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HISTORY OF LONDON

FROM THE

EARLIEST PERIOD TO THE PRESENT TIME.

COMPRISING

THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE METROPOLIS.

BY GEORGE GRANT,

OR OF "LIFE OF SIR W. SCOTT," "THE PANORAMA OF SCIENCE," ETC.

DUBLIN:

BLISHED BY JAMES M'GLASHAN,

21, D'OLIER STREET.

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PREFACE.

A COMPREHENSIVE history of London—the largest the richest capital in Europe—has long been felt as a des tum, which it is the design of the present volume

Our limits necessarily prevent us from giving an history of this great metropolis, which produces more numerous points of attraction than any other city in the world; but to render this work as useful as possible, to the native, as well as to the foreigner, care has been taken that no subject of interest should be omitted, and that each should be treated with minute regard to their relative situation and importance.

This volume will be found to contain a correct history of London from the earliest period to the present—condensed, it is true, yet in sufficient detail for general information; a distinct view of the Moral, Municipal, Medical, Political, and Religious state of the British metropolis; a particular account of all the establishments connected with Literature and Science; Public Schools and Charitable Institutions; Trade and Commerce; Public Companies, Docks, Markets, &c., Public Buildings, National Establishments, and other important edifices; Exhibition of Works of Art, and the Places of

Public Amusement—in fact everything there is to see, and how it is to be seen, are here fully explained. The manners and customs of the city are also noticed; and many hints are embodied in the following pages, by paying attention to which, numerous dangers may be avoided, especially by the stranger.

London, August, 1849.

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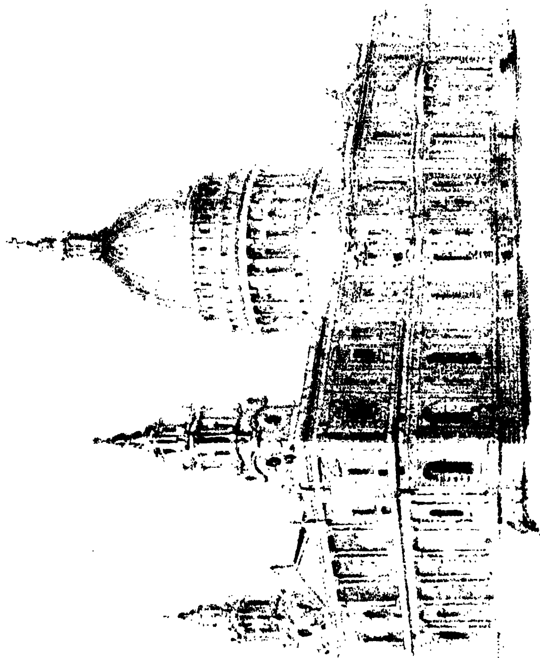

HISTORY OF LONDON.

CHAPTER I.

History of London, tracing the Origin of the City; Rise and Progress of its Privileges; Gradual Extension of the British Metropolis. Monarchs from the Conquest. General Outlines of the Metropolis. Extent and Locality. Seat of Government. Sovereign and Court. Parliament. Courts of Justice. Inns of Court.

THERE can be no doubt that London was a city or fortified hold before the Roman invasion; as, in Cæsar's Commentaries, we find mention made of *Civitus Trinobantum*, the district inhabited by the *Trinobantes*, or *Trinovantes*, and called so, it is imagined, from the situation on the broad expanse of water formed by the Thames. Ammianus Marcellinus, who calls London *Augusta Trinobantum*, mentions it as an ancient town, once called *Lundinium.* Pennant adds many corroborating particulars, founded on the etymology of appellations still in use, particularly Dowgate, *Dwr*, or Watergate, the trajectus, a ferry from Surrey to the celebrated Watling-street, which is now believed by antiquaries to have been a British road, before it was the Prætorian way of the Romans.

The name of this city appears to have undergone

several changes: some writers suppose the word LONDON to be derived from the British *Llong*, a ship, and *Din*, a town; but as it was not then celebrated as being the resort of shipping, the prior appellation is deemed, with more probability, to have been *Llyn-Din*, or the "town on the lake"—*Llyn* being the old British term for a broad expanse of water, or lake; and such an appearance must have been strikingly exhibited, when all the low grounds on the Surrey side of the river were overflowed, as well as those extending from Wapping Marsh to the Isle of Dogs. The transition from *Llyn-Din* to LONDON would be of easy growth; and such derivation is supported by referring to ancient words, the meaning of which is known, as well as by the strong probability already pointed out. The name *Augusta* is evidently Roman. Antiquaries have said it was so called in honour of Constantine the Great's mother, or from the *Legio Secunda Augusta*, which is known to have been stationed in London; but it was doubtless, on account of its becoming the capital of the conquered province, as Triers, in Germany, was for the same reason called *Augusta* Treverorum.

Tacitus is the first Roman author who makes mention of London, in detailing the spirited revolt of the insulted British queen *Boadicea*. He says, "that about the year 61, *Londinium*, or *Colonia Augusta*, was the chief residence of merchants, and the great mart of trade and commerce, though not dignified with the name of a colony." Dr. Gale, on the authority of Ptolemy, is of opinion that the Roman London was on the south side of the Thames, the site of which is now beginning to lose the name of St. George's Fields. It is, however, well known that this spot remained a marsh almost within the present century—certainly within the last sixty years. The original London, according to Dr. Stukely, occupied an oblong square, in breadth from Maiden-lane, Lad-lane,

Cateaton-street, to the Thames; and in length from Ludgate to Walbrook, which placed it between two natural fosses—the one formed by the small river Fleta, now arched over, and used as a common sewer; and the other by a stream called Wall-Brook, which has long ceased to exist. This ground-plot, at the present moment, may be called the heart of the city; but as it scarcely exceeds half-a-mile in one direction, and a third of a mile in the other, it amounts to a very small part of the ground that was subsequently enclosed within the city walls.

With respect to other peculiarities of the city's origin, some idea of them may be gained from Fitz-stephens, who, in the time of Henry II., so many centuries after, describes the great forest of Middlesex as abounding in beasts of the chase, and extending to the river side. If to a mental sketch of this fact the imagination endeavours to form a competent notion of the expanse of water to the foot of the Surrey-hills, and on the east of the metropolis, a finer proof of the reformation of nature by civilization and improved humanity can scarcely be conceived, than is afforded by the contemplation of the BRITISH METROPOLIS of the *nineteenth* century.

As this detail, illustrative of the origin, name, and extent of the city, must be followed up with historical narrative, we will now give some account of *London under the Romans.* Subjected to the sway of the enterprising and sagacious Romans, in the fullness of their power, a place possessing the many natural advantages of London could not but increase in population and consequence. When the Roman general, Suetonius Paulinus, marched from the extremity of Wales to avoid the consequences of the merited vengeance of the *Iceni*, under Boadicea, he was obliged to leave London to its fate; and all that could not leave the city with him were massacred. This retreat proves that it did not then possess walls or fortifica-

tions, and consequently that it had not been founded by the Romans. London appears to have gradually recovered from this disaster; for, in the reign of the Emperor Severus, it was noticed as a great and wealthy city, and regarded as the metropolis of Britain. By the year 359, eight hundred vessels were employed in the port of London for the exportation of corn alone.

The original walls of London were, without a doubt, the work of the Romans. The precise date of their foundation is disputed. Maitland attributes the raising of them to Theodosius, governor of Britain, in the year 379, but the majority of authors consider Constantine the Great as their founder, at the instance of his mother Helena, according to Stow; an opinion that is supported by the fact of a number of coins of that Empress having been found under them. The wall is described as begining at a fort, which occupied a part of the site of the present Tower of London; whence it was carried along the Minories to Aldgate. Thence, after forming a course to the north-west, between Bevis-Marks, Camomile-street, and Houndsditch, it extended in a right line through Bishopgate church-yard to Cripplegate; there it assumed a southern direction and approached Aldersgate. Its course was then south-west by the back of Christchurch Hospital and Old Newgate; from which it extended directly south to Ludgate; passing close behind the present site of the prison of Newgate, Stationers-court, and the London Coffee-house. From Ludgate the direction was western by Cock-court to New Bridge street, where turning to the south it ran by the Fleet-brook to another fort on the Thames. This circuit, it is related by Stow, measured two miles and a furlong, besides which, the whole bank of the Thames, from one fort to the other, was at one time guarded by another wall, but this, according to Fitzstephens, had long been subverted even in his time. This last

wall extended to one mile and 120 yards. Strong towers and bastions of Roman masonry to the number of fifteen, added to the strength of the defence. The wall, when perfect, is supposed to have been twenty-two feet high; and the towers, one of which stood until within a few years in Shoemaker's-row, Aldgate, forty feet in height. Until the pulling down of Bethlehem Hospital the most striking remains were to be seen in London-wall; but those have now disappeared; and the few vestiges at present discoverable, are to be found in the courts between Ludgate and the Broadway, Blackfriars; and in Cripplegate churchyard.

There were four principal gates which opened to the four great military roads from London. The prætorian way, or Saxon Watling-street, an original British road, passed under one on the site of Old Newgate; thence it turned down to Dowgate to the ferry; and was resumed from the south bank of the Thames to Dover. Ermine-street passed under Cripplegate; and a vicinal way under Aldgate by Bethnal-green to Oldford, once a pass over the Lea to Layton in Essex. As new roads were formed more gates were erected, as Bridgegate, Ludgate, Aldersgate, Moorgate, and the Postern on Tower-hill.

It is almost unnecessary to add, that under the Romans Britain, and of course London, was governed by Roman laws, administered by Prefects, sent annually from Rome. The importance of the province of Britain was soon exceedingly manifest; as it furnished sufficient strength to nurture several pretenders to the empire. From the many Roman remains, as tesselated pavements, urns, coins, pottery, and foundations of buildings, it is evident that London exhibited much of the grandeur by which the Roman name is so greatly distinguished. Nor is this all; it is supposed by Whitaker, "that the first embankment of the Thames was the natural operation of that magni-

ficent spirit which intersected the earth with so many raised ramparts and roads." There are evident proofs of the existence of this labour on the south of the Thames; but it is still more obvious in the great sea wall along the fens of Essex. By labours of this kind the Romans ennobled, and compensated for their ambition. Britain was settled by Rome in her maturity; in four centuries she was obliged to abandon it. Her own colossal power had by that time yielded to the usual operation of corruption and misgovernment; and by the rapid decrease of a dominion so stupendous, an ever memorable lesson has been afforded to mankind.

London next came under the dominion of the *Britons*, the *Saxons*, and the *Danes*. When the distracted state of the Roman empire, in the fifth century, compelled that power to withdraw its forces from the distant provinces, London again became a British town. It is mentioned in the Saxon Chronicle for 457, when the Britons fled hither on their defeat by the Saxons under Hengist, who, about twenty years afterwards, made himself its master. But on his death in 498, it was retaken by Ambrosius, and retained by the Britons during a considerable part of the next century. It was afterwards subjected to the newly established Saxon Kingdom of Essex. On the conversion of the East Saxons to Christianity, London was nominated as the Bishop's see, Melitus being appointed the first bishop in 604, and a cathedral church was erected in 610, on the present site of St. Paul's.

During the *Heptarchy* few notices of London appear on record. In 664 it was ravaged by the plague; and in 764, 798, and 801, it suffered severely by fires. By that of 798 it was almost wholly consumed, and immense numbers of the inhabitants perished. On the union of the Saxon kingdom under Egbert, London, though not the royal residence, or seat of government,

was advancing, in consequence it appears, from a parliament having been held here in 833, to consult on proper means to repel the Danes. In the course of the succeeding twenty years, however, those barbarian invaders plundered the city twice, and massacred a great number of the inhabitants. They also held it in possession, and garrisoned it in the early part of the reign of Alfred; but that justly celebrated monarch, with his superior and commanding genius, eventually obtained the mastery, and in 878 compelled the Danes to retire out of England, which he principally accomplished by means of a fleet which he raised. In 884, this excellent king gained possession of London, which he immediately repaired and strengthened, and in his subsequent wars the Londoners are recorded as having behaved with exemplary bravery. Alfred originated that plan of municipal government of London, which gradually moulded into its present form; and in particular, he instituted the office of sheriff.

In 1013, London, abandoned by the imbecile Ethelred II., was obliged to open its gates to Sweyn, king of Denmark, who assumed the crown, which he left to his son Canute, next year. The Londoners joined in a general rebellion against Canute, which caused him to retire; but he soon returned, and finally obtained the sovereignty on the base assassination of Edmund Ironside. The importance of London, even in those times of vicissitude, was made manifest; for, out of an enormous impost of £83,000 Saxon, levied upon the English in this reign, London supplied £11,000; and in the subsequent reign of Edward the Confessor, it had become exceedingly wealthy. On the defeat and death of Harold by William Duke of Normandy, 1066, the latter advanced towards London, but the majority of the citizens having declared Edgar Atheling, he was

opposed admittance; until the clergy, headed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, declared in his favour. On the Christmas-day following he was crowned king of England. From this period, London may be considered as the British metropolis.

William has been erroneously styled "the Conqueror." He gained the crown by *compact*, not by *conquest*. He killed Harold, the usurper, it is true, and routed his army; but still he claimed a right to the kingdom; was admitted by mutual agreement, and took an oath to observe the laws and customs of the realm. In former times, as is well known, the judges were used to reprehend any gentleman at the bar who happened to give him the title of William the Conqueror, instead of William the First.

From the accession of William I. to the present Time.

William, at the commencement of his reign, which commenced 1066, and ended 1087, granted a charter to the citizens, which is beautifully written in the Saxon characters, and is still preserved among the city archives. It consists of only five lines on a slip of parchment, six inches long, and one broad. The English of which is—"William the king greeteth William the Bishop, and Godfrey the Portreve, and all the burgesses within London, friendly. And I acquaint you, that I will that ye be all there law-worthy, as ye were in king Edward's days. And I will not suffer that any man do you any wrong. God preserve you."

In the year 1077, the greatest part of the city was destroyed by fire. In the following year the king founded the fortress now called the White Tower, for the purpose of keeping the citizens in awe, having reason to suspect their fidelity. Henry I, as a reward for the ready submission of the city to his usurped authority in 1100, granted it an extensive charter of privileges; among which was the perpetual sheriff-

wick of Middlesex. This is the earliest record which particularly details the city's privileges and customs, that is known to exist:—it very speedily followed William I.'s charter, and further shows the increased consequence of the citizens by the efforts made to gain their interest and support. On the death of Henry, the citizens took a decided part in favour of Stephen, in his contest with the empress, and greatly contributed to his establishment on the throne. Henry II. does not appear to have held the citizens in any great degree of favour, probably in resentment of their attachment to Stephen; and we find that he extorted large sums of money from them as free gifts. The alleged charter, confirmatory of Henry I.'s, is not considered to be authentic. It was in this reign that Fitzstephen, the monk of Canterbury, wrote his curious description of London, which shows it to have been at that time a prosperous and populous city. On the coronation of Richard I., the brutal and misled populace committed a dreadful massacre on the Jews resident in London. At the coronation dinner, the chief magistrate of London, who at that time had the title of bailiff, acted as chief butler. Early in this reign the name is said to have been changed to that of *mayor*, in the person of Henry Fitz-Alwyn. Richard granted the city a new charter, confirming all its liberties, with additional privileges. About four years afterwards, 1195, on the payment of £1500, he granted another, providing for the removal of all wears that had been erected on the river Thames. On this charter the corporation of London establish their claim to the conservatorship of the river. In the reign of king John the civic importance of London was greatly increased; and its corporation finally assumed that character, which, with few alterations it maintains to this day.

John granted the city several charters. By one he empowered the "*barons of the city of London*" *to*

choose a mayor annually, or to continue the same person from year to year, at their own pleasure.

During the contest between the king and pope Innocent III., London severely felt the consequences of the interdict which was laid upon the kingdom. In the civil feuds which marked the latter years of John's reign, the citizens of London took part with the barons; and when the humbled monarch was compelled to sign *Magna Charta*, it was therein expressly stipulated, that "The city of London should have all its ancient privileges and free customs as well by land as by water."

The long reign of Henry III., continuing from 1216 to 1272, affords few events worthy of notice respecting London, except the excessive insults and oppressions endured by the magistrates and citizens:—it is true *nine* charters, some of them very important, were granted during this reign.

In 1258, the price of corn was so excessive, that a famine ensued; and, according to the Chronicles of Evesham, 20,000 persons died of hunger, in London alone. In 1264, another massacre of the Jews took place, on a plea that one of that unfortunate race had taken more than legal interest; and upwards of 500 Jews were put to death by the populace, and their houses and synagogues destroyed.

In the reign of Edward I. the city was divided into twenty-four wards, over each of which presided an alderman. The inhabitants were also allowed to choose common councilmen as at present. The most part of this king's reign was spent in the vain attempt of attaching Scotland to the English crown. The war this occasioned cost England an immense amount of money, in one year amounting to no less than £492,000. Sir William Wallace, the Scottish patriot, was executed by this prince's orders in 1305. During this reign the citizens of London joined the barons and compelled this tyrannical monarch to grant the charter of their

liberties, and the charter of the forests. Edward II. was not so ambitious as his father—his character was weak and irresolute; and in 1328, he renounced all claim of superiority over Scotland; a claim which had cost his father and the English nation so much blood and treasure.

Edward III., at the commencement of his reign, granted two charters to the city. By the first, all the ancient privileges were confirmed, and additional ones bestowed. By the other, Southwark was granted to the citizens in perpetuity. In 1348, the terrible pestilence, which broke out in India, and spread itself westward through every country on the globe, reached England. Its ravages in London were so great, that the common places of interment were not sufficient for the great numbers of the dead; and various pieces of ground without the walls were assigned for burial places. Among these, was the waste land, now forming the precinct of the Charter-house, where upwards of 50,000 bodies were then deposited. This destructive disorder did not entirely subside till 1357. The public entry of Edward the Black Prince into London, May 24, 1356, after his victory of Poictiers, was celebrated with an unparalleled degree of splendour: and every street through which the cavalcade passed, exhibited an extraordinary display of riches and magnificence. This reign was distinguished by the dawnings of the Reformation under the celebrated Wickliffe, who was much esteemed in London. In 1380, a desperate insurrection, headed by Wat Tyler, took place, which, in its progress, threatened the overthrow of the political and civil establishments of the kingdom; but from the personal intrepidity of the young king Richard, then a mere stripling, aided by the active courage of Sir William Walworth, mayor of London, the peace of the metropolis and of the kingdom was speedily restored.

At the coronation of Henry IV., in 1399, who, in

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consequence of the wild and excessive exactions of Richard, was received by the citizens with open arms, the mayor, as usual, officiated as chief butler. The citizens were gratified by the repeal of some obnoxious statutes, and an extension of their privileges. The return of Henry V., after his glorious victory at Agincourt, in 1415, was celebrated in London with an unusual display of magnificence. In this reign the city was first lighted at night with lanterns; and Sir Thomas Eyre, mayor, built Leadenhall for a public granary. The reign of Henry VI. was rendered memorable to London, by the insurrection of Jack Cade, who assumed the name of Mortimer, and collected a strong body of malcontents, under the pretext of a redress of grievances. They entered the city in triumph, and for some time bore down all opposition, and beheaded the lord treasurer, Lord Say, and several other persons of consequence. The insurgents at length, losing ground, a general pardon was proclaimed; and Cade finding himself deserted by his followers, fled; but a reward being offered for his apprehension, he was discovered, and refusing to surrender, he was killed.

The rents of houses in the city and suburbs during this reign, as appears from a composition for offerings entered into in 1457, between the clergy of London and the laity, ran from six and eight pence to three pounds per annum.

In the fatal and bloody contests between the houses of York and Lancaster, London generally shewed a disposition in favour of that of York. On the victorious return of Edward VI., after the decisive battle of Barnet, he bestowed the honour of knighthood on the mayor, recorder, and twelve of the aldermen. It was in this reign, bricks were first used for building houses; they were made in Moorfields. New conduits and cisterns for water were also constructed. William Caxton, citizen and mercer, first introduced

the art of printing into the metropolis during the sway of Edward. The reign of Richard III. had no particular reference to the city, beyond the base imposition on the citizens by the Duke of Buckingham in his behalf. Soon after the accession of Henry VII., in 1485, an epidemical disorder of a very singular nature, called the "sweating sickness," raged with great violence in London. Those attacked by it, were thrown into a violent perspiration which generally occasioned their death within twenty-four hours. It is related in Hall's Chronicle, that two mayors and six aldermen of London died of this complaint in one week. In the thirteenth year of this reign, several gardens were destroyed in Finsbury, out of which, a field for archers was formed, which is the origin of the Artillery Ground. The river Fleet was made navigable to Holborn-bridge. Houndsditch was arched over, and the beautiful chapel adjoining the abbey, still called Henry the Seventh's chapel, erected. The citizens were dreadfully harassed by this king and his plundering agents Empson and Dudley.

When Henry VIII. attempted to raise money without the advice of parliament, the citizens made such determined opposition to the measure, and their example had such an influence throughout the kingdom, that the king in full council abandoned his design, and granted a free pardon to all who opposed him. Many improvements were made in this reign in the city and its suburbs.. The police was better regulated, nuisances were removed, the streets and avenues were paved, and various regulations were carried into effect, for supplying the city with provisions, to answer the demands of an increasing population. An immense alteration was made in the appearance of the city by the dissolution of the monasteries. The part of London, covered by religious foundations, bore so great a proportion to the whole, that it appeared rather a religious, than a

commercial metropolis. Cruelly, and in some degree, barbarously, as these buildings were demolished, there is much reason to conclude, that the liberation of so many thousands from the seclusion of the cloister, led to increased trade and business, as also to much improvement in the avenues to the city. The Emperor Charles V., who visited Henry, was treated by the citizens with great magnificence. This was the first monarch who received the appellation of Defender of the Faith. The dreadful persecutions during this reign, on the score of religion, were extensive; but the result in bringing about the Reformation, was most advantageous to the cause of civil and religious liberty. In 1542, the Bible was first printed in England, by royal permission.

