historian of the Hans Towns,* states that the Hanseatic ships, on their

* The whole confederacy constituting the German or Hanseatic League was very extensive. The *Easterlings* were the most celebrated branch, and settled in London. The societies abroad were divided into four classes, each having a presiding city, and the grand separations were into east and west. The first had *Cologne* for its capital; the other branches were formed by the union of *Lubeck, Wismar, Rostock, Stralsund, Griefswald, Anclam, Stettin, Colberg, Stolpe, Danzig, Elbing, and Königsberg.* The term *Hanse*, or *Hansa*, is synonymous with *Gild*, and was so usually understood in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. King John, in his charter to *Dunwich*, says, "We grant them a *Hanse*," and Henry III. uses the expression,

return from assisting Henry in a successful enterprise against France, were almost all lost in a tempest, whereupon the Hanseatics demanded their value; but they agreed to remit the debt on condition of the King granting, for himself and successors, free liberty to the *Easterlings* to *import* and *export* all merchandize whatever, at no higher duty or custom than one per cent., which was the rate then paid. The merchants also of Lubeck obtained a grant of commercial privileges on the same terms; and we learn from Gerard Malynes, that a society of Englishmen had existed previous to this period, under the name of the "Merchants of Staple," as they exported the staple-wares of the kingdom, comprising the rough materials for manufacture, as *wool, skins, lead, and tin*; the fabric of woollen cloths and importation of Spanish wool being of more ancient date. From these sources of export alone, England long supplied all its foreign wants, and brought home annually a considerable balance of bullion.

So strong ran the tide of party feeling at this era, and to so great an extent had the influence of the gilds arrived, that in 1226 a dispute having arisen between the *Goldsmiths* and *Tailors*, each Company, with their friends, met on an appointed night, to the number of five hundred, completely armed, and proceeded to decide the difference by force of arms. Many were killed and wounded, nor could the combatants be parted till the sheriff and civil authorities came and apprehended the ringleaders, thirteen of whom were condemned and executed. The various tumults and revolts, which either the direct injustice and tyranny of Henry excited, or the refractory spirit to which they gave birth, rendered, at times, the streets at night unsafe for the peaceable inhabitants; and

"Quod habeant Hansam suam." The citizens of Cologne paid Henry III thirty marks to have seizin of their Guildhall in London, terme "Gilhald; Teutonicorum."

their houses were not unfrequently plundered by parties assuming the garb of the patrols employed for the public safety, which instigated the citizens to establish an organized body of men called the "city watch," whose first appointment took place about the year 1262.

In 1272, wine gaugers were appointed in London and other principal seaports, and in the metropolis the new gauge duty amounted to 15*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*, which at 1*d.* per *dolium*, or ton, makes the quantity imported amount to 3,799 tons; indeed the chief article of import at this date seems to have been wine, principally from France and the Rhine, as scarcely any mention is made of entries from Spain, Portugal, or Italy.

The increased population and encroachment of buildings on the springs and rivulets near the city, created a great want of pure and wholesome water. Previous to this period, the western parts of the city and adjacent villages had been supplied from the River of *Wells*, or *Fleet* River, which was formed by the influx of several springs, whose course became impeded by the erection of different mills by the Knights of St. John, the stream afterwards assuming the name of *Turnmill Brook*, passing where Turnmill-street, Holborn, now stands; *Olbourne* was a rivulet rising near Middle-row, and flowed into the Fleet at Holborn Bridge; the eastern parts of the city were watered by the Wallbrook rivulet, which united with the Thames near Dowgate, but being choked up by the numerous bridges and erections on it, dwindled into a common sewer; *Langbourne* rivulet, which took its rise near the east end of Fenchurch-street, ran with a swift current due west, and then turning south, divided into several rills or *shares*, and was called *Southbourne-lane*, or *Sharebourne-lane*, *share* being the old English for *divided stream*, and was afterwards united with Wallbrook. Besides these, there was *Holywell*, rendered *sacred* for the miraculous virtue of its water, now

filled up with soil, and called Holywell-lane, Shoreditch, Clerkenwell, Skinner's Well, and, more eastward towards the Charter-house, Fogg's Well, Tod's Well, Loder's Well, and Shadwell, which, with another in Smithfield called the *Horse-pool*, all united their streams in forming the river of Wells before mentioned. Without Cripplegate was a large pool, supplied from Crowder's Well, adjoining the north-west side of St. Giles's Churchyard, and at times contained so great depth of water, that people have been drowned who accidentally fell in. In order, therefore, to furnish the inhabitants with a more plentiful supply of water, the corporation of the city obtained a grant from *Gilbert de Sandford*, lord of the manor of Tye-bourne, then a village "at a considerable distance," of certain springs in the vicinity of St. Mary-bourne, from whence water was to be conducted into the city in leaden pipes, of six inches in diameter, and was the first attempt of thus conveying water for the use of the inhabitants. The water was distributed into various large reservoirs or cisterns, composed of lead cased with stone, the most capacious of which was erected in an open field, called "*Crown-field*, in West Cheap, so denominated from the "Crown Inn," at that time situated at the east end of this open space, and which is now occupied with the populous and opulent street, *Cheapside*. At the time we are now describing, the middle of the thirteenth century, the principal dwellings in the city ran nearer the Thames, and more to the eastward, the houses being still, for the most part, thatched, and which, in 1246, required a renewal of the ordinance, that all buildings should be covered with tiles and slates, instead of straw, more especially those which stood contiguous to the few principal streets. Even the introduction of the comfort of having a free egress for the smoke by chimneys, was of only partial adoption until the middle of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, the citizens being

went to have their wood-fires lighted on the hearth in the middle of the room, the smoke making its escape by the door or window, whichever chance might permit; indeed, before the days of Richard I., chimneys were hardly known in London, and then only existed in the halls of the principal nobility, and in religious houses. While this method of preventing the inmates from being *choked* or *smoke-dried* was considered a vast advancement in the art of civilization and indication of increasing *luxury*, it was left to nearly the close of the year 1700 before all the disagreeable effects of smoky rooms were dispelled by the *Rumford* stove; and we are now advancing towards the middle of the nineteenth century, anticipating the *luxury* and *comfort* of entirely dispensing with chimneys and their draughts, by either having our houses heated by gas, warm air, water, steam, or of superseding their utility by stoves which *consume their own smoke*, or by means of a still more modern invention, of introducing a simple iron vase of classic form into our apartments which generates its heat without coal, feeds on its own combustion, ignites nothing extraneous, and is transportable at pleasure from the carriage to the drawing-room.

Reverting from this momentary digression to our original subject of supplying water to the metropolis, it was found that these conduits involving considerable labour and expense, the foreign merchants were called upon to contribute towards the charge, and were accordingly assessed in the sum of 100*l.*; but in consideration of which, and in addition to the payment of forty marks annually, they acquired in return the privilege of *landing*, housing and selling *wood*, and other *bulky commodities*, which before they had been compelled to vend *ex ship*. It was also customary for the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and principal citizens, to repair on horseback on the 18th of every September, to examine the springs from



Drawn by J. Falson from a Sketch by R. Garland

Engraved by J. Woods

VIEW IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY

FROM THE ALIAR

whence the conduits were supplied, and “to hunt a hare in the morning, and a fox after dinner, in the fields adjacent to the town of Tyebourne.” Ultimately, the numerous conduits which received water from Hackney, Hampstead, Hoxton, Red Lion Fields, &c., became disused, owing to the successful efforts of Peter Morice, in the reign of Elizabeth, in raising water from the Thames, as before alluded to ; in addition to the Herculean attempt of Sir Hugh Middleton, in 1608, of bringing water by artificial ducts from a spring at Amwell, between Hertford and Ware, assisted by a branch of the River Lea, to the north side of London, near Islington, where reservoirs were constructed to receive the “maiden stream.” The channel of this “*New River*” was narrow, and from the inequality of the ground varied considerably in depth, which in parts was upwards of thirty feet ; it formed a winding course of about forty miles, and was crossed by eighty bridges, the whole undertaking being completed in five years. As the magnitude of the metropolis has so prodigiously enlarged, the facilities for furnishing the inhabitants called forth fresh energies, and there are now eight *Water Companies* established, as detailed in the annexed table. Well-founded complaints are, however, made as to the *quality* of the water, which is no doubt capable of considerable improvement, more particularly the supplies derived from the River Thames, which, being the grand reservoir of all the common sewers and filth of London and Westminster, cannot be the purest source for obtaining a wholesome cleanly beverage, which forms so essential a portion of one of the chief necessities of life, and which ought to be regulated and guarded by such restrictions as would ensure these requisites ; and though Committees of the House of Commons have, within these few sessions, reported to this effect, no steps have been taken to ensure the execution of the Parliamentary recommendations.

SUPPLIES OF WATER TO THE METROPOLIS.

Names of Companies.	Number of houses and buildings supplied.	Average rates per house or building.		Total quantity supplied yearly.	Average daily supply per house or building	Highest elevation to which water is raised.
		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		Hhds.	Galls.
New River . . .	73,212	26	6	114,650,000	241	145
Chelsea	13,891	33	3	15,753,000	168	135
Grand Junction .	11,140	48	6	21,702,567	350	151 $\frac{3}{4}$
West Middlesex.	16,000	56	10	20,000,000	185	188
East London . .	46,421	22	6	37,810,594	120 $\frac{1}{4}$	107
South London .	12,046	15	0	6,979,031	100	80
Lambeth	16,682	17	0	11,998,600	124	185
Southwark . . .	7,100	21	3	7,000,000	156	60
	196,492	30	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	235,893,792	180 $\frac{1}{2}$	—

There are numerous wells which lend their assistance in supplying a more pure beverage, and the water derived from this source is healthy and palatable. Several wells in London are between 200 and 300 feet deep, and on rising grounds the thickness of the stratum is much greater. At Primrose Hill the ground was bored to the depth of 500 feet without success, and at Lord Spencer's, at Wimbledon, a well was sunk 530 feet. One mile east of the City, the "London clay" is estimated only 77 feet thick; while at a well in St. James's-street it is 235 feet, and at High Beach 700 feet.

Before closing the *memorabilia* of Henry's reign, we must not omit allusion to the origin of a trifling circumstance, the remembrance of which has been transmitted to our own times at the annual ceremony of swearing in the Sheriffs before the Cursitor Barons of the Exchequer, when six horse-shoes, with their nails, are tendered as a quit-rent, the custom having arisen from the possession of a piece of ground in the Strand, within the parish of St. Clement Danes, by

Walter Le Bruin, a farrier, who, in 1235, purchased the same of the Crown for the construction of a forge, on condition of making payment of the said shoes and nails. Though the forge no longer exists, yet the acknowledgment continues to be made, the ground being claimed by the city by a subsequent conveyance.

The reign of Edward I. dawned more auspiciously on the interests of the citizens, and being favoured with the consideration of their Sovereign, they experienced the gratifying contrast of his more equitable government, compared with the oppression they had submitted to under the lengthened dominion of his father. On Edward's immediate return to England as King, his conciliatory interposition was called into requisition by the internal dissension of the citizens on the election of their Mayor; and so uncompromising was each party, that it was found necessary to appoint a *custos* of the city; until the excitement of the moment subsiding, the citizens on cool reflection became convinced of the danger to which intestine broils would have subjected their liberties under the rule of a sovereign less inclined to moderation than Edward; they therefore chose their Mayor at full *Folkmote*,* and arranged their differences. As a special mark of royal favour, the King, in the third year of his reign, employed the Mayor, *Gregory de Rokeslie*, to execute a foreign mission of some considerable importance, in preference to many dignitaries in Church and State, who solicited the appointment. The King's attention was next occupied in ordering the Mayor and Sheriffs to enforce the laws in protecting the public against the frauds and impositions of the venders of provisions, and

* A Folkmote was an assemblage of the whole of the commnalty in St. Paul's Churchyard, to which they were summoned by a great bell in a tower at the east end of the church, and this meeting was deemed the supreme meeting of the city.

the iniquitous practices of engrossing and forestalling, a system ever prejudicial to the fair trader. The bakers and millers seem more particularly to have shared the public odium, two branches of business which we ever find, in ancient and modern history, singled out as objects of popular resentment. Millers were restricted to the rate of one halfpenny for grinding each quarter of corn; and if convicted of extortion or giving short measure, to be punished by being drawn through certain streets in a dung cart, exposed to the derision of the passengers; the baker, for selling short weight, was, on the third offence, to be put in the pillory, the first and second being punished by forfeiture of his bread and imprisonment. Poulterers and fishmongers were also placed under the civic control, prices being affixed to their different commodities, by which we find that, in 1277, a best hen was valued at $3\frac{1}{2}d.$; a goose, $3d.$ to $5d.$; partridge, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$; pheasant, $4d.$; two woodcocks, $1\frac{1}{2}d.$; swan, $3s.$; peacock, $1d.$; best rabbit, with skin, $4d.$, and $3d.$ without skin; hare, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$; lamb, $4d.$ to $6d.$; best fresh salmon, $3s.$ to $5s.$; turbot, $8d.$; lampreys, per 100, $6d.$ to $8d.$; eels, per 25, $2d.$; smelts, per 100, $1d.$, &c. It was also ordered, that no market should be held on London Bridge, or elsewhere, "except as should be appointed by the city authorities; and that no person should go into Southwark to buy cattle, or any wares to be brought into the city, on penalty of forfeiture of the thing purchased." Towards the close of Edward's reign, and commencement of the fourteenth century, provisions were again regulated in price; poultry and game had sustained little variation; lambs, however, from Christmas to Shrovetide, had risen in value to $1s. 4d.$; a quarter of wheat was worth $4s.$; ditto of ground malt, $3s. 4d.$; ditto of peas, $2s. 6d.$; ditto of oats, $2s.$; a bull, $7s. 6d.$; a cow, $6s.$; a fat *mutton*, $1s.$; a ewe sheep, $8d.$; and while recording the cost price of the necessaries of life, we

may allude to the scale of salaries of some of the chief officers of State, as demonstrative of the low range of emoluments of that period compared with the present. The Chief Justice of the King's Bench received 50 marks, and of the Common Pleas, 100 marks; Chief Baron, 100*l.*; and each of the other judges of the three benches 20*l.*; the Chancellor of the Exchequer 40*l.* *Exactions of fees and gratuities* no doubt formed a considerable additional item of the incomes, but the absolute amount of expenditure required to support the dignity of their office was but small, if we take a general estimate of the necessaries of ordinary living; for it appears that, in 1307, when the Archbishop of St. Andrew's, Scotland, was a prisoner at Winchester, that he was allowed 1*s.* per day, for the maintenance of himself and servants, divided in the following proportions:—for the Archbishop's own daily expence, 6*d.*; one man-servant to attend him, 3*d.*; one boy ditto, 1½*d.*; a chaplain to say daily mass to him, 1½*d.*: and the Queen of Robert Bruce who was a prisoner in England, in 1314, was allowed only 20*s.* per week for herself and household.

From the year 1283, London, as well as other principal cities and towns in England, have to date the origin of that noble system of legislative representation which was mainly instrumental in inflicting a mortal blow at the feudal tenures, liberating the people from local oppression and thralldom, and imparting freedom and security to commerce; and though through successive reigns only slow and partial improvements and advancements were made towards the liberty of the franchise of the subject, in the selection of members most eligible to represent the particular interests of the divisional portions of the kingdom; yet *reform did succeed reform*, until the glorious measure of "*Parliamentary Reform*" was partially consummated by the Bill of 1832, and which, according

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to the growing popular feeling, only awaits the climax of the "vote by ballot," shortening the "duration of Parliaments," and "extending the right of suffrage," to make the present law attain a temporary degree of *perfection*. It is proved by Rymer, in his "Fœdera," that, in 1283, Edward summoned to his Parliament at Shrewsbury two knights for each county, and two representatives for the twenty-one principal cities and towns in England, including LONDON, being the first instance in which writs were issued by the Crown to cities and towns; but no regularity appears to have been preserved in the sending these writs for 300 years after this time; many places being occasionally omitted at some elections and sent to at subsequent ones, while others were added without the direction of the King or his Council, but according to Dr. Brady, at the discretion of the Sheriffs.

During the remainder of the sovereignty of Edward, and succeeding reign of Edward II., a striking instance is afforded that in proportion as feudalism declined, commerce was extended, by the number of charters of privileges granted to foreign merchants; besides that, the increased use of gold and silver among the citizens was strongly indicative of their growing opulence and splendour of living; and which, as early as the twenty-eighth year of the reign of Edward I., instigated the passing of an Act of Parliament, ordering all vessels of gold and silver to be assayed by the Company of Goldsmiths of London.

In 1304 we meet with the first recurrence to the office of *Recorder* of London, when *Geoffrey de Hartilepole* was invested with the appointment, and allowed to wear his gown as an alderman. The succeeding year is stigmatized in the annals of the country by the perpetration of one of those State crimes which nations sanction under the disgraceful palliative of political expediency. Happy would it

have been for England's fame "if the recording angel could have dropped a tear upon the deed, and blotted it out for ever;" but that stain of blood made too indelible an impression ever to be effaced. It was in 1305 that the hero and patriot, Sir WILLIAM WALLACE, was taken prisoner in nobly defending his country's rights, and, contrary to the law of nations, hanged and quartered in Smithfield, and his head affixed on a pole on London Bridge.

In 1306, an ordinance was issued for the prohibition of burning coal, which was occasioned by a complaint made by the nobility and gentry to the King, alleging that the air was infected with a noisome smell, and a thick cloud from the coals used in the suburbs by brewers, dyers, and other manufacturers requiring large fires, to the great endangering the health of the inhabitants. Upon which representation his Majesty issued his proclamation, forbidding coals to be burnt in London and suburbs under severe penalties, and in the early days of the celebrated *Whittington*, the use of coal was still considered so great a public nuisance, that the burning of it was made a capital offence, and in Sir Everard Home's "Dissertations," it is cited from a record in the Tower, that a person was once actually executed for infringing the law. It is, however, remarkable that, in 1419, when Whittington had been "thrice Lord Mayor of London town," though during the intermediate period, no repeal of this rigorous statute appears to have occurred, yet the import of coal formed a considerable branch of the commerce of the Thames. As early as 1421, it was a trade of great importance, and a duty of 2*d.* per chaldron had been imposed upon it for some time. The only reasonable mode of accounting for the trade making so extensive progress, when such severe penal enactments were unrepealed, is by assuming that the Crown so far abrogated the statute by exercising a dis-

persing power, by no means unusual with the court practices of those days, of granting to some favoured individual a license to make his fortune by violating the laws; and many circumstances combine in inducing the supposition, that Sir Richard Whittington was the party on whom this privilege had been conferred; a presumption which, if correct, will readily elucidate part of the traditionary history of Whittington having made his fortune "by a king;" as he was in business at the commencement of the trade, through it realized his property, and from the first opening of the coal trade in England, and for centuries afterwards, it had the reputation of making fortunes, only exceeded by the mines of Golconda and Peru. As to the "cat," we must have recourse to the ingenious suggestion of *Foote*, who, in his comedy of the "Nabob," makes "Sir Matthew Mite" offer to the Society of Antiquarians a solution of the popular legend. "The commerce," says Sir Matthew, "which this worthy merchant carried on was chiefly confined to our coasts; for this purpose he constructed a vessel, which, from its agility and lightness, he aptly christened a 'cat.' Nay, to this day, gentlemen, all our coals from Newcastle are imported in nothing but *cats*; from hence it appears, that it was not the whiskered, four-footed mouse-killing *cat*, but the coasting, sailing, coal-carrying *Cat*;—that, gentlemen, was Whittington's *Cat*." If to these chances Sir Richard owed his prosperity, it had only to become a by-word, that by a "cat and a king" he had made his fortune, and popular invention would soon supply all the other features of the legend.

We have reserved until now more particular allusion to an event, which occurred during the first Edward's reign, the division of the city into *twenty-four* WARDS, of which we have the first historical record in 1285. Some few of the wards at this time were hereditary, but the others elected an



KING WILLIAM STREET,

AND

ST. MARY WO LN. TH.

Alderman, who presided at the judicial council of the city. The deliberations, however, of the Aldermen, in all public concerns, were mainly influenced by the advice of the more immediate delegates of the citizens, the *Council-men*, a body of members who consisted of forty-four, selected, at first, from certain *Gilds*, *Mysteries*, or *Crafts*; thus the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councilmen, acted for the city in the capacity of the King, Lords, and Commons. The number of common-councilmen proved too limited to represent the numerous and divided interests of the citizens, and neglecting the trust confided in them, acted more as a "packed jury," seeking to secure to themselves individual advancement, rather than acting as the guardians of the citizens, for whose special protection they were appointed. Petitions were therefore presented to the Mayor, in 1384, in the seventh year of Richard II., praying the number to be augmented, as "divers things were passed more by clamour than reason." It was in consequence determined by the authorities, that each Alderman should cause to be chosen by the citizens *four* Common-Councilmen for each ward; this privilege, in the ninth year of the same reign, was further increased, the wards, according to their extent, choosing from *four* to *eight* members, and which varied in progress of time, as the limits of the city were enlarged from *six* to *twelve*; at present the numbers range from *four* to *seventeen*, comprising a total of 240 Common-Councilmen, including the different deputies of each ward, forty Common-Councilmen forming a Court. It was not, however, till the reign of Edward II., that we discover, as observed by Mr. Norton,* the first authentic mention of the mercantile nature of the civic constitution of London, and of the mercantile qualification requisite in the candidates for admission to the freedom of the city. By one of a number of

* Commentaries on London.

articles of regulation, ordained by the citizens for their internal government, which articles were confirmed by Edward II., and incorporated into a charter, it was provided that no person, whether an inhabitant of the city or otherwise, should be admitted into the civic freedom unless he was a member of one of the *Gilds*, or unless with the full consent of the whole community convened; only that apprentices might still be admitted according to the established regulations. Before this period, no mention occurs of any mercantile qualification to entitle the householder to his admission to the corporation.

The Saxon appellation of *Ealderman*, *Alderman*, or *Elder-man*, is synonymous with the Latin designation of *Senex*, whence is derived *Senators*. The epithet, among our early progenitors, was one of high distinction, and corresponding with that of *Earl*. Madox states, that "Alderman was a name for a chief governor of a secular gild, and in time it became also a name for a chief officer in a gildated town or borough," and quotes, in illustration, the circumstance of the prior of Holy Trinity, Aldgate, becoming an Alderman of London, in consequence of the grant to that priory of the "English Knighten Gild," and to which Stow assigns the origin of Portsoken Ward.* In the seventeenth of Richard II., 1394, it was enacted by Parliament, that the Aldermen of

* There is no trace when the name of Alderman was first applied to the president of the London wards or gilds; the probability is, it was introduced after the Conquest. The denomination was common in the Saxon times to various judicial dignities and offices, but there is no record of it as applied to the heads of *particular districts* in London during that period; and there is reason to believe that the appellation was not used in that sense until the reign of Henry II., when they are first mentioned as presiding over gilds, some of which were *territorial*, and others *mercantile*. In the reign of Henry III., *Aldermanries* had become a common term for a civic district comprised within a leet jurisdiction, as well in London as in other cities.

of the city should not from thenceforth be elected annually but continue in their several offices during life or good behaviour; and amongst the qualifications enumerated in earlier days to render the candidate eligible to the dignity, he was to be of *comely person, wise, grave, wealthy, faithful,* and *generous*; not of *mean and servile condition*, so as to disparage the place and state of the city.

The term *Ward* is also of Saxon derivation, denoting a *district*, which has given rise to the opinion, that certain *portions* or *quarters* of London, like other cities and towns, were originally held of the Saxon monarchs and noblemen in *demesne*, to whom they appertained as so many *sokes* or *liberties*; and corroborative of this supposition, we read in "*Liber Albus*," that the earlier designations of certain wards emanated from the name of the proprietors or their residences, as *Castle Baynard*, *Farringdon*, and *Basinghall*. We have before observed that some *wards* were hereditary, while others were transferable, the purchaser becoming *ex-officio* an *Alderman*. No vestige remains by which we can ascertain in what manner the original subdivision of the city was apportioned; but in the year 1393, the Ward of Farringdon having greatly increased, was separated and distinguished as Farringdon within the walls, and Farringdon without, making the total number of wards twenty-five; and in 1550, the citizens, having purchased of Edward VI. the borough of Southwark, it was constituted the twenty-sixth ward; but the power granted them by charter not proving sufficiently authoritative to entitle them to exclude the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the county of Surrey, and their partial interference in its government, it was considered merely a *nominal* ward; serving to dignify the senior Alderman, called "the Father of the City," who generally, by his age, is rendered unable to

sustain the fatigue of ward business, and the situation therefore, reckoned an honourable sinecure.

The original names of the wards were as follow ; to which we have affixed the amounts raised by an assessment made in 1339 by Edward III., in order to carry on his expensive wars for the conquest of France, which, being the first general assessment of the city recorded, shows the proportion the several wards were charged with, and those which were then esteemed the most opulent:—

Amount of Assessment.				Amount of Assessment.			
£. s. d.				£. s. d.			
1. Ward Fori, or				13. Candleweye			
Foris . .	114	13	4	Strete. .	133	6	8
2. Lodgate and				14. Langeford .	352	6	8
Newgate .	730	16	8	15. Cordewan			
3. Castle Baynard	63	6	8	Strete. .	2,195	3	4
4. Aldersgate .	57	10	0	16. Cornhill .	315	0	0
5. Bred Strete .	461	16	8	17. LimeStrete .	110	0	0
6. Queenhythe.	435	13	4	18. Bishopsgate.	559	6	8
7. Vintry . .	634	16	8	19. Aldgate. .	30	0	0
8. Dougate . .	660	10	0	20. Tower Ward.	365	0	0
9. Wallbroke .	911	0	0	21. Billingsgate.	763	0	0
10. Coleman				22. Bridge Ward	765	6	8
Strete .	1,051	16	8	23. Lodingeber .	1,105	10	0
11. Bassishaw .	79	13	4	24. Portsoky .	27	10	0
12. Cripplegate .	462	10	0				

Deeming the most eligible plan for communication an accurate but succinct account of the various public buildings and different objects of interest throughout the city, will be to describe them in detailing the origin and description of the separate wards, we purpose now pursuing the general

history of the commerce and government of London, and in conclusion reverting to the wards from the period of their earliest authentic formation

We find, with few exceptions, that the internal condition of the city generally exhibited the character and disposition of the reigning sovereigns; the charters proving ineffectual in protecting the citizens from tallage, subsidies, or gifts, either to promote the political schemes, or alleviate the pressing emergencies of the crown, the civic character may be said, in great measure, to have fluctuated with the habits and humours of the Court; the dwelling of many of the nobility within the precincts of the city, vested the aristocracy with a certain degree of influence, and the possession of the Tower, as a regal fort and residence, created a constant and close connexion between the principal grades of society. The distracted reign, therefore, of Edward II. was little conducive to the peaceable government and disposition of the Londoners. The justice of the civic authorities seems to have been tainted by the vitiated example of the nobles, for we find them assuming an arbitrary jurisdiction over the commonalty; the Mayor and Aldermen retaining their authority during pleasure, and if they resigned, it was only for a limited space, and in favour of individuals of their own appointment; they levied taxes on the inhabitants, and disposed of the revenue as suited their purpose; taking upon themselves the expulsion of those Councilmen who stood forward in honest rectitude to protect the interests of their constituents. This tyrannical conduct led to remonstrances, cabals, and invectives, and from 1311 to 1322 the citizens existed in a perpetual state of excitement, until the King, under the specious pretext of arranging amicably the differences, took the government of the city into his own hands,

from which it was only redeemed on payment of 2,000*l.*; thus again evincing the uncertain tenure of the *city's rights*.

The prodigal favours and riches lavished on the two *Spencers** by Edward, alienated entirely the wavering affections of Queen Isabella, who siding with the discontented Barons, led to the rebellion, in which the Londoners ultimately joined, espousing openly the cause of the Queen, and assisting, with forces and money, to liberate the kingdom from the thralldom of favouritism, and to establish Edward III. on the throne of his deposed father.

In addition to the political commotions impeding the regular progress of commercial transactions during Edward the Second's sovereignty, provisions had advanced to so

* The Spencers, father and son, were banished at the dictation of the Barons, but soon restored to favour by the King; and as instancing the wealth the father had amassed, it is curious to note the principal items set forth in his petition to Edward against the Barons, praying indemnity for his losses, exemplifying, at the same time, the dangerous extent to which the favouritism of the Monarch might be carried in those days, and the monopolizing influence which became vested in the hands of a designing and insidious courtier, to the detriment of the public service. This misapplication of the revenue, and perverted channels into which the public money, set apart for beneficent purposes, has been, from time to time, directed by the Crown and its ministers, gradually conduced in exciting the popular clamour against the *Pension List*, and has tardily induced the Government of the day to investigate the merits and claims of the individuals enjoying the Royal bounty. The elder Spencer's real estate consisted of sixty-three manors; his personals of two crops of corn, one on the ground, the other in granary; in cash, jewels, silver, and golden utensils, 10,000*l.*; armour for 200 men, warlike engines, and his houses, 30,000*l.*; the furnitures of his chapel and wardrobe, 5,000*l.*; 28,000 sheep, 1,000 oxen and horses, 1,200 cows, with their calves for two years; 40 mares, with their foals for two years; 560 cart-horses, 2,000 hogs, 400 kids, 40 tuns of wine, 600 barons, 80 carcasses of beef, 600 muttons in larder, 10 tuns of cyder, and 36 sacks of wool, with a library of books.



Engraved by I. Woods

Drawn by I. Salmon from a Sketch by R. Garland

ST. KATHERINE'S HOSPITAL
REGENT'S PARK

exorbitant a height, that the Government erroneously deemed itself bound again to interfere between buyer and seller, and place a restriction on the maximum range of prices. Thus an ox, grass-fed, was not to be sold for more than 16s., and if grain-fed, 24s. ; a "best cow," 12s. ; best shorn mutton, 1s.4d., &c. We are at the same time enabled to form an accurate estimate of the relative value between the exchangeable medium, *silver*, and other commodities, by an account handed down of the domestic disbursements of the Earl of Lancaster for the year 1313. It would appear that the total expenditure of this nobleman's household amounted to 7,309*l.*, it being specially notified, in reference to the purchase of different silver articles, that *silver* was then worth 1s. 8*d.* per ounce, *making twelve ounces of silver equivalent to a pound sterling*. As illustrative also of the low price of the luxuries of life, one item sets forth 369 pipes of red wine, and two of white costing only 104*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* The impolicy, however, of thus fixing an arbitrary price on the principal commodities of existence, instead of allowing the natural operation of *supply* and *demand* to regulate their marketable value, became so apparent by holders refraining from sending their articles for sale, that the order was soon rescinded. In the year 1316, the high price of wheat was mainly attributed to the quantity used for malt in London ; and a Parliamentary edict was issued, prohibiting the use of wheat for this purpose, and also regulating the price of ale, the strongest malt liquor being sold at *three halfpence per gallon*, and the small *one penny*. Corn, however, continued to advance till it reached the starvation point of 53*s.* 4*d.* per quarter, and, according to some authorities, even 80*s.* ; the greatest famine visiting the land that had ever been experienced ; "parents eat their own children or those of others they could come at, as did the malefactors one another in prison ; and here followed s

terrible a mortality that the living scarce sufficed to bury the dead.* The country, however, the succeeding year, being blessed with an abundant and early harvest, wheat sustained a rapid decline, and sold at *10d.* instead of *10s.* per bushel, a reduction in the value almost incredible, except we consider the diminished ratio of consumption from the effects of the previous mortality. In 1318, the Parliament being summoned to assemble at York, the King's writ was issued to the Sheriffs of London to elect *two* members to represent their fellow-citizens in the "Great Council of the nation." Instead, however, of *two*, they returned *three* representatives; and by an Act passed in this Parliament, apportioning the number of soldiers to be furnished by each city against the Scots, London was ordered to provide 200 men, being *five times* the number of any other city, instancing, at this date, the comparative extent of its population and opulence.

The reign of Edward III. not only shines forth conspicuously in the annals of chivalry, holding forth the early promise of the brilliant career of the fine arts, but as the age when the commerce of the city widely expanded the sphere of its operation, occupying a more prominent position in the horizon of the mercantile world, while the charters of the citizens were established on a more solid basis, and the trading fraternities re-constituted and identified with the State. The King, gratified at the able assistance afforded the Queen mother, which was the means of placing him on the throne; had only two months swayed the sceptre, when he bestowed upon the citizens extensive immunities, comprised in a grant which may be termed the *Golden Charter* of the city. He not only confirmed all the ancient rights of the city, but annulled every innovation which had been made upon them from the earliest times. In order, likewise, to

* Stow. Thos. Walsingham's *Hist. Angl.* Speed's *Chron.*

prevent, if possible, their future infraction or suspension, arising from any real or pretended misconduct of individuals temporarily vested with civic authority, it was expressly declared, "that the liberties of the said city shall not be taken into the hands of Us or our Heirs, for any personal trespass or judgment of any minister of the said city. Neither shall a Custos in the said city for that occasion be deputed; but the same minister shall be punished according to the quality of his offence;" in addition to which the following advantageous privileges were conferred:—The Mayor to be one of the judges to sit on the trial of prisoners confined in Newgate; the citizens to enjoy the right of *infang-theft*, that is the privilege of trying a thief or robber, apprehended within the jurisdiction of the city; and of *outfang-theft*, which is the liberty of reclaiming a citizen taken in any other place, in order to bring him to his trial within the city; a right to the goods and chattels of all felons convicted within the jurisdiction of the city: the privilege of devising in mortmain, which is an alienation of the lands and tenements to any guild, corporation or fraternity and their successors without the King's leave, according to ancient custom—The Sheriffs of London and Middlesex to be amerced no otherwise than their brethren south of the river Trent: all foreign merchants to dispose of their merchandizes within forty days, thereby to prevent enhancing the prices of their several commodities: the King's Marshal, Steward, nor Clerk of the Household, to exercise any authority in the city: the office of Escheator given in perpetuity to the Mayor. For the greater convenience of the citizens resorting to country fairs, to have the valuable privileges of holding a court of "*Pie-Poudre*," in such places, for settlement of all disputes that happen in each of the said fairs; or, in the words of the grant—"that as the citizens were wont to have among themselves keepers to

hold the pleas touching the citizens of the said city assembling at the said fairs, We will and grant that the same citizens may have such-like keepers to hold such pleas of their covenants as of ancient times they had, except the pleas of land, and of the Crown:" that none of the King's purveyors presume to rate any sort of goods belonging to the citizens, nor to deal in any sort of merchandize within the city, and that no market be kept within *seven miles* of the city of London." In addition, the citizens obtained a grant of the "*Village of Southwark* for ever, by paying the farms thereof due and accustomed," having represented to the King, that the village was the "resort and lurking place of various felons, thieves, and other malefactors, disturbers of the peace," who infested the streets of London, rendering them at night unsafe to be traversed by the inhabitants, and on the perpetration of any crime they fled to Southwark, over which district the jurisdiction of the city authorities did not extend. This great addition to their local power failed at first in producing the anticipated benefits in restraining the evil practices of the dissolute, several serious riots occurring, and "people were assassinated, robbed, wounded, and killed in the streets;" the King, therefore, in the sixth year of his reign, was compelled to issue an edict "prohibiting any one from wearing a *coat of plate or weapon* in the city of London or town of Westminster, or the suburbs thereof, on pain of forfeiting all his possessions." The Mayor and magistrates, however, by adopting more energetic conduct, succeeded in partially checking these disgraceful occurrences. A quarrel happened between the Fishmongers' and Skinners' Companies, which they attempted to settle in the streets *vi et armis*, the rioters resisting at first the power of the magistrates, who however succeeded in securing the leaders of the conflicting parties, carried them directly to Guildhall, where pleading guilty,

they were beheaded in Westcheap, or Cheapside. This promptitude and decision of conduct had the effect of quelling, for a time, the riotous spirit of the age, and elicited the marked approbation of the act, the King issuing a patent in its justification and commendation.

Though the commencement of Edward's reign was thus marked by judicious laws to promote the best interests of the citizens, yet during the lengthened period that he swayed the sceptre, the civil and commercial state of the Londoners was subjected to much vicissitude; and it is to be regretted that the romantic love of chivalry imbued the King with too predominating a feeling for heroic adventure and martial fame, goaded on by an inordinate desire of territorial aggrandizement and the acquirement of wealth by the uncertain tenure of foreign possession, which he allowed too much to divert his attention from the peaceful arts at home of commerce, manufactures, and agriculture, which he ought first to have cultivated as the legitimate source of his riches. But glory was the shrine at which "he bowed the knee," and we find him one year sacrificing to his ambition the success of that commerce, which the previous year he had laboured to establish. No doubt sound and advantageous benefits resulted to the mercantile interest from several of his acts, but still many were thwarted or partially obviated from vacillations, the natural offspring of a character influenced by the impulses of any ruling passion. Thus in 1338 the admirals north and south of the Thames were empowered to compel the service of all *merchant-vessels* for an expedition against France, which created in the port of London a complete stagnation of trade. Besides which, he possessed himself of all the tin in the hands of the English as well as the foreign merchants, and ordered his wool-collectors to seize the wools belonging both to laity and clergy to make up a required deficiency of 17,500 sacks,

in order to transmit to Antwerp, where the article found ready sale, the proceeds of which enabled him to fulfil his engagements with his allies. The foreign traffic had, however, been gradually becoming more extensive, the customs of the port amounting in 1331 to 8,000*l.* per annum, which, considering the low rates of duties, shows a considerable increase from the year 1268. Great jealousy continued to prevail on the part of the citizens against the merchants from Flanders, Lombardy, and other parts of the Continent, and oppressions of various kinds were resorted to with the view of crushing their commercial efforts, until the interposition of the Crown became necessary, and a law was passed, honourable to the Parliament, framed on the liberal principle of affording protection alike to the rights of the foreign as well as the native merchant. One of the main commercial objects the King seems ever to have held in view was, the re-establishment of the *woollen-manufacture*; and though his favourite project of conquering France frequently interrupted the execution of his design, yet he always lent an attentive ear to the appeals for justice made by the foreign cloth-weavers, a body of whom had settled in London under the authority of an Act of Parliament, passed in the eleventh year of his sovereignty. The meetings of the Flemish weavers were appointed to be held in the churchyard of St. Lawrence *Poultney* (the latter appellation being derived from the name of *John Poultney*, who founded a college adjoining the church dedicated to St. Lawrence); the Brabant weavers assembling in the churchyard of St. Mary *Somersét*, in Upper Thames-street, opposite Broken-wharf, and from the contiguity of the church to a small *hythe* or *haven*, called *Summer's het* or *hythe*, assumed the corrupted name of *Somerset*. In these places the woollen and linen cloths were exposed for sale at stated times, as was afterwards the custom in Cloth-fair, West

Smithfield. In 1353 an Order in Council was issued for levying a tax of threepence on every sack of wool and every three hundred of wool-fells, and on other commodities carried either by land or water to the staple* at Westminster. The establishment of this wool-mart had occasioned so great a resort, that Westminster had increased to a considerable town, having before "had no other dependence but the Royal residence and adjacent Abbey." This duty was raised for repairing the highway leading from the gate of London, called *Temple-bar*, to the gate of the Abbey at Westminster, the road, according to the Act, having "by the frequent passing of carts and horses, become so deep and miry, and the pavement so broken and worn as to be dangerous both to men and carriages, and as the proprietors of the houses near and leading to that staple have, by means of the thoroughfare,

* It appears by a record preserved in the seventh volume of the "Fœdera," that in the year 1375 the staple for the port of London had been removed from Westminster to that part of Holborn where *Staple-inn* now stands. It recounts that King Edward the Third having formerly made a grant to the dean and canons of the Chapel Royal of St. Stephen's, in his Palace of Westminster (the place in which the House of Commons now sits), of 66*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* out of the rents of the Staple at Westminster, and the houses wherein the staple had been held remaining, for the most part empty, in consequence of the said removal; King Richard the Second, in 1380, made provision for the deficiency out of the Exchequer, to the said dean and canons. The jurisdiction of the Mayor and two constables of the staple of Westminster extended from Temple-bar to Tothill-fields, and their proceedings were governed by a *law-merchant*. The principal matters under their cognizance were the five staple commodities of England, *wool* and *wool-fels*, *leather*, *lead*, and *tin*.

Some remains of the place where the staple at Westminster was kept, and particularly an old stone gate fronting the Thames, were in being till the year 1741, when they were pulled down to make room for the abutment of the new bridge over the Thames; and the place retained the name of the *wool-staple* till then, as appears by the Act of Parliament for the erection of the bridge.

greatly raised their rents, the way before their houses should be paved at their charge, and where no houses are, should be paved anew out of the said duties." Thus we find that the Strand still remained merely a road separating the City from Westminster, with houses interspersed, belonging chiefly to the nobility, whose different names and titles have since designated the several streets erected on the sites of the original mansions; and here it may be remarked, that the numerous additions made to the City beyond its ancient walls, commonly called its *liberties*, appear to have been taken in gradually, since no law is extant by which they are set out or to be ascertained, nor have any of its historiographers been able to discover the precise period when these improvements were made. This toll, with one of a similar nature granted seven years previously to the master of the hospital of St. Giles-in-the-fields and to John of Holborn, are the earliest on record collected in England for the repairs of a public road. The latter was levied for the purpose of repairing the highway, *via regia*, conducting from the said hospital near where the elegant structure of St. Giles now stands, to the bar of the *Old Temple* of London, namely, *Holborn-bars*, near which was erected the Old Temple or house of the Knights Templars, extending through another certain highway called *Perpoole-lane*, from the manor-house of that name, now *Portpool-lane*, including part of *Gray's-inn-lane*, and likewise the highway called *Charing*, probably now *St. Martin's-lane*, leading to the then village of *Charing* and its Cross,* erected by Edward

* A portion of this cross remained till the civil wars in the reign of Charles the First, when it was destroyed by the Puritans as a monument of Popish superstition. After the restoration of Charles the Second, the equestrian statue of his ill-advised and unfortunate father, that had been taken down by order of Oliver Cromwell, but concealed by the Royalists during the Protectorate, was erected on the site of the ancient structure. The statue is by Le Sueur, and a remarkable fine specimen of his art.



CUSTOM HOUSE.

the First in memory of the death of his beloved Queen Eleanor.

A re-organization of the various trading communities was also effected at this era.* Among the most material alterations may be enumerated their change of name from *guilds* to *crafts* and *mysteries*, and the substituting for the old title of alderman that of *master* and *warden*. A still more important advantage for promoting the interest of the companies, was their being at this time first generally chartered, or having their privileges confirmed by letters patent, which they had only enjoyed through sufferance and the payment of their *fermes*. Exclusive of this right, however, the incorporations of Edward the Third were only partial, and comprehended but few of the privileges which the companies obtained from succeeding monarchs. They had no grant of a common seal even generally, liberty to buy or accept lands, to sue or be sued, and to possess various other liberties necessary to establish them full incorporations as at present.

The chartering, however, of the guilds by Edward the Third, was not that monarch's only favour to them. Having found

* About this time, in the year 1346, Edward the Third acquainted the public that his Parliament had agreed (18th Edward III., cap. 6), to the coining of three different coins of gold, viz., one piece of the value of six shillings, being the weight of two small florins of Florence, a second of half that value and weight, and a third of a quarter of the first. This gold was of twenty-three carats, three grains and a half fine, and half a grain in alloy. The standard of our silver coins was then eleven ounces and two pennyweights fine, and eighteen pennyweights alloy, called old sterling standard; and an ounce of silver weighed exactly twenty pennyweights, and was coined into twenty silver pence. Another proclamation was issued the same year, stating that three other gold pieces had been coined, viz., one of six shillings and eightpence value, which was named a gold *noble*, or *half-mark*; one of half that value, to be called a *maille-noble*; and a third to be a quarter of the value of the first, and to be called a *ferling* or *farthing-noble*. This is the first instance of a gold coinage in England.

that these fraternities were highly conducive to the extension of British commerce, and having conferred on them the means of giving stability to their mercantile associations, he wisely resolved to raise them in public estimation; and in order to effect this laudable resolution he became himself a brother of one of these societies, judging that his example would be soon followed by the Court. The *linen-armourers*, now "merchant-tailors," were then the great importers of woollen cloth, which we have shown his Majesty was desirous to make the staple manufacture of England, and therefore this company boasts the honour of first having had a Sovereign amongst their numbers. Richard the Second became a brother of the same company, and there were also enrolled as *merchant-tailors*, in Richard's reign, four Royal dukes, ten earls, ten barons, and five bishops; the Skinners as well as the Mercers exhibited, about the same period, an equally splendid list of names, while other companies had a greater proportion of City dignitaries; the *Grocers*,* towards the

* By a petition from the Commons of the City to Parliament, printed amongst the Parliamentary Rolls, we learn that before the thirty-sixth of Edward the Third, certain wholesale merchants had formed themselves into a guild, which had become so great and monopolous, that they threatened to ruin the numerous other fraternities that had now sprung up; and this guild was the *Grocers*', the origin of whose name we find explained by this document. The petition complains that those merchants called "*grossiers*" or *grossers*, had by cover, and by orders made amongst themselves in their fraternities, *engrossed* all sorts of wares, whereby they suddenly raised the prices, and that they had laid up other merchandizes until times of dearth and scarcity. Ravenhill states, that the word *grossier*, or *grocer*, was a term at first distinguishing merchants in opposition to small traders, "for they usually sold in *gross* quantities by great weights, dealing for the whole of any kind." The grocers had seceded from the more ancient guild of the *Pepperers*, which latter fraternity was incorporated as grocers in 1345. The notification of being licensed to deal in *pepper* is still obliged to be specially inscribed over the doors of modern grocers. The remedy for the monopoly suggested by

close of Edward's reign enumerated sixteen aldermen among their body.

In the forty-ninth of Edward, an enactment received the sanction of the whole assembly of the commonalty of the City, by which the right of election of all City dignitaries and officers, including members of Parliament, was transferred from the *ward representatives to the trading companies*, a few members of which were directed to be selected by the masters or wardens to come to Guildhall for election purposes; it was afterwards opened to all the *liverymen* of companies, in whose right the voting for the City's Parliamentary members remained exclusively vested, till the passing of the "Reform Act," which restored the elective franchise to the freemen of London, and further extended it to the inhabitant householders.

The citizens, as succeeding eras progressively develop their character, seem ever to have maintained a decided principle of action, a sterlingness of behaviour throughout the fitful changes and severe ordeals to which they were subjected through the vacillating conduct of the different Sovereigns, and we constantly trace the same jealousy of their liberties, the same attachment to the constitution of the country, the same hospitality, munificence, and charity as signalize the London citizens and the London merchants of the present day; and with justice it may be added, that increase of wealth has only communicated augmented means of doing good, while the lapse of time has not rendered them less watchful and scrupulous of the privileges conferred on them by their

the petitioners and acceded to was, that "merchants shall deal in or use but one kind or sort of merchandize, and that every merchant hereafter shall choose which kind of wares or merchandize he will deal in, and shall deal in no other."—*Herbert's History of the Twelve Great Livery Companies of London.*—*Anderson's History of Commerce.*

charters. Thus, while we find the citizens in the olden time good and devout Catholics, as steadfast in the defence of their religious as their commercial rights, yet they allowed reason to remove the mists of bigotry in which the age was benighted, not yielding a blind belief in the infallibility of the priesthood; for at a provincial Synod held in London, in 1342, it was decreed, that whoever should be prevailed upon by the friars and monks to make their wills at the point of death in prejudice to their families, should be deprived of the benefit of Christian burial. On the other hand they showed themselves ready to defend, at the risk of their lives, the person of their Bishop, towards whom they had reason to imagine personal violence was likely to be offered by the Duke of Lancaster, at the assembly held at St. Paul's, to which *Wickliff* had been cited to answer for the presumed heretical doctrines he was promulgating, in opposition to the tenets of the Church of Rome. This exhibition of religious feeling, in hostility to Edward's princely son, was afterwards the source of serious disquietude to the citizens during the declining years of the King, even to the endangering the loss of their right to appoint a fellow-citizen to the civic chair; though in 1346 the election of the Lord Mayor had been vested in the mayor and aldermen for the time being, and in such of the principal inhabitants of each ward as should be summoned to attend.

As a marked indication of Royal favour, Edward, in the twenty-eighth year of his sovereignty, bestowed upon the mayor the privilege of having gold and silver maces carried before him, a privilege previously appertaining only to Royalty; at the same time that all other towns and cities were, by a Royal precept, expressly commanded not to use maces of any other metal than copper; and from this date, 1354, it is assumed that the addition of *Lord* was first annexed to the title of

Mayor of the City, there being no other record to which the event can be referred.

It was to be expected that during the military career of a warlike Prince like Edward the Third, various displays of the chivalrous spirit of the age would form a prominent feature in the pageants of the day and the amusements of the people. *Smithfield* was chiefly the *arena* on which many a gallant knight ran a course at the gorgeous tournaments held within the precincts of the City; but in 1329 several ambassadors having arrived from France, the King, anxious to display the gallantry of his subjects, entertained them with a solemn tournament held in *Cheapside*, between the cross at the end of *Wood-street* and that of *Soper-lane*, or *Queen-street*; and another of the most splendid character was appointed by Edward, when, enfeebled from age in mind and body, he allowed the destinies of the country to be "too much influenced by the intrigues of his 'lady-love,' *Alice Perrers* or *Pierce*. At this celebrated tilt, Alice appeared under the dignified appellation of the Lady of the Sun, drawn in a triumphal chariot, dressed in sumptuous apparel, attended by a number of ladies of quality, each of whom led a knight by his horse's bridle, accompanied by a number of the principal Lords, most richly accoutred; the magnificent procession setting out from the Tower through *Cheapside* to *Smithfield*, where many courageous feats were performed by the young nobility and gentry for seven days."

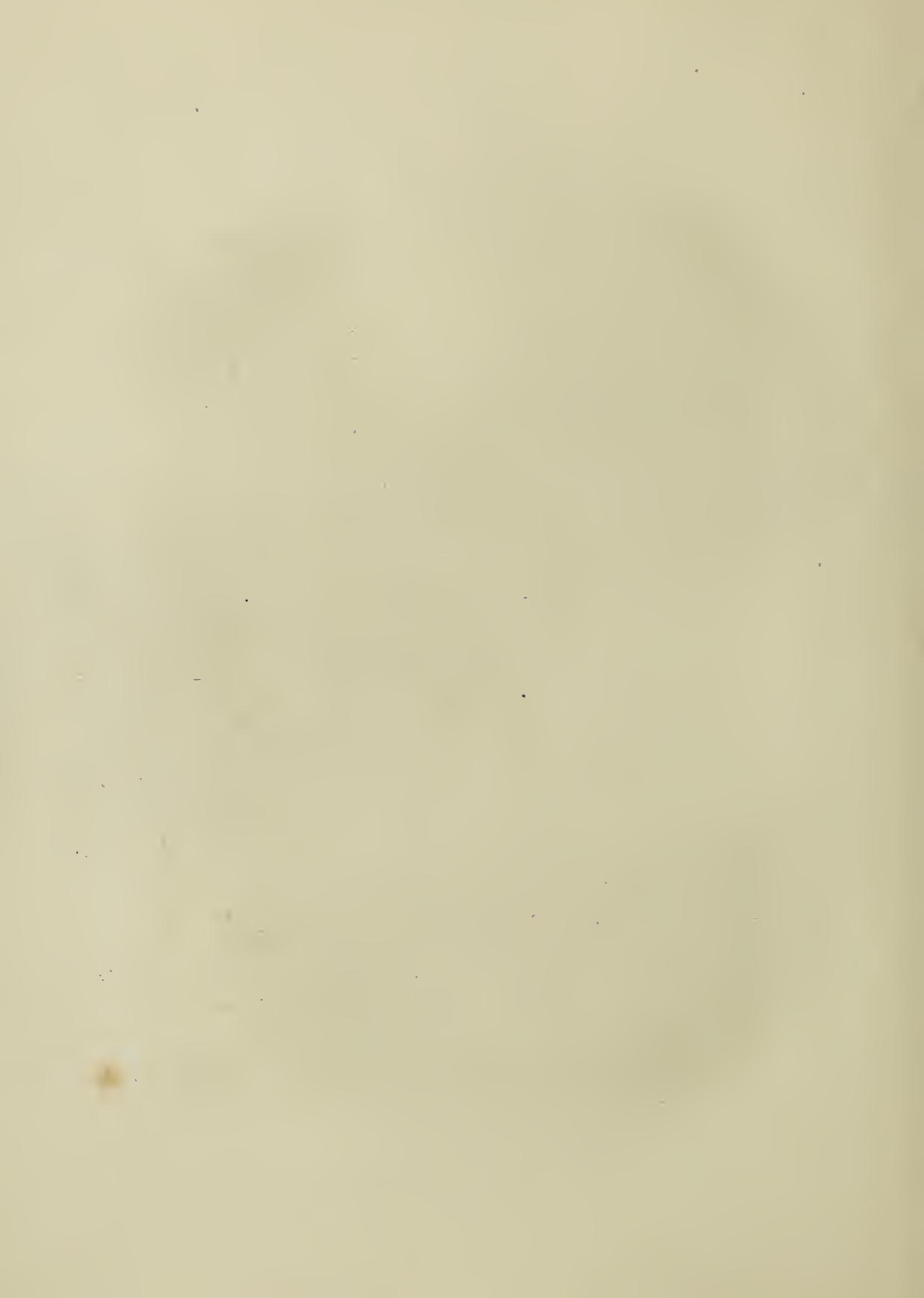
In 1357 the citizens had a glorious opportunity of manifesting their loyalty and patriotism in receiving, with all the honours due to the illustrious hero of the age, Edward the *Black Prince*, on his triumphal entrance into London after the victorious battle of Poitiers, bringing as a trophy of his redoubtable valour, John, King of France, captive in his train. The conquering Prince was met in Southwark by

more than five thousand citizens on horse back, most of them richly dressed. The mayor, aldermen, sheriffs, and the several companies "in their formalities with stately pageants," met the procession at London, and the streets through which the nation's triumph passed were decorated with the richest tapestries, with a profusion of plate, silks, and furniture, exhibited as demonstrative of the wealth of the inhabitants; and quantities of bows, arrows, shields, helmets, coats of mail, swords, and spears, were exposed in the balconies, windows, and shops, impressing strongly the idea of the power and martial character of the English. The cavalcade lasted from three in the morning till noon. Notwithstanding these incentives to military ardour, with which it might have been supposed the people would have been stimulated—at a time, too, when the advantages accruing to the nation from the use of the long-bow were so illustriously exemplified in the fields of *Cressy* and *Poictiers*, when the glory of the English archers was in its zenith—it strikes us as a great anomaly to find that the pursuits of various useless, dishonest, and unlawful games, as hurling of iron bars, stones, and wood, of hand-ball, foot-ball, bandy-ball, and *cambuck* or cock-fighting, almost engrossed the popular pastime; so much so, as to occasion Edward to send a letter of complaint upon the subject to the sheriffs of London, declaring that the skill in shooting with arrows was almost totally laid aside, and that in a short time the realm was likely to become destitute of archers; commanding them to prevent the prevailing idle practices, and to see that the leisure time upon holidays was spent in recreations with bows; in furtherance of which, a penalty was ordered in 1349 to be inflicted on offenders, by imprisonment during the King's pleasure. In the immediately succeeding reigns the renewal of similar orders was found necessary. In the sixteenth century heavy complaints were made respecting the disuse of



COLISEUM

REGENTS PARK



the long bow, especially in the vicinity of London; and Stow informs us, that before this time it was customary at Bartholomew-tide for the Lord Mayor, with the Sheriffs and Aldermen, to go into the fields at Finsbury, where the citizens were assembled, and shoot at the standard with broad and flight arrows for games. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, however, a revival of this manly sport had taken place; and at a great archery meeting at Windsor, a citizen of London, named Barlow, an inhabitant of Shoreditch, joined the archers and surpassed all the assembly in skill, at which his Majesty was so much pleased, that he jocosely gave him the title of *Duke of Shoreditch*, a distinguishing honour which the captain of the London archers retained for a considerable time afterwards. In 1583, during the reign of Elizabeth, a grand archery match was held in London, the *Duke of Shoreditch* summoning a suit of nominal nobility under the titles of *marquis* of Clerkenwell, of Barlow, of Islington, of Hoxton, of Shacklewell, earl of Pancras, &c. - The companies proceeded in pompous march from Merchant-tailors' hall, consisting of *three thousand* archers, as Strype says, "oddly habited," nine hundred and forty-two wearing chains of gold. They passed through Broad-street, the residence of their captain, thence into Moorfields, and thence to Smithfield, where having performed several evolutions, they shot at a target for honour. A similar meeting was made by the London archers in 1682, in the reign of Charles the Second, the King himself being present. But the close of the seventeenth century legislative interference failed in keeping alive the popular feeling in favour of the bow, and its use gradually became discontinued, owing, in great measure, to the various enclosures made in the neighbourhood of London, thus depriving the citizens of room sufficient for the exercise, and in part, from the general adoption of the musket. Fashion in more modern

times has, however, prevented the total extinction of the noble craft of the bow ; and honourable instances of skill in archery have been exhibited by the company of “ Toxophilites,” and other societies of Bowmen and *Bowwomen* ; many of our fair countrywomen, in later days, having “ twanged the yew” with as unerring skill as their eyes have shot forth darts from Cupid’s quiver ; while in no diversion does the position afford so favourable an opportunity of effectively displaying “ the line of beauty” of the finely moulded form of woman’s elegant figure.

Now that the population of London was becoming more dense, and the houses more thickly crowded together, few years elapsed without the City being visited with that dreadful scourge of humanity, the plague. The narrow streets, in which the current of air was either obstructed by architectural projections, or by signs across the street, together with the want of cleanliness, owing to the inefficient supply of water and the difficulty in preventing the accumulation of filth in the streets, did much to increase, if not to generate the distemper, which proved at various periods so fatal to the inhabitants of the metropolis. In the middle ages, the churchyards groaned with the accumulation of bones of the dead, piled up and exposed to the air, which they contributed to corrupt ; the streets were filled with garbage and filth, which no exercise of authority seems to have been able to force the inhabitants to remove ; the sewers, which generally ran above ground, were in a neglected state ; while the dirty, sluttish habits within doors corresponded with the filthiness of the streets without. In 1348, during the rejoicings for Edward the Third’s conquest of Calais, a disastrous pestilence, which was said to have spread from India over all the western countries, reached England, destroying immense numbers of inhabitants ; and it was computed that in London not more

than one in ten survived. The usual places of sepulture not being large enough to receive the bodies, several humane individuals were induced to purchase grounds for burial; and in one enclosure appropriated by Sir Walter Maury, comprising thirteen acres, there were buried 50,000. The reduction which took place in the price of provisions from the consequent falling off in the consumption deserves note; for instance, a horse previously worth 40s. sold at 6s. 8d., a best ox at 4s., do. cow 1s., a best heifer or steer 6d., a wether sheep, 4d., an ewe 3d., and a lamb 2d., a best hog 5d., and a stone of wool was not worth more than 9d. Wines also were sold at very low prices, Gascony obtaining only 4d., and Rhenish 6d. per gallon. Wheat suffered, likewise, considerable fluctuations in its value throughout the reign of Edward, either from scarcity of money, owing to the exhaustion of the nation's resources, chiefly in prosecution of the Scottish war, or from dearths occasioned by failure in the crops, or the ravages of the plague causing the supply to exceed the demand. Thus we find in 1335, wheat realized the enormous sum of 40s. per quarter, while in the succeeding year it is quoted at 2s.; and again in 1359, 1369, and 1370, selling "at the excessive prices" of 24s. and 26s. 8d. per quarter. These sudden alterations in the currencies of the staple commodity of life would lead to the conclusion that ruinous losses must have been sustained by the agriculturists of the day; and it is therefore necessary, in order to form a just estimation of the outlay of the grower, that the value of land should be specified, which we are enabled to do from Bishop Fleetwood's "Chronicon Preciosum," wherein it appears that eighty acres of arable land were worth 20s. per annum, or 3d. per acre, meadow-land being let at 4d., and pasture 1d. per acre.

As early as the year 1361 the prevalence of the plague was attributed to the want of cleanliness in the streets of the City,

fears being entertained that the disease which raged that year in France might be communicated to London, or revived by the putrid blood and entrails of beasts which the butchers used to throw into the streets. Edward, by way of precaution, issued a command to the mayor and sheriffs, stating that from these practices "abominable and most filthy stinks proceeded, sicknesses and many other evils having happened to such as had abode in the City or resorted thereto;" and that in future no animals should be slaughtered nearer London than the town of *Stratford* on the one part, and the town of *Knightsbridge* on the other. Three hundred years later, in the eventful periods of 1625 and 1665, the plague was still attributed to the want of cleanliness, and the tracts of those times teem with complaints on the subject. "Let not carcasses of horses, dogs, cats, and other animals lye retting and poisoning the air as they have done in More and Finsbury-fields and elsewhere round the citie, whence arise unsavory stenches, and these foetid smells are the maintaining cause of the contagion." In the succeeding year, 1666, occurred the "great fire" of London, which, though devastating in its progress, causing misery and ruin at once dreadful and appalling, was yet ultimately productive of more beneficial effects than any conflagration recorded in history. Indeed, it is the opinion of many able writers of the day that the fire was the "one thing needed" radically to exterminate the disease, as there is strong reason for believing that for some centuries the City was not before this period wholly free from infection. It is not, therefore, too much to infer, that had it not been for this calamity, London might much longer have suffered from the pestilence. Instead of narrow dirty streets, however, without any free circulation of air, a new city arose improved, in all the conveniences of life. This would not have occurred for ages in the regular course of events.

It is needless reciting the melancholy detail of each particular year,

“ When Contagion with mephitic breath
And wither'd Famine urg'd the work of death ;”

yet, perhaps, a brief description of the last plague which passed with pestiferous blast over the devoted walls of London, while it affords a faint picture of those previous awful visitations to which the City was subjected, may render us the more thankful, that in this our day, we can daily walk the streets of the metropolis without the dread of inhaling air pregnant with deadly infection. It was towards the close of the year 1664 that the plague first broke out in Long-acre, when two or three persons dying suddenly, the frightened neighbours took the alarm and removed into the City, whither they are supposed unfortunately to have carried the infection. There, from the denseness of the population, it gathered strength, and its ravages rapidly augmented. A frost which set in in December, and continued three months, suspended its dire effects; but at the close of February, 1665, the thaw commencing, the plague began again to increase, and when it was found that several parishes were infected, the magistrates issued an order that every house visited with the contagion should be shut up, and marked with a red cross bearing the inscription, “ Lord, have mercy upon us,” none of the inmates being allowed egress. This impolitic measure was attended with most distressing consequences; for, though the extension of the infection may have been thus partially checked, yet whole families were sacrificed, who might have escaped had they been allowed to quit the house on the first appearance of the disease. In the months of May, June, July, it continued with more or less power, until in August and September it quickened into horrible activity, sweeping away 4,000, 8,000, and even 12,000 souls in one week; and at its height

of fatality 4,000 perished in one night. All business was paralysed; the minister often received the stroke of death in the exercise of his sacred office; the physician, finding no assistance in his own antidotes, died while administering them to others; the very bells seemed hoarse with tolling; and the dead were now no longer numbered, for the parish clerks and sextons perished in the execution of their office. In the parish of Stepney alone, 116 sextons, gravediggers, and carters employed in removing the bodies, died in one year. Those moving sepulchres, the "dead carts," continually traversed the streets, while the appalling cry, "Bring out your dead," thrilled through every human frame within whom the spark of life still lingered. Then it was that parents, husbands, wives, and children saw all that was dear to them thrown with a pitchfork into a cart, like the offal of the slaughter-house, to be conveyed without the walls, and flung into one promiscuous heap. In the last week of September, this human scourge mitigated its fell attacks, at which time upwards of 10,000 houses were deserted; and, according to Defoe, 100,000 victims were offered as human sacrifices to the want of cleanliness, conveniences, and bad construction of the streets and houses.