The events which chiefly characterize the reign of Edward VI., as relative to London especially, may be comprised in the erection of the hospitals of Christ, Bridewell, and St. Thomas; the first for education, and the two last for the reception of the sick, maimed, and helpless poor—charities rendered essentially necessary by the dissolution of religious houses. By an act of the seventh year of this king's reign, for the regulation of taverns and public houses, it was decreed that there should only be forty in the city and liberties of London, and three in Westminster: there are now nearly seven thousand!

It is unnecessary to allude to the wretched scenes that were acted in London during the unhappy reign of *bloody* Mary, who again introduced popery into England; but which was abolished under the eventful sway of Elizabeth, beginning in 1558, and ending in 1603. The metropolis partook largely of the auspicious consequences of her vigorous capacity, in its increase of prosperity, enterprise, and commercial activity. Seeing what the extent of London now is, it is curious to understand how much anxiety was exhibited in this reign, to prevent the increase of

buildings, and the inconvenience of a too extensive population. By a map then published and which is still extant, it may be seen how much of that which is now the very interior of town, was then field and garden. Then, as now, the most crowded part of the city, properly so called, extended from Newgate-street, Cheapside, and Cornhill, to the banks of the Thames. With the exception of Coleman-street, and a few buildings here and there from Lothbury to Bishopgate, and from Bishopgate to the Tower, all was uncovered or garden ground. Goodman's-fields were only enclosed pasture grounds; and there were very few buildings east of the Tower. White-chapel consisted of a few houses only; and Houndsditch, which contained a single row of houses opposite to the city walls, opened behind into the fields. Spitalfields from the back of the church lay entirely open. From Bishopsgate-Without to Shoreditch Church, there existed a tolerably regular street, yet still with unoccupied sites intervening. West of Bishopsgate to Moorfields and Finsbury, was nearly all unbuilt. From the upper end of Chiswell-street to Whitecross-street, there were very few houses; and Goswell-street was called the road to St. Alban's. Clerkenwell was chiefly occupied by the monastery and church; Cowcross, and part of St. John's street, excepted. From the back of Cowcross to Gray's Inn-lane, which extended a very little way from Gray's Inn, the ground was either unoccupied or pasture and garden ground. From Holborn-bridge to Red Lion-street, the houses continued on both sides, after which the road was open, or bounded on one side by a garden wall, to the village of St. Giles, which village was formed by a small cluster of houses on the right; it was therefore called the parish of St. Giles *in the Fields*, a name that it still bears. Beyond all was country, both northward and westward, Oxford-road having trees

and hedges on both sides; indeed so recently as 1778, a German writer, describing the metropolis, speaking of *Tyburn*, the place of execution at that period, mentions it as being "distant from London about two English miles!" From Oxford-road to Piccadilly there was a road called the Wrey from Reading, proceeding through Hedge-lane and the Haymarket (which avenues were entirely destitute of houses), to St. James's Hospital, now the palace; and a few small buildings on the site of Carlton-house, were all that existed of the present Pall-Mall. Leicester-square was all open fields; and St. Martin's-lane had only a few buildings above the church towards the Convent garden, which extended as a garden to Drury-lane; three buildings alone existing in that extensive site. Long Acre, Seven Dials, and even Drury-lane, to the top of Wych-street were quite open. The Strand was a street with houses on both sides, but principally formed of the mansions of the nobility and prelates; those on the south side having all large gardens open to the Thames. The present names of Norfolk-street, Arundel-street, Buckingham-street &c., point out the relative situations of several of them. At that time it was customary for noblemen, who resided on the banks of the Thames, to proceed to court, at Whitehall, in their own barges, in consequence of which they retained a number of watermen in livery, who were thereby protected from impressment. Spring-gardens were what the name imports, and the gardens extended to the present Treasury, which occupies the space of the Cock-pit and Tilt-yard, opposite to which stood the palace of White-hall. From King-street to the Abbey, the houses were close and connected, as also from Whitehall to Palace-yard. Several houses also stood near the present Abingdon-street, and on the shore opposite to Lambeth-palace. On the Surrey side of the Thames, there were but six or seven houses from Lambeth-

palace to the shore opposite White Friars, where a line of houses and gardens commenced, which were continued to Winchester-house in Southwark. On the site of the present Christchurch, stood a theatre with gardens; the place was called Paris Garden. Opposite to Queenhithe were the circular buildings appropriated to bull and bear baitings, which Elizabeth often witnessed. Southwark extended but a little way down the High-street. London bridge was crowded with buildings. Along Tooley-street to Horsleydown was also much built over; after which a few houses and gardens only appeared.

From this outline, comparing the past with the present, it might appear that the fears of Elizabeth and her ministers were visionary; but such was not exactly the case. The wretched policy of the courts of France and Spain, in the religious persecutions of their subjects, drove thousands of the most industrious of them to England; and as they chiefly resorted to London, the houses of the lower ranks of the people were crowded to such an excess, that disease and pestilence frequently occurred. In 1603, upwards of 30,000 persons died of the plague in London. The close manner of building, at that period, aided the evil; and in the then imperfect state of medical science, it was not wonderful that an increase of population, where plague was so common, should alarm a cautious administration. All precautions, however, were fruitless; the inhabitants of London increased against both restriction and disease, and the natural and proper result followed, in the extension of the suburbs, during the whole reign of Elizabeth, which has continued up to the present day. The commerce of London flourished at this period to an extraordinary degree; indeed it was the only place in the kingdom of any commercial importance, and was well able to bear the heavy taxation which was laid on it. The citizens raised and paid no fewer than 10,000 men,

and supplied sixteen ships and their equipment for the purpose of opposing the Spanish Armada; and in subsequent emergencies their liberality was equally proportionate—their hearts being engaged in the general politics of Elizabeth. Still, there was a deep stain upon her character, which they, as well as the rest of the nation, could not overlook—we allude to the execution of the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots. Sir Thomas Gresham, a public spirited merchant, built the Royal Exchange, in this reign.

Elizabeth was succeeded by James I. (James VI. of Scotland). The preparations for the coronation of this monarch were interrupted by the dreadful plague, which ravaged the city with greater violence than any similar visitation since the reign of Edward III. In 1604, the inhabitants of London witnessed the development of that horrible conspiracy, so well known under the name of "The Gunpowder Plot;" and soon after, the punishment of its infamous agents. In 1609, the city acquired a considerable accession of power and property. Almost the whole province of Ulster, in Ireland, having fallen to the crown, the king made an offer of the escheated lands to the city, on condition that they would establish an English colony there. The offer was accepted: and so rapidly was the colonization forwarded, that within seven years arose the two capital towns, Londonderry and Coleraine. During this reign the New River was brought to London from Ware; and the streets of London were first paved with flag-stones.

Charles I. succeeded to the throne in 1625. The commencement of his reign was marked by a return of the plague, which destroyed, in London alone, upwards of 35,000 persons. Respecting the important transactions which took place between the king and the people, it is merely necessary to observe here, that the city being more directly within the jurisdiction of the High Commission and Star

Chamber, its inhabitants were more particularly aggrieved by their exactions, and the result was most injurious to trade and commerce; Lord Clarendon speaks of these transactions with becoming sorrow and indignation. This unfortunate monarch was beheaded January 30th, 1654. It may be added that the citizens of London agreed with the parliament, no doubt driven to embrace that side of the question to escape from their sufferings.

While the civil wars lasted, all improvement of the city was retarded; but when Cromwell assumed the Protectorship, it again advanced with rapidity, in the face of a similar proclamation to those of Elizabeth, James and Charles to impede it. Under the commonwealth London flourished, but the citizens were not content, preferring a kingly government to a protectorship.

On the restoration of Charles II., (1660) in which the inhabitants of the metropolis materially assisted General Monk, they having previously declared for a free parliament, against Cromwell's *Rump* parliament, as it was called. The attention of the parliament on its meeting was early directed to the improvement of the capital, and acts were passed for paving and lighting the streets, and improving the avenues. The year 1665, in this reign, became memorable in London by the dreadful ravages of the *great plague*, as it is styled, in order to distinguish it from all previous ones. It commenced in December 1644, and had not entirely ceased till January 1666. From May to October 1665, it raged with the greatest violence, the deaths progressively increasing from 500 to 8,000 weekly. The digging of graves was given up, and large pits were formed, in which the dead were deposited with some little attention to decency and regularity; but at length all regard to ceremony became impossible. Deeper and more extensive pits were dug; and the rich and the poor, the young and

the aged, the adult and the infant were all promiscuously thrown together into one common receptacle. Whole families and even whole streets of families were swept away together. The stoppage of public business was so complete, that grass actually grew within the area of the Royal Exchange, and in the principal streets of the city. All the inns of court were shut up, and all law proceedings suspended. The entire number returned in the bills of mortality, as having died of the plague within the year, was 68,950. Yet there can be little doubt that this total fell short, by a very large number, of those who really died by the infection, but whose deaths were not regularly recorded. The aggregate has been estimated at 100,000. The whole number of deaths within that year, as given in the bills, was 97,306.

Since this dreadful period, the plague has entirely ceased in London; a circumstance that must be regarded as remarkable, when it is considered how frequent had been its ravages for ages past, and when reference is had to the bills of mortality for the preceding part of this very century, when scarcely a year passed without some persons falling victims to this fatal disease.

Perhaps the most important event which ever happened in the British metropolis, whether it be considered in reference to its immediate effects, or its remote consequences, was the *Great Fire*, which broke out in the morning of Sunday, September 2, 1666. Being impelled by strong winds, and the houses in the old city being principally built of wood, it raged with irresistible fury nearly four days and nights; not was it completely got under till the fifth morning. The destructive extent of the conflagration was, perhaps, never exceeded in any part of the world, by any fire originating by accident. Within the walls it consumed almost five-sixths of the whole city; and without the walls it cleared a space nearly

as extensive as the one-sixth part not destroyed within. Scarcely a single building that came within the range of the flames was left standing. Public buildings, churches, and dwelling-houses were alike involved in one common fate. It may be fairly stated, that the fire extended its ravages over a space of ground equal to an oblong, measuring upwards of a mile in length, and half a mile in breadth.

In the summary account of this terrible devastation, given in one of the inscriptions of the Monument, and which was drawn up from the reports of the surveyors appointed after the fire, it is stated, that the ruins of the city were 436 acres, viz., 373 acres within the walls, and 63 in the liberties of the city; that of the twenty-six wards, it entirely destroyed fifteen, and left eight others shattered and half-burnt, and that it consumed 400 streets, 13,200 dwelling-houses, eighty-nine churches, besides chapels; four of the city-gates, Guildhall, many public structures, hospitals, schools, libraries, and a vast number of stately edifices. The immense property destroyed in this dreadful conflagration could never be calculated with any satisfactory exactness; but, according to the best estimates which could be made, the total value must have amounted to the immense sum of £10,000,000.

As soon as the general consternation had subsided, an act of parliament was passed for repairing the damage: and, though all was not done that might have been done, the city was principally rebuilt within little more than four years, and in a style of greater regularity, and infinitely more commodious and healthful, than the ancient capital. In this, and the succeeding reign, many of the large houses of the nobility, in the Strand, were pulled down; and the year preceding the Revolution, the suburbs of the metropolis were greatly increased, by the settlement of upwards of 13,000 French protestants, who emigrated from France, on the revocation of the edict of Nantz.—

Long Acre, Seven Dials, Soho, and Spitalfields, were, in a manner, planted by them; and their avocations were chiefly ornamental jewellery, and silk-weaving. The inhabitants of London most heartily concurred in the invitation of the Prince of Orange; indeed, such a crisis had arrived, that the warmest friends of monarchy would no longer support the weak and ill-advised conduct of the sovereign, James II. The fate of all that had been gained for the people—the emancipation of the human mind from the thraldom of popery—the protection of religious liberty—the security that cultivated intellect should not be again compelled to retrograde—all things called for a change in the head of the government. Great facility was afforded to the desired change, by the abdication of James; and if all were not accomplished by the "Glorious Revolution" of 1688, that the enlightened lover of freedom now might wish should then have been effected, much was gained by the lesson it taught, and the example it set, both to the sovereign and to the people.

William, nephew, and his wife Mary, the daughter of James II., being the next protestant heirs, succeeded to the throne. In the first year of their reign an act was passed, by which all proceedings of former reigns against the city charters were reversed, and all the rights and privileges of the citizens were fully re-established. In 1692, during the king's absence in Holland, the queen borrowed £200,000 of the city, for the exigencies of government, and in 1697, a measure of great utility was carried into execution—namely, *the suppression of the privilege of sanctuary*, which at that period existed in various quarters of the metropolis. All were suppressed, except the Mint, which lasted till the reign of George I. It requires not to be added, that these sanctuaries had become great nuisances, and receptacles of villany and dishonesty. During the reign of William and Mary,

the metropolis greatly expanded, particularly to the west—St. Giles's and St. Martin's-in-the-fields becoming then incorporated with the capital, which began to approach the yet distant village of St. Mary-le-bone. The year after the accession of Queen Anne (1703), was remarkable for a terrible storm of wind, which raged through the night of the 26th of November. The damage sustained by the city alone was estimated at two millions sterling; and, in the suburbs, the damage was proportionally great. Many of the ships in the river were driven from their moorings. At sea, the destruction was immense; twelve ships of war, with more than 1,800 men on board, were lost within sight of their native shore.

The increase in the population of London having occasioned a great insufficiency of places for divine worship, an act of parliament was passed, in 1711, for erecting fifty new churches in and about London; the expense of which was defrayed by a small duty on all coals brought into the port of London, for about eight years; and, by this means, every inhabitant paid his share. Glass globular lamps were first used in this reign, for lighting the streets. During the sovereignty of Queen Anne, several celebrated buildings were erected—viz., Arlington-house, now called Buckingham-house, in St. James's Park; Marlborough-house, in Pall Mall, &c. Clerkenwell was much increased, as also Old-street, and the lower parts of Shoreditch. Marlborough-street was formed; as also Bedford-row, Red Lion-square, and the whole of the neighbourhood immediately north of Holborn. St. Paul's cathedral was completed as to its general structure in 1710.—Parish engines were established to prevent and extinguish fires; and party-walls were ordered to be made either of brick or stone. Several municipal regulations also took place for the better watching and guarding of the city.

On the death of Queen Anne, George I. succeeded

to the crown of England in pursuance of the Act of Settlement, and made his public entry into London 20th September, 1714. The commencement of the next year, 1715, was marked by a very fatal fire, which destroyed more than 120 houses, and an immense quantity of merchandise in Thames Street; and in the course of the same year a rebellion broke out in favour of the Pretender, which caused a great sensation in the metropolis, where many persons were apprehended. At this unfortunate year the *Septennial Act* passed. The year 1726, in this reign, will be ever celebrated in the annals of London, in consequence of that destructive system of speculation and fraud, which history has properly denominated "The South Sea Bubble;" and which so infatuated the people, that they became the dupes of the most barefaced impositions. The destruction of public and private credit produced by this nefarious scheme was excessive. A parliamentary investigation at length took place; and the knavery of the promoters and directors of the concern was so obvious, that the greater part of their estates were confiscated for the benefit of those whom their villany had ruined. The sum thus obtained amounted to no less than £2,014,000. The South Sea Bubble was the first fruitful parent of many similar delusions, although none of them equally fatal. London was greatly enlarged during the sway of George I. Almost all the streets north of Oxford-road, as far as it at that time extended, viz., Mary-le-bone-lane, being then in progress; as also Berkley-square and vicinity, and the fifty new churches.

George II. ascended the throne in 1727. In the early part of his reign the metropolis was dreadfully infested with robbers, who paraded the city in open day; and had even planned a robbery of the queen, which was prevented only by an accident. In 1733, the citizens of London and their representatives were

much distinguished by their determined opposition to Sir Robert Walpole's excise scheme, which he was forced to abandon for the time. The winter of 1739-40, is noted for one of the most intense frosts ever known in this country, and which is recorded in the metropolitan annals by the appellation of "The Great Frost." It commenced on Christmas-day and continued till the 17th February. Above London-bridge the Thames was completely frozen, and numerous booths were erected on it for selling liquors, &c., to the multitudes who daily flocked thither. In the rebellion of 1745, London again distinguished itself in the assistance of the reigning family. During this reign great improvements were made in the metropolis and its neighbourhood. Several new parishes were formed, as St. George's, Bloomsbury; St. Ann's, Limehouse; St. Paul's, Deptford; and St. Matthew's, Bethnal-green. A great part of Fleet-ditch, which had become an intolerable nuisance, was arched over. A general lighting of London, by parish assessment, was adopted, and one or two acts for regulating the city watch and police were passed. Grosvenor-square and the various streets in its vicinity were built. Westminster-bridge was erected, and several mean, inconvenient streets were removed to make way for Bridge-street, Great George-street, and Parliament-street. New roads were made across St. George's-fields, now called the Borough and Kent-roads. The houses on London-bridge, which had become dangerous, were removed. A new road was made from Islington to Paddington; indeed, London expanded itself on all sides, and that unceasing attention to improvements in everything which concerns health, safety, and convenience, began to manifest itself, by which this great capital has ever since been distinguished.

In speaking of the progress of the metropolis, during the long reign of George III., we must confine ourselves to general observations on its buildings, im-

provements, and population. To these the amazing extent of warlike operations, all of which have their centre in London, and the consequent growth of a funding system, and a proportionate paper currency, have evidently contributed in a great degree. Contrary to former precedent, too, the late war rather extended than depressed commerce, all which operations have had a surprising effect upon the growth and increase of the capital of Great Britain. Just before George the III. succeeded to the throne, a power was given to the corporation, to make such alterations in regard to the avenues leading to the city, as it might think necessary. This act led to much beneficial alteration. The great utility of Westminster-bridge soon became so obvious, that another, at Blackfriars, was undertaken, and attended with similar benefit and improvement. The very handsome Bridge-street and Chatham-place, now occupy the site of the proverbially dismal Fleet-ditch, which is arched over, forming the principal sewer of the city. On the Surrey side of the bridge, an immense neighbourhood has grown up; and of St. George's-fields, as fields, there are now no remains. After the peace of 1763, the north of the metropolis also extended with surprising rapidity;—St. Mary-le-bone and the parish of St. Pancras especially. The new mode of paving commenced about the same time, previous to which few of the streets had level foot-paths for passengers, but were formed with small stones, and, for the most part, with a gutter down the middle. The enormous signs which hung across the streets, and other protruding incumbrances, were removed. A most important act was passed in 1764, to regulate buildings in reference to fires, being an extension of a former one which was found insufficient. It was in the early part of the same reign that it became the practice to put the names of residents on house doors. Sunday tolls were established at the various entrances to London and West-

minster, to defray the expense of a better system of paving, cleansing, and lighting. Somerset-house was commenced in 1774, Manchester-square was begun in 1776, and various chapels in Mary-le-bone for the increasing neighbourhood. About the same time the former village may be said to have become an integral part of the metropolis.

A petition from the protestant association was presented to parliament, June 2nd, 1780. From this apparently harmless cause arose an insurrection, composed of the lowest ranks of the people, which, during the space of a week, bore the most alarming appearance, and gave a great check to improvements. The prisons of Newgate, the King's Bench, and the Fleet, were burnt, and the prisoners set at liberty, most of whom joined the insurgents. The popish chapels, and a great number of dwelling-houses belonging to catholics, were destroyed; and thirty-six fires were seen blazing at one time in various parts of the metropolis. Military interference became necessary, when many of the rioters were killed; one hundred and thirty-five were brought to trial, of whom fifty-nine were convicted, and upwards of twenty of the most active were executed in various parts of the town, immediately contiguous to the scenes of their respective depredations. Lord George Gordon was afterwards brought to trial, charged with having collected the assemblage that occasioned such destructive riots; but as it was clearly proved that he never contemplated such consequences—that he was merely actuated by religious prejudices, he was acquitted. Much censure has been cast on the executive for not interfering with the rioters more promptly; it being declared, that, after the riots had commenced, timely notice was possessed by the authorities of the intentions of the insurgents. Sir J. P. Clarke declared in his place in the House of Commons, that in the morning of the day in which the King's Bench prison was burnt, the

fact was known, the previous evening, that it was to be fired; that the marshal himself, who was removing *his own* goods, told him so, and that he communicated such facts to the government. And Mr. Wilkes also stated, that if proper care had been taken in the city by the chief magistrate, the mischiefs done there might have been prevented: adding, that Aldermen Bull in particular had taken no pains to quell the rioters, but had, on the contrary, suffered all the constables of his ward to wear the ensigns of riot in their hats, and that he went from the House of Commons, arm-in-arm, with the great instigator of the riots—Lord George Gordon. A German writer, describing England at this period, and alluding to the influence possessed by Wilkes over the populace, observes—"He might have become, had he pleased, the Cataline of his country, but he would not; he choose rather to become its benefactor; and in more than one instance he was really so. In the tumult occasioned by Lord George Gordon, at a time when the ministers trembled and remained inactive—when the magistrates durst not venture out of their houses—he was seen presenting himself before that unprincipled rabble, and braving death in order to preserve the bank which they were about to pillage. Prayers, representations, and threats, he successively made use of; and even carried his intrepidity so far as to seize some of the ringleaders. This bold and patriotic action in such circumstances, restore to him the favour of his sovereign, who had borne him for twenty years a mortal hatred."