Even the survivors in this year of desolation would have perished of famine but for the charitable contributions of the affluent. The money subscribed is said, each week, to have amounted to 100,000*l.*, to which Charles the Second gave 1,000*l.*; in the parish of Cripplegate alone, the disbursements to the poor amounted to 17,000*l.* a-week. The conduct of the magistracy redounded infinitely to their honour, and Darwin has justly lauded, in verse, the heroic devotion of Sir John Laurence, "London's Generous Mayor." Space will not permit us to detail, even in the most cursory manner, the numerous anecdotes of the most "heart-rending miseries and

trials" with which the people of any nation were ever visited; we shall, therefore, conclude our mournful narrative of this epoch in the calamities of the City with the traditionary account of a narrow escape of a poor *Scotch piper*, whose remembrance has been immortalized by that great sculptor, *Cibber*, in a statue well known in Tottenham-court-road, representing a Highland piper with his dog and keg of liquor by his side. It is to be premised, that many were the instances in which, the stupor of disease having been mistaken for the sleep of death, the sufferer was buried beneath a mass of the dead; and sometimes bodies, yet warm and breathing, met the same fate. Reverting, however, to the *piper*, it appears, he was accustomed usually to stand at the bottom of Holborn-hill, near St. Andrew's church. Having one day met some of his countrymen and drank too freely, he was glad to find repose on the steps of the church. The nightly "dead cart" passing by during his slumbers, one of the men hesitated not in putting his fork into the piper's belt, and transferring him from a bed of stone to one of death. The piper's faithful dog attempted to prevent the forcible capture of his master; but, unable to succeed, he determined not to forsake him, and, leaping into the cart, began to howl most piteously over the body. The jolting of the cart and moans of the dog aroused the piper from his lethargy, who instinctively turning to his pipes, struck up one of his native spirit stirring pibrochs, to the great terror of the drivers, who fancied their cart haunted "with ghosts and goblins, or spirits damned;" until lights having been procured, the piper was released from his deadly company, and his narrow escape was communicated by one of his benefactors, who employed *Cibber* to execute a statue of him.

Richard the Second, in 1377, unfortunately ascended the throne at too early an age, being only eleven years old, for

the City to anticipate much solid or permanent benefit to result to their mercantile and corporate interest during his rule, unless the youthful Monarch had been gifted with more than usual strength of mind and philosophical reasoning far beyond his years, to have rendered him proof against the multiform temptations arising from pleasures, which the possession of apparently unbounded riches rendered subservient to his will. Had he escaped this *Scylla* of the regal state, the *Charybdis* which awaited him was more likely to wreck his prudent intentions, created by the adulation of courtiers, who so adulterate the stream through which the clear waters from the fountains of truth have to flow, that they reach royalty divested of all their purity, and have been so perverted from their simple and straight current, that it requires an acuteness of judgment, and highly reflective organization hardly to be hoped for, to enable the human mind to penetrate the illusive veil thus artfully thrown over actions and things. This perception of facts through a false medium, seeing "through a glass darkly," has been too often the bane of those who are immaturely impressed with the feeling and knowledge that they have only *to will, to have*. A portion, however, of the first years of his reign was marked by traits of decision and firmness of conduct, which led to more favourable predictions than his after actions realized. Unlike his amiable father, the Black Prince, he grew up rash and inconsiderate, irritating his friends into estrangement, and exciting his enemies to rebellious opposition; even the citizens, infected by the manners of the Court, were often tumultuous, inconsistent, and irregular in their proceedings. One of the King's first acts was his reconciliation of the Duke of Lancaster with the City, after which his Majesty made his grand entrance from *Sheen (Richmond)* into London, and for which the most magnificent preparations were made; exhibiting at once



CUMBERLAND TERRACE.

REYNOLDS'S PATENT

the prodigality as well as the fanciful but not inelegant character of the pageantry and entertainments of the day. The cavalcade, when it reached Cheapside, stopped opposite a large conduit erected in the form of a castle, from which flowed white and purple streams of wine. Four beautiful girls, as *Hebes*, about the age of the King, supplied the Sovereign and nobility with wine in golden goblets, throwing gilt flowers on the King's head, and scattering *Danae* showers of florins among the populace.—Again, when the King favoured the City with his presence, he was escorted by four hundred of the citizens, in superb dresses, to London-bridge, where he was presented with a stately courser, richly trapped with golden brocade, and his Queen with a white palfrey with furniture equally splendid. His arrival was greeted by thousands of joyous citizens; the houses by which he passed were decorated with cloths of gold, silver, and silks; the conduits ran with the choicest wines, and at every step costly gifts were heaped on the Royal personages. At the standard in Cheapside was a splendid pageant, on which stood a boy, personifying an angel, who offered the King wine in a golden cup, and placed on his head a rich crown of gold, “most curiously garnished with precious stones and pearls of great value, and the same on the head of the Queen;” after which he was given two gilt silver basins, each containing a thousand gold nobles, together with a curious picture of the Trinity, valued at 800*l.*, a gilt silver table for an altar, worth a thousand marks, besides other presents of great value.

These exhibitions were not only profuse and extravagant, idly dissipating immense sums in vain ostentation, but extremely impolitic, as impressing the Court and nobility with the belief, that the wealth of the citizens was like an inexhaustible mine from whence resources could be drawn at pleasure. If, therefore, loans of money were refused to the

Royal demand, the denial was supposed to proceed not from inability, but requiring only a high pressure system to force a reluctant compliance. In fact, these civic shows reflect little credit on the wisdom or foresight of the citizens of yore; and the extortions and ameracements to which they were subjected from the Crown, were encouraged by their own imprudence and ostentation.

In the second year of the King's reign, a subsidy was granted by Parliament to cover the expenses incurred in the wars carried on in France and Flanders, by which all men were assessed according to their several qualities or stations in life, and which assumed the name of the "*poll-tax*:" tradesmen, mechanics, &c., with their wives and children, were taxed at *fourpence* per head; all persons, in fact, above fifteen years of age; or, according to *Fabian*, fourteen years. On this occasion the Lord Mayor was rated as an *earl* at four pounds, and the aldermen as *barons* at two pounds each; which would imply that the epithet of "*Right Honourable*" had been already attached to the mayoralty. Exclusively of the onerous nature of this new imposition, the mode of collection became the crying grievance of the land, the Government agents resorting to the most brutal and indecent behaviour towards the female portion of the lower classes in endeavouring to ascertain their age. The excitement of the people became at length so violent, that on one of the collectors having rudely treated the daughter of a man named *Wat Hilliard*, by profession a *Tyler*, known afterwards as "*Wat Tyler*," resident at Dartford, in Kent, the father became so irritated, that he knocked out the fellow's brains, and, to save himself from prosecution, easily persuaded the populace to rise in his defence, and endeavour to extricate themselves from the heavy yoke of taxation under which they had so long groaned. Hence arose, in 1381, the most dangerous rebellion that ever

threatened England, and which shook the pillars of the throne to their very foundation; its suppression proving as miraculous as its rise and progress had been unprecedentedly rapid and foreboding. On the arrival of the rebels at Maidstone, they released from prison a fanatic priest named *John Ball*, who had been excommunicated, and confined for his seditious preachings, and was a fit instrument to co-operate with the factious insurgent, *Wat Tyler*. A congenial spirit to the text which he adopted from an old proverb,

“ When *Adam* delv'd, and *Eve* span,
Who was then a *gentleman*,”

at once exemplifies the specious principles of *equality* which he instilled into his hearers; and from such tenets, the results which followed may be readily conceived. The rebel army encamped on Blackheath 100,000 strong, and on the King refusing to come at their bidding and hear their demands, they marched to London, vowing destruction to the nobility, and especially the members of the legal profession, committing numerous acts of incendiarism and murder. Admittance was gained into the City, and the work of devastation commenced. One of the divisions of the forces, under the command of *Wat Tyler*, was posted about West Smithfield, and terms were offered by the King similar to those which had been acceded to by the Essex division. These, however, were not satisfactory to the rebellious chief, who was in consequence invited to conference with the King at *Smithfield*, to which place he marched his confederates, consisting of from twenty to thirty thousand. The moment *Wat Tyler* caught sight of the King, in *Smithfield*, he left his companions, whom he ordered to halt, “and setting spurs to his horse stopped not till he touched the croupier of the King's horse,” whom he rudely accosted; and his general demeanour was so insolent and overbearing, that the King's attendants suggested the propriety of

having him arrested. In order to put this bold design into execution in the face of a hostile force which outnumbered the Royal party, as hundreds to units, the Lord Mayor WALWORTH, as magistrate of the jurisdiction, was ordered to execute it. This, on the impetus of the moment, he dauntlessly performed, by striking Tyler heavily on the head with his sword, causing the traitor to stagger and fall from his horse, who was soon despatched by the attendants, and the body thrown into the Hospital of St. Bartholomew. At the sight of their chieftain's death, the rebels furiously exclaimed, "Our captain is murdered, let us revenge his death," and immediately bent their bows. The King, with an extraordinary presence of mind in a youth of fifteen, boldly dashed forward with his horse, crying out, "*What, my friends! will you kill your King? Be not troubled for the loss of your leader, I will be your captain, and grant what you desire.*" This heroic conduct seems to have awed the rebels into temporary submission, and they passively followed the King to St. George's-fields. In the meantime, the mayor and alderman *Philpot*, assisted by aldermen *Brembre* and *Laund*, raised on the moment one thousand citizens completely armed, and sent them so expeditiously, under the guidance of Sir Robert Knowles, to the King's assistance, that the rebels threw down their arms and sued for mercy. *Jack Straw*, who was second in command, previously to his execution confessed, that it had been resolved by him and his accomplices to sack and burn the City on the evening of the very day in which Wat Tyler was killed, and to have murdered all the nobility and principal citizens. We have thus minutely recounted this insurrection, so celebrated in English history, as it places the gallant behaviour of the London citizens in a brilliant light, reflecting on them a blaze of glory which will gild their memory to the latest posterity. The Lord Mayor, *William Walworth*,

with the aldermen *Philpot*, *Brembre*, and *Laund*, were meritoriously knighted, and the Mayor was further rewarded with a fee farm-rent of 100*l.* per annum, and the other aldermen with 40*l.* annually, and Sir William Walworth's memory has been perpetuated in the name of a suburban village which gave him birth.

An erroneous opinion has become prevalent that the dagger, represented in the City armorial bearings, was granted as an honorary distinction by Richard in commemoration of the heroic action of the Mayor; but it appears that in the fourth year of the King's reign, and a year previous to the insurrection, it was agreed and ordained, at a full assembly in the upper chamber of Guildhall, that the ancient seal of office being deemed too small and unbecoming the dignity of the City, a new one should be adopted, "made in a more masterly manner, in which, besides the images of *St. Peter* and *St. Paul*, was placed the shield of the arms of the said city well engraved, supported by two lions, and with two more on each side of the arms, and two niches containing two angels, between whom, over the images of the apostles, sate the image of the Virgin Mary." The *cross* and *sword* are therefore to be considered emblematical of *St. Paul*, and not the *dagger* of Sir William Walworth.

While descanting on the characters of the different civic dignitaries of this epoch, we must not omit eulogizing that of *Sir John Philpot*. This brave and worthy citizen fitted out a fleet at his own expense, which he manned with a thousand able seamen, taking the command himself, in order to check the piracies of a Scotch adventurer named *Mercer*, who had for some time considerably harassed the coasting trade, and captured several merchantmen. After a severe engagement, *Mercer* was defeated, and most of his vessels captured by the victorious Londoner. Again, when the Government sent a

powerful fleet and army to the assistance of the Duke of Bretagne against France, Sir John, then Lord Mayor, hired a considerable number of ships, and redeemed the armour and arms of upwards of a thousand soldiers, which they had been obliged to pawn to procure the necessaries of life. He also caused the City ditch to be cleansed, and rated each householder only at the small sum of *fivepence*. We have specified this sum, in order to show the wages given to a labourer at that time, which was the amount paid by each householder. In fact, Sir John appears to have been for many years "the pillar of the City," "the head, heart, and hand of London." His unflinching integrity in Parliament in defending the rights of his fellow-citizens, and averting the threatened innovation of their privileges, added to his indefatigable zeal in its internal good government, fully exemplified that its welfare was cherished as the dearest object of his existence.

Sir William Walworth was succeeded in the mayoralty by alderman Northampton, whose character forms a striking contrast with that of the brave and patriotic Sir John Philpot; for, though the promoter of some beneficial regulations, yet the violence of his disposition led him into seditious outrages, which ultimately caused the confiscation of his property and his perpetual imprisonment. He, succeeded, however, in a great measure, in curbing the licentiousness and immorality too prevalent among citizens; though, for his *practical ethics*, he incurred the displeasure of the clergy, who looked upon his interference as an innovation of their authority. The same motives, however, instigated him as those which induced the magistrates at a later period of the reign to take the punishment of the various immoral transgressions into their own hands, in consequence of the negligence and partiality of the clergy and spiritual courts, "who connived at licentiousness for a bribe."



J. Woods sc.

J. Sadler del.

THE UPPER POOL.

In 1383 a gleam of joy burst forth amidst the gloom and oppression which were rising on the horizon of the City's prospects: Richard, at the recommendation of his Parliament, confirmed all former charters and grants, professing to hold inviolate the rights and liberties of the citizens. But, notwithstanding this solemn contract, the Constable of the Tower shortly afterwards succeeded in establishing his right of dues on certain commodities entering the port of London; such as possession of all craft found adrift between London-bridge and Gravesend, all swans and stray animals floating past the Tower, &c., which proved a constant subject of irritation even so late as the reign of James the First, when the custom was abrogated. About this time Richard fixed the prices of Rhenish, Gascoigne, and Spanish wines at 6*d.* per gallon in London and other towns, and if sent into the country, the price was not to be raised more than a halfpenny per gallon for every fifty miles of land-carriage. In 1386 the walls had become considerably dilapidated, and houses on the exterior were built contiguous to them. On an anticipated invasion from France by Charles the Sixth, the walls were ordered to be repaired, the houses pulled down, and the ditch cleansed; but on the alarm subsiding, the work of reparation was discontinued.

The extravagance of the King was now becoming unbounded, and his Court was unrivalled in splendour. He is said to have maintained six thousand persons daily in his palace; some authorities enumerate them at ten thousand. His whole establishment of *cooks*, at the different Royal residences, is reported to have been two thousand; and some appeared to have been deeply versed in the *gastronomic art*, as is instanced in a curious work entitled the "Forme of Cury," compiled about 1390 by the master-cooks of this luxurious monarch, in which are preserved recipes for the most ex-

quisite dishes of the age. In order to obtain resources to meet his enormous expenses, infringements, as usual, were made on the privileges of the citizens under the most frivolous pretexts; remonstrances were construed into presumption and unwarrantable questioning of the supreme pleasure and authority of the Crown, and mulcts and extortions ensued, even to the forcing some of the eminent citizens to sign and seal blank papers, which were afterwards filled up with sums that were found suitable to the convenience of the Court. Such is a specimen of the "good olden times," which ought to make the citizens reckon, beyond all price, the constitutional liberty they now enjoy. At this crisis of the nation, we behold the London merchants standing forth in bold relief in this dreary picture of the people's wrongs, stern and inflexible as mediators, not only for their brother citizens, but between the kingdom's grievances and the oppressive acts of a vicious Government. *Sir Simon Sudbury*, with a deputation of London and provincial citizens, sought an audience of the King at Windsor, and represented, in nervous but respectful language, the gross abuses under which his subjects laboured, begging the speedy summoning of a Parliament to redress the evils. The King at first gave an evasive answer, which called forth the following spirited ebullition of a frank remonstrance:—"With humble submission to his Majesty, justice was never less practised in England than at present, and that by the subtle management of certain persons it was impossible for him to come at the truth of things, seeing the ministers found it their interest to conceal from him the management of his affairs; in consideration of which they (the citizens) did not think it consistent with their interest, nor that of the kingdom, to wait the meeting of Parliament, seeing a speedier remedy might be applied, by calling to account those individuals who had plundered and embezzled

the public treasure, and to inquire how these immense sums, raised for nine years past, had been applied; and that all those who could not discharge themselves honourably, and had misbehaved themselves in the administration of public affairs, should stand to the judgment of Parliament and have substituted in their stead men of worth and probity." The King, surprised at the confident tone and character of this speech, turned for advice to his uncles and brother, the Duke of York, and other nobles, who all declared, that they saw nought unreasonable in this demand of the commonalty of his realms, and a Parliament was, in consequence, appointed to meet at Westminster to inquire into the state of the nation. In order, however, to avoid this Parliamentary investigation, the King, urged by his two designing and unprincipled favourites, Robert De Vere, created Duke of Ireland, and Michael de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, and Chancellor, removed the Court to Bristol. These two minions, unsatisfied with the influence they already possessed, and fearful that they would not totally engross the Royal ear during the life of the King's uncle, Thomas, Duke of Gloucester, who had deservedly obtained the confidence of many of the citizens, entered into a conspiracy to assassinate the Duke and other parties of eminence attached to his person. To this purpose, they hinted the subject to Alderman Exton, then Mayor, suggesting the feasibility of the plan, by inviting the Duke and his friends to sup at the house of Sir Nicholas Brembre, the late Mayor, who had filled the office two successive years,* and

* A striking instance of the influence which the principal, or as they were termed, "the great companies," had now obtained in the government of the City, appears in their compelling, in 1385, the return for two successive years of Sir Nicholas Brembre, *Grocer*, as Mayor of London, in opposition to the whole of the freemen. This curious civic incident is thus recorded in the "Chronicle of London." "Also this yere Sir Nicholl

who sided with the conspirators; it being suggested that when the wine had circulated freely, the Duke and the whole of his company might be readily despatched. This traitorous knight, Sir Nicholas, on the success of the plot was to have been created Duke of London, but instead of this honorary *elevation*, he was soon afterwards *exalted* on a gallows at Tyburn. Alderman Exton, in silent astonishment, listened to the proposal, but revolting at so foul a deed, immediately informed the Duke of Gloucester, which led to an open rupture between the Court party and the Duke and citizens. De Vere was despatched by the King to Wales to raise a Welsh army to reduce the Londoners, and his Royal relatives, to submission. He soon succeeded in mustering a force of 15,000 men, at the head of which he marched towards the metropolis. The Londoners, however, were not supine; they also assembled a considerable army, which, under the guidance of the Duke of Gloucester, marched to Oxford, where they met the King's troops, whom they completely routed. This perfidious attempt against the lives and liberties of the inhabitants of London, lost Richard the affections of the citizens, and laid the foundation of those commotions which deprived him of his sceptre and life; and he acquired too late the fatal knowledge, how dangerous to the stability of his throne was the open hostility of the citizens of London.

About 1389, the number of British merchants trading to, and residing in the ports of Prussia and other hanse-towns, had so greatly augmented, and the ramifications of the com-

Brembre was chosen Maire agene, be the said craftes and by men of the contre at Harowe, and the contre there aboughte, and *not be free eleccion of the Citee of London, as it ourth to be*: and the oolde halle was stuffed with men of armes overe even, be ordinaunce and assente of Sir N. Brembre for to chose hym Maire on the morowe: and so he was."

mercial proceedings of London had become so extensive, that Richard confirmed the election of *John Babys*, merchant of London, to be governor of all the merchants of England in the foreign "lands, places, and dominions specified;" an honourable office which was nearly similar to that which bears the more modern designation of consul-general. In 1391 a dearth occurring, and wheat advancing to 16s. 8d. per quarter, the Mayor, Adam Bamme, and other aldermen, by their prompt and charitable conduct, attained a high degree of popularity, by subscribing a sum of money and taking from the "Orphans' Fund" two thousand marks, with which they purchased corn abroad; and this seasonable importation effectually relieved the wants of the poor.* In 1394 the graziers resorting to Smithfield complained to the Privy Council of the extortion of the City officers, who, in many instances, demanded from them a toll of every *third beast* they brought to market. The Mayor and Sheriffs were summoned to answer the allegations, and a discontinuance of the imposition was ordered.

At the close of the previous and commencement of the present reign, we begin to discern a separation of the wealthier from the more indigent guilds, or such as sent most members to the Common Council and paid the highest *fermes*; namely, the Merchant Tailors, Vintners, Skinners, Fishmongers, Mercers, Grocers, Goldsmiths, Drapers, and such others as may be assumed constituted the "THIRTEEN MYS-

* Stow and Fuller eulogize also Sir Stephen Brown, who, during a great dearth in his mayoralty in 1438, charitably relieved the wants of the poor citizens, by sending ships, at his own expense, to Danzig, which returned laden with *rye*, and which soon depressed grain to reasonable rates. "He is beheld as one of the first merchants who, during a want of corn, showed the Londoners the way to the barn-door, prompted by charity, not covetousness, to this adventure."

TERIES," and which, from the time of Richard the Second, we always find alluded to with some epithet implying *superiority*. Though evidently of less public importance in the earlier stages of society than the Weavers, Saddlers, Bakers, and the guilds previously alluded to, the fraternities above-named, as luxury and commerce advanced, comprised the chief mercantile staple and manufacturing interests of the kingdom, at the same time that they had enrolled among their body the principal citizens.

Having now arrived at the period in which the companies may be said to have become fully established, as the enrolment of their charters was made imperative by Richard the Second, we have enumerated the forty-eight "several mysteries" from which the common-councilmen were first chosen; and though the *thirteen mysteries* were not then specified, yet, in all probability, they comprised the present "twelve great companies," which we have inserted in italics among the subjoined list. The order in which they stand denotes their rank of precedency in our times; a knotty point of etiquette, which led to much animosity and dispute, and remained unsettled till the reign of Henry the Eighth.

<i>Mercers</i> , incorporated 1393,		<i>Tailors</i> , or <i>Merchant Tailors</i> ,
<i>Grossers</i> , or <i>Grocers</i> , do. 1345,		incorporated 1466,
<i>Drapers</i> , do. 1439,		<i>Haberdashers</i> , do. 1447,
<i>Fishmongers</i> ,* do. 1536,		<i>Salters</i> , do. 1558,
<i>Goldsmiths</i> , do. 1392,		<i>Ironmongers</i> , do. 1462,
<i>Skinners</i> , do. 1327,		<i>Vintners</i> , do. 1437,

* The dealers in fish consisted originally of salt-fish and stock-fishmongers; the former were incorporated in 1433 and the latter in 1569, but the division proving prejudicial to the trade, they were united and incorporated in the reign of Henry the Eighth, 1536.

<i>Clothworkers</i> , incorp. 1482,	Ale Brewers,
Saddlers,	Hatters,
Weavers,	Smiths,
Tapestry Weavers,	Horners,
Leathersellers,	Masons,
Founders,	Leather-dressers,
Joiners,	Armourers,
Chandlers,	Butchers,
Fullers,	Cutlers,
Curriers,	Spurriers,
Freemasons,	Plumbers,
Brewers,	Wax Chandlers,
Fletchers,*	Barbers,
Bakers,	Painters,
Girdlers,	Tanners,
Stainers,	Pouchmakers,
Braziers,	Woodsawyers, and Dealers,
Cappers,	Pinner.
Pewterers,	

It may be observed, that from these “*twelve companies*” the Lord Mayor was for centuries *exclusively* chosen. None of the lists of Lord Mayors, in the ancient histories of London, afford a single instance to the contrary, from *Fitzalwin* to *Sir Robert Wilmot*. Only the wardens of these “great companies” were allowed to attend the Lord Mayor, as chief-butler at coronations. The “twelve” alone (with the single exception of the armourers), had the honour of enrolling the Sovereign amongst their members, and generally entertaining foreign princes and ambassadors: they took precedence in all civic triumphs; they occupied the chief standings in all State processions through the City; they alone of the companies

* Bówyers and Fletchers are, respectively, manufacturers of bows and arrows

contributed to repair the City walls; and lastly (not to mention various other proofs which might be adduced), they were the companies who were always the most largely assessed in all levies for the Government or the City. The common opinion, therefore, that the Lord Mayor must be a member of one of these companies, is indisputably founded on prescriptive right and usage. It was in 1742, that Sir Robert Wilmot, just mentioned, was sworn Lord Mayor, notwithstanding that he was not so qualified, and that upon the advice of counsel, who said there was no law for it. His lordship was of the Coopers' Company, and would have been translated to the Clothworkers' (which is one of the twelve), but his admission being carried only by a small majority, and they, at the same time, refusing him their hall, he resolved to give them no farther trouble. It is now understood, that being free of one of the twelve companies is only necessary to qualify the Lord Mayor for President of the Irish Society.

It is but candid, in conclusion, to remark that, notwithstanding the ancient rank of the "twelve companies," many of the others are, on various accounts, of equal or superior importance. The *Weavers* and *Sadlers* claim precedence as to antiquity; the *Stationers*, besides their growing wealth and extensive concerns, rank high as a rich, commercial, and working company. The *Dyers* once took precedence of the clothworkers. The *Brewers* are distinguished for their ancient and very curious records; and yield on that point, perhaps, only to the *Leathersellers*, who, at their elegant modern hall in St. Helen's-place, have some matchless charters, as regards embellishment, and the most ornamentally written "wardens' accounts" of any extant. Various others might be included in this list as equally worthy of observation. -- *Herbert's History of the Twelve Companies.*



THE PATENT FLAT COMPANY

Having displayed somewhat in detail such important events as are connected with the early history of our great metropolis, it now becomes necessary to sketch with a more rapid pen the successive scenes which may lead to a contemporaneous period. London, as she has hitherto been seen, stands forth as the mighty heart of a mighty empire; but, her pre-eminent greatness, her glory as the first city of the first nation of the earth, has yet to be shown.

Richard the Second, having rendered himself odious to his subjects, Henry, Duke of Hereford, son of John of Gaunt, late Duke of Lancaster, was invited to ascend the throne of England; and the person of the unfortunate monarch having been seized, Henry was crowned on the 13th of October, 1399, in Westminster Abbey. On the discovery soon afterwards of a plot by certain of the nobility to assassinate King Henry, Richard was sent from the castle of Leeds, in Kent, to that of Pontefract, in Yorkshire, where he was murdered in his chamber by Sir Piers Exton, and a gang of assistant ruffians.

Henry the Fourth, on the day of his coronation, was attended from the Tower of London to Westminster, by the mayor and aldermen; and the King, to evince his great affection towards the citizens, caused all the blank charters that had been extorted from them in the late reign, to be burnt at the standard in Cheapside. Certain statutes of Edward the Third, which were deemed rather oppressive, were also repealed; an extension of privilege to merchants, relative to the package of goods, was granted; and the provision-markets, especially those for fish, were subjected to various salutary regulations.

Henry, though crowned, was not yet firmly seated on his throne. A little before Christmas, a conspiracy was formed by the Abbot of Westminster, in which, besides the Dukes

of Albemarle, Surrey, and Exeter, the Earls of Gloucester and Salisbury, and others, the King's own son was implicated. In crushing this conspiracy, or rather in quelling the rebellion to which it gave rise, the citizens of London rendered excellent service to their Sovereign; and, in return, they were favoured in the following year (1401) with a new charter, which conferred upon the corporation and their successors for ever, the custody of Newgate and Ludgate, and of all the gates and posterns in the City, with various other privileges. In this same year, the prison called the Tun, in Cornhill, was converted into a cistern or conduit for Tyburn water: on one side of it was erected a cage, with a pair of stocks over it, for the punishment of night-walkers; also a pillory for the exhibition of cheating bakers and thievish millers.

About the year 1404, the woollen-manufacture was rapidly becoming the staple of the country; and a law was passed that all woollen cloths made in London should have a leaden seal affixed to each piece to distinguish them from those of inferior texture, and prevent imposition in the sale. Two years afterwards, an English mercantile company, denominated "The Brotherhood of St. Thomas à Beckett," which had been established towards the close of the thirteenth century, received a charter of confirmation, under which it long flourished.

The year 1407 is memorable for a dreadful and destructive plague which raged in London, and carried off thirty thousand of its inhabitants; by which corn became so cheap that wheat was sold at three shillings and fourpence the quarter. Six years afterwards, it was sold at sixteen shillings the quarter.

In 1410, two of the King's sons, the princes Thomas and John, were engaged in so serious a tumult in Eastcheap, that the Mayor, Sheriffs, and other citizens, found it necessary to repair to the spot. The case was investigated by commis-

sioners, and the King was satisfied that the citizens had acted with a most laudable spirit.

It was in March, this year, that John Bradly, or Badly, a tailor, and follower of the doctrines of Wicklyffe, was convicted before Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury, of heresy, and burnt to ashes in a cask in Smithfield. Henry, Prince of Wales, was present at the execution, and would have saved him; but the Prince's offer was resolutely rejected by the determined martyr.

Amongst other remarkable events of this reign, may be mentioned the erection of the Guildhall, by Sir Thomas Knowles, Lord Mayor, in 1411; and the rebuilding of a market-house, called the Stocks, on the site of the present Mansion House.

Henry the Fifth, soon after his accession to the throne, achieved the glorious victory of Agincourt. On Lord Mayor's day, 1415, Nicholas Watton was on his way to Westminster to qualify himself for the office of Mayor, when he received the news of this event by a King's messenger. Returning from Westminster, accompanied by the Bishop of Winchester, the Lord High Chancellor, &c., he repaired to St. Paul's cathedral, where *Te Deum* was sung with great solemnity. On the day following, a pompous and solemn procession was performed by the Queen, nobility, clergy, mayor, aldermen, and the several corporations of the City, on foot, from St. Paul's to Westminster, where the assemblage made a great oblation at the shrine of St. Edward, and then returned to the City in triumph. On his Majesty's return from France, with numbers of the French nobility as his prisoners, he was met on Blackheath by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs of London in their robes, attended by three hundred of the principal citizens, mounted on stately horses richly accoutred. On that day the City conduits ran with various sorts of wine

for the entertainment of the populace; and altogether the procession and triumph were of a description never surpassed for magnificence in London. The expense of the expedition to France, however, had been so enormous, that, in addition to the sum granted by Parliament, the King found himself obliged to pawn his crown to the Bishop of Winchester for twenty thousand marks, and his jewels to the citizens of London, for one thousand.

The reign of Henry the Fifth was a flourishing period for the City. A new gate was built leading to the waste in Finsbury-manor, since called Moorfields; Holborn was then first paved; and lanterns were first hung out for illuminating the streets by night, for the convenience and safety of the citizens. In 1419, Sir Simon Eyre built Leadenhall at his own expense, and gave it to the City to be used as a public granary against a time of scarcity.

The following anecdote forms a curious but rather painful illustration of the manners of the period. Inflamed, as it is said, by an ancient grudge respecting precedence, the ladies Grange and Trussel never met without a quarrel ensuing. The church itself was not proof against their violence. Being in a pew in the church of St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, they so imperiously vied for superiority, and became so shamefully outrageous, that their husbands, the Lord Grange and Mr. Trussel, became engaged in the quarrel. To revenge the presumed indignity offered to each other's wife, they drew their swords; and, refusing to listen to any terms of accommodation, they in the affray killed Thomas Petwarden, a fishmonger, and wounded several other persons. They were both, in consequence, apprehended, and committed to the Poultry Compter. Soon afterwards, they were excommunicated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in St. Paul's Church, and by his order, in all the parish churches in

London: nor were they absolved till due submission had been made both to the church in which the murder was committed, and to the widow of Mr. Petwarden. After due inquisition, made into the affair, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Grange and his lady were convicted as the culpable parties.

A more gracious act was that of Sir Robert Chichly, Lord Mayor, who, by his will, appointed that, annually, on his birthday, a sufficient dinner should be given to two thousand four hundred poor citizens, with twopence to each in money.

On the demise of Henry the Fifth (August 31, 1422), his son, then only eight months old, was raised to the throne as Henry the Sixth, under the protectorship of his uncles, the Dukes of Gloucester and Bedford; and, on the 14th of November following, he was carried on his mother's lap, in an open chair, through the City in great state, to the Parliament of Westminster, where his accession was duly recognized. Thus, at the commencement of his reign, appearances were eminently auspicious, until a dangerous quarrel occurred between the Duke of Gloucester, Protector, and the turbulent Bishop of Winchester, afterwards Cardinal Beaufort, which had nearly proved fatal to the City, and involved the whole nation in blood. The Protector having received intelligence of the bishop's design to surprise the City of London, while the citizens should be engaged in feasting on the Lord Mayor's night (1426), he held a secret conference with John de Coventry, the Mayor; and, by the active exertions of that officer, the bishop's faction was, on the following morning, repelled in its attempt to force the City, from Southwark, and the insurrection was quelled without the effusion of blood. However, as it was found impracticable to effect a reconciliation between the Protector and the bishop, the Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, and brother of the Protector, came over to England with the view of interposing

his good offices. The mayor and aldermen, members of the nobility, and many of the more distinguished citizens, met him in state at Merton, and conducted him to and through the City to Westminster. On the day following, they presented him with a thousand marks in gold, in two silver-gilt basins.

About this time water conduits were first erected at Billingsgate, Paul's Wharf, and St. Giles's, Cripplegate, for supplying those neighbourhoods with water. In after times, it became customary, upon great occasions, to inscribe the City conduits with moral couplets; such, for instance, as

"Life is a drop, a sparkle, a span,
A bubble: yet how proude is man."

In 1426, Sir John Rainwell, then Mayor, having detected great malpractices amongst the Lombard merchants, in the adulteration of their wines, caused a hundred and fifty butts of the commodity to be staved in the kennels. It is said to have "emitted such a very noxious smell, that it infected the air to a great degree." Sir John gave certain lands and tenements for the payment of Parliamentary taxes, for the relief of the poor in the wards of Aldgate, Bishopsgate, and Dowgate.

The citizens appear to have forgotten the outrages which they had experienced at the hands of the proud Bishop of Winchester; as, on the return of that prelate from France, in the character of cardinal, they met him on his approach to London, and conducted him in great state to his palace in Southwark.

Feudal tyranny may be said to have received its death-blow in the metropolis in the year 1428. The express law of Edward the Confessor, entitling London to the privilege of conferring liberty on *servants* (*i. e. slaves*) who should have resided for a year and a day in the City unreclaimed by their



THE LATE
ROYAL EXCHANGE
AND
TOWNHALL

lords, was solemnly recognized and confirmed, and extended to all other cities, walled boroughs, and castles in the realm. An odious statute, imposed in the reign of Henry the Fourth, enacted, "That no person whatever, not possessed of land to the annual amount of twenty shillings, should be at liberty to put out a child or children as apprentice to any trade; and the tradesman taking such unqualified person as an apprentice to any trade was subjected to a grievous penalty. This was repealed.

In the same year, the stately palace called Baynard's Castle was destroyed by fire; but it was soon afterwards rebuilt in a more magnificent style by "the good Duke Humphrey of Gloucester."*

* Castle Baynard, whence the ward or aldermanry in which it was situated took its name, was one of the two castles built on the west-end of the City with walls and ramparts, as mentioned by Fitzstephen. It received its denomination from Ralph Baynard, a follower of William the Conqueror, who, at the general survey, possessed many other lordships in England. His descendant, Henry Baynard, having taken part with Helias, Earl of Mayne, who endeavoured to rob Henry the First of his Norman possessions, that Monarch confiscated Baynard's lordships, and deprived him of his barony, which he bestowed on Robert Fitz-Richard, grandson of Gilbert, Earl of Clare, who gave to him also the barony of Dunmow, in Essex. (For an interesting incident connected with the history of this castle, *vide* page 83.) The Fitz-Richard or Fitz-Walter family continued in high honour and reputation till the reign of Henry the Sixth, when the male branch having become extinct, Anne, the daughter and heiress, married into the Ratcliffe family, in which the title of Fitz-Walter was revived. In right of the castle, this family held the office of castellan and standard-bearer of the City of London. How the castle came into the hands of the Crown, has not been ascertained. On the death of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, by whom it was rebuilt after its destruction by fire, it was granted by Henry the Sixth to his cousin Richard, Duke of York, who lodged here during the convention of the great men of the kingdom, preparatory to the civil wars which followed. It was in this castle that Edward, Duke of York, assumed

On the 21st of February, 1431, Henry the Sixth, returning from having been crowned at Paris, was met at Blackbeath by the Mayor and Corporation of London, in a grand procession of state, and conducted by them to the City, where he was received and entertained in a style of the utmost pomp and magnificence. On this occasion, the City was decorated with costly silks and carpets; and on the bridge and streets through which the cavalcade passed, were seen a variety of gorgeous pageants, with persons representing the Loves, Graces, and Sciences. These, by their studied orations and minstrelsy, contributed largely to the splendour and excitement of the scene. Two days afterwards, the Mayor and aldermen attended the young King at Westminster, and presented him with a golden basket containing 1,000*l.* in nobles.

At this period, water was conducted from Tyburn to the Standard in Cheapside, at the expense of Sir John Wells, the late Mayor.

In 1434, so early as the 24th of November, a great frost the title and dignity of King, in 1460. Richard the Third assumed the same dignities in Baynard Castle; and there it was that he received his minion Buckingham, by whom he was afterwards deserted. The castle was substantially repaired by Henry the Seventh, who converted it from a fortress to a palace; frequently resided within its walls, and hence made several of his solemn progresses. At a subsequent period it was the residence of Sir William Sydney, chamberlain and steward to Edward the Sixth. Here the "bloody Queen Mary" maintained her right to the Crown of England, and hence her partizans issued to proclaim her title. The castle was at that time the residence and property of William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, a particular favourite of Mary's. Queen Elizabeth did that Earl the honour to sup with him; after which she went upon the water to show herself to the people. The last inhabitants of the castle were the Earls of Shrewsbury and their families, who resided in it till it again became a prey to the flames in the conflagration of 1666. It gives the name to the most wealthy and respectable ward in the City of London.

set in, and continued till the 10th of February following, whereby the Thames was so intensely frozen, that all sorts of merchandize and provisions brought into the mouth of the river were unladen and brought by land to the City. The preceding autumn had been remarkably wet; and, in consequence, the corn was greatly damaged, a dearth ensued, and wheat was sold at the excessive rate of 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per quarter. Four years afterwards, the harvest again suffered so much by storms of wind and rain, that wheat once more, in London, reached the same enormous price; and in many parts of the country the poor were reduced to the necessity of making bread from fern-roots and ivy-berries. Speedy relief, however, was obtained by the exertions of Stephen Brown, the Mayor, in sending ships to Prussia for a supply of rye.

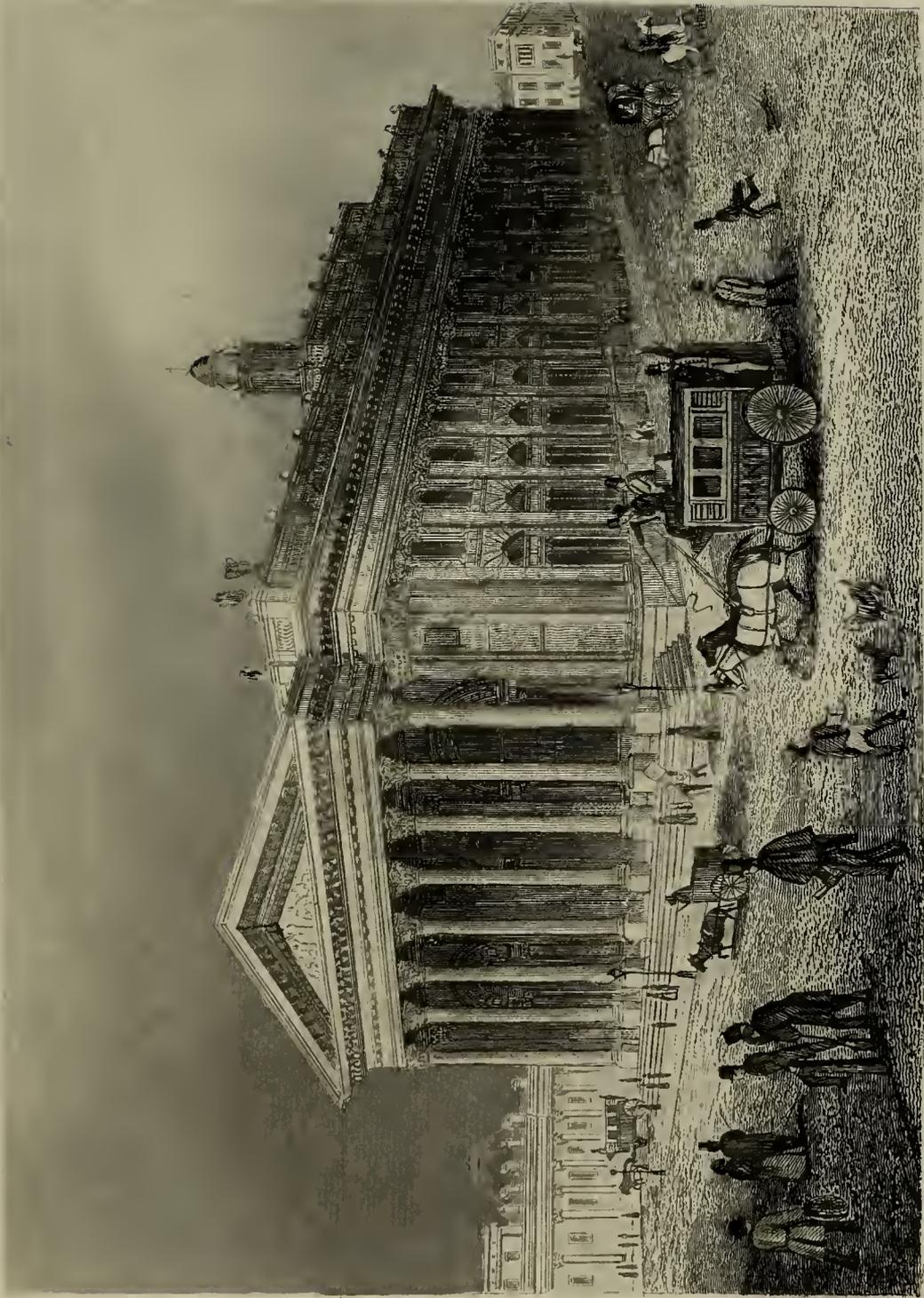
Philip, Duke of Burgundy, having perfidiously broken his alliance with the English, many of his unoffending subjects were, in 1435, murdered by the Londoners. In the following year, favouring his new ally, the French King, he commenced the seige of Calais; when the citizens of London distinguished themselves not only by getting ready their quota of troops within the time prescribed, but also by maintaining them at their own expense. On the arrival of the English force in the neighbourhood of Calais, the Burgundians, intimidated, raised the siege, and precipitately fled.

Philip Malpas, one of the sheriffs in 1440, proved a munificent benefactor to the City. He left, by his will, 12*l.* for the relief of poor prisoners; and every year, for five years, 400 shirts and shifts, 40 pairs of sheets, and 150 gowns of frieze to the poor. To 500 poor people in London 6*s.* 8*d.* each; to poor maids in marriage 100 marks; to the repair of highways 100 marks; 20 marks a-year for a graduate to preach; and 20*l.* to preachers at the Spital on the three

Easter holydays. In these charities, which were truly great at the time, he was imitated by Robert Large, Mayor in the same year, who gave 200*l.* to his parish church of St. Olave's, in Surrey; 25*l.* to St. Margaret's, Lothbury; 20*l.* to the poor; 100 marks to the bridge; 200 marks towards the vaulting over the water-course of Wallbrook; to poor maids in marriage, 100 marks; to poor householders, 100 marks, &c.

The ignorance and superstitious feeling of the times are shown by the following incident. In 1440, Sir Richard Wick, Vicar of Hermetsworth, in Essex, was burnt on Tower-hill for his reputed heretical opinions. Regarded by the people as a pious and holy man, the vicar of Barking Church, in that neighbourhood, a fraudulent and covetous priest, embraced the opportunity to impose upon the credulous multitude. Mixing ashes with the powder of aromatic spices, he secretly strewed them over the place where the martyr had been sacrificed, and then industriously reported the pretended miracle of the fragrantcy of the dust. This immediately produced the effect required; the people in crowds hurried from all parts to the place of execution; and, finding the scent of the ashes in accordance with the report, they tumultuously arraigned the justice of the judges, for condemning a holy man. By the address and management of the crafty priest, the people were inadvertently led into idolatry; great numbers resorted to the spot, invoked the departed as a saint, and profusely offered at his shrine large sums of money, waxen images, &c. This farcical proceeding was kept up for about a week, to the no small profit of the priest, when, by an order from the Government, the Mayor and aldermen apprehended the author of the fraud, and many of his dupes, and committed them to prison.

In 1441, the beautiful cross which had been erected at



THE NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE.

the western end of Cheapside, or, as it was then called, Westcheap, by King Edward the First, in pious and affectionate remembrance of his beloved Queen Eleanor, in the year 1290, having fallen into decay, John Hatherly, the Mayor, applied to the King for permission "to re-edify the same in a more beautiful manner, by way of ornament to the City." Upon the exact size of this cross (demolished in 1581), a standard for the protection of the public in crossing the end of Cheapside has recently been erected. The first stone was laid on the 28th of May, 1838, by Mr. Westwood, the deputy of the north-side of the Ward of Farringdon Within. It is a plain shaft of granite, slender and tasteless in form, and too small for the area of which it forms the centre.* In digging for its foundation some antique remains were discovered.

Margaret, daughter of Rayner, Duke of Anjou, and titular King of Sicily, Naples, and Jerusalem, newly espoused to King Henry, was, on her way to London, 1445, met at Blackheath by the Mayor, corporation, and chief citizens, and conducted into the City with a degree of pomp and splendour almost equal to that with which her royal husband had been received on his return from having been crowned at Paris. Some time afterwards the King made the Queen a present of ten pounds per annum out of the profits arising from the *ripæ reginæ*, or Queen Hithe, in Thames-street.

The union of Henry with Margaret of Anjou was far from proving a happy event for the country. The imbecility of the King soon became notorious; the Queen and her minions

* The following inscription, placed in a glass vessel, was laid under the basement-stone:—"Farringdon Ward Within, North side. The first stone of this standard, erected by the Honourable the Commissioners of Sewers and Pavements, for the protection of the public, was laid on Monday, the 28th day of May, 1838, by Robert Westwood, Deputy. The Right Worshipful Thomas Kelly, Esq., Alderman."

usurped all power and authority; unusual discontent and tumult prevailed. Margaret, with Cardinal Beaufort, and the Dukes of Somerset, Suffolk, and Buckingham, had succeeded in accomplishing the ruin and death of that worthy and patriotic nobleman, the Duke of Gloucester. In revenge, the people of Kent had seized and beheaded the Queen's favourite, the Duke of Suffolk. Margaret's rage became boundless, and led the way to an insurrection so formidable as to shake the kingdom to its very centre. The Duke of York regarded this as a favourable time for making an effort to obtain the Crown. Having sounded the inclinations of the people, he found a suitable tool in the person of Jack Cade, a ruffianly Irishman, who, for his crimes, had been compelled to flee from his country. Nor from his own country alone; for, in the preceding year he had murdered a woman in a state of pregnancy, in England. For this offence he took sanctuary in a church, but having, through the interest of friends, obtained leave to transport himself, he went over to France. His restless spirit, however, induced a speedy return to his country, when he became known to the Duke of York. He is said to have borne a strong personal resemblance to John Mortimer, a prince of the blood, of the family of March, who was beheaded in the early part of the reign. Assuming to be Mortimer himself, Jack Cade went into Kent, where, under the pretext of reforming abuses in the Government, and of liberating the people from all taxation, he soon found himself at the head of an extensive rabblement force, with which he marched back towards London. At Blackheath he formed an encampment for a month, and established a regular communication with certain disaffected parties in the City. Horses, arms, and money, and a daily accession of force were thus obtained. The King marched against him with an army of fifteen thousand men.

The Royal force was led into ambush in the neighbourhood of Seven Oaks, and utterly defeated with great loss. Flushed with success, Cade again set out for London. At Blackheath he was met by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Duke of Buckingham, who, in the King's name, demanded his surrender. This he refused, unless Henry would come to him in person and grant all his demands. On the receipt of this intelligence, the King and Queen retired to Kenilworth Castle, leaving no troops in London but those in garrison at the Tower. Cade, upon advice of the King's flight, marched for London, and fixed his head-quarters in the White Hart Inn, Southwark. All was confusion in the City. Most of the members of the Lord Mayor's council summoned upon the emergency, were for the immediate admission of Cade; but Robert Horne, alderman and fishmonger, strenuously opposed his reception. So enraged were the rebels at this opposition, that to pacify them the Mayor was not only obliged to send Horne to Newgate, but to open the City-gates and admit them. Cade immediately issued a proclamation strictly commanding all his followers not to molest or offer any violence to the citizens, nor extort anything from them without payment upon pain of death. In his march through Cannon-street, he struck London-stone with his sword, exclaiming, "Now is Mortimer Lord of this City." He returned at night to his quarters in Southwark. Next day he caused the Lord Saye, High Treasurer of England, to be apprehended and arraigned before the Lord Mayor and Judges at Guildhall. On his refusal to plead, and insisting upon his right of peerage, Cade caused him to be taken from the bar, and instantly led to the standard in Cheapside. There, without allowing him time for confession, he had him beheaded: his head, fixed upon a spear, was carried before the rebels in triumph, and his body, at a horse's tail, was

drawn through the City, hanged upon a gibbet, and afterwards quartered. Sir James Cromer, the late Chancellor's son-in-law, and sheriff of the county of Kent, was subjected to a similar fate at Mile-end. His head, placed upon a pole, was, with that of Lord Saye, carried before Cade through the principal streets of the City, the sanguinary rebel making them, in mockery, kiss each other in every street. Cade, with the view of enriching himself, now plundered many of the chief merchants of the City. The wives and daughters of the citizens were also exposed to the brutal assaults of his rabble. These evils speedily wrought their own cure. Cade having marched into Southwark for the night, it was unanimously resolved to shut the gates and oppose his return. Attempting to force his passage over the bridge, a desperate battle, with great loss of life on both sides, ensued. In defence of the drawbridge, Sir Mathew Gough, Lieutenant of the Tower, Alderman Sutton, and many of the brave citizens, were either killed or drowned. Greatly discouraged and weakened by his loss, Cade was obliged to recruit his army with the prisoners of the King's Bench and Marshalsea. With the view of prevailing upon the people to return to their respective homes, a general pardon was now offered. This produced so sudden and wonderful an effect, that before daylight, Cade was deserted by most of his followers and left to shift for himself. Not daring to wait for the succours promised by the partisans of the Duke of York, he fled in disguise into the woody part of Sussex. A proclamation was issued by Government, offering a reward of one thousand marks for his capture dead or alive. Cade was discovered lurking in a garden at Hothfield, by Alexander Eden, or Iden, a Kentish gentleman, who, in his attempt to seize him, killed him in fight. He then put his corpse into a cart and conveyed it to London, where he received the proffered



Eng^d by I Woods

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH
FROM
CHARING CROSS.

reward. Thus, through the bravery and gallant deportment of the citizens of London, a dangerous rebellion was suppressed with slight comparative loss. In consideration of the service performed by the citizens on this trying occasion, Sir Godfrey Fielding, the Mayor, was, in 1452, appointed one of his Majesty's Privy Councillors.

In 1454, John Norman, having been chosen Mayor, changed the custom of riding to Westminster on the day of inauguration to that of proceeding thither by water. His example of building a stately barge at his own expense was followed by the several companies of the City, and the barges, all splendidly adorned and majestically floating on the stream, formed a striking aquatic spectacle. The watermen, to whom the change proved highly advantageous, were so delighted that they framed a song in praise of the new Mayor, commencing with the words, "Row thy boat, Norman, row to thy leman." The Lord Mayor's procession by water has continued to the present time. Through the influence of the bishops and clergy, numerous public schools were, in the course of the reign of Henry the Sixth, established in different parts of London. The alleged object of this was, "to check and suppress other smaller schools set up by illiterate men, who did the youth more harm than good.

The contests which had long subsisted between the clergy and laity, arising out of the power given to the curates of the City to levy certain offerings or rates, were finally and amicably adjusted in the year 1453.

From the defective state of the City police at this period, tumults were almost incessantly occurring in the streets. On one occasion, in a broil between the students of the Inns of Court and the inhabitants of Fleet-street, the Queen's attorney was killed; and, in consequence, the principals of Furnival's, Clifford's, and Barnard's-inns were committed

prisoners to Hertford Castle, and Alderman Taylor and others were committed to the Castle of Windsor.

After a long succession of civil disturbances in various parts of the kingdom, the imbecile Henry was deposed; the Earl of March, the eldest son of the Duke of York, was unanimously chosen King in his stead, under the title of Edward the Fourth; and on the 5th of March, 1461, he was proclaimed at the usual places in the City. On the same day, the new Sovereign dined at Baynard's Castle, and continued there till his army was ready to march in pursuit of his predecessor, who had fled into the north and assembled an army of sixty thousand men. How lightly human life is held by the rulers of semi-civilized states, may be estimated by the seriously-related story, that during King Edward the Fourth's stay at Baynard's Castle, "he caused Walter Walker, an eminent grocer in Cheapside, to be apprehended and tried for a few harmless words innocently spoken by him, viz., that he would make his son heir to the Crown, inoffensively meaning his own house, which had the Crown for its sign, for which *sanguinary crime* he was beheaded in Smithfield on the eighth day of his reign." A few months afterwards, a servant of the King's household had one of his hands cut off at the Standard in Cheapside for striking a man within the Palace at Westminster.

In the second year of his reign, King Edward, to evince his gratitude to the citizens of London for the many great and signal services done to him, granted them a new charter, confirming all their former liberties and free customs, and investing them with many important additional privileges.

In 1463, the Lord Mayor distinguished himself by insisting upon his right of precedency in the City. On a call of new Sergeants-at-Law, an entertainment was given by them at Ely House, Holborn, to which the Mayor and Corporation

were invited. Upon their entrance it was perceived that Baron Ruthen, the Lord High Treasurer, had assumed the seat of honour at table. The Lord Mayor insisted that at all times and upon all occasions he, as the King's representative, and in honour of his principal and Sovereign, was entitled to the pre-eminence, or most honourable place of all subjects of what denomination soever, within the City and liberties thereof. Lord Ruthen, however, refused to surrender his seat, and the Mayor and citizens, in consequence, withdrew from the hall and returned to the City. There they were sumptuously entertained by the chief magistrate.

On the night before the coronation of Queen Elizabeth, in 1465, Thomas Cook, the then Lord Mayor, had the honour of being installed a Knight of the Bath in the Tower of London. Shortly after the expiration of his mayoralty, Sir Thomas Cook, with others, was impeached of the crime of high treason. He was, in the first instance, admitted to bail, but afterwards he was arrested, committed to the Tower, his goods seized, and his wife consigned to the custody of the new Mayor. Upon his trial at Guildhall, Sir Thomas was honourably acquitted; but, through the cupidity of his prosecutors, he was detained a close prisoner till he had purchased his liberty at the exorbitant price of eight thousand pounds to the King, eight hundred marks to the Queen, and the sacrifice of immense property embezzled by the servants of his enemies, who had obtained possession of all his estates.

About this time, an alderman, for offensive language to the Mayor, and for his obstinacy in refusing to remove the noisome carcass of a dog from before his door, was fined by the Court of Aldermen in the sum of fifty pounds.

An amusing illustration of the manners of the period (1468), presents itself in the mode of punishment inflicted on some of the London jury who had been found guilty of

receiving bribes. They were sentenced to ride from Newgate to Cornhill with paper mitres upon their head; having been some time exposed, they returned in the same manner.

The Earl of Warwick having succeeded in effecting the release of King Henry from the Tower of London, where he had endured a confinement of more than six years, Henry was restored to the Crown, and Edward was declared a usurper, and with his brother, the Duke of Gloucester, attainted by Parliament in the winter of 1471. At that period the Parliament sat at St. Paul's. Violent proceedings were so much dreaded by the Lord Mayor, John Stockton, that to avoid participating in them he feigned illness, and Sir Thomas Cook (admitted to his seat and restored to his estates), sat for a considerable time as his *locum tenens*. The sanguinary conflicts which ensued were at length terminated by the death of the unfortunate Henry, and the consequent undisputed possession of the throne by Edward the Fourth.

In 1472, there being only one pair of stocks in London, the Mayor caused stocks to be erected in every ward for the more effectual punishment of vagrants; and in the following year he endeavoured to clear the City and liberties of disorderly women by means of corporal punishment and indecent exposure.

It is due to the memory of William Caxton, citizen and mercer, and to the noble and invaluable art of typography, to place his name upon record as the first English printer. Caxton, a native of Kent, was born in the year 1410. Having served his time as a mercer, he went abroad as agent to the Mercers' Company, and afterwards was taken into the suite of Margaret of York, wife of the Duke of Burgundy. Whilst residing in Flanders, he acquired a knowledge of the art of printing, and translated and printed in that country the

“Recuyell of the History of Troy.” Returning to England in 1472, he brought with him this and other printed books as specimens of his skill, and in the year following, under the patronage of Thomas Milling, Abbot of Westminster, he established a press in the Almonry, where he produced, in 1474, a little book translated from the French, called the Game at Chess. This is the first book ever printed in England.

Indefatigable in application, Caxton printed and published about fifty works, some of them large volumes, and many of them his own productions. He died in 1491.

From the autumn of 1475 to the winter of 1476, a pestilence raged in London by which an incredible number of people died. During the prevalence of this calamity, Sir Bartholomew James, the Mayor, while at his devotion in St. Paul's church, imagined himself to be insulted by Robert Byfield, one of the sheriffs. His Lordship complained to the Court of Aldermen, by which Court the sheriff was subjected to the fine of fifty pounds, to be appropriated towards the repairs of the City conduits. In 1480, the Lord Mayor and court of Aldermen fined a person named Robert Deynis twenty pounds, for presuming to marry an orphan in the City without their license.

King Edward, in 1481, obtained a loan of five thousand marks from the City; in return for which he, in the following year, gave the Mayor and Corporation a grand hunting-match in Waltham Forest. Amongst other things, he also sent two hares, six bucks, and a tun of wine for the entertainment of the Lady Mayoress and the wives of the aldermen and chief citizens.

The death of Edward the Fourth (1483)—the assumption of the Protectorate by Richard, Duke of Gloucester—his usurpation of the Crown, and alleged murder of the young

King, Edward the Fifth, and his brother, in the Tower—and his death on Bosworth-field—are matter of general rather than of local history, unless it were upon a more extended scale than the present.

Henry, Earl of Richmond, proclaimed King by his victorious army on the 22nd of August, 1485, was met at Highgate five days afterwards, by the Lord Mayor and aldermen in state, and conducted into the City. It was about the 11th of October following that that dreadful distemper denominated the sweating sickness, first began to rage in London. Amongst the incredible numbers who were rapidly carried off by this terrific scourge were the new Mayor, Thomas Hyde, and his immediate successor Sir William Stokker, and one of the sheriffs; so that, in this year, the City had three mayors and three sheriffs. So strict were the citizens at this period, to exclude all foreign interest, that, in the mayoralty of Nicholas Exton (1456) it was renewed and confirmed, by a clause in the oath prescribed to every freeman at the time he was made free, that he should “take none apprentice, but if he be free-born, that is to say, no bondman’s son, nor the son of any alien.” Two years afterwards, very salutary regulations were passed (and it would be well could they be renewed) prohibiting, under penalties, the slaughter of cattle within the walls of the City.

Henry the Seventh, who, throughout his reign, extorted large sums from the City, in the form of loans, benevolences, &c., gave a grand Christmas banquet to the Mayor and Corporation, at Westminster, in 1493. On this occasion, he conferred the honour of knighthood on Ralph Austrey, the Mayor.

In 1498, many beautiful gardens at Finsbury were converted into a spacious field for the use of the London archers, or, trained-bands. Portions of this site are now occupied by



ROYAL EXCHANGE.

DESTROYED BY FIRE JANUARY 10TH 1838

what is termed the Artillery-ground, and by an extensive burial-place for Dissenters.

The prices of provisions, at successive periods, are not without interest. In the year of the sweating sickness, such was the dearth that wheat was sold at 24s. the quarter; in 1493, it had fallen to 4s., and pickled herrings might be purchased at 3s. 4d. per barrel; in 1499, wheat was at the same low price, wine was sold at 10s. per hogshead, and bay-salt at 4d. per bushel. The consumption of the City must have been soon afterwards reduced; as, in 1500, from 20,000 to 30,000 of its inhabitants were carried off by the plague.

Amongst the improvements of the metropolis, in the reign of Henry the Seventh, it may be mentioned that, in 1502, Fleet-ditch, the remains of the old river of Wells, was scoured down to the Thames; so that it was rendered navigable for large boats, laden with fuel, fish, &c., up to Old-bourne, or Holborn-bridge. Excepting as a common-sewer, all traces of this "old river" are now extinct. About the same time, Houndsditch, which, till then, had been a noisome receptacle of carrion and all sorts of filth, was carried up and paved over.*

* Edric, the Saxon thane, who assassinated his Sovereign, Edmund Ironside, after losing him a battle by treachery, was drawn by the heels from Baynard's Castle through the City, and thrown into Houndsditch, by command of King Canute, after he had been tormented to death by burning torches.—BRAYLEY'S *Londiniana*, vol. iv., p. 35. From time immemorial, Houndsditch appears to have been inhabited by much the same class of people as at present; Jews, pawnbrokers, usurers, dealers in old clothes, &c. Stow observes that, "towards the street, were some small cottages, of two stories high, and little garden plots backward, for poor bedrid people, for in that street dwelt none other, builded by some prior of the Holy Trinity, to whom that ground belonged." Anthony Munday, in his additions to Stow, speaks of the "unconscionable broking usurers, a base kind of vermin," who had crept into Houndsditch, and were both the "discredit of the age, and of the place where they are suffered to live."

Although London, in common with every other part of the kingdom, suffered lamentably from extortion during the tyrannical reign of Henry the Eighth, many important improvements were effected. Not only did the City indulge itself in all the pageantry of splendid and expensive spectacles, according to the taste of the age, but due attention was paid to the arts and sciences, and to the general comfort and elegancies of life. Henry's first public act, that of committing Empson and Dudley, the tools of his predecessor, for illicitly furnishing his coffers, to the Tower of London, was eminently calculated to induce popularity. These wholesale plunderers of the people were afterwards condemned and attainted by Parliament, and beheaded upon Tower-hill. Two days after the King's accession, all beggars, not belonging to the City, were banished, and compelled to seek relief from their respective parishes. On St. John's eve, 1510, Henry, in the habit and arms of one of the yeomen of his guard, came into the City to witness the setting of the City-watch; one of the most interesting and magnificent processions of those times, and, excepting that it was at night, not slightly resembling the festival of *Corpus Christi* as celebrated in all Roman Catholic towns of the Continent. So delighted was he with the spectacle, that, on the St. Peter's night following, accompanied by his Royal consort, and attended by the principal nobility, he returned to the City, and in Cheapside was again a spectator of the show.

Sir William Fitz-William was, in 1510, disfranchised because he refused to serve the office of sheriff. On the fall of Cardinal Wolsey, his former master, this gentleman gave him kind entertainment at his country-house. The King demanded how he durst entertain so great an enemy to the State. His answer, was, that he had not contemptuously nor wilfully done it, but because he had been his master, and

partly the maker of his fortune. Pleased with his answer, the King said he had himself too few such servants: he immediately knighted him, and afterwards made him a Privy Councillor. Sir William, at his death, left many large sums for charitable purposes; and to the King he bequeathed his great ship with all her tackles and his collar of the Garter, with his best George set with diamonds. He was Knight of the Order of the Garter, Lord-Keeper of the King's Privy Seal, and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Roger Achilly rendered his mayoralty, in 1511, remarkable by storing Leadenhall, the City-granary, with every sort of grain. He also caused Moorfields to be levelled, and the passage to the adjoining villages rendered more commodious, by raising causeways and building bridges as might be required. In the following year, the sheriffs of London and Middlesex were, for the first time, empowered by Parliament to empanel jurors for the City courts. In 1514, a tumultuous mob from the City broke down all the fences in the neighbourhood of Islington, Hoxton, and Shoreditch, on pretence that their inhabitants had debarred them from their usual exercises in the fields; and also that when any of them attempted to divert themselves with shooting, their bows and arrows were seized, and destroyed before their eyes, and they themselves were indicted for trespasses. The King's Commissioners severely reprimanded the Mayor and alderman for neglect of duty on this occasion.

In 1517, a new tribunal was established by the Common Council under the denomination of the Court of Conscience. The act of the Council appointed "that the Lord Mayor and aldermen for the time being shall monthly assign and appoint two aldermen and four discreet commoners to sit at Guildhall, in a judicial manner, twice a-week, viz., on Wed-

nesdays and Saturdays; there to hear and determine all matters brought before them between party and party (being citizens and freemen of London), in all cases where the due debt or damage does not exceed forty shillings." This act was passed as an experiment for two years; but its effects were found so beneficial that it was afterwards extended from time to time, and at length rendered perpetual by Parliamentary authority in the first year of James the First.

The May-day of 1515, was rendered memorable in the City of London by a serious tumult, which broke out chiefly, in the first instance, amongst the artificers and apprentices, against strangers who were permitted to send their wares and to exercise handicrafts in the City, "to the great hindrance and impoverishing of the King's liege people." Many lives were lost in the affray, and the day was ever afterwards distinguished as "Evil May-day." Mayings and May-games, with the ceremony of setting up a May-pole in Leadenhall-street, were less frequently celebrated after this insurrection. It was about this time that London was again grievously afflicted with the sweating sickness, which, as it was peculiar to England and to Englishmen, in foreign parts was termed *Sudor Anglicus*, or the English sweat. In 1521, another infectious distemper raged in the City and swept off numbers of the population.

Henry, in the tenth year of his reign, granted the citizens of London a charter for removing the sessions of the peace from St. Martin's-le-Grand to Guildhall. He also granted a charter of incorporation to the physicians. In the same year, the common ditch between Aldgate and the Postern next the Tower-ditch, was cleansed at an expense of 95*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* The payments indicate the cost of labour at this period: the chief ditcher sevenpence per diem; the second ditcher sixpence:

the other ditchers fivepence; and labourers, or vagabonds as they were then termed, one penny *per diem* each, and meat and drink at the City's charge.

In 1531, one of the greatest entertainments recorded in the annals of London was given in the Bishop of Ely's palace in Holborn, for five days in succession. The occasion was that of eleven gentlemen of the law being promoted to the dignity of the coif. There were present at this feast, the King, Queen, Foreign Ministers, Lord Mayor, Judges, Master of the Rolls, Aldermen of the City, Masters of Chancery, Sergeants-at-Law, principal Merchants of London, many knights and esquires, and a certain number of citizens, members of the chief companies. Making due allowance for the difference between the value of money then and at the present period, and also for the difference between the size and weight of cattle then and now, the reader may be enabled, from the subjoined list (which is only *part* of the bill of fare), to form some estimate of the nature, cost, and extent of this entertainment.

	£.	s.	d.
Twenty-four large oxen, each at	1	6	8
The carcass of a large ox	1	4	0
One hundred sheep, each at	0	2	10
Fifty-one calves, each at	0	4	8
Thirty-four hogs, each at	0	3	8
Ninety-one pigs, each at	0	0	6
Ten dozen capons of Greece, each dozen at .	0	1	8
Nine dozen and a half of Kentish capons, each at	0	1	0
Nineteen dozen of common capons, each at .	0	0	6
Seven dozen and nine of grouse or heath- cocks, each at	0	0	8

	£.	s.	d.
Fourteen dozen and eight common cocks,			
each at	0	0	3
The best pullets, at	0	0	2½
Common ditto, at	0	0	2
Thirty-seven dozen of pigeons, each dozen at .	0	0	10
Three hundred and forty dozen of larks,			
each dozen at	0	0	5

This subject demands a little further illustration. It is stated, upon the authority of Anderson's "History of Commerce," that, at the period above referred to, the number of butchers, in London and the suburbs, did not exceed eighty. Upon an average, each butcher killed nine oxen per week; which, multiplied by forty-six (the number of weeks in a year during which meat was eaten, none being consumed during Lent) gives 33,120 as the total annual consumption of oxen in London. In round numbers the carcasses at present consumed in a year are about—

Oxen, 110,000		Calves, 50,000
Sheep, 770,000		Swine, 250,000
Lambs, 250,000		

This constitutes an average amount of 1,738,303 cwt., and produces a sum of 10,000,000*l.* to the agriculturist.* In

* It must be remembered also, that a large quantity of meat now arrives in London ready slaughtered, not only in steam-vessels from Scotland and Ireland, but in carts from the provinces. This quantity is increasing, and may, perhaps, be estimated at one fourth of the whole consumption. A further increase will result from the arrangements made with the different railroads.

In addition to meat must be taken into account poultry, fish, bread, butter, cheese, eggs, milk, vegetables, &c. The first of these is estimated to amount annually, in value, to 85,000*l.*; to which must be added, game,

addition to the vast increase of numbers must be taken into consideration the immense increase of weight in all cattle, which has been more than doubled, even within the last century and a-half. About the year 1700, the average weight of the oxen sold in the London market was 370lbs.; of calves, 50lbs.; of sheep, 28lbs.; and of lambs, 18lbs.: the present average

pigeons, rabbits, &c., amounting to as much in price, though the supply is less in quantity than the product of the farm-yard.

London is supplied with fish chiefly from the two wholesale markets of Billingsgate and Hungerford. From Billingsgate, by far the larger of the two, the following has been recently given as the division of 120,000 tons of fish in a single year:—

Fresh salmon	45,446	Haddock	90,604
Turbot	87,558	Mackarel	482,492
Cod	444,138	Lobster	3,076,700
Herring	3,366,400	Whiting	1,954,600
Maid, Plaice, Skate,		Eel (cwt.)	1,500
Sprat & Sole (bshls)	115,215	Crab	500,000

It is generally considered that the article of Fish is by far too dear before coming to the consumer; and that this wholesome part of our animal food might, with proper management, be had generally at a much lower price: as a proof of what may be done that way, those fishmongers who are content with moderate profits, and offer their commodity at a reasonable price, all command immense business.

With bread and flour, it requires about 1,000,000 quarters of wheat per annum to supply the metropolis. Of butter, the annual consumption is estimated at 21,000,000lbs., of cheese, 26,000,000lbs. With milk, the town is supplied by upwards of 10,000 cows, supposed to yield a daily average of nine quarts each, making a total of 8,212,500 gallons annually: producing to the wholesale dealers a sum of 400,000*l.*; on which the retail dealers are considered to lay a profit of cent. per cent., exclusive of what they realise by the addition of water *ad libitum*. Of eggs, including those from France, Holland, Ireland, Scotland, &c., in addition to the produce of our own country, the consumption is incredible. The fruit and vegetables, brought to the London markets, from the gardens in the vicinity of the metropolis (exclusively of the produce of Kent, Surrey, and the more distant counties), are thought to amount in annual value to upwards of 1,000,000*l.* sterling.

weight is, of oxen, 800lbs.; of calves, 140lbs.; of sheep, 80lbs.; and of lambs, 50lbs.

The philosophic mind will be yet more deeply impressed with a sense of the growing greatness of the metropolis, when it is brought to view, that London, formerly contained within a circumference of two miles, now occupies a surface of eighteen square miles, within a supposed circumference of thirty miles. Taken in its largest extent, London is understood to contain from 10,000 to 12,000 streets, squares, lanes, courts, &c.; 156,000 houses and public edifices; and from 1,500,000, to 2,000,000 of people.

In 1544, “by reason of a great mortality among the cattle, occasioned by great rains in the preceding season, meat rose to such an excessive price, that mutton was sold at 2s. 4d. the quarter, and a lamb at 3s. 4d.” In consequence, the Lord Mayor and Council made a sumptuary law for preventing luxurious eating.* By this law it was, amongst other things, enacted that, “neither the Mayor, aldermen, nor sheriffs, should buy any cranes, swans, or bustards, upon penalty for every fowl so bought, of the sum of 20s.” About the same time, coal, bought at Newcastle for 2s. 2d. per chaldron, was sold in the City at 4s.

King Henry, in the year 1532, and again in 1539, caused a general muster of the citizens, from the age of sixteen to that of sixty, to the extent of 15,000 men, to be made at Mile-end; with an account of the weapons, armour, and other military accoutrements belonging to the City. In the first instance, the citizens assembled early in the morning: before nine, they commenced their march through the City to Westminster: went round St. James’s-park; passed down Holborn, and thence to Leadenhall, where they separated at five o’clock. This procession, which occupied more than eight hours, appears to have been of a very imposing character.

* *Vide* page 88.



WEST INDIA DOCK.

IMPORT



Still more splendid, however, was the pageant by which, in 1533, Queen Anne Boleyn (descended from Godfrey Boleyn, or Bolaine, Lord Mayor of London in 1457) was, upon her coronation, conducted by the Mayor and all the City companies from Greenwich, by water, to the Tower; and thence, by land, to St. Paul's, and afterwards to Westminster. In gorgeous pomp and stately magnificence, it would be difficult to imagine this joyous procession surpassed. Within three years afterwards, the hapless Queen terminated her brief career of loyalty upon the green within the Tower; where, at the behest of a sanguinary tyrant, "who never spared man in his anger nor woman in his lust," her blood flowed at the stroke of the executioner!

In the course of his reign, which terminated in 1547, the Strand, Holborn, Whitechapel, and most of the other chief thoroughfares of the metropolis, were paved. Water was also conveyed into the City in additional streams from Hampstead, Marylebone, Hackney, Muswell-hill, and the springs of Agnes le Clair, Hoxton.

During the brief reign of Edward the Sixth many salutary regulations were effected, and numerous benefits were conferred upon the City. By a new charter, its right and title to the jurisdiction of the borough of Southwark was confirmed. To prevent injurious combinations between the butchers and graziers, the prices of cattle, through the different seasons, were fixed by law; as were also the prices of various other provisions. The company of Hanseatic, or German merchants, generally termed merchants of the Still-yard, having engrossed nearly the whole trade of the kingdom, was dissolved, and trade was thrown open. Christ's Hospital, commonly called the Blue Coat School, was founded by Edward the Sixth for the "innocent and fatherless."*

* This noble institution consisted at first of a grammar-school for boys,

It may not be deemed unworthy of notice, that, on her return from France, through England, in 1550, after the demise of her husband, the ill-fated Mary Queen of Scots was sumptuously entertained at the Bishop of London's palace, by the Mayor and citizens, for four days successively. On her departure, she was attended by the chief nobility in a style of extraordinary magnificence. The Duke of Northumberland had in Cheapside one hundred men on horseback, armed with javelins; of whom forty were dressed in black velvet, with velvet hats and feathers, and golden chains about their necks: next to them were ranged one hundred and twenty horsemen belonging to the Earl of Pembroke, with javelins, hats and feathers; then one hundred gentlemen and yeomen belonging to the Lord Treasurer, with javelins; the procession closing with three bodies of horse extending from the end of Gutter-lane, in Cheapside, to Birchin-lane, in Cornhill. The Queen of Scots was attended by all the nobility to Shoreditch Church, and thence conducted by the sheriffs of London to Waltham.

and a separate school for girls. By Charles the Second it was further endowed with 1,000*l.* to found a school for the instruction of forty boys in mathematics and navigation. A second mathematical school for thirty-six boys was subsequently founded by Mr. Travers. There are now on the foundation nearly 1,200 children. The Mayor and Corporation are guardians of the institution. The building, occupying the site of the ancient order of Franciscians, founded in 1225, is very irregular. The ancient cloisters, serving as a place of recreation for the boys in wet weather, have been lately replaced by new ones, the masonry of which is remarkably fine. The south-front, opening to Newgate-street, is ornamented with Doric pilasters, and a statue of the royal founder. A new and commodious hall, of the Tudor style of architecture, and forming a beautiful feature in the public eye, has lately been built from designs by John Shaw, Esq. Several of the wards, and other portions of the structure, have been rebuilt in a style admirably corresponding with the more ancient parts of the edifice. The revenues of the Hospital are very considerable. The annual expenditure amounts to 30,000*l.*

As related to the City of London, the most remarkable incident in the reign of Queen Mary was the rebellion originated in Kent by Sir Thomas Wyatt. To oppose his force, on its march to attack the City, five hundred men were confided to the command of Alexander Brett, an experienced officer. At Rochester, however, Brett harangued his men, and succeeded in carrying them over to the rebel army. In consequence, many of the chief officers of the Duke of Norfolk's force fled in terror, and their ordnance, ammunition, and equipage, fell into the hands of Wyatt. London was thus thrown into a state of the utmost consternation. At length, after a series of successes, Wyatt was compelled to surrender, and his crime was expiated under the axe on Tower-hill.

At this period, taverns and places of similar resort had so perniciously increased in number, that it became expedient to restrict them by law. It was accordingly enacted, that the number of retailers of wine within the City and liberties of London should not exceed forty, nor those of Westminster three. French wines were then sold, duty free, at 8d. per gallon, and other wines in proportion.

Upon the demise of Queen Mary (1558), her sister the Princess Elizabeth was proclaimed Queen of London, with the usual solemnities, heightened by the extraordinary and heartfelt joy which was experienced on the occasion. On the 14th of January, 1559, she rode through the City to Westminster in state, in the most pompous manner. At the upper end of Cheapside, she was presented by the Recorder with a thousand marks in gold in a purse of crimson velvet, richly embroidered, as a sincere testimony of the unfeigned love and respect of the citizens towards her Majesty. In July following, the twelve principal corporations of London sent out twelve companies, consisting of fourteen hundred men, of

whom eight hundred were pike-men in bright armour, to be reviewed in Greenwich-park before the Queen.

The year 1561 was memorable from the circumstance of the steeple of St. Paul's Church, and a great part of the building, being destroyed by lightning. And the same year the plague committed great ravages in the City.

In 1566, Sir Thomas Gresham, a merchant and citizen of London, proposed to the corporation that if they would find a convenient site, he would erect, at his own cost, a commodious edifice or bourse, for the accommodation of merchants. A fine building was accordingly opened in November, 1567. It was originally called the Bourse, but, on the visit of the Queen Elizabeth and her Court to the City on the 23d of January, 1570, when her Majesty dined with Sir Thomas, at his mansion in Bishopsgate-street, she caused it to be publicly proclaimed as the Royal Exchange. At his death, Sir Thomas Gresham bequeathed it to his widow, and after her decease, to the Mayor and citizens of London, and to the Mercers' Company; directing the rents to be expended in the support of lectures on the sciences. This building was destroyed by the great fire of 1666, and was quickly rebuilt nearly upon its former site, with statues of the Kings, and of Sir Thomas Gresham, at an expense of nearly 100,000*l*. Sir Christopher Wren, or, according to some accounts, Mr. Edward Jerman, was the architect. It was opened on the 28th of September, 1669, only three years after the destruction of the original building. A few years since, it was substantially repaired, and a new clock-tower was erected from the designs, and under the superintendance of George Smith, Esq., architect to the Mercers' Company, at the joint expense of that company and the Corporation of London. This edifice was destined to experience the fate of its predecessor. On the night of the 10th of January, 1838, a fire broke out in

Lloyd's Coffee-room, at the north-east corner of the building, opposite the Bank of England. A considerable time elapsed before the requisite assistance for arresting the progress of the flames could be obtained; and the consequence was the entire destruction of one of the noblest monuments of British wealth and mercantile power.

The Gresham Lectures, endowed by Sir Thomas, were formerly delivered in one of the rooms in the Royal Exchange. Since the fire, they have been delivered in the theatre of the City of London School, a new and handsome structure, occupying the site of Honey-lane-market, in the rear of the houses facing Bow Church, in Cheapside.*

* It will be only anticipating the order of time to state, that the first stone of this school was laid by Lord Brougham, on the 21st of October, 1835, and that it was opened in February, 1837. The design was by James Bunstone Bunning, Esq., architect to the Foundling Hospital. It is an imposing building, in the style of the Elizabethan age, the principal windows and entrance being of an earlier period, and more enriched character. Excepting the chief portion of the centre compartment, of the principal front, which is nearly all of stone, it is executed in white brick with stone dressings. The porch of the centre is novel, and the entrance to the interior is by a splendid hall. The school contains nine class-rooms and a library, rooms for the masters, a theatre for lectures, apartments for the secretaries, offices for the servants, &c. John Carpenter, the original founder of the school, was town-clerk of London in the reigns of Henry the Fifth and Henry the Sixth. By his will he gave and devised to the City of London the sum of nineteen pounds ten shillings per annum, arising from houses in the City; directing the same to be expended in the education of four sons of freemen of London. By the improved value of property, the present clear annual income of the estate is not less than nine hundred pounds. The state of the charity was investigated in 1833, and the City afterwards obtained an Act of Parliament for establishing the present school. The candidates for admission are the sons of freemen of the City, or householders therein. Four scholarships have been founded on the suggestion of Carpenter's will, upon a certificate of merit from the head master. Four boys are educated, boarded,

The first public lottery in England was drawn at the west-gate of St. Paul's Cathedral, in 1569. The drawing commenced on the 11th of January, and continued, without ceasing, day and night, till the 6th of May following.

At the Midsummer following, the pompous cavalcade of the City marching watch was discontinued on account of its enormous expense; and in lieu thereof a system of night police was established, which was continued until within these few years.

The poulterers of London having by combination greatly enhanced the prices of poultry, the Corporation settled the prices according to the following table:—

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
The best goose at	0	1	0	The best woodcock	0	0	5
The best wild mallard	0	0	5	The green plover	0	0	3
The best capon, at	0	1	0	Pigeons, per dozen	0	1	0
The second sort	0	0	10	Blackbirds, ditto	0	0	10
The best hen	0	0	7	Rabbits, each	0	0	3
The best chickens,				The best eggs, five for	0	0	1
each	0	0	3	The best butter, per			
An inferior sort	0	0	1½	pound	0	0	3

Other regulations respecting costume are not less curious. Luxury having made great inroads amongst the chief citizens of London, they had become so extravagant in dress, that in the year 1579 the Queen found it necessary to issue a proclamation against excess of apparel, gold chains, and cloaks, the last of which were worn of such length that they reached to the heels. By the same proclamation, the length of daggers was limited to twelve inches clear of the hilts; and

and clothed, and receive the sum of one hundred pounds each towards their advancement. The instruction given is of a high character. An annual public examination takes place, at which prizes are distributed. There is a head master, and twelve others in the various departments; and, as they are allowed to receive pupils, the number is upwards of five hundred.



J Woods sc

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VIEW IN ST. JAMES'S PARK.

three feet only was allowed for the length of swords. Three years afterwards, the apprentices of London, encouraged by the example of their superiors, had reached such an excess in their style of apparel, that the Lord Mayor and Common Council found it necessary to enact:—

“That from thenceforth no apprentice whatsoever should presume, 1. To wear any apparel but what he receives from his master. 2. To wear no hat within the City and liberty thereof, nor anything in stead thereof, than a woollen cap, without any silk in or about the same. 3. To wear no ruffles, cuffs, loose collar, nor other thing than a ruff at the collar, and that only of a yard and a-half long. 4. To wear no doublets but what were made of canvas, fustian, sack-cloth, English leather, or woollen-cloth, and without being enriched with any manner of gold, silver, or silk. 5. To wear no other coloured cloth or kersey, in hose or stockings, than white, blue, or russet. 6. To wear little breeches, of the same stuffs as the doublets, and without being stitched, laced, or bordered. 7. To wear a plain upper coat of cloth or leather, without pinking, stitching, edging, or silk about it. 8. To wear no other surtout than a cloth gown or cloak lined or faced with cloth, cotton, or baize, with a fixed round collar without stitching, guarding, lace, or silk. 9. To wear no pumps, slippers, nor shoes but of English leather, without being pinked, edged, or stitched, nor girdles nor garters other than of crewel, woollen, thread, or leather, without being garnished. 10. To wear no sword, dagger, or other weapon but a knife; nor a ring, jewel of gold, nor silver, nor silk, in any part of his apparel, on pain of being punished at the discretion of the master for the first offence; to be publicly whipped at the hall of his company for a second offence; and to serve six months longer than specified in his indenture for a third offence.”

It was further enacted, “That no apprentice should frequent or go to any dancing, fencing, or musical schools, nor keep any chest, press, or other place for keeping of apparel or goods, but in his master’s house, under the penalties aforesaid.”

It is remarkable with what facility the City appears to have been able to raise vast bodies of men in cases of emergency. On the first rumour of a Spanish invasion in 1585, the several Corporations sent a handsome body of five hundred men into

the field, completely armed, at their own expense. Soon afterwards, the same companies fitted out a considerable body of soldiers, who were sent to the assistance of the Dutch against the Spaniards. In 1587, the threat of Spanish invasion still operating *in terrorem*, ten thousand men were raised in the City. The armada having been dispersed, apprehensions were yet entertained of future attacks, and, in 1596, the Lord Mayor and aldermen while at church received a message from the Queen, commanding them forthwith to raise a certain number of able-bodied men, fit for immediate service. On this warlike mission, they instantly left the church: before eight at night they had pressed a thousand men, and with an unparalleled expedition they completely fitted them with martial accoutrements before the next morning. This little army, raised as it were by magic, disappeared as suddenly: intended to proceed to Dover to assist the French against the Spaniards in defence of Calais, it was dismissed before it had been full four-and-twenty hours assembled. Soon afterwards, the same number of men were impressed in the churches of the City during the time of Divine service. They were immediately armed and sent off towards Dover to embark for France, but in consequence of intelligence of the reduction of Calais, they were countermanded and came home about a week after their departure. On many occasions the citizens also raised a considerable naval force.

At the summer sessions in 1585, there were discovered to be in London, Westminster, Southwark, and the suburbs, no fewer than eighteen houses for the lodging and entertaining of thieves of all descriptions. "Among the rest," observes Maitland, "they found out one Wotton, a gentleman born, and sometime a merchant of good credit, but fallen by time into decay. This man kept an ale-house, at Smart's Key

near Billingsgate, and after, for some misdemeanour put down, he reared up a new trade of life; and in the same house he procured all the cut-purses about the City to repair to his house. There was a school-house set up to learn young boys to cut purses. Two devices were hung up, one was a pocket and another was a purse: the pocket had in it certain counters, and was hung about with hawk's-bells, and over the top did hang a little sacring-bell; the purse had silver in it: and he that could take out a counter without any noise was allowed to be a public *foyster*: and he that could take a piece of silver out of the purse without noise of any of the bells, was adjudged a judicial *nypper*, according to their terms of art. A *foyster* was a pick-pocket, a *nypper* was a pick-purse or cut-purse."

It was in the year 1585, that the first instance appears upon record of the custom of the Lord Mayor's nominating sheriffs by drinking to persons considered qualified for the execution of that office.

Queen Elizabeth having terminated a long and glorious reign in the year 1603, was immediately succeeded by James the First, who was proclaimed King in the City on the 24th of March, with every demonstration of joy.

Notwithstanding the short-sighted policy of the pedant King, who appears to have been incessantly haunted by the idea that the metropolis had outgrown itself, and that restrictive measures were necessary to prevent its further excess, many local improvements were effected in the course of his inglorious career. Sir Hugh Myddleton completed his admirable scheme of supplying the City with water by means of the New River; the footpaths of the principal streets were, for the first time, paved with flag-stones; Spitalfields began to be covered with houses; a large pond in the vicinity of Smithfield was filled up, and transformed into thorough-

fares under the names of Cow, Chick, Hosier, and other lanes ; the extensive fields and gardens of the grand priory of St. John of Jerusalem, and of a convent to the north of Clerkenwell-green, were built upon ; Holborn gradually stretched away westward till it formed a junction with the village of St. Giles-in-the-Fields; and twelve new public granaries were erected at Bridewell, sufficiently capacious to hold six thousand quarters of corn, to be sold to the poor at prime cost in case of dearth or famine. The Levant or Turkey Company were incorporated under a perpetual charter, by the designation of the Merchants of England trading to the Levant seas ; the London and Liverpool merchants went on successfully, and unrivalled, in their Greenland fishery ; and the Merchants Adventurers' Company—those of the Staple, the Russia, and the East India Companies—made a progress so vast in the respective branches of their commerce, that, in the year 1613, the money paid for exports and imports in London alone amounted to 109,572*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*—nearly thrice as much as all the other ports of England paid in the same year.

The monastery of the Carthusian Friars, near Smithfield, having been granted, on the suppression of the order, to the Earl of Suffolk, Mr. Thomas Sutton, in 1612, purchased it of that noble family for the sum of 13,000*l.* and laid out 7,000*l.* more in repairs and improvements, intending to render it at once a seminary of literature, and an asylum for decayed merchants, &c. ; he also endowed it with lands, producing, at that time, 4,490*l.* a-year. This excellent institution, now inaccurately known by the name of the Charter House, has given education to some of the first schools of our time, and is in a very flourishing state.

In the year following, Sir Baptist Hicks (afterwards created Viscount Campden), one of the justices of the peace for the

county of Middlesex, at his own expence built a sessions-house for the accommodation of the magistracy, at the bottom of St. John-street. This was called Hicks's Hall, in honour of the founder; and, for many years, it constituted the point from which distances on that line of road were measured.

It was about the year 1617, that several of the bishops applied to the King for leave for the people to amuse themselves on Sundays. James, willing to indulge the prelates in their requests, as well as the people in their pleasures, caused certain rules to be drawn up and published, under the royal sanction, entitled, *The Book of Sports*; with a positive injunction to the several parochial incumbents to read the same in their respective churches, upon pain of the King's displeasure. Many of them, proving refractory, were suspended and imprisoned. The Lord Mayor, despite of the Royal licence, caused the King's carriages to be stopped, as they were passing through the City on a Sunday in the time of Divine service. For a time, these proceedings induced an ill feeling between the Court and the City, but it speedily subsided.

The reign of the unfortunate Charles the First commenced inauspiciously. In its first year, the plague raged most destructively in London and its suburbs; carrying off 35,417 persons—about one-third of the inhabitants.

Without entering into particulars, which want of space precludes, it may be remarked, that, from the commencement of his reign, Charles and the City were at variance. Disputes arose in relation to ship-money, loans, and other grievances. The City was deprived of some advantages gained in the preceding reign, and amerced in 50,000*l.* The citizens, taking part with the Parliament against the King, strengthened their City with forts, joined by a line of communication, formed by

a rampart of earth, which completely surrounded London Westminster, and Southwark.

Shortly after Charles's execution, Sir Abraham Reynardson, then Lord Mayor, refusing to proclaim the abolition of monarchy, was degraded from his office, and imprisoned, and a new Mayor chosen in his room.

In 1657, the Lord Mayor assisted at the inauguration of Cromwell; but, after the death of that usurper, the City joined with General Monk in bringing about the restoration. On the 29th of May, 1660, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen went out and met Charles the Second in St. George's-fields.

At the close of this, and commencement of the following year (1661), London became the theatre of an extraordinary insurrection, originating with a small number of wild, desperate, and sanguinary enthusiasts, called "Fifth-Monarchy Men." From the appearance of certain dangerous symptoms, Colonel Overton, Major Wild, Cornet Day, and other principal members of the sect, had been arrested. This proceeding so incensed their confederates, that, assembling in their meeting-house in Swan-alley, Coleman-street, on the evening of Sunday, the 6th of January, about sixty in number, well armed, they broke into open rebellion, under the conduct of their preacher, Thomas Venner, a cooper. Possessed with the fanatical notions, "that no weapon formed against them should prosper, not a hair of their heads be touched—that one should chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight"—their design was to erect a Fifth Monarchy for the personal reign of Jesus Christ upon earth. In their "Declaration," entitled, "A Door of Hope opened," they affirmed, "That they would never sheath their swords, till Babylon (as they called Monarchy) became a hissing and a curse; and there be left neither remnant, son, nor nephew: that, wner.



Drawn by Hablot Browne from a Sketch by R. Garland.

Engraved by J. Woods

LIMEHOUSE CHURCH

they had led captivity captive in England, they would go into France, Spain, Germany, &c., and rather die than take the wicked oaths of supremacy and allegiance: that they would not make any leagues with monarchies, but would rise up against the carnal, to possess the gate, or the world, to bind their kings in chains, and their nobles in fetters of iron."

Having read their proclamation, they marched to St. Paul's church-yard, and declaring for King Jesus, they killed a man who declared for King Charles. Sir Richard Brown, the Lord Mayor, receiving intelligence of this, hastened with a party of the trained-bands to suppress the riot. The rebels, however, fell upon his force with an impulse of infatuation so incredible, that it was speedily routed. Marching, without opposition, towards Bishopsgate, and through Whitecross-street, they re-entered the City at Cripplegate. Learning that a party of horse was in pursuit of them, they thence retreated as far as Beech-lane; where, being opposed, they killed a constable, and proceeded to Caen-wood, in the neighbourhood of Hampstead. There they reposed for the night. Next day they were dispossessed of the wood by a military force, and some of them taken prisoners. The day after, they rallied again and returned to London, when they divided themselves into two parties, one marching towards Leadenhall, the other to Haberdasher's Hall, in Maiden-lane, with the view of surprising the Lord Mayor. The former were pursued by the trained-bands, and, after an obstinate resistance, dispersed in Eastcheap. The latter, headed by Venner, missed the Lord Mayor, and passed into Wood-street, where they encountered the trained-bands, and also a party of the horse-guards, who had come to their assistance. A desperate battle ensued; and the rebels continued fighting till Venner was dangerously wounded and taken, and two others of their preachers and fiercest combatants were killed. A retreat toward Cripple-

gate was then commenced ; the rear firing in good order upon the troops in pursuits. More effectually to prevent the advance of the military, Colonel Cox, their commanding officer, posted ten men in a neighbouring alehouse, which they defended with great energy till it was surrounded and entered on all sides, and seven of the rebels killed. The quelling of this desperate commotion, though on so small a scale, cost the lives of twenty of the King's troops, besides several of the trained-bands and others. Of the rebels, about twenty men were killed and fourteen taken ; eleven of whom were afterwards tried, convicted, and executed ; and thus terminated a petty insurrection, which, for a few days, assumed a formidable aspect.

In 1663, the King granted the City a confirmation of all its ancient charters, privileges, liberties, rights, and customs ; and the citizens in return advanced considerable sums of money towards carrying on the war with Holland, for which they received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament. An extraordinary mark of his Majesty's favour towards the City of London was his confirmation of the Irish estates in the province of Ulster to the citizens, of which they had been violently deprived by an arbitrary decree of the Star Chamber during his father's reign. By this tenure the City of London and the several companies concerned are still in the enjoyment of these estates.

The metropolis was now to experience calamities of the most disastrous nature. Scarcely, as it may be said, had the sword of civil war been sheathed, than heaven in its dispensation destroyed its inhabitants by pestilence, to the extent of a hundred thousand persons, in the awful year 1665 ;* and in the following year its entire surface was desolated by fire. Whether it be considered with reference to its immediate

* For particulars relating to the plague of the year 1665, *vide* page 127.

effects or to its remote consequences, the latter was one of the most important events that ever occurred in London. The conflagration of 1666 broke out about one o'clock in the morning of Sunday, the 2d of September; being impelled by strong winds it raged with irresistible fury, nor was it entirely mastered until the fifth day after it began. It originated in the house of one Farryner, the King's baker, in Pudding-lane, near New Fish-street-hill, and within ten houses of Lower Thames-street, into which it spread within a short time; nearly all the contiguous buildings being of timber, and lath and plaster, and the whole neighbourhood consisting of little else than close passages, and narrow lanes and alleys. Its ravages were at length stayed at the Temple church, near Holborn-bridge, Pie-corner, Aldersgate, Cripplegate, near the end of Coleman-street, at the end of Basinghall-street, by the Postern, at the upper end of Bishopsgate-street, Leadenhall-street, at the Standard in Cornhill, at the church in Fenchurch-street, near Clothworkers' Hall, in Mincing-lane, at the middle of Park-lane, and at the Tower-dock. The destructive fury of this conflagration was never, perhaps, exceeded in any part of the world, by any fire originating in accident. Within the walls it consumed nearly five-sixths of the whole City, and without the walls it cleared a space almost as extensive as the one-sixth part left unburnt within. Hardly a single building that came within the range of the flames was left standing. Public edifices, churches, and dwelling-houses, were involved in one common fate; and, making due allowance for irregularities, the fire may be said to have extended its ravages over a space of ground equal to an oblong square of a mile and a half in length, and half a mile in breadth. In the summary account of this tremendous devastation, given in one of the inscriptions on the Monument, and which was drawn up from the reports of the sur-

veyors appointed after the fire, it is stated that the ruins of the City were four hundred and thirty-six acres (viz., three hundred and seventy-three within the walls, and sixty-three without the walls, but within the liberties); that of the six-and-twenty wards, it utterly destroyed fifteen, and left eight others shattered and half burnt; and that it consumed eighty-nine churches, four of the City-gates, Guildhall, many public structures, hospitals, schools, libraries, a great number of stately edifices, thirteen thousand two hundred dwelling-houses, and four hundred streets. The aggregate loss of property sustained on this occasion has been roughly estimated at from seven to upwards of ten millions sterling. Whether this calamity were the effect of accident or design, is a question that has been productive of much controversy; but there are many circumstances upon record which combine to enforce a belief that the fire had been preconcerted by the Papists. Fortunately, however, amidst all the confusion and multiplied dangers which arose from the fire, it does not appear that more than six persons lost their lives.

Great exertions were made both by Government and individuals to re-edify the City, and the Parliament, acting on the King's proclamation, passed an Act for regulating the buildings and expediting the work. While this was in progress, various temporary edifices were raised for the public accommodation, both with respect to Divine worship and to general business. Gresham College, which had escaped the flames, was converted into an Exchange and Guildhall, and the Royal Society, founded only two or three years before, removed its sittings to Arundel House. The affairs of the Custom House were transacted in Mark-lane; the business of the Excise-office was carried on in Southampton-fields, near Bedford House; the General Post-office was removed to Brydges-street, Covent-garden; the offices of Doctors'-commons, were

held at Exeter House, in the Strand ; and the King's wardrobe was consigned from Puddle-wharf to York-buildings. For a time, the inhabitants were chiefly lodged in huts raised in Finsbury and Moorfields, in Smithfield, and on all the open spaces in the vicinity of the metropolis.

Amongst the several plans that were proposed for the restoration of the capital, were three which acquired much celebrity: the first was designed by Dr., afterwards Sir Christopher Wren, surveyor-general and principal architect for rebuilding the whole City ; the second by Mr., afterwards Sir John Evelyn ; the third by Dr. Newcourt, father of Richard Newcourt, author of the "Repertorium, or Ecclesiastical History of the diocese of London." Neither of these plans, however, "could be adopted in practice, though every person was convinced of the advantages that would eventually result ; for the jealousies of the citizens, lest they should be too far removed from the sites of their old residences, proved to be insuperable, and very few would recede from their claims to particular spots. From that cause the opportunity was lost of rendering this metropolis the most magnificent of any in the world. Still, however, much was effected ; avenues were widened, declivities raised, and obstacles removed. And although all was not done that might have been executed, under the influence of other feelings, the entire City (with the exception of the churches and larger public buildings) was rebuilt within little more than four years, and in a style of far greater splendour and regularity, and infinitely more commodious and healthful than the ancient capital." One of the great advantages of this change was the total extermination of the plague, which has never since made its appearance in London.*

* The fullest particulars of the fire of London are to be found in Lord Clarendon's "History of his own Life;" in the Diaries of Evelyn

The Monument, on Fish-street-hill, erected by Sir Christopher Wren, to commemorate the fire of 1666, was commenced in 1671, and finished in 1677. It is fluted, of the Doric order, and stands on a massy pedestal forty feet high. This column exceeds in height the famous pillars of Trajan and Antoninus at Rome, and contains upwards of twenty thousand square feet of Portland-stone. At different times four persons have committed suicide by precipitating themselves from the top of this column,—the last a young lady, in September, 1839.

James the Second ascended a throne (1685) upon which he was unworthy to sit. His enmity against the City of London was never effaced; and though he restored a charter of which he had been the means of depriving the citizens, it was pusillanimity alone that impelled his conduct. The sacrifice of Alderman Cornish, alleged to have been implicated in the Rye-house plot, was an act of cold-blooded revenge, inexcusable as it was base. Another act of his tyranny was the commitment of the seven bishops to the Tower. The power of the Papist was for a brief period in the ascendant. James, however, saw when too late that the popular resentment was more than mere popular clamour; and in the deep discontent of his people, he beheld the fatal errors he had committed, and would have retracted the steps he had taken in favour of Papal jurisdiction. His concessions were as mean as his tyranny had been excessive. On his abdication of the throne which he had disgraced, about thirty of the peers and bishops then in town (being the only remaining authority in the State) met at Guildhall; and after a short consultation with the Lord Mayor and aldermen, it was resolved to adhere to the Prince of Orange, subsequently

and Pepys; in a tract, entitled, "God's Terrible Advice to the City, by Plague and Fire," by the Rev. T. Vincent, a Non-conformist divine; in Malcolm's "Londinium Redivivum," &c. There is also an ably-condensed view of the subject, to which we have been indebted in the above sketch, in Brayley's "Londiniana," vol. i., page 148, *et seq.*

proclaimed King as William the Third, with his consort, Mary the Second, the daughter of James.

In the year 1687, the City had been greatly enriched, and its population increased, by the settlement of between thirteen and fourteen thousand French Protestants, who, driven by persecution from their native home, sought an asylum in this country of civil and religious liberty. These children of peaceful industry took up their abode chiefly in Spitalfields and the parts adjacent.

In the reign of William and Mary, certain places of supposed privilege from arrest in the City were suppressed : that in the Minories ; those in and near Fleet-street, as Salisbury-court, Whitefriars, Ram-alley, and Mitre-court ; in Holborn, Fullwood's-rents, and Baldwin's-gardens, in Gray's-inn-lane ; the Savoy, in the Strand ; in Southwark, Montague-close, Deadman's-place, the Clink, and the Mint.

King William, who had survived his consort, dying in 1702, the Princess Anne, daughter of the late King James, and consort of his Royal Highness George, Prince of Denmark, succeeded to the crown, to the universal delight of the nation. During the preceding reign, she had suffered many petty persecutions from the King, her brother-in-law, who, whatever he might be as a ruler, had little that was amiable in his character as a man. Consequent upon the several splendid victories achieved by the Duke of Marlborough, the Queen, in testimony of her gratitude to the Almighty, for his great and glorious success, visited St. Paul's church in solemn procession. On the humble request of the citizens of London, all the standards and colours taken by the British troops at the battle of Ramillies, were presented to the City by order of her Majesty. In this reign an order was given for building fifty new churches, which greatly improved the appearance of the metropolis.*

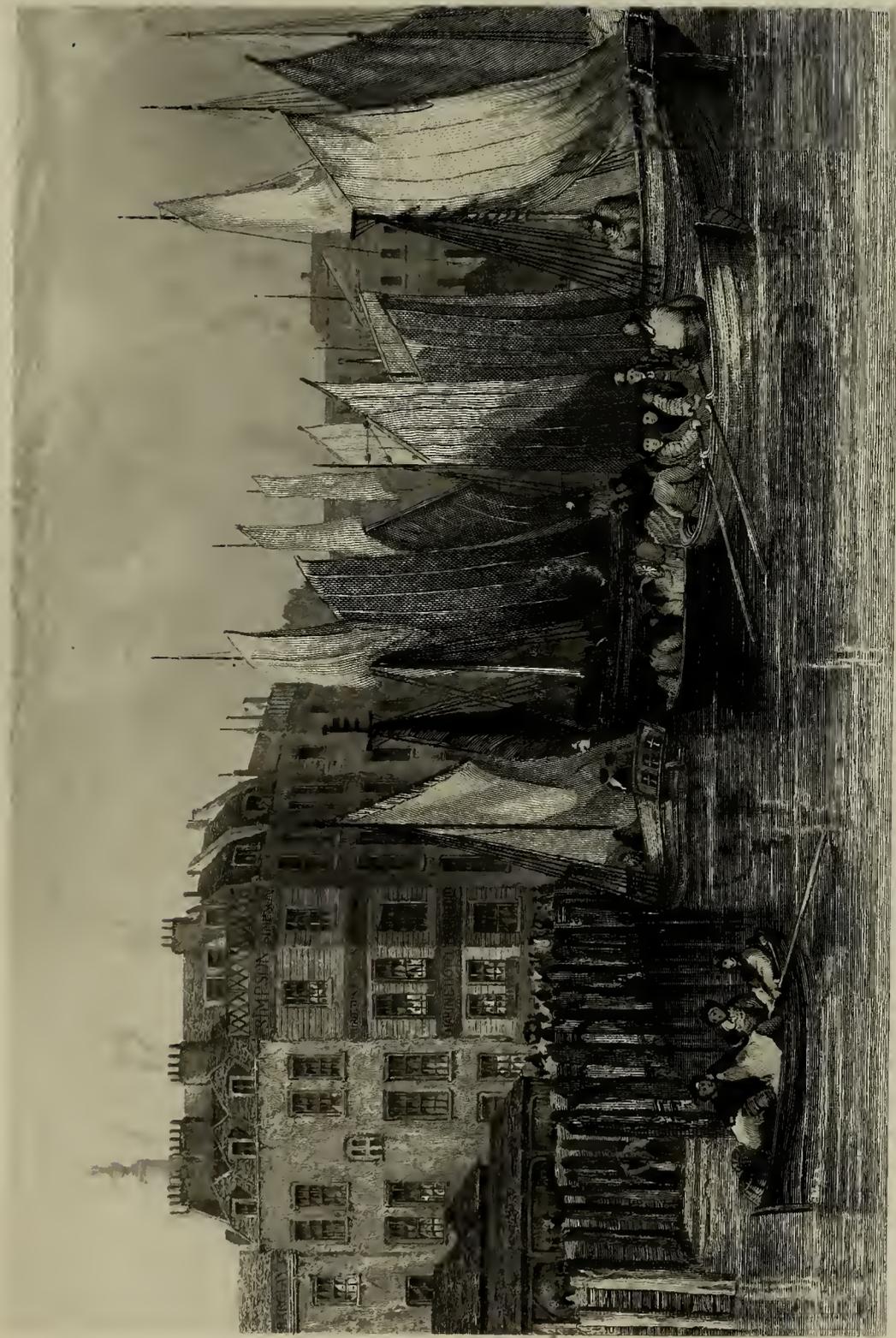
* It may be worth while to mention, if only in a note, that, at the com-

On the death of her Majesty Queen Anne (1714), George Lewis, the eldest son of Ernest Augustus, Duke and Elector

at the commencement of the eighteenth century, the village of St. Marylebone was almost a mile distant from any part of London, the nearest street being Old Bond-street, which then hardly extended to the present Clifford-street. Soon after the accession of George the First, New Bond-street arose, with other streets in the immediate neighbourhood, and the houses in Berkeley-square and its vicinity. Hanover-square and Cavendish-square were open fields in the year 1716. They were built about the beginning of the reign of George the Second, at which time the houses arose on the north-side of Oxford-street, which then first took the name. The neighbourhood of Cavendish-square and Oxford-market, Holles-street, Margaret-street, Vere-street, &c., are of the same date; and the grounds for Harley, Wigmore, and Mortimer-streets, were laid out, the village and church of Marylebone being still separated from them all by fields. At the same time the Legislature ordered the erection of the three parishes of St. George, Bloomsbury, St. Anne, Limehouse, and St. Paul, Deptford; London having then extended further in the last quarter than in any other, by reason of the trade on the river.

After the year 1737, the west end of the town was improved by the addition of Grosvenor-square and its neighbourhood. Anticipating time, it may be added, that the increase of the metropolis on all sides was in proportion to the length of the reign of George the Third. The vacant space near Marylebone was filled in; Southwark became a mass of houses united with Westminster; and new towns, rather than suburbs, appeared in all quarters; some with the names of towns, as Camden-town and Somers-town; to which have been added, since the death of that Prince, Portland-town, and a large half of Paddington, now almost joined with Kilburn. Then, again, the whole of the extensive space from Goodman's-fields to Stepney, over Whitechapel-road to Shadwell, has been covered with closely-compacted habitations. The London, the St. Katherine's, and the East and West India Docks, have been constructed, and the space to Hackney, Bethnal-green, and Mile end, built upon. The neighbourhood of the respective new churches in Marylebone and the Regent's-park, presents a succession of noble mansions.

Public convenience and the improved state of society called for enlarged thoroughfares; and crowded districts have been converted into noble streets, lined with costly residences. Such was the origin of the architectural



WILMINGTON

of Brunswick Lunenburg, by the Princess Sophia, youngest daughter of Frederick, Elector Palatine of the Rhine, and

improvements in the vicinity of Pall-mall; and a magnificent line of streets, including Regent-street and the Quadrant, leading from St. James's Park to the Regent's Park. A stately range of elegant houses has been formed on the site of Carlton Palace; dividing which, in the centre, his late Majesty William the Fourth, on ascending the throne, commanded a way to be broken into the park, and a fine flight of steps to be constructed for the accommodation of the public. At this point is a monument—a column of pale red granite, one hundred and fifty feet in height—erected to the memory of the late Duke of York. The column, ascended by a spiral staircase, is surmounted by a bronze statue of his Royal Highness.

Exeter Change, and the line of old houses down the north side of the Strand, have been removed, the streets widened, and many improvements made, while others are still in progress. That fine edifice, St. Martin's church, now open to the view of the public, forms part of the eastern side of a spacious opening named Trafalgar-square; on the northern side of which is an unworthy structure, denominated the National Gallery of the Fine Arts; and in the centre of which is to be erected a public monument to the memory of Nelson.

Fleet-market has been removed; and the opening now forms a wide and airy street, leading to Holborn-bridge, and which, it is expected, will, at no distant period, be carried on to Islington. Covent-garden-market has undergone an entire change, and is now not an object of commerce only, but of curiosity and interest. The new Hungerford-market, at the south-western extremity of the Strand, is finished, and proves a formidable competitor, not only to Billingsgate-market, but to that of Covent-garden.

The New Post-office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, has long been in full activity; the Colosseum, and St. Katherine's Hospital, in the Regent's-park, are objects of considerable interest; and the Zoological Gardens, much enlarged, and considerably enriched by the liberality of their late Majesties, George the Fourth and William the Fourth, have become eminently attractive.

The New Palace at Pimlico (Buckingham House remodelled at an enormous expense, and with lamentable deficiency of taste and judgment) is, from its having been made the chief residence of her present Majesty, Queen Victoria, and from the surrounding improvements, likely to become the centre of the Court end of the town. Belgrave-square, eclipsing in

Elizabeth, eldest daughter of James the First, succeeded to the throne of Britain. His Majesty, accompanied by his eldest son, Prince George, arrived in England, and made his public entry into London on the 20th of September. He was received at St. Margaret's-hill, Southwark, by the Lord Mayor, aldermen, sheriffs, and officers of the City, in whose name Sir Peter King, Recorder, addressed him in a congratulatory speech, and the King was received with every mark of public satisfaction. In this reign of thirteen years there is little of importance to record specifically relating to the City of London. In 1716, the "Mug-house riot," instigated by a low Jacobite rabble, was suppressed by the execution of five of the ringleaders, in front of a house which they had nearly demolished in Salisbury-court, Fleet-street. The same year, owing to a long-continued drought, the fresh stream of the Thames was reduced so low, that, by the intervention of a violent wind at west-south-west, the bed of the river became so dry that many thousands of people passed it on foot, both above and below London-bridge. Of all the affairs of the time, however, the South Sea bubble, as it was termed, was the most extraordinary. The sums of money proposed to be raised by this and about one hundred and sixty other joint stock speculations, besides numbers which perished in embryo, amounted to 300,000,000*l.* The lowest of the shares of any of them advanced above *cent. per cent.*; and most of them above 400*l. per cent.* A sum amounting to 2,014,000*l.* was confiscated from the estates of those who were principally concerned in the South Sea transaction alone, towards making good the damage sustained.*

magnificence all the other squares of the metropolis, is in its immediate neighbourhood; besides others which, though handsome, are of minor note.—Vide Lacey's New Picture of London, and also Lacey's Stranger's Guide through London.

* In a list preserved of one hundred and fifty-six of the projected

The reign of George the Second, commencing in 1727, and closing in 1760, was scarcely more prolific in incident, so far as the metropolis was concerned, than that of his predecessor. The Londoners, however, most loyally distinguished themselves in their efforts against the cause of the Pretender. Large subscriptions were raised; the most substantial citizens entered into associations, armed themselves, learned the military exercise, and tendered their services; the lawyers of the Middle Temple formed themselves into a regiment; the trained-bands were reviewed by the King; and the promoters of order and the Protestant succession seemed united in repelling the invader of the Government and Constitution.

Numerous improvements and salutary regulations were at this period effected. In 1751, an Act was passed for regulating the commencement of the year, and correcting the calendar;* by which, amongst other changes, the annual admission of the Lord Mayor was altered to the 8th of November, and the solemnity of swearing him in at the Court

companies (some of which were actually incorporated) are the following, and several others equally ridiculous and unfit to be named:—for a flying-engine—for feeding hogs—for making iron with pit-coal—for curing the gout and stone—for transmuting quicksilver into a malleable metal—for an air-pump for the brain—for an insurance against divorces—for making butter from beech-trees—for making deal-boards from saw-dust—for japanning of shoes—for a scheme by which to teach wise men to cast nativities, &c.

* It was by this statute enacted, “That the year should, for the future, begin on the 1st of January; and that the eleven intermediate or nominal days, between the 2d and 14th of September, 1752, should, for that year, be omitted; so that the day which would otherwise have been called the 3rd of September, was dated the 14th.” By this correction, the equinoxes and solstices happen nearly on the same nominal days on which they fell at the Council of Nice, in the year 325.

of Exchequer, in Westminster, to the day following. Through a noble stand, made by the citizens, Sir Robert Walpole's artful scheme for extending a general excise throughout the kingdom was subjected to a signal defeat. Amongst other regulations, the City gates were pulled down. Aldgate was sold for 177*l.* 10*s.*; Cripplegate for 91*l.*; and Ludgate for 148*l.*; to be taken down and removed by the purchaser within a limited time. The precinct of Blackfriars, which, from the dissolution of its monastery by Henry the Eighth, had claimed a privilege of exemption from the jurisdiction of the City, was, by a decision of the Court of King's Bench, declared unentitled to the pretended exemption. Fleet-ditch, from Blackfriars to Holborn-bridge, long a serious nuisance to the public, was arched over; a pavement was formed, and a market erected upon it. A general reform of the London prisons was effected in this reign; considerable improvements were adopted in the mode of watching and lighting the streets of the City; and laudable exertions were repeatedly made for the suppression of liquor-shops, masquerades, and other immoral and mischievous nuisances.

The reign of George the Second was remarkable for the number of its new and important undertakings and establishments. Westminster-bridge was begun and finished—the Mansion House* was built—the Society of Antiquaries was formed—and the British Museum, the Foundling, and the Small-pox Hospitals, were founded.

The defective state of the police, and the superstitious notions which prevailed amongst the people, are curiously

* The Mansion House was built from a plan by George Dance, architect, at an expense of 42,638*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* The chief corner-stone of the structure was laid on the 25th of October, 1739, by the Lord Mayor, Micajah Perry, Esq. It was not completed till 1753.

illustrated by two circumstances which it is expedient briefly to record. In 1728, London and Westminster was infested by street-robbers to an almost incredible extent. On one occasion, they formed a design to rob the Queen in St. Paul's churchyard, as she was privately returning from supper in the City to St. James's; and the attempt was not made, only from the circumstance, that the villains were at the time busily engaged in robbing Sir Gilbert Heathcote, an alderman of London, on his return, in his chariot from the House of Commons, her Majesty's coach actually passing at the moment! However, by the adoption of rigorous measures, this crying evil was soon put down.

In the month of August, 1754, two large and strange birds were seen perched, one on the cross and the other on the pine-apple of St. Paul's cathedral. Some thought they were eagles, others said they were cormorants. On the firing of a gun from the gallery, they flew away. "See! see!" exclaimed the gazers, "how the Spaniards fly away at the firing of a gun; nothing else will bring the Dons to reason!" This incident was turned to good account by the authorities. The necessities of the State, at this time, requiring a fleet to be suddenly manned, a live turkey was placed on the top of the Monument. This proved highly attractive—an idle mob was assembled—and the press-gangs, lying in wait, made prize of many who answered their purpose.

George the Third's extended reign of sixty years commenced auspiciously; but it involved long periods of expensive warfare and consequent national privation—enemies inevitably of grand improvements, public or private. The present history, however, now draws so near towards its close, that a few leading dates and indications must stand in lieu of detailed records and descriptions.

His Majesty, with his Royal consort, the Princess Charlotte

of Mecklenburgh, was crowned, with due solemnity, in Westminster Abbey, on the 22d of September, 1761. A general peace ensued in 1763. In the autumn of 1768, Christian the Seventh, King of Denmark, who had married the Princess Carolina Matilda, his Majesty's younger sister, paid a visit to the Royal Family of England, and, amongst numerous other honours paid him, he was splendidly entertained at dinner, by the Lord Mayor, on the 23rd of September. At the usual period of election, in 1769, William Beckford, Esq., of Font-hill, was chosen Lord Mayor, for the second time, for the ensuing year. This gentleman, by his strenuous assertion of the rights and privileges of the City, in opposition to the views of the Court, gave great offence to the latter. There is a marble tablet to his memory, in Guildhall, representing him robed, and in the act of delivering a remonstrance to the King on the 23d of May, 1770. The memorable "No Popery" riots of 1780, in which between four hundred and five hundred people were killed and wounded, were followed by a change of Ministry in 1781; and, in 1783, peace was concluded with France, Spain, Holland, and America, and the Shelburne Ministry was compelled to resign. In 1789, his Majesty's recovery from a long and severe mental affliction was celebrated (April 26) by a procession of the Royal Family, attended by the two Houses of Parliament, to St. Paul's Cathedral to return thanks to Almighty God. The war of the French revolution, dooming millions to death, soon afterwards broke out, and was finally terminated only by the victory of Waterloo, achieved by Wellington on the 18th of June, 1815. For three great naval battles fought and gained by the Lords Howe, St. Vincent, and Duncan, the King, Queen, Royal Family, and Parliament, went in procession to St. Paul's to return thanks, on the 19th of Dec., 1797. A brilliant general illumination followed. The peace,

or "hollow armed truce of Amiens," was proclaimed in 1801 - but hostilities soon afterwards recommenced, and a threatened invasion by France called forth a patriotic volunteer spirit in the kingdom. In London and Westminster alone, and the parishes immediately adjacent, the number of effective volunteers amounted to 27,077. This appears by the general orders which were issued from the Horse Guards, after the volunteer reviews by his Majesty in Hyde-park. A jubilee, in celebration of the King's entrance on the fiftieth year of his reign, was held on the 25th of October, 1809. In February, 1811, the Prince of Wales was invested with the Regency; on which occasion he soon afterwards gave a grand *fête* to a company of two thousand persons at Carlton House. Consequent upon the abdication of Napoleon Buonaparte as Emperor of France, and the accession of Louis XVIII. to the throne of that kingdom, London was visited, in the summer of 1814, by a concourse of illustrious visitors, in number and rank surpassing any former example. At the head of those distinguished foreigners were the Emperor Alexander of Russia, and his sister the Duchess of Oldenburgh, and the King of Prussia with his sons. The splendour of their reception and the public festivities induced by their presence, were unprecedented. On the 9th of June the Sovereigns and Princes were received in state at Carlton House; and on the 18th, they were sumptuously entertained by the Mayor and Corporation of London at Guildhall. On the 7th of the following month, the Prince Regent went in solemn state to St. Paul's, to return thanks for the restoration of peace. On the 9th, the Duke of Wellington was entertained at Guildhall in the same magnificent manner that had been displayed when the Royal guests were present. All these gratifying exhibitions proved to be, in some measure, premature. The security of France was again endangered, and

the peace of Europe disturbed, by the escape of Buonaparte from Elba, and his sudden reappearance in arms. However, the triumph of Waterloo terminated, in a few days, his Imperial career ; and the narrow boundaries of St. Helena became the resting-place of a spirit in whose eyes thrones had been but toys, and to whom the destinies of empires were familiar and subservient things.

From the reign of George the Third, which finally closed on the 29th of January, 1820, is dated the foundation of the Royal Academy of Arts, the annual exhibitions of which were held at Somerset House, in the Strand, till 1837. In this reign also were built the bridges of Waterloo, Blackfriars, Southwark, and Vauxhall.* By the introduction of gas, in 1807, a noble improvement was effected in the illuminations of streets and houses.

His Majesty, George the Fourth, was crowned in Westminster Abbey, on the 19th of July, 1820. On this occasion, the old crown of Edward the Confessor was used. The procession from Westminster Hall to the Abbey was gorgeous beyond all precedent. At six in the evening, three hundred noble persons, besides the Royal Family, sat down to a sumptuous dinner in the Hall ; the theatres were thrown open to the public ; and illuminations and fireworks met the fascinated eye in every direction.

As King, with all the forms of Royalty, his Majesty's reign was brief. He expired on the 26th of June, 1830 ; and was succeeded by his next brother, William the Fourth, who, with his Royal consort, Queen Adelaide, was crowned on the 8th of September, 1832. From the advanced age and infirmity of the Sovereign, his coronation was of a less ostentatious character than that of his predecessor.

On the 9th of November, 1830, their Majesties intended t

* *Vide* page 69.

have honoured the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London with their presence at dinner in Guildhall, but were prevented doing so by the fear of a disturbance. The arrangements for this festival were similar to those adopted on the visit of the Foreign Princes in 1814.

The opening of the new London Bridge, on the 1st of August, 1831, was attended by their Majesties in state. The Royal Cortegé went by water, and never did the face of old Father Thames assume such gaiety of appearance. On the King's reaching the top of the landing-stairs, the sword and the keys of the City were tendered to him by the Lord Mayor; when his Majesty was pleased to return them, signifying that they should remain in his Lordship's hands. Adjacent to the site of the new Fishmongers's Hall (a magnificent structure replacing the old one, pulled down in favour of the approaches to the Bridge), was erected an elegant pavilion for the accommodation of their Majesties, the Royal suite, the civic authorities, and the more distinguished of the company. In this pavilion, the whole party afterwards partook of a princely collation.

Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, on the decease of her Royal uncle, June 20, 1837, ascended the throne. On the 9th of November ensuing, her Majesty proceeded in state to Guildhall, to dine with the Mayor and Corporation. The Queen was received at Temple Bar by the civic authorities; the day was regarded as a public national festival; at night, along the whole line of the returning procession, the illumination was general; and nothing could surpass in enthusiasm the joy and delight evinced by the people at large.

Her Majesty was crowned on the 28th of June, 1838; and, excepting that no coronation banquet was given, the ceremony was of a splendid and imposing description. On no previous occasion was London so full of people,—the country was

literally depopulated, and the day was considered in every respect as a national holiday; and few Sovereigns have arrived at the crown attended more universally with the fervent wishes of the people, for a long, prosperous, and happy reign.

The giant strides made by steam-power, both by the deserved encouragement given to Railroads, which intersect the kingdom in every direction likely to benefit commerce,—and the laudable enterprise of the various Steam-Navigation Companies in their efforts to afford every facility and comfort in this delightful and economical species of travelling, as also to render more binding the happy commercial union of Britain and America, by making a voyage across the Atlantic merely a “holyday-trip,” will distinguish the years 1838-9, in our country’s annals, especially as regards the City of London, that being the grand focus of all enterprise.

The absurd disputes between the City sticklers for exclusive right to build their “own Exchange,” (i. e. at the expense of the country, by an extra duty on Coals), in their own *exquisite taste*, without reference to the Lords of the Treasury, was settled by the Building Committee yielding *graciously* to the power which they could not control.

The stern opposition of the City to the New Police Act was crowned with signal success, and they continue to enjoy, in the plenitude of their greatness, the privilege of selecting their own “thief-takers!”

The passing of the New Police Act (which greatly enlarged the power of that useful body) has produced the most beneficial effects upon the “morale” of the metropolis. Those frightful scenes of bestial drunkenness, and its concomitants, no longer desecrate the Sabbath, which, formerly, rendered the public highways impassable to the well-conducted—nor are the slumbers of the tired “useful” disturbed by the boisterous blaguardism of the drunken and the dissolute. Stealing knockers, and ringing bells, has ceased to be laughed at as

fashionable frolics; and the fear of the treadmill has proved the best cure for these exuberances of aristocratic wit.

But, above all, the New Postage Act will incalculably promote civilization—the interchange of affection and sympathy will no longer be confined to the upper classes; and many an anxious parent's sorrowing heart will be lightened of its burthen by the "pot hooks and hangers" from a distant child—the unheeded "penny" will often bring consolation to the "bruised reed" of many who have drank deep of "sorrows cup." Mankind *must* become wiser and better by this increased communion of thought and sentiment.

A proposition has received the City's approval, for a splendid quay from London to Vauxhall. This, if carried into effect, will render the banks of Old Father Thames unrivalled for beauty and convenience, and approach a little towards the Parisian method of managing these matters. In 1839 great exertions were made to throw open the passages of all the bridges over the Thames—the doing away with such exactions must be considered as a great boon, not only by those who reside in the immediate neighbourhood of either side of the bridges, but also by those who have occasion to pass over them night and morning, in coming from and returning to their domiciles "beyond the City's smoke." Besides which, the improvements contemplated by Sir Mathew Wood's Act, will, when carried into effect, do much to add to the comfort and convenience of the Metropolis. This Act, includes, among other things, the continuing of Oxford St. to Holborn, direct by cutting off the angle at High St., St. Giles's—taking down the north side of Middle Row, Holborn—the continuation of Farringdon St. to Islington—widening the Strand from St. Mary's Church to St. Clement's—and a new street from St. Clement's Church, to Holborn,—in addition to other improvements both at the East and West ends of the town.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION, 1851.

THE PALACE OF GLASS.

It is quite unnecessary to enter into the particulars of the private history of the origin of the Crystal Palace. The first idea of this magnificent and stupendous pile originated in the mind of that indefatigable and scientific man, Mr. Paxton, of whom the Duke of Devonshire very truly said, "I never knew Mr. Paxton resolve to undertake what he did not fully accomplish." It is enough to say, that Mr. Paxton's plans were not laid before the Royal Commission until they had nearly, if not quite, decided upon the adoption of one out of the numerous specifications which had been presented to them. Such, however, were the advantages as well as the simplicity and unity of Mr Paxton's design, that it was eventually unanimously chosen, not only by the Building Committee, but by the Royal Commission.

We will now give a brief description of the building—this tremendous pile of transparency! It stands on the piece of ground, on the south side of Hyde Park, between the ride known as Rotten Row, and the Knightsbridge road; occupying eighteen acres of ground. It is full 1848 feet long, and is crossed by a transept of 108 feet high, inclosing a row of elm trees, and dividing the whole length into 948 feet on the one side, and 900 on the other. The entire structure is composed of glass and supports of iron, excepting the joists and flooring, which are of timber. The columns are similar throughout, and the same may be said of each of the sash-bars, and of each pane of glass. There are about 2,244 cast-iron girders, for supporting galleries and roof, besides 1,128 intermediate bearers or binders, 358 wrought iron trusses for supporting

the roof, 34 miles of gutters for carrying water to the columns 205 miles of sash bars, and nearly 900,000 superficial feet of glass.

The total cubic contents of the building will be 33,000,000 feet; and the glass alone weighs upwards of 400 tons. The total amount of contract is £79,000; the contractors, Messrs. Fox, Henderson, & Co., retaining the materials. Should, however, the Commission keep possession of the Palace altogether, the cost will be £150,000. Not the least part of this astonishing enterprise is, that a palatial exhibition building providing a total exhibiting surface of eighteen acres, and affording space for *nine miles* of tables, should have been put up in about four months, at a cost of less than a penny farthing a cubic foot!

Commissions have been formed in almost every city and town in the United Kingdom, as well as in nearly every place of importance in the civilized world, in order to forward the objects of the Exhibition. Austria, Hungary, Spain, Turkey, France, America, Belgium, Russia, India, Persia, China, and numerous other countries, have made applications for space to be allotted them for goods intended for the Exhibition; and in some cases as many as 100,000 square feet have been agreed for.