That the mind of Lord George Gordon was deranged cannot, we presume, be doubted. His conduct was that of a madman; for during the riots without the Houses of Parliament, and the alarming statements made within them, he appeared several times at the top of the stairs leading to the gallery of the House of Commons, and harangued the people. He informed them of the bad

success which he expected would attend their petition, and marked such members as were opposing it, particularly Mr. Burke, the member for Bristol. He told them that it had been proposed to take it into consideration on Tuesday, but, he added, he did not like delays, as by that time the parliament might be prorogued. He again came to them and said—"Gentlemen, the alarm has gone forth for many miles round the city. You have got a very good prince, who, as soon as he shall hear that the alarm has seized such a number of men, will, no doubt, send down private orders to his ministers to enforce the prayer of your petition." Several members expostulated with him very warmly on the mischief that might arise from such conduct; and Colonel Gordon, a relation of his own, accosted his lordship in the following decisive manner:—"Do you intend to bring your rascally adherents into the House of Commons? If you do, the first man of them that enters, I will plunge my sword—not into his, but into your body!" While his lordship was again addressing the mob, General Grant, another of his relations, came behind him and endeavoured to draw him back into the house, and said to him—"For God's sake, Lord George, do not lead these poor people into danger." His lordship made no answer to the general, but continued his address—"You see," said he, "in this effort to persuade me from my duty, before your eyes, an instance of the difficulties I have to encounter from such wise men of this world as my honourable friend behind my back." After these instances the reader will more than likely be of our opinion respecting Lord Gordon's state of mind.

The year 1784 was made memorable by two events of interest, although of little consequence, and different in their nature. One was the "Commemoration of Handel," in Westminster Abbey, a proceeding that was attended by thousands, and excited the most

lively feelings. The other event alluded to was a remarkable proof of the power of science—the ascent of Lunardi in a balloon from the Artillery-ground. This was the first aerial voyage in this country; and the number of spectators was immense.

In August, 1786, an attempt was made on the life of his majesty by an insane woman, of the name of Margaret Nicholson, who, under the pretence of presenting a petition, endeavoured to stab him, as he was descending from his carriage at St. James's. The blow was warded off by a page, and the woman seized. One of the king's footmen took the knife out of her hand; and his majesty, with amazing fortitude, exclaimed—"I have received no injury! do not hurt the poor woman; she appears to be insane." She was sent to Bethlehem hospital. Addresses of congratulation at the king's escape were presented from all parts of the kingdom.

On the 26th June, 1788, a violent storm of rain and thunder visited London. It commenced about four o'clock in the afternoon, and continued to rage incessantly for two hours. The thunder was terrific. The rain poured down so fast, that the streets were wholly impassable for foot passengers, and in places where there happened to be a descent of ground, the current ran so strong that even carriages could not be driven through it.

On the 23d April, 1789, that being St. George's day, the metropolis displayed a most splendid festivity, in celebration of his Majesty's recovery from the calamitous indisposition that had affected his mind from the preceding October. In the morning the Park and Tower-guns were fired, the bells were rung, and all the ships in the river were decorated with colours, streamers, and devices. At night the metropolis was illuminated, and many appropriate transparencies exhibited. Shortly afterwards a day was appointed by authority for a general thanks-

giving; and their majesties on that day went in great state to St. Paul's cathedral, accompained by the royal family, the foreign ministers, all the great officers of government, the principal nobility and members of the House of Commons, the corporation of London, &c. The procession was very magnificent, and particularly so, after the Lord Mayor and Corporation had joined it at Temple Bar; but the scene which the interior of the cathedral presented, when the assembled multitudes were engaged in the solemn services, was grand and sublime.

For some time previous to 1793, England, as well as France, was alarmingly agitated by the free expression of strongly republican principles; and, eventually, Louis XVI. became a victim to the disturbed state of things in that country. He was beheaded, and monarchy was declared to be abolished in France. This led to an interruption of intercourse with England, after which the Convention declared the French to be at war with Great Britain. War was thus commenced, and the previous preparations made by the English ministry left no doubt that it would be pursued with zeal. The citizens of London hailed the breaking out of the war with enthusiasm; the Common Council thanked his majesty for "his paternal care in the preservation of the public tranquillity, and assured him of the readiness and determination of his faithful citizens to support the honour of his crown, and the welfare of his kingdoms, against the ambitious designs of France;" and besides this, to show their sincerity, a bounty of fifty shillings to every able seaman, and twenty shillings to every landsman, who should enter the navy at Guildhall, was voted out of the city funds, in addition to the bounties given by the king.

To such a height had political discussion and inquiry arisen amongst associations of the people,

that many leaders of these societies were seized in May, 1794, and sent to prison on charges of "treasonable practices," and their books and papers seized with a degree of brutal injustice, that could not fail to arouse the public sympathy in behalf of the persecuted "friends of the people"—especially as advantage was taken of such seizures to select documents that were afterwards adduced as evidence *against* the persons to whom they belonged. But without pursuing the monstrous detail further, it will be sufficient for our purpose to state here, that Hardy, Horne Tooke, &., were acquitted by juries of their countrymen of the treasonable practices laid to their charge; and by such verdicts the doctrine of *constructive treason* was destroyed, to the great joy of every lover of free discussion, however much he might regret the errors into which the earnest zeal of some persons had led them.

A dreadful fire broke out in the afternoon of July 23, in this year, at Cock-hill wharf, Ratcliffe Highway; and it was calamitously remarkable for the circumstance, that in its progress it consumed more houses than any one conflagration since the memorably great fire of 1666. This fire was occasioned by the simple circumstance of the boiling over of a pitch kettle, on a boat-builder's premises, from whose warehouses, which were speedily consumed, the flames spread to a barge laden with saltpetre and other stores, and thence communicated to several vessels and small crafts that were lying near, and could not be got off, such unfortunately was the state of the tide. The explosion of the saltpetre in the barge carried the flames to the saltpetre warehouses belonging to the East India Company, whence the fire spread with overwhelming rapidity, in consequence of the several explosions of saltpetre, which blew up with sounds resembling the rolling of subterraneous thunder, and threw large flakes of fire upon

the adjacent buildings. The scene soon became dreadful; the wind blew strong from the south-west, directed the flames to Ratcliffe High-street, which, being narrow, took fire on both sides; and as very little water could be procured for some hours, the engines could afford no assistance. It proceeded towards Stepney, and was only stopped by an open space of ground and want of materials to consume. By this melancholy accident near seven hundred houses were destroyed, and the distress was severe. Government provided tents from the Tower, and the citizens of London soon raised near £20,000 to afford immediate relief to the sufferers.

The year 1797 was distinguished by the extraordinary circumstance of the suspension of payments *in specie* by the Bank of England—a proceeding rendered necessary by the peculiar situation of public affairs. There had been such a demand for *cash* payments during the months of January and February, as to occasion the fear that, unless those payments were restricted, there would not be left means sufficient to meet the emergencies of government. The causes of this unprecedented event deserve some detail. The great advances that had been made to government during 1795 and 1796, amounted to £10,672,000. The remittances sent during the war to the Emperor of Germany and other foreign powers were found to press so heavily on the bank, that as early as January, 1795, the Directors informed Mr. Pitt, that it was their wish for him "to arrange his finances for the year in such a manner as not to depend on any further assistance from them." Similar remonstrances were again made afterwards; and the Directors, October 8, again addressed the minister, stating, in conclusion, "the absolute necessity which they conceived to exist for diminishing the sum of their present advances to government, the last having been granted with great reluctance on their part, on his pressing solicitations."

In an interview which took place that month, on the loans to the emperor being mentioned, the governor of the Bank declared to Mr. Pitt, that "another loan of that sort would go nigh to ruin the company." In February, 1797, Mr. Pitt said it would be necessary for him to negociate in this country a loan of a million and a half for Ireland; on which the governor replied, that such a scheme would "ruin the bank," by the drain which it would occasion of specie. After this, a variety of circumstances, in our domestic as well as foreign relations, occasioned an alarming run upon the bank; and, in consequence, by an Order of Council, of Sunday, February 26, 1797, the bank was prohibited from making any payments in cash until the sense of parliament could be taken on the subject. Eventually the parliament continued and confirmed the Order of Council for a limited time—a measure that has frequently since been renewed; and, by the issues of small notes, and the resolutions of bankers, merchants, &c., the agitation occasioned throughout the country gradually subsided.

Having now brought up the history of London to the close of the eighteenth century, in order to comprise as much information in as little room as our limited space will permit, we will proceed in detailing the principal events which have occurred in the metropolis during the present century in chronological order.

1801, October 1. General Lawriston, aid-de-camp to Napoleon, arrived with the preliminaries of peace, and was greeted with expressions of joy.

1802, January 28th, was made memorable by a signal example of English justice, in the execution of Governor Wall, who had been found guilty of flogging to death a sergeant, named Benjamin Armstrong, thirty years before.—May 10. Peace with France was proclaimed, in London, and followed by a general illumination, and other rejoicings.

1803, February 21. Colonel Despard and six of his associates were executed for high treason.—May 16. The declaration of war against France was laid before parliament, and followed by a general arming of the people—the volunteers of London and Westminster alone amounting to 27,077.

1806, January 9. Lord Nelson's funeral procession to St. Paul's.—September. The conduct of the Princess of Wales was investigated by the Privy Council.

1807, February 23. Thirty persons were crushed to death in the crowd collected to witness an execution before Newgate.—October 16. Eighteen persons killed in Sadler's Wells, in consequence of a false alarm of fire.

1808, September 20. Covent Garden Theatre burnt down.

1809, January 17.—Part of St. James's Palace destroyed by fire.—February 24. Drury-lane Theatre burnt.—October 25th was celebrated as a jubilee, being the 50th year of his majesty's reign.

1810, April 6. Riots for two days, on account of the committal of Sir F. Burdett to the Tower.

1811, January 8. The Thames frozen over.

1812, May 11. Mr. Percival, prime minister, was shot by Bellingham, in the lobby of the House of Commons.

1814, February 4. A fair was held on the Thames, which was rendered passable by a severe frost that had continued six weeks.—February 10. The custom-house destroyed by fire.—April 21. Lous XVIII. entered London, on his way to the French metropolis. —June 6. The Emperor of Russia, King of Prussia, and an immense number of distinguished foreigners, came on a visit to the Prince Regent.—June 18. They were entertained at a banquet in Guildhall. The entertainment cost upwards of £20,000.—June 20. Grand review in Hyde-park, in presence of the illustrious visitors.—August 1. The centenary of the ac-

cession of the House of Brunswick, and the return of peace, was celebrated in the parks by a grand display of fire-works, and by a fair, which continued several days.

1815, Feb. 28, and two or three following days, several riots respecting the corn-bill.

1816, May 12. Prince of Saxe-Coburg (now King of Belgium), married to the Princess Charlotte of Wales.—Dec. 2. An alarming riot took place after a public meeting at Spa-fields, and was not suppressed till after several gunsmiths' shops had been broken open and robbed.

1817, January 28. The Prince Regent shot at on his return from the opening of parliament.

1818, July 13. The Duke of Kent (father of Victoria), married to the Princess of Saxe-Coburg.—November 17. Queen Charlotte died.

1820, January 29. George III. died.—31. George IV. proclaimed.—February 23. Cato-street conspiracy against his majesty's ministers discovered.—May 1. Thistlewood and four of his associates executed for high treason.—June 6. Queen Caroline arrived in London.—July 5. A bill of pains and penalties against her Majesty was introduced into the House of Lords.—November 10. The bill abandoned after a trial of fifty-one days.—A general illumination took place on account of its rejection.

1821, July 19. George IV. crowned.

1825, March 2. The first stone of the Thomas Tunnel was laid.—June 15. The first stone of the New London Bridge was laid.—June 28. Meeting at the City of London Tavern to establish a London University.—December 12. Several of the London banks stopped payment.

1828, October 8. The London University opened.

1830, June 26. George IV. died.—28. William IV. proclaimed.

1831, March 1. Parliamentary Reform proposed by

Lord John Russell.—April 22. The House of Lords a scene of confusion, disorder, and contention.—June 14. The Reform Bill lost in the Commons by a majority of eight.—Spasmodic cholera prevalent in London.

1832, June 27. The Reform Bill received the royal assent.

1837, June 20. Victoria proclaimed Queen.

1838, January 10. Royal Exchange burnt.—June 21. Queen Victoria crowned.

1840, June 10. Oxford shot at the queen.—Tried July 9, and imprisoned for life.

1842, May 23. Francis shot at the queen—imprisoned for life.

1849, Feb. 1. Corn Law entirely repealed.—May. Hamilton, a starving Irishman, in the hopes of getting imprisonment for life, fired a pistol at the queen—transported for seven years.

MONARCHS OF ENGLAND FROM THE CONQUEST.

First, William the Norman, then William, his son;
Henry, Stephen, and Henry, then Richard and John;
Next Henry the Third; Edwards, one, two, and three;
And, again, after Richard, three Henrys we see;
Two Edwards, third Richard, if rightly I guess,
Two Henrys, sixth Edward, Queens Mary and Bess,
Then Jamie, the Scot, then Charles whom they slew,
Yet received after Cromwell, another Charles, too;
Next James, called the second, ascended the throne;
Then William and Mary together came on,
Till Anne, Georges four, and Fourth William all past,
God sent us Victoria, the loved and the last.

EXTENT AND LOCALITY OF LONDON.

London is situated about sixty miles west from the sea, on the banks of the river Thames; occupying a gentle slope on the north side, and an almost uniform flat surface on its southern side. The soil of this district is gravel and clay, with a mixture of loam and

sand; and to the abundance of clay, and the facility it affords of making bricks, a part of the rapid increase of building may probably be attributed. London is eminently fortunate in one of the first grand requisites to the health and convenience of a flourishing capital; it is situated on a river of ample extent, which carries a tide fifteen miles beyond it, and forms, at the same time, all that is desirable as a medium of commerce. On the Middlesex shore, the buildings of the metropolis, following the natural bend of the river, form a sort of amphitheatre from east to west, in consequence of the gentle rise of the ground from the water-side. The Surrey shore having been a marsh is, of course, flat, but is now covered with a line of buildings, which, from Vauxhall to Deptford, presents an extent of seven miles; the whole forming an assemblage of human habitations, second to none in the world.

By what we have already said, it will be seen, that London, considered as the capital of the British empire, includes not only the city and its liberties, but Westminster, Southwark, and many villages both in Middlesex and Surrey. Thus regarded, its extent from W. to E., or from Knightsbridge to Poplar, is about seven miles and a half. Its breadth from N. to S., or from Islington to Newington Butts, is nearly five miles. The circumference of the whole, allowing for various inequalities in the extension of streets, &c., at the extremities, cannot be less than thirty miles. Hence it may be fairly estimated, that the buildings of this metropolis cover at least eighteen square miles. Out of these must be deducted the space occupied by the river Thames, for a length of seven miles, by a breadth of about a quarter of a mile.

Independently of various local and civil divisions, London may be said to consist of five distinguishing parts, or popular divisions;—the west end of the town, the city, the east end of the town, Westminster, and the borough.

The "west end of the town," consists of various handsome squares and streets, occupied by the town houses of the nobility and gentry, and the most fashionable shops.

The "city" includes the central and most ancient division of the metropolis. This is the emporium of commerce and business of every description, and is occupied by shops, warehouses, public offices, and houses of tradesmen, and others connected with business.

The "east end of the town," and its inhabitants, are devoted to commerce, to ship-building, and to every collateral branch connected with merchandise. This division of London has assumed a novel character within the last century, in consequence of the vast commercial docks and warehouses which have been formed and constructed here.

"Southwark," and the whole of the southern bank of the Thames, from Deptford to Lambeth, bears some resemblance to the east end of the town, being occupied by persons engaged in commercial and maritime concerns. But this part of London has one feature which distinguishes it from any other: it abounds with numerous and varied manufactories, iron-founderies, glass-houses, soap-boiling and dye-houses, &c., and many other similar establishments. From the great number of fires employed in these houses, and the offensive effluvia arising from some of the works, this district is extremely unpleasant, if not unhealthy, for human residence. It is therefore chiefly inhabited by workmen, labourers, and the lower classes of society. Many beneficial improvements have, however, been made, and many respectable houses erected in St. George's-fields.

"Westminster" contains the houses of parliament, the courts of justice, and many offices connected with government.

Another part of the metropolis, which may be con-

sidered as the last enlargement, and the most systematic in its arrangement of squares and streets, is the northern side of the town, comprehending a large mass of new buildings, between Holborn and Somers-town, and in the parishes of Mary-le-bone and Paddington.

The increase in the size and population of the British metropolis within a few years is truly amazing. It is no unusual occurrence to meet in society, persons who recollect those portions of what must now be called the metropolis when they were nothing but fields or swamps; and this remark forcibly applies to Mary-le-bone, St. George's-fields, Russel and Brunswick-squares, Somer's-town, Vincent-square, once called Tothill-fields, &c. Such has been the rapid extension of London, that many of those parts of it that are thickly strewed with houses, were formerly known as villages. Northumberland-house, at the end of the Strand, which is almost in the heart of the metropolis, was formerly described as situated in the *Village of Charing*; and when the Earl of Burlington was asked "why he built his house in Piccadilly, so far out of town?" he answered, "because I was determined to have no building *beyond me!*"

At this time London is computed to contain 80 squares, and 9000 streets, lanes, rows, places, courts, &c., the houses in which are said to amount to about 200,000. There are two principal ranges of streets, forming a communication from one end of the town to the other. The most southern of these for the greater part of the way, is within a quarter of a mile of the Thames. It commences at St. James's palace, in Pall Mall, and is continued through the Strand, Fleet-street, St. Paul's Churchyard, Watling-street, Cannon-street, Eastcheap to the Tower. The northern line of streets commences at Bayswater, and passes through Oxford-street, Holborn, Skinner-street, Newgate-street, Cheapside, Cornhill, Leadenhall-

street, and Whitechapel, to Mile-end; a course of at least six miles, with very little undulation. These great avenues, the first of which may be termed the southern, and the other the northern, line of the metropolis, run nearly parallel to each other, and in no part of London can a stranger be far distant from one or other of them; as the streets running north and south which connect them, are comparatively short, as also those from the Strand, &c., to the water-side. Those from the northern line to the New Road, &c., are longer; but still of a moderate length.

All the streets of London are paved with great regularity, and have a footpath, laid with flags, divided from the carriage-way; the latter is formed by small square blocks of Scotch granite. All the streets are lighted with gas. London will not excite much admiration in the minds of those whose ideas of the beauty and grandeur of a great town, are formed, upon the notions they have obtained from the remains of Greek and Roman architecture. The dull uniformity presented by rows of brick buildings, of the same general form and appearance, possesses very little attraction for the eye; but, with respect to the inside of the dwellings of the metropolis, they are unrivalled for grandeur, elegance, and convenience, according to the respective ranks of those to whom they belong; in short, nothing is wanting to convey an adequate conception of the opulence, ingenuity, and industry of a great capital. The shops are unrivalled both in external appearance, and the riches and variety of the articles on sale.

SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

THE SOVEREIGN AND COURT.—The Court may be divided into the legislative, the executive, and the fashionable.

In her *legislative* capacity the queen's prerogatives

are very great; but the controlling checks on an undue exercise of power, provided by the constitution, form the greatest wonder in legislation that the world ever beheld. The queen alone can convoke, prorogue, or dissolve the parliament, she cannot originate a bill, or raise money without its consent. The House of Lords, which is created by the voice of the sovereign, cannot originate a money-bill; all money-bills, all bills imposing taxes or penalties, must commence with the Commons—the representatives of the people. The queen may raise an army, but she can procure no money; she may proclaim war, but without parliament she has not the means of carrying it on; and she may resort to the most extravagant expenditure, but it rests with parliament whether one farthing beyond the prescribed income shall be paid.

In the exercise of her *executive* functions, the queen appoints all the ministers of state, the judges, archbishops, bishops, &c.; but the ministers are removable at pleasure, whilst the judges being appointed for life, can only be affected by impeachment. Through the medium of the judges, the sovereign enforces the execution of all laws; but as the sentences of the law may sometimes be too severe, she has the sole power of mitigating their severity, or of granting a full pardon. All degrees of nobility, as well as pensions, &c., flow from her, but here again she is controlled, for without the consent of parliament, there can be no revenue attached to such advancements.

The *fashionable* division of the sovereign's power now claims our notice. Next to the solemnization of the coronation, the birth-days, drawing-rooms, and levees, held at one of the Royal Palaces, constitute the most celebrated court pageants. Notice is given of drawing-rooms and levees in the *Gazette;* and, on those occasions, are proffered the compliments of the nobility, officers of state, distinguished members of the law, church, navy, army, &c. On these days, it

is not unusual, to witness the introduction of the younger branches of distinguished families, which for females of high rank, is deemed a preliminary to their communication with the fashionable world. On these occasions, it is necessary that the visitors appear in full dress; that is, the gentlemen in the costume appropriate to their various ranks, profession and offices; or otherwise, to wear the court dress.

THE PARLIAMENT; ITS ANTIQUITY.—The Imperial Parliament of Great Britain is the great assembly of the estates of the realm; it is usually divided into Lords and Commons; it is summoned, prorogued, and dissolved by the voice of the sovereign. Its power is undefinable. Its duty is not only to *unlock the people's purse*, but also to *keep the people's accounts;* or, according to Coke, "parliament is the highest, and most honourable and absolute court of justice. The jurisdiction of this court is so transcendant, that it maketh, enlargeth, diminisheth, abrogateth, repealeth, and reviveth laws, statutes, acts, and ordinances, concerning matters ecclesiastical, criminal, common, civil, martial, maritime, and the rest." Its work is, "to redress grievances; to take notice of monopolies and oppressions; to curb the exorbitancies of pernicious favourites, and ill ministers of state; to punish such mighty delinquents as look upon themselves too great for the ordinary reach of justice: and to inspect the conduct of those who are entrusted with the administration of the laws, or disposal of the public treasure of the nation." It can regulate or new-model the succession to the crown, as in the reigns of Henry VIII., and William III. It can alter the religion of the land, as was done in the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth. It has not only changed, but created afresh the *Constitution* of the country, and even its own: but in the former cases, the changes have been, or pretended to be, according to the prin-

ciples laid down in the people's charters; and in the latter instance, alluding to the passing of the Septennial Act, parliament distinctly admitted its violation of constitutional principle, and practice, but defended it on the ground of necessity, and as being a temporary measure. It has never since been repealed, although the occasion of it has long since ceased to exist—there being now no pretender to the throne, and monarchy being in no danger; but this one flagrant act of undue exercise of power, first, in themselves determining that they would sit *seven*, when they were elected to sit only *three* years, and then in making a temporary measure a permanent law, has contributed, more than any other single circumstance, to promote constitutional inquiry and discussion, and to raise amongst the people, and even within the parliament itself, numerous and able parties, who are known in the state under the general name of "Reformers." Contenting ourselves with stating this historical fact, without indulging in comments, we may be allowed to remark, that there does not exist another state in the world which could survive the shock and effect of such divisions; nor could it here, but that the great effort is, not *against*, but *for* the Constitution—for restoration of suspended rights, not for the destruction of the great fabric which affords so much protection, and which is capable of extending a more ample enjoyment of privileges.