The articles which will be exhibited are too numerous to be enumerated. The first section will comprise raw materials and produce. The next division will be that of machinery of all kinds. In this department the production of our own country will bear a most important part. It has justly been remarked, in reference to this section of the Exhibition, "That every one may be able to see how cloth is made for his clothes, leather for boots, linen for shirts, silk for gowns, ribbons and handkerchiefs; how lace is made; how a pin and needle, a button, a knife, a sheet of paper, a ball of thread,

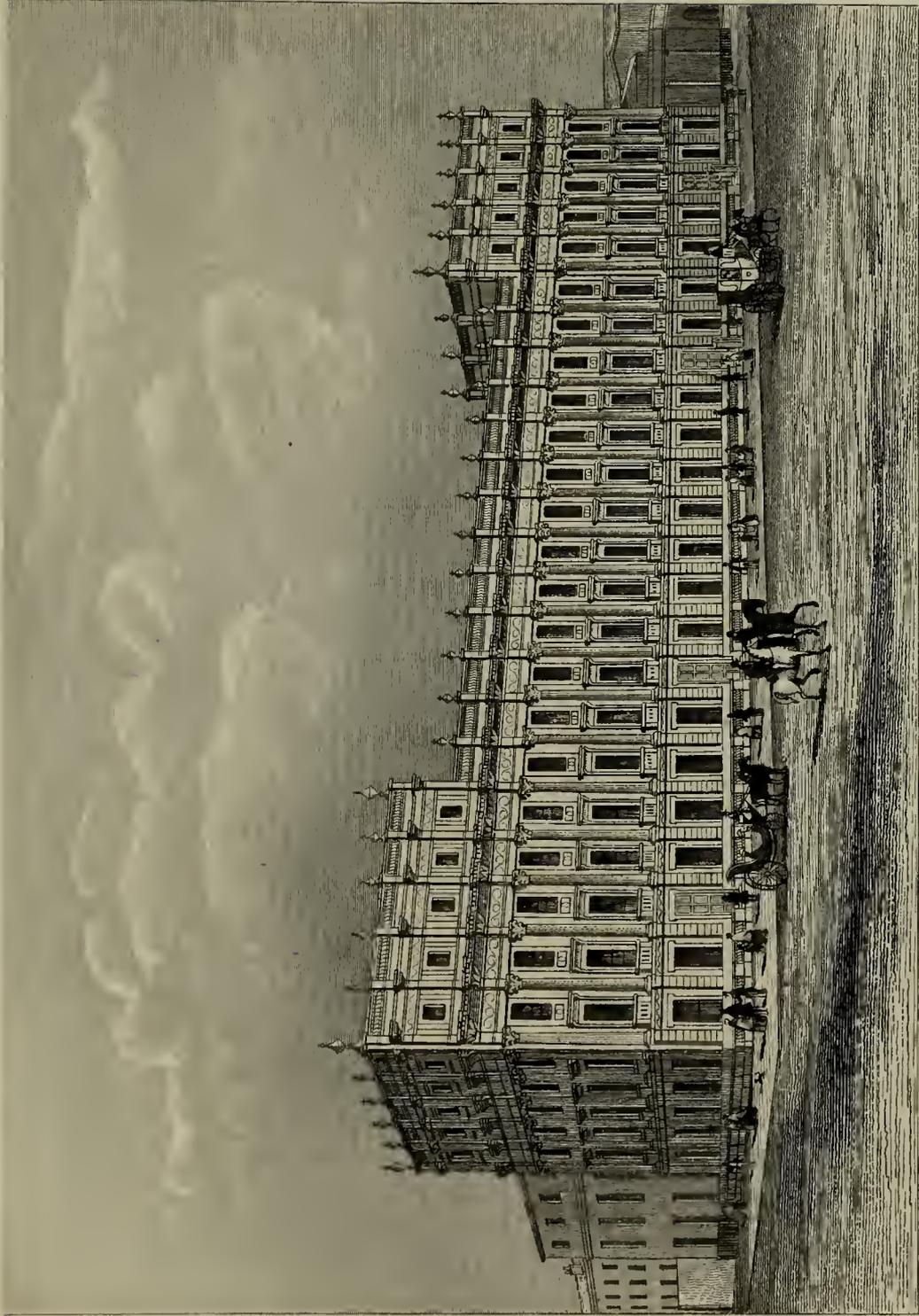
a nail, a screw, a pair of stockings are made ; how a carpet is woven ; how a jug, cup and saucer, and plate are turned and pressed, and the mode in which a spoon is beaten or cast. In addition to this, machinery will be exhibited in motion ; the printing press will be seen in action ; and every process, indeed, by which a lump of the rude metallic ore is converted into the delicate watch-spring, or into a pin or needle. Among the models of engineering structure will also be exhibited that of the Britannia-bridge, the plan of the Barage of the Nile, and the most important of the dockyards of the country."

In the third section, which includes fabrics, spun, or woven, from flax, hemp, and cotton, will be exhibited articles either plain, or figured, in the loom, as well as printed and coloured, such as linen, canvass, calico, lace, embroidery, and every variety of fancy work.

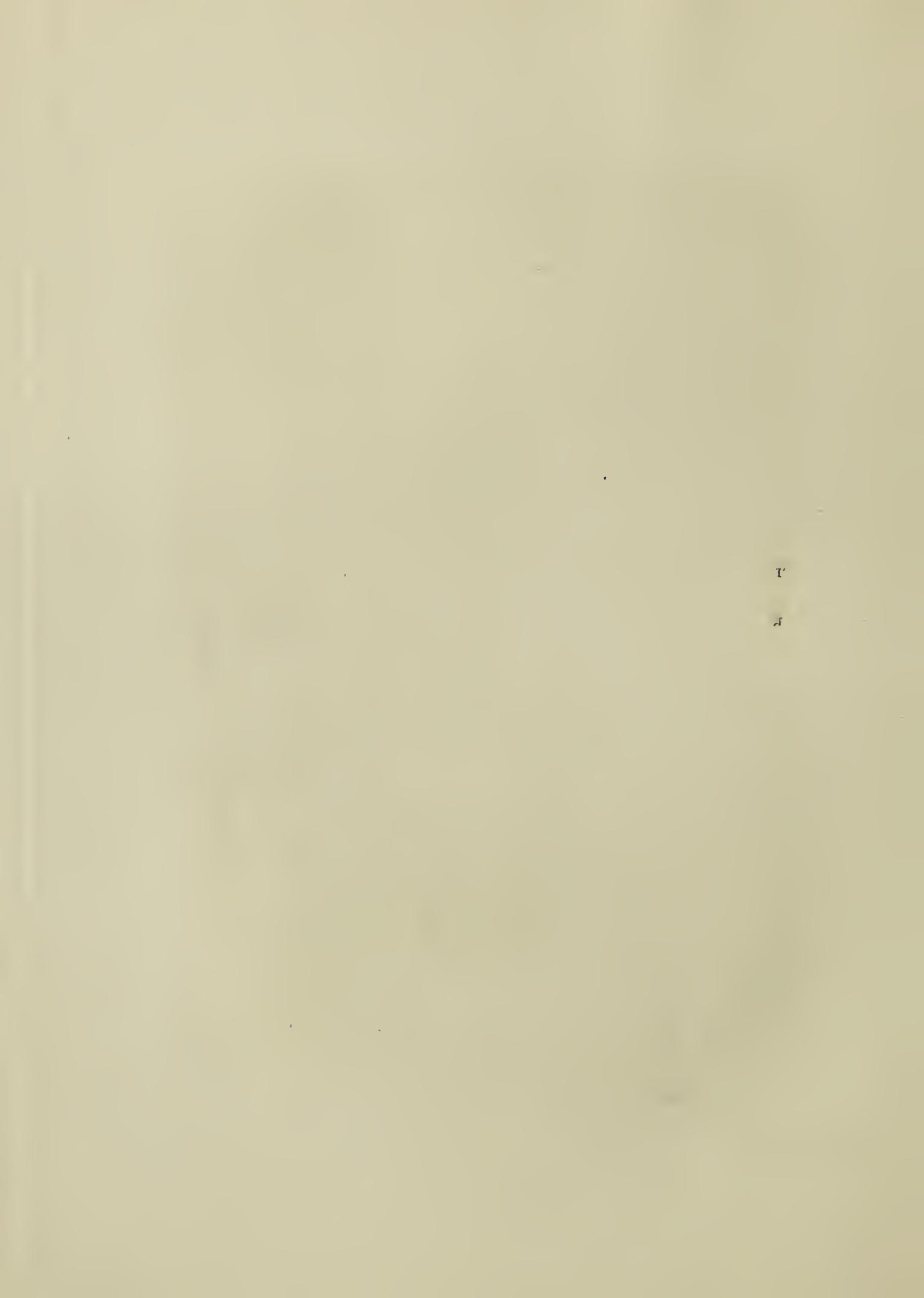
The manufacturers in metals will furnish a vast catalogue of articles, alike ornaments to the palace and to monarchs, as well as of utility to the cottage and its inmates.

Glass, porcelain, earthenware of all kinds ; ivory, bone, horn, parchment, leather, shells, feathers ; silks, satins, carpets, shawls, and a host of other articles from all quarters of the globe, will be exhibited.

We must now conclude our brief account of this "Great Industrial Building," by noticing some of the principal products which will be found in the fourth or last division of the articles for Exhibition :—" It includes those productions which tend to illustrate the taste and skill displayed in the application of human industry to the raw material in the productions of sculpture, models, and the fine arts. The subdivision of this section includes sculpture, as a fine art, in metals, whether single or compound ; in minerals, whether from marble, stones, gems, or clay, or in glass or porcelain ; in woods and other vegetable substances, and in such animal substances as ivory, bone, shells, and cameos. Die sinking,



TREASURY, WHITEHALL.



intaglios, and medals form the second division; architectural decorations, whether integral, in relief, or colour, or adventitious, as in stained glass and tapestry. The fourth division is that of mosaics and inlaid work in stones, tiles, vitrified materials, wood, or metal; the fifth, enamels or metals, china or glass; the sixth, materials and process applicable to the fine arts generally, such as fine-art printing, models of architecture, and topography; and anatomy will constitute the seventh and last division."

THE TREASURY

Is situated at St. James's Park, and is built of stone, and embraces the Tuscan, Doric, and Ionic orders of architecture. The north front faces the parade.

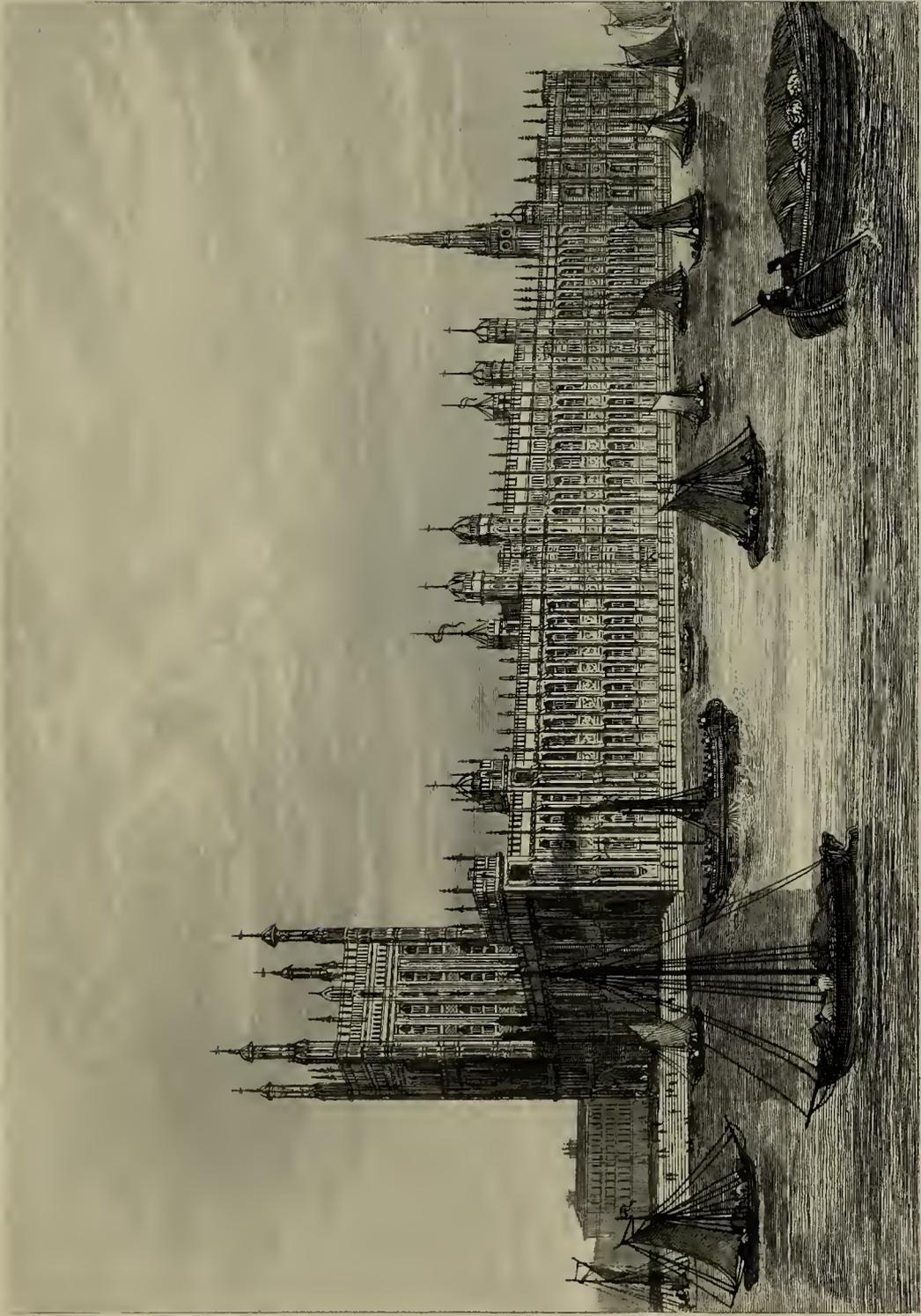
This place was, till lately, a brick building of the most gloomy, not to say tasteless kind. It has, however, assumed a very different character under the transforming hand of Mr. Barry; for now, indeed, it is a very splendid palatial façade, "within whose walls is lodged the moving principle of British authority—the power of the purse. And yet England's Treasury contrasts strangely with the school-boy notions of a Treasury that cling to us. Here are no ingots of gold and silver, no stores of jewels, no piled-up substantia wealth. Plainly-dressed men, with about as much small-change as may suffice for the expenses of the day in their pockets, go out and in. Scraps of paper are handed about with large sums written or engraved on them. The abstract idea of money inhabits the empty halls; the power of endowing men with a magnetic power of attracting gold to them after they issue from the doors is there—nothing more. It is like the chests full of sand which the Spanish Jews are said to have received in pawn from the Cid, and to have guarded

with scrupulous care, believing they contained the hero's plate and jewels. The chests contained something better than gold—the Cid's "promise to pay;" and the Treasury contains something better still—the collective faith of the British nation. The unseen, remote wealth at the command of this vacant Treasury exceeds what eastern imagination piled up in the cavern opened to Aladdin. In this building is deposited the talisman that keeps together the social fabric of the empire."

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

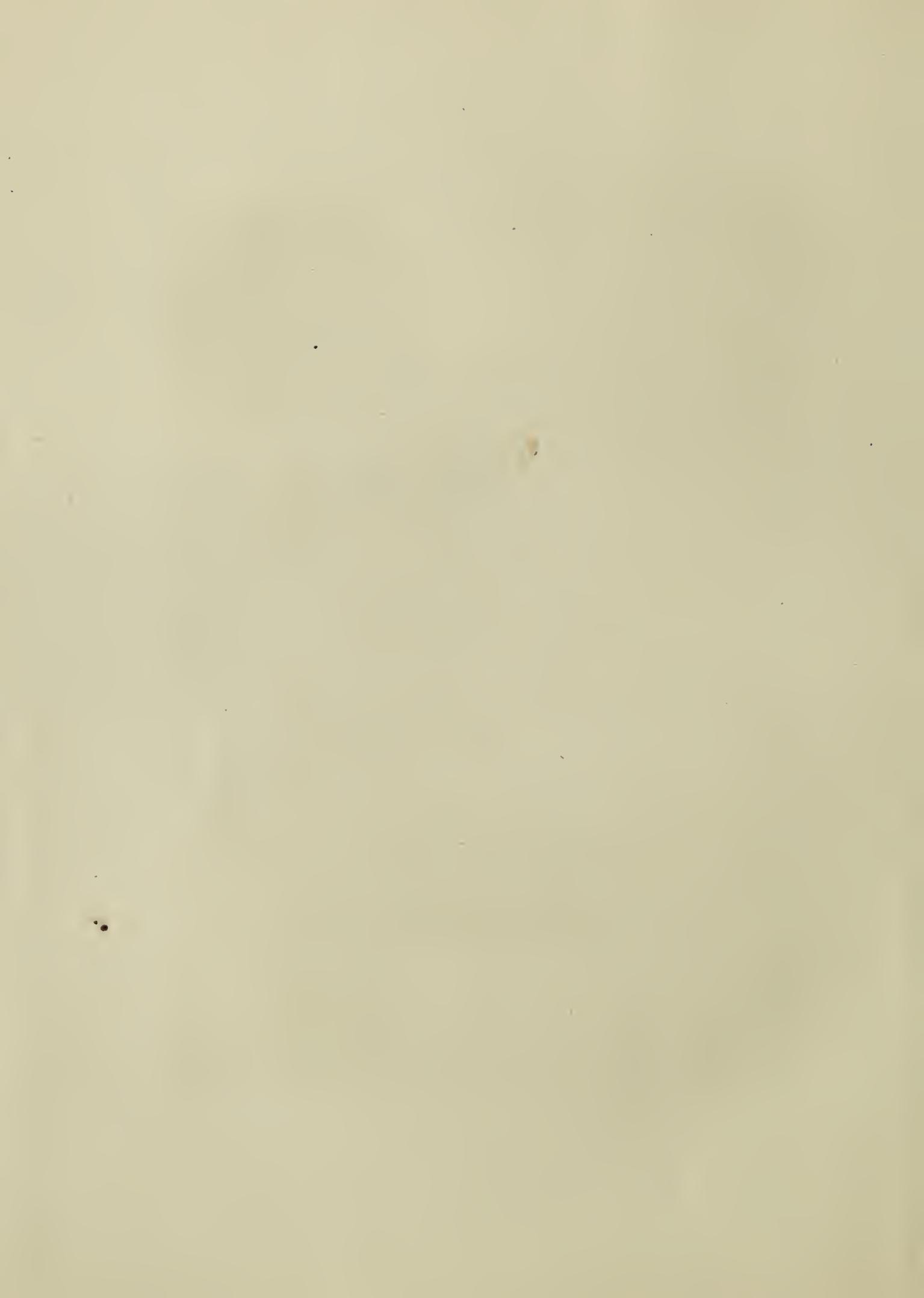
ON the 15th of October, 1834, the old Houses of Parliament were destroyed by fire, and six years afterwards the new Palace of Westminster was begun, from the designs of C. Barry, Esq. Much credit is due to this eminent architect for the great simplicity as well as beauty which characterizes the whole of his plan for the erection of this truly national edifice. The Central Hall is of an octagonal form, and is about seventy feet square; and it is through St. Stephen's Hall and Porch by which you reach it. There is a communication from this Hall, by a flight of steps, with Westminster Hall. This approach forms an object of great magnificence. A corridor from the north of the Central Hall leads to the Commons' Lobby and the House of Commons. There is also a corridor to the south, which conducts to the Peers' Lobby and the House of Peers. Victoria Hall, the Royal Gallery, and the Queen's Robing-room, are in a line with the House of Peers, though a little further to the north. Her Majesty's state entrance is at the south-west corner of the pile, in Abingdon-street.

There may be some difference of opinion as to which will be the most picturesque view of the New Palace. Some maintain that the west, or land-front, will ultimately be the



Dryd & Currier, Sc.

HOUSE OF LORDS.



richest and most magnificent ; while others contend that the river-front, on account of its magnitude, (covering, as it does, nearly a thousand feet in length,) will be by far the grandest object of attraction in the new pile. If the latter opinion is the correct one, it seems to be a matter of regret that so much exquisite work should be "wasted on the desert air" of the Thames ! However, this complaint may prove too premature ; for it must be borne in mind, that at present only *parts* of the whole intended structure are to be seen ; and that it is impossible to judge correctly of the aspect of the *whole* of this magnificent edifice from any one of the points which have been mentioned. When completed, it will cover an area of nine statute acres.

The Great Tower will reach the gigantic elevation of three hundred and forty-six feet, and the building will be adorned with towers of lesser magnitude. There are fourteen halls, galleries, and vestibules ; eight first-rate official mansions ; libraries, waiting-rooms, dining-rooms, and clerks' offices in abundance ; and eleven greater courts, and a score of minor openings, give light and air to the interior of this superb fabric. Its cubic contents are stated to exceed fifteen millions of feet, which is one-half greater than St. Paul's ; and it comprises not less than between five and six hundred different apartments.

We can only barely mention some of the rooms and apartments which the New Palace of Westminster will contain beyond those already referred to. The Prince's Chamber, so called, in order to preserve the remembrance of a former chamber, similarly named and located, in connection with the old House of Lords. This chamber is to be decorated with a series of portraits of kings, in oil, on a gold ground. The colours of the roof are blue and gold, wonderfully brilliant. Carvings are distributed over the walls in the greatest profusion. The chimney-piece is a gorgeous combination of

colours and ornamental workmanship; furniture, fittings—all are on a scale of corresponding splendour.

The Norman Porch differs most refreshingly from every other architectural feature of the New Palace, although it beautifully harmonizes with them. A fine picturesque effect is obtained by looking through the arched depths of the porch on the right, across to the Guard Room, and its lobby beyond. There is to be painted in fresco Young Talbot defending his father in battle, and Isabella Douglas barring the door with her arm, to protect James I. of Scotland. There will also be a subject in fresco in the lobby, of St. Edward the Martyr, slain by the Danes. The Royal Staircase, although of chaste design, and pure magnificence, does not possess any ornaments except the windows, and slender shafts, and mouldings that ascend the walls, and run over the roof.

THE COAL EXCHANGE.

THIS building was erected in 1849, from the designs of the corporation architect, Mr. Bunning. It is situated in Lower Thames-street, near the Custom House; and in it is carried on one of our most stupendous and important trades. The visitor ascends the steps of a beautiful sort of round tower, and passes through the folding swing-doors of the principal entrance. There is a space, or little vestibule, here, which forms the base of an iron well-staircase; at the very top of which is seen, through the coiling balustrades, a painting in the Rubens' style of colouring. Having arrived at the grand central market, we find ourselves in a circular area, boarded with oak planks of a light and dark hue. Around the floor of the area, at intervals, there are long desks of new polished oak, with ink-stands let into the wood, provided for the use of those persons who visit the building for the purpose of transacting business. There are also numerous private offices



CONSTANTINOPLE.

and recesses, which, for neatness and orderly appearance, do not exactly comport with the fanciful and emblematic pictures and designs which cover the panels of the wood-work that separates these offices.

Returning to the principal entrance, we ascend to the first gallery. Here the panels are all painted as below; the subject of most of them appears to be a colliery—that is, the works above ground, such as the little black house of the steam engine, with its long chain passing over the drum, and then over a wheel above the pit's mouth.

The second gallery, like the previous one, is of cast-iron. There is a picture of Newcastle on one side the semi-circle, with its iron bridge and railway combined, and its old stone bridge below; while on the other side is a picture of Durham, with its cathedral rising among the trees. Several other paintings are to be seen in this gallery,—such as that of a miner in his under-ground dress, and another of the same class of men with a Davy-lamp, &c.

The upper gallery contains at its entrance a painting of “Shields” on one side, and “Sunderland” on the other. The former is a very truthful and well-executed moonlight view of colliers on the river; and the latter, which is also a night-scene, attracts especial notice, in consequence of its faithful representation of Sunderland's one-arched bridge, which is so high above the water, that a collier can pass underneath without striking her topmasts. There are numerous paintings round the panels of this gallery also.

The building is faced throughout with Portland stone, and contains on the ground-floor, besides various other suites of offices, an area of upwards of four thousand superficial feet. The height from the floor to the top of the dome is about seventy feet.

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SELECT

ILLUSTRATED TOPOGRAPHY

of

THIRTY MILES AROUND LONDON



Drawn by C. Marsden

Engraved by W. Horsfall

INTRODUCTION.

To point out to the inhabitants of this crowded metropolis the innumerable subjects of interest and natural beauty by which they are surrounded ; to furnish them with such a guide as shall relieve the pain of disappointment and lessen the labour of research ; to induce a more general taste for antiquarian, historical, and topographical inquiry ;—these are some of the leading objects of the present work.

Every individual is innately an admirer of nature ; and hence we find those whose pursuits throw them among the busy haunts of man eagerly seeking, at every opportunity, that relief which open fields and free unfettered air afford. It too frequently happens, however, that much important time is lost from the absence of a ready guide on whom we may rely. Such a *desideratum* it is here attempted to furnish. The illustrations will comprise a series of attractive places as they actually exist within the circuit of a pleasant ride, indeed we may say walk, round London ; and the descriptions will convey such matter as cannot so easily be portrayed by the limner's art, not only of the particular spot delineated, but also of neighbouring attractions, with the best mode of enjoying the more satisfactory gratification of a personal inspection.

To follow in the steps of such leaders as Lysons and Brayley, may be deemed presumption on our part ; but we would remind the reader that “time, which changes all things,” does not exonerate even Nature from mutability ; and more particularly in cases where Art has joined her train. The long period which has elapsed since either of the above writers gave his labours to the world, has produced many alterations in the localities they describe ; independently of which they left an ample field to gleaners, and no higher name than this we boast. Let us humbly submit, however, that we possess a greater claim to public patronage than is here intimated. The works just alluded to are, it must be borne in mind, too costly to suit the wants of the many ; and we confess our inability to perceive why the

absence or paucity of this world's goods should exclude any individual from rational enjoyment.

With regard to the other object of our labours, it may be observed that the very terms Antiquity, History, and Topography—subjects inseparably blended—associate themselves in the mind of almost every reader with dry and uninteresting detail. But, in the words of a living author, “graphic illustration has a charm for all; and many who have at first been attracted by that alone, have insensibly acquired a relish for investigating the subjects thus introduced to them.” Now, without at all discussing the advantages of such investigations, which are many, it will be sufficient to say that we shall endeavour to aid our coadjutor, the artist, by conveying the information given in the most agreeable form our pen can dictate.

Hitherto our address has been to London readers; but this must not be construed into any intention of making them sole partakers of our intellectual repast; for we hope that many, who may be too distant personally to test the fidelity of our descriptions, will honour us by a perusal.

The vignette which decorates this number is somewhat allegorical of our task. It displays a view of London from a gallery near the summit of the shot-manufactory in Belvedere-road, which, with a little poetical licence, may be deemed the centre around which we draw our magic circle.



WINDSOR CASTLE.

CHATEAU DE WINDSOR

SCHLOSS WINDSOR

WINDSOR CASTLE.

EMINENTLY favoured by natural attractions, by historical associations, and by the circumstance of having been honoured with the residence of our monarchs from the period of the Conquest, Windsor will ever awaken an interest of the highest order in the breasts of Englishmen; and therefore we need offer no apology for having made it the first subject in this work.

The history of the castle and that of the town are so intimately blended, that it will be perhaps a difficult task to treat them separately; but as it is our intention to give future illustrations of this interesting spot, our present remarks will be confined to the castle, which the accompanying plate represents as viewed from Clewer-lane.

This magnificent and truly regal palace occupies a commanding position on the summit of a bold brow rising abruptly from the Thames, at a distance of about twenty-two miles W. by S. from London, and about two miles S. of the Bath road. The earliest mention of the place occurs in a grant made by Edward the Confessor, wherein he bestows "Wyndleshora, with all its appurtenances," to the monastery of Saint Peter, Westminster. The Conqueror, however, who, in the words of the old Saxon chronicler, "loved the tall deer as if he were their father," too readily appreciated the applicability of the situation to the purposes of his favourite amusement, to allow the monks to retain possession; and consequently we soon find him erecting here a castle, and surrounding it with an extensive forest. Henry Beauclerc first gave a palatial character to this castle, which was materially strengthened and augmented by subsequent monarchs; but to the third Edward, whose place of nativity it was, must be ascribed the foundation of the present magnificent structure. This prince, in 1359, commenced the removal of the entire ancient fabric, with the excep-

tion of three towers still existing in the western wall, and substituted the chief portion of the noble edifice now standing. These works were executed under the control of William de Wyckham bishop of Winchester, whom Edward had appointed superintendent or clerk of the works, and after whom the elevated tower fronting the keep is named.

Camden relates the following amusing anecdote of this officer. When the new palace was nearly completed he inscribed upon the wall, "This made Wyckham." The circumstance was invidiously conveyed to the king by a rival of the reverend architect; but Wyckham ingeniously shielded himself from royal displeasure in the peculiar ambiguity of the expression.

One of the most characteristic events connected with Windsor in the chivalrous reign of Edward, was the institution of the most noble Order of Garter. Various are the conjectures respecting the origin of this exalted order of knighthood. Barnes, in his History of Edward the third, derives it from the Phœnicians, whose mariners were accustomed to bind a blue or purple fillet round their bodies as an amulet against shipwreck. Rastell deduces its rise from an act of Richard Cœur de Lion, who, after the siege of Acon, encircled the legs of his bravest warriors with a leathern strap as a meritorious badge; while a third class attribute it to the circumstance of Edward giving the term Garter as a watchword on the field of Crecy. But the most popular version, and one whose general acceptance may be traced to the happy appropriateness of the conceit to the gallant spirit of that age, is the following, recorded by the fanciful Polydore Virgil:—Joan countess of Salisbury attended a ball held at the court of Edward the third, and while dancing her garter fell to the ground. The king immediately picked it up; and observing some of his courtiers smile at the incident, exclaimed, in the words of the motto belonging to the order, "*Honi soit qui mal y pense*"; adding, "in a short time you shall see this garter advanced to so high honour as to account yourselves happy to wear it." The opinion, however, of the most intelligent writers on

the subject is, that Edward, in furthering his claim to the crown of France, became impressed with the necessity of inspiring his nobles and followers with a high spirit of martial enterprise; and in this hope, and also with a view of uniting his best warriors in a bond of brotherhood, founded, as a substitute for the ancient institution of the Round Table of Arthur, that of the Garter. The device which gave this appellation to the order probably suggested itself as being an emblem of fidelity, and the motto is equally appropriate to a society formed on terms of mutual confidence. The number of individuals who originally received this badge of distinction was twenty-six, and this continued to be the extent of the confraternity until the year 1786, when the order was enlarged in consequence of the numerous progeny of George the third. The first ceremony took place in the year 1349, on the anniversary of the patron saint of England, when Edward and his twenty-five gallant companions were solemnly installed, in the presence of a brilliant assemblage, by William de Wyckham, whom the sovereign had constituted prelate to the order, an honour which has ever since attached to the see of Winchester.

This society can boast of having enrolled among its members many of the most illustrious names in the page of history: an admission, therefore, to such companionship may well be deemed an honour of the highest character.

During the period which elapsed between the accession of the house of Lancaster and the union of the two crowns of England and Scotland, the castle underwent various improvements; and in the year 1648 it became the prison of the unfortunate Charles, who, in the words of the chronicler Heath, kept his sorrowful and last Christmas at Windsor.

After the Restoration, Charles the second completely repaired the injuries the fortress had sustained during the republican war; embellished and richly furnished the interior; and made it his chief place of residence. Between this reign and that of George the third, Windsor appears to have been nearly deserted by the court.

The latter monarch, however, made the castle his almost constant

abode; and the alterations which took place under the superintendence of James Wyatt, Esq., surveyor-general to this king, far exceeded those in any preceding reign since the time of Edward the third. They embraced the erection of a new grand hall and staircase; the adaptation of a suite of rooms to the purposes of study; and such an arrangement of the apartments generally as should supply the comforts of a modern residence. Many incongruous features in the external architecture were remedied, particularly that of the circular-headed windows introduced by Charles the second, which were now restored to the pointed style of Edward the third.

Notwithstanding the vast extent of these improvements, George the fourth, on his accession to the throne, found ample scope for still greater additions and embellishments; and to the refined taste of that monarch, aided by the talents of Sir Jeffrey Wyatville, this home of England's kings owes its existing character of beauty and grandeur.

The castle, as it now is, occupies an area exceeding twelve acres in extent, and is arranged into the upper, middle, and lower wards. The upper ward is a spacious quadrangle, formed by the state apartments, Saint George's hall and guard-chamber, and the Waterloo gallery, on the north; by Their Majesties' private apartments on the east; by apartments appropriated to the use of the royal household and to visitors on the south; and by the keep on the west. The principal approach to this ward is from the Home-park on the south, through George the fourth's gate, which consists of a noble archway, twenty-four feet in height, supporting a double range of attendants' rooms, and flanked by two massive and lofty square towers bearing the respective appellations of Lancaster and York, the whole being crowned with projecting machicolated battlements resting on corbels.

Immediately facing the interior front of this gateway is the grand entrance to the state apartments. The approach is by a lofty groined hall of sufficient amplitude to admit carriages, formed by the arched basement of a square embattled tower, and leading to

a superb vestibule above, the walls of which are decorated with several beautiful niches richly canopied, and some exquisite tracery. This vestibule, which contains a fine marble statue of George the fourth, by Chantrey, communicates immediately with the state apartments, consisting of the queen's ball-room, drawing-room, closet, presence-chamber, and audience-chamber; the king's council-chamber, drawing-room, and closet; the throne-room, ante-chamber, and grand ball-room. A splendid collection of pictures, ancient and modern, is distributed throughout these rooms, and the ceilings also display some beautiful allegorical painting by Verrio. The tapestry and some exquisite carving by Gibbons will amply repay a close inspection. The interior arrangement is in a style of grandeur according well with the purposes to which the apartments are appropriated.

The grand ball-room, one of the latest additions to the castle, is a rich specimen of the gay and luxuriant style of Louis Quatorze. The floor is of oak inlaid with ebony fleurs-de-lis; the walls are paneled, and hung with a superb tapestry representing the history of Jason and the fleece; and the ceiling, together with the mouldings of the walls, is enriched with beautiful and elaborate carving. The window occupies almost the entire north end of the room, and is necessarily gothic, to correspond exteriorly with the other portions of the castle. Elegant folding-doors open to the throne-room, the Waterloo gallery, and Saint George's hall, the latter of which has been much enlarged by throwing into it the royal chapel. The original painted ceiling has been replaced by a magnificent gothic roof springing from emblazoned corbels. The hall is lighted by thirteen windows in the south wall; and opposite to these are recesses containing full-length portraits of the sovereigns of England since James the first. The east and west walls are occupied by music-galleries; and in front of that on the east stands the throne, the ascent to which is by oak steps. This chamber is appropriated to the banquets of the Knights of the Garter. A door under the western gallery opens into the new guard-chamber, which contains an extensive collection of ancient

armour, among which the celebrated silver shield inlaid with gold, presented by Francis of France to Henry the eighth, on the field of Cloth of Gold, occupies a distinguished position. At the south end, upon a pedestal made from the mast of the Victory, is a bronze bust of Nelson, supported by busts of Marlborough and Wellington, above which the tributary banners annually received from Blenheim and Strathfieldsaye form a characteristic canopy.

The Waterloo gallery, another recent building, is intended as a museum for the trophies obtained on the field of Waterloo, together with the portraits of eminent men connected with that battle, or in the negotiation of the peace which followed. It is a magnificent chamber, in the Elizabethan style of architecture, and receives light from a lantern extending the entire length of the ceiling. The range of buildings described above is the only portion of this ward accessible to strangers. A gateway in the north-east angle, flanked by two octagonal towers, and leading to the domestic offices, terminates the north side of the quadrangle; the appearance of which has been greatly improved during the late alterations, by giving additional height to the buildings, and forming the roofs into battlements. Near this gateway is a small square tower, communicating with a light, elegant, upper vestibule, in which visitors to His Majesty on any occasion of ceremony are received.

Their Majesties' private entrance, in the south-west angle of the ward, is by an embattled portico, supporting the royal arms in basso-relievo, and flanked on each side by a small turret; the whole being elaborately sculptured. Within the portico a beautifully designed staircase, above which rises an elegant oblong lantern, leads to a corridor, communicating on the east with the royal private apartments, and on the south with those of the visitors and household. This gallery is five hundred and twenty feet in length, and forms a covered promenade extending round the east and south sides of the quadrangle. The ceiling is paneled in square compartments, and embellished with variously designed patoras in burnished gold.

The royal apartments comprise a dining-room, two drawing-rooms, and a library, with subordinate chambers. These are illuminated from exquisitely enriched oriel windows which command a fine view of the Home-park ; and immediately in front is a beautifully arranged parterre, decorated with a fountain of truly classical construction, and bounded by a pentagonal rampart wall with bastions. The interior of this suite of apartments bears the impress of the most chaste and refined elegance.

The round tower or keep, with its subordinate offices, constitutes the middle ward, and is the official residence of the governor of the castle. It occupies a commanding position on the summit of an artificial mount, the ascent to which is by a covered way of one hundred steps, protected by a large piece of ordnance inserted in the wall. At the top of this a strong portcullised gateway leads into the main building, and side posterns open upon a curtain embraced for seventeen pieces of cannon. In 1829 the keep was raised thirty-two feet above its original elevation, since which it has borne the new appellation of Saint George's tower. It is now a handsome circular building, crowned with projecting machicolated battlements resting on massive corbels, and surmounted by a flag-turret twenty-five feet high, on which the royal standard is unfurled whenever Their Majesties are at the castle: the display of the union-jack indicates the presence of the governor only. The interior consists of a range of apartments, within whose walls two monarchs, in the persons of John of France and David of Scotland, jointly shared the miseries of captivity; and here the English Petrarch poured forth one of his most plaintive effusions, during a rigorous confinement imposed on him for eating flesh in Lent. From the summit of the keep the eye stretches over a truly magnificent panoramic view, in the foreground of which the towns of Windsor and Eton seem to point proudly to the security afforded by their noble castle.

The lower ward is bounded by the residences of the Knights of Windsor, and those of the members of the collegiate establishment of Saint George's church, which is the chief object of

attraction, and occupies the centre of the ward. The establishment consists of a dean, canons, minor canons, choristers, steward, treasurer, and other officers. The chapel is considered one of the finest specimens of the perpendicular style of architecture in the kingdom. It is a cruciform structure, supported by buttresses terminating in square embattled turrets, the transepts being formed by the projection of two octagonal sepulchral chapels. Several of these, on a smaller scale, range along the aisles, from which they are separated interiorly by elegant screens: one of them contains the cenotaph erected to the memory of the universally-lamented princess Charlotte. The internal arrangements of the chapel are superb, and in strict accordance with the purest character of the style. It is embellished with several fine monuments and some exquisitely stained windows; and over the altar is a painting of the Resurrection by West. The richly ornamented stalls of the Sovereign and Knights-companion of the Garter are ranged on each side and at the western end of the choir, in which the ceremony of installation takes place. To the east of the chancel is annexed a chapel commenced by Henry the eighth, and afterwards continued by cardinal Wolsey, as a place of sepulture. The substructure of this now forms the royal dormitory; and the chapel has been converted into a chapter-house.

Leaving this ward for the town we pass through Henry the eighth's gateway, consisting of an arch surmounted by a guard-room (in front of which the royal arms are sculptured) crowned with machicolated battlements, and flanked by two lofty, massive, octagonal towers, one of which forms the castle prison. Near this, in the south-west angle of the wall, is the Chancellor of the Garter's tower, forming, together with two others facing the west, and designated respectively Garter's and Julius Cæsar's towers, that portion of the original castle to which we have previously alluded. Proceeding by the outer wall of the cloisters, we reach Winchester tower, where the north terrace commences. On this is situated the Powder tower, the old and new Blenheim



FYFE'S CORN
SURREY

towers, Wyatville tower, and Brunswick tower, the latter of which contains an apparatus for heating the orangery. Along the east terrace are ranged Black Prince's, Chester, Clarence, and King's towers; of which the latter brings us round to the south terrace, terminating at George the fourth's gateway, already described.

Having now made a hasty tour of the castle, we relinquish our pen, with a promise to continue our description to the town and forest at a future opportunity.

EPSOM.

To venture upon a description of Epsom may probably appear a work of supererogation; for who among the world of London belles and beaux has not made the annual excursion to its races, or, having neglected to pay this essential tribute to fashion, would dare avow his ignorance of the place? But as we assuredly expect to have the honour of an entrée to drawing-rooms and boudoirs far distant from the metropolis, we may be pardoned for having devoted a portion of this our first number to the amusement, and we hope instruction, of our provincial friends.

Epsom, then, is a handsome, brick-built, populous village, in the eastern district of the hundred of Cophorne, western division of the county of Surrey, and distant fourteen miles and a half S.W. by S. from Westminster-bridge, on the turnpike road to Leatherhead, Dorking, Worthing, &c. It is delightfully situated on a gentle declivity at the western verge of Banstead-downs, whence the eye stretches over a magnificent prospect, embracing London, the two royal palaces of Windsor and Hampton-court, several considerable towns, and an infinite number of country seats; while in the foreground lies Epsom, picturesquely imbowered in the luxuriant foliage of several beautiful plantations. The spot it occupies was formerly designated Flower-dale, in consequence of its mild salubrious air.

Tradition derives the name from the Saxon compound Ebbs-hame, signifying the home or place of Ebba, who, according to Camden, was the daughter of Ethelfred, and was canonized for her sanctity. In Doomsday-book the name is written Evesham, and in subsequent records Ebbisham, from which latter word would readily spring the present appellation of Epsom. Tolond fixes the residence of Ebba at Epsom-court, which there can be little doubt was an ancient Saxon seat, and, in a less remote period, the manor-house of Epsom; but all traces of its former grandeur have disappeared, and it now only ranks as a respectable farm-house.

The parish comprises the ancient manors of Ebbisham, Horton, and Brettgrave or Bruttegrave, the latter of which has been long extinct. The manor of Horton appears formerly to have been a distinct parish, containing a populous village of considerable antiquity, with a church or chapel situated on Stamford-green, of which no vestige remains. At the period of the Conquest, and until the commencement of the sixteenth century, these manors belonged to the mitred abbey of Chertsey, which is supposed to have been erected prior to the year 666.

The celebrity of Epsom as a place of fashionable resort originally emanated from its mineral spring, the knowledge of whose medicinal properties is attributed to accident. It is recorded that in the arid summer of 1618 a farmer observing a spring on the common, formed a reservoir around it for the convenience of his cattle, and their refusal to drink led to the discovery that the waters were strongly impregnated with alum. The inhabitants afterwards used them for cutaneous disorders with success, and from this circumstance they soon attained high repute. Salts were subsequently prepared from them, and although sold at the extravagant price of five shillings an ounce, the demand far exceeded the quantity that could be produced.

This spring, now designated the Old Wells, is pleasantly situated about half a mile to the north-west of the turnpike road between Epsom and Ashted. A shed erected in 1620 by the

lord of the manor for the protection of the sickly visitors, speedily gave place to a better structure; and in 1690 Mr. Parkhurst erected a handsome ball-room, seventy feet in length, with suitable ante-chambers, and planted avenues of elm-trees, extending to, and for a considerable distance beyond, the village. These trees, which greatly enhanced the beauty of the place, were removed about thirty years ago. Coeval with the above improvements, a considerable increase took place in the village. Lodging-houses were erected; taverns, reputed to be the largest in England, were established; sedan-chairs and public coaches were licensed; and in the early portion of the eighteenth century Epsom had become the Spa of England.

Tolond, who resided at Woodcote-park in the year 1711, gives the following beautiful picture of the then state of society in Epsom: "I must do our coffee-houses the justice to affirm, that in social virtue they are equalled by few and exceeded by none, though I wish they may be imitated by all. A Tory does not stare and leer when a Whig comes in, nor a Whig look sour and whisper at the sight of a Tory. These distinctions are laid by with the winter suit in London, and a gayer, easier habit worn in the country: even foreigners have no reason to complain of being ill received in this part of the island. In short, as England is the most plentiful country on earth, so no part of it is supplied with more variety of the best provisions, both within itself and the adjacent villages, than Epsom."

And in describing the place he says, "the form of our village, as seen from the downs, is exactly semicircular, beginning with a church and ending with a palace, the Grove making, as it were, a beautiful knot in the middle. . . . When you are on the top of the downs, 't is one of the loveliest prospects imaginable, to view in the vale below such an agreeable mixture of trees and buildings, that a stranger is at a loss to know whether it be a town in a wood, or a wood in a town."

Shortly after the above period the waters lost their reputation, owing to the venality of an apothecary of the name of Livingstone.

This man, who had amassed a considerable property by his practice in the town, purchased an estate, on which he pretended to have discovered another and more efficacious mineral spring than that already opened ; and having erected a splendid assembly-room, pump-room, bowling-green, &c., opened the place under the title of the New Wells. In 1715 he obtained an assignment of the Old Wells, which he closed ; and from that time the town was rapidly deserted. This assembly-room, now converted into shops, forms the right extremity of our illustration.

A temporary restoration of the gaieties of Epsom took place during the scheming mania of 1720 ; one of the favourite speculations of the day being to make Epsom a place of country amusement for the citizens ; and for this purpose several large buildings were actually erected, and every species of profligate and vicious entertainment was introduced and prevailed in the village. About the same time the celebrated female bone-setter, Sarah Wallin, honoured Epsom with her presence ; and this eccentric being, who is reported to have rectified many extraordinary cases of malformation, was for some time the lion, or, if the reader please, lioness of the day : she eventually died in Saint Giles's in such distress as to require a parochial funeral.

The races of Epsom formed the next object of attraction to the place. In what year these were first regularly established appears doubtful ; but they can be traced periodically from 1730. The days of meeting are annually on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday immediately preceding Whitsuntide ; or a fortnight later if Easter occur in March. The course is on the downs adjoining the town, and is ornamented with a handsome stand. The races usually commence about one o'clock, and conclude soon after four ; and the following is the order in which the principal stakes are contested. On the first day the Surrey, the Shirley, and a sweepstakes ; on the second the Craven, the gold cup, and the Woodcote ; on the third the Derby, the Durdans, and the Denbies ; and on the fourth day the Oaks, a plate, and the Woodcote-park stakes. The fashionable race is the Derby ;

and the favourableness of the season, the gaiety of the equipages, the natural beauty of the surrounding scenery, heightened by the gay concourse, composed usually of several members of the royal family, the nobility and gentry of the district, and the whole rank and fashion of the metropolis, the fair sex forming a very considerable component of the aggregate mass, combine to render the scene one of the most brilliant and animated that can be conceived.

The town contains many handsome houses, with several elegant shops; and in an abundant supply of provisions ranks above most other places within the same distance from the metropolis. A weekly market, chiefly for corn, together with an ancient annual cattle fair, both of which had fallen into disuse, were renewed in 1833. The market, which was originally chartered by James the second, is now held every Wednesday; and the fair takes place on the twenty-fifth of July at a place called Clay-hill.

A branch of the West Surrey bank is established here; and gas-works and a mechanics' institute have been erected. The old clock-house and pond, which appear in the centre of our illustration, are situated about the middle of the town. The chief inns are the Coffee-house and the Spread Eagle, in the former of which the petty sessions are held. Letters are forwarded by a mail-cart to Kingston, where they join the Portsmouth mail. The delivery is at eight a. m.; and the post-office closes at ten p. m. Epsom has one regular morning coach; and several others from Worthing, Horsham, and Dorking pass through the town during the day. Some excellent private schools are established here; and at the entrance from London is a national subscription school, in which between seventy and eighty boys, and an equal number of girls, are instructed on the Madras system in all the useful branches of education.

The church, which is dedicated to Saint Martin, and the first stone of which was laid on the nineteenth of May 1825, stands at the southern extremity of Church-street. The old building, which was insufficient for the accommodation of the increased

population of the place, as well as being in a ruinous state, was taken down, with the exception of the north-west tower, and on the site was raised the present edifice, which is a neat structure in the early English style of architecture, the leading features of the old building having been carefully preserved. The new portion consists of a nave, a chancel, and side aisles, attached to the original tower, which is square, and surmounted by a light elegant spire terminating in a cross and vane. This tower is built upon arches, forming the approach to the north aisle, and beneath it stands the old font. The angle formed by the east end of the south aisle, and the south side of the chancel, is occupied by the vestry. The building is of brick, strengthened with some quoins, buttresses, and plinth, and faced with flints. The buttresses at the west front are continued above the cornice, being surmounted by octangular pinnacles terminating in finials. The interior presents a very elegant arrangement. The altar window is of stained glass, in three compartments; the centre one representing our Saviour after Leonardo da Vinci; while that to the north displays the royal arms, and that to the south the arms of the late bishop Tomline encircled by the garter, of which order he was prelate in right of his see.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Surrey and the diocese of Winchester. The patronage belongs to — Speer, Esq., and the great tithes to the present incumbent, as lay improPRIATOR. The vicarage house, also situated in Church-street, is an antique edifice, almost hidden from view by some fine trees.

The parish of Epsom is 3,970 English statute acres in extent; and contains 542 houses, which are tenanted by 624 families, amounting to a population of 3,231. It forms the head of a union comprising the fifteen parishes of Epsom, Ashted, Banstead, the two Bookhams, Carshalton, Cheam, Cuddington, Chessington, Cobham, Ewell, Fetcham, Leatherhead, Stoke d'Abernon, and Sutton. The union-house is erected at the south entrance of the town, on the site of the old poor-house.

Epsom and its neighbourhood can boast of having been the fa-



ST ALBAN'S ABBEY,

HERTFORDSHIRE

ST ALBANS ABBEY

L'ABBAYE DE S^t ALBANS

voured retreat of many eminent characters; and close to the town is the old palace—or rather its substitute in the form of a handsome and spacious mansion on the same site—of Durdans, said to have been erected by lord Berkeley out of the ruins of Elizabeth's palace of Nonsuch, and which is made the scene of some gay doings of the "merry monarch" in Leigh Hunt's *Sir Ralph Esher*. Sir Ralph's introduction to the afterwards celebrated Nell Gwynn also took place at Epsom. Connected with this and other mansions in the locality are many interesting historical events, a few of which we must endeavour to weave into a garland for a future birth-day or wedding-day present to some of our fair readers.

ABBEY CHURCH OF SAINT ALBANS.

IN the earlier stages of society, ere the cloud of superstition had been dispelled by the sunlight of truth, and when oral tradition was the almost sole vehicle of information, it is not surprising that every object of historical interest should have been invested with the veil of romance. Of this mixture of fiction with fact, the abbey of Saint Albans is an instance. The legend of its origin is, that Offa, the powerful Mercian prince, prompted by compunction for his treachery toward Ethelbert, king of East Anglia, who was basely murdered while at the court of Mercia, whither he had been invited under the plea of forming an alliance with Offa's daughter, resolved to follow the example of some of his crowned predecessors, by erecting a Christian temple; and being at a loss for a saint to whom he might dedicate the edifice, he was kindly relieved from perplexity by the vision of an angel directing him to exhume the body of Saint Albans, and place it in a suitable shrine. The king accordingly assembled his clergy and court at the ancient city of Verulam, where the object of their search had suffered martyrdom. A celestial ray is said to have guided them to the

precise place of sepulture. Amid religious solemnities the bones of the proto-martyr, after a lapse of five hundred years from the period of their interment, were once more brought before the light of day, and, after the king had placed upon the skull a circlet of gold inscribed with the name and title of the deceased, temporarily deposited in a small chapel without the walls of the city. The subject of this act of veneration was an eminent citizen of Verulam, named Albanus, who had been converted to Christianity by Amphibolus. Having boldly refused to abjure the new faith, he was the first to suffer under the Dioclesian persecution, and is hence styled the proto-martyr of Britain. It is recorded that the divine displeasure was openly manifested at his death by the executioner being deprived of sight as the axe descended upon the neck of his victim.

Offa now made a journey to Rome in order to obtain the sanction of the pope to his purposed foundation; and this being, as a matter of course, readily accorded, a magnificent monastery was erected at Holmhurst, the hill on which Albanus is supposed to have been decapitated.

From the following passage in Camden, however, it would appear that a previous edifice had been raised and consecrated to the memory of Saint Albans. After stating, on the authority of an old agonal, that the citizens of Verulam, who yet tenaciously adhered to Paganism, caused the sufferings of the saint to be portrayed on a marble tablet, which they fixed in their walls, as a warning to all who should embrace the new doctrines, he proceeds: "but when the blood of martyrs had overcome the cruelty of tyrants, the Christians built a church to his memory, which, as Bede tells us, was a piece of most admirable workmanship."

When the abbey founded by Offa was completed, the remains of the saint were re-interred with great ceremony in the centre of the presbytery beneath a marble slab bearing an inscription to the following effect: "Here lyeth interred the body of Saint Albans a citizen of old Verulam, of whom this town took denomination, and from the ruins of which city this town did arise: he was the

first martyr of England, and suffered the 17 day of June, in the year of Man's Redemption 293."

Willigod, a relative of the king, was installed as the first superior of this establishment, which consisted of a hundred monks selected chiefly from the monastery of Bec, in Normandy; and who here united themselves under the vows of Benedict.

Offa richly endowed the monastery, freed it from the payment of all imposts, and, from time to time, obtained for and granted it many immunities. Among these was an exemption from the payment of the pope's tribute, called Rome-scot, or Peter-pence; a privilege so peculiar, that, according to a quotation in Camden, "neither the king, nor the archbishop, nor any bishop, abbot, or prior, or any other person whatsoever in the whole kingdom, but this abbey alone, was exempted from." So early as the year 795, the abbots exercised both a spiritual and secular jurisdiction, having been invested with palatinate power similar to that enjoyed until recently by the sees of Durham and Ely. Notwithstanding the vast benefits thus conferred upon them, we learn from Matthew Paris, the historian, who was a member of this fraternity in 1259, that the ungrateful monks permitted the body of their founder to remain in a small chapel on the banks of the Ouse, near Bedford, until it was carried away by the floods.

Previous to the year 1000, Eadmer, who then occupied the pastoral chair, had commenced rebuilding a considerable portion of the monastery with the ruins of the old city; and these works appear to have been progressing, with intermissions, until about the year 1090. While Eadmer's workmen were excavating the materials, they discovered an old palace, within a closet of which was found a life of Saint Albans, in ancient British.

William, whose ambitious schemes had received a check from Frederic, abbot at the period of the Conquest, seized the whole of its revenues and lands, and eventually took possession of the monastery, which he would have destroyed, but was prevailed upon by archbishop Lanfranc to appoint his kinsman Paul to the abbacy.

But Frederic was not the only dignitary of this establishment whose boldness astounded the ear of princes; for Speed relates of William de Trumpington, that in 1217, when the Dauphin of France, amid his career of rapine and devastation, demanded homage from this prelate, he received for answer, "Lewis, thou must first absolve me from mine allegiance to the king of England."

During the abbacy of Robert de Gorham, in the reign of Stephen, Nicholas Breakspeare, "who was born at Abbot's Langley, a youth in age and comely in body, but an easy clerk, addressed himself to the prior, and humbly begged the religious habit." Being advised first to improve his education he went to Paris, where his natural abilities soon enabled him to overcome the effects of his previous negligence; and he then entered the monastery of Saint Rufus, near Valentia. This youth eventually filled the papal chair as Adrian the fourth, being the only Englishman who ever attained that ecclesiastical dignity. When pontiff he arrogantly compelled Frederic, emperor of Rome, to hold the stirrup of his horse; while his own death furnishes a singular proof of the small tenure of human pride, for he was choked by a fly.

From the period when Paul assumed the government the monastery of Saint Albans continued to flourish, increasing in size, wealth, and power, under twenty-six successive abbots. Richard Boreman, prior of Norwich, the last of these abbots, was appointed by the royal interest in the year 1538; and when Henry's commissioners came to the abbey, Boreman immediately resigned to them his seal of office; thus placing at the disposal of the crown revenues which, according to Speed, amounted at that time to 2500*l.* per annum.

Soon after the dissolution of the religious houses, nothing remained of this immense pile excepting the conventual church, which was purchased of Edward the sixth by the inhabitants of the town in the year 1553.

This venerable relic had been in a dilapidated state for some

years, when in the beginning of 1831 a large mass of the battlemented wall fell. A public subscription was then opened to defray the expense of a thorough renovation; the call was soon responded to; and the abbey church of Saint Albans is now restored to its pristine beauty, and will probably defy the corroding grasp of Time for several more generations.

This magnificent structure, which affords a fine scope for both the antiquary and the artist, occupies the summit of a knoll rising from the banks of the transparent Ver in Hertfordshire, twenty-one miles N. from London. The exterior form of the edifice is that of a long cross, comprising a nave, choir, presbytery, two aisles, a lady-chapel, and two transepts, at the intersection of which latter with the body of the church springs a massive, square, three-storied-tower, supported at the angles by buttresses terminating in circular turrets, and crowned with battlements. The architectural character of the building is thus described by Rickman: "It is as large as several of the chathedrals, and contains a series of work of almost every style and date. The tower, transepts, and some parts of the nave are Norman, of a plain and bold character. The four western arches on the north side, several more on the south side, and the three western porches, of which only one retains its original use, are early English. The choir and lady-chapel are of a date later than the western part, and contain portions of a transition from early English to decorated work. The screens, and some monuments, and monumental chapels, present excellent specimens of perpendicular composition. The choir and some other portions are groined, but the greater part of the church has plain flat ceilings, which have been variously painted. Many windows of later date have been inserted in different parts. There are several small portions, a water drain and other niches, of very excellent design and execution; and the whole church contains so many singularities and beauties, that it deserves the most attentive examination."

A decorated stone screen, erected to the honour of Saint Cuthbert by the fifteenth abbot, separates the choir from the nave: and over it is placed the organ, formerly belonging to the church of Saint

Dunstan in the east, London. Adjoining this on the west side is a chapel dedicated to the same saint.

The altar-screen, supposed to have been erected by abbot Wallingford about the year 1480, as a covering to the shrine of the patron saint, is a rich specimen of florid architecture; and contains a series of exquisitely carved canopied niches. On the south side of the chancel is the elaborately sculptured monumental chapel of abbot Ramryge; and directly opposite to this is a one of a more simple but truly elegant character raised to the memory of abbot Whethamstead. The presbytery, which is immediately behind the altar-screen, contains the splendid shrine of Saint Albans, near which is a curious wooden gallery where formerly monks were stationed to watch the tomb. The sepulchral oratory of the illustrious duke Humphrey, brother to Henry the fifth, and who was found dead in his bed while a prisoner in the monastery, occupies a space beneath one of the large pointed arches on the south side of the presbytery.

The living is a rectory in the archdeaconry of Saint Albans and diocese of London, and in the patronage of the mayor and corporation.

Saint Albans had always been a lively pleasant town till that monopolising locomotive leviathan, the "London and Birmingham Railroad," caused the great thoroughfare to the North to be engulfed within its mighty jaws. Still, however, the town has its attractions, and it is to be hoped its prosperity will not thereby be much injured.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

GREENWICH holds an interesting place in almost every page of British annals. If we carry our thoughts back to the remotest days of our Saxon progenitors, when rapine and superstition stalked in gaunt companionship through the island, Greenwich recalls the fabulous story of the conscientious weapon, that, imbrued in the



GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

L'HOPITAL DE GREENWICH

KRANKEN HAUS GREENWICH

blood of archbishop Alphage, "waxed suddenly greene againe, and began the next daye to blossome." Or, if we revert to the more remote period, when internal discord had happily terminated in the union of the Two Roses, the marriage pageants and merry doings of "bluff king Hal," the birth of England's maiden queen, the departure of the fleet destined to conquer the "invincible armada," the gallantry of the unfortunate Raleigh, the ludicrous interview between the pedantic James and Nigel, with a thousand other interesting associations, rush upon our recollection. And, again, let us examine the records of the present age, and we behold Greenwich the great emporium of our external commerce, and enjoying the restored privilege of returning two representatives to the British House of Commons.

But the proudest boast of Greenwich is its hospital, the immediate subject of this notice, and which is appropriated to the support of seamen whose best days have been spent in the service of their country. This certainly is an institution that reflects a glory of the brightest character upon England; and the fact that it was founded at the generous suggestion of a woman renders it the more interesting in the eyes of our countrymen.

The present edifice occupies the site of a palace named Placentia, built by the duke Humphrey, alluded to in the preceding article; "a man," says Lambarde, "no lesse renowned for approved virtue and wisdom, than honoured for his high estate and parentage." This palace afterward became the favourite residence of Edward the fourth, of the seventh and eighth Henries, of Elizabeth, and of James; and in 1649 it was assigned to the use of the Protector. Having fallen greatly into decay during the usurpation, Charles the second ordered it to be razed, and commenced erecting upon the site a stately palace of Portland stone, after a design by Inigo Jones. Of this, however, he only completed that portion now forming the west wing of the hospital, and which is reputed alone to have cost £36,000. To Mary the second belongs the honour of appropriating this regal abode to its present patriotic purpose. Sir Christopher Wren, with a nobility of mind that sheds a brighter lustre upon his memory than

the fame so justly awarded for the magnificent structures left by him to posterity, offered his gratuitous services toward completing the edifice commenced by Charles; and William the third granted the annual sum of £2000 for prosecuting the works, and as a fund toward carrying the plan into effect; at the same time appointing an extensive commission to frame statutes for the government of the institution, to which commission John Evelyn, the author of the *Memoirs, Sylva, &c.*, was appointed treasurer. The foundations of the new portions of the edifice were laid in due form on the third of June, 1696, precisely at five p. m. according to an observation taken by Flamstead, the astronomer royal. Evelyn tells us that the work proceeded slowly, "because the sum granted by the king was payable by exchequer tallies on the post-office, which nobody would take at thirty per cent. discount." What a picture is here presented of the existing credit of an establishment which now stands without parallel in the world! notwithstanding that great boon to the public, the reduction of postage, in 1840.

William and Mary afterwards settled other funds upon this hospital, the endowment of which was considerably augmented during subsequent reigns, both by royal grants and private munificence. The present annual revenue amounts to an aggregate sum of about £130,000, and is derived from the following sources. A deduction of sixpence per month from the wages of every seaman whether in the royal navy or the merchant service; the profits arising from the dues paid to the North and South Foreland light-houses, and bequeathed, with other property, in 1707, by Robert Osbaldeston, esq.; the rents arising from the escheated estates of the Earl of Derwentwater, which are situated in Cumberland and Durham, and comprise some valuable lead mines; the tolls of Greenwich market; a per centage on the freight of vessels entering the pool; the produce of various bequests; and all unclaimed shares of prize and bounty money. By an act passed in the tenth year of the reign of George the fourth, "for the better management of the affairs of Greenwich hospital," the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are constituted *ex officio*

governors of the charity; an appointment which gives to this body the patronage of several ecclesiastical benefices.

The privileges of the institution were originally intended for, and confined to, seamen of the royal navy; but they were extended in 1710 by queen Anne to disabled mariners belonging to the merchant service; and foreigners who have served two years in the British navy are now also placed upon an equality with natives. The hospital was opened in the year 1705, at which period fifty-two invalided seamen were placed upon the foundation. This number increased during the same year to one hundred; in 1708 it amounted to three hundred and fifty; and in 1738 to one thousand. The present total number of inmates is three thousand five hundred, of which two thousand seven hundred and ten are in-pensioners, three are matrons, and one hundred and sixty-two are nurses; the remainder being composed of superior and subordinate officers with their domestics.

The immediate management of the hospital is vested in a governor, a lieutenant-governor, five captains, and eight lieutenants; the other resident officers consisting of two chaplains, two physicians, surgeons, a secretary, &c. The in-pensioners have gratuitous lodging, clothing, provision, and medical attendance, with a weekly allowance of tobacco money; and each nurse, who must be the widow of a seaman, receives in addition to clothing and maintenance, an annual salary of 11*l.* for taking charge of the apartments and linen of the pensioners, and attending them when sick. Beside these about thirty-two thousand out-pensioners are provided for from the funds of the charity, which also gives support to an extensive school, called the naval asylum, for clothing, educating, maintaining, and apprenticing the children of seamen.

The hospital, which is considered one of the most beautiful specimens of Roman architecture in this country, occupies a site on the south bank of the Thames, nearly opposite to the southernmost point of the Isle of Dogs, and at a distance, by water, of five miles *E.S.E.* from London Bridge. The most favourable view of this magnificent structure, which consists of four detached

quadrangular piles of building harmoniously arranged, is obtained on the river or the opposite shore, from either of which situations the entire mass appears in singularly beautiful perspective. In the foreground a fine terrace, nearly nine hundred feet in length, and terminating at each extremity in an alcove, forms the northern or river boundary of a spacious quadrangle, flanked on the west and east by two splendid edifices of the Corinthian order. South of these, and projecting sufficiently inward to display advantageously the beautifully proportioned domes by which they are crowned, two other ranges constitute the eastern and western boundaries of a second, and more contracted, quadrangle; separated from, and elevated above, the principal square by a double flight of six broad steps. The eye is carried along the inner fronts of these buildings, by two noble Doric colonnades, to the naval asylum, which forms the background; while above this rises the royal observatory, amid the foliage of the park, presenting a bold but beautiful horizon to the picture.

The four ranges, which are of Portland stone, are named after the several founders, Charles the second, queen Anne, William the third, and queen Mary, and constitute respectively the north-west, north-east, south-west, and south-east wings of the hospital. The first range contains the apartments for the governor and lieutenant-governor, the council chamber, the governor's hall, and various subordinate offices, together with wards for four hundred and seventy-six pensioners; the second, apartments for other resident officers of the establishment, and wards for four hundred and forty-two pensioners; the third range comprises the painted hall, with wards for five hundred and fifty-nine pensioners; and the fourth, the chapel, with wards for one thousand one hundred and seventy pensioners.

The whole of the hospital may be seen by visitors, but the painted hall and the chapel, above which rise the fretted domes already noticed, are the general objects of attraction. The entrance to the former of these is through a vestibule, from which a handsome portal leads into the grand saloon; and from this we

ascend by a flight of steps to the upper hall, in which is deposited the funeral car of lord Nelson. The interior of this suite of apartments is richly decorated with an extensive variety of naval portraits, trophies, and emblematical paintings; and the exquisite embellishments of the grand saloon, painted by Sir James Thornhill, excite universal admiration.

Opposite to the entrance of the painted hall is that of the chapel, the roof and interior of which were destroyed by fire in 1779, and restored, after a design by Stuart, in an elegant and chaste style of Grecian architecture. From a vestibule adorned with statues of Faith, Hope, Meekness, and Charity, an ascent of steps leads through an exquisitely enriched portal into the chapel. The organ gallery rests upon four fluted Ionic columns of beautifully veined marble; and Corinthian pillars, rising on each side of the altar and of the entrance, support a lofty, arched, paneled roof, elegantly decorated with foliage. The upper part of the walls is embellished with a series of subjects from the life of our Saviour—painted in chiaro-oscuro, that of the Ascension being placed over the altar-piece.

Opposite to the east entrance of the hospital is a range of handsome brick buildings, consisting of the board-room and civil offices belonging to the establishment; and immediately without the west entrance is a similar range, comprising the infirmary, and a building for the reception of imbecile pensioners.

The edifice now appropriated to the naval asylum was formerly a palace belonging to the queen of Charles the second, to which have been added the wings now occupied as the school-rooms. The institution comprises an upper and a lower school; to the former of which are admitted the sons of commissioned and ward, room warrant officers, and to the latter, the children of inferior warrant and non-commissioned officers and seamen. An excellently conducted infirmary, attached to the school, offers its shelter to such members of this juvenile community as may be labouring under illness; while in the grounds, which are pleasantly and neatly arranged, is a gymnasium, where the boys are encouraged

in the practice of those athletic exercises that are at once so conducive to health of body and vigour of mind, and so essential to youths destined for nautical pursuits.

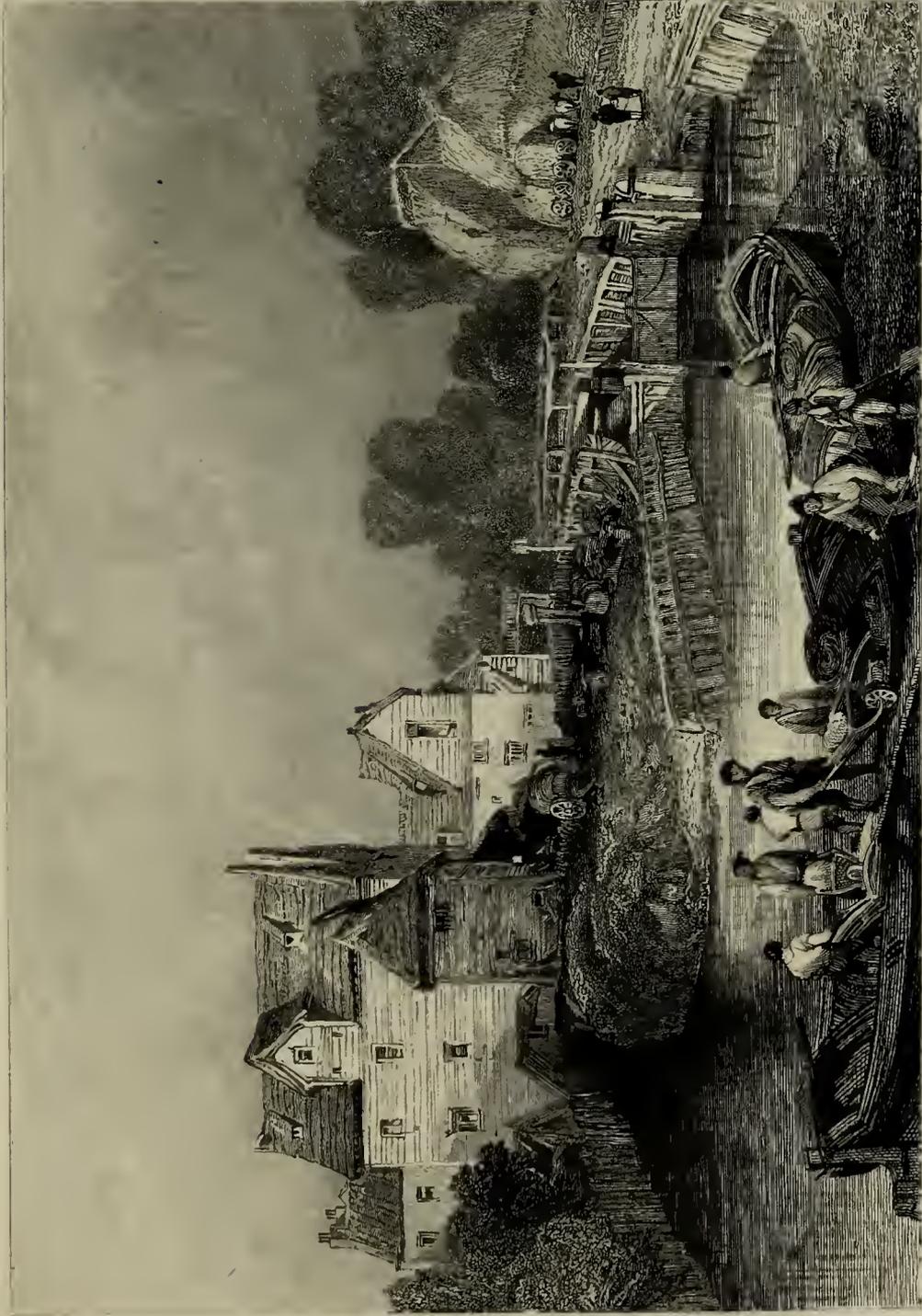
TOTTENHAM MILLS.

THIS is a locality well known both to anglers and artists; the former of whom resort here for the enjoyment of their favourite sport, while the latter are attracted by the picturesque scenery with which the neighbourhood abounds.

The mills, which form the subject of our sixth illustration, are situated on the river Lea, about half a mile eastward of the high cross at Tottenham; and probably, like most erections of the same character along the river, formerly belonged to one of the many religious communities, which had established themselves in this fertile valley.

In the early part of 1778 these mills were destroyed by fire, and in the year 1816 were considerably damaged by a flood; each restoration, however, was attended with such improvements as greatly to enhance the value of the property. They were formerly employed in the manufacture of paper, under the occupancy of Mr. Thomas Cooke, a great benefactor to the poor of Tottenham; but are now used as corn and oil mills. The lessee receives a toll from those passing the bridge, and also a yearly payment from the Lea and Stort navigation company, in compensation for the expense incurred in keeping the bridge and banks in repair.

Immediately to the east of the mills is one of the celebrated fishing inns to which Walton and his associates were accustomed to resort; and which is still frequented by modern Piscators, among whom it is known by the designation of Hughes' ferry. This house will be the subject of a future engraving.



J Henshall

Marshall

TOTTENHAM MILLS.

MIDDLESEX

TOTTENHAM MÜHLE

MOULIN À TOTTENHAM

BARKING.

BARKING is the name of a parish and small town in the hundred of Becontree, southern division of the county of Essex, and distant seven miles E. by N. from London. The town is situated on the east bank of the Roding, about midway between the junction of that river with the Thames, and the turnpike road to Chelmsford. It is a place of great antiquity, and at one period enjoyed considerable importance from being the seat of a nunnery, founded in the year 670 by Erkenwald, bishop of London; but these ancient glories have gradually departed, and about three years ago almost the sole remaining privilege of the place, that of a chartered market, was transferred to the more flourishing town of Romford. The market-house, a wooden edifice built by Elizabeth, remains; and a pleasure fair is still annually held on the twenty-second of October.

The etymology of the name, which Bede writes Berecing, is traced by some to the Saxon compound *beorce-ing*, signifying a meadow of birch trees, and by others to that of *berg-ing*, a fortification in the meadows. The latter derivation is strengthened by the circumstance of the remains of an ancient and considerable entrenchment being still perceptible on a farm designated Uphall, situated between the towns of Ilford and Barking. Mr. Lethiellier, who resided here in the middle of the last century, and who wrote a history of Barking, considers that this earth-work denotes the site of a Roman town, rather than the remains of a camp; and that the ruins of the supposed town were used in the erection and subsequent repair of Barking abbey; and in confirmation of this opinion he mentions having discovered Roman bricks in a portion of its foundations.

Barking nunnery is supposed to have been the first religious house for women established in this country, and was founded, as already stated, by Erkenwald at the earnest request of his sister Ethelburga, who was constituted the first abbess, and received,

at her death, the honour of a station among the saints of the Romish calendar. Erkenwald appears to have been the first to hold the prelacy of London after the erection of the church of Saint Paul by king Ethelbert; and the monkish historians are verbose in their praises of his unexampled piety and religious zeal. They inform us that, when the infirmities of age had produced a decay of his physical energy, he continued to exhort and instruct the people throughout his diocese from a litter, on which he was conveyed from place to place; and as nothing could be accomplished at that period without a miracle, it is related that upon his death, which occurred at Barking about the year 685, the desire to possess his bones created a disturbance between the nuns of Barking, the monks of Chertsey, and the citizens of London, which was only allayed by a supernatural decision in favour of the latter. The bishop was canonized, and in the reign of Stephen a splendid shrine was raised to his memory in Saint Paul's cathedral.

After the decease of Ethelburga several wives and daughters of monarchs, and other distinguished females, successively ruled the abbey until about 870, when it was burned by the Danes, and the nuns either dispersed or slain. About the year 970 the monastery was rebuilt and richly endowed by King Edgar, whose widow afterward presided as abbess; and soon after the arrival of the Normans in England, William established his residence here until the Tower of London should be completed. Matilda, queen of Henry the first, Maud, wife of Stephen, and Mary à Becket, sister to the archbishop, at later periods severally governed this monastery, of which little is recorded worthy of notice subsequent to the death of the last-named abbess. At the dissolution the annual revenues of the abbey were estimated, according to Speed, at 1084*l.* 6*s.* 2*¾d.*

The only remaining vestiges of the convent are an arch opposite to the workhouse, and a structure at the entrance of the parochial churchyard, called Fire-bell-gate from the supposition that it anciently contained the curfew. This gateway consists of a square embattled tower, with an octagonal embattled turret at



J C Bentley

C. Wareham

BARKING CEURCH.

ESSEX

ECISE DE BARKING

BARKING KIRCHE

each angle, extending from the base to a little above the battlement of the tower. The upper portion contains a chapel dedicated to the Holy-rod, a representation of which, in alto-relievo, appears on the interior wall. The windows of the chapel are decorated, and of three lights; immediately beneath them are the remains of two fine canopied niches; and the base forms a finely pointed arch enriched with deeply cut mouldings.

The parochial church, shown in our engraving as viewed from the west, is of a mixed style of architecture, and has been much mutilated both exteriorly and internally. The edifice is dedicated to Saint Margaret, and consists of a nave, a chancel, two north aisles running parallel, a south aisle, a small north-east chapel, and a square tower crowned with battlements, and having an octagonal embattled turret at the north-west corner. The interior contains one or two marble monuments, and a piscina in the nave is nearly obliterated by mortar.

The living is a vicarage in the patronage of the college of All Souls, Oxford, to which body also the impropriation belongs.

The manor of Barking, which probably constituted a portion of the endowment of the nunnery, remained in the crown from the suppression to 1628, when it was sold by Charles the second. It is now in the possession of the Hulse family.

At the north entrance of the town is a neat and spacious poor-house, erected in 1787; containing apartments appropriated to the education of indigent children, for which purpose a fund was bequeathed in 1641. A beautiful mansion, designated Bifrons, and whose grounds latterly formed the sole ornament of the town, has been destroyed.

A branch of the Roding, known as Barking creek, is navigable to the town, and northward to Ilford, for vessels of eighty tons burden, which supply the vicinity with coal and timber; and several boats belonging to Barking are employed in the Scotch and Dutch fisheries; this trade, together with the growth of potatoes for the London markets, furnishing the principal support of the inha-

bitants. A large corn mill is situated on the river near the spot from which our view is taken.

The parish of Barking, which is now embodied in the Romford union, is very extensive, and comprises the four wards of Barkingtown, Chadwell, Ilford, and Ripple. It is 10,170 English statute acres in extent, and contains 1486 houses, which are tenanted by 1651 families, amounting to an aggregate population of 8036.

TOWN OF SAINT ALBANS.

IN pursuance of our recent promise, the reader is now presented with a topographical sketch of the town of Saint Albans; the accompanying illustration being that of the market-place.

This interesting town is indebted for its origin to the abbey, of which we have previously given some account; but it occupies nearly the site, and is supposed to have been built with the ruins, of the ancient city of Verulam, whose etymology may be readily traced to the neighbouring river Ver. This city appears to have been the seat of government of the Cassians, and to have been yielded to Julius Cæsar on his subjugating the prince of that nation, Cassibelan. Under the Roman sway it rapidly prospered; and in the time of Nero was one of the principal military stations, having also attained the rank of municipium, which gave to the inhabitants the same privileges as those enjoyed by citizens of Rome.

During the absence of the emperor's troops in Mona, Boadicea, at the head of an immense army, besieged and destroyed the place; inflicting the most disgusting cruelties upon the townspeople, because of their fidelity to the power under whose government they had acquired wealth and honour. But the return of Suetonius, who had been appointed lieutenant of Britain, at the head of his legions speedily put a period to the conquests of the Icenian



J. Peckham

C. Marshall

LITTLE TOWN HALL, &c. ST. ALBANS,

HERTS.

MAISON DE VILLE & ST. ALBANS

ST. ALBANS & ST. ALBANS

queen, who, according to Tacitus, poisoned herself immediately after a defeat in which it is said eighty thousand Britons perished.

Under Agricola, Verulam resumed its importance, was for some time the seat of coinage, and continued to flourish until the final departure of the Romans from this island. In 429 we find the citizens taking a conspicuous part in the Pelagian controversy; a considerable blank then occurs in the history of the place, which appears to have been finally despoiled during the wars of the Heptarchy.

At length the monastery founded by Offa gradually increasing in extent and riches, Ulsinus, the sixth abbot, about the year 950 established the present town, for which he obtained from Etheldred the grant of a market, and the privileges of a borough. In addition to many houses erected at his own charge, Ulsinus built the three churches of Saint Stephen, Saint Peter, and Saint Michael, together with a chapel dedicated to Mary Magdalen.

At this town the Conqueror was impeded in his progress through the country by the abbot Frederic, and compelled to swear that he would not violate the ancient laws of England; and in the year 1213 a parliament was held here, at which John professed his readiness to maintain the statutes made by his father. A few years afterwards the town was twice plundered and the inhabitants maltreated by the mercenary followers of prince Louis; in 1250 it was visited with the shock of an earthquake; and fifteen years later was strongly fortified and garrisoned by Henry the Third. During the insurrection of Wat Tyler, a numerous body of his adherent besieged the abbey for the purpose of extorting money from the monks; and several inhabitants of the town who had joined the insurgents were subsequently executed and hung in chains. On the twenty-second of May, 1455, a sanguinary battle was fought here between Henry the Sixth, aided by the dukes of Somerset and Buckingham, and the duke of York, supported by the earls of Warwick and Salisbury; in which conflict the Lancastrians were defeated with great loss. Another severe engagement took place in the neighbourhood on Shrove Tues-

day, 1461, between the early of Warwick and the northern lords headed by the queen, at the termination of which the town suffered greatly from the ravages of Margaret's victorious troops. The writ of array issued in the reign of Charles the First for the purpose of subduing the earl of Essex and his followers was executed at Saint Albans by Sheriff Coningsby, who in consequence was arrested by Cromwell, sent to the Tower, and his estates confiscated.

The privileges conferred by Etheldred upon the town were confirmed and extended in several subsequent reigns; and Edward the Sixth granted to the borough a charter of incorporation, in which the charnel-house of the abbey was given for a common-hall. This building was taken down a few years ago, and replaced by the edifice shown in our view. On the right of the town-hall is seen the tower of the abbey church; while at a little distance, and rising above some old dwelling-houses, appears an ancient brick clock-tower, the upper story of which contains a large bell dedicated to the Archangel Gabriel, and supposed to have been used for the curfew. Respecting the origin of this structure various singular legends exist; but the most probable conjecture is, that it was erected for the purpose of a watch-tower by one of the abbots of the monastery. A beautiful cross erected by Edward the First in memory of his queen, and which stood in the centre of the market-place, was destroyed by the troops during the civil war.

The charter of Edward the Sixth, with some modifications introduced by Elizabeth and Charles the Second, continued in force until the passing of the act, in the fifth and sixth of the present reign, for regulating municipal corporations; under the provisions of which act Saint Albans is constituted a borough with a commission of the peace, the government being vested in a mayor, four aldermen, and twelve councillors.

The elective franchise was first exercised here in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Edward the first; from the fifth of Edward the Third until the first of Edward the Fourth it was sus-

pended ; after which latter period Saint Albans continued to return two members to parliament ; and this privilege was eventually confirmed by the Reform Act, the borough being at the same time enlarged.

The present borough is nearly co-extensive with the town, which is twenty-one miles N.W. by N. from London, and comprises the parish of Saint Albans, usually denominated the abbey liberty, and portions of the parishes of Saint Michael and Saint Peter. The whole of these parishes, together with that of Saint Stephen, the village belonging to which is about one mile south-west of Saint Albans, are situated in the hundred of Cashio, county of Hertford, and occupy an area 20,430 English statute acres in extent. They contain 1670 houses, which are tenanted by 2034 families, constituting an aggregate population of 9338, of which amount about 6000 are in the borough.

The town, which is situated on the Roman Watling-street, and is now a posting station on the high road to Birmingham, Holyhead, &c., occupies the summit and northern side of an eminence, and consists principally of three streets, which are well paved and lighted. Within the last few years considerable improvement has been made in the approaches, and on a new line of road south of the town several elegant villas and an extensive inn have been erected. Several local conveyances run between London and this place, which is also in the route of many of the north country coaches. The sojourner here will find ample and good public accommodation, and the neighbourhood abounds with remnants of antiquity that are worthy of the tourist's attention.

The church of Saint Peter has been nearly rebuilt since the commencement of the present century : it occupies an eminence on the north-east side of the town, and is a cruciform structure, with some good windows in the perpendicular style. The interior has a light and elegant appearance, and contains several neat mural tablets ; among which is one erected to the memory of a young Oxonian, and adorned with a tribute of friendship from the classical pen of Dr. Cotton. Saint Michael's church forms the subject

of our tenth illustration, and is situated at the western extremity of the town, within the walls of the old city. Independently of the attraction of its venerable exterior, the church is interesting to the tourist as the place in which repose the mortal remains of the illustrious Bacon. A niche on the northern side of the chancel contains a finely-sculptured statue of alabaster, erected by an old servant, and representing the great philosopher seated in the attitude of deep thought. The church of Saint Stephen contains many curious monuments; and, with the exception of the tower, still presents an interesting antique appearance, notwithstanding the numerous alterations it has undergone at different periods.

The living attached to each of these churches is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Saint Albans, and diocese of London. The patronage and impropriation of the first belong to the bishop of Ely, and those of the second to the earl of Verulam. Of the living of Saint Stephen, the reverend M. R. Southwell is the patron, and the reverend C. Lomax the impropriator.

Saint Albans contains places of worship for several classes of dissenters; a free grammar school, established by Edward the sixth; several other institutions for gratuitous education; and a considerable number of almshouses, among which the Marlborough buildings, founded by Sarah, duchess of Marlborough, deserve inspection. A market is held weekly on Saturday; and two annual fairs are kept here, one on Lady-day for horses, the other a statute fair on the ninth, tenth, and eleventh of October. Plaiting straw and the manufacture of lace form the chief occupation of the poorer inhabitants; and some neighbouring mills for spinning cotton and silk furnish employment to the children. Letters are conveyed by the Holyhead and Birmingham mail, which arrives from London at ten p.m., and returns through at five a.m.



C. Bentley

F. Marshall

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, ST. ALBANS

PRINTED

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KIRCHE ST MICHAEL ZU ST ALBANS

WOOLWICH.

THE excursion to Greenwich hospital cannot be more appropriately extended than by a visit to the dock-yards, arsenal, and other nautical establishments at Woolwich. The relative proximity of the two places renders the performance of this task easy; and there is an identity of object—that of maintaining and strengthening the marine superiority of “our tight little island”—in the bustling activity visible in the one locality, and the state of repose which we associate with the other; characteristics that, under ordinary circumstances, would appear anomalous.

Woolwich is the adjoining parish to that of Greenwich; the distance between the respective towns being little more than two miles, and constituting a delightful promenade along the base of Blackheath, commanding an uninterrupted view of the Thames. Another route, somewhat longer, but beautifully diversified, passes through the pleasant village of Charlton.

The name is supposed to have been derived from a Saxon term signifying the dwellings on a creek. The place is scarcely noticed by our earlier historians, and appears to have consisted of only a few fishermen's cottages, until the reign of Henry the eighth: about which period we first find Woolwich invested with the dignity of a naval depôt, by the possession of a royal dock-yard, the establishment of which was gradually followed by that of the arsenal, the artillery barracks, the military academy, and the various other government institutions that now constitute the leading attractions of the place, and from which the inhabitants derive their principal support.

The progressive location of these institutions naturally led to commensurate improvements in the town itself. By some local acts passed in the reign of George the third the streets of Woolwich were paved and lighted, and a watch and a market established; and the lighting has been subsequently improved by

the erection of gas-works. Under the provisions of the reform act, Woolwich is made a constituent part of the electoral borough of Greenwich. The town consists, like most maritime and military stations, of an incongruous blending of handsome structures with miserable huts; presenting a painful contrast of the extremes of human gaiety and wretchedness. Some fine woodland on the south gives a picturesque character to the neighbouring scenery; and although the greater part of the town occupies a marshy site, the air is considered very salubrious.

The royal dock-yard, which is under the control of a captain-superintendent, appointed by the Admiralty, occupies the south bank of the river, extending from west to east about two-thirds of the entire length of the town. It is somewhat singular that, notwithstanding Woolwich owes its first step from obscurity to the formation of the dock-yard, no historical record is known to be in existence from which the precise period of this event can be ascertained; however, during the reigns of Henry the eighth, Mary, Elizabeth, and Charles the first, most of our first-rate ships of war were built here. Among these may be enumerated the Great Harry of fifteen hundred tons' burden, commanded in 1515 by Sir Thomas Spert, founder of the Trinity corporation; its rival in magnitude, the Sovereign of the Seas, of sixteen hundred tons' burden, built in 1637 by one of the Petts, which family for many years monopolized the offices of master-builders in the different dock-yards of England; the *Royal George, whose melancholy fate is familiar to every reader of naval history; the Boyne, the Blenheim, the Thunderer, and a long catalogue of others; each of whose decks have witnessed the unrivalled valour of British seamen both in success and defeat.

The lengthened period during which the olive-branch of peace has flourished in this country, has naturally circumscribed the operations at this establishment; and to this cause of diminished activity may be added the removal of our chief naval architecture to the dock-

* For a most interesting account of the operations on the wreck of this ill-fated ship, in 1840, see the "*Wonders of Nature & Science*," a most pleasing and instructive work, published by Lacey, St. Paul's Church-yard.

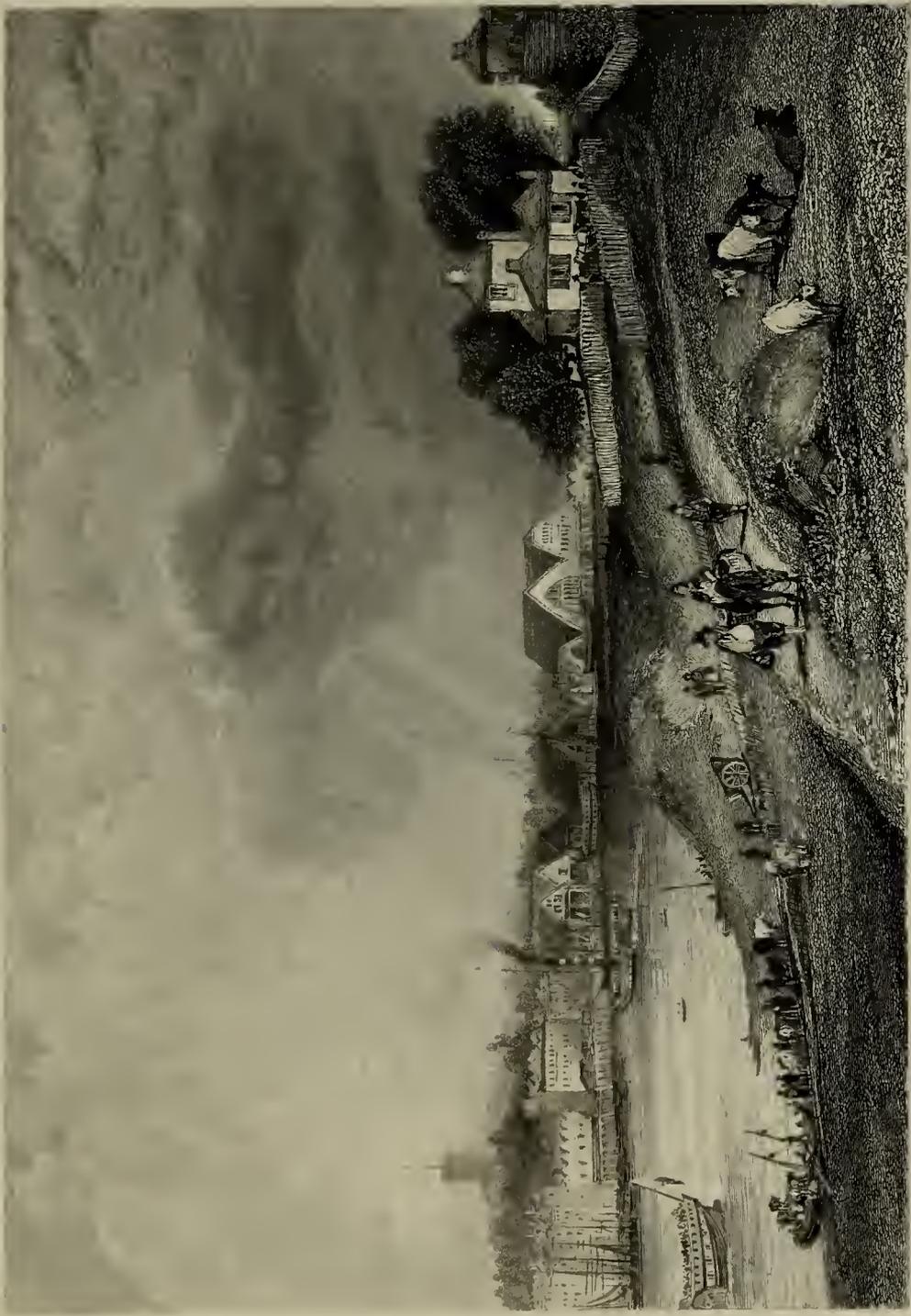
yards of Chatham, Sheerness, and Portsmouth. There are, however, generally four or five ships of war on the stocks here.

The construction of one of these ocean-castles is an interesting study. Every stage of the work, from the first appearance of the bare ribs emerging from the keel, to the moment when the gallant vessel, with yet untested powers, boldly embosoms itself in the element that is to give it—if we may be allowed the solecism—life and motion, furnishes a proud display of the triumph of human ingenuity. The geometrical precision with which each timber is proportioned, each plank brought to the exact curve suitable for its intended place, and even each pin formed; the ease and regularity with which all these apparently difficult tasks are accomplished; and, lastly, the nice balance attained on the completion of this stupendous structure; strike the mind of the spectator with astonishment and admiration.

The apprentices of the blacksmiths belonging to Woolwich yard keep an annual ceremony on the eve of Saint Clement, of which the following is an account. Having elected one of the senior apprentices to represent their patron saint, he is attired in a great coat, oakum wig, mask, and white flowing beard; and thus equipped is enthroned in a large chair covered with bunting and surmounted by a crown and anchor, his regalia being a hammer and pair of tongs. Before him is placed an anvil; and around his throne are four transparencies, representing the blacksmiths' arms, anchorsmiths at work, Britannia, and Mount Etna. After nominating his ministers, who consist of a mate and other attendants old Clem. is mounted on the shoulders of six men, and, preceded by a drum and fife, commences his tour of inspection. At each station, among which our readers will readily surmise the public-houses are not forgotten, the mate calls to order; and the saint, in a mock-heroic speech, made up of allusions to Vulcan, Jupiter, and thunderbolts, asserts that he is the real Saint Clement, just returned from regions known and unknown, and concludes by declaring his gratification on finding all his subjects, the gentlemen Vulcans of the dock-yard, so hard at work! This

astounding piece of information is of course received with acclamations; an appeal is then made to the purses of the audience; and the procession moves forward. So soon as sufficient supplies have been voted, his saintship and court retire to their refectory, where they prove their tolerance of faith by an *ad libitum* sacrifice to the heathen deities, amongst whom on this occasion Bacchus stands most prominent.

The royal arsenal extends over an area of two hundred and fifty acres, partly in the parish of Plumstead, and occupies the site of a former rabbit warren; from which latter circumstance the establishment retained the cognomen of the Warren, until George the third, on one of his visits, conferred upon it the present title. It is situated on the east side of the town, and has an extensive wharfage along the bank of the river, occupied by a spacious and handsome range of storehouses, forming three sides of a quadrangle. The ground floor of these buildings, as well as the wharf, is intersected with iron tramways, on which the heavy stores are readily transmitted from the warehouse to the quay. Small craft are also brought to the several buildings by means of a short canal, constituting the south-eastern boundary of the arsenal, and the banks of which are ornamented with a fine avenue of trees. Near this canal are a sawing mill, a planing machine, and a variety of apparatus for turning, the whole of which are worked by steam engines. The principal entrance to the arsenal is at the south-west angle, through a noble gateway, appropriately decorated with warlike emblems, and forming one side of Beresford-square. Upon applying at the lodge for permission to inspect the place, the visitor will find no difficulty of ingress, and will experience from the officers of the several departments a polite readiness to supply any information that may be desired. The establishment consists of five grand divisions, respectively designated the carriage, the artillery, the laboratory, the engineering, and the store, departments; each of which is placed under the supreme control of an officer, who is appointed by, and only amenable to, the honourable Board of Ordnance. To the first of these departments belong the construction and repair of every



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WOOLWICH

kind of carriage connected with naval and military artillery; in the second, all fire arms are proved and kept in readiness for immediate service; in the third are manufactured all cartridges, rockets, and other combustible preparations, used for purposes both of warfare and public rejoicing; upon the fourth devolves the duty of erecting and repairing all buildings belonging to the Board of Ordnance; and to the fifth department is committed the custody of the naval and military stores. The ordnance foundry, in which the processes of casting, turning, and boring cannon is carried on, is perhaps to visitors the most interesting portion of the arsenal. This establishment was originally located in Moorfields, London, whence it was removed to Woolwich in consequence of an accident that was attended with melancholy results. The surveyor-general had given orders that some old ordnance, captured from the French by the Duke of Marlborough, should be recast into English guns; and the circumstance having become known to the public, a large concourse assembled to witness the operation. Among these was a young Swiss, named Schalch, who was travelling for improvement in scientific pursuits. His keen observation detected that the moulds placed to receive the metal had not been sufficiently dried; and he immediately intimated to the surveyor-general his suspicion of the danger that would accrue from this fact. Notwithstanding his prediction the metal was run; and the instantaneous generation of steam in the damp moulds caused a tremendous explosion, that not only destroyed the edifice, but was attended with a lamentable sacrifice of human life. The occurrence, however, proved fortunate to the young mechanic, who was subsequently summoned to the Ordnance office, and, after a rigid test of his ability, was commissioned to select a site for, and establish a new foundry; over which he held the office of superintendent for sixty years. He died in 1776, at the advanced age of ninety, and was interred in the churchyard of Woolwich. His name appears on the breech of the brass guns rescued by the intrepid and ingenious diver, Mr. Deane, from the wreck of the Royal George, and some of which have been placed in

the rotunda. These guns, in common with all the ordnance of the same period, were cast upon a centre, by which the muzzle was ready formed; but the metal is now run in a solid mass, and the bore afterward formed by the action of machinery, which at the same time turns and finishes the exterior. Adjoining the foundry are the guard-house, the head quarters of the commandant of the garrison and his staff, and the residences of the heads of the various departments of the arsenal.

At a short distance from the entrance to the arsenal, on the road leading to Woolwich common, are the barracks for the sappers and miners; and adjoining these is the grand depôt for field train artillery, comprising the offices belonging to the director-general and other officers of the field train, and sheds in which an immense number of mounted guns, furnished with the requisite quantity of ammunition and stores, are kept in readiness for immediate embarkation. A little southward of the depôt, on the opposite side of the road, is the ordnance hospital, a handsome structure, containing wards for seven hundred patients, with apartments for the resident officers and attendants, a medical library, and civil offices.

The barracks for the royal horse and foot artillery are now on our right; and here let us advise the tourist to proceed, if possible, with closed eyes, in a south-west direction, for about three hundred yards; when, reversing his physical position, he will thank us for this suggestion. He will then be in the centre of the barrack field; while immediately before him, extending from east to west for above a quarter of a mile, stands the magnificent south, or principal front of certainly the finest barracks in the kingdom. The centre of this front consists of a splendid stone portal of three arches, separated by ranges of Doric columns, and emblazoned with military trophies, the central arch being surmounted by the royal arms beautifully sculptured. This entrance is flanked right and left by handsome ranges of light brick, relieved and strengthened with Portland stone, the eastern wing being surmounted by a handsome clock, and that on the west by a wind dial; and the

space between the entire front and the barrack field is occupied by a fine gravelled parade. On the verge of this parade, and immediately in front of the grand entrance, is an immense piece of artillery taken at the siege of Bhurtpoor, and presented by the East India Company to George the fourth. This is supported on each side by several smaller, but exceedingly beautiful, guns mounted on richly chased bronze carriages; while beyond these characteristic ornaments the eye is carried through the principal portal down a lengthened vista to another arch, forming the northern entrance to the barracks, which consist of two extensive quadrangles, capable of affording quarters to about four thousand men and their requisite number of officers. The eastern wing of the south front was erected in 1775, and contains the chapel, which is spacious and elegant; the guard-room; and the officers' library. The western wing was erected in 1802, and contains the officers' mess-room, drawing-room, and ante-rooms, which together form a splendid suite of apartments; the offices of the commandant and adjutant-general; and those appropriated to the particular business of each battalion. An elegantly-designed and spacious riding-school occupies the extremity of the east square; and nearly opposite to this is a racket court, built and supported by subscriptions among the officers of the corps. At the western extremity of the parade a park of guns is kept in complete order for instant service; and southward of this park is a small field-battery mounted with howitzers, appropriated to the exercise of the men and cadets.

The repository is an extensive plot of ground westward from the barrack field, intersected in several places by pieces of water over which pontoons are thrown, and surrounded with a fortification of earthwork, on which are mounted numerous kinds of cannon: here the artillery-men are instructed in field-practice. The rotunda, which stands at the north entrance of the ground, was originally erected in the gardens of Carlton palace for the entertainment of the allied sovereigns, and was subsequently presented to the garrison at Woolwich, by whom it was appropriated

to its present object, that of a museum of naval and military architecture. Considerably southward of the repository, and near the Dover road, is the royal veterinary hospital, which is a neat brick building consisting of a centre and wings.

At the south-east verge of Woolwich common, and immediately opposite to the artillery barracks, is the royal military academy, a neat castellated Elizabethan edifice, appropriated to instructing cadets in such branches of military education as will enable them to hold commissions in the royal engineers or the artillery. The master-general of the ordnance is *ex officio* governor, and he is assisted by a lieutenant-governor, an inspector, professors of mathematics and of fortifications, and several assistant masters.

On the common, of which the barrack field may be considered a portion, being separated only by a fosse, reviews are frequently held; and at these periods the concourse of visitors both from London and the more immediate locality is generally very great.

Having thus briefly sketched the leading subjects of attraction on and about the common, we shall now return to the centre of the town through the artillery barracks, in accomplishing which our route lies in the direction of the barracks for the fourth division of royal marines. These consist of a neat range of buildings, affording commodious quarters for about five hundred men, with their complement of officers; and near to them is a convenient and handsome hospital, erected in 1815 for the joint use of the corps and invalided seamen belonging to the station.

The church, which is dedicated to Saint Mary, occupies an elevated piece of ground commanding the dock-yards, and bears all the characteristics of a garrison structure. The present edifice, which is of brick with stone quoins, cornices, and copings, was erected in the fifth year of the reign of George the second, on the site of a church granted by Henry the second to the monks of Rochester; and consists of a nave, chancel, and aisles, with a massive square tower at the west end, from which rises a flagstaff.

The interior is spacious and elegantly arranged, and contains several standards taken from the enemy. The living is a rectory

in the archdeaconary and diocese of Rochester, to the bishop of which see the patronage belongs. A new district church, of the Grecian order, has been recently erected near the arsenal gates; and in the town are places of worship for various classes of dissenters.

Woolwich possesses several charitable institutions, both for assisting the more indigent inhabitants and educating their children; and an attempt has been recently made to establish a literary and scientific society. A small theatre is open annually for a short season. The chief inn is the Crown and Anchor, in addition to which are several commodious taverns. Numerous stage-coaches, omnibuses, and steam-packets ply between Woolwich and the metropolis; and the Greenwich railway company have auxiliary conveyances hence to their depôt at Deptford.

The town extends over an area of 840 English statute acres, and contains 2672 houses, which are inhabited by 4343 families, comprising a population of 17,661. It is distant E. by S. from London-bridge, by land eight, and by water nine miles; and is within the circuit of the threepenny post delivery. The parish, which is situated in the hundred of Blackheath, western division of the country of Kent, is not at present embodied in any union, the parishioners having claimed exemption from the jurisdiction of the poor law commissioners, under the provisions of a local act.

Our illustration exhibits Woolwich from a point on the opposite shore near the ferry leading to Barking, close to which stands the little tavern displayed on the right, where the visitor will meet with an attentive and intelligent host, and good cheer; at the same time commanding a considerable extent of the enlivening scenery of the river. Since the establishment of the steam packets, which run many times a day to the city and west end, Woolwich has become a very popular place of resort for an afternoon's holiday; and we know of few places, in which two or three hours may be more pleasantly spent; its convenient distance, good entertainment, and agreeable scenery, combine to entice the Londoners.

BROXBOURN BRIDGE.

BROXBOURN-BRIDGE has long been one of the favourite resorts of brothers of the angle; indeed it is hallowed by the especial notice of the courteous Walton. This bridge crosses the river Lea, uniting the counties of Hertford and Essex; and close to it, on the Essex side, stands the celebrated fishing inn, the gable end of which appears in the right extremity of our illustration. To this place Piscator leads Venator, after the otter hunt, to discuss the merits of a dish of chub, "at an honest alehouse, where," he says, "we shall find a cleanly room, lavender in the windows, and twenty ballads stuck about the walls; there my hostess, which I may tell you is both cleanly and handsome and civil, hath dressed many a cheven for me." At this place also he introduces us to the right pleasant fellowship of brother Peter and his witty and lively friend Coridon. Father Isaak and his pupils, with many a subsequent race of disciples, have long been numbered with the past; but the hostelry, or it may be another reared phoenix-like from the ruins, still gives a kindly welcome to the traveller; and there the angler, after pursuing "the noiseless tenour of his way" in quest of the finny spoil, can retire to enjoy a social glass in right merrie companie, within walls rendered classic to every lover of the piscatory art. The house now bears the sign of the Crown; and retains the same character for comfort, civility, and excellent cheer, which nearly two centuries ago called forth the praise of the prince of fishermen. The river from the Gull water down to the King's weir at Wormley, is rented by the proprietors of the inn, and is abundantly stocked with pike, perch, chub, and eels.

The village of Broxbourn is in the hundred and county of Hertford, fifteen miles N. by E. from Shoreditch church, on the road to Ware. It consists of one street a mile in length, containing many neat rural cottages, with one or two handsome residences; and is pleasantly situated on a gentle eminence, surrounded by



BROXBURN BRIDGE,

GLASGOW

L. PONT DE BROXBURN

BROXBURN BRIDGE

meadows, and watered by the Lea and New rivers, the latter of which crosses the road nearly in the centre of the village.

The church stands a little to the east of the main road, occupying the brow of the acclivity, the New river passing immediately in front of the entrance. It is a handsome edifice of flint, dedicated to Saint Augustine, in the later period of the decorated style of English architecture, and comprises a nave, chancel, and aisles; a north-east and south chapel, and a square tower surmounted by a short octagonal spire. The chapel at the north-east angle, which, together with the north aisle, was erected in the year 1522 by Sir William Say, then lord of the adjoining manor of Base, displays some very beautiful workmanship; and contains, beneath the arch separating it from the chancel, an altar tomb of grey marble raised to the memory of the founder, and bearing the following inscription in black letter: "Of your cheritie pray for the sowl of Sir William Say, Kt., deceased, late lord of the mannor of Base, his Fader and Moder, Genevese and Elizabeth his wyffs, who dyed the 4th of December 1529, 21 H. 8." Abutting from the north aisle is an octagon tower, containing a narrow staircaise leading to a chamber in the upper story, which room was most probably formerly used as a depository for the plate, vestments, and other sacerdotal property. The interior of the church presents a very neat appearance, and contains, in addition to the tomb already noticed, several fine monuments. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Middlesex, and diocese of London, to the bishop of which see the patronage and impropriation both belong.

The manor of Broxbourn, or as the name was anciently written Brookesbourne, from the river, is stated in the Domesday book to be then held by Adeliz, the wife of Hugh de Grentemaisnill, a Norman: it was afterward, together with certain corn mills, bestowed successively upon the monks of Bermondsey and the knights hospitallers of Saint John of Jerusalem; and eventually came by marriage into the possession of Sir John Mounson of Carleton, in the county of Lincoln, from whose descendant, lord

Monson, it was purchased by Jacob Bosanquet, esq., the present lord of the manor. The manor-house, a spacious brick mansion, called Broxbourn-bury, is embosomed in a fine park west of the village. Stow relates that king James in his journey from Scotland to take possession of the English crown, partook of a magnificent entertainment, and slept one night at this mansion. The mills above alluded to are situated between the church and the bridge, and are supplied by one of the branches of the river Lea.

The parish, which is one of the members of the Ware union, is exclusive of that part of the hamlet of Hoddesdon which is returned in the parish of Great Amwell, 1930 English statute acres in extent ; and contains 100 houses occupied by 105 families, constituting a population of 529, the majority of which is employed in agriculture. The entire parish contains 404 houses, inhabited by 2,519 persons ; and is 4580 English statute acres in extent.

Several coaches daily pass through the village ; and letters are distributed from the Hoddesdon office, whither they are conveyed by the Louth and Boston mail, which arrives from London about ten p.m., returning a little after four a.m.

HAMPTON.

HAMPTON is another favourite resort of anglers ; and although not so celebrated as some of the stations along the Lea, is frequently the scene of fine sport, particularly in bärbel and gudgeon fishing.

The parish, which is embodied in the Kingston union, comprises the villages of Old and New Hampton, the royal demesne of Hampton-court, and the hamlet of Hampton-wick, all of which are located in the hundred of Spelthorne, county of Middlesex. It is 3190 English statute acres in extent, and contains 752 houses, which are tenanted by 918 families, embracing a population, including the inmates of the palace, of 3992.

The manor of Hampton, at the period of the Domesday survey, was held by Walter de Saint Waleric ; and towards the commencement of the thirteenth century was given by lady Joan Gray to the knights hospitallers of Saint John of Jerusalem. Cardinal Wolsey subsequently obtained from the prior of that order a lease of the manor, which lease in 1526 was surrendered to the king ; and on the suppression of the fraternity of knights hospitallers the fee of the manor was vested in the crown, to which it has since, with some short intermissions, remained attached. When advanced age and increasing corpulency prevented Henry the eighth pursuing, with his accustomed ardour, the pleasures of the field, that monarch procured an act of parliament for forming the manors of Hampton, Hanworth, Kennington or Kempton, Feltham, and Teddington, together with several parishes on the Surrey side of the Thames into a royal chase, which in 1540 was especially constituted an honour ; and this honour, and those of Amptill and Grafton, are supposed to be the only instances in the kingdom of honours not created from escheated baronies. The office of chief steward, which is exercised in conjunction with that of the ranger or lieutenant of the royal chase, has always been conferred upon distinguished individuals, was given by William the Fourth to his consort, Queen Adelaide, to hold as ranger of Bushy-park.

The village of Hampton, which is distant thirteen miles S.W. by W. from Hyde-park corner, is pleasantly situated on the northern bank of the Thames, opposite to Moulsey-hurst ; that portion designated New Hampton consisting of a double range or street of neat cottages, extending for a considerable distance northward from the old village.

The church, which stands near the river, being only separated from the bank of the latter by the road leading to Hampton-court, was erected in the years 1829 and 1830 upon the site of a former structure of red brick ; William the fourth having laid the foundation stone while duke of Clarence, and opened the edifice for public worship after his accession to the throne. It is an elegant specimen of the transition from the decorated to the perpendicular

style of English architecture, consisting of a nave, chancel, and aisle; with a square tower, supporting a flag-staff and vane, at the west end; and a vestry room projecting beyond the chancel, which is surmounted by an elegant Greek cross of stone. Each aisle contains five four-divisioned windows, and between these, as well as at the angles of the edifice, are buttresses terminating above the parapet in finial-crowned pinnacles. The material of which the church is constructed is Suffolk brick, with stone mouldings, cornices, copings, and pinnacles. The interior presents an appearance of neatness approaching to elegance, and, with the slight exception that the backs of the seats are coloured light grey, is in excellent harmony with the external character of the building. The chancel and aisles are adorned with many neat mural tablets; and underneath the organ, which was presented by our late sovereign, is a monument on which are represented, in statuary marble, the lady and maiden daughter of Sir Dalby Thomas, one of the governors of the African company's settlement. At the foot of the stairs leading to the south gallery, beneath a canopy of rich tracery, is a recumbent figure of Mrs. Penn, nurse to Edward the sixth; and on a tablet in the wall of the staircase are figures, finely sculptured in alto-relievo, of the wife and infant of Horace Beauchamp Seymour, esq., the former of whom was daughter and heiress to Sir Laurence Palk, baronet. The communion chairs, cut from one of the beams of Spanish chesnut forming the old roof, are exquisitely carved, after a design by dean Merewether, while he was curate of this parish. The north and south sides of the altar are respectively embellished with paintings of Moses and Aaron. A range of pews in the south gallery is appropriated to the use of the royal inmate of Bushy-park and her suite. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Middlesex, diocese of London; the patronage belonging to the crown, and the impropriation to the trustees of the free grammar school, which establishment is now conducted in a neat gothic structure erected a few years ago at the eastern extremity of the church-yard.

At a short distance east of the church is Hampton-house



W. Lloyd

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usually designated Garrick's villa, from having been the favourite residence of that master of the histrionic art. In the grounds belonging to this house, and close to the river, is a temple erected by Garrick to the memory of Shakspeare, and formerly containing, in a niche immediately facing the entrance, a fine statue of the poet by Roubilliac. At the death of Mrs. Garrick, this statue, together with several other works of art which ornamented the mansion and temple, were removed to the British Museum, to which institution they were bequeathed by their talented possessor. The temple and mansion form together a conspicuous feature in our illustration, the view presented in which is from the opposite shore; beyond these the church rears its elegant form amid the foliage; while still more westward may be seen the Bell inn, where the sojourner in this delightfully retired spot will experience every comfort and attention that he can desire. In addition to the attraction of angling, the quiet beauty of the river scenery in this neighbourhood, forming a striking contrast to the bustling gaiety of the same stream at points below London, together with the proximity of Hampton-court palace and of Bushy, render Hampton a place of constant resort during the summer months. The races, which are held annually in June on Moulsey-hurst, present another source of attraction to visitors; and from this influx of strangers the inhabitants derive their principal support. From five to eight coaches and omnibuses daily leave Hampton for town, some of them running through Richmond, others by way of Kingston; and all the Chertsey and Sunbury coaches pass through the village, than which there is scarcely a more agreeable ride within twenty miles of London.

Following the course of the river eastward we pass some handsome villas, and at the distance of about one mile reach Hampton-court green, which is a fine open area, bounded on the west by barracks; on the north and south by several good family residences, with some buildings belonging to the original palace, and now converted into stabling; and on the east by the present palace. This latter structure, which occupies an extensive site on the

northern bank of the Thames, and is considered one of the richest specimens extant of domestic gothic architecture, owes its origin to cardinal Wolsey, who, according to the old historians, "purely out of ostentation to show his great wealth," designed a residence for himself in such a style of magnificence as "to excite great envy at court." The cardinal having, as before stated, obtained a lease of the manor of Hampton from the knights hospitallers, razed the ancient manor-house, and about 1515 commenced a structure which, in the words of Brewer, was "more polished in character, and more splendid in arrangement, than had at any previous period adorned his country." Camden describes this palace as consisting of "five large courts set round with neat buildings, the work whereof is exceeding curious;" and Gibson, his commentator, says "the whole seems to be designed with so much magnificence, that when it is finished, the noblest palace must fall short of it." During the progress of the work, being questioned by the king, Henry the eighth, as to his motives for constructing a mansion so far surpassing any of the regal palaces in England, the proud but wily prelate replied, "that he was only trying to form a residence worthy so great a monarch, for whom Hampton-court palace was intended;" and Henry, taking him at his word, immediately became the possessor; granting to Wolsey, "in recompence thereof, licence to lie in his manor of Richmond at his pleasure, and so he lay there at certain times." In the year 1527 the cardinal, in compliance with the command of his sovereign, here entertained the French ambassador with a sumptuous banquet. A description of this entertainment is given by Cavendish, the private secretary of Wolsey, and conveys a lively picture of the splendour with which Henry conducted his state festivals. Two princes, Edward the sixth, and William, duke of Gloucester, son of Anne and Gerge of Denmark, were born at this palace, within whose walls expired, at successive periods, Jane Seymour, Anne, consort of James the first, and Cromwell's favourite daughter, Mrs. Claypole. The nuptials of Henry the eighth with lady Catherine Parr, and those of the protector's

daughter Elizabeth with lord Falconberg, were both solemnized with great pomp at Hampton-palace; and here queen Mary and Philip of Spain passed a honeymoon such as we imagine few brides and bridegrooms would like to anticipate.

During the lengthened reign of Elizabeth, the court frequently joined in the revelries of olden Christmas at this palace; and on one of these occasions, the poet, Churchyard, presented to the queen a new year's address, in the shape of "a pleasurable conceit penned in verse," a copy of which will be found in the second volume of Nichols' edition of the "Progresses," anno 1593. At the commencement of the reign of James the First, Hampton-court became the theatre of a very different scene,—the celebrated conference between the presbyterians and the dignitaries of the established church, and to which we are indebted for the present authorised version of the Bible and liturgy. This conference opened on the fourteenth of January 1604, and lasted three days, the king presiding as Moderator.

The citizens of London having flattered the vanity of James by a sumptuous entertainment, and the presentation of the freedom of the city to himself, the prince Henry, and several of the nobility, that monarch granted them a new charter, confirming all their ancient rights and privileges, and extending their jurisdiction to Saint Bartholomew, Blackfriars, and other places beyond the former boundaries; and this charter was dated from Hampton-court on the twentieth of September, 1609.

During the ravages of the plague of 1625, Charles the First, with his family and court, retired to Hampton-palace, where, in 1641, and again in 1642, they sought refuge from the dangers threatened by the insurrection of the London apprentices, and the king's rash encroachment upon the privileges of the commons' house of parliament. At a more subsequent period, under the semblance of regal state, the same monarch here suffered the miseries of captivity and separation from his family; and at length forwarded the crisis of his fate by privately departing hence to the Isle of Wight.

Cromwell constituted Hampton-court one of his chief places of abode; and Charles the Second frequently took up his residence here. When the great plague of 1665 began to spread its contagious influence westward in the metropolis, the "merry monarch" and his suite retired to Hampton-court palace, where, like the Florentines under a similar calamity, they sought oblivion of fear in a continued succession of festivities. An interesting account of these gay doings occurs in the autobiography of Sir Ralph Esher, edited by Leigh Hunt; a work to which we have before adverted, and which the reader will find replete with admirable graphic portraits of most of the prominent characters in Charles' strangely constituted court. Sir Ralph, in allusion to their retirement, says, "we looked up to the sky, wandered and laughed among the alleys green; and Hampton might have been taken for an odd kind of bit of heaven, privileged from the miseries of earth. By one universal consent we seemed to have resolved to say nothing about the plague. Nay, if we thought about it, we determined to be only the more thoughtless."

Hampton was a favourite retreat of William and Mary, in whose time several portions of the present edifice were erected; but since their reign it has seldom been the abode of royalty. When the prince of Orange sought an asylum in this kingdom, Hampton-palace was appropriated to his use, and was occupied by him for several years.

The present palace consists of three principal quadrangles, with several subordinate courts, the latter of which appear to have been portions of the original edifice. The structure is of red brick strengthened with Portland stone, of which latter material most of the embellishments are formed. The chief approach is from the west through a three-storied gateway, flanked by octagonal turrets. A bay-window, separated into two series of lights by mullioned compartments, and decorated with the royal arms, occupies the centre immediately over a Tudor arch; and is surmounted by a perforated parapet, from which rise several light, elegant, and richly ornamented pinnacles, the remaining portion of the gateway and the turrets being embattled.

Passing through this portal, the east front of which is similar in character to that of the west, and has the initials E. R. displayed on the face of each turret, we reach the entrance-court, a quadrangle measuring from north to south one hundred and sixty-seven feet, and from east to west one hundred and forty-two feet. The large mullioned west window of the banquet-hall is seen to great advantage on the left from this court, the buildings of which are divided into several suites of apartments, and occupied by private families by grant from the lord chamberlain during the royal pleasure. On the east side, immediately opposite to the gateway already described, is another of a correspondent, but more highly finished character. The bay-window in the centre of this gateway is more beautiful; the supporting turrets are ornamented with busts of the Roman emperors; and the arch is groined and richly decorated. The reverse front of this portal forms the western side of the second or middle quadrangle, the dimensions of which are one hundred and thirty-three feet from north to south, and ninety-two feet from east to west. Immediately over the arch through which we have just passed are the arms of Henry the eighth; above these, on the front of the third story, is a curious astronomical clock by Tompion; and on the face of each of the turrets are displayed busts of the Cæsars. Turning to the south, the eye is pained by the incongruous introduction of an Ionic colonnade, designed by, and executed under the direction of Sir Christopher Wren. On the eastern side is a third gateway, more enriched in the details than either of those preceding, though corresponding with them in style; busts of the Cæsars being again introduced on the fronts of the supporting turrets. The northern division is occupied by one side of the banquet-hall. The general appearance of this court, with the exception of the colonnade alluded to, is of a superb character.

The third quadrangle, whose dimensions are one hundred and seventeen feet by one hundred and ten, contains a fountain, said to have been constructed by queen Elizabeth about the year 1590; and which has given the appellation of Fountain-court to this di-

vision of the palace. It consists principally of buildings designed and constructed by Sir Christopher Wren in the time of William the third, at which period the south and east sides of this court were entirely removed to make room for the present state apartments. These buildings are all three-storied, with a central range of circular windows, enriched by various embellishments and a mantle of stonework, each elevation terminating in a stone balustrade. The west and north sides comprise a gallery one hundred and nine feet in length, and the queen's guard and presence chambers, each of whose interiors display remains of the ancient structure. A beautiful colonnade of the Ionic order, with duplicated columns, extends round the quadrangle, the *ensemble* of which harmonizes well with the grand exterior eastern front.

Having thus endeavoured to impress upon the reader a general idea of the architectural peculiarities of the three principal divisions of this palace, previous to extending our description to the exterior fronts and the interior of the various ranges of buildings of which the pile is composed, we shall return to the banquet-hall, the chapel, and some other portions not yet described. The first of these, as already stated, occupies the north side of the second quadrangle, and its lofty embattled walls, rising considerably above the surrounding buildings, render it an imposing and majestic feature in the general view; while the ecclesiastical appearance of its architectural details endows it with an air of venerable grandeur. The angles of the hall are flanked by battlemented turrets, and the gables are surmounted with a curiously pierced parapet, terminating at the extreme elevation in a pinnacle and vané. The side-walls, which are supported by graduated buttresses, and crowned with an embattled parapet, contain a series of fine normal windows. The exterior of the hall is one hundred and six feet in length, and forty feet wide; and in the western end is the window before alluded to, which is a fine bold specimen of the perpendicular style of English architecture. The screen that formerly supported the minstrels' gallery, occupies a position beneath this window; and at the east end is a space



H A M P T O N C O U R T .

M I D D L E S E X

raised above the other parts of the floor, where it was customary to seat guests of distinction. A very beautiful oriel window, divided into several compartments by stone mullions, is inserted in the south corner of this elevated portion, the ceiling of which is of stone, groined and elaborately decorated with delicate fan-tracery and pendants. The flooring of the whole is of stone; the sides are coated with Roman cement; and the roof, which is oak, is open-worked and richly embellished with exquisite carvings of the arms and insignia of Henry the eighth, the cypher of that monarch and Jane Seymour united in a love-knot, and various other devices.

It was in this hall that Catharine Howard, and afterwards Catharine Parr, were first publicly announced as Henry's queens; and here also, during the Christmas of 1543, this monarch entertained Francis Gonzaga, the viceroy of Sicily. On the twenty-ninth of December 1554, Philip and Mary gave a grand spectacle of jousting in this hall. George the first had the interior arranged for a theatre; and among the earliest of the dramatic representations was Shakspeare's tragedy of Henry the eighth; thus recalling, in the very seat of his greatest splendour, the prominent events in the life of the arrogant and wily, but princely founder of this magnificent pile. The whole of the theatrical fittings were, however, judiciously removed in the year 1798.

Near to the east end of the hall is a building now appropriated to the official duties of the board of green cloth, and which displays both exteriorly and internally more of the character of the ancient structure than any other room of equal extent throughout the palace. This apartment is sixty-two feet in length, twenty-nine in width, and twenty-nine feet high, and receives light from a bay-window rising the entire elevation of the building, and a large square-headed window with stone mullions. The ceiling is divided into compartments, that in the centre displaying the arms of Henry impaled with those of Seymour, and those surrounding the initials of Henry and Jane entwined in a love-knot, the device of the rose and portcullis, and various other embellishments, toge-

ther with several pendant ornaments. The leading incidents of the Trojan war, and the fable of Hercules, are represented in tapestry around the walls; and over the fire-place, wrought in the same materials, are the arms of Cardinal Wolsey and those of his province.

The chapel forms the south side of a small quadrangle, north of the Fountain-court, and bears external evidence of having been erected by Henry the eighth. According to Hentzner, the internal embellishments of this chapel in the time of Elizabeth were of a very splendid character; but the building was desecrated, and the whole of the paintings and stained glass removed or destroyed during the parliamentary wars. The royal closet is in a gallery at the west end, and has a painted ceiling representing cherubim supporting the crown of England, over which waves the emblem of peace. The pews are of Norway oak; the floor is of white and black marble; and the roof is embellished with clusters of pendants, each displaying a choir of angels. The chaste effect of the original gothic character of the interior is destroyed by the introduction of gilding and colour upon the ornaments, and of a Grecian altar-piece with Corinthian columns; but there is still, in several parts of the chapel, some excellent specimens of carving by Gibbons.

We now return to the exterior of that portion of the palace executed after the designs of Sir Christopher Wren between the years 1690 and 1694; and the first we shall notice is the great eastern façade, or entrance to the state apartments. This front is about three hundred and thirty feet in extent, and is constructed of red brick with stone decorations. The central compartment is entirely of stone, and comprises an angular pediment displaying in basso-relievo sculpture the triumph of Hercules over Envy; and resting on a range of fluted three-quarter Corinthian columns, on each side of which rise two pilasters sustaining a continuation of the entablature, the entire front terminating in a handsome balustrade.

The southern front, which commands a view of the Thames,

and is three hundred and twenty-eight feet in length, has also a central compartment of stone of a less ornamental character than that in the east front. The entablature is supported upon four plain columns, and bears the inscription, "Gulielmus et Maria R. R. E.;" and the parapet is surmounted by two statues in a line with the inner columns.

The public entrance to the interior of the state apartments is from the Fountain-court by means of the king's staircase, the ceiling and walls of which are embellished with allegories from the heathen mythology, painted by Antonio Verrio. The staircase leads to the guard-chamber, a lofty and spacious saloon, decorated with arms sufficient for the equipment of one thousand men, arranged in various beautiful devices around the walls of the room, and interspersed with portraits of several distinguished British admirals.

From the guard-chamber we pass to the king's outer presence-chamber, which is hung with rich tapestry, and contains some excellent paintings, among which are the landing of William the third at Torbay, and full-length portraits of the beauties of his court by Kneller. Opposite to the entrance is the canopy of William's chair of state, embroidered with his arms, and the Dutch motto, "Je main tien dray." We next consecutively enter the inner presence-chamber, the audience-chamber, and the drawing-room, whose walls are hung with tapestry, representing the history of the patriarch Abraham, and embellished with a collection of fine paintings, chiefly by the old masters. In the latter room is Sir William Beechey's celebrated painting of George the third, accompanied by the princes, reviewing the tenth cavalry. The next rooms in succession, and which include the range forming the south side of the Fountain-court, are king William's state bed-chamber, dressing-room, and writing-closet, and queen Mary's closet. The two former of these rooms have ceilings exquisitely painted by Verrio; the subject in the first being Endymion sleeping in the lap of Morpheus; and that in the second, Cupid purchasing the arms of Mars while the latter is reposing in the lap of

Venus. The state bed of queen Charlotte now occupies the first room, the walls of which are decorated with the celebrated portraits of the beauties of Charles the second's court. The furniture in this room was embroidered at the institution for the orphan daughters of clergymen. The walls and furniture of queen Mary's closet display some elegant needle work, said to have been executed by that queen and her ladies; and the whole range contains, in addition to the gallery of beauties already mentioned, a variety of very beautiful paintings, among which are several by West.

The rooms forming the eastern side of the Fountain-court are queen Mary's gallery, state bed-chamber, drawing-room, and audience chamber, the public dining-room, George the second's private closet, and the cartoon gallery. The first of these is hung with Gobelin tapestry in seven compartments, each compartment representing a passage in the life of Alexander the great, after Le Brun. The dormitory contains the state bed of queen Anne, the furniture of which, and that of the chairs and stools, are velvet of Spitalfields manufacture; and the ceiling is embellished with a beautiful personification of Morning, painted by Sir James Thornhill. The drawing-room is hung with green damask; and on the ceiling, painted by Verrio, is a representation of Justice in the person of Anne, over whose head Britannia and Neptune are supporting a crown. The audience-chamber contains the state bed of William the third, and several fine portraits by Holbein. The dining-room is a spacious apartment, in which is preserved the model of a palace which George the third intended to have erected in Richmond gardens. The walls of this room are embellished by Andrea Mantegna's celebrated panoramic drawing of the triumph of Cæsar. This splendid work has been divided into nine large pictures, each comprising one of the groups in the procession originally exhibited at one view. The closet of George the second contains several fine fruit and flower-pieces.

But the greatest pictorial pride of Hampton-court is the collection of cartoons. These drawings were executed by Raffaello, at

the command of Leo the tenth, as designs for tapestry; and originally comprised a series of twenty-five cartoons, embracing the following scriptural subjects:—

1. Paul preaching at Athens.
2. The death of Ananias.
3. The judgment upon Elymas.
4. Our Saviour's charge to Saint Peter.
5. The sacrifice at Lystra to Paul and Barnabas.
6. Peter and John healing the lame at the gate of the temple.
7. The miraculous draught of fishes.
8. The Nativity.
9. The adoration of the Magi.
10. The presentation in the temple.
11. The Advent.
12. Christ supping at Emmaus.
13. The descent into hell.
14. The Resurrection.
15. Noli me tangere.
16. The Ascension.
17. The death of Saint Stephen.
18. The conversion of Saint Paul.
19. The earthquake.
20. Justice.
- 21, 22, 23. The slaughter of the Innocents, in three compartments.
- 24, 25. Children at play, in two compartments.

Only ten of these noble productions are known to exist, namely, those at Hampton, being the first seven above enumerated; one of the compartments of the Murder of the Innocents, purchased by the late Prince Hoare, esq.; and two others, said to be in the possession of the king of Sardinia. The cartoons, when finished, were sent to a celebrated factory in Flanders, where the seven of which we now more immediately write, after a century of inexplicable obscurity, were discovered by Rubens, and pur-

chased by Charles the first for Hampton-palace, to which depository, after many subsequent mutations, they were restored during the late reign. Duplicate sets of the tapestry appear to have been made from these designs; one intended to embellish the walls of the Vatican, and the other as a present from pope Leo to Henry the eighth of England; and these tapestries seem to have experienced equal vicissitudes with the cartoons. Prints from the Hampton cartoons have appeared at various periods, and there is now in the course of publication, at a very moderate charge, a select series of etchings on steel, by John Barnet, F.R.S., after the works of the great masters commencing with Raffaele, in which the subject of Paul at Athens, &c. &c., is boldly executed and treated with excellent effect.