Parliament derives its name, according to Coke, from every member of that court being enabled, sincerely and discreetly, *parler la ment* (to speak the mind), for the general good of the commonwealth.—Although the derivation of the word may be deemed beyond dispute, there is much doubt about its first application. It was applied to the general assemblies of the state under Louis VII. of France, about the middle of the twelfth century, but it is said not to have appeared in our law, till its mention in the

Statute of Westminster, in the year 1272; and yet Coke declares, in his Institutes, and spoke to the same effect when Speaker, in 1592, that this name was used in the time of Edward the Confessor, 1041.

It is certain, that long before the introduction of the Norman language into England, all matters of importance were debated and settled in the *great council* of the realm, a practice which seems to have been universal among the northern nations, particularly among the Germans, who conveyed it into all the countries of Europe, which they overran at the dissolution of the Roman empire.

Instances are upon record of the assembling of this council, to order the affairs of the kingdom, to make new laws, and to amend the old, as early as the reign of Ina, king of the West Saxons, Offa, king of the Mercians, and Ethelbert, king of Kent, in the several reigns of the Heptarchy.

Before William I.'s reign, parliaments, or councils of the nation, were to be held twice in every year; but the Commons of England, represented by knights, citizens, and burgesses, were not specifically named as constituting one of the estates in parliament till the 49th of Henry III., 1265. Hume, in his history, says, "the commons were no part of the great council till some ages after the conquest." Knights of the shire had previously assembled in a separate house; but the Earl of Leicester, whose attempts on the crown of Henry III. had been defeated, led to the practice of summoning two knights from every shire, and also deputies from the burghs, who were before deemed too inconsiderable to have a voice in the affairs of the nation. This is the first confirmed outline of a House of Commons. Edward I., son and successor to Henry III., however, seldom held a parliament more than once in two years; but, in the next reign but one, (4 Edward III. cap. 14,) it was enacted, "that a parliament shall be holden *once every year*,

and more often if need be." This continued to be the statute law of the land till 16 Charles II., when an act was passed "for the assembling and holding of parliaments once in three years at least;" but parliaments, for a longer period than a year, were held after Henry VIII. ascended the throne. The triennial act was confirmed soon after the Revolution of 1688, by 6 William and Mary, cap. 2. Triennial parliaments thence continued till the first year of George I.'s reign, when, in consequence of the allegation, that "a restless and popish faction were designing and endeavouring to renew the rebellion within this kingdom, and the report of an invasion from abroad, it was enacted that the 'then existing' parliament should continue for 'seven' years and no longer." At the time of passing this act there was great dissaffection in the nation, and the ministry dreaded the revolution of a new parliament, which might not only drive them from power, but retort on them the violence of their own measures; they, therefore, formed the resolution to establish their administration by repealing the "triennial" act, and to extend the term of parliaments to "seven" years. This septennial has been in force ever since, much against the inclination of the great majority of the people. The parliament is considered as England's sheet anchor:—"England," said Burleigh, "can never be undone but by parliament. The parliament, however, must exist, *in fact*, and continue to be the organ of the people's voice—the representative of their feelings and views. Should the time unhappily arrive when the lower house in particular and the people shall have separate interests, and distinct feelings, then may it be justly feared that the liberties of the nation will be buried amidst the corruptions of a House of Commons."

After having thus generally adverted to the antiquity and duration of parliament, and to the constitution, character, and value of the House of Commons, we

shall now shortly turn our attention to the House of Lords.

The Lords are unlimited in number, excepting the lords spiritual; of these there are two archbishops and twenty-four bishops, who are supposed to hold certain ancient baronies under the sovereign, in right of which they have seats in the House of Lords, where they intermix their votes with the temporal lords. The lords temporal consist of all the peers of Great Britain, in the several orders and degrees of dignity, as dukes, marquesses, earls, viscounts, and barons. Some of these sit by "descent," as do all "the ancient peers;" some by "creation," as in the case of all "new made peers;" others, since the union of Scotland, by "election," which is the case of the "sixteen peers," who represent the body of the "Scotch nobility;" and "twenty-eight peers for "Ireland," besides "one archbishop" and "three bishops." The number of the lords may be increased at will by the crown.

The House of Commons consists of 658 members, viz.:—

ENGLAND—	County Members	143	71
	Isle of Wight	1	
	Universities	4	
	Cities, Boroughs, and Cinque Ports	323	
WALES—	County Members	15	29
	Boroughs	14	
SCOTLAND—	County Members	30	53
	Cities and Boroughs	23	
IRELAND—	County Members	64	105
	Universities	2	
	Cities and Boroughs	39	
	Total number of Members		658

After the two houses have agreed to the measures proposed by either body, or in other words, "passed the bills," the *royal assent* is necessary to render them laws. When the royal assent is given to a public bill, the clerk says, "Le roi le veut." If the bill be a private bill, he says "Soit fait comme il est desire." If the bill have subsidies for its object, he says "Le roi remercie ses loyaux sujets, accepte leur benevolence, et ausi le veut." If the sovereign does not think proper to assent to the bill, the clerk says "Le roi s'avisera," which is a mild way of giving a refusal. It is somewhat singular that the French language should be used to declare the sovereign's intentions to parliament, instead of plain English, which every member will understand. This practice was introduced during the reign of William I., and has been continued like other matters of form, which sometimes subsist for ages, after the real substance of things has been altered.

As to the *forms* observed in the two houses of parliament, the Lords, except on state occasions, mingle together promiscuously, only observing the ministerial or opposition side of the house. The bench of bishops is separated from the others. Across the hall are woolsacks, continued from ancient custom; and the chancellor, being the speaker of the House of Lords, sits on the first woolsack before the throne, with the great seal or mace lying before him. On the other woolsacks are seated the judges, masters in chancery, &c., who give their advice in points of law, when required. In taking the vote in the House of Lords, they begin at the lowest peer and ascend to the highest, every one answering "Content," or "Not Content."

The Commons sit promiscuously; the Speaker only has a particular seat; he is elected from their own body, and has an elevated chair at the upper end of the house. The clerk and his two assistants sit at the

table below the speaker, and towards the middle of the house, dressed in robes. When a member of the house speaks, he is expected to address the speaker only. If what he says be answered by another, he is not allowed to reply the same day, unless personal reflections have been cast upon him; but when the Commons, in order to have a greater freedom of debate have resolved themselves into a committee of the whole house, every member may speak to a question as often as he has a mind. The commons vote by "yeas" and "nays;" and if it be doubtful which possesses the greatest number, the house divides. If the question relates to the introduction of anything into the house, then the "yeas" go out, but if otherwise, the "nays" go out. In all divisions the speaker appoints four tellers—two of each opinion. In a committee of the whole house they divide by changing sides, the "yeas" taking the right, and the "nays" the left of the chair, and then there are but two tellers. Forty members are sufficient to form a house, and eight a committee.

Accomodation for Members, &c.—There are coffee-rooms attached to each house for the accommodation of the members; but those belonging to the commons are the largest, the best arranged and provided; they are over some committee-rooms, and communicate directly with the house. They are for the use of members only, many of whom dine there during a long debate, and, so near is the spot to the chief chamber, that the voice of a speaker, who talks in a high tone, may be distinctly heard. Strangers from the gallery may get refreshments at the bar, *as a favour;* but they are not permitted to enter the rooms. The whole is under the superintendence of the house-keeper.

For the accommodation of "strangers," as all spectators are called, there is a gallery at the end of the house, facing the speaker's chair, which, however,

will not hold above one hundred and thirty persons: it may be cleared at any time, at the will of any one member, (a privilege Mr. John O'Connell has not neglected, to the great annoyance of the majority of the house), and all strangers are requested to withdraw previously to a division. It being understood, not only that visitors are present by courtesy, but that any person taking notes of the speeches is liable to be taken into custody by the serjeant-at-arms; and that in the time of Dr. Johnson, any person seen to take a memorandum was instantly told to put away his paper, or turned out altogether; strangers are not a little surprised on entering the gallery, to see the back row filled with gentlemen openly and undisguisedly taking notes of what is passing, for the known purpose of reporting the debates in the public newspapers.

COURTS OF JUSTICE.

It is the great boast of Englishmen, that all courts in this country are, of right, *open to the public.* Lord Coke remarks that "all causes ought to be heard, ordered, and determined in the king's courts, whither all persons may resort, and in no chambers, or other private places." De Lolme, in his "Constitution of England," observes, "For the prevention of abuses, it is an *invariable usage* that the trial be public. The prisoner (or defendant) neither makes his appearance, nor pleads, but in places where every one may have free entrance; and the witnesses, when they give their evidence—the judge, when he delivers his opinion—the jury, when they give their verdict—are all under the public eye; and the judge cannot change either the place, or the kind of punishment ordered by the law; and a sheriff, who should take away the life of a man in a manner different from that which the law prescribes, would be prosecuted as guilty of murder.

As the remedies of the *written* and *unwritten*, that is, the *statute* and *common law*, could not, in all cases, secure the amplest justice to the subject, *courts of equity* have been established in this country. The word equity, however, has misled many: it is very generally, though most erroneously thought, that the judges who sit in them are only to follow the rules of natural equity—that they are to obey the dictates of their own feelings, and ground their decisions, as they think proper, on the peculiar circumstances of the case: but the fact is not so: their office consists in providing remedies for those cases where the public good requires them, and in regard to which the courts of common law, shackled by their original forms and institutions, cannot procure any; or, in other words, the courts of equity have a power to administer justice *unrestrained* (not by the law, but) *by the professional law difficulties*, which lawyers have from time to time contrived in the courts of common law, and to which the judges of those courts have given their sanction.

LORD CHANCELLOR'S COURT.—The Court of Chancery is the highest court of judicature in the kingdom, next to the parliament. The lord chancellor, who is called the Lord High Chancellor of England, sits as sole judge, and he is created by the mere delivery of the king's seal into his custody. When absent, his place is supplied by the master of the rolls, or the vice-chancellor. The court holds pleas of recognizances acknowledged in the chancery-writs, writs of *fieri facias*, for the repeal of letters-patent, writs of partition, &c.; and also of all personal actions by or against any officer of the court; and by acts of parliament of several offences and causes. All original writs, writs for the election of members of parliament, patents for sheriffs, commissions of bankruptcy, lunacy, &c., issue out of this court, for which it is always open. Sometimes a supersedeas, or writ of privilege, has been granted to discharge a person out of prison;

it also considers the intention rather than the words of the law—equity being the correction of that wherein the law, by reason of its universality, is deficient. On this ground, therefore, to maintain a suit in chancery, it is always alleged that the plaintiff is incapable of receiving relief at common law: and this must be without any fault of his own, *as having lost his bond*, &c; chancery never acting *against, but in assistance of common law;* supplying its deficiencies—not contradicting its rules; a judgment at law not being reversible by a decree in chancery. This court gives relief for and against infants, notwithstanding their minority; and for and against married women, notwithstanding their coverture. In some cases, a woman may sue her husband for maintenance; she may sue him when he is beyond the sea, and be compelled to answer without her husband. All frauds and deceits for which there is no remedy at common law, may be here redressed; as also unreasonable and deceitful agreements, entered into without consideration.

The lord chancellor is removable at pleasure, which is not the case with the common law judges; and hence, from the situation held by him in the Lords, his political identity with the ministers, &c., there is a new lord chancellor with every change of the king's advisers. In term time, his lordship sits in Westminster Hall, where an elegant court was constructed in 1823; but during the vacation in Lincoln's-Inn both courts are open to the public.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COURT.—The office of vice-chancellor was created in 1813. His duty is to assist the chancellor in deciding various petitions, &c. A handsome new court was erected in 1816, contiguous to Lincoln's-inn-hall; but in term time he sits at the court at Westminster-hall.

ROLLS.—The master of the rolls is keeper of the rolls or records of the pleadings, determinations, and

acts of these courts, as rules for future decisions. He also decides on cases of equity; but appeals to the lord chancellor may be made against his decisions. His court joins the Roll's chapel in Chancery-lane, and he has a handsome and commodious residence attached to it. The court is open to the public during the transaction of business.

EXCHEQUER.—The court of exchequer is a very ancient institution, having been established by William I. somewhere about 1070, and reduced to its present state by Edward I. It has the power of judging both according to law and equity. In the proceedings according to *law*, the lord chief baron of the exchequer and three other barons preside as judges. They are styled barons, because formerly none but barons of the realm were allowed to be judges in this court. Besides these there is a fifth, called *Cursitor Baron*, who has not a judicial capacity, but is only employed in administering the oath to the sheriffs and other officers, and also to several of the officers of the custom-house; the office, however, is little better than a sinecure. When this court proceeds according to *equity*, then the lord-treasurer and the chancellor of the exchequer, are always presumed to be present with the barons. All matters touching the king's revenue, treasury, customs, and fines are here tried and determined. The king's attorney-general is made privy to all manner of pleas that are not ordinary, and, of course, which rise upon the process of the court: and he puts into court, in his own name, information of seizures, &c. Besides the officers already mentioned, there is the king's remembrancer, who takes and states all accounts of the revenue, &c. The court sits at Westminster-hall, and is open to the public.

The exchequer records are of the utmost importance. From the very first establishment of the exchequer it was customary to make a great roll every

year, containing an exact account of every branch of the revenue as it was collected in each county. The great rolls of most of the years of Henry II., Richard I., and John, are still in existence. The most ancient of the records, the great roll of the fifth year of Stephen, is a famous monument of antiquity, whether the hand-writing or the contents be considered. According to Maddox's "History of the Exchequer," it consists of sixten large rolls written on both sides.

KING'S BENCH.—This is the supreme court of common law, and in it are determined pleas between the crown and the subject; and those of treason, felonies, &c., which properly belong to the queen. Here likewise are tried breaches of the peace, oppression, and misgovernment; and this court corrects the errors of all the judges and justices of England, not only in pleas of the crown, but in all pleas, real, personal, and mixed; except only pleas in the exchequer. The court is general and extends to all England; and wherever it is held, the law supposes the queen to be present. Edward the IV. sat three days in this court in the second year of his reign, to see (as he was young) the form of administering justice. King James I. also sat there for the same purpose. It cannot be, from the nature and constitution of this court, fixed to any certain place, but may follow the queen's person wherever she goes; for which reason, every process issuing out of this court, in the queen's name, is returnable wheresoever she shall then be in England. It has, for some centuries past, usually sat at Westminster, being an ancient palace of the crown; but might remove with the queen to York, or Exeter, if she thought proper to command it: and we find that when Edward I. was on his expedition against Scotland, it actually sat at Roxburgh. The sittings of the king's bench are held at Westminster-hall, and at Guildhall, where new courts have been constructed. They are open to the public.

COMMON PLEAS.—This is also one of the queen's courts, and is constantly held in Westminster-hall; one of its judges however goes after term to the city of London, to try *nisi prius* causes. Its jurisdiction is general and extends throughout England: it holds pleas of all civil causes at common law, between subject and subject, in actions real, personal, and mixed. In personal and mixed actions it has a concurrent jurisdiction with the king's bench; but no cognizance of pleas of the crown. It does not possess any original jurisdiction; nor has it, like the king's bench, any mode of proceeding in common cases peculiar to itself.

In this court are four judges, created by letters-patent: the seal of the court is committed to the charge of the chief justice. The other officers of the court are the custos brevium, three prothonotaries and their secondaries, clerk of the warranty, clerk of the essoines, fourteen filazers, four exigenters, clerk of the juries, chirographer, clerk of the queen's silver, clerk of the treasury, clerk of the seal, clerk of outlawries, clerk of the errors, &c. To these officers may be added a proclamator, a keeper of the court, crier, and tipstaffs, besides the warden of the Fleet. The court is open to the public.

EXCHEQUER CHAMBER.—This is merely a court of appeal, to correct the errors of other jurisdictions. It consists of the lord chancellor, the lord treasurer, and the judges of the king's bench and common pleas. Into the exchequer chamber are adjourned such causes as the judges find to be of great importance, before any judgment is given on them; and here are decided the cases which are reserved for the opinions of *all the judges*.

COURT OF ADMIRALTY.—This court takes cognizance of all maritime affairs, whether civil or criminal. All crimes committed on the high seas, or on great rivers, below the first bridge next the sea, are cog-

nizable in this court only. The proceedings are similar to those adopted in civil law. The plaintiff gives security to prosecute, and, if cast, to pay what is adjudged. But in criminal cases, as the trial of pirates, and crimes committed at sea, the process, by a special commission, is by a judge, jury, and witnesses, a judge of the common law assisting; on which occasion, the court is generally held at the Session's-house, Old Bailey. The court, in ordinary cases, is held in Doctor's Commons, and is open to the public.

DOCTOR'S COMMONS. This college of civilians is established for the study and practice of the civil law, in which courts are kept for the trial of civil and ecclesiastical causes, under the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, as in the court of arches, and the prerogative court. There are also offices in which wills are deposited and searched, and a court of faculties and dispensations. The name of Commons is given to this college, from the circumstance of the civilians commoning together, as in other colleges. This edifice is situated in Great Knight Rider Street, on the south side of St. Paul's cathedral. The old building, which stood in this place, was purchased for the residence of the civilians and canonists by Henry Harvey, doctor of the civil and canon law, and dean of the arches. But this edifice being destroyed by the destructive conflagration in 1666, they removed to Exeter-house, in the Strand, where the civilians had their chambers and offices, and the courts were held in the hall. But some years after, the Commons being rebuilt in a more convenient and elegant manner than before, the civilians returned thither. The causes, of which the civil and ecclesiastical law do, or may take cognizance, are blasphemy, apostacy from Christianity, heresy, ordinations, institutions to benefices, celebration of divine service, matrimony, divorces, bastardy, tithes, oblations, obventions, mortuaries, dilapidations, reparations of churches, pro-

bates of wills, administrations, simony, incest, fornication, adultery, pensions, procurations, commutation of penance, right of pews, and others of the same kind. Those who practise in these courts, are divided into two classes—advocates and proctors. The advocates are such as have taken the degree of civil law, and are retained as counsellors and pleaders. These must first, upon their petition to the archbishop, obtain his fiat, and then they are admitted by the judge to practise. The following is the manner of their admission. Two senior advocates, in their scarlet robes, with the mace carried before them, conduct the doctor up the court, with three reverences, and present him with a short Latin speech, together with the archbishop's rescript. Then having taken the oaths, the judge admits him, and assigns him a place, or seat, in the court, which he is always to keep when he pleads. Both the judge and advocates, if of Oxford, wear in court, scarlet robes and hoods, lined with taffeta; but if of Cambridge, white minever, and round black velvet caps. The proctors, or procurators, exhibit their proxies for their clients, and make themselves parties for them, and draw and give pleas, or libels and allegations in their behalf, produce witnesses, prepare causes for sentence, and attend the advocates with the proceedings. These are also admitted by the archbishop's fiat, and introduced by two senior proctors. They wear black robes and hoods, lined with fur. The terms for the pleading and ending of causes in the civil courts, are but slightly different from the term times of the common law. The order, as to the time of the sitting of the several courts, is as follows:—The court of arches, having the pre-eminence, sits first in the morning; the court of admiralty sits in the afternoon. The prerogative office is open from nine to three, except Sundays and holidays. The expense of searching for a will here is only one shilling, and copies may be

procured, if required, by paying in proportion to the trouble incurred.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT.—This court was established as an experiment, being chiefly founded on the *cessio bonorum* principle of the law of Scotland—after three months' imprisonment, a debtor being entitled to petition for his discharge out of prison, on the condition of surrendering all his effects for the behoof of his creditors. This discharge, if it should not be conditional on the ground of extravagance or fraud having been committed by the debtor, releases the person; but any property that can be traced to him, although it may have been subsequently acquired, is liable to the payment of his debts. The *person* is for ever released, but *property* never, so long as any debts remain unsatisfied.

The acts constituting this court contain the regulations for its guidance, and appoint commissioners to carry them into effect. The construction to be put upon these laws is left to their sole discretion;—there is no intervention of a jury;—and thus the court partakes of the mingled principles of law and equity—having specific regulations to enforce, and at the same time possessing a large discretionary power.

There are three commissioners appointed by the insolvent debtors' acts, who sit about four days every fortnight; and are attended by barristers and agents, who need not be regularly admitted attornies. The court is a neat building, erected in 1824, in Portugal-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

THE PALACE OR MARSHALSEA COURT has jurisdiction over all civil suits within twelve miles of the queen's palace, except in the city of London. The mode of proceeding is remarkably expeditious, as causes are decided in about three weeks; but neither the plaintiff nor defendant can belong to her majesty's household. The steward or judge is a barrister, who sits every Friday, when the court is open to the pub-

lic. The building in which the court is held is in Scotland-yard, and is neat and convenient.