Hampton-court was originally indebted for its fine gallery of paintings to Charles the first; and William the fourth, with that benevolent and amiable feeling which formed a conspicuous feature in his character, added three hundred pictures to the collection as a further attraction to visitors, in order to compensate the surrounding inhabitants for any diminution of employment which his necessary absence from the neighbouring mansion of Bushy after his accession to the throne might occasion.

Returning to the grand eastern front, we are led by a door on the south to the private gardens, the chief attraction to which is a celebrated vine of the black Hamburgh class, considered to be the largest in Europe. This vine spreads over an area seventy feet in length and thirty in breadth; and the weight of grapes it bears exceeds, in a favourable season, two thousand pounds. North of the east front is the tennis-court, said to be the finest in England; and beyond this is the Wilderness, planted by William the third to hide the incongruous character of the northern side of the palace. In this wilderness is a labyrinth, the secret of which consists in crossing the road immediately on entering, and keeping the fence on the right.

The public gardens, together with the home-park, which is separated from the former by a wire fence, extend from the eastern

front of the palace nearly to Kingston-bridge. The park contains some fine avenues of elm and linden trees, with a noble sheet of water three quarters of a mile in length in the centre; and the gardens were formerly embellished with some beautiful statuary. The whole of these latter, however, were removed to Windsor-castle in the reign of George the fourth; and the now unoccupied pedestals, which still remain, give to the grounds the appearance of a cemetery; while the formal geometrical manner in which the walks and parterres are laid out—a style that was prevalent during the reigns of William and Mary and Anne—materially lessens the beauty of the scene.

The palace occupies an area of about eight acres, and is well supplied with water, partly from conduits at Combe-hill in Surrey, and partly from a beautiful artificial stream, the work of Wolsey, called the King's-river, which issues from the Colne, near Langford-bridge, and passes through Hanwell, Bedfont, and the parks of Hanworth and Bushy. The view presented in our illustration is from the mouth of the river Mole, on the Surrey side of the Thames.

Hampton-wick was formerly celebrated as the residence of Steele, who erected here a house which he whimsically designated the Hovel, and from which he dates the dedication of the last volume of the Tatler. Timothy Bennet, who successfully contested in a court of law with George the first the right of a free passage through Bushy-park, was a shoemaker of Hampton-wick. A chapel of ease was erected here about three years ago. It is an elegant structure of Suffolk brick, with stone string-courses and copings, in the decorated style of English architecture, and consisting of a nave, chancel, aisles, and south porch. At each angle the buttresses terminate in an octagonal embattled turret; and one of similar character, terminating in a short finial-crowned spire, surmounts the western end. The living is a perpetual curacy in the gift of the crown, and is in the same archdeaconry and diocese as that of Hampton.

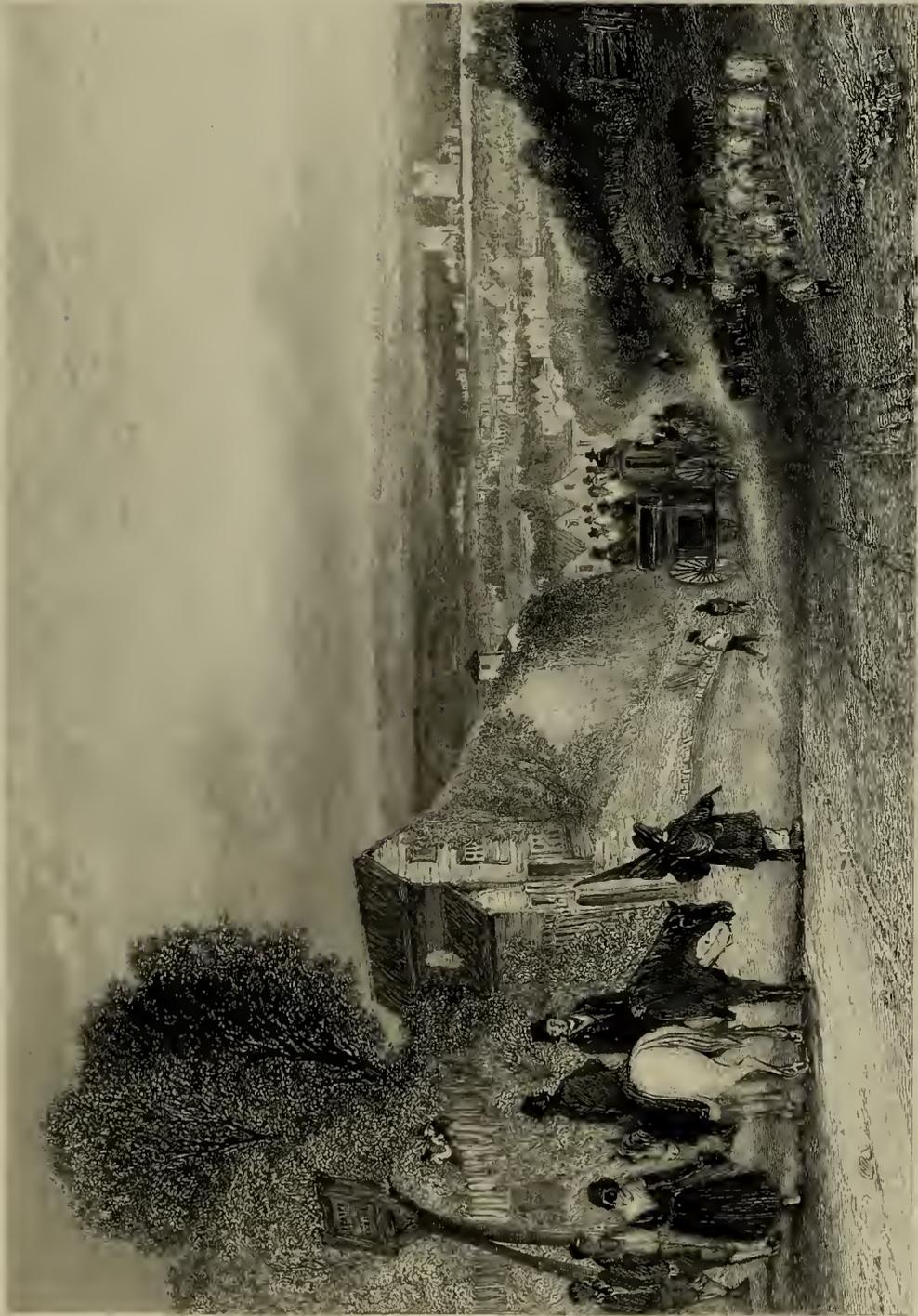
Several coaches and omnibuses, in addition to those from the

village of Hampton, ply between Hampton-court and Hampton-wick and London; and at the gates on the northern side of the palace is a large and commodious inn known as the King's Arms.

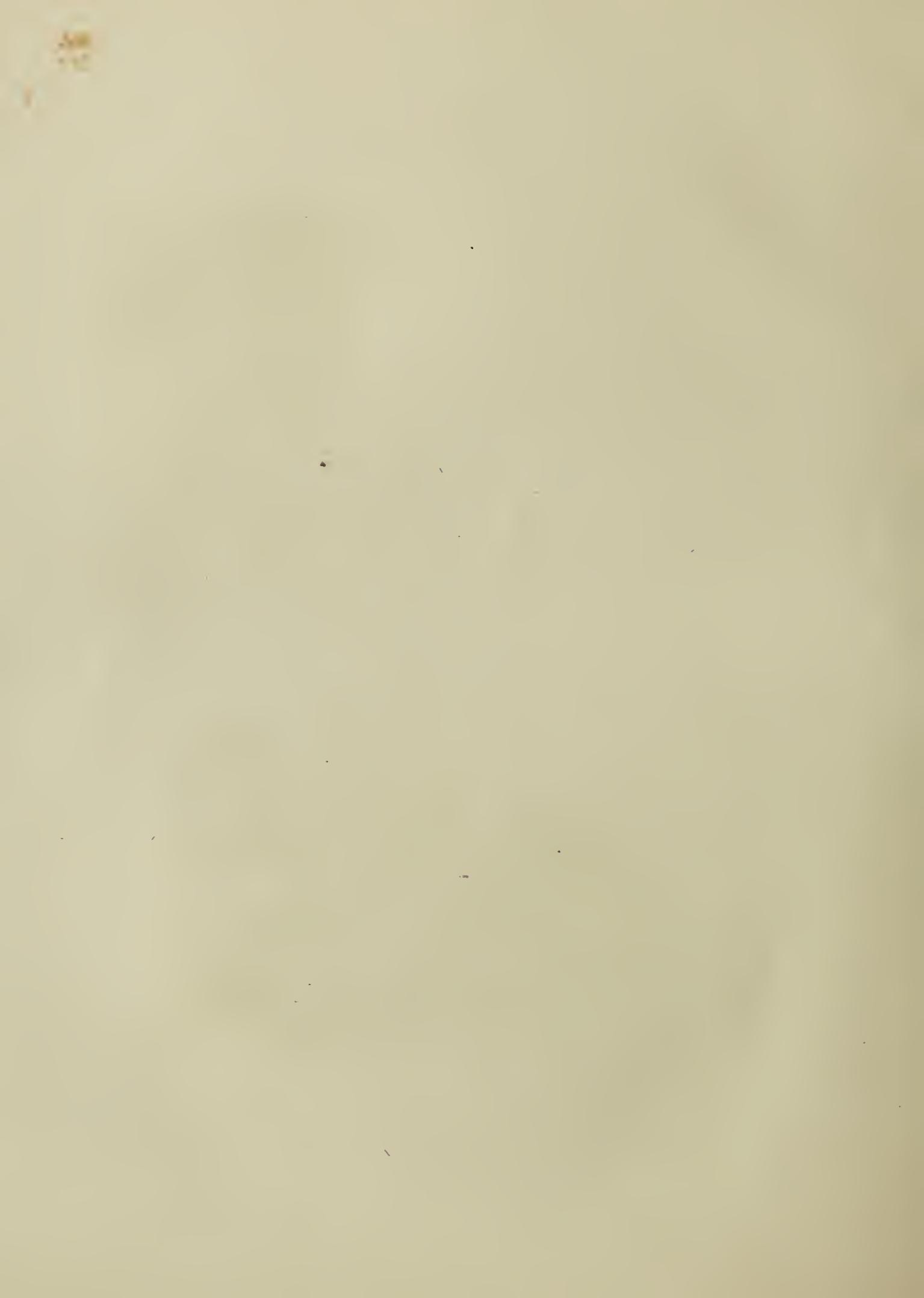
ROCHESTER.

ROCHESTER is a city, borough, and head of a bishoprick, situated in the lathe of Aylesford, western division of the county of Kent; distant twenty-nine miles E.S.E. from London, on the high road to Dover, and in the route of the Roman Watling-street, traces of which are visible in the neighbourhood. It occupies a sheltered position upon an angle of land, formed by a double bend of the Medway about sixteen miles above the confluence of that river with the Thames; being protected on the north-east by Strood-hill, on the south by the castle, and on the east by the fortified range of high ground known under the denomination of Chatham-lines.

The approach from the brow of Strood-hill is imposing. This is the point from which one of our views has been taken. The noble expanse of water, skirted by the town of Strood on one side and the city of Rochester with its beautiful cathedral on the other, and bounded in the distance by the neat slate-roofed buildings belonging to the dock-yards of Chatham; the garrison and fortifications along the Lines, forming a complete background to the picture; and the remains, stately even in their decay, of the once magnificent castle on the right, produce an *ensemble* truly grand, and give to this ancient city a character of peculiar security. The more immediate approach is not less striking than the distant view. The handsome stone bridge across the Medway, connecting Strood with Rochester, and which is not visible from the point before alluded to; the busy scenery upon the river; and, as we pass into High-street, the elegant appearance of many of the buildings, with the presence of the mili-



ROCHESTER.



tary, impart an enlivening gaiety to the scene, and impress the mind of the visitor with the conviction that he is entering a place containing affluent inhabitants.

The city consists chiefly of one spacious street of considerable length, extending along the southern bank of a short reach of the Medway; being intersected by several smaller streets; and having the bridge and castle at the western extremity, and the town of Chatham at the east. This street forms the high route to Dover, and contains many handsome modern edifices, chiefly of brick, with some curious antique gothic buildings.

Rochester is generally admitted to be the *Durobrovis* of the Latins; and Camden derives the present name from a contraction of that word into *Roibis*—by which term the place is designated in an ancient table—with the Saxon adjunct *ceastre*. Bede and Lambarde are both of opinion that it is derived from the compound, *Hroffe-ceastre*, the city of *Hroffe*, a Saxon chief of this place, and counsellor to *Uske*, one of the Kings of Kent, and to whom the building of the present castle is assigned by some of the old historians. Lambarde further supposes that the surname *Rolfe*, which was prevalent in the county during his time, sprang from the same source.

During the Saxon era, Rochester appears to have been one of the principal ports of the island; and about the year 930 three mints were established here by Athelstane. The Danes frequently came up the river; plundered both the city and the church; and maltreated the inhabitants. At the period of the Conquest Rochester was governed by a chief magistrate, who is styled *Præpositus* in the *Textus Roffensis*, a curious manuscript record, compiled by *Ernnlphus*, bishop of this see, in the twelfth century. During the last-named period the town repeatedly suffered from fire. One of these dreadful visitations occurred in 1130, while Henry the first attended by his nobles was witnessing the consecration of the cathedral by archbishop Lanfranc; another broke out in 1137; and Lambarde mentions a third in 1184, which raged with such fury that “bothe the towne and the

churche weare in a manner holye consumed." The great plague of 1665 also committed great ravages among the residents.

One of those cruelties for which the first Mary appeared to entertain a peculiar predilection, was exhibited here on the second of April, 1556, when two inhabitants of the county were publicly burned as heretics.

Henry the third held frequent tournaments at Rochester; Henry the eighth, accompanied by the emperor Charles the fifth, visited the city in 1522; and Elizabeth during one of her tours remained at the Crown inn here four days, after which she visited the recorder, Richard Watts, esq., at his residence on Boley-hill. A tradition exists to the effect that on Mr. Watts apologising to the queen at her departure for the paucity of his entertainment, the royal guest exclaimed, "Satis, satis," by which name the house was ever after known. Charles the second, on his restoration, was received and entertained by the corporation of this city on the day preceding his public entry into London; and his successor, James the second, on abdicating the throne, fled to this place, whence, after staying some days, he privately departed for France on board a vessel belonging to one of the inhabitants. Rochester conferred the title of earl on Humphrey son of the duke of Gloucester in the year 1396; on the minion of James the first, Robert Carr; on lord Wilmot, and afterward on his son, the licentious earl, in the time of Charles the second; and on Lawrence Hyde, second son of the chancellor Clarendon.

The city received its first charter of incorporation from Henry the second in 1165, which charter was confirmed and extended by another dated February the sixth, 1265, from Henry the third, exempting the inhabitants from stallage and murage, and granting them the privilege of a market, and the return of all writs. Further grants were made by Richard the second, Henry the sixth, Edward the fourth, and other monarchs, down to Charles the first, who conferred a charter ratifying all the preceding privileges, defining the limits of the city, and remodelling the corporation. This charter remained in force until the act passed in the fifth

and sixth of William the fourth for regulating municipal corporations; by which statute Rochester is constituted a borough with a commission of the peace, governed by a mayor, six aldermen, and eighteen town-councillors. The oyster fisheries in the creeks and branches of the Medway are under the jurisdiction of the corporation, which embraces a company of free dredgers, who, with the mayor and aldermen, form a court of admiralty for regulating the closing, stocking, and opening of the oyster-beds. The town-hall, erected in 1687, is situated on the north side of High-street, and is a neat structure of brick, supported upon duplicated stone columns of the Doric order. The interior, in which the local courts are held, and the public business of the city is transacted, is embellished with portraits of king William and queen Anne, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; one of Mr. Watts in his official robes as recorder; and also portraits of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, Sir Joseph Williamson, and various other benefactors to the city. Behind the hall is the city gaol, divided into six wards, and arranged for the reception of sixteen prisoners. The corporation are empowered to hold quarterly sessions for the trial of offences within the liberties; a court of portmote every fifteen days to determine pleas and recover larger debts; and a court of requests for the recovery of claims under the value of five pounds, which latter embraces within its jurisdiction the surrounding parishes of Strood, Frindsbury, Cobham, Shorne, Higham, Cliffe, Cooling, High Halston, Chalk, Hoo, Burham, Wouldham, Halling, Cuxton, Chatham, Gillingham, and the ville of Sheerness.

Rochester has exercised the privilege of sending two members to parliament since the twenty-third year of Edward the first; and under the boundary act of the second and third of William the fourth, it is constituted one of the polling places for the western division of the county. By the same act, the boundary of the borough is enlarged so far as regards the franchise, and now comprises the precinct of the cathedral, the parishes of Saint Margaret and Saint Nicholas, and portions of the parishes of Chatham, Strood, and Frindsbury. According to the last census, which, however, does not include those parts of Strood and

Frindsbury that have been added to the borough, the city and liberties of Rochester occupy an area of 6150 English statute acres, containing 4578 inhabited houses, tenanted by 5686 families, together comprising a population of 27,321. Of these, 204 families are employed in agriculture, the remainder consisting, in nearly equal proportions, of such as are engaged in trade, handicraft, or maritime pursuits, and of persons of independent fortune, professional men, and capitalists.

A general market, originally granted by Henry the third in 1265, is held every Friday in the area beneath the town-hall; another for corn was established a few years ago, and is kept every Tuesday in the clock-house, which is a handsome brick building erected at the expense of Sir Cloudesley Shovel; and a third for cattle is held on the fourth Tuesday in every month. An annual fair is also kept at Strood, under a grant from the dean and chapter of Rochester, on the twenty-sixth and two following days of August. The city is well provided with baths, and a plentiful supply of excellent water is obtained from springs in the Vines-field, south of the cathedral, whence it is conveyed by pipes into the respective houses. The Medway affords an abundance of fish, and the supply of provisions, coals, &c. is ample. At the entrance of the High-street is an establishment belonging to the out-port customs. The principal deliveries here are from general store, wine, and east-country vessels, and from colliers. The city contains several spacious inns, some of which, as the Crown, the Bull, and the King's Head, are mentioned as houses of public entertainment, and what is still more singular, then bearing the same signs, in records from three to five centuries old. There are several public reading-rooms; and a theatre situated in Canterbury-road, and erected by Mrs. Sarah Baker in 1791, is opened for a few months annually.

From the circumstance of Rochester being not only in the route between London and Paris, but also the thoroughfare to the most popular watering places on the south coast of England, the means of communication in both directions is correspondingly frequent; and exclusively of the conveyances which are continu-

ally passing through, seven coaches leave this place daily for London. Letters are conveyed by the Dover mail, which reaches Rochester on its route from London at forty-five minutes past eleven p.m., and returns at thirty minutes past two a.m.

Rochester contains several good private schools; one of which, for ladies, is at Restoration-house, traditionally reported to have been, for a short period, the abode of Charles the second. The grammar-school was founded by Henry the eighth, for the education and maintenance of twenty boys, who are designated the king's scholars; and was endowed by that monarch with a portion of the cathedral revenues; and subsequently, 1618, with a moiety of sixty pounds per annum by the reverend Robert Gunsley. Several distinguished individuals received their education at this school, which has annually six exhibitions to Oxford and two to Cambridge. It is conducted by two masters, whose residences, together with the school-room, adjoin the south gate of the cathedral precincts. Another free-school, which has the honour to enumerate David Garrick among its past inmates, was founded and endowed, in the year 1701, by Sir Joseph Williamson, for instructing freemen's sons in mathematics, and such other branches of education as "might fit and encourage them to the sea-service, or arts and callings leading or relating thereto." The founder was a pupil of the great Locke, and rose to eminence in both learning and politics. He represented the city of Rochester in four parliaments, and filled the several distinguished offices of president of the royal society, one of the principal secretaries of state, and ambassador to the court of France. He was interred in Westminster abbey. The estates left by him for the above charity now produce a yearly income of five hundred and fifty pounds; the management of which funds, and also the election of the two masters, are vested, by a decree of the Court of Chancery, in fifteen governors and ten trustees. The school-room and upper master's residence, erected in 1708, constitute together a handsome and spacious edifice, situated on the northern side of High-street, upon the site of the old east gate of the city.

Westward of this school, on the same side of the street, is an alms-house, founded in 1579, by Richard Watts, esq., the recorder previously mentioned as the host of queen Elizabeth; in which alms-house six poor travellers, "being no common rogues nor proctors," may receive gratuitous lodging and entertainment for one night, and a sum of four-pence each person. The reason popularly assigned for the above apparent stigma upon the legal profession is, that the testator during a sudden and dangerous indisposition while abroad, having deemed it advisable to make his will, found upon recovering his health that the wily man of parchment employed on the occasion had endeavoured to convert the benevolent intentions of the client to his own benefit. The most probable explanation, however, which has been offered upon the subject is, that the term proctor is here used synonymously with that of procurator, the designation of the itinerant Romish priests who distributed dispensations to absolve the subjects of Elizabeth from their allegiance. The estates of this charity at present produce a revenue exceeding two thousand pounds per annum.

On the southern side of the new road leading toward Chatham-lines, is a neat and commodious structure, over the middle entrance to which is the following inscription:—"The ancient hospital of Saint Catharine, founded in East-gate, by Simon Pontyn, of the Crown inn, in this city, Anno Domini 1316, was removed to this spot, and this building erected, Anno Domini 1805, with a legacy of the late Thomas Tomlin of this city, gentleman; to which was added a donation by the executors of the late Joseph Wilcocks, esq." This building contains twelve apartments, occupied gratuitously by an equal number of inmates, who each have an annual allowance of money, fuel, and candles. The vicar of Saint Nicholas, the dean and chapter, and the mayor, are the joint patrons of this charity. The corporation have at their disposal annually a considerable sum, the produce of various other bequests, which is distributed according to the intentions of the respective donors, in bread, money, &c.; and in each of the



HILLYERS BRIDGE.

HUCHES (FERRY BOAT), RIVER LEA

C. Marshall

C. Mottram

parishes of Saint Nicholas, Saint Margaret, and Strood, is a poor-house, erected in 1724 at the charge of the then members for the city, Sir Thomas Colby and Sir John Jennings.

The priory was founded about the year 600, and endowed by Ethelbert with a piece of land, called the Priests'-field, for the support of a chapter of seculars. At the time of the Conquest, the revenues of this priory had been so reduced by the incursions of the Danes as to be barely sufficient to maintain five of the fraternity. The monastery was rebuilt about 1080 by one of the followers of William, named Gundulphus, who subsequently became bishop of the diocese, and who removed the secular priests in favour of a brotherhood of Benedictine monks, for whose support he obtained considerable grants, the income arising from which was afterward materially augmented by private bequests. Of these riches, the monks were, in their turn, dispossessed on the general suppression of religious houses by Henry, who appropriated a portion of the revenues to the endowment of another ecclesiastical establishment; which latter was incorporated in 1542 under the title of the "dean and chapter of the cathedral church of Christ and the blessed Virgin Mary of Rochester," and at present consists of a dean and six prebendaries, six minor canons, six lay clerks, eight choristers with a leader, an upper and an assistant master for the grammar-school, twenty scholars, six bedesmen, a chapter clerk, an auditor, a collector of the quit-rents, a steward, and a porter. The dean, together with the six poor men, are nominated by the crown; four of the prebends are at the disposal of the lord chancellor; the fifth prebendal stall is annexed to the provostship of Oriel-college, Oxford; and the sixth to the archdeaconry of Rochester. The appointment of the subordinate servants belongs to the dean; and the election of all the other officers is vested in the dean and chapter. Several portions of the conventual buildings are yet extant, among which are the Prior's-gate, College-yard-gate, and some of the prebendal residences. A code of statutes for the government of this new society was framed by the commissioners appointed by Henry; but it never received the

sanction of the great seal; an omission that has been the cause of frequently involving the dean and prebendaries in legal disputes.

The church attached to the original priory was erected coeval with this structure, probably at the request of Bertha, the Christian wife of Ethelbert, who made it an episcopal see, of which Justus was appointed the first bishop. This edifice was dedicated to God and the apostle Saint Andrew, and Camden designates it "a stately church." Having fallen to decay, as much from the effects of the intestine commotions of that barbarous period as from the grasp of time, Gundulphus rebuilt it at the same period that he refounded the priory. This second structure, according to Lombarde, appears to have been nearly destroyed by fire in 1184; and it has subsequently, from time to time, suffered considerable despoliation from the ruthless hand of fanaticism. A general restoration, however, was commenced in 1825, under the superintendence of Mr. Cottingham; and, during the progress of the works, many of the previously hidden beauties of the fabric have been brought to light.

The cathedral is in the form of a double cross, and its present architectural character is thus described by Rickman:—"The external appearance of this cathedral is not very imposing. A short spire which covered the low central tower is now taken down, and a modern tower put up in its stead; and the exterior walls of the nave are either much decayed, or covered by modern repairs. The other parts of the church are surrounded by buildings, so that little more than one portion can be seen at a time. The west front is a fine specimen of Norman enrichment, but has a very large perpendicular west window inserted. The nave has Norman piers and arches, except those next the cross, which, with most of the eastern portions of the church, are early English. Most of the windows in the nave have perpendicular insertions. There are other Norman portions on the south side of the church, which appear to be the remains of the cloisters, and some other of the usual monastic adjuncts. On the north side of the choir, close to the east side of the north transept, is a tower, named after Gundulph, and which has

usually been considered to have been built by the architect of the castle, but there is nothing in the masonry or details to favour this supposition. The crypt is very spacious, extending under the buildings of the choir eastward of the great cross: its character is early English, but a portion under the north aisle may be considered very early in that style, if not Norman. The early English style of this cathedral is plain, and the composition good without much ornament, but having some doors and other portions with very good details. There is one very fine decorated window in a little chapel in the south aisle of the choir; and the door leading to what is now the chapter-house is a curious specimen of enrichment in the perpendicular style. The whole of the cathedral, except the nave and a part of the south aisle of the choir, is groined, principally with plain early English groining. As at Canterbury, the floor of the choir is raised very considerably above that of the nave." The interior contains many curiously enamelled and some beautiful monuments; among which may be enumerated those of bishops Sheppy, Gundulph, and Merton, the latter of whom founded Merton-college, Oxford; that of bishop Warner; and those of lord and lady Henniker. The screen, which separates the choir and nave, supports a remarkably fine-toned organ, built by Green in 1791. The bishop's throne, erected by the late prelate, Dr. Wilcocks, presents a most incongruous feature in the internal arrangement, being a canopy supported on columns in the Roman style of architecture. The removal of the old altar-piece, at the commencement of the late repairs, developed the original composition of the chancel, which consists of three lancet arches, rising from clustered columns, and supporting a gallery faced with a parapet pierced in quarterfoils; each intercolumniation containing a window, which has been reglazed after the pattern of a mosaic pavement found in front of one of the altars. The pavement of the choir is of Portland and Bremen stone, beautifully arranged; and the columns of the vaulted roof, together with several other portions of the edifice, are composed of Petworth marble, of a very rich character. At the south-west corner of the great transept is

a chapel dedicated to Saint Mary, in which the bishop's consistory courts are now held. There are two other chapels, dedicated, respectively, to Saint Edmund and Saint William; the former of which is situated in the south aisle of the choir, and the latter in the northern division of the smaller transept. The recently discovered tomb of bishop Sheppy, and those of bishops Merton and Warner, are all in Saint William's chapel. The present chapter-house, which is entered by the enriched door-way alluded to by Rickman and completely renovated during the late repairs, is on the south side of the chancel, and has a library containing several valuable books and manuscripts of a very early date. Gundulph's tower was probably designed as a place of especial safety for the treasures of the church; for near it is a curious spiral staircase leading to the roof of the cathedral, whence the communication is continued by means of a narrow flight of steps, supported upon an arch extending from the top of the staircase to the summit of the tower. where the entrance appears to have been effected.

The deanery adjoins the south-east angle of the cathedral; and at the south-western corner of the precincts is a mansion, designated the palace, and which probably occupies the site of the ancient episcopal residence. The present palace of the diocesan is at Bromley. On the spot where the prison of the monastery formerly stood is an edifice in which the official duties of the register are performed.

The see of Rochester is in the province of Canterbury, and is the smallest in extent and value in the kingdom; according to the returns made to the ecclesiastical commissioners in 1835, the number of benefices belonging to it being only 94, and the net income £1,459 per annum.

Rochester appears formerly to have contained, within its liberties, exclusively of the cathedral, five churches, respectively dedicated to Saint Mary, Saint Clement, Saint Margaret, Saint Nicholas at Rochester, and Saint Nicholas at Strood. The three latter churches only remain. According to the *Registrum Roffense*, the locality

of Saint Mary's church was upon a piece of land designated the Half-acre, situated beyond the walls at the south-eastern quarter of the city. The church of Saint Clement was not desecrated until after the reformation, when the parish to which it belonged was united to that of Saint Nicholas. Remains of the latter edifice are still visible at the entrance of Horsewash-lane, formerly called Saint Clement's-lane.

Saint Nicholas' church is at the north-west angle of the cathedral, and is a good specimen of the perpendicular style of English architecture, though of a very late period. The present structure was raised on the site of a former one, in 1624, and consists of a nave, chancel, and aisles, with a square embattled tower at the north-west angle. Each aisle is separated from the nave by a range of lofty stone columns, from which the arches that support the roof spring. The altar-piece, presented by Edward Bartholomew, esq., in the year 1706, is of finely enriched oak, and of the Corinthian order. A very ancient font stands near the western entrance, above which is a gallery containing an excellent organ, erected, by subscription, in 1822. The church contains several exquisitely sculptured marble monuments. The living is a united vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Rochester, the bishop being the patron, and the impropriation belonging to the dean and chapter.

The church of Saint Margaret is situated at the southern extremity of the town, and comprises a nave, chancel, aisles, west tower, and vestry-room. The present parish of Saint Margaret was a subordinate district of the parish of Saint Nicholas up to the close of the twelfth century; at which period a separation was effected by bishop Glanvill, who bestowed the church or chapel of Saint Margaret, with all its profits, upon the hospital of Saint Mary, founded by him at Strood. This grant, however, was superseded in 1256, by a decision of pope Alexander the fourth, who restored the appropriation and advowson to the monks of Rochester; and Henry the eighth afterward settled them upon the dean and chapter of his new establishment. The present church

was raised in 1824, upon the site of one, the precise date of whose foundation is undetermined. It seems clear that there was a church or chapel in this district shortly after the Conquest; and about the middle of the fifteenth century, we find that various legacies were bequeathed for the purpose of repairing a second structure, which appears to have been in a state of great dilapidation. Portions of this second church are embodied in the present edifice. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Rochester; both the impropriation and patronage still belonging to the dean and chapter.

Strood church is situated on the west side of the Medway, close to the London road; and, in external appearance, bears all the characteristics of the ecclesiastical edifice of a garrison town. It was erected under the sanction of an act of parliament obtained in 1812; and is a neat, plain building of flint, with stone quoins and copings, comprising a nave, chancel, aisles, south porch, and a square tower surmounted by a turret. The old church, of which the tower of the present structure formed a part, is supposed to have stood nearly seven hundred years. In the south aisle of this church was a small stone chapel, the pavement of which exhibited fragments of mosaic work.

Strood was a chapelry belonging to Frindsbury parish, until bishop Glanvill founded the hospital of Saint Mary, when that prelate constituted the chapel a mother-church, with the right of sepulture; which latter privilege was generally the last one accorded to any subordinate district. The vicarial tithes and patronage of the living were granted to the brethren of the hospital, in whom they continued vested until Henry the eighth suppressed the establishment, and transferred its revenues and privileges to the dean and chapter of Rochester. This body still exercises the right of presentation; but has always demised the entire emoluments of the benefice to the incumbent, upon his paying an annual nominal acknowledgment. The bishop of the diocese is the impropriator. Dr. John Harris, the Kentish historian, was perpetual curate of this parish.



W. Henshal

C. Marshall

ROCHESTER CASTLE
KENT

The hospital of Saint Mary, or Newerk, the appellation by which its site is still distinguished, stood at the western entrance of the town, on the north side of the road; and was founded about 1193, for the support of a society of seculars, and endowed with the impropriations of the churches of Aylesford, Halling, and Saint Margaret, Rochester, and the small tithes of Strood. The income arising from these sources was subsequently augmented by private benefactions; and, at the time of the suppression, the estates of the hospital were valued at fifty-two pounds nine shillings and ten-pence. The duties imposed by the founder upon the brethren were, that they should perform masses for the redemption of Richard the first, and the restoration of Christianity in the Holy-land; relieve the sick, impotent, and necessitous; and entertain pilgrims and travellers.

The community originally consisted of a master, two priests, two deacons, and two subdeacons, with requisite attendants, who were all exempted from the jurisdiction of both the archdeacon and the rural dean. Haymo de Hetlie, bishop of Rochester between the years 1316 and 1352, made a material alteration in the character of this society, which he ordained should in future consist of a master and four brethren, who were all to be in priests' orders; to observe strictly the rules of Saint Austin; and to wear the cross of Saint Andrew externally. Very little of the ancient fabric of this hospital is now visible, the site being nearly covered with modern buildings. Two gateways of Caen stone, one of which is supposed to have communicated with the chapel, a low arched door-way, and portions of a thick wall, are still remaining; and in a neighbouring field, designated the orchard, is a well which probably supplied water to the hospital, as leaden pipes of a very ancient character have been dug up between the well and the hospital.

A lodge of the knights-templars of the Teutonic order was established here in the reign of Henry the second, and an ancient farm-house, called the Temple, situated on the banks of the Medway, about half a mile south of Strood, is considered to be the remains of their mansion. At the dissolution of the order in 1312,

this estate was given to the knights-hospitallers of Saint John of Jerusalem, from whom it was obtained by Edward the second, in 1325. It afterward came into the possession of the abbess and sisters-minories of Saint Clare of Deny-abbey, Cambridgeshire, who retained it until the general suppression of religious houses placed it at the disposal of Henry the eighth. James the first, to whom this estate had been forfeited by the attainder of lord Cobham, gave it to Cecil earl of Salisbury, since whose time it has passed into many families.

Northward of Strood is the entrance to the Thames and Medway canal, which is carried through the chalk range on which Frindsbury is situated, by means of a tunnel, two miles and a half in length. With very few slight exceptions there is no masonry in the vaulting of this tunnel, the whole being formed by the natural soil, which is rock-chalk. A horse-path extends along the side of the canal, and that portion which is within the tunnel is protected by a hand-rail; so that pedestrians may with safety gratify their curiosity in exploring this subterraneous passage.

The parish of Strood, the population of which amounts to 2,722, is now a member of the Aylesford union; and those of Saint Nicholas and Saint Margaret, the former of which contains 2,350, and the latter 5,025 inhabitants, belong to the Medway union.

Returning to Rochester, the bridge forms the next object of attraction. Previous to the close of the fourteenth century, the passage over the Medway was effected by means of a wooden bridge, raised upon nine stone piers, with a drawbridge in the centre, and a wooden tower of defence near the east end. This bridge was situated about forty yards northward of that now existing; and part of the foundation is still visible at low water. At what precise period it was erected is unknown, but Kilburn states that John attempted to burn it at the time he besieged the barons in the castle; and in 1264 the whole of the wooden portions were consumed by Simon de Montford, earl of Leicester.

These injuries, however, appear to have been speedily repaired, as the old bridge remained the sole land passage until 1392, in

which year the present structure was completed. The new bridge, which is of stone, and an object of general admiration to travellers, was erected at the cost of Sir Robert Knolles, a distinguished general in the army of Edward the black prince. A body-corporate was constituted for its management; and lands have been at various times bequeathed for its support, which at present produce an annual revenue exceeding three thousand pounds, and the surplus fund now in the hands of the corporation amounts to twenty-six thousand pounds. About twenty years since the two middle arches of the bridge were removed, and replaced by the single arch which forms the present centre of the structure.

At the eastern end of the bridge formerly stood a chapel or chantry, founded at the time of the erection of the bridge, by John baron de Cobham, for the use of travellers. Remains of the doorway and of some of the windows are still discernable; and the western porch has been restored and converted into the Bridge-chamber, in which the records are preserved. The arms of Sir Robert Knolles and John de Cobham, surmounted by a mural crown with the motto "Publica privatis," are displayed over the centre window; and the cornice above the entrance is decorated with seven sculptured shields bearing the blazons of Richard the second and of his uncles.

We now come to the description of the castle, "which," says Rickman, "claims the first notice among the castellated remains of Kent, from its extent, and the great preservation of many parts of it. The style is Norman, and it presents a fine specimen of the modes adopted at the date of its erection, to enable a very small number within the castle successfully to resist a much greater number of besiegers; for this, the access, the various successive gates, and other defences, are admirably adapted. The masonry in the interior is very good, particularly that of the well, which is in one of its walls, and was accessible from several floors of the castle." Many of the interior arches have the distinguishing dental moulding of the Norman style in beautiful preservation.

The castle, or rather the remains of it, occupy an eminence on the bank of the Medway, a little southward of the bridge. The entire structure appears to have been of a quadrangular form, having a commanding square tower in the south-eastern quarter with smaller tower at the angles and other parts of the walls; and being protected on three sides by a deep moat, and on the fourth by the river. The walls are of great thickness and surround an area of about three hundred square feet. The materials used in their construction are rough irregular stones, cemented together with an extremely hard composition, in which a large quantity of shells are visible. The chief entrance was on the north-east through an embattled gateway, protected by outworks, from which a double arch communicated across the moat with the city.

The foundation of this castle appears to be involved in some obscurity; but Camden says, "without all doubt William the conqueror was the founder of it," which opinion is also entertained by Lambarde.

Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and half-brother to the conqueror, held it against William the second, but was eventually sent by this monarch prisoner to Rouen. Henry the first granted the castle to the church of Canterbury, making the archbishop the perpetual governor. In 1141, Robert, earl of Gloucester, was confined within its walls, but was afterward released in exchange for king Stephen, whom Matilda had taken prisoner. It was much damaged during John's wars with his barons, who were at one period so closely besieged here as to be compelled to eat their horses. Henry the third and his barons had also frequent contentions for the possession of this fortress, and in 1382 it was attacked by the mob headed by Tyler and Straw. Edward the fourth repaired the walls, together with those of the city, after which no restoration appears to have taken place, and the whole gradually went to decay. The castle remained among the crown tenures from the time of Edward the fourth until the year 1610, when James the first bestowed it, with all its services, upon sir Anthony Weldon of Swanscombe. It is now the property of the earl of Jersey.

Much land in Kent and other counties is held of this fortress whose tenure is perfect castle-guard. The receiver displays a banner at his door on Saint Andrew's day, O.S.; and any tenant who may neglect to bring his quit-rent is liable to have the amount doubled on the return of every tide in the Medway until the debt be cancelled.

After the subjugation of Otho, William Rufus imposed upon bishop Gundulphus, or Gundulph, the task of repairing, and making additions to the castle; and in compliance with this injunction Gundulph commenced the noble south-east tower, which bears his name, and is now almost the sole remaining portion of the structure. This tower is quadrangular, the corners nearly corresponding with the cardinal points of the compass; and it consists of four stages or floors, together about ninety-three feet in altitude, and surmounted with embraced battlements seven feet high. An embattled turret, continued about twenty feet beyond the roof of the main building, occupies each angle. In the eastern and western turrets are spiral staircases; that in the former extending from the base, and that in the latter from the first story to the top of the great tower, and both communicating with each floor. A fine prospect, embracing several miles of the surrounding country, is obtained from the summit of the tower; but owing to the decayed state of the edifice, the attempt to gain it is somewhat hazardous. The principal entrance was on the north-east, by means of a drawbridge and noble flight of steps leading to a smaller tower. An arched gateway, curiously enriched with fret-work, opened into a lobby about thirteen feet square, in the opposite wall of which a second arched gateway, also adorned with fret-work and defended by a portcullis, led immediately to the apartments on the second stage of the building. Another entrance was in the south-east, through a small door of great strength; and beneath the drawbridge was a common passage into the two tower apartments, which are about thirteen feet high, and appear to have been appropriated to the reception of stores. A wall, five feet in thickness, divides these latter apartments, as

cending to the top of the tower; and the centre of this partition is a beautifully constructed well, having a communication with each story. On the north-east side of the ground-floor is a low arched doorway leading to a vault under the smaller tower, which vault was probably the prison of the castle. The rooms of the second stage, which is about twenty feet high, seem to have been occupied by the domestics; and in one of the angles is a neat small closet, which probably was the oratory. The state apartments occupy the third stage, and consist of two large rooms thirty-two feet in height, separated by a range of three columns, supporting four highly ornamented arches. A gallery or passage extends round these rooms at about midway of their elevation. From these apartments we ascend to the fourth or upper stage, which is about sixteen feet high, and thence to the parapets. The roof and the floors of the building are entirely gone; the staircases and passages are also in a very ruinous state; and in the south-east and south-west walls are several fissures, extending from the summit to the base. The facings of the arches in this building are formed of stone from Caen, of which many of the public edifices erected at the same period were constructed.

The environs of Rochester afford ample scope for the further employment of our pen; but having already exceeded the prescribed limit, our note book of this district must now be closed until we have occasion to resume it for an article on Chatham.

VAUXHALL GARDENS.

OF the multitudes who annually resort to this Arabia Felix of our childhood, a very small minority, perhaps, knows aught of its origin and history. New localities generally owe half the interest with which they inspire us to the historical associations they are invested with; but here the enchantments of art absorb every feeling



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V A U X H A L L G A R D E N S .

—hurrying us on from walk to walk,—from one variety of amusement to another; and we stop not to inquire either what scenes of a different character to those we are witnessing may have been enacted on the same stage, or to what cause and to whom we are indebted for the excitement of the passing hour.

We have called Vauxhall-gardens the Arabia Felix of our early years; and a “land of faerie” truly did it appear to us when, the imagination full of the enchanted groves and rose-bowers of eastern lore, we eagerly passed the barrier, and found ourselves amid illumined groves and fountains playing in beautiful unison with the soft strains of unseen music. Alas! that the creative poetry of infancy should be so readily dispelled by the stern realities of after-life! The cares of the world soon throw a mantle over our more exquisite pleasures, and dissipate for ever the magic influences which pervade our boyhood. Reason assumes her sway, and demands from us the more sedate duties of the man and the citizen. But even then a visit to scenes of youthful enjoyment has its gratification; for a happiness, though less intense, yet more matured and lasting than any we can experience in early life, awaits us in viewing the reflection of our own wonted buoyant feelings in the beaming countenances of our offspring.

The first authentic notice of Vauxhall-gardens appears in a record of the duchy of Cornwall, dated 1615, at which time the property was vested in Jane, widow of John Vaux, one of whose daughters subsequently married Barlow, bishop of Lincoln. The residence belonging to the estate was then called Stocdens, and the grounds were designated Spring-gardens; a name which they retain at the present time, although more popularly known under the denomination of Vauxhall-gardens. The period when they were first opened for public resort is uncertain. A letter in the Stafford papers, bearing the date of 1634, mentions the suppression of the king’s bowling-green at the Spring-gardens, in consequence of the reprehensible conduct of some of the visitors; but as no locality is assigned to these gardens, it is doubtful whether they can be identified with those of which we now treat. Bray, the

historian of Surrey, has attributed their origin to the ingenious Sir Samuel Morland, who assuredly had a mansion in the neighbourhood in 1675; but Lysons says, "it does not appear that Sir Samuel ever occupied any portion of the premises now known as Vauxhall-gardens." That they existed as a place of public amusement at the commencement of the eighteenth century is, however, fully established; for the *Spectator*, No. 383, dated May, 1712, describes an evening spent there in company of Sir Roger de Coverly.

But Vauxhall is indebted for its zenith of splendour to the enterprise of the late Jonathan Tyers, esq., who in 1730 rented the estate, and after expending a considerable sum in decorating the grounds, opened them in the June of 1732 with an Italian masked entertainment, under the name of *Ridotto al Fresco*. The novelty of this term attracted a large assemblage, and encouraged the proprietor to continued exertions for the public entertainment;—Alcoves, embellished with allegorical subjects from the pencils of Hogarth and Hayman, were placed in various parts of the gardens; and a handsome orchestra, containing an organ, was erected near the entrance. One of the principal promenades was ornamented with a fine statue by Roubilliac, of Handel in the character of Orpheus with his lyre; and in another part was constructed a moveable transparent representation of a mill and waterfall: the latter is particularly noticed in Dodsley's *London* as a curious piece of mechanical art. Nichols gives a minute and interesting description of the gardens as they existed about the middle of the last century; and the sixty-eighth number of the *Connoisseur*, dated May, 1755, has a humourous account of the visit of a worthy citizen and his family to this place of then fashionable resort.

About the year 1760 Mr. Tyers purchased the estate, devising it at his death, which occurred in 1767, in equal proportions to his two sons and two daughters. It is related that he took such delight in this creation of his fanciful imagination, that a few hours prior to his death he requested to be conveyed into the gardens in order to be-

stow upon them a farewell look. By the marriage of one of his daughters the property afterward came into possession of the Barret family, the descendants of which, in 1821, disposed of it for about thirty thousand pounds to Messrs. Bish, Gye, and Hughes. The first-named gentleman subsequently retired, leaving the speculation in the hands of his co-partners, under whose management it still remains.

To give a detailed survey of a spot whose internal arrangements are each successive year undergoing some change, would be to impose upon ourselves a fruitless labour, and upon the reader probable disappointment. We shall therefore confine ourselves to the general features of the place, and the nature of the recreations which are there offered to the public. The gardens extend over an area of about eleven acres, and are situated in the parish of Lambeth, on the east bank of the river Thames, a little northward of Vauxhall-bridge. They are beautifully laid out in avenues and quadrangles, formed of noble trees, illuminated by many thousand variegated lamps arranged in tasteful devices; the whole being interspersed with fountains, statuary, transparencies, &c. A pavilion or supper-room, an orchestra, a rotunda, containing a small theatre, and a large theatre occupy respective portions of the gardens; and in an extensive open space at the south-eastern extremity formerly stood a Chinese temple for pyrotechnical exhibitions. This temple was destroyed in an accidental fire that occurred here during the season of 1837. The view we give is from the extremity of the first quadrangle looking toward the large theatre, on the boards of which the famous Ravel family displayed their extraordinary flexibility of limb.

The gardens are opened during the summer months; and the usual entertainments consist of the performance of vocal and instrumental music, burlettas, and vaulting, sometimes varied with panoramas, and always concluding at midnight with a discharge of fireworks. Among the more intellectual attractions which were for a short time exhibited at this place, we would mention the representations of the chapel of William Tell and of an old water-

mill at work, both arranged amid the foliage with excellent pictorial effect; and a series of *tableaux vivants*, resembling groups of classical statuary. In addition to the evening amusements, the gardens have been occasionally opened in the morning for the purpose of aeronautical excursions. The most adventurous undertaking of this kind ever attempted was on the seventh of November, 1836, when Robert Hollond and Monck Mason, esqs. ascended from Vauxhall-gardens in a large balloon under the guidance of Mr. Green, with the intention of extending their aerial tour to the continent. The ascent took place at half-past one, p.m., and after passing the night in this novel situation, the travellers descended at half-past seven the next morning in a valley about two leagues from the town of Weilburg, in the grand duchy of Nassau; thus having, in about eighteen hours, traversed a distance, taking into consideration the space gone through in variations of altitude and course, of more than five hundred miles. An elegantly written and interesting account of the expedition was shortly afterward published by Mr. Mason, from whose pen a history of the art of aerostation is also issued in an illustrated form.

HORNSEY.

THE parish of Hornsey is situated in the Finsbury division of the hundred of Ossulstone, in the county of Middlesex, and is incorporated in the Edmonton and Hampstead union. According to the census of 1831 it then occupied an area of 2960 English statute acres, and contained 814 inhabited houses, tenanted by 911 families, together constituting a population of 4856. This return does not, however, comprise about 100 acres of insulated property belonging to the parish of Saint James, Clerkenwell.

The etymology of the place may probably be traced to the Saxon binoun, *har-inge*, signifying the meadow of hares; for in public documents, bearing various dates between the thirteenth



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Yarstall

THORNELY CHURCH
MIDDLESEX

and sixteenth centuries, the parish is respectively designated Haringey, Haringee, and Haringhay. The latter name is still applied to a mansion in the vicinity of the village. About the time of Elizabeth these several orthographies appear to have given place to that of Harnsey, from which term the transition to Hornsey is trivial.

The village lies about six miles, N. by W., from the General Post Office, a little to the westward of the turnpike-road leading through Southgate to Hartfield. It consists chiefly of pleasant suburban villas, with some elegant mansions; and is agreeably situated in a small valley, or rather basin, watered by the New-river, and encircled by verdant hills. Both in the village and the vicinity are some good taverns, which are the holiday retreat of the artizans of London during the summer months. Omnibuses run between London and Hornsey several times a day.

The hamlets comprised in the parish of Hornsey are Crouch-end. Stroud-green, and Muswell-hill, with a considerable portion of that of Highgate; and the manors are those of Hornsey, Brownswood, and Toppesfield or Broadgates; to which were anciently added the manor of Farnfields or Fernefield, of which no site can be traced; and that of Duckets, supposed by Lysons to be a misnomer for Dovets, the name of one of the manorial lords, and which is now considered as belonging to Tottenham parish.

The manor of Muswell, although locally in the parish of Hornsey, belongs to that of Saint James, Clerkenwell; arising from the circumstance of its having been formerly the site of a chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Muswell, or Mousewell, and subordinate to the priory of Saint John of Jerusalem at Clerkenwell. This chapel was much frequented by pilgrims on account of a mineral spring, by whose waters, according to a tradition extant in Norden's time, a miraculous cure was performed on one of the kings of Scotland. The chapel was probably erected upon some lands given to the monks of Clerkenwell, about the year 1112, by Richard de Beauvois, bishop of London. The well,

which is still in existence, is not now known to possess any medicinal quality. This manor constitutes the one hundred acres to which we have previously alluded. In 1546 it was conveyed by William and Cecily Cowper to Thomas Goldynge; and, after passing through various hands, about the commencement of the eighteenth century, came into possession of the ennobled family of Pulteney.

The manor of Farnefield was transferred in 1552, in exchange for other estates, by Sir William Cavendish to Edward the sixth, and remained vested in the crown until the year 1603, when it was given by king James to John earl of Mar. The manor of Duckets anciently formed a part of the possessions of the monastery of Saint Bartholomew in Smithfield; and was granted to sir Robert Cecil in 1547. The only mention, previous to the middle of the seventeenth century, of Toppesfield manor, which is situated in Crouch-end, occurs in its alienation in 1467 by John Guybon to Thomas Bryan, serjeant-at-law. In 1659 it was conveyed by John George and others to Nicholas Colquitt, in whose family it continued until 1717, subsequent to which period it has had frequent changes of proprietors. Brownswood manor, which extends over a considerable portion of the east end of the parish, belongs to a prebendal stall in Saint Paul's cathedral. The lessee under the prebendary is lord of the manor, and holds a court-leet and court-baron.

The manor of Hornsey has belonged from time immemorial to the bishoprick of London, whose prelates formerly had a palace here, the site of which Norden assigns to Lodge-hill. This hill is situated about a mile to the north-west of Highgate, in what was formerly called the Great-park, but which has long been converted into meadow and pasture land. The last episcopal act known to have been issued from Hornsey bears the date of 1306. At the period of the Interregnum, this manor was sold to sir John Wollaston, whose widow was in possession at the Restoration. Hornsey woods are now occupied as copyhold by the earl of Mansfield, whose ancestor, the chief justice, ori-

ginally leased them in 1755; and the remaining site of the park is distributed among several holders. The law of gavelkind, by which lands descend to all the children equally, prevails in this manor. Hornsey-park was the seat of several events which figure in the annals of British history. Among these may be enumerated the assembling, in 1386, of the duke of Gloucester, earls of Warwick, Arundel, and Derby, with their adherents, to demand from Richard the dismissal of his favourite, Robert duke of Ireland, and the earl of Suffolk.

“In the tyme of king Henry the sixthe,” says Lambarde, “one Roger Bolingbroke (an astrologer), and Thomas Southwel (a canon of Saint Stephens), weare accused of exercisinge wytchecrafte in Harnsey-parke, by which they sought to have consumed the king’s parson; hereof they were both attainted, of the which, Roger after that he had done penance on a high stage at Poule’s-crosse, havinge in open sight before him, his cheyre, swordes, maces, and other the nedful instruments of that occupation, was hanged, drawen, and quartered. Thomas died in prison. Of this wytchecrafte Elenor Cobham, duchess of Gloucester, was attainted as a partie;” “for which,” according to Baker, “though acquitted of the treason, she was adjudged to open penance, namely, to go with a wax taper in her hand, hoodless, save a kerchiffe, through London, divers dayes together, and after to remain in perpetual imprisonment in the isle of Man.” In the version of the chronicler two others are implicated, “John Hunne, a priest, and Margery Jordan, called the witch of Eye; and the crime objected against them was devising a picture of wax in the proportion of the king, in such sort by sorcery, that as the picture consumed, so the king’s body should consume.” It was affirmed that the priests had said masses over the instruments which were to be used for the above purpose. The presumed witch suffered death at the stake in Smithfield, and Hunne was acquitted.

The ill-fated Edward the fifth was met at Hornsey-park on his approach to London, after the decease of his father, by the

lord mayor with a retinue of five hundred citizens; and a similar array subsequently received Henry the seventh at the same place. on his return from a victory in Scotland.

The waters of the New-river were formerly carried through part of the parish of Hornsey, by means of a wooden aqueduct, one hundred and seventy-eight yards in length, called the boarded-river. This aqueduct was destroyed in 1776, and replaced by an embanked channel of clay.

The parish church, which is dedicated to Saint Mary, and is the subject of our illustration, was erected 1833 upon the site of a former church, which latter is supposed to have been built about the commencement of the sixteenth century with the ruins of the bishop's palace. The present structure is of Suffolk brick, with stone copings and string-course; and consists of a nave, aisles, and chancel surmounted by a small cross; with a massive square tower of stone at the west end, supported by graduated buttresses, and crowned with an embattled parapet. An octangular turret occupies the north-west corner of the tower, which is the only remaining portion of the old church. The aisles, which are illumined by four-light clerestory windows, are supported by graduated buttresses; and at each angle of the east end rises a similar buttress terminating in a small turret. The style is normal English. The chancel is lighted by a finely painted window. Among the monuments which adorn the walls may be enumerated a Corinthian pillar, supporting an emblazoned shield, raised to the memory of Dr. Lewis Atterbury, brother to bishop Atterbury, and formerly rector of this parish; a finely sculptured tablet commemorating one of the Muster family; another recording the virtues and talent of Samuel Buckley, the editor of Thuanas; and a small pyramid raised in 1601, by Margaret, countess of Cumberland, to the memory of "Master Richard Candish, of Suffolk, Esq."

The living is a rectory, under the peculiar jurisdiction of the bishop of London, to whom the patronage belongs. The reverend William Cole, F. S. A., who bequeathed to the British

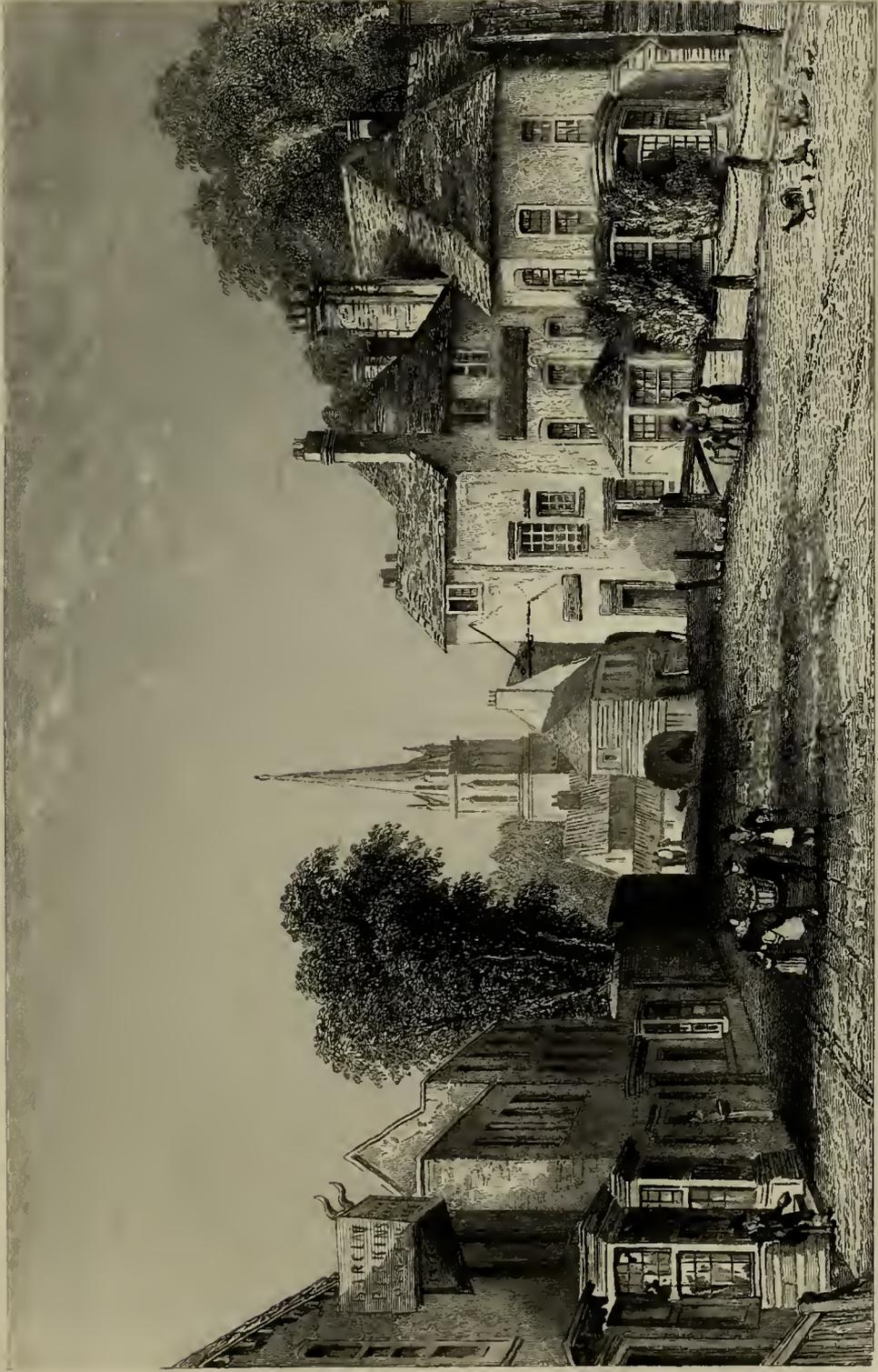
Museum an extensive collection of antiquarian MSS., consisting of parochial surveys, historical anecdotes, and much other valuable matter, was incumbent of this parish. The overseers are in possession of the produce of several charitable benefactions, and a few cottages, in which poor families are placed rent-free; and national schools, in which about fifty boys and an equal number of girls are educated and partially clothed, have been established here for some years. There is a place of worship for baptists at Crouch-end. The parish is within the jurisdiction of the Kingsgate-street Court of Requests, for recovering debts not exceeding forty shillings.

HIGHGATE.

HIGHGATE is a populous hamlet, the greater part of which is, as previously stated, in the parish of Hornsey, the remainder being in that of Saint Pancras. The name originated in the erection of a toll-gate on the summit of the hill occupied by the town. Camden, in describing the route of the Roman Watling-street, says, "it enters Middlesex towards the north bounds, coming strait along from the old Verulam over Hamsted-heath, from which one has a curious prospect of a most beautiful city, and a most pleasant country. Not where the road lies now through Highgate, for that was opened only about 300 years ago by permission of the bishop of London." Norden relates that the Watling-street "was in the winter so deep and miry, that it was almost impassable; on which account it was agreed between the bishop of London and the country, that a new way should be laid forth through the park, and leading directly to Whetstone; for which convenience all persons, carriages, &c. passing that way should pay a toll to the bishop of London and his successors; and for that purpose was the gate erected on the hill." Upon this hill, he adds, "is most pleasant dwelling, yet not so

pleasant as healthful; for the expert inhabitants there report, that divers who have been long visited with sickness, not curable by physicke, have in a short time repayed their health by that sweete salutarie air." A gate was accordingly placed at each extremity of the episcopal lands upon this new road. That on the west, denominated Park-gate, the author of the history of Hampstead fixes "upon Hampstead-heath at the present site of the Spaniards; the houses near which retained the name long after the gate disappeared, and it is not even yet quite forgotten." The site of the eastern one at Highgate is pointed out by the well-known tavern and assembly rooms, called the Gate-house, which is shown in our illustration. The privilege of taking tolls was, together with the house, sold about thirty years ago, but the bishop still receives a small reserved rent from the estate: the gate has been since removed to the northern base of the hill.

The inconvenience arising from the steep acclivity of Highgate-hill, over which the great thoroughfare to the north of England lay, led to the remedy now obtained by means of the archway. The original project was to form a tunnel, of about three hundred yards in length, through the substance of the hill; and the requisite powers for this purpose were granted to a public company by an act of parliament passed in the session of 1809. The process of tunneling had been carried on for some months, and had extended to about one hundred and thirty yards, when, at four in the morning of the thirteenth of April, 1812, the entire mass gave way with a dreadful crash. Fortunately the early hour at which the accident occurred prevented any sacrifice of human life. The proprietors were now induced to adopt the less dangerous alternative of an open cutting; and as the proposed excavation was intersected at right angles near its most elevated point by an ancient road called Hornsey-lane, the archway was raised in order to leave the communication by this lane uninterrupted. The first stone of this structure was laid on the thirty-first of October, 1812; and the entire road was opened for the transit of foot-passengers and carriages on the twenty-first of August, 1813



J. Henshall

GATE HOUSE, HIGHGATE

MIDDLESEX

The main arch, under which the new road passes, is thirty-six feet high and eighteen feet wide; and above this are thrown three semi-arches, supporting the viaduct for Hornsey-lane, the latter being protected on each side by a handsome balustrade. The edifice, which is of brick and stone of rather a massive character, presents an ornamental appearance either on approaching or leaving London; and an extensive panoramic view, in which, Saint Paul's cathedral is displayed in fine relief, is obtained from the parapet.

The excavation of this new road opened an interesting field to the geologist, from the abundance of fossil remains and other deposits found in the clay strata of which the hill is formed. Brewer, in his *London and Middlesex*, says, "a peculiar resinous substance, not yet described by any naturalist, was dug up in considerable quantities. This substance emits, when rubbed, a peculiar odour, similar to that of amber; it is slightly electric, insoluble in water, soluble in alcohol, spirit of turpentine, and æther, nitrous acid having a similar effect upon it as on other resins. That found nearest the surface was partially decomposed, extremely porous and earthy, filled frequently with pyrites; that found deeper was more transparent, and emitted a stronger odour."

Highgate is associated with several interesting incidents in history. The most romantic of these was the bold and hazardous escape of lady Arabella Stuart, cousin to king James the first, and who was placed under confinement at the residence of Mr. Conier, near Highgate; "her only crime being," says Lysons, "that of marrying the man she loved, in defiance of a court to which she was allied. The details are thus given in a letter from Mr. John More to Sir Ralph Winwood, dated June the eighth, 1611, and published in Winwood's *Memorials*: "Having induced her keepers into securitie by the fayre shew of conformity and willingness to goe on her journey towards Durham (whither she was to be conducted by Sir James Crofts), and in the mean tyme disguising her selfe, by drawing on a pair of great French-fashioned hose over her petticoates, putting on a man's

doublet, a man-lyke perruque, with long locks over her hair, a black hat, black cloake, russet bootes with red tops, and a rapier by her syde, walked forth between three and four of the clock with Mr. Markham." Horses await them at a little inn a mile and a half distant, and the heroine reaches Blackwall, whence a boat conveys her in the night to a French barque moored off Lee. In this vessel she lingers off the coast, expecting the arrival of her husband Mr. Seymour, afterward Marquis of Hertford, who had also effected an escape. A pinnace is ordered in pursuit; "and," continues the letter, "the lady is taken prisoner, with her followers, and brought back towards the tower, not so sorrye for her owne re-straynt, as she would be glad if Mr. Seimour might escape, whose welfare she protesteth to affect much more than her owne." This unfortunate lady remained a prisoner until her death, which occurred on the twenty-seventh of September, 1615, four years after her commitment.

Another leading event in the history of this place is the death of the great Bacon, which occurred at the earl of Arundel's mansion, on the nineteenth of April, 1626. Aubrey writes, in his MSS., "the cause of his lordship's death was trying an experiment as he was takeing the' aire in the coach with Dr. Wilberborne, a Scotchman, physician to the king. Towards Highgate snow lay on the ground; and it came into my lord's thoughts why flesh might not be preserved in snow as in salt. They were resolved they would try the experiment presently: they alighted out of the coach, and went into a poore woman's house at the bottome of Highgate-hill, and bought a hen, and made the woman exenterate it, and then stuffed the bodie with snow; and my lord did help to doe it himself. The snow so chilled him, that he immediately fell so ill, that he could not return to his lodgings (I suppose then in Gray's inn), but went to the earle of Arundell's house at High-gate, where they putt him into a good bed, warmed with a panne; but it was a damp bed that had not been layn in for about a yeare before, which gave him such a cold that in two or three days he died of suffocation."

Sir Richard Baker, author of the Chronicle, resided in Highgate about the year 1603; and Dr. Sacheverell, "to whose name," says Lysons, "the violence of party has given more than a temporary celebrity," died at his house on the fifth of June, 1724. A large red brick mansion, situated on the descent of the hill leading toward Holloway, and now used as a private school, is said to have been a residence of Cromwell. The beautiful suburban retreat of the late duchess of Saint Albans in this neighbourhood, was not less celebrated as a harbour for misfortune, than for the elegant festivities which were frequently witnessed within its walls. The late Charles Matthews had a cottage in the vicinity of Highgate, in which was his fine gallery of dramatic portraits, and Coleridge, the poet, resided for many years in the village, and was interred in the cemetery beneath the old chapel.

A hermitage or oratory, "in the gift of the bishop of London," anciently stood on Highgate-hill. The present rectory-house is assigned as the site of this hermitage by Norden, who further relates that one of the inmates "caused to be made the causeway between Highgate and Islington, taking gravel from the top of the hill, where is now a standing pool of water." There are at this day some ponds in the centre of the town near to the gate-house, one of which is conjectured to be the pool alluded to by Norden. The circumstance of Islington being distinctly given as the southern extremity of this causeway, throws a doubt upon the supposition entertained by many, that Maiden-lane, leading from King's-cross to Highgate, was the original high road. The last registered presentation to the hermitage bears date 1531, when bishop Stokesley committed the custody of the chapel, dwelling, and appurtenances to William Forte. Sir Roger Cholmeley, chief justice of the queen's bench to Elizabeth, held this property in the middle of the sixteenth century, probably by a grant from the crown; and in 1562 founded a grammar-school and chapel-of-ease upon the site.

The chapel was a small brick edifice, consisting of a chancel, nave, and south aisles, with a low quadrangular tower at the west

end. The interior contained some curious monuments, among which were those of several of the deceased officiating clergymen. The accommodation afforded by this chapel having long proved insufficient for the increasing population of the village, the church shown in our illustration was erected on a more westerly site. On the completion of the latter structure in 1832, the old chapel was taken down, with the exception of the northern wall, which forms the boundary between the rectory-house and the burial-ground.

The new church, which is of Suffolk brick with dressings of stone, is a beautiful specimen of the early period of the normal style of English architecture; and consists of a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel, and a vestry-room, with a square tower at the west end, surmounted by an octagonal spire terminating in a rich finial, the spire being strengthened by light flying buttresses springing from the corners of the tower. The summit of the tower and the walls of the nave are both embattled; and the east gable is crowned with a parapet panelled in quatrefoils. At each angle of the edifice rises a graduated diagonal buttress, having a triangular offset in the upper stage, and terminating in a pinnacle with crocketed cap and finial. The buttresses supporting the north and south walls terminate a little above the cornice of the aisles in triangular mouldings; and in a line with these buttresses small square pinnacles rise between the windows of the nave, terminating above the battlement in a cap and finial. The aisles are illumined by equilateral-arched windows of two lights with hood-mouldings springing from corbels, and the nave by three-divisioned clerestory windows of a plain character. In the west end of each aisle is a single-light window surmounted by an ogee canopy. The vestry-room is at the east end, and is carried only half the height of the main building, in order to leave unobstructed the altar-window, which is of five lights, with foliated heads; the upper division of the window, namely, that from the springing to the crown of the arch, being composed of perpendicular tracery surrounding an octagon light. The glass of this window is stained; the three central lights with scriptural subjects, and those at the

sides with lace-work. The spire, whose angles are ribbed, is divided by ornamented tablets into three stages, from the lowest of which, between each of the flying buttresses, a small canopied porch opens to the battlements. The tower is also of three stages; the upper one containing, in each face, two single-light belfry windows with an ogee dripstone, and resting upon a broad foliated band, in the centre of which is a clock-dial. The great west window, in the second stage of the tower, is of three lights, with cinquefoiled heads, and surmounted by an ogee canopy. The western entrance is beneath this window by a square-headed door, round the upper part of which is a dripstone springing from corbels, with an embattled canopy, the spandrels being ornamented with quatrefoil tracery. The other entrances are by means of ogee canopied porches projecting from the north and south sides of the tower, and a small door at the western end of each aisle. The interior is neatly arranged. The gallery is continued round the western end of the nave, and above this latter portion is the organ-loft. A range of light circular columns, supporting pointed arches, separates each aisle from the nave, whose roof rests on cast iron girders stained to represent oak. The north-east and south-east divisions of the nave are occupied respectively by a pulpit and a reading-desk, at the back of one of which is the baptismal pew. The whole structure, both in design and situation, reflects credit upon the taste of the architect, Mr. Vulliamy; a credit which is not diminished by the fact that the work was completed for the sum at which it was originally estimated.

Upon the completion of the new church, Highgate was constituted a distinct rectory, the patronage of which is vested in the bishop of London; but although an independent ecclesiastical benefice is thus formed, the district remains, for all secular purposes, attached to the parish of Hornsey.

A small terrace at the east front of the church immediately overlooks one of the cemeteries belonging to a company, incorporated in 1836, for establishing public places of interment at the

northern, eastern, and southern extremities of the metropolis. The various buildings designed to decorate this sepulchral garden form a highly ornamental object from several points in the northern suburbs. From the terrace above alluded to, as well as from an adjoining and more lengthened one, forming the western boundary of the cemetery, a panoramic view of London is obtained, nearly as extensive as, and much more pleasing than that presented by the summit of the archway.

The present grammar-school is a substantial edifice of brick with stone dressings, situated near to the rectory-house and adjoining the high-road, from which latter it is separated by a high wall, the outer entrance being through a handsome arched doorway of stone. On the report of the commission of inquiry obtained upon a motion of lord Brougham, the affairs of this school were, upon a petition from the inhabitants, referred to a master in chancery, under whose decree the objects of the charity have been extended, and the duties of master prospectively separated from those of the clergyman, in whom they have hitherto been blended. On the departure of the late incumbent to take possession of another living to which he had been appointed, a distinct mastership was established by the trustees.

A stone, raised in the year 1821, near the southern base of the hill, points out the reputed spot on which the runaway Whittington sat to ruminate on his present misfortunes and his future destiny; and nearly opposite to this stone, but on the east side of the archway road, an instance of his beneficence, after he had risen to wealth and the highest civic honours, displays itself in a pile of neat almshouses, founded in 1424 in compliance with his will. The almshouses were originally erected close to the church of Saint Michael Paternoster, in the city of London, whence they were a few years ago appropriately removed to their present site. The charity is possessed of considerable property; the original endowment of Sir Richard Whittington having been augmented by several subsequent bequests. The government of the institution belongs to the company of

merciers, and a special visatorial power is vested, by the will of the founder, in the lord mayor of London for the time being. The almshouses occupy the north, east, and south sides of a quadrangle separated from the road by a handsome iron railing. A statue of Whittington is placed in the middle of the area, which is ornamentally planted. The buildings are stuccoed, with slated roofs; and comprise a centre with detached wings. The doors and windows are square-headed, having a dripstone with plain return around each; the main walls are surmounted by a plain parapet; and the gables and buttresses at the extremities of each range, respectively, are ornamented with crocketed pinnacles terminating in highly enriched finials. The monotony of the lengthened lines of parapet and mouldings in the eastern range is judiciously broken in the centre by the west gable of a small though handsome chapel. The pointed gable with its pinnaced buttresses; the window, which is of three lights, with normal tracery; and the lantern, rising from the centre of the chapel, and crowned with an octangular pinnacle and enriched finial, give together an elegant finish to the entire pile. The spandrels in both the door of the chapel and those at the western extremity of each wing are beautifully enriched with tracery surrounding the initials **J. H. S.**

Highgate possesses several minor local charities; and the building now known as the Flask-inn is supposed formerly to have been a hospital or almshouse belonging to the poor inhabitants. There are places of worship here for various classes of nonconformists.

A custom, now obsolete, and for which no certain origin has been assigned, was long prevalent at the various inns in the village. This was the administration, upon a pair of horns, of a burlesque oath to every stranger on his first visit. Of this ceremony, Hone, in his *Every-day-book*, gives a detailed account, which he accompanies with some of the legendary sources of the custom.

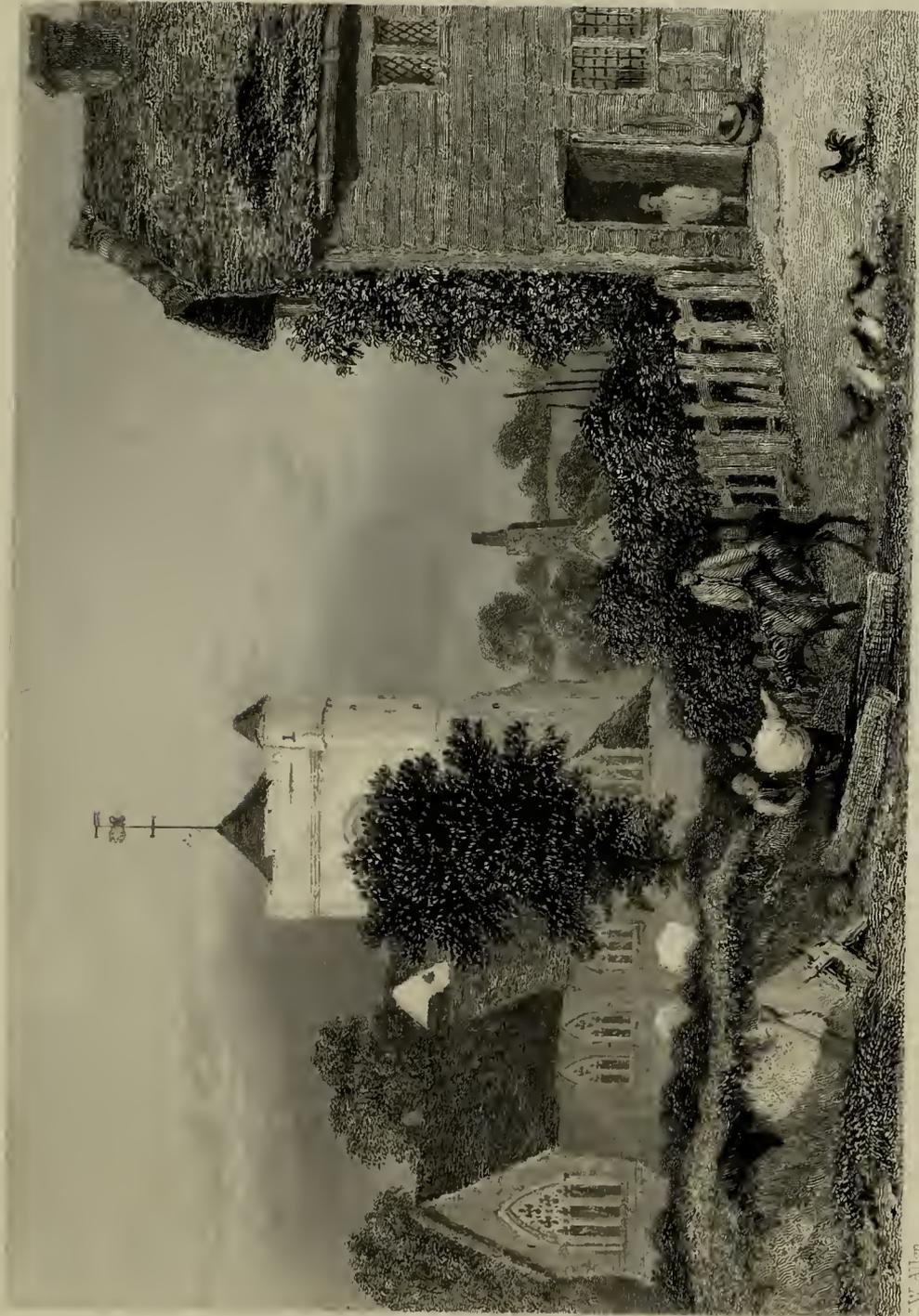
As in the case of every other locality in the vicinity of the me-

tropolis, the public conveyances between Highgate and London are numerous. The most pleasing approach to the village is by a road, which diverges from that leading to Hampstead at the foot of Park-street, Camden-town, and passing thence through Kentish-town, winds round the hill, entering the village at its western extremity. From several parts of this road, which has various ramifications, by which Highgate may be gained almost at any required point, the beautiful new church is seen rising in bold relief amid the foliage. The neighbourhood, more particularly that portion situated between Highgate and Hampstead, abounds in rural walks and pleasing objects. These have frequently called into action the pencil of the artist, and need only to be visited to convince us how little they deserve the epithet so plentifully bestowed upon them by those who have never given themselves the trouble to wander out of the dusty road, or turn their vision from the unsightly mass of brick and plaster which prevails in the more immediate outskirts of the metropolis.

LEATHERHEAD.

THE parish of Leatherhead is situated in the second division of the hundred of Copthorne, western district of the county of Surrey; and extends over an area of 3,250 English statute acres. The number of inhabited houses in 1831 was 294, and these were occupied by 322 families, constituting an aggregate population of 1,724, chiefly engaged in agricultural pursuits. Under the provisions of the Poor Law Amendment Act, the parish has been embodied in the Epsom union.

The village of Leatherhead is agreeably situated at the intersection of the roads leading from Ashstead to Bookham, and from Kingston-upon-Thames to Dorking, at the distance, S.W. by S., of eighteen miles and a half from Westminster-bridge, and nine-



C. Mottram

ALBANY BURIAL CHURCH

SHRINE

W. Allen

teen miles and a half from the standard on Cornhill. The principal street ranges along the eastern bank of the Mole, leading immediately into the celebrated beautiful vale of Mickleham. It is a place of considerable antiquity, and at one period possessed the privilege of a market, which, however, has long been disused. On the tenth of October annually, in a field northward of the town, is held a fair deserving of record, from the following association with which it is invested. The celebrated Madame d'Arblay, during her residence at Camilla Lacy, a sequestered retreat in the valley, in conjunction with some of her fair neighbours established a bazaar at this fair, where they personally superintended the sale of various fancy articles of their own manufacture, appropriating the proceeds to purposes of benevolence; and from this circumstance the festival became, and for a length of time continued to be, a fashionable resort for the nobility and gentry throughout the district. With the departure of the attractive authoress, the influence of her example gradually ceased, and of late, on this anniversary, instead of the green lanes of Leatherhead being filled with gay equipages, no vehicle is seen but the tinselled itinerant show—no sound is heard, after the trifling business of the day is concluded, save that of the boisterous revelry of the inebriated peasant. Although it may be argued that the time expended at these places of periodical resort—now too frequently scenes of dissipation and of crime—might be more profitably occupied by the lower classes, we must reflect that the human mind requires relaxation from toil. These are the only recreations within the reach of the English labourer; the scenes of riot they will continue, so long as the upper orders of society in this country withhold that influence and example of a taste for more innocent enjoyments which an occasional intermixture with their humbler fellow-creatures would instil.

The lord-chancellor Jefferies resided in 1688 at the Mansion-house, in Church-street, which in 1710 was rebuilt by Dr. Akehurst, afterward passed into the possession of the Gore family, and is now

occupied by colonel Spicer. It is reported that Jefferies was captured in this house on the flight of the king; but Burnet says that he was taken at a small public-house near King Edward's Stairs, in Wapping.

At the western extremity of the town is a little road-side inn, still corresponding in appearance with its representation in an old print, and which is celebrated by Skelton, the poet-laureate to the seventh and eighth Henries, in a poem styled, "The tunning of Elynor Rumming, the famous ale-wife of England," whose "woning is in a certain stede beside Lederhede." Descendants of this woman appear by the parish-register to have retained the house for more than a century after her death.

Immediately beyond, the river Mole is crossed by a bridge of brick with stone copings, consisting of fourteen arches, every third pier terminating in a quadrangular recess.

The church, dedicated to Saint Mary and Saint Nicholas, and said to have been founded by Edward the first, is a cruciform structure of flint and stone coated with cement; and consists of a chancel, nave, aisles, transepts, a north-west porch, and a square tower terminating in a cross and vane, and having an octangular turret at the north-east corner. A large window, now filled up, occupies the second stage of the western face of the tower, and beneath this is the principal entrance. Three of the windows in the body of the church are neat specimens of the decorated, and one is of the perpendicular, style of English architecture. The east window is ornamented with stained glass; and one of those in the south aisle has compartments of the same material, representing respectively, Saul conversing with the spirit of Samuel, Death on the pale horse, the head of John the baptist, the crown and badge of France, and the arms of a bishoprick. The compartments were presented by the late reverend James Dallaway, the celebrated antiquary, who was for some time the incumbent of this parish. The interior, which is small, contains monuments to admiral sir James Wishart; lieutenant-

general Francis Langston; lieutenant-general Humphrey Gore; governor of Kinsale; to the lady of the honourable brigadier-general Thomas Pagett, commander-in-chief of the British forces in Minorca; and to Miss Harriet Mary Cholmondeley, granddaughter to the earl of Cholmondeley, who was killed by the overturning of her carriage, while attending the princess of Wales to Norbury-park, in 1806. The nave is separated from each aisle by three arches springing from alternate circular and octagonal columns, and from the chancel by a fine carved perpendicular screen, above which is a rude painting, representing Moses and Aaron supporting the tables of the commandment surmounted by the royal arms of England. The pulpit, which is of carved oak, projects from the north-easternmost of these pillars; and beneath the south-western arch is an octangular font. Galleries extend along the aisles and the west end of the nave, in the latter of which is a small organ presented in 1830. In one of the transepts is a chantry enclosed within a carved wainscot; and near the altar are a piscina and subsellia, the latter of which were formerly used on the visitations of the Augustine canons of Leeds, to whom the impropriate tithes of the parish were granted in 1346.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Surrey and diocese of Winchester, both the patronage and impropriation belonging to the dean and chapter of Rochester.

Near the church is an old building of the period of Elizabeth, distinguished by the appellation of the Church-house, and which probably was formerly used for the transaction of parochial business. The present vicarage-house adjoins the mansion previously alluded to as the supposed residence of judge Jefferies. A fund producing 15*l.* per annum was left in 1796 for purposes of education, and has been applied to a national school at present carried on in the church. At the lower part of the town is a place of worship for dissenters. Letters are conveyed from London by the Portsmouth mail to Kingston, and thence by mail cart: the

delivery is at eight a.m., and the departure at nine p.m. The posting-inn is the Swan ; and Dorking, Guildford, and Worthing coaches pass through Leatherhead several times during the day.

DORKING.

DORKING is situated at the southern extremity of the vale of Mickleham, upon one of the high roads to Worthing and Portsmouth ; and is distant, S.S.W., twenty-three miles from Westminster-bridge and twenty-four miles from the standard on Cornhill. The town, which consists of a main thoroughfare of considerable width with two smaller streets branching from it, has a neat and cleanly appearance, and contains several elegant shops, with some private dwellings of a superior character. The streets are paved and lighted by gas, and the inhabitants have an ample supply of excellent water, as well from springs which abound in the vicinity, as from water-works on a small stream branching from the river Mole, and to which latter establishment are now attached subscription baths. Dorking is one of the polling places for the western division of Surrey.

A fair, granted by Edward the first, is kept annually on the eve and day of the feast of Ascension ; and a market for corn and poultry is held weekly on Thursday, and is plentifully supplied and well attended. The poultry of this district, which is of a peculiar breed, said to have been originally introduced by the Romans, is remarkably fine and in great request by the London dealers. The lime made in the neighbourhood is held in much esteem, and constitutes a considerable branch of the local trade. The Reigate bank has a branch office in this town ; a savings' bank, established a few years since, under the encouragement and support of the neighbouring gentry, is in



DORKING CHURCH.

SURREY

a very prosperous state; and a provident institution, founded about 1818, has been attended with an equally favourable result. The posting inns are the Red Lion and the White Horse, beside which are several comfortable market taverns. Several local coaches ply daily between Dorking and London, and several from Worthing, Guildford, and other places, pass through the town. Letters are conveyed by a mail-cart to Kingston, where they join the Portsmouth mail. The office closes at nine, p.m., and the delivery is at eight, a.m. The market-house, which adjoined the Red Lion inn, was taken down some years since, and has not been rebuilt.

Near to the same site formerly stood a large mansion of red brick, erected in the Dutch style; and which, after remaining for a very considerable period under the fostering care of the Court of Chancery, with the usual concomitant advantages to the edifice of such possession, was at length sold and converted into a range of commodious dwellings. Beyond these, on the same side of the street, is a pile of buildings originally occupied as an extensive and much-frequented inn, bearing the sign of the King's Head, and celebrated for river-fish dinners, in which water-soucy formed a prominent dish. Fortune, however, subsequently transferred her favours to the Red Lion, where a convivial society, called the Gentlemen's Dorking Club, was formed, and behind which an elegant ball-room was erected in 1820.

Dorking possesses an excellent circulating library, a book club, and a magazine society, in the establishment of which latter class of intellectual entertainment this place claims priority among southern provincial towns. A mechanics' institute, founded here within a few years past, has now risen to the dignity of a literary and scientific association; and from a local printing establishment, a new history of the county by Messrs. Timbs, Britton, and others, has emanated. The town contains places of worship for the society of Friends, and the class of dissenters, denominated Independents. Dorking is one of the six parishes in the county of Surrey, for the relief of whose poor 6000*l.* was

bequeathed by Henry Smith in 1627; in addition to which fund, a considerable sum is annually expended in relieving the wants of the indigent inhabitants; and schools for the free education of their children are liberally supported.

The old church, dedicated to Saint Martin, was a cruciform structure of flint and stone, in the perpendicular style of English architecture, with a low square tower, from the centre of which rose a flag-staff and vane. This edifice having been found insufficient for the increasing population of the parish, the present structure of Suffolk brick with stone dressings, represented in our illustration as it appeared during the progress of its erection, was opened in the month of July, 1837. In order to avoid the expense of obtaining an act of parliament, which would have been requisite had an entirely new church been erected, the old chancel was left standing, and now forms a baptistery attached to the eastern end of the new edifice, which consists of a nave and aisles, a south porch, north and south transepts, and a chancel, with a square embattled tower, having a pinnacle rising from each angle, and surmounted by an octagonal spire terminating in a nave. The tower contains a fine chime of bells, taken from the original steeple. The pulpit is most beautifully enriched with carving; and the new font is emblazoned with the arms of the diocese, and of several of the neighbouring gentry who contributed largely to the building. The old font has been placed in the baptistery previously alluded to, the eastern window of which displays some exquisite tracery. The family tomb of the duke of Norfolk is beneath the north transept, adjoining to which, exteriorly, is a small mausoleum, now in a state of great dilapidation, belonging to the Talbots, formerly proprietors of Chart-park, which estate is now annexed to Deepdene, the seat of Henry Thomas Hope, esquire, M.P. The interior of the church contains a monumental tablet to Abraham Tucker, the author of the *Light of Nature Pursued*, and who resided at Betchworth-castle; another to the memory of the celebrated scholar Jeremiah Markland, who resided at Milton-court; and a third,

raised by public subscription among the inhabitants, commemorating the public and private virtues of George William, earl of Rothes, who died suddenly while hunting in Betchworth-park in 1817. His lordship's favourite residence was at Shrub-hill in the vicinity of the town; his remains were interred in the church of Wotton, where an elegant tablet was raised to his memory by the countess.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Surrey and diocese of Winchester; the duke of Norfolk being the patron, and William Coleman, esquire, the impropiator.

An old mansion at the extremity of West-street, designated Sondes-place from having formerly been the residence of the ancient family of that time, is at present appropriated as the vicarage-house. Mason wrote his Treatise on Self-knowledge, and several other works, while pastor of a dissenting congregation in this town; and the house in which he resided is still standing.

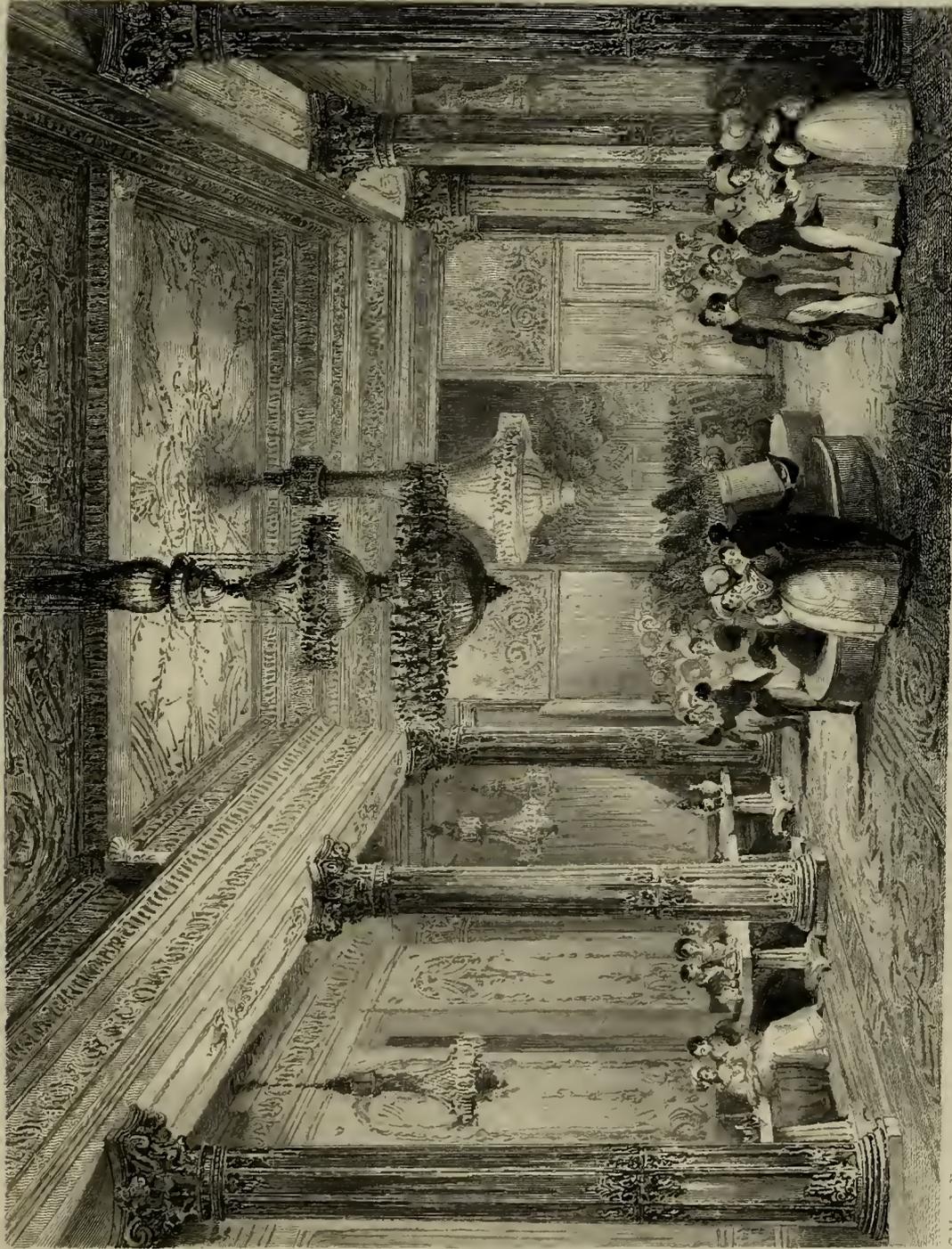
The parish of Dorking is situated in the second division of Wotton, now called Dorking, hundred, western district of the county of Surrey, and extends over an area of 10,150 English statute acres. According to the last census, it contained 848 inhabited houses, which were tenanted by 933 families, constituting a population of 4711; and under the provisions of the act for amending the poor laws of England and Wales it has been made the head of an union comprising the several parishes of Dorking, Abinger, Capel, Effingham, Mickleham, Ockley, Ewhurst, and Wotton. The union-house is now in the course of erection at Dorking.

Previous to, and for a considerable period after the conquest, the manor of Dorking appears to have been vested in the crown. It then passed into the possession of the earls of Warren, from whom it came to the family of the Fitzalans, earls of Arundel, and thence in part, by marriage in 1415, to Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, whose descendant, the present duke, is lord of the entire manor. The custom of Borough English, by which the youngest son or youngest brother inherits, prevails in the manor.

The name of the place is written in old records *Dorchinges*, an appellation supposed to be derived from compounding the ancient British word *dur* or *dor* with the Saxon name *wicingas*, together signifying dwellers among the waters, in allusion to the town being situated amid sand-hills abounding with springs. Gibson, in his additions to Camden, says "Darking is memorable for a very large camp near Holmsbury-hill, and not far from the road between Darking and Arundel. It is double-trenched and deep, containing by estimation about ten acres at the least." Traces are still visible both of this fortification and another known under the denomination of *Hanstiebury*, which latter is at the extremity of the parish in the direction of the Roman causeway called the *Stane-street*. This road is supposed to have led from Arundel to London, passing in its route through Dorking church-yard.

From the parish register, which commences in 1538, we learn that between the years 1625 and 1669 the county assizes were held here several times, and that the place of execution for criminals on these occasions was in *Sandy-lane* at the southren end of the town. The quarterly sessions also appear to have been formerly held occasionally in the town-hall.

The beauty of the scenery around Dorking, particularly that of the vale of *Mickleham*, and that between Dorking and *Reigate*, has procured for the district the appropriate appellation of the garden of *Surrey*, and has called forth the warm eulogiums of various writers. The entire parish abounds in elegant seats, the bare enumeration of which would so far exceed our limits, that we are reluctantly compelled to confine our pen to the foregoing sketch of the town; referring our readers to a very neat description of the neighbouring attractions entitled, *A Picturesque Promenade round Dorking*,—a small work that will afford them ample food for a more minute investigation.



J. Turball

C. Marshall

HALL OF MIRRORS, COLOSSEUM
REGENT'S PARK

HALL OF MIRRORS.

THE Hall of Mirrors is a recent addition to the buildings of the Colosseum in the Regent's-park, originally erected, in 1824, for the exhibition of Mr. Hornor's panoramic view of London and its environs, and purchased in 1835 by Mr. Braham, who opened this splendid hall to the public with a grand festival on the ninth of July in the same year.

The Hall is approached at one extremity by an entrance from Albany-street, near which are folding doors, opening into an elegant and spacious theatre; and at the other it has communication with the interior of the building. It is of rectangular form, and is divided into a grand central area, by a range of four Corinthian columns on each side, the shafts of which, terminating in gilded capitals in the richest style of that order, and supporting a deep and highly embellished cornice, are empanelled with looking glass, ornamented at the angles with gilded mouldings and tracery. Around the central area, is an unobstructed walk between the walls and the columns, opposite to which are pilasters of corresponding character, supporting a cornice of similar design, continued round the whole of the hall. The walls are panelled with looking glass in compartments, which, when the hall is lighted up at night, conceal the windows, and in the day-time are withdrawn to admit the light; and between the compartments are delicately and tastefully embellished in panels, with scroll ornaments, into which are introduced foreign birds, of various plumage and in almost infinite variety, exquisitely painted on a light ground, by Crace. At each end are three splendid mirrors reaching from the floor to the cornice, severally corresponding in breadth with the central and lateral areas of the hall, and between them are folding doors ornamented like the walls. The ceilings are embellished with paintings of the same character; and from that of the central area, which is panelled in three compartments, are

suspended three brilliant chandeliers of richly cut glass, and two of smaller dimensions hang from the ceilings of the lateral areas. In the centre of the floor are ranged three apparatus for the introduction either of hot or cold air to regulate the temperature of the hall, concealed by an arrangement of evergreens and aromatic plants, and circular couches of green damask; and around the whole of the room are seats of corresponding character. The hall is usually opened on ball nights as a promenade, and also when performances take place at the theatre.

Nothing can exceed the brilliant splendour of the hall when lighted up for the admission of the public; the endless reduplications of reflection from the mirrors give it an appearance of interminable extent in every direction; and the various coloured dresses of the company, which assumes the appearance of a countless multitude in constant motion, produces an impression of grandeur, magnificence, and beauty which cannot be adequately described. The whole scene is one effulgent blaze of splendour, perpetually changing as the spectator varies his position, and presenting new combinations of elegance and beauty in endless succession, exceeding the most florid descriptions of oriental magnificence, and realizing the most brilliant romances of fairy enchantment.

G. H.

VIEW FROM CHELSEA FIELDS.

THE spot from which this view is taken was for many ages an open tract of champaign land, known by the appellation of the Five Fields; and till towards the conclusion of the last century, continued to form a wide and uninhabited interval between the metropolis and the village of Chelsea.

Within the last thirty years, and more especially within the last ten, a populous neighbourhood has arisen, which for its extent and the elegance of its buildings, has, under the auspices of the



WESTMINSTER.

FROM CELSEA FIELDS

C Marshall

J C Verrall

marquess of Westminster, given to the previously unpretending hamlet of Pimlico an importance of character which is rapidly rising into successful competition with the most fashionable and distinguished portions of the western metropolis. Among the earlier of the buildings erected on this site are, Upper and Lower Belgrave-places, with various streets leading to Ebury-street, which extends in a nearly parallel direction from the gardens of the new palace to Sloan-square. Numerous wharfs and docks have been constructed on the shores of an inlet from the Thames, for the convenience of the great commerce which, within the last few years, has been established on this once solitary and unfrequented spot; and the remaining surface of these once verdant fields is now intersected by the foundations of new streets leading down to the river and stretching along its northern bank to Chelsea College. The comparatively recent erection of Vauxhall-bridge has contributed largely to increase the population of this district, which, from its proximity to the parks and palaces of the metropolis, is beginning to abound with magnificent mansions. Among the more recent of the improvements in this district, are Eaton and Belgrave-squares, with numerous handsome ranges of houses on both sides of the King's-road, terminating at one extremity with Belgrave chapel, a handsome modern structure in the Grecian style. Our view presents in the distance a variety of objects, of which the most prominent and striking are the towers, nave, south transept, and choir of the venerable and stately abbey, with the rich facade of Henry the seventh's chapel, which here display themselves with admirable effect: on the right are seen three of the towers of St. John's church, and the stately dome of St. Paul's cathedral; on the left are St. Martin's church, the York column, and other objects which will be easily recognised. In the intermediate distance are the gas-works, with part of the penitentiary at Millbank; and the fore-ground presents a remaining portion of the fields, with the machinery and process of the work which is rapidly going on for their complete annihilation.

G. H

VIEW FROM THE YORK COLUMN.

THE column from the gallery of which this view is taken was erected in 1833, in honour of His Royal Highness the late Duke of York; and occupies the site of Carlton-palace, terminating the view from Regent-street. It is of pale red granite; and though divested of the sculptured ornaments which decorate Trajan's pillar at Rome, is exactly after the same model. The column, which is one hundred and fifty feet high, is seen to the greatest advantage from St. James's Park, into which a triple flight of stone steps, descending from its base, affords an entrance opened by direction of His late Majesty King William the fourth. On a pedestal rising from the abacus is a colossal statue in bronze of His Royal Highness, finely executed by Westmacott; the figure fronts the Horse Guards, probably with a design to connect the memory of the late Duke more intimately with that institution over which he presided for so long a period, with honour to himself and benefit to the service. In almost every view of London this column forms a conspicuous object; it is seen from most of the bridges in combination with the Abbey, the Hall, and many of the public buildings in Westminster; and through various openings in the public thoroughfares of the metropolis the statue breaks in upon the view, above the summits of the intervening buildings which conceal the base and lower part of the column. The view towards the south comprehends in the fore ground, the malls leading from the parade to the new palace, with the water and shrubberies within the inclosed area of the park; on the east and south are the Admiralty Office, the Horse Guards, the Treasury, the state paper office, and other public offices; to the south are Westminster Hall, St. Margaret's church, the Abbey, the towers of St. John's church, and various other buildings in that part of the city of Westminster; and in the extreme distance eastward are seen the towers of Lambeth Palace on the opposite side of the Thames.



J.C. Verrall

VIEW LOOKING SOUTH FROM THE GALLERY OF THE
DUKE OF YORK'S COLUMN,
ST. JAMES'S PARK

C. Marshall

RICHMOND.

To the lover of beautiful woodland scenery, whose inclination may lead him to seek the gratification of that feeling within a short distance of the metropolis, we know not a more delightful ramble than that through Richmond and Twickenham. The classic associations with which both these places are invested, and the rich landscape produced by that happy combination of masses of luxuriant foliage, with sylvan lawns, elegant mansions, and the graceful winding of the silvery Thames which prevails throughout this locality, render it one of peculiar interest and attraction. Richmond-hill, in particular, has been a favourite theme with descriptive writers, both in prose and poetry; perhaps no other spot in England has been so frequently eulogized; and certainly the view westward, from various points of this eminence, one of which has been selected by our Apelles, is exquisitely beautiful. Sir Walter Scott's description of this scene in the *Heart of Mid Lothian*, wherein he says "the beauty of English landscape is here displayed in its utmost luxuriance," will be familiar to our readers. The scene of the interesting interview between Jeanie Deans and the queen is laid by Sir Walter in the park.

The ancient name of Richmond, according to Leland, Lambarde, Camden, Aubrey, and others, was Schene or Shene, an appellation signifying bright or splendid, and which we may readily conceive to have been given as appropriate to the beauties of the place.

The earliest mention of a royal mansion here occurs in a record among the Harlein MSS., which states that Henry the first granted his house at Shene, together with the manor attached, to Belet, his chief butler, whose descendants appear to have retained both the office and the manor up to the time of the third Henry. The manor was purchased about 1293, by Robert Bur-

nell, bishop of Bath and Wells and chancellor of England, and reverted to the crown toward the close of the reign of Edward the first, since which period it has generally either remained in the possession of the sovereign, or been conferred upon some member of the royal family. The custom of court roll, by which lands descend to the youngest son or daughter, prevails in this and some of the adjoining manors. Lambarde writes, "after that Kinge Edw. I. had put to execution William Wallace, the Scotte, that so much troubled him, he treated with the nobilitie of that countrie at his manor of Shene, as touchinge the government of Scotland;" a grant from Edward the second to the Percys of the barony of Alnwick is dated from Shene in 1310; and, continues the above author, "Kinge Edw. III. frequented this house very much, and in the end dyed there. Richard II. also esteemed this house well, until it happened queene Anne his wife to die there, after which tyme he not only absented himselfe from it, but fell into such hatred of the place therefore, that he caused it to be deficed." The palace was restored in a style of great splendour by Henry the fifth, who, in 1414, "built in the adjoining little village a monastery for Carthusians, which he called Bethlehem," and to which we shall presently revert. Edward the fourth assigned the palace of Shene to his queen for life; and upon the death of this princess it became the residence of Henry the seventh, during whose reign, in the words of Camden, "this royal seat was quite burnt down by a lamentable fire; but, like a Phoenix, sprung again out of its own ashes with greater beauty, by the assistance of the same Henry, and took the name of Richmond from that country whereof he had been earl whilst a private person. He had scarce put a finishing hand to his new structure, when he ended his days here." Henry the eighth celebrated the first Christmas of his reign at this palace, where also cardinal Wolsey frequently resided in great pomp after his royal master had taken possession of Hampton-court. Elizabeth consecutively was imprisoned by Mary kept her court, and expired within these walls; and Charles the

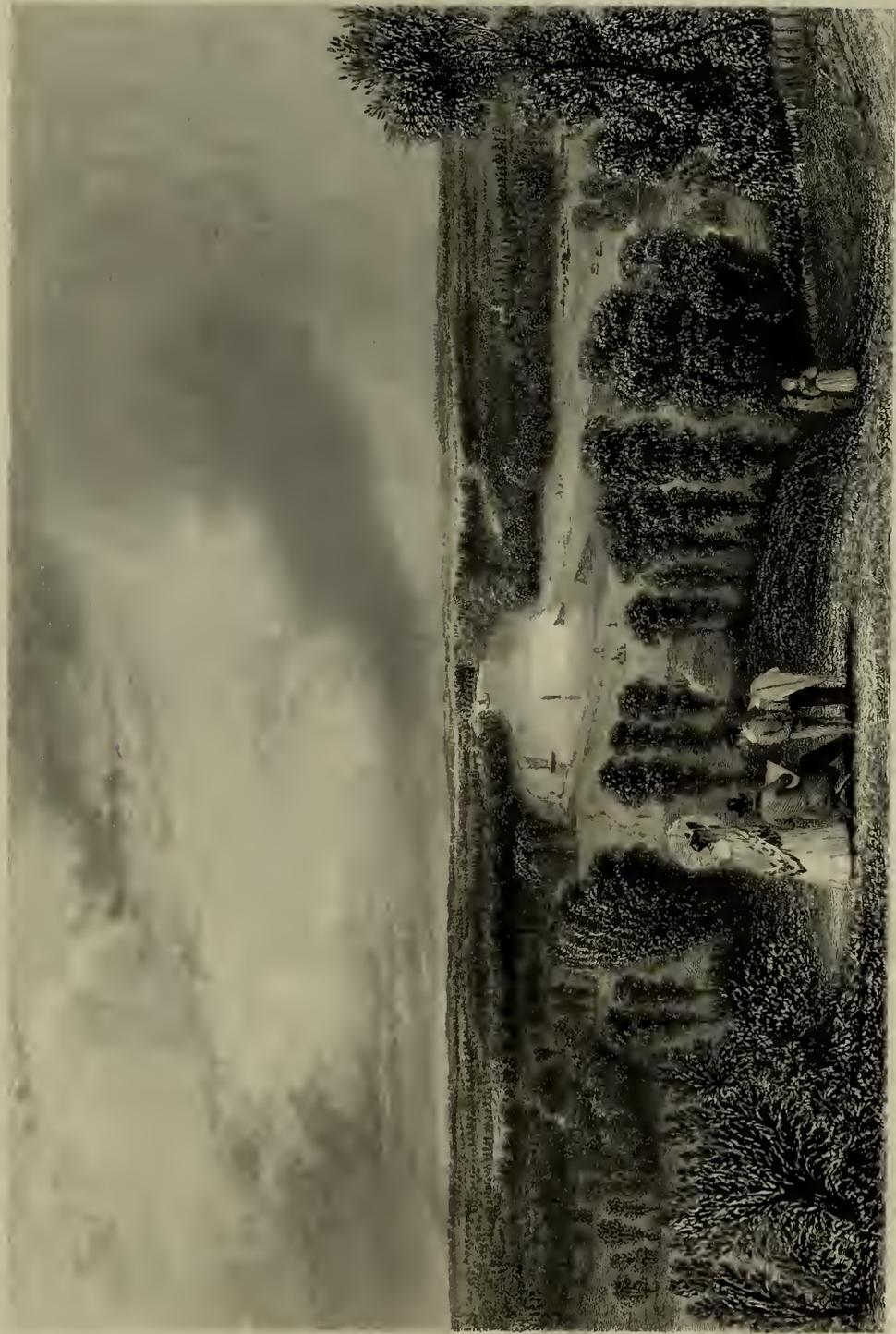
second is said to have here received his education under bishop Duppa. During the interregnum, a survey of this royal manor was made, and the building materials, valued at 10,782*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* were sold. On the Restoration it reverted to the crown in the person of the queen-mother, but it does not appear that the edifice was restored. The site is now occupied by various mansions of a more modern date; the sole remains of the former palace being the old arched entrance from the green, opposite to which stands the trunk of an elm-tree, supposed to have been planted by the hand of England's first maiden-queen. The last-mentioned interesting relic is completely enveloped in the foliage of a remarkably luxuriant ivy-plant, that seems to smile, with a demon's pleasure, o'er the protracted but certain destruction of its victim.

The park attached to this place appears to have received considerable additions at the time the latter was rebuilt by Henry the seventh, as in the following reign we find it divided into the old and new park, which portions were afterward respectively designated the little and great parks. These were eventually united, and constitute what now bears the appellation of Richmond-gardens. Queen Anne, in 1707, granted to James, duke of Ormond, the lease of an edifice within this park called the lodge, which that nobleman rebuilt and resided in until his impeachment; after which the lease was vested in the earl of Arran, from whom it was purchased by George the second, then prince of Wales. After his accession, the lodge became the favourite residence of this monarch and his queen, under whose direction were raised the celebrated Merlin's cave, the hermitage, and other buildings which formerly decorated the gardens. About 1770 George the third ordered the demolition of the lodge with the intention of erecting a palace for queen Charlotte on the site, which intention, however, notwithstanding some part of the building was actually begun, was never carried into effect. The site of the old lodge is occupied by a handsome and spacious observatory, erected by sir William Chambers in

1769, who also constructed the pagoda, near the eastern boundary of the grounds.

The enclosure now known as Richmond-park, was originally formed by Charles the first about 1630, an act that tended in no small degree, according to Clarendon, to increase the unpopularity of that monarch. At the usurpation this park was given to the corporation of London, but reverted to the crown at the restoration. Since the latter period the rangership has been held from time to time by various eminent persons, several of whom have materially contributed to the beauty of the park by the erection of magnificent lodges. George the second conferred this office upon his daughter Amelia, who endeavoured to exclude the inhabitants. An action at law was brought by a brewer of the town, named Lewes; and on the trial, which took place at Kingston on the third of April, 1758, the right of a footway was fully established, and has since been maintained. The princess resigned the rangership, which was then given to the celebrated earl of Bute, since whose death it has remained in the crown. George the third effected great improvements in the park, which, for diversity of scenery and beautiful timber, is now equal to any in the kingdom. The principal entrance is at the southern or upper extremity of the town.

The Carthusian priory, already alluded to, was munificently endowed by the founder with lands at Lewisham, Greenwich, Ware, and other places; and its revenues at the period they were voluntarily surrendered in 1530, were estimated, according to Speed, at 962*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* Within the walls of this convent Perkin Warbeck was for some time sheltered from the fury of Henry the seventh; dean Colet, the founder of Saint Paul's school, died; and cardinal Pole received his education, living in the same rooms which had been previously occupied by the dean. At the suppression, Henry the eighth granted the priory to the duke of Somerset, during whose possession, in 1550, the nuptials of his daughter with lord Lisle, and those of Amy Robsart with Sir Robert Dudley, afterward earl of Leicester, were



RICHMOND,
SURREY

celebrated with great splendour before the king. Subsequent to the restoration, Sir William Temple obtained a grant of the priory, and during his residence here frequently entertained William the third. Here Swift became Sir William's secretary, and to this appointment owed his introduction to Stella, who was born in the priory, and was a daughter of his patron's steward. The baptism of this beautiful and accomplished woman, whose name was Hester Johnson, is recorded in the parish register of Richmond. The last relic of this priory, together with several houses constituting the hamlet of West Sheen, were removed about the middle of the last century, and the site converted into a lawn attached to the royal enclosures.

Lysons mentions two other convents in this neighbourhood ; one, founded by Edward the second, for monks of the Carmelite order, and removed two years after its establishment to Oxford; and another, founded by Henry the seventh about the year 1499, for Observant friars, remains of which are recorded in a parliamentary survey made in 1649.

The parish of Richmond is situated in the first division of the hundred of Kingston, eastern district of Surrey; and embraces an area of 1230 English statute acres, which, however, does not include the entire park, portions of which extend into the adjoining parishes. At the last census, the parish contained 1163 inhabited houses, occupied by 1713 families, constituting an aggregate population of 7243; and under the provisions of the act for amending the poor-laws, it has been made the head of a union consisting of the parishes of Richmond, Kew, Petersham, Mortlake, and Barnes.

The village occupies the foot and side of a considerable eminence on the eastern bank of the Thames, eight miles and a half W.S.W. from Hyde-park corner. The entrances from London on the north and east are rather unfavourable, and it is not until we reach the centre of the town, where the hill commences, that its attractions are observed. Richmond does not possess a fixed

market; but the former occasional residence of the court here, and the temporary wants of the numerous private families who have fixed their abode in the vicinity, have produced many respectable shops, which afford an abundant supply of all the necessaries and most of the luxuries of life; while the great resort of wealthy visitors has led to the establishment of several hotels of a very superior order. Post-horses are to be had at most of the inns, and a constant communication is kept up with the metropolis by means of stage-coaches, omnibuses, and steam-boats. The town was first paved, watched, and lighted under an act passed in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of George the third: it is now supplied with gas from the Brentford works, and is embraced in the metropolitan police districts. Richmond is within the circuit of the three-penny post delivery.

Mackey, in his journey through England, written about 1724, alludes to the balls at Richmond-wells, then a place of fashionable resort, but which afterwards fell into disrepute. Richmond appears to have possessed a theatre in 1715; a second was established in 1719 by the facetious Penkethman; and this latter or another was opened in 1756 by Theophilus Cibber under the humorous *sobriquet* of a cephalic snuff warehouse, in order to escape the penalties then enforced against unlicensed comedians. The present theatre-royal, situated on the green near to the old gateway of the palace, was erected under the superintendence of Garrick, in the year 1776, and is generally opened during the summer months.

The church, which is dedicated to Saint Mary Magdalen, is a spacious structure of red brick, comprising a nave, aisles, and chancel; and having a low square embattled tower of flint and stone. The first notice of this edifice occurs in a record of the year 1339, in which it is called the "chapel of Schene;" but Lysons supposes the building to be of a much earlier date than this document. The body of the church was considerably enlarged in 1750, and since this period has from time to time received many embellishments and additions. An organ was placed in the

western gallery in 1770, the greater portion of the expense being defrayed by George the third and queen Charlotte. The interior contains a vast number of highly interesting monuments, among which are some elegant and beautifully sculptured mural tablets by Flaxman and the younger Bacon. The church, the adjoining burial-ground, and a detached cemetery, in the latter of which is a handsome vestry-room, contain the ashes of many distinguished characters, among whom may be enumerated Thomson, the poet; Dr. Moore, author of *Zeluco* and father of the brave general; Jacques Mallet du Pan, the Swiss exile, and editor of the *Mer-cure Britannique*; the celebrated histrionic performers, Richard and Mary Anne Yates, James Fearon, and Edmund Kean; the reverend George Wakefield, and his two sons, Gilbert and Thomas, who severally held the incumbency of this church; and the late venerable earl Fitzwilliam. Thomson was interred at the western end of the north aisle, and had no monument until the earl of Buchan in 1792 placed a simple brass tablet above his grave. The house in which he resided, in Kew-foot-lane, is now in the occupation of the countess of Shaftesbury, and contains many relics of the poet. The ashes of Kean rest near the western entrance, the spot unmarked save by a plain slab.

Previous to the year 1658, Richmond was a chapelry dependent upon the parish of Kingston-upon-Thames; it was then united to the hamlets of Kew and West Sheen, and separated from the mother-church; and in 1769 was constituted a perpetual curacy. The living is now a vicarage annexed, in 1806, to that of Kingston, in the archdeaconry of Surrey, diocese of Winchester; the patronage being vested in the provost and fellows of King's-college, Cambridge; and the impropriation belonging to Edward Kent, esquire.

A new district church, for which a grant was made in 1828, has been erected, after a design by Vulliamy, at the northern end of the town. It is a handsome structure, dedicated to Saint John, in the decorated style of English architecture; and consists of a nave, chancel, aisles, and western porch, surmounted with a

spire, supported by flying buttresses. The materials of which it is built are Suffolk brick and stone dressings. The side galleries are connected by an organ gallery at the west end, above which are two smaller galleries for the children belonging to the free-school. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the vicar of Kingston with Richmond.

The Roman Catholic chapel, in the Vineyard, was opened in 1824; and is a neat structure of Suffolk brick, with a campanile tower of stone, surmounted by a gilded cross. Over the entrance is a figure of Piety, and the eastern window displays a beautiful representation of the Annunciation. Adjoining this chapel is a handsome brick and stone edifice in the Norman style of architecture, belonging to a congregation of the class of dissenters denominated Independents. The Wesleyans have also a place of worship, which is situated in the Shene road.

Near to the Catholic chapel is a neat range of almshouses, rebuilt in 1811 upon the site of a former structure, founded by Humphrey and John Michel in 1695 for the maintenance of ten aged men; a little eastward of this range is another of four cottages, usually designated queen Elizabeth's almshouses, and originally founded in 1600 by Sir George Wright for eight women; and a third building, situated in the Marsh-gate road and consisting of a centre and wings of red brick, was founded in 1758 by Rebecca and Susannah Houblons for the support of nine poor women. On the hill, beyond the Vineyard, is a pile of red brick buildings, inclosed within a high wall, over the entrance to which is inscribed, "Deo et Carolo." It consists of a set of almshouses founded in 1661, for the support of ten poor women, by bishop Duppa, tutor to Charles the second, in consequence of a vow made during the exile of this monarch. The structure is at present in a state of great dilapidation. In the year 1727, William Hickey bequeathed an estate, the revenue arising from which it was customary to distribute monthly, according to the will of the donor, among ten men and an equal number of women, whose respective ages exceeded fifty years. The income of the charity



TWICKENHAM AIT
MIDDLESEX

having greatly increased, a handsome range of dwellings for the alms-people was erected in 1834, after a design by Vulliamy, about half a mile distant from the eastern extremity of the town. This edifice, which is of Suffolk brick with stone copings and slated roofs, is a chaste specimen of the English style of architecture, consisting of a central range and wings, each of which latter is connected with the main range by an arched gateway. A neat chapel, with a normal window, rises in the centre of the pile, which forms three sides of a quadrangle; and the whole is inclosed by a handsome iron railing, terminating in an arched entrance formed by a double lodge, ornamented with pinnacles. In addition to the above endowments, Richmond is entitled to a portion of the legacy of Henry Smith, to whom we have alluded in our account of Dorking; and the produce of various other bequests has been appropriated to the support of a national school, in which a great number of children of both sexes, several of whom also receive clothing, are educated on the Madras system.

Near the summit of the hill, a broad gravelled terracc, whence the lovely prospect delineated in our engraving first opens to our view, affords a fashionable summer evening promenade to the inhabitants. Returning thence toward the base of the hill we reach the Thames, which is here crossed by an elegant stone bridge of five arches, crowned by a balustrade, broken at intervals by the circular recesses in which the projecting piers terminate. The breadth of the centre arch is sixty feet; and the length of the entire bridge, exclusive of the raised approaches at each end, is three hundred feet. The cost was about 26,000*l.*, and was raised in tontine shares, the interest upon which is derived from a small toll levied upon both carriages and passengers.

This bridge connects the parish of Richmond with that of

TWICKENHAM,

whose classic bowers gained for it from the eminent Horace Walpole the appellation of the Baia of Great Britain. Lysons

observes, "Twickenham has so long been the favourite retreat of the scholar, the poet, and the statesman, that almost every house has its tale to be told; and it is difficult, while some might plead their antiquity, and others their present state, to know where to begin, unless by following the course of the river." Now two modes of adopting this route present themselves—one by taking a footpath passing along the margin of the Thames through Twickenham meadows; the other by seeking the aid of some Charon of the ferry; and, as the day is sultry, the latter mode shall be ours. First, however, let us look from one of the northern recesses of the bridge down the majestic stream, crowded with steam-packets and pleasure-boats conveying visitors from and to the metropolis, and contrast this gay and animated scene with the sylvan repose which pervades the view southward; a contrast that almost realized the allegory of the bridge of Time, with the busy world and its ever-restless multitude at one extremity; the other terminating in the Elysian plains, whose serene landscape is undisturbed even by the outline of a defined boundary.

Committing ourselves to the bosom of old father Thames, we command a fine view of the bridge, beyond which, on our left, rise in rapid succession—the luxuriant foliage of their gardens overshadowing the pellucid stream—the numerous mansions which adorn Richmond-hill, among the most prominent of which are those of Samuel Poynter, esquire, J. C. Dawkins, esquire, Mrs. Roberts, the marquess of Lansdown, and the duke of Buccleugh.

The first conspicuous object after passing the bridge, on the right bank, is the handsome residence of Henry Bevan, esquire, formerly the seat of Richard Owen Cambridge, esquire, author of *Scribbleriad*, and of several papers in *The World*. To the south-west of this mansion, and almost hidden amid the group of stately elms, stands an elegant villa, the property of the venerable and reverend archdeacon Cambridge; while before us, upon a beautiful knoll rising immediately from the margin of the river, is Marble-hill cottage, occupying the site of Spencer-grove,

which was for some time previous to her occupation of Little Strawberry-hill, the abode of the inimitable comic actress, Catherine Clive.

The river now winds gracefully to the west, bringing us in front of Marble-hill, the property of Colonel Peel. This mansion was erected for the countess of Suffolk, by George the second, after a design of Henry, earl of Pembroke; and tradition asserts that the manner of obtaining the mahogany of which the floors and staircases are made nearly involved this country in a war with Spain. The gardens were arranged by Pope, and formerly contained a beautifully-constructed grotto, and two magnificent elms, to which latter the poet alludes in terms of admiration. At the southern extremity of the lawn are two stately chesnut-trees, whose rich foliage and profusion of blossom during the spring render them objects of general attraction to tourists. On the opposite bank of the river is a temple, in which Gay is reported to have written several of his fables; and at a short distance from this summer-house some fine avenues of trees lead to Ham-house, a curious mansion of red brick, where the merry Charles was frequently entertained by the duchess of Lauderdale. The walls of this building and also of the garden are nearly covered with busts of celebrated characters; and the centre of the garden is decorated with a recumbent statue of the deity of the river.

Continuing our course toward the village of Twickenham, on the western confine of the grounds of Marble-hill stands a neat white cottage, designated Ragman's-castle, formerly the residence of the celebrated actress, Mrs. Pritchard; and near to this, but separated from the bank of the river by a lane, is a spacious mansion of red brick, which was for some time occupied by Louis Phillippe, king of the French, during his stay in this country. It was also the abode of queen Anne, while princess of Denmark, and her son, the duke of Gloucester; and subsequently was leased by Mr. Secretary Johnstone, who erected the large octagon room and corridor, on the occasion of giving an entertainment to queen Caroline. The gardens

of this mansion have long been celebrated for their rich store of fine fruit.

The lane in front of the last-mentioned house is shaded by a cluster of remarkably fine aspens, facing which is one of those beautiful little islets with which the Thames is studded, distinctively called Cygnet-isle; and immediately beyond is a large and handsome mansion of stone, formerly the residence of the celebrated hero, lord Howe, and which occupies the site of a villa belonging to the earls of Strafford.

We now reach Twickenham ferry, near to which has been taken the view represented in our engraving. Behind us, towering in bold relief above the luxuriant foliage with which Richmond-hill is covered, stands the Star and Garter hotel; on our left range the verdant meadows of Petersham; directly in front is Twickenham-ait, covered by the house and ornamental grounds of the Eel-pie tavern, a place much frequented during the summer months by aquatic parties; while on our right is the village and church, which, as seen from this point rising indistinctly amid the trees, have a picturesque effect, although neither are calculated, on more intimate acquaintance, to leave a favourable impression upon the mind of the visitor. The retired character of the surrounding scenery, and the pleasing reminiscences which each spot awakens of some lustrous spirit in the galaxy of literature, constitute the chief, and perhaps sole attractions of the place; but in the possession of these, Twickenham can well afford the absence of such objects as attract only the eye of the stranger. The village has a straggling and rather mean appearance, and the incongruous admixture of classic and native architecture displayed in the church produces a sensation bordering upon the ludicrous; the body of this building being a fabric of brick of the Tuscan order, attached to an old square tower of stone and flint in the normal English style. The edifice is dedicated to Our Lady, and the interior, as well as the adjoining cemetery, contain the ashes of several of the eminent characters who have at various times made this parish their abode. On the wall of the chancel,

exteriorly, is a tablet to the memory of Mrs. Clive, containing a poetical inscription by her *protégé*; and near this is a tribute from the pen of Pope to Mary Beach, the nurse of his infancy and attendant in after-life. The interior walls display several monuments; among which are, a marble urn raised to commemorate lady Frances Whitmore, the pedestal being embellished with an epitaph by Dryden; a mural tablet raised by Pope to the memory of his parents; a memorial of the poet himself, erected in 1761 by his commentator, bishop Warburton; and a brass plate inscribed “Richard Burton obiit, 1443.”

The living is a vicarage, in the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean and canons of Windsor, in whom the patronage was vested by Edward the sixth. It originally belonged to the prior of Saint Waleric, in Picardy, from whom it came to the warden and fellows of Winchester college, who surrendered it to the crown in 1544. The rectorial tithes were conferred upon the dean and canons of Windsor by Henry the eighth.

Near the church is the manor-house, traditionally assigned as the abode of Catharine of Arragon after her divorce from Henry, and which, at less remote periods, was successively in possession of the artists Scott and Marlow, the former of whom, according to Ironside, the historian of the place, erected, and for a considerable period resided in another mansion at Twickenham.

Within the range of that portion of the village bordering the river, are several elegant mansions associated with distinguished characters; and, scattered throughout the interior, are houses formerly in the respective occupancy of the poetic and witty Corbet, bishop of Norwich; the profligate duke of Wharton; lady Mary Wortley Montague; the author of Tom Jones; Paul Whitehead, the poet; Sir John Hawkins, the author of a History of Music; and other individuals of celebrity.

Pursuing our course up the river, shortly after passing the ait we reach a spot hallowed in the annals of poesy as the retreat of Alexander Pope, who purchased this estate and removed hither in 1715, with his parents and the faithful domestic whose memorial

has been already alluded to, from their previous place of residence in Windsor-forest. To the taste of Pope the grounds were indebted for their embellishments; and here a considerable portion of the Iliad was translated, and the Dunciad, the Essay on Man, several of his minor pieces, and many of his published epistles were written. Here, too, the poet died; soon after which event the estate was sold to Sir William Stanhope, from whom it descended to the first lord Mendip. Both these occupants preserved with religious care every memorial of the former owner, among which was a remarkably fine weeping-willow planted by his own hand. This beautiful tree, however, perished in 1801; and on the purchase of the estate in 1807 by the late baroness Howe, the poet's dwelling was entirely removed, and another mansion, formed in part from a house built by Hudson the painter, erected near the site.

The next leading object of interest along the bank is Strawberry-hill, formerly the abode of, and indeed chiefly raised by, the distinguished Horace Walpole, earl of Orford, who, in one of his letters at the time he took possession of the place, fancifully describes it as "a little plaything house got out of Mrs. Chevenix's shop, and the prettiest bawble ever seen, being set in enamelled meadows with phillagree hedges." The lady here alluded to was a noted toy-woman, and the cottage one that had been originally built for a lodging-house by a domestic of Francis Newport, earl of Bradford, in the reign of James the second, and was afterward the residence of Colley Cibber. Lord Orford, who purchased the place of Mrs. Chevenix about the year 1748, made very considerable additions to the cottage with the view of giving it the appearance of a gothic structure, and embellished the interior with an extensive and valuable collection of works of art and antique relics. His lordship, then the honourable Horace Walpole, also erected here a private press, which acquired great celebrity, and at which were printed most of his own writings as well as the labours of several other authors. The principal alterations were progressively made between the years 1753 and 1776,

and an entertaining detailed description of the villa, as completed, was written by the noble owner and published in his works. In a retired part of the grounds a chapel was erected, after the design of the tomb of Audley, bishop of Salisbury, in which was placed a magnificent mosaic shrine brought from Rome. Lord Orford mentions as a curious coincidence, that a cottage and garden upon his estate were rented by the printer of the *Craftsman*, a paper violently opposed to Sir Robert Walpole's administration; and that the editor of this paper, the earl of Bath, had written a ballad in praise of Strawberry-hill.

Viewed as an attempt to revive a style of domestic architecture most happily adapted to the English climate and to English scenery, and which had become nearly extinct, either from the prevalence of foreign manners and habits which followed the reign of Elizabeth, and more particularly the Restoration, or from a disinclination on the part of the leading artists of that period to encourage a public taste for the middle-age architecture—perhaps owing to the joint influence of these two causes—the design of lord Orford's villa merits consideration; but the fragile materials used in its construction—necessarily imparting a flimsy appearance to much of the ornamental detail, create a regret that the taste which dictated this effort should not have been directed to the embellishment of a more substantial edifice.