MANNER OF MAKING A JUDGE.—The Lord Chancellor having taken his seat in the court where the vacancy is to be supplied, bringing with him the letters-patent of creation, causes the serjeant-elect to be introduced, to whom, in open court, his lordship notifies the queen's pleasure, then causing the patent to be publicly read. This having been done, the master of the rolls reads to the new judge the oath he is to take, which states that "he shall indifferently administer justice to all men, as well foes as friends, that shall have any suit or plea before him; and this he shall not forbear to do, though the queen, by her letters, or by express word of mouth, should command the contrary; and that, from time to time, he shall not receive any fee or pension, or livery of any man, but of the queen only; nor any gift, reward, or bribe of any man having suit or plea before him, saving meat or drink, which shall be of no great value." The oath having been administered, the lord chancellor delivers to the new judge the letters-patent of his creation; and the lord chief justice of the court assigns to him a place on the bench, where he is then placed, and which he is enjoined to keep.

The salaries of the judges, it ought to be remembered, are exclusive of fees; and the fees receivable by the lord chancellor and the chief justices, in particular, are enormous.

OLD BAILEY SESSIONS.—This court is held for the trial of criminals; and its jurisdiction comprehends the county of Middlesex, as well as the city of London. It is held eight times in the year by the queen's commission of *oyer and terminer*. The judges are, the lord mayor, those aldermen who have passed the chair, the recorder, and the common-serjeant, who are attended by both the sheriffs, and one or more of the national judges.

The offences in the city are tried by a jury of citizens; and those committed in the country, by one formed of housekeepers in the county.

There are, besides, the Middlesex Sessions, held at Clerkenwell, the Southwark at Horsemonger-lane, and London at Guildhall, for misdemeanours, &c.

INNS OF COURT.

These establishments, in which those persons, intended for the profession of the law, are supposed to be educated, are now in name only what they were formerly in reality. Instead of any public exercises and duties to be observed by students previously to their being called to the bar, they have now only to eat a certain number of dinners, during the terms of three or five years, in one of the inns of court, the expense of which, together with a species of fine, amounts to about £130. Having undergone this probationary requisite, the students are considered qualified for admission to the bar, if members of the society will move that they be called, even though the party so recommended had never once seen a law-book. There are seldom many objections to the call; it is not however, always a matter of course. But although much merriment has been occasioned by the practice of thus *eating* the way to the bar, it must not be presumed that no preparatory study is pursued. Public courses of study were found inefficacious, and consequently abandoned; but all those who have risen to celebrity as lawyers, laid the foundation of their greatness by hard study. The students not only apply themselves to courses of law reading, but come into the practice of the laws, and the application of their own researches, by articling themselves as pupils to leading special pleaders, counsel, &c. Two or three hundred guineas are frequently paid for permission to study in the office of a special pleader, or barrister of high considera-

tion and great practice. The study of the law is the surest road to greatness in the state. The method which lawyers are obliged to pursue in all their studies and pleadings, gives them advantage in public life, in the senate as well as at the bar, and hence may be traced the amazing success and celebrity that often attend them in life.

As a member of the law is compelled to belong to an inn of court, and as students and practitioners generally take up their residence in chambers in some of the inns, those courts have become famed for the production of men of learning. The inns of court are governed by masters, principals, benchers, stewards, &c. For light offences, persons are only excluded, or not allowed to eat at the common table with the rest; and for greater, they lose their chambers; and, when once expelled from one society, they are never received by any of the rest. As the societies are not incorporated, they have no lands nor revenues, nor anything for defraying the charges of the house, but what is paid for admissions, and other dues for the chambers. —The members may be divided into benchers, outer barristers, inner-barristers, and students. The benchers are the seniors, who have the government of the whole house; and out of these, a treasurer is chosen annually, who receives, disburses, and accounts for all the money belonging to the house.

THE TEMPLE is thus called, because it was anciently the dwelling house of the knights templars. At the suppression of that order it was purchased by the professors of the common law, and converted into inns. They are called the Inner and Middle Temple, in relation to Essex-house, which was also a part of the house formerly belonging to the knights, and called the Outer Temple, because it was situated outside Temple bar. The principal entrance to the Temple is the Middle Temple gate, which was erected from the design of Inigo Jones. It consists of a brick edifice,

with four Ionic stone pilasters on a rustic basement, adorned with the figure of a lamb, the badge of the society. The Temple Church is an ancient Gothic stone building erected by the Templars in the reign of Henry II. It is remarkable for its circular vestibule, and for the tombs of the crusaders who were buried here. The Norman arch, forming the entrance, is much admired for its exquisite workmanship.

THE INNER TEMPLE is situated to the east of Middle Temple gate and has a cloister, a large garden, and spacious walks.

The society consists of benchers, barristers, and students; the former of whom, as governors at commons, have their table at the upper end of the hall, and the barristers and students in the middle.

The hall and chapel are built with Portland stone, and were repaired in 1819: the former is decorated with the story of Pegasus, painted by Sir James Thornhill, and with portraits of King William, Queen Mary, and Lords Coke and Littleton. On the last house of the terrace on which these buildings are situated, was a sun-dial, with this singular inscription, "Be gone about your business."

The gardens, which extend along the banks of the Thames, form a delightful promenade, commanding fine views of Waterloo and Blackfriars' bridges, and of Somerset-house. They are open to the public at six o'clock in the evening, for a few of the summer months, commencing the first week in June.

THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, which joins the Inner Temple on the west, is so called from having been the central portion of the ancient Temple. The hall is adorned with a curious carved screen, a beautiful picture of Charles I. on horseback, by Vandyke, and with portraits of Charles II., Queen Anne., George I. and II. In the library is preserved a pair of globes made in the time of Queen Elizabeth. In the Middle Temple, during the time of the Templars, the king's

treasure was kept; as well as that belonging to the citizens; and Edward I., when a young man, broke into this place of security, and stole £1000 belonging to the citizens. The chief officer was the master of the Temple, who was summoned to parliament by Henry III., and from him the chief master of the Temple church is called "Master of the Temple."

Lincoln's Inn is situated between Chancery-lane and Lincoln's-inn-square, and derives its name from the Earl of Lincoln, who erected a mansion on this spot in the reign of Edward I. The buildings form a quadrangle, two sides of which are occupied by the chapel and the hall. On these erections tradition asserts that Ben Johnson was employed as a brick-layer's labourer. The former erected in 1620, contains a tablet in memory of Mr. Perceval, and is richly ornamented with painted glass, representing various scriptural subjects. The latter is a handsome room 62 feet long and 32 feet broad, in which the lord chancellor sits out of term time; it is adorned with a picture of Paul before Felix, by Hogarth. Contiguous to the hall is the vice-chancellor's court, which was erected in 1816. On the west side of the gardens is a fine gravel walk overlooking Lincoln's-inn-fields, and in the east a handsome range termed Stone buildings, from the material with which the buildings are faced.

Gray's Inn, situated in Holborn, is so called from having been the residence of the ancient family of Gray of Wilton, who, in the reign of Edward III., bequeathed it to several students of the law. Like the other inns of court, it is inhabited by barristers and students of the law; and also by many gentlemen of independent fortune, who have chosen it as an agreeable retirement. The hall is adorned with a curiously covered oak screen, and with portraits of Charles I. and II., James II., and Lord Ray-

mond. The chief ornament of this inn is its splendid garden which is open to respectably dressed people every day.

Besides these principal inns of court, there are two Serjeants' Inns; the one in Fleet-street, the other in Chancery-lane.

THE INNS OF CHANCERY were probably so called because they were anciently inhabited by clerks, who chiefly studied the forming of writs, which regularly belonged to the cursitors, who are officers of chancery.

The first of these is Thavie's Inn, on Holborn-hill, which derived its name from John Tavye, in the reign of Edward III. It has been since purchased by the society of Lincoln's-inn, and is now occupied by private persons.

CLEMENT'S INN, Strand, the square of which is adorned with a fine statue of a negro holding a sun-dial, and the hall with portraits of several judges.

CLIFFORD'S INN, Fleet-street, formerly the residence of Lord Clifford. In the hall is a curious oak case containing the ancient laws of the society.

STAPLE INN, Holborn, where the wool-merchants were accustomed to assemble, and probably given to the law students, about the reign of Henry V. The hall contains busts of the twelve Cæsars, and portraits of Charles II., Queen Anne, Lords Cooper and Macclesfield.

LYON'S INN, Newcastle-street, anciently a common inn with the sign of a lion.

FURNIVAL'S INN, Holborn, which was the residence of a noble family of that name, which became extinct in the reign of Richard II. This edifice was rebuilt in a very handsome style, in 1819, by Mr. Peto.

BARNARD'S INN, Holborn, which was so called from a gentleman of that name, who had leased it from the executors of Dean Mackworth, and given by him to law students.

New Inn, in Wych-street, contiguous to Clement's Inn, belongs to the Middle Temple.

These were considered only as preparatory schools for younger students; and many were entered here before they were admitted into the inns of court. They are now chiefly occupied by attornies and solicitors. They belong, however, to some of the inns of court, who formerly sent barristers annually to read to them.

CHAPTER II.

Local Government of London, Westminster, and Southwark. City Companies. Police. Prisons. Pauperism.

As stated in our general history, William I. granted an important charter to the city of London, confirming Edward the Confessor's laws; and this is the earliest charter of incorporation existing. It was ever recognised as a charter, and referred to and renewed as such down to Charles II's reign. After that charter London was of so much consequence in the various contests for power and sovereignty, that different monarchs favoured it, granting various privileges and immunities, till the corporation was finally composed of a lord mayor, two sheriffs for London and Middlesex, aldermen, common council, and livery. At the time of the defeat of Harold by William I., the chief officer of London was called the port-reeve or port-grave, from Saxon words signifying chief governor of a harbour. He was afterwards called provost; but in Henry II.'s reign, the Norman title of *maire* was brought into use, and soon rendered English by spelling it mayor. In 1354, Edward III. granted to this city the privilege of having gold or silver *maces* carried before the mayor, sheriffs, and aldermen, in

the city, its suburbs, and liberties throughout Middlesex; and also, when going to meet the king, his heirs, or other royal persons, beyond the county. It was at this period, when such a dignity was granted, that the chief magistrate of the city of London was first called *lord* mayor, and obtained the style of right honourable. Under him the city is governed by its recorder, aldermen, common-serjeant, &c.

MAYOR.—King John, in the year 1214, granted a charter, confirming the privilege of choosing a mayor annually, and continuing him in that situation from year to year, if the electors so pleased. He was to be presented to the king for approval; but in the 37th year of Henry III. a new charter was obtained, permitting the presentation to be made to the barons of the exchequer. This was done to avoid the expense of repairing to the king wherever he might be for the time;—and the practice continues to this day. At first, the election was completely popular, resting with the citizens at large, when assembled in general *folkmote;* but disturbances having resulted from this mode of electing, it was afterwards managed by delegates chosen out of each ward; and this select number was called the commonalty. This method continued till 1475, when an act of the common council vested the election of the mayor and sheriffs in the mayor, aldermen, and common councilmen, and in the masters, wardens, and liverymen of the city companies; where the right still continues, it having been confirmed by act of parliament. Although the office of lord mayor is elective, his power does not cease on the death of a sovereign; and when such an event takes place, he is considered the principal officer in the kingdom, and takes his place accordingly in the privy council till the new king is proclaimed.

The powers and privileges of the lord mayor are very extensive. He is not only the queen's representative in the civil government of the city, but also

first commissioner of the lieutenancy; perpetual coroner and escheater within the city and liberties of London and the borough of Southwark; chief justice of oyer and terminer and gaol delivery of Newgate; judge of the court of wardmote at the election of aldermen; conservator of the rivers Thames and Medway; perpetual commissioner in all the affairs relating to the river Lea; and chief butler to the sovereign at all coronations, having a fee for that service of a golden cup and cover, and a golden ewer. No corporation business is valid without his authority.

The mode of election is as follows: The livery in Guildhall, or common assembly, choose two of the senior aldermen below the bar, who are presented to the court of the mayor and aldermen, by whom one of the aldermen so chosen (generally the senior), is declared mayor elect. The day on which the lord mayor elect enters upon his office, the aldermen and sheriffs attend him to Guildhall in their coaches, and about noon proceed to Blackfriars-bridge, where the lord mayor elect, the aldermen, recorder, and sheriffs go on board the splendid city barge; and attended by the several city companies in their barges, adorned with flags and pendants, proceed in great state to Westminster, where his lordship, after certain ceremonies, takes the prescribed oaths before the barons of the exchequer. He then proceeds with the recorder, &c., to the other courts of law, to invite the judges to dinner, and afterwards returns by water to Blackfriars' bridge. Having landed, he is preceded by the artillery company, which is followed by the company of which he himself is free; and in regular order by the other city companies, with flags and music; and among the rest, the armourers have usually one or more persons on horseback, completely dressed in various kinds of armour. To thes esucceed the domestics and servants of the lord mayor; and then his lordship, in his state coach, followed by the

aldermen, recorder, sheriff's chamberlain, common-serjeant, town-clerk, &c., in their several coaches and chariots.

This annual cavalcade, generally called the *Lord Mayor's Show*, excites great interest, and exhibits no ordinary display of municipal splendour. It concludes at Guildhall, and is succeeded by an entertainment of appropriate magnificence, at which it is customary to see princes of the blood, distinguished members of administration, many representatives of the first families in the kingdom, and about a thousand other persons; all of whom are admitted by tickets from the lord mayor, or from one of the sheriffs. The expenses (generally about £3,000) are defrayed by the lord mayor and sheriffs, and the festivities of the day are terminated by a splendid ball.

The lord mayor's dress is very showy. On public occasions he wears either scarlet or purple robes, richly furred, and, a gold chain or collar. When he goes in his state coach, the mace-bearer sits upon a stool in the middle, facing one of the windows, and the sword-bearer upon a stool also, facing the other; and when on foot his train is supported by a page, and the mace and sword are carried before him.

The lord mayor's salary, which is granted annually by the corporation, to defray the expenses of the office, is £8,000, but the actual expenditure frequently exceeds this sum by many thousands, and varies according to the wealth or liberality of individuals. The plate used by the lord mayor at his stated dinners belong to the corporation, and is transferred every year, with an inventory of it, to his successor.

The ALDERMEN are of more remote antiquity than the mayors. The office was of Saxon institution. The name is derived from the Saxon *aelder-man*, a man advanced in years, and accordingly supposed to

be of superior wisdom and gravity. Henry III., after the citizens had suffered many oppressions, restored a form of government, and appointed twenty-four citizens to exercise the power. In his son's (Edward I.) reign, the city was divided into twenty-four wards. Till 1394, the aldermen were chosen annually; but when Richard II. removed back the courts of judicature from York to London, it was enacted by parliament that they should "continue in office during life, or good behaviour." There are twenty-six wards, and each ward has its alderman. The right of voting for aldermen is vested in those freemen who are resident freeholders. The lord mayor presides at the election of aldermen; and they again hold courts of wardmotes for the election of common councilmen, and other ward officers, the regulation of the business of the ward, &c.; and in the management of these duties each alderman is assisted by one or two deputies, selected by himself from amongst the common councilmen of his own ward.

THE COMMON COUNCIL is likewise of very early origin, it is a modification of the ancient *commonalty*. Various opinions are entertained as to the share which the commonalty, or citizens at large, possessed in the local jurisdiction. It is beyond dispute (and it is a proud fact for the city of London, as it shows their acknowledged importance in all times,) that the great body of the citizens was very early considered as an integral part of the city constitution. The charter of Henry I. mentions the *folk-mote*, a Saxon appellation, and which may fairly be rendered the *court* or *assembly of the people*. The general place of meeting of the "folk-mote" was in the open air, at St. Paul's cross, in St. Paul's churchyard. It was not discontinued till after Henry II.'s reign; but it had been considered the *supreme* assembly of the city. It was called together by the tolling of a great bell.

From the great increase of the city's population, the intermixture of the non-freemen with the inhabitants rendered this mode of meeting inconvenient, tumultuous, and sometimes dangerous; and the system of delegation was then had recourse to. A certain number of representatives were chosen out of each ward, who being added to the lord mayor and aldermen, constituted the *Court of Common Council*. At first, only two were chosen out of each ward; but it being afterwards considered, that the collective assembly thus chosen, was an insufficient representation, in 1347 the numbers were enlarged. It was provided, that each ward should elect common councilmen, according to its relative extent—not fewer than six, nor more than twelve: since then, there has been an alteration in the numbers, and the present aggregate number is 240. The common councilmen were chosen in the same manner as the aldermen, with this difference—the lord mayor presides at the election of an alderman, and the alderman at the election of common councilmen. The court debates with open doors in general; but it has the power, though rarely exercised, of excluding strangers; and in the general management of its business, the rules, proceedings, committees, &c., are much like those of the House of Commons. They cannot assemble without summons from the lord mayor, and then for one sitting only; but it is his duty to call a meeting whenever it is demanded by requisition, and the law compels him to assemble the court a certain number of times during his mayoralty. The general business of the court is, to make laws for the due government of the city, to guide its police, to manage its property; in fact, the court of common council is the city's legislature.

THE SHERIFFS.—Some writers place the sheriffs after the lord mayor, but such arrangement would interrupt the narrative respecting the city's legislature. The office of sheriff (from "shire-reve," go-

vernor of a shire or county,) is of great antiquity, trust, and authority. London had its sheriffs before William the First's reign. In all general cases, the sheriffs are the queen's officers; but the sheriff-wick of Middlesex, having been purchased from Henry I. by the city, the lord mayor and citizens now hold it in fee, and appoint two sheriffs annually for London and Middlesex. The jurisdictions of these officers are to a certain extent, perfectly separate, but if either die, the other cannot act till a new one be elected; for there must be two sheriffs for London, which, by charter, is both a city and a county, though they make but one jointly for the county of Middlesex. Anciently, these officers were chosen from amongst the commonalty, before mentioned, and any citizen is still eligible, except he swear himself not worth £15,000. Many aldermen, who were never sheriffs, were advanced to the mayoralty; but greater regularity is now observed, and no alderman can be chosen mayor, unless he has served the office of sheriff. The mode of choosing the sheriffs has frequently been changed. Formerly the elder sheriff was nominated by the lord mayor, who drank to him by name, as sheriff for the ensuing year; and this nomination was, by custom, confirmed by the commonalty; but the commons succeeded in abrogating this custom, and for some time, both sheriffs were chosen by the livery at large. Sir J. Parsons, lord mayor, in 1704, revived the ancient method of nomination, under the authority of a then recent act of common council. The present mode is for the lord mayor to drink to fourteen respectable citizens, two of whom are elected by the livery, and they are compelled to serve, according to a bye law, under a penalty of £600 (and £13 6s. 8d. to the ministers of the city prisons), £100 of which is to be given to him who first accepts the office. The opinion of the livery in common hall is not decisive; and if a poll be

demanded, it continues open for seven days. The lord mayor cannot properly nominate a commmoner as sheriff, if there be an alderman who has not served, though it is frequently done; but if the citizen drunk to, pays the fine, he is exempted for three years; nor can he again be drunk to by any future lord mayor, unless he becomes an alderman. No alderman can be exempted for more than one year, after a previous payment, without the consent of the common council; whoever undertakes the office, is obliged to give bond to the corporation for £1,000. The sheriffs enter upon their office on Michaelmas-day, having been sworn the day previous at Guildhall. On the day after Michaelmas-day, the new sheriffs proceed to Westminster, to be accepted on behalf of the queen, by the barons of exchequer, and to perform certain ceremonies. The *duty* of the sheriffs, amongst other things, is to serve writs of process. When the queen is party, the sheriffs may break open doors, or may uncover houses to gain admission, if entrance be denied; but not upon private process, except upon outlawry after judgment; and in every case where the outer door is open, or where admission can be obtained by stratagem, or without force, the sheriffs, or other officers, may enter and execute the writ. They are also to attend the judges, and execute their orders; to impannel or summon juries, "of honest repute and good ability, to consider and deliver their verdicts according to justice and the merits of the case;" to see condemned persons executed; and in cases of resistance to their legal authority, such as public riots, &c., to raise the *posse-comitatus*. For the county alone, about 25,000 writs are annually directed to the sheriff.

The Recorder, who is appointed by the lord mayor and aldermen, for life, with a salary of £2,500, the chamberlain, common-sergeant, city remembrancer, &c., constitute the other leading city-officers.

THE JUDICIAL FRANCHISE is amongst the many valuable privileges enjoyed by the city. It is most important; and yet the power of the city courts, for the recovery of debts, or of compensations for injuries, "by action or writ, according to the course of common law," is but little known. There are the Lord Mayor's court, the Court of Hustings, the Sheriffs' Court, &c.

CITY COMPANIES.—There are ninety-one of these. The first twelve on the following list are called the chief, and are sometimes styled, The Honourable.—This list is arranged in their order of precedency.

1. Mercers.
2. Grocers.
3. Drapers.
4. Fishmongers.
5. Goldsmiths.
6. Skinners.
7. Merchant Tailors.
8. Haberdashers.
9. Salters.
10. Ironmongers.
11. Vintners.
12. Cloth-workers.
13. Dyers.
14. Brewers.
15. Leather Sel,ers.
16. Pewterers.
17. Barber Surgeons.
18. Cutlers.
19. Bakers.
20. Wax Chandlers.
21. Tallow Chandlers.
22. Armourers and Braziers.
23. Girdlers.
24. Butchers.
25. Saddlers.
26. Carpenters.
27. Cordwainers.
28. Painter Stainers.
29. Curriers.
30. Masons.
31. Plumbers.
32. Inn-holders.
33. Founders.
34. Poulterers.
35. Cooks.
36. Coopers.
37. Tilers and Bricklayers
38. Bowyers.
39. Fletchers.
40. Blacksmiths.
41. Joiners.
42. Weavers.
43. Woolmen.
44. Scriveners.
45. Fruiterers.
46. Plasterers.
47. Stationers.
48. Embroiderers.
49. Upholders.
50. Musicians.
51. Turners.
52. Basket Makers.
53 Glaziers.
54. Horners.
55. Farriers.
56. Paviors.
57. Lorimers.
58. Apothecaries.
59. Shipwrights.
60. Spectacle Makers.
61. Clock Makers.
62. Glovers.
63. Comb Makers.
64. Felt Makers.
65. Framework Knitters.
66. Silk Throwsters.
67. Silkmen.
68. Pin Makers.