Strawberry-hill, together with a sum for keeping it in repair, were bequeathed by lord Orford to the honourable Mrs. Damer for life, the reversion being vested in the dowager countess of Waldegrave and her heirs; and to this lady Mrs. Damer resigned possession about the year 1810.

At the western verge of the parish is an elegant cottage designated Little Strawberry-hill, the residence, during the latter period of her life, of Mrs. Clive; and the grounds of which contain a handsome urn and pedestal inscribed with a tribute to this favourite actress and aimable woman, from the classic pen of Mr. Walpole, who is said to have purchased the cottage for her use, and by whom it was afterward bequeathed, together with the

whole of his own MSS. and printed works, to the daughter of Robert Berry, esquire.

We now return to Whitton, a hamlet belonging to, and situated at the eastern extremity of, the parish of Twickenham. Among the former residents in this hamlet may be enumerated Sir John Suckling, Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Sir Francis Bacon, afterward lord Verulam, the latter of whom occupied, during several years of the earlier portion of his life, Twickenham-park, where is supposed to have been subsequently nurtured the first weeping-willow known in England, and from which it is said that Pope obtained his plant. The beautiful and witty Lucy, countess of Bedford, the brave royalist John, Lord Berkeley of Stratton, and Algernon, earl of Montrath, were severally in possession of this park, between the commencement of the seventeenth and the middle of the eighteenth centuries; it afterward passed in reversion through several hands, and was eventually, about the year 1805, sold in divisions, and the mansion taken down.

The manor of Twickenham appears to have been given by Offa, king of the Mercians, to the monks of the church of Our Saviour, Canterbury, the gift being confirmed by King Eldred in 948. Lysons conjectures that the manor here specified was that which Henry the eighth afterward annexed to the honour of Hampton, and which Charles the second granted to his queen-consort with a reversion to the earl of Rochester, from whom it came into the possession of lord Bolingbroke, upon whose attainder in 1715 it reverted to the crown, and was sold to some of the more immediate predecessors of the present lord, who is the duke of Northumberland.

The name is respectively written in old records Twitham, Twittanham, Twitenham, and Twiccanham; and Norden assigns the derivation to "*Twynam*, a place scytuate betweene two rivers," either in allusion to the two brooks which here discharge themselves into the Thames, or from this river being divided, as it were, by the islands or aits.

The parish of Twickenham, which is embraced in the Isleworth



J. Eenshall

C. Marshall

SUNBURY,
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union, is located in the hundred of Isleworth, county of Middlesex, and covers an area 2440 English statute acres in extent. At the period of the last census, the parish contained 854 inhabited houses, tenanted by 1013 families, constituting an aggregate population of 4571. The supply of the London markets with fruit, for the growth of which Twickenham has always been celebrated, affords a considerable source of employment to the labouring portion of this population. The manufacture of gunpowder here, which during the war was considerable, has of late years very much declined.

Twickenham is within the district of the threepenny-post delivery, is lighted by gas supplied from the Brentford works, and is under the protection of the metropolitan police. An almost hourly communication with London is afforded by means of local and other coaches and omnibuses, and, during the summer months, steam-packets ply to the ait. The village contains several good taverns, and a pleasure fair is held on the green annually on the ninth and tenth of August.

An extensive school-house was built by subscription about the year 1810, in which a considerable number of children of both sexes are instructed according to the Madras system of education. Clothing for a portion of these, and bread and other necessaries for distribution among the poor families, are provided from the produce of various bequests to the parish.

SUNBURY.

ABOUT two miles west of Hampton, and consequently at the distance of fifteen miles S.W. by W. from Hyde-park-corner, is the pleasant village of Sunbury, which consists of three streets, respectively forming the east, west, and south boundaries of a quadrangle, embracing between two and three hundred acres o

rick arable and meadow land. Several handsome mansions are interspersed through the village, giving to the latter an air of elegant retirement, particularly as it is approached on the opposite bank of the Thames—the point chosen for our illustration.

Coaches leave Sunbury for London daily, beside which there are several others from Chertsey and Sheperton pass through the village, which is within the circuit of the threepenny-post delivery. The posting-inn is the Flower-pot,—a house much frequented during the season by anglers, who may generally rely upon having good sport in this part of the river. A manufactory for screws upon an improved principle was established here a few years since, and, during the period it was in operation, created a considerable influx of capital to the village; but the speculation proving unsuccessful, was of course relinquished, and the place now depends upon its original source of support, arising solely from agriculture, the wants of the neighbouring gentry, and visitors. At the eastern extremity of the village is a small place of worship for dissenters of the Wesleyan persuasion.

The parish of Sunbury, which is in the hundred of Spelthorne, county of Middlesex, and immediately adjoining that of Hampton, extends over an area of 2400 English statute acres; and contained, at the last census, 341 inhabited houses, occupied by 371 families, comprising an aggregate population of 1863. Under the provisions of the act for amending the poor laws of England and Wales, Sunbury has been embodied in the Staines union. There are several bequests belonging to the parish, the produce of which is appropriated to a supply of clothing and other necessaries to the poor; and a national school for children of both sexes is well supported by the wealthier inhabitants.

The church, which is situated nearly in the centre of the village, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a spacious and plain structure of red brick, erected in the year 1752 upon the site of a very ancient edifice; and consists of a chancel, nave, and aisles, with

a small square tower at the west end, surmounted by an octangular cupola terminating in a vane. A commodious gallery, supported on light columns, is continued along the sides and western end of the nave, and above the latter portion rises another gallery, containing an organ, and appropriated to the children of the free-schools. The interior arrangements are of a plain, but neat character, and the chancel is ornamented with a few mural tablets, one of which is in commemoration of the sister of Philip, duke of Wharton.

The living is a vicarage in the archdeaconry of Middlesex, diocese of London, and in the patronage of the dean and chapter of Saint Paul's cathedral, to which body both the advowson and rectorial tithes were granted in 1222 by the abbot and convent of Saint Peter, Westminster. The vicarial tithes were commuted for a certain portion of land set apart for that purpose under the powers of an inclosure act passed in 1803.

The parish contains four manors, respectively designated Sunbury, Charlton, Kempton, and Halliford. The first of these is stated in the Domesday survey to be "parcel of the ancient demesne of the church of Saint Peter," Westminster. During the reign of Henry the third, according to Lambarde, "a great Brabble arose betwene Will. thabbot and his convent of Westminster on thone side, and Eustace the byshop of London, the dean and chapiter of Poules on thother side, as concerninge the right and jurisdiction of the manors of Stanes and Sunbyrie in Middlesex; howbeit, at the last, ordre was taken that Stanes should belonge to Westminster, exempted from al jurisdiction of the byshop, that the byshop should have the manor of Sunbyrie, and the chapiter the churche of the same, to their propre uses." Soon after this period, however, we find the manor in the possession of the crown; queen Elizabeth, in 1590, leased it for the term of twenty-one years to Charles Yetswert, her French secretary; in 1603, king James granted it in perpetuity to Robert Stratford, gentleman; and since the latter period it has passed to several proprietors, and is now vested by purchase in John Allistone, esquire.

The manor of Charlton is called in the Domesday-book Cerdentone, and is there described as held by Roger de Rames. By an ancient rental of the convent of Merton in Surrey, it would appear that the manorial dues of Cerdentone formed at an early period part of the revenues of that priory, and upon the dissolution of the establishment in 1538, it was in the possession of Sir John Mason, knight, from whose descendants it passed by purchase through various families, and eventually into that of the present proprietor, Samuel Dendy, esquire.

The manor now known by the appellation of Kempton was anciently called respectively Cheneton, Col Kenyngton or Cold Kennington, and Colde Kenton; and is stated in the Domesday survey to be then held by Robert earl of Mortain in Normandy, and of Cornwall in England. William, the son of this earl, succeeded to the title and estates, but having rebelled against Henry the first and fled the kingdom, this manor, among his other possessions, was declared forfeited to the crown in the year 1104, and the manor-house was converted into a royal palace. Many regal documents of this period are dated from Kempton. Between the years 1461 and 1558, it was from time to time committed to the custody of various lessees, and in the latter year was granted for life to Anne, duchess of Somerset and widow of the Protector; at her death, in 1594, it was demised to William Killigrew and his heirs for eighty years, since the expiration of which period it has descended, by purchase and otherwise, severally to Sir James Cane, baronet, Sir Thomas Grantham, Sir Jonathan Andrews, Sir John Chardin, baronet, son of the traveller, Sir Philip Musgrave, baronet, and Sir John Chardin Musgrave, baronet. By the last named gentleman the estate was sold in 1798 to a retired merchant, who despoiled the once beautiful grounds, and commenced on the site of the old mansion a pile of fantastic buildings in imitation of the Elizabethan style of architecture, all of which has since been raised to the ground and the materials sold. The manor is now vested by purchase in Mrs. Manners.

The manor of Halliford, anciently called by the several appella-

tions of Haleghford, Halughford, and Hallowford, was formerly part of the possessions of the abbey of Saint Peter at Westminster. At the dissolution it was vested in the crown; in 1637 was settled on queen Henrietta Maria; was subsequently part of the dower of Catharine, queen consort of Charles the second; and is now held in lease from the crown by Thomas Nettleship, esquire.

Sunbury gave the dignity of viscount to Charles Montague, who in 1714 was created earl of Halifax and viscount Sunbury. Both these titles, however, became extinct in 1772, and have not been since revived.

The derivation of the name is attributed by Lysons to the Saxon binoun *Sunna-byri*, signifying a place with a southern aspect.

WALTON-UPON-THAMES.

FOLLOWING the course of the river Thames for about a mile and a half beyond Sunbury, we reach Walton-bridge, which is thrown across the river near the point where Julius Cæsar is supposed to have passed in pursuit of Cassibelaunus. Of this passage the following relation is given in the Commentaries: "Being determined to penetrate into the territories of Cassibelaunus, that lay on the north bank of the Thames, at about eighty miles distance from the sea, Cæsar marched toward that river, which is fordable only in one place, and that not without great difficulty. The enemy had assembled in great numbers on the opposite side of this ford, which they had also secured by driving into the banks and bed of the river sharp stakes, in such manner as to be hidden by the water. Cæsar, having intelligence of this from the prisoners and deserters, on his arrival sent the cavalry before, ordering his legions to follow

close after, which they did with so much adroitness, though nothing but their heads were above the water, that the enemy, unable to sustain their charge, quitted the banks and betook themselves to flight." Although the precise locality of the ford is not here pointed out, several circumstances coincide to corroborate the tradition that it was in the vicinity of Walton-bridge. The first of these is the existence of the remains of a Roman fortification, called Cæsar's camp, of which we shall presently speak; another is the fact that opposite to a piece of land called Cowey, near Walton-bridge, logs of timber, each about six feet long, very hard and black, and shod with iron, have been at various times weighed up from the river. According to a statement which was made by a fisherman to Mr. Bray, the historian of Surrey, these stakes were placed at intervals of four feet across the river, in two parallel rows, and about nine feet apart. A third testimony is derived from the authority of Brewer, who, in his *London and Middlesex*, says, "in a meadow immediately bordering upon Cowey stakes, on the Middlesex side of the river, there are vestiges of a broad raised road, which would appear to have led from a spot near the present bridge of Walton towards Halliford;" and which would form a direct line of communication between the before-mentioned fortification and other remains assigned by Dr. Stukeley to the encampments of Cæsar, in his pursuit of Cassibelaunus.

The present bridge is a fine structure of red brick, with stone copings, consisting of fourteen arches—the piers between several of which terminate in recesses—and having a continued approach across the marshes on the Surrey side by means of a viaduct upon fifteen arches. It is private property, and was built in 1780, under the powers of an act of parliament, upon the site of a former bridge of timber, which had become so decayed as to render the passage dangerous. A small toll is exacted from both carriages and pedestrians for the purpose of repairs.

Proceeding from the bridge in a south-easterly direction, we pass on our right one of the entrances to Oatlands, the favourite



W. Henshall

C. Marshall

WALTON BRIDGE,
SURRY

residence of the late duke of York, and now in the occupation of lord Francis Egerton; and on our left, a spacious stuccoed brick villa, recently erected by the earl of Tankerville upon the site of an old mansion belonging to the late countess-dowager. The grounds of this villa are bounded on the north by a grassy terrace immediately overlooking the river, and on which is a remarkably fine specimen of the wood-laurel, saluting with its graceful moss-like spray the verdant sward on which it has been reared. Continuing our course along a green and winding lane, we presently reach the neat village of Walton, which is picturesquely embowered in the foliage of surrounding parks, on the Surrey bank of a retired portion of the Thames, and distant from Hyde-park-corner about eighteen miles.

The church is a spacious structure of flint and stone, with some modern additions in brick; and consists of a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel, vestry-room, and south porch, with a square tower at the west end, containing a good chime of bells, the whole being supported by massive graduated buttresses. The nave is separated from the aisles by pointed arches springing from hexagonal and circular columns, and spacious galleries range along the sides and the western end. The space formed by the north-east arch is occupied by a magnificent monument in statuary marble, by Roubilliac, raised to Richard Boyle, lord viscount Shannon, by his daughter the countess of Middlesex, who is represented in an attitude of grief, with her face upraised toward a figure of the viscount in full costume. This statue is surrounded by various emblems of warfare, and surmounts a pedestal, in the face of which is inserted a slab of dark-veined marble, bearing the inscription. The drapery of the mantle thrown over the left shoulder is exquisitely wrought. On the south wall of the chancel is a memorial to the lady of admiral sir Thomas Williams, displaying a personification sculptured by Gott, of Faith offering consolation to a female who is clinging to the pedestal of an urn. Near to this is another mural tablet, to the memory of Christopher D'Oyley,

who died in 1795, containing an alto-relievo figure, by Chantrey, of a female weeping upon a tomb. On the north side of the chancel are hung some ancient brasses commemorating the Selwyn family, the head of which was under-keeper of the park at Oatlands, and distinguished himself by a remarkable feat of agility, during a stag-hunt, in the presence of queen Elizabeth. On the floor is a black marble slab, inscribed to Lilly, the astrologer, by the celebrated antiquary Elias Ashmole, who resided in the house previously occupied by Lilly at the hamlet of Hersham in this parish. The front of the west gallery, which contains a curiously gilded organ, is ornamented with the royal arms beautifully carved in oak; and in the vestry is preserved a tongue-bridle, the upper girdle of which is inscribed with an admonitory legend in doggrel rhyme.

The living is a vicarage in the archdeaconry of Surrey and diocese of Winchester; the patronage being vested in the crown, and the impropriation belonging to Mrs. Pittman.

The sojourner will meet with attention and good cheer at the Duke's-head, where post-horses are kept; and in addition to this inn the village contains three or four public-houses, of a less inviting character. A Weybridge coach passes through Walton for London every morning at half-past eight, returning about six in the evening; and the Southampton railway has a station about a mile and a half south of the town. An annual pleasure and cattle-fair is held on the Wednesday in Easter-week; but the village derives its chief support from visitors and the neighbouring gentry. Letters are conveyed by a mail-cart to and from Esher, at which place they join the Portsmouth mail. A national school has been for some years established here; and the parish possesses an annual revenue of nearly three hundred pounds, arising from various bequests, which is distributed in food, clothing, and other necessities.

The parish of Walton, which extends over a surface of 6,280 English statute acres, is situated in the first district of the hun-

dred of Elmbridge, western division of the county of Surrey; and at the period of the last census, contained 388 inhabited houses, tenanted by 405 families, constituting an aggregate population of 2035. The parish belongs to the Chertsey union, and contains several elegant seats, among which are Pain's-hill, Burwood and Ashley parks, and Burhill. Some portion of Oatlands, which estate is chiefly in Weybridge parish, extends into that of Walton; in which also is situated Apps-court, formerly a manor of some consequence, but part of whose grounds is now appropriated to the purpose of a market-garden. The Pain's-hill estate was originally a barren tract of heath-land; and, about the middle of the last century, was laid out in ornamental grounds by the honourable Charles Hamilton, with such a degree of judgment and taste as to elicit a warm eulogium from the pen of the celebrated earl of Orford in his treatise on gardening. It comprises about two hundred and twenty acres, and is watered on the south side by the river Mole, from which an extensive piece of water is ingeniously supplied to an elevation considerably above the surface of the stream. With a liberality equal to his taste, Mr. Hamilton allowed the public free egress to his grounds, a privilege continued by the subsequent purchaser, Benjamin Bond Hopkins, esquire, who erected a larger mansion on the estate. On the death of Mr. Hopkins the property was sold to Henry, earl of Carhampton, from whose countess it afterwards came into the possession of William Cooper, esquire, the present occupier.

Burwood-park anciently belonged to the Latten family, and eventually passed to Sir John Frederick, whose grandson, the present Sir Richard Frederick, baronet, erected the handsome structure which now occupies the site of the old mansion.

Ashley-park adjoins the Oatlands estate, and was formerly the seat of Christopher Villiers, earl of Anglesea; then of Sir Richard Pyne, lord chief justice of Ireland; and subsequently became the property of lord viscount Shannon. From the latter nobleman it descended to his daughter, Grace, countess of Middlesex; and afterward to Henry Fletcher, esquire, who in 1802 was created a baronet, and whose son is the present possessor. The park extends

over an area of one hundred and thirty acres, and contains some remarkably fine fir-trees.

Burhill was purchased at the commencement of the last century by Peter de la Porte, one of the directors of the South-sea scheme, and was bequeathed by him to the late general Johnson. The general's son, to whom the estate descended, afterward succeeding to the property of Sir Charles Kemys Tynte, assumed that surname, and gave Burhill to his son, who still retains possession.

In the Domesday-book the manor is termed Waletone, in Amelebrige hundred; and is placed among both the territories of Richard Fitzgilbert, earl of Tonebrige, and those of Edward of Salisbury. As it appears from the same record that Edward had recovered some lands in Surrey from Richard, probably this manor formed part of the property so recovered.

No mention of Walton occurs in Camden; but bishop Gibson, in his additions to the Britannia, alludes to it, and says, "in the parish is a great camp of about twelve acres, single work and oblong. There is a road lies through it, and 'tis not improbable that Walton takes its name from this remarkable *vallum*." The adjunct has been adopted to distinguish this from another village and parish of the same name, situated in the adjoining hundred. Remains of the fortification above alluded to are still visible at Saint George's-hill, about three miles south of the town. A trench extended from the main wall to Oatlands, but all trace of this portion has been obliterated by the inclosure of the common and the subsequent formation of the Southampton railway. Bray states his opinion, that this fortification was only an outpost to the larger camp at Oatlands, which latter he was informed could be readily traced previous to the ground being levelled to form the present park.

The piece of land called Cowey, which contains about eight acres, and also a meadow opposite to Sheperton-point containing been five and six acres, although both located in Surrey, belong to the parish of Sheperton; which circumstance gives colour to existing tradition that the Thames in this neighbourhood had been at some remote period diverted from its original channel. One part



J.C. Verrall

J. Marsall

SHEPPERTON LOCK,
MIDDLESEX

of this tradition is that Sheperton church was swallowed up by the water.

SHEPERTON.

RETRACING our steps to Walton-bridge and thence continuing our progress up the Thames, which here runs through a beautiful and sequestered valley, Oatlands present itself on our left—its extensive lawn gently sloping nearly to the water's edge, and finely relieved with a rich back-ground of thickly clustered foliage; on our right we have in rapid succession the hamlet of Halliford and the little village of Sheperton; while immediately before us, at the distance of about two miles from Walton-bridge, is the view we have endeavoured to transfer to paper as seen by moonlight, and which comprises the lock and toll-house—a timber-yard whose frontage points out the junction of the Wey with the Thames—and the houses of Weybridge peeping indistinctly through the foliage in the background.

The manor of Sheperton anciently formed part of the possessions of the conventual church of Saint Peter at Westminster, to which it seems to have been either given originally or confirmed by Edward the Confessor. It was alienated, together with several other manors belonging to that church, and given to Sir Robert Cranker by abbot Gervase, a natural son of Stephen, but appears to have been subsequently restored, as from records of various dates during the fourteenth century, we learn that this manor was held of the abbot and convent of Westminster by respective branches of the ennobled family of Beauchamp of Hacche in Somersetshire. The earl of Worcester, who was beheaded in 1471, also held it under the same proprietors. In 1494 both the manor and the advowson belonged to Bartholomew Read, citizen of London, who was afterward knighted, and whose family continued in possession until the middle of the six-

teenth century. Charles Howard, lord of Effingham, presented to the living in 1574; and in 1638 both the manor and rectory were vested in Sir Thomas Spiller, from whom they came by marriage into the family of Reynell, one of whose descendants held the manor until within a very recent period, when it passed into the possession of James Scott, esquire, the present lord.

The manor-house is said to have stood in some small fields to the north-east of the village, called the Wall-closes; and Lysons seems inclined to the supposition that some vestiges of buildings which he found there in 1800 were the remains of this manorial residence, although Dr. Stukeley assigns to them the importance of a Roman encampment. The latter author places another of these castrametations at Greenfield-common, in the adjoining parish of Laleham, and a third on Hounslow-heath, in the parish of Harmondsworth.

A curious relic of antiquity was found in the year 1812 in the neighbourhood of Sheperton by some workmen employed in cleansing a brook which empties itself into the Thames. This was a canoe, evidently cut out of a solid block of oak, and which measured when perfect in length twelve feet, in depth at the sides twenty inches, and in width across the centre forty-two inches. This interesting relic was discovered embedded in a quantity of gravel with a substratum of peat, and a superincumbent mass of alluvial soil four feet in thickness. Near the canoe, and buried in the same mass of gravel were also found a boar's tusk and a stag's horn. The canoe is now at Sheperton-grange, the seat of the late Josiah Boydell, esquire.

The parish of Sheperton is situated in the hundred of Spelthorne county of Middlesex, and is now embraced in the Stanes union. It covers an area of 1270 English statute acres, and according to the last census contained 162 inhabited houses, which were tenanted by 165 families, forming a population of 847.

The village, which is on the road to Chertsey, possesses no great attraction for the tourist, and is chiefly visited for the purpose of angling. One coach leaves the Anchor inn for London

every morning, and Chertsey coaches pass through several times daily; letters are carried by the Walton mail-cart to Esher, where they join the Portsmouth mail.

The church, which is dedicated to Saint Nicholas, consists of a chancel, a nave, and two transepts, with a small square embattled tower at the west end, the latter of which was rebuilt in 1710 by the reverend Lewis Atterbury, who was rector of this parish from 1707 to 1731. William Grocyn, who was instituted to this benefice in 1504, is supposed to have been the celebrated divine of that name, who was the intimate friend and correspondent of the learned Erasmus.

According to a tradition current among the inhabitants, this church was raised in lieu of another edifice of great antiquity, which was destroyed in an inundation caused by the river changing its course in this neighbourhood. The church-yard contains singular Latin inscriptions on head-stones, to the memory of two negro servants.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Middlesex, diocese of London; the patronage belonging to the present incumbent.

The name of this place is written in the Domesday-book Sceperton; and Lysons seems inclined to attribute the etymology to *Sceapheard-ton*, implying in the Saxon tongue, a habitation of shepherds.

STAINES.

THE parish of Staines is situated in the hundred of Spelthorne, county of Middlesex, and is 1710 English statute acres in extent. It is one of the boundary parishes of the county, which is here separated from Buckinghamshire by the river Colne, and from Surrey by the river Thames. At the period of the last census the parish contained 448 inhabited houses, which were occupied

by 509 families, constituting an aggregate population of 2487. Under the provisions of the act for amending the poor laws of England and Wales, Staines has been made the head of a union, consisting of the several parishes of Staines, Sheperton, Sunbury, Laleham, Ashford, Feltham, Hanworth, Bedfont, Stanwell, Harmondsworth, Cranford, Harlington, and Littleton.

The earliest mention of the place occurs in the Saxon Chronicle, from which we learn that a body of Danes in 1009, after plundering and burning Oxford, returned down the river to Staines, which, however, they left uninjured, having received intelligence that an army, raised to oppose them, was on its march from London. The next record of Staines is in the survey made by order of William the Conqueror, wherein the manor is described as "parcel of the ancient demesnes of the church of Saint Peter," Westminster, to which it appears, according to Dugdale, to have been either given or confirmed by Edward the Confessor. Upon the dissolution of the religious houses by Henry, this manor became vested in the crown; and in 1613 was granted by James the first to Thomas, lord Knyvet, one of whose family conveyed it to Sir Francis Leigh. A descendant of Sir Francis, in 1669, sold the manor to Sir William Drake, from whom it was purchased in 1678 by an ancestor of the present proprietor, Richard Taylor, esquire.

There are two other manors in the parish of Staines,—those of Grovebarnes and Iveney, or Youveney, both of whose privileges, however, appear to have lapsed into disuse. The former of these belonged in 1351 to Richard de Lovel, at whose death it came by marriage into the family of Santo Mauro, or Seymour; and in the reign of Henry the sixth, in the same manner, into that of Sir William Zouch, afterward lord Zouch of Harringworth. The next notice of this manor is in 1634, at which period it was sold to Sir James Chapman; and, after repeatedly changing possessors, was eventually, in 1775, purchased by the Burnett family. The manor of Youveney came to the crown at the period of the Reformation, as part of the

ancient possessions of the abbot and convent of Westminster, and was afterward given to the dean and chapter of the same church, who leased it in 1667 to the Dolben family, from a member of which it was purchased in 1775 by the Gill family. Youveney is mentioned in the endowment of the vicarage of Saines as a chapelry belonging to that benefice; but Lysons whose account of the parish was published in 1800, says, "the chapel at this hamlet has been long ago dilapidated," and now no vestige remains. The ancient warren of Staines, which is described as having been a very extensive forest, was destroyed by Henry the third in 1227.

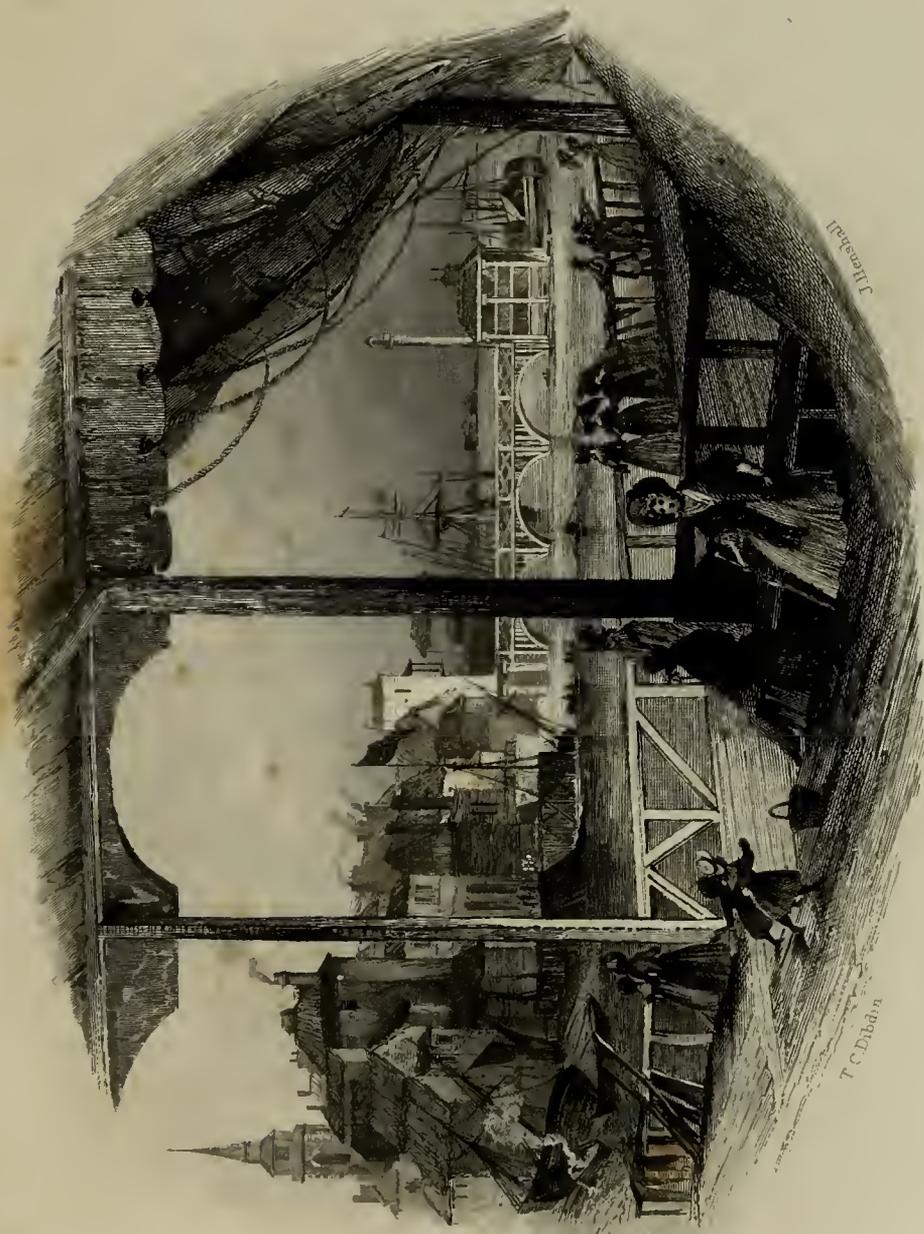
The name of this place is written in the Domesday-book *Stanes*, an orthography adopted by both Lambarde and Camden, the latter of whom derives it from the Saxon word *stana*, a stone, in allusion to that placed here to point out the western boundary of the city of London's jurisdiction on the river, and which is locally known under the appellation of the London-stone. The above obvious etymology of the name is, by some authors, attributed to the circumstance of this being the supposed site of a Roman *miliarium*.

The boundary-stone, as it now stands, is shown in our illustration during the period of a visitation periodically made by the corporation of London, for the purpose of preserving their rights as conservators of the Thames up to this point. The original stone, erected in 1285, and the head of which is encircled with the legend, now nearly illegible, "GOD PRESERVE Y^E CITEY OF LONDON," having been much mutilated, in 1781 was carefully repaired, raised upon a new pedestal, and crowned with an iron capping to protect it from further injury.

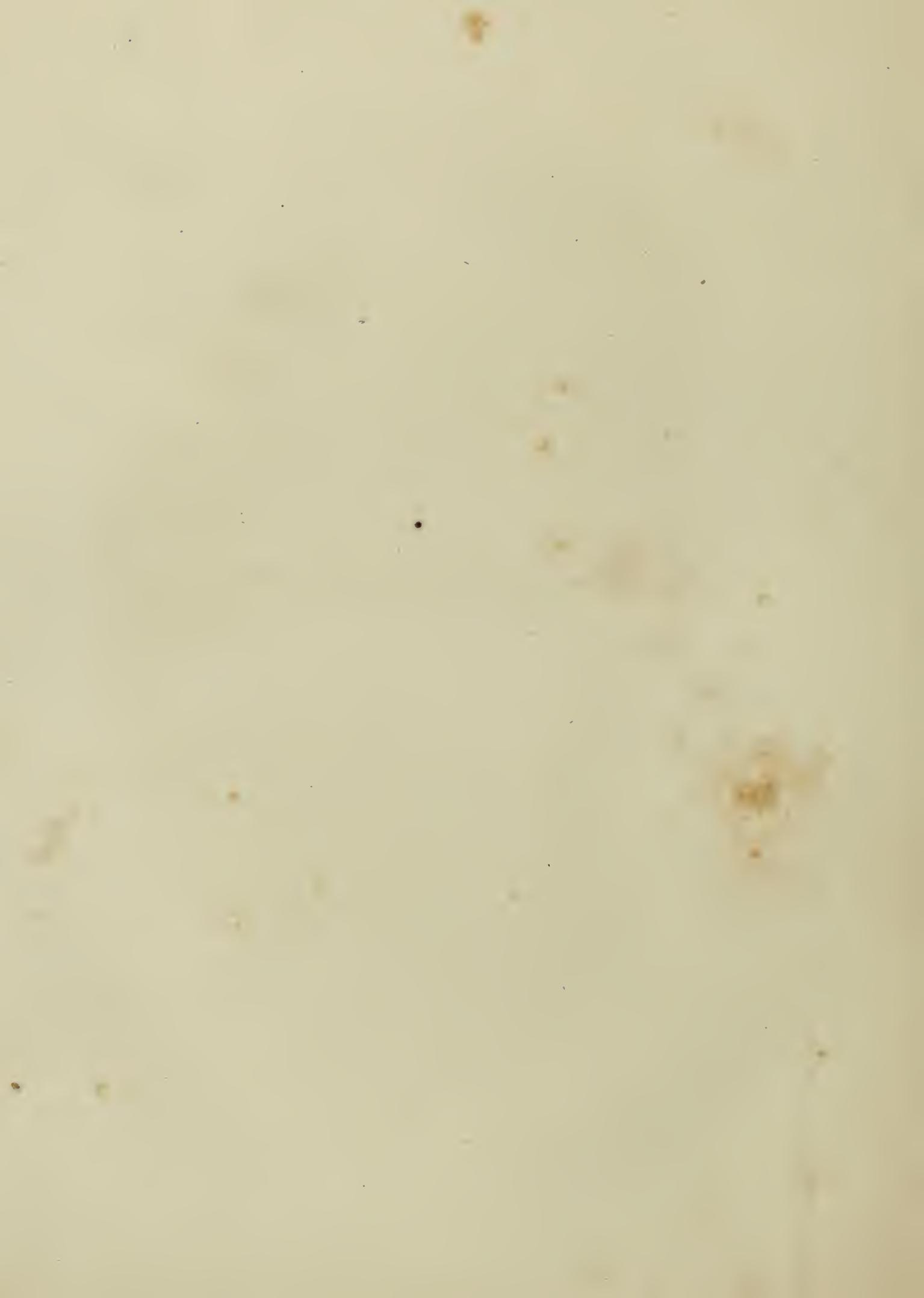
The town of Staines is situated at the distance of sixteen miles W.S.W. from Hyde-park corner, on the route of one of the great western thoroughfares, and bears the general outward characteristics of a flourishing market-town in an agricultural district. It consists principally of one broad street, running E.N.E. by W.S.W.,

having some smaller collateral branches; and contains several commodious inns and good shops, interspersed with many respectable private dwellings.

The bridge, which unites the counties of Middlesex and Surrey, appears to have been originally of timber, and, according to Lysons, one of the most ancient in the county. We find, from a record in the reign of Henry the third, that the crown, in 1262, gave three oaks out of the forest of Windsor for the repair of this bridge; and between that date and the close of the sixteenth century various other grants were made, and acts of parliament passed, from time to time, for the same purpose. These simple wooden bridges appear to have sufficed for the existing traffic up to the latter part of the eighteenth century, when the progressive increase of travelling and other causes rendered a more commodious passage desirable. Accordingly, an act of the legislature was applied for and obtained in 1791, under the provisions of which a handsome stone bridge of three arches, after a design by Thomas Sandby, R. A., was commenced in August, 1792, and opened in the month of March, 1797. The almost immediate subsidence of one of the piers, and the failure, from some cause, of the attempts subsequently made to restore the bridge, led to its entire removal, and the substitution of a single arch of cast-iron, supported on abutments of masonry. The fate of this iron bridge, however, was little superior to that of the preceding one of stone; for shortly after its erection, which was completed in 1807, extraneous support, by means of wooden piles and framework, was found necessary to the security of the passengers. An elevation of the bridge, thus supported, and of which the abutments are all that now remain, will be found in Britton's Beauties of England and Wales; and a view of the previous stone bridge is given in the second volume of Ireland's Picturesque Illustrations of the Thames. Notwithstanding the continual recurrence of accidents, arising from barges drifting against the piles, the passage over the river remained in this state for several years, but at length the united



GRAVESEND,
FROM THE TERRACE PIER





J. Henshall

STAINES BRIDGE,

MIDDLESEX

C. Marshall

exertion of a few spirited individuals induced the inhabitants to build a bridge of a character commensurate with the improving condition of the place; and the present structure was accordingly erected by Messrs. Joliffe and Banks, after a design of Sir John Rennie, who judiciously profiting by the previous failures, selected a site a little westward of that before adopted. The new bridge, which was publicly opened in 1833 by his late majesty, is an exceedingly elegant structure of granite, consisting of three elliptical arches, with a semicircular land-arch at each extremity, and surmounted by a plain parapet; the approach from either side being by an embankment raised upon brick arches, of which those near the bridge are made to harmonize in colour with the stonework by a coating of cement. The masonry is rusticated, and the piers are protected by circular-faced cutwaters terminating at the spring of the arches.

A considerable improvement has been imparted to the appearance of this portion of the town by the opening of this bridge; the small cottages that previously existed here having given place to ranges of buildings of a superior character, among which the Bush-inn forms a conspicuous feature. Close to the bridge is a very neat edifice of brick faced with cement, erected in 1835 by a literary and scientific institution which had been formed in the town a considerable period previous to that date. The theatre, in which lectures are delivered between the months of November and May, both inclusive, is commodiously and admirably arranged; and the museum contains several fine specimens of objects in natural history. Contiguous to these rooms is a place of worship for dissenters of the Baptist persuasion; toward the centre of the principal street is another, belonging to the Independents; and the Society of Friends have a meeting-house near the market-place.

The market, which is held on Friday, had formerly a very considerable supply of corn, which article is still the staple, but is now only produced in sample. The market-house, close to which the old road passed, has consequently fallen into decay,

and will, together with the surrounding buildings, no doubt speedily give place to better edifices. Two chartered fairs, chiefly for cattle, are annually held respectively on the eleventh of May, and the nineteenth of September; the latter of which acquired the designation—still retained—of the onion fair, originating in the large quantity of that esculent formerly brought for sale. The malting trade, at one period very considerable here, has of late years diminished, or rather it has lapsed into other channels, some extensive breweries having been established, the proprietors of which now prepare the barley for their own consumption. Some of the partners in one of these establishments are principals in the local bank. Notwithstanding the above apparent loss of one branch of the local trade, and alteration in the nature of the market, the general prosperity of the inhabitants has been gradually progressing for several years. The town is lighted with gas by a company formed in 1834, whose works are on the Egham road; and about eighteen months since, a corps of the metropolitan police were placed on permanent duty here, at the request of the parishioners.

The posting-inns are the Bush, and the Angel and Crown, beside which there are several market-taverns. One local coach starts every morning for London; and the Southampton, Devonport, and Exeter mails, and several Southampton, Salisbury, and Reading coaches, pass daily through the town. The mails arrive from London about ten, p. m., returning about five, a. m.

The church, which is situated at the north-western extremity of the town, and dedicated to Our Lady, was erected in 1830, upon the site of a previous edifice of a very ancient character; and consists of a nave with south and north aisles, a chancel, and a south porch, with a square tower in three stages, surmounted by a slightly projecting corbel-table, of sunk pannels, and an embattled parapet, having a crocketed pinnacle and finial rising at each corner. The main tower is supported by diagonal buttresses terminating at the second stage, and has an entrance in the west face; and the angle formed by the chancel

and north aisle is occupied by a vestry-room. The body of the church is of grey brick with stone dressings, and the tower, which is part of the old edifice and reputed to be the work of Inigo Jones, is of red brick; the corbel-table and battlement, which were added in 1830, being of stone. The aisles are embattled, and are each lighted by five two-divisioned windows with a plain transom, the upper lights being cinquefoiled, and crowned with a return hood-moulding. The chancel is illumined from a perpendicular three-light window of a very plain character. A plain cornice extends round the edifice, which is supported by small buttresses of two stages rising to a level with the crown of the window-arch. The interior arrangements are of a plain but very neat character, corresponding with that of the exterior. A continuous gallery, supported on light-columns, extends along the aisles and western end, in which latter portion is a small organ; and the ceiling is flat and undivided by the aisles. The pulpit and reading-desk are of oak; and in the baptistery is an octagonal font, with quarterfoil pannels on the head and trefoil pannels on the shaft.

The living is a vicarage, with the chapelries of Laleham and Ashford, in the archdeaconry of Middlesex, and diocese of London, the patronage being vested in the crown, and the impropriate tithes belonging to ——— Coussmaker, esquire.

Education for the poor children of this parish is provided by private subscription, and a considerable sum is annually collected and distributed among the needy portion of the adult population.

CHALK-FARM BRIDGE.

CHALK-FARM is the name given to a house of entertainment situated at the base of Primrose-hill—a well known locality in the vicinity of the Regent's-park. This tavern, which is now frequented during the summer months by the holiday-making artizans of the metropolis, and attached to which is a subscription ground for the practice of rifle-shooting, formerly bore the designation of the White-house, and is noticed in bishop Burnet's History as the place near which was found the murdered body of Sir Edmund Bury Godfrey, an eminent justice of the peace during the reign of Charles the second, and who, it is believed, fell a victim to his misplaced zeal in too readily receiving the deposition of the infamous Titus Oates relative to the pretended Popish plot. During a more recent period, Chalk-farm was long a favourite resort for the adjustment of affairs of honour; and in an encounter of this kind, which occurred here in 1803, colonel Montgomery was shot by the notorious duellist Macnamara, and expired at the tavern. The only carriage-approach to the place was from the Hampstead-road, and this having been severed by the Birmingham railway intersecting it nearly upon a level, the bridge represented in our engraving was constructed in order to supply the deficiency thus occasioned.

This viaduct, which is the ninth in succession from the Euston-square terminus, is a plain, substantial structure of brick, with a coping and square-faced string-course of stone; and consists of a central elliptical arch, flanked on each side by a projecting pier, pierced with a smaller semi-circular arch, the crown of which rises to a line with the springing of the central arch. The roadway has been elevated considerably above the former one, in order to allow the transit of the engine and trains beneath.



CHALK FARM BRIDGE,
BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY

The bridge and railway, with a train of carriages proceeding to Birmingham, constitute the foreground of our view ; in the intermediate distance on the right are the locomotive engine-house, the tower of Camden-town chapel, and the chimney-shafts belonging to the stationary-engines employed to draw the trains up the inclined plane from Euston-square ; and the extreme background is composed of the various masses of buildings forming Camden and Kentish towns, Holloway, and Islington, the elegant spire of whose church appears in prominent relief toward the left of the engraving.

INGATESTONE.

INGATESTONE is one of the many interesting localities in the county of Essex that will shortly be rendered more familiar to the inhabitants of London by means of the Eastern counties' railway, close to the route of which the village is situated.

Etymologists derive the name of this place from the Saxon compound *ing-atte-stane*, signifying the meadow at the stone, in allusion to a Roman *miliarium* which formerly stood near the centre of the town.

The manor of Ingatestone anciently belonged to Barking abbey, at the dissolution of which, in 1539, it was sold by Henry the eighth to Sir William Petre, " a man of extraordinary prudence and learning, and not so famous for the great offices which he had borne in the kingdom, as for his liberal education and encouragement to learning at Oxford, and for the relief of the poor at Engerstone." His son John was ennobled on the accession of James the first to the English crown, by the title of baron Petre of Writtle, whose descendant is the present lord of this manor.

The village, consisting of one street, the southern side of which is situated in the parish of Ingatestone and the northern side in

that of Frierning, is distant twenty-three miles E.N.E. from White-chapel church; on the high road to Colchester; and the circumstance of this road having been one of the Roman military ways, seems to corroborate the above etymology.

Camden speaks of this place as being "noted only for its inns and market." The latter, which was formerly very considerable, has long since been disused, but a fair for cattle is still held annually on the first of December. Letters are transmitted to the Norwich and Ipswich mail, which arrives from London at half past ten, p.m., returning through at a quarter past four, a.m.; and numerous coaches from Chelmsford, Norwich, Ipswich, and most of the intervening places, pass through Ingatestone during the day. The posting-inn is the Eagle, in addition to which are the New-inn, the Crown, the Ipswich-arms, and several public-houses of a minor description.

The parish of Ingatestone, which, as well as that of Frierning, has been embodied in the Chelmsford union, is located in the hundred of Chelmsford, southern division of the county of Essex, and embraces an area of 670 English statute acres of rich arable and meadow land. At the period of the last census it contained 121 inhabited houses, which were tenanted by 178 families, consisting of 789 persons. The major part of the population is engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin, bears the appearance of having been part of a larger edifice; and consists of a nave and chancel of nearly equal length, a south aisle and porch, and a square tower of four stages, crowned with an ornamental battlement resting on a corbel-tablet of small arches, and having a small octangular turret at each corner. The tower is supported by square-set buttresses, and has an entrance in the western face; above this is a large normal window; and the third and fourth stages contain respectively slightly pointed and circular-headed belfry lights of two divisions. The aisle extends along the south side of the nave and the chancel, from both of which it is separated by six drop arches springing from small clustered



INGATESTONE

ESSEX

columns; the eastern end being appropriated as a chantry for Sir William Petre, whose recumbent effigy with that of his lady are here displayed finely sculptured in Parian marble. On the northern side of the chancel is another chantry founded by the first lord Petre, and also containing a fine monument composed of various marbles.

The living is a rectory with the perpetual curacy of Buttsbury attached, in the archdeaconry of Essex, diocese of London; the patronage being vested in lord Petre.

Near the church is a range of almshouses, founded and endowed by Sir William Petre in 1557, for the support of seven men and three women of this and some neighbouring parishes.

GRAVESEND.

GRAVESEND is a corporate and market-town, situated in the hundred of Toltintrough, lathe of Aylesford, western division of the county of Kent, of which it is one of the electoral polling-places; is distant twenty-two miles E. by S. from Cornhill, on the high road to Dover; and comprises the two parishes of Gravesend and Milton. The former of these extends over an area of 630 English statute acres, and at the period of the last census contained 756 inhabited houses, which were tenanted by 1375 families. The parish of Milton occupies an area of 650 English statute acres, and, according to the same return, had then 685 inhabited houses, tenanted by 949 families; the aggregate population being 9445.

These parishes, which have been united under the provisions of the Poor Law Amendment Act, embrace the three manors of Gravesend, Milton, and Parrock, which latter appears formerly to have given name to a family, one of whose members obtained from Henry the third the privilege of a weekly market and a

fair annually on the vigil, day, and morrow of the feast of Saint Edmund. It was afterward in the possession of the family de Gravesend until about the year 1376, when it was purchased by Edward the third as an endowment for "his newly founded Cistercian Abbey, called Saint Mary Grace, near the Tower of London." The monks of this establishment granted the manor in 1383 to Sir Simon de Burley, lord warden of the cinque ports, by whose attainder it became forfeited to Richard the second, who restored it to the monastery, in which it remained vested until the dissolution, when Henry the eighth conferred it upon the family of Morys or Morrice; and after repeatedly changing possessors, it was eventually given to the corporation of Gravesend by a member of the Etkin family. The town-hall, the market, the free-school, the town-quay, and the ferry to Tilbury are parcels of this manor, the court-baron for which is held in the town-hall.

The manor of Gravesend is stated in the Domesday-book, in which record it is written Gravesham, to belong to the Conqueror's half-brother, Odo or Otho, bishop of Bayeux and earl of Kent, after whose disgrace it came into possession of the family of Cramville or Cremille, in which it remained until the eighth year of Edward the second. In the following reign this manor was conferred upon Robert de Ufford, who was ennobled under the title of earl of Suffolk, and afterward admitted to the knighthood of the Garter for his valor on the field of Poitiers. From the grandson of this nobleman the manor was purchased by Edward the third, and descended nearly in the same manner as that of Parrock up to the reign of Elizabeth, who granted it to the earl of Leicester. It then passed to the family of the Brookes, lords of Cobham, but was soon after forfeited by attainder to the crown, and eventually given by James the first to the ancestors of the present lord, the earl of Darnley, who is the hereditary high-steward of Gravesend. There is no mansion-house belonging to this manor, the court-baron for which is formally opened in a piece of ground called the Pound-field.

The manor of Milton—anciently written Meltune—also belonged at the period of the Domesday survey to Otho, from whom it passed to the Montchensies, lords and barons of Swanscombe, and, by one of the female descendants of this family, into that of de Valence, earl of Pembroke; thence by lineal descent to Reginald, lord Grey of Ruthin, who having been taken prisoner in a feud with Owen Glendower in the reign of Henry the fourth, was compelled to sell this and other estates to procure his ransom. Sir Reginald Cobham was the purchaser of Milton, which afterwards passed in exchange from Sir Thomas Wyatt to king Henry the eighth; in 1572 queen Elizabeth granted it in fee to George Tucker, whose grandson alienated it to the Howard family; since which latter period it has frequently changed possessors, and is now vested in the earl of Darnley.

Lambarde derives the name of Gravesend from the Saxon word *gereve*, a ruler, “so that Gerevesende is, as much as to say the lymite of suche auctoritie,” and Gravesham would signify the dwelling of such ruler. Dr. Harris supposes “the name to import no more than the end of a hollow place terminating at the river—*grave* in this sense being common in Kent;” and Pocock, the local historian, availing himself of the difference of opinion in these two antiquaries, suggests as an etymology the word *grava*, which is used in the Domesday-book in the signification of a coppice or grove.

The first historical notice of the town of Gravesend appears in a record of the year 1293, in which a complaint is made respecting the state of the bridge and chalk causeway at that place, and of the conduct of the watermen. During the predatory warfare that was carried on between France and England “in the beginnige of the tyme of Richard II.,” says Lambarde, “the Frenchemen entered the mouthe of the Thamise, and brent and spoyled al the way that they came; and at the last approching Gravesend, set on fyre and spoyled it alsoe;” and in compensation for the injury sustained by the inhabitants on this occasion, the king granted them the privilege “that none should transport any passengers by water

from Gravesend and London, but they only in their own boats." This privilege was confirmed by various subsequent sovereigns, particularly Henry the eighth and Elizabeth, and is still claimed by the corporation. A history of the several kinds of boats used from time to time, as public conveyances on this passage, was announced a short time since, and will no doubt prove an amusing work to those interested in the subject.

Henry the eighth raised platforms for the defence of the river both at Milton and on the opposite shore at Tilbury, at which latter place queen Elizabeth encamped her army on the threatened invasion by the Spanish armada. The present fortification at Tilbury, the form of which is pentagonal, was laid out in the time of Charles the second by Sir Martin Beckman; and those on the Kentish side received additions from time to time, nearly all of which, however, have been since displaced by modern edifices.

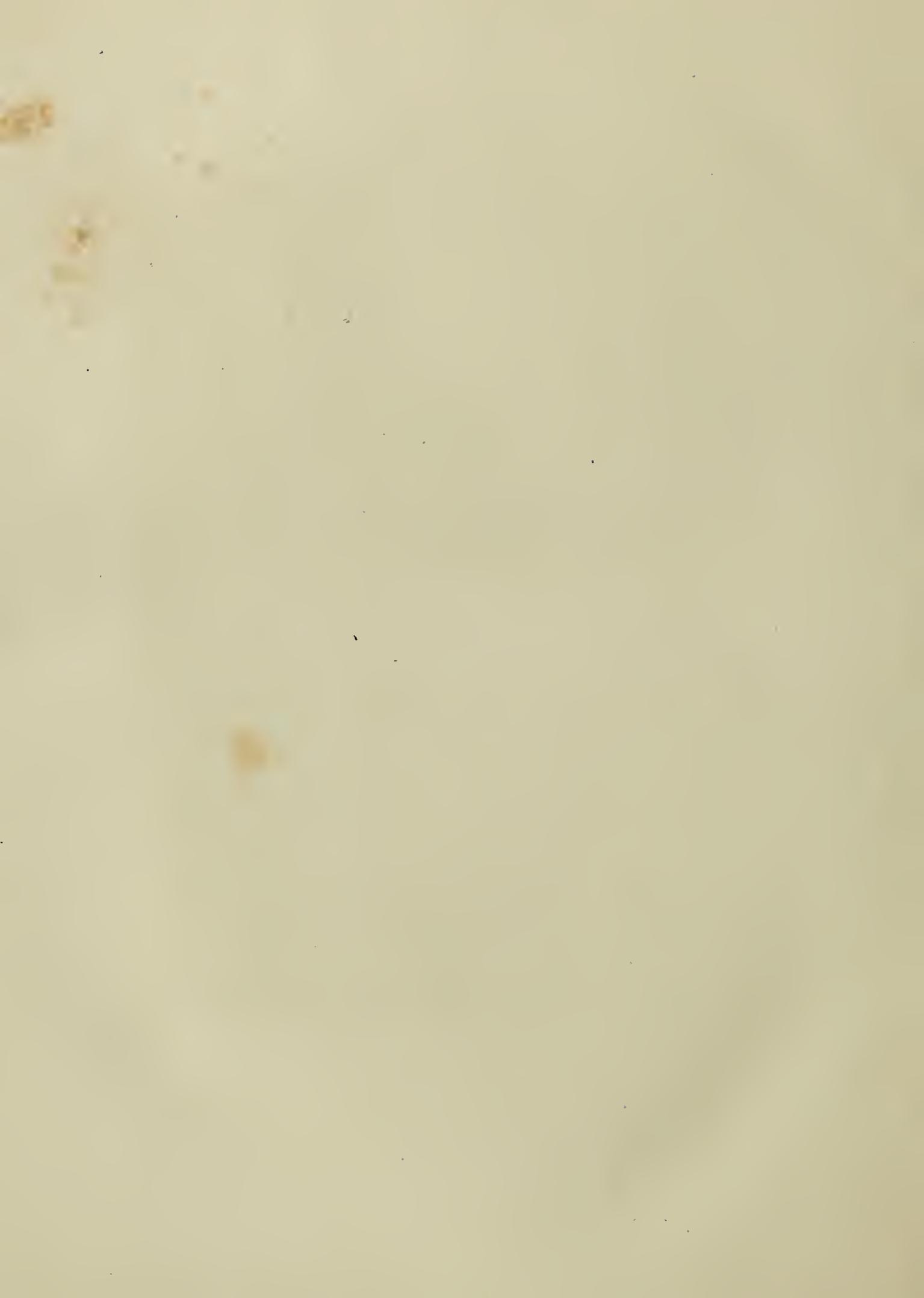
The port of Gravesend has frequently been honoured by the embarkation and debarkation of crowned heads; and the corporation of this town gave the first welcome to the Elector of Hanover, on his arrival to take possession of the British throne. In the month of August, 1727, a fire broke out, which, in the short space of six hours, consumed the church and the greater part of the town; and two subsequent fires, each of which for some time threatened entire destruction to the place, occurred in the years 1731 and 1748, respectively. In 1798 a civil engineer, named Dodd, endeavoured to raise a joint-stock company for the purpose of constructing a sub-way or tunnel under the Thames between Gravesend and Tilbury, but the project was never carried into effect.

Notwithstanding the eligibility of its local position, Gravesend appears to have remained in comparative obscurity until the middle of the sixteenth century, when Elizabeth incorporated the inhabitants, under letters-patent dated the fifth of June, 1568, by the title of the Portreve, Jurats, and Commonalty of the parish of Gravesend and Melton, confirming the privileges of the ferry,



LONDON,
FROM HIGHGATE

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and at the same time ordaining that the corporation should receive in state all foreign ambassadors and other eminent foreigners coming up the river, and conduct them to London if they should proceed by water, or, if by land, as far as Blackheath. The privileges thus granted by Elizabeth, were subsequently confirmed and extended by Charles the first, in a charter dated March the thirteenth, 1632, by which the corporate title was altered to that of the Mayor, Jurats, and Inhabitants of the villages and parishes of Gravesend and Melton; a commission of the peace and a court of record for the recovery of debts to any amount were established; and liberty was given to hold two additional markets weekly, with a fair annually on the feast of the conversion of Saint Paul, and three following days; and shortly afterward the corporation assumed, as a common seal, the ancient arms of the dukes of Lennox, in lieu of those which they had previously adopted. This charter continued in force until the passing of the act in 1835 for the regulation of municipal corporations, under the provisions of which Gravesend is constituted a borough or port-corporate, the government being vested in a mayor, six aldermen, and eighteen town-councillors. The court of record is now held every third Tuesday; and in addition to this a court of request for the recovery of smaller debts was established under the powers of an act passed in 1807. Courts of conservancy for the county of Kent are also held here twice in the year by the corporation of London.

During the latter part of the eighteenth century ship-building was established in Gravesend; and among the vessels launched from this port were L'Achille, the Colossus, the Director, and the Cato ships-of-war, some gun-boats, and several merchantmen of considerable tonnage; but this trade was eventually relinquished, and the commerce of the place then reverted to its original channels, those of fishing, and supplying provisions ammunition, and stores to the outward-bound shipping, which formerly underwent a second clearance at this port, where vessels also exchange their coasting pilots for those belonging to the

river. Asparagus of a remarkably fine quality is cultivated to a great extent in the neighbourhood, and the preparation of this and other vegetables for the London markets and the shipping affords employment to a great number of the poorer class of inhabitants. The other branches of the present local trade are the manufacture of lime, bricks, and ropes.

To the introduction of steam-passage-boats on the river, Gravesend is principally indebted to her present prosperity; and the progressive improvements that have taken place in this convenient mode of transit have produced a proportionate addition to the annual influx of visitors and a corresponding desire on the part of the inhabitants to increase, not only the accommodations afforded by their town, but also its attractions. The old quay has been superseded by a handsome pier of cast-iron; in 1836 the Terrace-pier and gardens were opened for the embarkation and debarkation of passengers by the steam-packets, and as a subscription promenade; and still more recently a landing place of elegant design has been constructed at a short distance westward from Gravesend, on the property of Jeremiah Rosher, esquire, on whose estate here it is intended to erect a new town, comprising several terraces and squares of elegant villas, and which, in compliment to the proprietor, is to be designated, Rosherville. A portion of this estate has been conveyed to a public company, who have formed it into botanical and zoological gardens. The landing-stairs lead to a spacious esplanade, on which has been erected a commodious bathing establishment, and an hotel upon a very extensive scale, the latter of which was opened by the spirited proprietor of the Falcon-inn. At the Milton end of the town an equal desire for improvement displayed itself. Several ranges of handsome buildings extend from the terrace-pier southward to Windmill-hill, from the summit of which is obtained an extensive and varied panoramic view of the adjacent country for several miles round. Many of these houses may be rented in a furnished state for any required period. One of the public gardens near Windmill-hill has recently been converted into a cemetery.

Scattered throughout the town and suburbs are many excellent

hotels and taverns, to several of which are attached grounds for the practice of archery, bowls, cricket, and other amusements. Public concerts and balls are frequently held at some of the hotels; and a small theatre, erected in 1808, is usually supplied with a dramatic company during the season. Extensive subscription libraries are well supported, and local newspapers are published in the town. The streets were first paved, watched, and lighted under the authority of an act passed in 1773, the powers of which were vested in the high steward; but the latter of the above duties has been since transferred to a gas company.

Markets are held every Wednesday for corn, and Saturday for provisions; and a fair for cloth, horses, and general merchandise is kept annually on the twenty-fourth of October and three following days. The market-place occupies the centre of that part of the town situated between the London-road and the river, and is approached from High-street between a handsome tetrastyle Doric portico of stone, consisting of massive fluted columns supporting an entablature and pediment, the tympanum of which is embellished with the arms of the corporation, the shield also alternating with the triglyps on the frieze. The town-hall, above which rises a square campanile tower, is in the upper part of this entrance, the contour of which, however, is much deteriorated by three wretchedly executed statues of Justice, Minerva, and Truth, which surmount the angles of the pediment. This edifice was erected in 1836, after a design by Wilds, upon the site of the old town-hall, a brick structure of the Tuscan order, built in 1764 by the architect of the church.

Gravesend possesses local banks, and the Surrey, Kent, and Sussex banking-company have a branch establishment in the town. Letters are transmitted by the Dover mail. All the Dover, Margate, and Ramsgate coaches, as well as those from intervening places, pass through the town; and steam-boats ply between London and Gravesend every half-hour during the day, effecting the passage in from two to three hours according to the state of the tide. Contiguous to the terrace pier is a depôt connected with the store department of the ordnance; beyond this, elevated considerably above the surround-

ing buildings, is the custom-house ; and still farther to the east is the entrance-basin of the Thames and Medway canal, which is described in our article on Rochester.

A free-school, under the management of the corporation, by which it was originally founded in 1580, is supported out of the rental of certain tenements bequeathed in 1703 by David Varchell, now producing about 70*l.* per annum. The present school-house, erected in 1835, and united at that time with the national school, is situated on the north side of the London-road, and is a handsome building of red brick with stone dressings, in the Tudor style of architecture. Immediately opposite to this, some alms-houses, of a similar though much plainer character, were erected in 1837. These are endowed with some property in Milton, bequeathed by Henry Pinnock in 1624, and an annuity, left by James Fry in 1810 arising from the rent of the Bull-inn, Rochester. In compliance with the will of the first-named benefactor, they are designated Saint Thomas's alms-houses. Besides these charities, the corporation possesses a considerable fund for general distribution, arising from various benevolent bequests.

The Wesleyans, the Independents, and the Baptists have each a place of worship in the town. That belonging to the Independents, situated in Princes-street, and founded in 1717, has been recently rebuilt, and is now a handsome and spacious building of brick, with stuccoed front.

A church of Gravesend is mentioned in the Domesday-survey ; and in the Registrum Roffense is a record, dated April the third, 1510, alluding to the consecration, by the bishop of Rochester, of the parish church of Saint Mary at Gravesend, which had been lately destroyed by fire and rebuilt. On the preceding day the same prelate consecrated an oratory or chapel, dedicated to Saint George, which had been licensed by the vicar-general of the diocese in 1497. The church of Saint Mary having become ruinous was at length taken down, and Saint George's chapel was constituted and remained the parochial church until destroyed by the fire of 1727. The parishioners who had been involved in complete ruin by this calamitous

conflagration, for a long period attended divine worship in their town-hall ; but at length in 1732 an act was obtained to rebuild the church out of the funds provided by queen Anne, and the present structure was erected by Sloane upon the site of the chapel of Saint George. It is a spacious edifice of brick, with quoins, cornices, and aisles, with a massive square tower, the otherwise good proportions of which latter are destroyed by the addition of an ornamental stone pedestal and spire.

Milton church, situated at a short distance eastward of the town, and erected at various periods on the site of a very ancient edifice, is a spacious structure of flint and stone, dedicated to Saint Peter and Saint Paul, and consisting of a nave, chancel, aisles, and a south porch, with a square embattled tower at the west end. The whole fabric has evidently undergone frequent alterations and repairs ; and in 1790 the battlements which formerly surmounted the nave were removed, the walls raised two feet, and the whole covered with a slated roof, projecting three feet from the exterior face. Over the south porch is a singular dial, constructed by a native artizan named Giles, whose tomb is in the north-west corner of the cemetery ; and in the interior of the church, on the south side of the chancel, are three subsellia, and a piscina supported by columns of Petworth marble.

The livings of both Gravesend and Milton are rectories, in the archdeaconry and see of Rochester ; the patronage of the former being vested in the crown, and that of the latter in the crown and the bishop of the diocese alternately.

A chantry, dedicated to Our Lady, was founded in Milton parish, prior to the year 1322, by Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, who endowed it with lands in Essex, and subsequently with the advowson of the mother-church. This establishment, which was originally designed for seculars, but afterward licensed for regular priests, was suppressed by Henry the eighth, and the edifice desecrated ; portions of it having been converted into an inn, and the site eventually occupied by the garrison buildings.

On the south side of the London-road stands a proprietary

episcopal chapel, erected in 1834, after a design by Jenkins, for the accommodation of visitors. This edifice, which is of Suffolk brick, with stone dressings, some of the ornamental portion being of cement, is an exceedingly neat specimen of the early English style of architecture, consisting of a nave, chancel, and aisles, with a west porch surmounted by a small campanile tower. A spacious and most admirably constructed gallery, resting on light clustered columns, extends along the sides and west end of the nave, the roof of which is supported by tie-beams of timber and iron coloured to represent oak. The roof of the chancel is groined, and the floor is raised sufficiently to admit, with a descent of a few steps from the floor of the aisle, of the construction of the vestry-room beneath. A carved pulpit and reading desk respectively occupy the north-east and south-east extremities of the nave. The entrance is from the west porch, in which a flight of steps on each side lead to the gallery, in the western portion of which is a fine-toned organ; and the whole is surrounded by an ornamental plantation, protected by a handsome characteristic pallsade of cast-iron.

Taken altogether, Gravesend may be considered as one of the most prosperous towns in the kingdom, and is certainly the *most* convenient watering places for the inhabitants of Cockaigne; those engaged in business in the great metropolis may comfortably be there by 9 o'clock in the morning, and, if need be, can remain in town till 7 in the evening: and it must certainly be far preferable to be within so short a distance of London, and yet enjoying all the advantages of a waterside residence.

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