69. Needle Makers.
70. Gardeners.
71. Soap Makers.
72. Tin-plate Workers.
73. Wheelwrights.
74. Distillers.
75. Hat-band Makers.
76. Patten Makers.
77. Glass Sellers.
78. Tobacco pipe Makers.
79. Coach and Coach Harness Makers.
80. Gun Makers.
81. Gold and Silver Wire-drawers.
82. Long Bow-string Makers.
83. Card Makers.
84. Fan Makers.
85. Woodmongers.
86. Starch Makers.
87. Fishermen.
88. Parish Clerks.
89. Carmen.
90. Porters.
91. Watermen.

Nearly fifty of these companies have halls, some of which are remarkable as buildings, and others for their paintings and curiosities. The following are the principal.

MERCERS' HALL, Cheapside, is distinguished by a richly-sculptured front, adorned with figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity, and containing some interesting relics of the celebrated Whittington,

GROCERS' HALL, in the court of the same name, in the Poultry, is a handsome building, with stone front, surmounted by an emblem of eastern productions. It contains portraits of Sir John Cutlor, Lord Chatham, and his son Mr. Pitt.

DRAPERS' HALL, Throgmorton-street, is a quadrangular edifice, erected on the site of a mansion, inhabited by Cromwell, Earl of Essex. It is enriched with a fine portrait of Fitz-Alwyn, the first mayor of London; a portrait of Nelson, by Beechy; and another, supposed to be of Mary, Queen of Scots.

FISHMONGERS' HALL, on the banks of the Thames, near London-bridge, was erected by Sir Christopher Wren. It contains a curious statue of Sir W. Walworth, whose right hand grasps the identical dagger with which he struck Wat Tyler.

SKINNERS' HALL, Dowgate-hill, is another building, adorned with pilasters supporting a pediment, in which are the arms of the company.

MERCHANT TAILORS' HALL, Threadneedle-street, is

one of the largest in London. It contains portraits of several distinguished individuals, and the charter granted to the company by Henry VII.

IRONMONGERS' HALL, Fenchurch-street, is a stately edifice, of Portland stone, erected in 1748. It is enriched with some exquisite carving.

BARBERS' HALL, Monkwell-street, contains a fine painting, by Holbein, representing Henry VIII. delivering the charter of the barber-surgeons to the company. Amongst the characters introduced is Dr. Butes, mentioned in Shakspeare.

ARMOURERS' HALL, Coleman-street, is adorned with a fine picture, by Northcote, representing the entry of Richard II. and Henry Bolingbroke into London.

STATIONERS' HALL, Stationers'-court, Ludgate-hill, contains some good paintings in oil and stained glass.

GOLDSMITHS' HALL, Foster-lane, is a substantial brick building, containing several pictures.

SALTERS' HALL, Oxford-court, Cannon-street, rebuilt in 1826, contains portraits of several kings of England, and a remarkably fine one of Sir C. Wren. Here, likewise, is preserved a bill of fare for fifty people, in the year 1506, the whole amount of which did not exceed two pounds.

PAINTER STAINERS' HALL, Little Trinity-lane, is adorned with a view of the Fire of London, and with several portraits; amongst which is one of Camden, the celebrated antiquarian, who presented this company with a cup and cover, still used by them on St. Luke's day.

CLOTHWORKERS' HALL, Mincing-lane, contains carvings, as large as life, of James I. and Charles I.

VINTNERS' HALL, Upper Thames-street, which was partly rebuilt in 1820, contains a picture of St. Martin, who is represented dividing his cloak.

COACHMAKERS' HALL, Noble-street, was long famed

for a debating society, in which many eminent men first practised oratory.

The city of London sends *four* members to parliament.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER.

That which was once called *Thorney Island* (because, according to Stowe, "it was a place overgrown with thorns and environed with waters,") is now the seat of government, the residence of royalty, and the centre of fashion. It is now so united with London, that, in appearance, they form one city, and, in ordinary speech, they are mentioned as one. For many ages it was a place entirely distinct from London, and the distance between them was considerable. The Strand was the road which formed the communication between the two towns, and Westminster was then open to the Thames and the fields. It appears that, in 1385, this road was paved as far as the Savoy; and some years after, Sir Robert Cecil, having built a house at Ivy-bridge, caused the pavement to be extended thither, and many of the houses of the nobility were erected in the Strand. That there was a bridge over the Thames at Westminster as early as 994 is certain; but it is a matter of doubt whether there was one before that period. Edward the Confessor founded a royal palace here, which was considerably improved by the addition of Westminster-hall. The existence of Westminster is derived from the foundation of the Abbey. At the general suppression of religious houses by Henry VIII., Westminster was converted into a bishopric, with a dean and twelve prebendaries; but the only bishop was Thomas Thirlley. It was suppressed in 1550, on his translation to Norwich; and Westminster retains the title of city by courtesy. Before it became a city, it had been many years the seat of the royal palace, the high

court of parliament, and of our law tribunals: most of our sovereigns were crowned and have their sepulchres in the abbey. The ancient palace having been almost destroyed by fire, Henry VIII. purchased his palace of Whitehall of Cardinal Wolsey. From this period, Henry, having built St. James' palace, a tennis-court, and a cock-pit, and formed the park and places for bowling, the buildings in Westminster began rapidly to extend in all directions.

The CITY of Westminster is comprised in the two parishes of St. Margaret and St. John, which are now united; and the *liberties* consist of seven parishes—St. Martin's-in-the-fields, St. James's, St. Ann's, St. Clement Danes, St. Mary-le-Strand, St. George's, Hanover-square; and St. Paul's Covent-garden, with the precinct of the Savoy.

St. Martin's-le-grand, which is situated within the limits of the city of London, is a portion of the liberties of Westminster. Anciently it was the site of a college, consisting of a dean and priests; and Henry VII. conveyed to the abbot of the abbey church of Westminster the advowson of the deanery, &c. of St. Martin's-le-Grand. In the thirty-second year of Henry VIII. that monarch granted it to the new see of Westminster, and two years after to the dean and chapter. When Edward VI. dissolved the bishopric of Westminster, he conveyed St. Martin's-le-Grand, with the jurisdiction, to the bishop of London; but an act of parliament restored it to the dean and chapter, who are now in full possession of it. The church was taken down soon after the year 1548, and the site covered with buildings. Some curious remains of vaults belonging to the ancient college or monastery, were discovered in the progress of the excavations made for the building of the new post-office.

Westminster returns two members to parliament.

Its GOVERNMENT, until the Reformation, was arbitrary under the abbot and monks. It was afterwards

under that of the bishop and the dean and chapter; it was next settled by Queen Elizabeth in 1595, fixing the civil government in the hands of the laity. The authority extends to the precincts of St. Martin's-le-Grand, and to some towns of Essex, which are exempted from the jurisdiction of the bishop of London and the archbishop of Canterbury.

The principal magistrate is the high steward, who is usually a nobleman, and is chosen by the dean and chapter. His post is similar to that of chancellor of a university, and is generally held for life.

The next great officer is the high bailiff, who is chosen by the high steward, notwithstanding which a considerable sum is required to be paid for the situation. He likewise holds his office for life, and has the chief management of the election of members of parliament for Westminster; and all the other bailiffs are subordinate to him. He summons juries, and in the court-leets sits next to the deputy steward. To him all fines and forfeitures belong, which render the situation very profitable.

There are also sixteen burgesses and their assistants, whose functions in all respects resemble those of the alderman's deputies of the city of London, each having his proper ward under his jurisdiction; and from these are elected two head burgesses, one for the city, and the other for the liberties. There is also a high constable, who has also the other constables under his directions.

The government of Westminster has but a slight resemblance to that of a great and opulent city. It is much more like that of a country borough. This city has no power of making freemen, no trading companies, and no courts except those of the leet, the sessions, and a court of requests.

THE BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

Constitutes another great portion of this widely-spreading metropolis, and was governed by its own bailiffs, till 1327. The city, however, found great inconvenience from the number of malefactors who escaped thither, in order to be out of the reach of the city magistrates. A grant was therefore made of that town, and the mayor of London was constituted bailiff of Southwark, and empowered to govern it by his deputy.

In Edward VI's reign, the crown granted the "Borough or Town" to the city of London, for a pecuniary consideration; and within a month after the passing of the patent, in consideration of a farther sum paid to the crown, Southwark was made one of the city wards, and named Bridge-Ward-Without. In consequence of the above grant, Southwark became subject to the lord mayor, who has under him a steward and bailff, the former of whom holds a court every Monday, at St. Margaret's-hill, for all debts, damages, and trespasses within his limits.

Southwark returns two members to parliament.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

The police of such an extensive city as that of London, cannot fail to excite interest in the minds of the inhabitants or visitors. For after the advantages a nation derives from an excellent constitution and laws, nothing reflects so great a credit on a metropolis as a well organized police. The city of London is under the control of its own magistracy, consisting, as we have already stated, of the lord mayor and aldermen, who have under them two marshals, with marshals' men, and a numerous body of officers. The city has two police offices, where magistrates sit daily to hear

charges and complaints; one at the Mansion-house, the other at Guildhall. For all the other parts of the metropolis out of this jurisdiction, twenty-seven stipendiary magistrates are appointed. Three at Bow-street, under a jurisdiction long established, and twenty-four by a statute called the "police act," passed in the reign of George III.

THE POLICE OFFICES are as follows:—Bow-street, Covent-garden; Queen's-square, Westminster; Great Marlborough-street; High-street, Mary-le-bone; Hatton-garden; Worship-street, Shoreditch; Lambeth-street, Whitechapel; High-street, Shadwell; Union-street, Southwark. Besides these, there is the Thames police office Wapping, which is under a separate act of parliament; and the attention of the magistrates there is almost confined to the cognizances of offences, either committed on the river, or connected with maritime affairs.

At Bow-street, Covent-garden, is the police office celebrated all over the United kingdom, and, it may be said, the world, for its execution of police duties. It is not included among the offices regulated by the police act, but is wholly under the direction and management of the Secretary of State for the Home department. Its establishment consists of four magistrates, three of whom have a salary of £600 a year each, for attending two days in the week. The The chief magistrate has in addition £500 a year for the superintendence of the dismounted foot patrol. All the magistrates belonging to this office, are in the commission of the peace for the counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, and Essex, it being the chief police office of England. There are three clerks, and several officers, who are applied to from all parts of Britain, to assist in the discovery of mysterious and daring offences; but three of the latter are excused from going out of town, being retained to attend the king and court. There are besides about one hundred and fifty foot

and horse patrols attached to the office, who parade the streets of the metropolis, and all the roads to the distance of about ten miles, from dusk till twelve o'clock. The former go in parties of three and a conductor, armed with blunderbusses and cutlasses.

The magistrates of all the police-offices, hear complaints and charges, and determine in a summary manner, particularly in cases relative to the customs, excise and stamps; the game laws; hawkers and pedlars; pawn-brokers; friendly societies; highways; hackney coaches, carts, and other carriages; persons refusing to pay tithes; appeals of defaulters in parochial rates; misdemeanours committed by persons unlawfully pawning property not their own; bakers selling bread short of weight &c.; journeymen not complying with their agreements, and disorderly apprentices; nuisances; gaming-houses: fortune-tellers, or suspicious persons. To them also are delegated the duties of watching over the conduct of publicans; issuing warrants for searches, and considering the cases of persons charged with being disorderly; making orders to parish officers, beadles, and constables, in parish removals; in billetting soldiers; considering the cases of poor persons applying for relief or admission to workhouses; attesting recruits for the army; as well as examining persons accused of treason, murder, coining, and uttering base money, arson, manslaughter, forgery, laceny, sedition, felony, conspiracies, frauds, riots, assaults, and misdemeanours of different kinds.

The police force of the metropolis, consisting of marshalmen, beadles, constables &c., amount to nearly five thousand.

The Thames Police is a great improvement in the system of local government. The crowded state of the Port of London, from the vast increase of its commerce, and the insufficiency (which existed at the time of its establishment) of sufficient wharfage for landing and ship-

ping merchandise, which for 1797-8, was estimated at the immense sum of sixty millions and a half, had led to a most extensive and regular system of plunder. The late Mr. Colquhoun, whose meritorious exertions, contributed to the establishment of a regular Thames police, calculated that about "eleven thousand persons, inured to habits of depravity, and long exercised in all the arts of villany," were engaged in this species of plunder; and that the amount of their depredations upon floating property, was upwards of five hundred thousand pounds annually. The extent and constancy of the depredations, were so notorious, as to call loudly for some special interference, and hence arose this establishment. In July 1798, the Marine police establishment was opened at Wapping New-Stairs. The savings to the West India Merchants and others were soon made manifest.

A few observations may not inappropriately follow the preceeding details. Although there certainly are numerous classes of persons, consisting of plunderers in every shape, from the midnight robber and murderer to the poor perpetrators of petty pillage—from the cultivated swindler and sharper, to the daring pickpocket; and although thousands of men and women, following the occupation of roguery and prostitution, daily rise not knowing how to procure subsistence for the passing hour; yet, when the extent of the population, merchandise, and commerce, is considered, it is a matter of surprise that so little open and daring inroad is made upon our persons and property. There are thousands of persons in this city, who have for years passed along the streets at all hours without either being robbed or otherwise molested. Robbers lay wait for the timid and unwary,—the dissolute and the drunken; they seldom intercept the man who is steadily pursuing his course. At night, persons should prefer the leading public streets: in them there are few lurking holes; and besides, in

case of attack, there are almost sure to be some passengers who will render assistance, when they hear calls for help. Much, however, depends on a person's own resolution and discretion.

In the midst of so vast a population, and where there are so many opportunities for villains to practice their depredations, and screen themselves from detection, it is not surprising that so many rogues by profession are collected together. To this great hive of human beings, the most vicious, as well as the most industrious, will resort, as the best field of exertion. Mr. Colquhoun, the magistrate previously mentioned, enumerated no fewer than eighteen classes of cheats and swindlers, who infest the metropolis, and prey upon the honest and unwary; besides those who live by gambling, coining, housebreaking, robbery, and plunder on the river. Mr. C. very justly traced much of the crime to the prevalence of public houses, bad education, Jews, receivers of stolen goods, pawnbrokers, low-gambling-houses, smuggling, and prostitution. It is estimated that not fewer than 40,000 prostitutes live in London; and it is presumed that eight-tenths of these die prematurely of disease and misery, having previously corrupted twice their own number of young girls and young men. According to the details furnished, and noticed in the "Commons' Police Report," "out of three parishes, consisting of 9,924 houses, and 59,050 inhabitants, there are 360 brothels and 2000 common prostitutes!"

One of the chief encouragements of crime is the receiving of stolen property. In the metropolis alone there are upwards of 4000 receivers of various kinds of stolen goods, who keep open shops for the purpose of purchasing, often for a mere trifle, every kind of property brought to them, and this without asking a single question; and it is estimated that the property purloined and pilfered in and about London, amounts to about £700,000 annually.

There exist in the metropolis a class of dealers, who keep open shops for the purchase of old rags, iron, and other metals. These are divided into wholesale and retail dealers. The retail dealers are the immediate purchasers in the first instance, from the pilferers, or their agents; and as soon as they collect a sufficient quantity, worthy the notice of a wholesale dealer, they dispose of it for ready money. Others are employed in collecting rags &c., purloined in the country, which are conveyed to town in carts kept by itenerant Jews and other doubtful characters, who travel to Portsmouth, Chatham, Woolwich, and Deptford, for the purchasing of metals, &c., from persons who are in the practice of embezzling the government stores.

Robbery and theft, in many instances, have been reduced to a regular system. Houses intended to be entered during the night, are previously reconnoitred. If one or more of the servants are not already associated with the thieves, the most artful means are used to obtain their assistance; and, when every arrangement is made, the mere operation of robbing a house becomes a matter of little difficulty.

The *sharpers*, *swindlers*, and *rogues* of various descriptions have undergone something like a classification; and it may not be improper to expose some of these marauders that beset the unwary in this great metropolis; they deceive few but the ignorant and unthinking—but even these afford too rich a harvest.

Sharpers, who obtain licenses as pawnbrokers, and are uniformly receivers of stolen goods.

Swindlers, who obtain licences to act as hawkers, and establish fradulent raffles, substitute plated or German silver goods for sterling silver, sell and utter base coin, deal in smuggled goods, and receive stolen goods, with a view to dispose of them in the country.

Swindlers, who take out licences as *auctioneers*. These open shops in different parts of the metropolis, with persons at the doors, usually called *barkers*, to

invite strangers to walk in. In these places, various articles of plate and household goods, are offered for sale, made up for the purpose, and of no intrinsic value. Associates, called *puffers*, are in waiting to raise the article beyond its value, when, on the first bidding of a stranger it is immediately knocked down; and when it is too late, he discovers the error he has fallen into.

Swindlers, who raise money by pretending to be discounters of bills, and money brokers. These chiefly prey upon young men of property, who have lost their money by gambling, or spent it in extravagance.

Jews, who, under the pretence of selling old clothes, and metals, &c., prowl about the houses of men of rank and fortune, holding out temptations to the servants to pilfer and steal small articles, which they buy at a trifling price. It is calculated that upwards of 1,500 of these people have their daily rounds.

Swindlers, who associate together for the purpose of defrauding tradesmen of their goods. One assumes the character of a merchant, hires a genteel house, and assumes every appearance of business; one or two of their associates take upon them the appearance of clerks, while others occasionally wear a livery; and sometimes a carriage is set up, in which the ladies of the party visit the shops, in the style of persons of fashion, ordering goods to their apartments. Thus circumstanced, goods are obtained on credit, which are immediately pawned or sold, and the produce used as the means of obtaining more, and procuring recommendations, by offering to pay ready money, or discount bills. After circulating notes to a considerable amount, and completing their system of fraud, by possessing as much of the property of others as is possible, without risk of detection, they decamp, assume new characters, and generally elude pursuit.

Besides these descriptions of rogues who live by their wits, there are villains who associate systemati-

cally together, for the purpose of preying upon persons from the country, or any ignorant person who is supposed to have money, or who has visited London for the purpose of selling goods, who prowl about the streets where shopmen and boys are carrying parcels, and who attend inns at the time that coaches and waggons are loading, or unloading. Cheats, called *duffers*, go about the streets offering bargains, and attend public houses, inns, and fairs, pretending to sell smuggled goods. In offering their goods for sale, they discover, by long experience, the proper objects to practise upon, and seldom fail to deceive the unwary.

There are many *female sharpers*, who dress elegantly, personate women of fashion, attend places of public amusement, and instances have even been known, in which, by extraordinary effrontery, they have forced themselves into the royal circle. One is said to have appeared in a style of peculiar elegance, on the king's birth-day, and to have pillaged, in conjunction with her husband, who was dressed as a clergyman, to the amount of £1700, without discovery or suspicion. Houses are kept where female cheats dress and undress for public places.

In addition to this detail of swindlers and cheats, much might be said respecting professed gamblers, as well as the regular thieves, consisting of housebreakers, pickpockets, and footpads; but such a sketch would exceed our limits.

The *military establishments* of the metropolis were considerably changed by an act of parliament passed in 1794. It now consists of three regiments of foot-guards, containing about 7,000 men, and two regiments of horse guards, consisting of 1,200 men; but none of these troops are permitted to enter the city without especial leave from the lord mayor. A body, called the yeomen of the guard, consisting of a hundred men, remain an interesting relic of the king's

guards of the fifteenth century, whose dress they still retain.

PRISONS.

The *prisons, houses of correction*, and *penitentiaries*, next claim our attention; and an afflicting picture the subject presents to any mind alive to the cries of wretchedness, or affected by the audacious demeanour of hardened vice.

NEWGATE.—The gaol of Newgate is of considerable antiquity, and it is recorded as a receptacle for prisoners so far back as 1218; it was improved in the beginning of the fifteenth century, and afterwards rebuilt with greater strength and more convenience, with a central gate, and a postern for foot passengers. The prison then extended over Newgate street, with the gate and postern beneath. This building was taken down in 1777, and a new structure begun to be erected on the present site, still bearing the original name of Newgate. Before it was well completed, the rioters of 1780 destroyed the interior by fire. It has since been restored, and now presents a uniform exterior to the west, consisting of two wings, and the keeper's house, as a centre. This is the general criminal prison for the county, as well as the city. In its north-east angle, adjoining Newgate street, is the condemned yard, in which persons under sentence of death are kept in solitary cells, except during a few hours of the day. The prison is still technically divided into two sides—the debtor's side, and felon's side, the north side having formerly been appropriated to debtors, men and women; but in consequence of the inadequacy of the building to contain, conveniently, above five hundred prisoners, the corporation decided on the erection of a new prison, for debtors exclusively, in Whitecross street, Cripplegate. Some improvements in the internal economy of this

prison have recently been adopted, especially in regard to the classification of the prisoners. The sheriffs, in 1708, established a fund by means of which they have been enabled to supply many necessaries to the poor prisoners; and poor-boxes have been put up at all the doors for the benefit of the whole prison, which invite the contributions of benevolent persons, as a means of augmenting the sheriffs' fund. There is a neat chapel in this prison, where the ordinary reads prayers twice on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and preaches every Sunday morning.

Strangers wishing to visit this and similar receptacles of crime in the metropolis, may obtain admittance, on procuring an order from the sheriffs, or other official persons.

GILTSPUR-STREET COMPTER.—In 1791 this prison, belonging to the sheriffs' court, was erected, having formerly stood in Wood-street. The building is of brick, with the front cased with rustic stone-work. It is now under the regulations of the city prisons, and is appropriated to persons committed for trial, or for further examination. There are nine wards, capable of being allotted to prisoners of different descriptions. Here, also, all night charges, originating in the city, are received, the watch-houses not being allowed, as in other parts of the metropolis, to take the custody of prisoners. Cold and warm baths are provided, and persons confined are admitted to the use of them on proper occasions. Each prisoner has a bed stuffed with straw, and two or three coverlets, according to the weather. All the rooms have fire-places, and the entire building is, perhaps, the neatest and most conveniently arranged among the prisons of London.

DEBTORS' PRISON, WHITECROSS-STREET.—This prison was built between the years 1813 and 1815, for the purpose of distinguishing the confinement of debtors from that of criminals, who were formerly

crowded together in Newgate and the Compter. The first stone was laid in July, 1813, on a plot of ground, once the Peacock Brewhouse, in front of Cripplegate church. The high price of building ground in the metropolis unfortunately, however, too much limited the areas for exercise. But, certainly, the accommodations far exceed those previously possessed by the unfortunate class of persons confined here; while the site, being but little more than a quarter of a mile from St. Paul's, does not, in general, remove the incarcerated out of the sphere of the attentions of their town friends. The building is calculated to contain 400 prisoners.

THE KING'S BENCH PRISON is of great, though uncertain antiquity. The space it occupies is extensive: within its area, there are four pumps of spring and river water. A coffee-house, two public-houses, and shops and stalls for meat, vegetables, and necessaries of almost every description, give the place the appearance of a public market; while the numbers of people walking about, or engaged in various amusements, are little calculated to impress the stranger with the idea of distress, or even of confinement. Here are 224 rooms, or apartments, eight of which are called state rooms, which are much larger than the others. The walls surrounding the prison are fifty feet high, surmounted by *chevaux de frize;* but the liberties, or rules as they are called, comprehend all St. George's Fields, one side of Blackman-street, and part of the Borough High-street, forming an area of about three miles in circumference. These rules are generally purchaseable, after the following rate, by the prisoners: five guineas for small debts; eight guineas for the first hundred pounds of debt, and about half that sum for every hundred pounds. Day-rules, of which three may be obtained in every term, may also be purchased for four shillings and twopence the first day, and three shillings and ten-

pence for the others. Each description of purchasers must give good security to the governor or, as he is called, marshal. Those who purchase the first-mentioned, may take up their residence anywhere within the precincts described; but the day-rules only authorise the prisoner to go out on these days for which they are bought. These privileges render the King's Bench the most desirable place of incarceration for debtors in England; and hence, persons so situated, frequently remove themselves to it by habeas corpus, from the most distant prisons in the kingdom.

FLEET PRISON, Fleet-market. This prison, for debtors, was founded as early as the first year of Richard I. It was the place of confinement for those who had incurred the displeasure of that arbitrary court, the Star Chamber. Persons guilty of contempt in the Court of Chancery, are likewise committed to this place. The liberty of residing within the rules of the prison, may be obtained on furnishing two good securities to the warden for their debt, and paying about three per cent. on its amount. The rules, which extended from Fleet-market on the west, to the London Coffee-house on the east, and from Ludgate-hill on the south, to Fleet-lane on the north, were enlarged by an order of the Court of Common Pleas in the year 1824. Lodgings within these rules are generally bad and very expensive. Charitably disposed persons contribute to the poor's box, placed near the pavement, on the eastern side of Fleet-market; and it should be known, that all the money so collected is fairly and judiciously distributed among objects of real distress within the prison walls.

THE MIDDLESEX HOUSE OF CORRECTION, Coldbath-fields, was built on a plan recommended by the late Mr. Howard, and may be considered, both in construction and discipline, as an experiment on severe principles, to correct and reform convicted criminals. It cost between £70,000 and £80,000; its annual

expenses are about £7000. It was first opened in 1794, and was then designed only as a kind of bridewell; but, having suitable accommodation for various kinds of prisoners, it is now used for all classes of criminals.

TOTHILL-FIELDS' BRIDEWELL.—This is a prison to which the magistrates of Westminster, in general, commit provisionally for imputed crimes, and it is also a receptacle for debtors and vagrants.

NEW PRISON, Clerkenwell.—This building occupies a considerable area between St. James's-walk and Corporation-row. It has been greatly enlarged by the removal of the houses in Short's-buildings, and the enclosure of the late Drill ground. The different wards are commodious and convenient, and the prisoners are properly classed. A neat chapel and school-room are added to the hall.

The MARSHALSEA is a gaol of high antiquity, situated near St. George's church, in the borough. This is the prison for the Palace court.

The BOROUGH COMPTER belongs to the city of London, and extends over five parishes. It is appropriated for the reception of persons guilty of every species of crime.

PENITENTIARY, MILBANK.—The design of a building of this nature, for the punishment, employment, and reformation of offenders of secondary turpitude, formerly punished by transportation for a term of years, was first conceived after the disputes began, which terminated in the separation of this country from America, to which convicts had previously been sent. The project for colonizing New South Wales, by the banishment of convicts thither, was then adopted; and to this, confinement in the Penitentiary has succeeded. The plan of this erection is partly that recommended by Mr. Jeremy Bentham. The front faces the Thames, and consists of a gateway, over which is placed the word "Penitentiary," in

large letters. The external form of the prison is an octagon, enclosing about eighteen acres, on which are erected seven distinct, though connected buildings, all the rooms in which face the house in the centre, where the principal master resides, and has thus a complete view of the whole. The rooms are about twelve feet by seven, and are each furnished with a bedstead, mattrass, rug, bolster, blankets and shirts; they are likewise well warmed and ventilated, and glazed inside, having iron bars without. The building cost between four and five hundred thousand pounds. It was originally intended for the reception of four hundred male and four hundred female prisoners, but is capable of accommodating half as many again. The prisoners are kept regularly employed in various manufactures, and their religious and moral habits strictly attended to. The females are under officers of their own sex, the governor himself being restricted from going round their part of the prison, except in the company of the matron. This circumstance merits particular notice, as it is the first instance in which it has been attempted in this country, to place any number of female prisoners under female officers. The demeanour of the prisoners in the Penitentiary is, in general, quiet and decorous, although some of them entered with very bad characters. They appear sensible of the pains which are taken for their improvement, and are thankful for the commutation of their sentences. The chapel of the prison is a commodious building, where the prisoners attend twice on every Sunday. The prisoners are entitled to a per centage on all their earnings; and the amount is set apart for their use on being discharged. None of the prisoners are allowed to see their friends, except by an order from the committee, and this privilege is granted to those only whose conduct is approved by the governor, chaplain, or master manufacturer. The

interview must take place before an officer, and no provisions of any kind are allowed to be brought in.

This prison is governed by a committee nominated by the privy council, and no person can be admitted to see it without an order from the Secretary of State for the Home Department, or unless he is accompanied by one of the committee.

SPUNGING HOUSES.—In the metropolis are numerous sheriff-officers' houses, or "Spunging Houses," as they are called, from the exorbitant expenses to which they subject such persons as, unfortunately, become their inmates. Here, when arrested, the debtor may remain, either till he has found means of settling with his creditor, or chooses to remove to a public prison.

PAUPERISM AND MENDICITY.

As the condition of the poor and the indigent not only constitutes an important feature in the state of society, but also in the character of the government under which we live, we will, we trust, be excused for introducing the subject shortly in this place.

Poverty has been defined to be that condition in society, where the individual has no surplus labour in store, and, consequently, no property but what is derived from the constant exercise of industry in the various occupations of life; that is, the state of every one who must labour for his subsistence. Indigence, on the other hand, is that condition which implies want, misery, and distress. Indigence, therefore, and not poverty, is the evil against which good government ought to guard. Where indigence exists, the burden of what are called paupers must follow; or, which possibly is much worse, mendicity will ensue. Pauperism and mendicity have, of late years, increased to a most alarming extent, and have, from time to time, caused the interference of parliamentary

investigation, in the hope of being able to check the calamities of improved legislation.

To cure or alleviate the evil, the House of Commons promoted inquiries by a Committee; and the report developed such a body of evidence as to ascertain, beyond all possibility of doubt, the gross and monstrous frauds practised by mendicants in the metropolis, and its immediate neighbourhood. Among other facts ascertained, we will state the following:—

That considerable sums of money have been found in the pockets, and secreted in the clothes of beggars, when brought before magistrates; that beggars make great profits by changing their clothes two or three times a day, and receiving money which was intended for others; that a blind man with a dog has collected as much as thirty shillings a day; and others from three shillings to seven, eight, and even more per day. There are two houses in St. Giles's, which are frequented by considerably more than two hundred beggars. There they have their clubs; and when they meet, drink and feed well, read the papers, and discuss politics! Nobody dares intrude into their clubs except he is a beggar, or introduced by one; the singularity of the spectacle would otherwise draw numbers around them which would hurt *the trade*. Their average daily collections amount to from three to five shillings each per day, two shillings and sixpence of which it is supposed they each spend at night, besides sixpence for a bed. A negro beggar retired some time ago to the West Indies, with *a fortune* of £1500. Beggars have said they go through forty streets in a day, and that it is a poor street that does not yield twopence; and that it is a bad day that does not yield eight shillings, or more. Beggars make great use of *children* in practising upon the feelings of the humane. Children are sent out in the morning with an order not to return without a certain sum. One man will collect several children from

different parents, paying sixpence or ninepence for each during the day. Some children have been regularly let out by the day for two shillings and sixpence, as the price of their hire: a child that is shockingly deformed is worth four shillings a day, and even more. Before the Commons' committee, an instance was stated of an old woman, who keeps *a night school* for the purpose of "instructing children in the *street language*." Beggars evade the vagrant act by carrying matches, and other articles of little value, for sale. There is no form of distress which they do not assume, in order to practice upon the humanity of strangers.

The best security, not only against pauperism and mendicity, but also against the extension of crime, will be found to be in exciting and promoting religious and moral habits among the people.

WORKHOUSES.—From what has been stated, it may be supposed how amazing is the extent of pauperism and mendicity. That there should be such numerous proofs of the benevolent care extended towards the helpless poor, is a proud boast for the nation; but at the same time it is to be lamented, that, out of this good, evil should result, owing to the inefficacious working of the system. In a working country like England, so distinguished for the industrious habits of its natives, it never could have been intended that the necessitous poor—necessitous from want of work, loss of parents and friends—should be supported in idleness, because they "threw themselves on the parish." It cannot be that because individuals are compelled to apply for parish relief, they must be supported without working; but here, however, may be traced much of the burden on parishes; and no work being provided in these houses, their very name was a misnomer. They have, in general, been anything but houses of real industry

and useful reform; within these few years, however, the necessities of the times have promoted a more national system. Instead of allowing these places to be the scenes of idleness and misery, many of them have been properly converted into places of activity and industry.

CHAPTER III.

Commerce and Trade of the Metropolis. Its Port. Docks. Manufactures. Trading Companies. Markets. Fairs, &c.

This Chapter introduces us to a subject that cannot but arouse the gratitude of Englishmen, and the astonishment of foreigners. By its internal activity and external enterprise—its manufactures at home and its commerce abroad—England, in the most trying periods of her history, has been enabled to stand proudly erect amongst the nations. A subject so pregnant with eloquent detail has, as might be expected, been treated by various authors; but lengthened historical reviews in a work like the present, however gratifying they might be to personal feelings, would exceed the limits within which, for the sake of general utility, we must necessarily confine ourselves. Some statements, nevertheless, are requisite in the History of London, which we profess to give; and which we trust will be found to be accurate, if not elaborate.

As to its *commercial history*, London was doubtless a place of considerable trade at a very early period. Tacitus speaks of it as the *nobile emporium* of his time, the great resort of merchants, and, though not a colony at that period, yet, as a city, celebrated for its

commercial intercourse. After this little is known of its trade until the close of the second century, when it is again mentioned as having become "a great and wealthy city." In the year 359, it is said of England, that its commerce was so extended, that eight hundred vessels were employed in the port of London for the export of corn only. Three centuries after, Bede makes mention of it as "an emporium for many nations repairing to it by land and sea." Fitzstephen, who lived in the reign of Henry II., says, "that no city in the world exports its merchandise to such a distance as London." He does not, however, inform us what goods were exported, or to what countries they were carried. But among the imports he mentions gold, spices, and frankincense from Arabia; precious stones from India, and palm oil from Bagdad. Thus it appears, that even in the infancy of European commerce, and at a time when ignorance and barbarity clouded almost every portion of the world, this favoured city had made no inconsiderable progress towards its present celebrity and importance.

The close of the 13th century was a remarkable era in the commercial history of London. In the year 1296, the company of *Merchant Adventurers* was first incorporated by Edward I. The Hanse merchants also received considerable privileges about the same time. In the year 1504, all the ancient privileges of the Hanse merchants were confirmed to them by statute; and all the previous acts which had been made in derogation of them were annulled. In 1553, a great geographical and mercantile discovery was made by a company instituted for the purpose of prosecuting discoveries, under the direction of Sebastian Cabot, a merchant of Bristol. One of the ships fitted out by this company accidentally fell into the bay of St. Nicholas, in the White Sea, and landing at Archangel, obtained from the Czar of Russia peculiar privileges of trade with the subjects of his dominions.

The Russia or Moscovy merchants were incorporated in the reign of Mary, and had their charter subsequently confirmed by Elizabeth. This princess likewise obtained an exclusive grant to the English of the whole foreign commerce of that extensive empire, which they continued to enjoy for a long period.

It was not, in fact, till the reign of Elizabeth, that England began to feel her true weight in the scale of commerce. She then planned some settlements in America, particularly in Virginia. About this period the civil dissensions in Flanders caused multitudes of families to flock to London, and to bring with them their trades and their riches. This great addition to the population of the city, and the consequent increase of its commerce, led to the erection of the Royal Exchange by Sir Thomas Gresham. In 1759, the *Levant* company, and also the *Eastland* company, were established. On the 31st of December, 1600, the queen granted the first patent to the East India company. The first adventure proving successful, the company continued its exertions, and hence has arisen the most splendid and powerful mercantile association that probably ever existed. Assurance and Insurance companies were now established in London; and the company of Spanish merchants was likewise incorporated. So that the reign of Elizabeth may be justly considered as an era in the commercial history of the metropolis.

In the reign of James I., the progress of the foreign trade was greatly increased. The tonnage and number of ships in the port of London was considerably augmented. Many of the patents granted by Elizabeth were annulled, and the trade thrown open. Among the circumstances which occasioned the vast increase of trade during this reign, may be reckoned the colonization of America and the West India Islands. The discoveries, likewise, which were every day made in different quarters of the globe, had a

powerful effect in stimulating numbers of speculating individuals to commercial exertion and adventure.

During the peaceful part of the reign of Charles I., the commerce of the metropolis continued to make a most rapid progress. The augmented commerce of its port may in some measure be estimated by the amount of *ship-money* which this unfortunate monarch imposed on the city, in 1634. About this time, *Prices-current* were first printed; and, in 1635, an order was issued by the king in council, to "the post-master of England for foreign parts," requiring him to open a regular communication, by running posts between the metropolis and Edinburgh, Ireland, and many other places.

Previous to the year 1640, it was usual for the merchants to deposit their money in the Tower Mint. But this deposit lost all its credit by the ill-advised measure of a forced loan, which the king thought proper to make. The merchants, in consequence, were obliged to trust their money to their apprentices and clerks. The circumstances of the times, and opportunity, holding forth great inducements to frauds, many masters lost at once both their servants and their money. Some remedy became necessary. Merchants now began to lodge cash in the hands of the goldsmiths, whom they commissioned also to receive and pay for them. Thus originated the practice of *Banking;* for the goldsmiths soon perceived the advantage that might be derived from possessing disposable capital, and began to allow a regular interest for all sums committed to their care; and at the same time, they commenced the discounting of merchants' bills, at a superior rate of interest to what they paid.

In 1651, the celebrated navigation act was passed, the provisions of which greatly contributed to promote the naval and commercial greatness of Britain. This year coffee was introduced into London by a Turkey merchant. The sugar trade was now likewise

established; and upwards of 20,000 pieces of cloth were sent annually to Turkey, in return for the commodities of that country.

The plague, in 1665, wholly suspended the commerce of London; so that scarcely a single foreign vessel entered the port for nearly three years. The great fire also occasioned incalculable loss to many of the most opulent merchants. Notwithstanding these disastrous events, the spirit of the survivors was roused to uncommon exertions; and in the course of a few years the city rose from its ashes with greater magnificence and splendour. India muslins were first worn in 1670, and soon became prevalent. In this year also, the Hudson's Bay Company was established, with very extensive powers. The Greenland Fishing Company was incorporated in the year 1693, and the institution of the Bank of England rendered the following year justly memorable in the commercial annals of the metropolis.

The commerce to the East Indies having greatly increased, and many disputes arising relative to exclusive trade, a new joint-stock company was incorporated in London, in the year 1698, by the name of "The English Company trading to the East Indies." The existence of two rival companies, however, soon gave rise to innumerable disputes; to remedy which, their consolidation took place in the time of Queen Anne, by the title of "The United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies."

During the reign of George I., the trade of London made but very little progress, owing to the South Sea scheme, the Scottish rebellion, and the Spanish war. But in 1732, commerce began to revive; its advances, however, were comparatively slow, till 1748, after which it extended, with uncommon rapidity. The next check it sustained was occasioned by the American war. But no sooner was peace signed, than it proceeded with renewed vigour. In 1784, the net sum

of duties levied in the port of London amounted to the vast sum of £4,472,091. From this period to 1790, the commerce of London continued uniformly increasing. In that year, however, in consequence of the commencement of the war, the value of exports was upwards of two millions less than the preceding year, though the imports scarcely suffered any diminution. Numerous bankruptcies were the consequence; but the timely interference of the legislature, and the voting of exchequer bills to the amount of £5,000,000, for the use of such persons as could give sufficient security, soon checked the growing distress.

In the course of the three succeeding years, the appearance of things was entirely changed for the better; and have continued gradually to improve up to the present time; and London is acknowledged by all to be the first commercial city in the world.

The introduction of steamboats has greatly increased the trade of London. The first of these vessels that had been seen on the Thames arrrived at London, from Glasgow, in 1816. They are now very numerous, and of various tonnage, and depart from, and arrive at London with a regularity hitherto unprecedented; regular traders ply between London and the following places, among many others:—

Ostend, Calais, Rotterdam, Hull, twice a week; Boulogne, Hamburgh, Dublin, Falmouth, Edinburgh, Plymouth, weekly; Margate, Ramsgate, Richmond, &c., daily. These packets are all fitted up with great neatness, and with a view to the comfort of the passengers.

To form a practical idea of the amount of the shipping of the port of London, a trip by one of the river steamers to Gravesend or Margate, in favourable weather, is recommended. From the moment of embarking to the time of landing, the interest of the stranger will be kept constantly alive by successive objects of wonder and admiration. From any of the

heights about Gravesend, which command a view of the windings of the river, as many as 1000 vessels will frequently be seen wending their way up or down, or quietly waiting a return of the tide.

The trade of London has been frequently augmented by means of the railway communication that now exists between the metropolis and all parts of the country. The following are the principal Railway Termini in London:—

London and Birmingham, Euston-square, New-road.
London and Blackwell, New London-street, City.
London, Croydon, Dover and Brighton, Old Kent-road.
Eastern Counties, Shoreditch.
Great Western, Paddington.
London and Greenwich, London-bridge, Southwark.
Northern and Eastern, Shoreditch.
South Western, Nine Elms, Vauxhall.

THE PORT OF LONDON,

As actually occupied by shipping, extends from London Bridge to Deptford, being a distance of nearly four miles, and from four to five hundred yards average in breadth; but when the House of Commons commenced an investigation respecting the port of London, the land accommodations were found to consist of the legal quays, and the sufferance wharfs. The former were appointed in the year 1558. They occupy the north bank of the river, with some interruptions from London-bridge to the western extremity of Tower-ditch, including a frontage of about 1464 feet. This, with the aid of the sufferance wharfs, was totally inadequate to the purposes of commercial accommodation. It was not, however, till the year 1793, that a plan was projected for making wet docks in the port of London, in Wapping, in the Isle of Dogs, and at Rotherhithe. Constituting, as they do,

such grand and truly national works, and forming a sort of era in the history of the metropolitan commerce, they merit particular notice.

Owing to the crowded state of the river, and the extent of the quays, a committee was appointed to consider of the best mode of relief; and in consequence, Mr. Daniel Alexander was named to make a survey and prepare plans and estimates for forming docks at Wapping, with the addition of a canal leading to them from that part of Blackwall where the present East India docks have been made, and along a line where the West India docks have been since formed. The plans and estimates were laid before a general meeting of merchants, on the 22nd December, 1795, when they were unanimously approved of, and a subscription of £800,000 was laid down, in a few hours, for carrying the same into execution. The application of the merchants experienced considerable opposition from the corporation of London, and from private interests, but ultimately the merchants succeeded as will be perceived by the following notices—

West India Docks.—The funds for executing these docks, as already stated, were raised by the subscriptions of private individuals. The proprietors are repaid an interest, not to exceed ten per cent., by a rate or charge upon all the shipping and merchandise entering the dock, and the trade of the company has hitherto enabled them to pay that dividend. By the act passed in July, 1799, all West India produce coming to the port of London must be unloaded in these docks. The plan comprehends two docks: the northern one for unloading the ships arrived from the West Indies, containing thirty acres, and capable of containing 300 West Indiamen; and the southern for loading outward bound ships, containing twenty-four acres, and capable of containing two hundred West Indiamen. The former was begun February 3, 1800, and opened the 27th of August, 1802, and it is sur-

rounded by extensive ranges of warehouses, capable of accommodating the whole of the West India trade, in which warehouses the goods are lodged until the duty is paid. The dock of twenty-four acres was completed and opened in 1805. These docks are situated across the narrowest part of the Isle of Dogs, which is formed by a circuitous course the river takes, leaving this almost a peninsula; so that the docks communicate with the river, at both extremities of the island, at Blackwall and Limehouse. The soil was, besides, very favourable for the purpose of making docks. for the whole of the ground that had been gained by the embanking from the river and the marsh, before it was begun to be cut, was from six to seven feet under the level of high water, so that the ground which was cut out from the docks was all wanted for making up the quays. The canal to the southward of the West India docks enables ships to avoid the circuitous navigation of the Isle of Dogs, by which a distance of several miles is saved. The expense for making it is paid from the national consolidated fund, to be repaid by a small tax upon all shipping coming to the port. The management is intrusted to a committee of the corporation of the city of London.

The LONDON DOCKS are situated between Ratcliff-highway and the Thames. The funds by which these docks were executed was raised in the same way as that of the West India docks, and will be repaid in a similar manner. The first stone of the works was laid on June 26th, 1802, and the dock covering twenty acres was opened January 31st, 1705. It is capable of receiving five hundred vessels, and has a basin attached to it for the reception of small craft. Extensive warehouses are erected on the north quay of the dock, and also a large tobacco warehouse. The immense number of houses which were taken down for the purpose of making this dock, have much increased the expense of the execution. The great trade of the

company consists in the general traffic of the port; the tobacco warehouse alone covers four acres of ground, and goverment pay the company £15,000 annually, as rent for it. The business is conducted by twenty-four directors chosen from among the proprietors, together with the lord mayor for the time being. A second dock of 14 acres was afterwards added and communicates with the Thames at Shadwell dock.

EAST INDIA DOCKS.—In the year 1803, the principal proprietors of East India shipping, seeing the beneficial effects derived from the West India docks, came to the resolution of following the example, by having docks made for the accommodation of East India ships, and for the security of goods brought home by them, which the state of the river, and the abuses practised on it had rendered highly necessary. Having succeeded in carrying a bill through parliament, and having opened a subscription to the amount of £300,000, the directors made purchase of the Brunswick dock at Blackwall, with a view of converting it into a dock for loading the outward-bound shipping. The dock which received its name in honour of the reigning family, was begun and finished by Mr. Perry, from his private fortune, and affords ample proof of his wealth and enterprising spirit. In addition to this, the East India dock company have formed a large dock of eighteen acres, for the purpose of unloading the homeward-bound ships, with a commodious basin and embrazures to it. This dock was begun in the end of 1803, and completed in 1806. All East India produce coming to this port, must be unloaded in these docks. The business is conducted by thirteen directors of the East India company.

ST. KATHERINE'S DOCKS are situated on the east side of Tower-hill, the principal entrance being through a handsome gateway at the north-west corner

of the immense pile of warehouses. The first stone was laid May 3rd, 1827, and the ceremony of opening was conducted with great pomp, October 25th, 1828, when nine vessels, of from 400 to 500 tons, entered to load and discharge their freight. They are the property of a joint stock company, and are managed by a board of directors. The situation, is very convenient, being as near as possible to the seat of business; and as the docks are surrounded with walls, they are entitled to all the privileges of the warehousing system. They occupy a space of twenty-four acres, thirteen of which are occupied by storehouses. These docks can receive yearly 1400 trading vessels, besides craft for loading and discharging.

MANUFACTURES AND TRADE.

London has been long celebrated for its manufactures as well as its commerce. In 1327, the skinners were a very wealthy and numerous class of citizens. Cloth-workers of different kinds were also noted for the excellence of their goods. In 1556, a manufactory of the finer sort of glass was established in Crutched Friars; and flint-glass not exceeded by that of Venice, was made at the same time at the Savoy. About 1561, the manufacture of knit stockings was introduced, in consequence of the ingenuity of an apprentice, who, happening to see a pair from Mantua at the house of an Italian, made another pair exactly similar to them, which he presented to the Earl of Pembroke. A manufacture of knives was shortly after begun by one Thomas Matthews, in Fleet-street. Coaches were introduced in 1564, and in less than twenty years, they became an article of extensive manufacture. In the following year, the manufacture of pins was established; and soon after that of needles. The making of "earthen furnaces, earthen fire pots, and earthen ovens, transportable," began about the

tenth year of Queen Elizabeth; an Englishman of the name of Thomas Dyer, having brought the art from Spain. In 1577, pocket watches were brought from Germany, and the manufacture of them immediately commenced. In the reign of Charles I. saltpetre was made in such quantities, as not only to supply the whole of England, but the greater part of the Continent. The manufacture of silk, as well as of various articles of silver, had also become extremely prevalent. The printing of calicoes commenced in 1676, and about the same time, looms for weaving were brought from Holland.

The Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1685, having expelled many industrious individuals from France, a considerable number came over to England, and settled in Spitalfields. By them, several of our manufactures were improved, particularly that of silk, which now employs many thousand hands, and many other manufactures were introduced. Since that period, the productions have greatly increased, both in extent and value, in articles of elegance and utility, such as cutlery, jewellery, gold and silver ornaments, japan ware, cut glass, books, cabinet work, &c., as well as commodities requiring a great mart for their consumption, export, or sale, viz., porter, English wines, vinegar, refined sugar, soap, &c., &c.

The trade of London may be divided into the *wholesale* and *retail* business, for they are completely separate, and under different systems of management. The great number and variety of shops that are dispersed over the metropolis, the diversity, richness, and multiplicity of articles displayed for sale, and the great mass of persons dependent on, and intimately connected with the same, are calculated to excite the astonishment of foreigners, and of individuals who are not conversant with the subject. The wholsale trade is chiefly carried on in the city, and in the vicinity of the river, where large warehouses and counting-

houses are established. The retail trade is scattered through all the public streets; in which spacious and handsome shops are opened for the display of all the necessaries, as well as all the luxuries of life. The shopkeepers of London, are an active, industrious, and respectable class. The regular and perpetual intercourse, which subsists between London and all parts of the kingdom, by means of railways, coaches, waggons, vans, steamboats, barges, &c., constitutes a marked feature of this wonderful city.

We will now attend a little to some of the principal *companies* connected with the trade and commerce of London.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND, Threadneedle-street.—The year 1694 became a most memorable one in the annals of the metropolis, by the institution of this company, which was incorporated by charter, July 27; and the effect of which, on the trade, prosperity, revenues, and government of England, are, perhaps, incalculable. It is the most important institution of the kind that exists in any part of the world, and the *history of banking* furnishes no example that can be at all compared with it, for the range and multiplicity of its transactions, and for the vast influence which it possesses over public and national affairs.

Though banks are of considerable antiquity, it is only in modern times that their power has been so extensively manifested. Between two and three centuries before the Christian era a banker of Sicyon, a city of Pelopennesus, is mentioned by Plutarch in his life of Aratus. His business appears to have consisted in exchanging one kind of money for another. The money-changers of Judea, who were driven out of the Temple by our Saviour, were probably of the description mentioned in the parable of the talents; that is, such as made a trade of receiving money in deposit, and paying interest for it. From Judea, the institution of banks was brought into Europe; and

the Lombard Jews are said to have kept benches or banks, in the market places of Italy, for the exchange of money and bills.

In the 14th century the business of banking was carried on by the drapers of Barcelona, in Spain, as it was in after ages by the goldsmiths in London: in both which cases these respective traders were considered the most substantial among the citizens. The bank of Barcelona was established by the magistrates, in 1401, upon the security of the funds of the city.

The bank of Amsterdam, which became proverbial for extensive usefulness, and unviolated faith, was founded by the magistrates and merchants of Holland in 1609; and after the credit of the foreign merchants had declined in England, or rather, after the spirit and enterprise of our own merchants had obtained for themselves those advantages which had been previously enjoyed by foreigners, the goldsmiths became the principal bankers in London, and more particularly so during the time of the civil wars, and until the revolution of 1688. Several schemes had, however from time to time been promulgated for a public bank; yet it was not till 1694, that the public mind was sufficiently awakened to the utility of such an establishment, and that legal provision was made to carry it into effect. Great opposition was raised by the monied men and others who alleged that it would engross the money, stock, and riches of the kingdom, and eventually render the king absolute.

All difficulties, however, were at length overcome; and an act passed the legislature, in 1694, empowering their majesties to incorporate the subscribers under the title of "The Governor and Company of the Bank of England," in consideration of the loan of £1,200,000 granted to government, for which the subscribers received nearly 8 per cent.; the subscription for this large sum was completed within ten

days. The charter directs, that the management of the bank shall be vested in a governor, deputy-governor, and twenty-four directors; thirteen, or more, to constitute a court, of which the governor or deputy-governor must be one. They are to have a perpetual succession, a common seal, and the usual powers of corporations, as making bye-laws, &c., but must not borrow money under their common seal without the authority of parliament. They are not to trade, nor suffer any person in trust for them to trade in any goods or merchandise; but they may deal in bills of exchange, in bullion, and foreign gold and silver coin, &c. They may also lend money on pawns and pledges, and sell those which shall not be redeemed within three months after the time agreed upon. But this has been little acted on. No dividend is to be made but by consent of a general court, and that only out of the interest, profit, and produce arising by such dealing as the act of parliament allows. The erection of this celebrated bank, according to the declaration of one of its first directors, not only relieved the ministry from their frequent processions into the city for borrowing money on the best public securities, at an interest of 10 or 12 per cent., but likewise gave life and currency to double or triple the value of its capital in other branches of public credit.

The company has carried their transactions in bills of exchange to a very great extent. They *discount* bills for merchants and bankers at five per cent. interest; and there is an amount of several millions of money constantly floating, devoted to this object alone. The business is reduced to a complete system, as regular as it is liberal. The bills must not have more than three months to run: the bankers or merchants who present them (for persons engaged in retail trade are not admitted to the direct benefit of these discounts), must be able to swear that they are worth at least twelve or fifteen thousand pounds;

the town bills must be sent in every Wednesday, but the country bills are admitted every day, each party possessing such privilege being limited to a certain weekly amount, which, however, is great, and the next day the bills are discounted or returned; and where any bill is dishonoured, the party on whom the bill is drawn, need not expect his bills to pass there in future. Although the discounting of some bills may be refused on one Wednesday, they may be attended to the succeeding week—the refusal may possibly have been occasioned by the party having been previously accommodated with the prescribed amount. Each member has a fair proportion of the amount set apart for the discounting of notes; and no deposits are required. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the company for the benefits rendered to the commercial world by this laudable practice, which has enabled merchants and bankers to embark in undertakings, for their own advantage, the success of the revenue, and the prosperity of our general commerce.

Nature of the Stocks, &c.—The stocks, or public funds, comprise the aggregate of all the loans which have been advanced to government for defraying the ordinary, and extraordinary expenses of the nation; and generally speaking, constitute what is called the *national debt*. The funding system was first practised by the Venetians, in 1171, but was not legally established in England till the incorporation of the bank. It consists in the due payment of the interest of every loan, by means of the taxes and duties which are imposed and levied for the service of the state.

The national debt is divided into various portions, under the following denominations.:—Bank stock, new 4 per cents.; 3 per cents., consols; 3 per cents., 1726; 3 per cents., 1797; 4 per cents., consols;

3 per cents., reduced long annuities; 3 per cents., imperial annuities; imperial annuities, for twenty-five years; Irish annuities, for fifteen years; deferred stock; South-sea stock; 3 per cents., new South-sea annuities; 3 per cents., old South-sea annuities; omnium; exchequer, navy, victualling, ordnance, and treasury bills.

This variety of denominations has arisen, partly from the exigencies under which the loans were raised, and partly from the terms on which they were negociated, either on annuities, or on the funded property of incorporated companies. In raising loans, a douceur is occasionally given by government of an annuity for a limited time; such are called terminable, or redeemable annuities. But the regular stocks, on which the common interest is paid, are called perpetual, or irredeemable annuities.

New loans are paid at stated periods, by instalments of ten or fifteen per cent., and the terms on which they are made, generally occasion an increase on different kinds of stock, to the amount of three per cent., and upwards, (according to the emergency and state of the money market,) more than the sum borrowed. Thus for every £100 capital, new stock is created to the amount of £103. The difference is called the *bonus*, and the aggregate of the additional stock of different kinds, is termed *omnium*. If these be disposed of separately, before all the instalments are paid, the different articles are called *scrip*, which is an abbreviation of subscription.

The funded debt is that portion of the whole, for which taxes have been appropriated by parliament, to discharge the interest regularly. But as the necessities of government frequently occasion the borrowing of money for which no opportunity to make such provision has been afforded, this money is called the *unfunded debt*. And of this description are all sums due upon the exchequer, navy, victualling, and ordnance

bills, which are issued under legislative authority by those different offices, and which bear an interest of two-pence or three-pence per day, for every £100 till paid off. The value of the stocks is perpetually fluctuating, the variations being occasioned by unfounded, as well as real causes. Any occurrence, by which the security of the state is either hazarded or strengthened, though one may be as imaginary as the other, has an immediate effect upon the price, which will either advance or fall, as the news may be considered good or bad. The gaining of a victory, the signing of an armistice, and the conclusion of a peace, have each a direct influence on the rise of the stocks; whilst, on the other hand, the loss of a battle, the death of a sovereign, the commencement and protraction of war, are equally certain to lower the funds; even the mere report of a momentous event, will frequently lead to a considerable alteration of price. The quantity of stock in the market will, also, have an effect, as purchasers will be more or less numerous.

The manner of purchasing stock is to give a specific number of pounds for a nominal hundred pounds. Thus if the purchase be made in the 3 per cents., and the current price be £80, that sum is paid for £100 stock, which yields a dividend of £3 per annum. Persons acquainted with stock-jobbing, will sometimes obtain a considerable advantage, by transferring stock from one branch of the funds to another, the variations in the value of the different stocks, not being always adjusted to their proper level.

In the purchase and sale of stocks it is necessary to keep in mind, that the interest due on them from the time of the last payment of the dividends is always taken into the current price, and the seller never receives any consideration for it, except in the case of India bonds and exchequer bills, when the interest due is calculated to the day of sale, and

paid for by the purchaser, independently of the price agreed on.

It should also be remembered, that as the interest on the different stocks is paid at different times, some have always a quarter's interest due on them more than others, and this circumstance occasions a seemingly considerable difference of value when there is none in reality.

Every possible degree of facility, consistent with prudence, is given to the purchase and sale of stocks; yet the intervention of a stock-broker is generally thought requisite, as the identity of the persons making the transfer must be vouched for, before the witnessing clerk will allow his signature to be made in the bank-books. All transfers of stock are made on the appointed transfer days; and no stock can be transferred twice on the same day. The space between the shutting and opening the books of any stock is usually about six weeks. At the time of shutting, the dividends due are carried to a separate account, and cannot be transferred with the stock of the proprietor, the warrants being filled up in the name in which the stock stands when the books are shut. The dividends on the bank stock are payable the day after they become due; but those on the stocks of other companies, and on the government funds, are not payable for about a week after they become due.

Stock-Broker.—This is a business which has grown up with the state of things in the money-market of this country—a condition of credit and paper-circulation which many have foretold to be of fatal consequence to the stability of property. The business of buying and selling different portions of stock, as persons possessed or wanted money, in process of time has become of so complex a character, that an ordinary man of business cannot, with ease and convenience to himself, conduct his own affairs on

the "Stock Exchange;" at all events it was not unpleasant to the general feeling of fund-holders, engaged, as many of them were and are, in active trades in different parts of the kingdom, to have the opportunity of being able to conduct their money concerns with the Bank of England by means of agents or brokers. This naturally enough gave rise to the profession of "Stock-broker;" and that character is now so completely ingrafted into the system that private individuals scarcely ever think of conducting their transactions with banks, except through the medium of a professed broker, who has his *per centage* for his trouble.

Stock Exchange.—The Stock-brokers used to assemble and transact business in the Bank rotunda; but the inconvenience to which they were subjected, and the general interruption of public business occasioned by the Stock-jobbers who intermingled amongst them, gave rise to the plan of the New Stock Exchange. This building is situated at the upper end of Capel-street, opposite the east door of the bank; but there are also entrances to it from Shorter's-court and New-court, in Throgmorton-street, and from the Hercules-tavern in Broad-street. It was erected in 1804, and is very conveniently arranged and handsomely fitted up. No person is allowed to transact business but regular stock-brokers, and they must be ballotted for annually by a committee; and, on being chosen, subscribe ten guineas each. Under the clock, at the south end of the spacious room in which the subscribers assemble, is a tablet for the purpose of exhibiting the names of such defaulters as have not been able or willing to settle their losses on agreements made for the purchase or transfer of stock, and who are not again allowed to become members. At the north end is a pluviometer, as well as a list of the original proprietors of the building. On the east side is a recess, with an elevated desk, for the use of the

"Commissioners for the Redemption of the National Debt," who make their purchases four times a week, viz., on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, precisely at twelve o'clock. No other business is transacted here than that which relates solely to the purchase and sale of stock in the public funds, exchequer bills, India bonds, and similar securities. The hours are from ten to four.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.—The first idea of this company was formed in the reign of Queen Elizabeth: but it has since experienced many alterations. It was chartered December 31st, 1600. Its first shares or subscriptions were originally £50, and its capital only £366,891 5s.; but the directors having a considerable dividend to make in 1676, it was agreed to join the profits to the capital, by which the shares were doubled, and consequently each became worth £100. and the capital £739,782 10s.; to which capital, if £963,639, the profits and stock of the company to the year 1684, be added, the whole will be found to be £1,703,102.—With their capital, commerce was established by the Red Sea, to Arabia, Persia, India, China, and various islands in the Indian ocean. About the commencement of the protectorate of Oliver Cromwell, however, it was imagined that opening the trade to the East Indies would benefit the whole nation; commerce was made general, and thus continued till 1657, when experience having proved that the separate trade was detrimental to the undertakers, they were, for the good of the whole, united to the company by the legislature. In 1698, a new East India company was established which caused a dissolution of the old company, after the expiration of a certain term which was allowed for the disposal of their effects. The two companies were, however, ultimately united in 1702, when a new charter was granted to them under the title of "The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies." In the 6th of

Queen Anne, the united company lent the government £200,000. In 1730, the company obtained a renewal of their charter from parliament, notwithstanding the powerful opposition which was raised against it by a considerable body of merchants and others, in London, Bristol, and Liverpool, who had associated for the purpose of overthrowing the old joint-stock-trade, and of establishing a new regulated company upon its ruins.

In 1774, the East India Company agreed to advance to government one million sterling at three per cent. interest, in consideration of having their exclusive privileges prolonged for fourteen years beyond the term prescribed in the act of parliament of 1730. By the act which legalized this agreement, the company were empowered to borrow any sum not exceeding the million that was wanted, on bonds, under their common seal, at similar interest to that which they had covenanted to receive from the state.

The war which broke out between England and France in 1774, produced an extraordinary change in the company's concerns in India, and ultimately led to their territorial aggrandizement.

The company afterwards obtained a renewal of their charter; which limited them to places lying to the north of 11 deg. of south latitude, and between 64 and 150 deg. of east longitude. To other parts within the specified limits, ships of 350 tons burden may trade, and under certain restrictions.

South-Sea Company.—The business of this company consists in receiving interest of their capital, which is in the hands of government, and in the payment of dividends, and transferring stock. It is managed by a governor, sub-governor, deputy-governor, and twenty-one directors.

The South-Sea-house, in which the affairs of the company are transacted, is a handsome edifice of the Doric order, situated in Threadneedle street. It en-

closes a quadrangle surrounded by a piazza with Tuscan pillars. The offices are well laid out, and all the apartments convenient and handsome.

GAS-LIGHT COMPANIES.—The *London-gas-light company* was the first established in London, having been incorporated in 1812. Its works are situated in the Horse-ferry-road, Westminster; Brick-lane, Spitalfields; and the Curtain-road, and consume annually upwards of 30,000 chaldrons of coal. The main pipes extend about one hundred and thirty miles.

THE CITY GAS COMPANY, Dorset-street, Salisbury-square.

THE SOUTH LONDON COMPANY, at Bankside.

THE IMPERIAL GAS-LIGHT COMPANY, Pancras and Whitechapel.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.—The business of Insurance against loss by fire, is entirely carried on in offices established for that purpose. Their care in providing engines and firemen, the known honour of the governors and directors, and the general respectability of the establishments, have destroyed all possibility of competition by individuals. Some offices are established in the large towns and cities of the kingdom, independent of those in the metropolis; but they are few in number, and their operations merely local, while the offices in London, by means of agents duly authorised, and properly stationed, extend their beneficial relations to all parts of the realm. There are likewise several offices for insuring lives, granting annuities, &c., and others which unite both branches of the business. The following is a list of the principal offices in the metropolis, with the years in which they are instituted :—

FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES.

BEACON, Chatham-place and Regent-street, 1823.
BRITISH, Cornhill and Strand, 1799.

COUNTY, Regent-street, 1807.
HAND-IN-HAND, New Bridge-street, 1696.
IMPERIAL, Cornhill and St. James'-street, 1803.
PHŒNIX, Lombard-street and Charing-cross, 1782.
PROTECTOR, Old Jewry, 1825.
SUN, Cornhill and Craig's-court, Charing-cross, 1710.
WESTMINSTER, King-street, Covent-garden, 1717.

LIFE INSURANCE OFFICES.

AMICABLE, Serjeant's Inn, Fleet-street, 1706.
ASYLUM, Cornhill, 1825.
CROWN, New Bridge-street, 1826.
BRITISH COMMERCIAL, Cornhill, 1823.
EAGLE, Cornhill and Regent-street, 1807.
ECONOMIC, New Bridge-street, 1823.
EQUITABLE, New Bridge-street, 1762.
EUROPEAN, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, 1818.
HOPE, New Bridge-street and Oxford-street, 1807.
LAW, Lincoln's-inn-fields, 1823.
LONDON ASSOCIAITON, Cannon street, 1806.
PELICAN, Lombard-street and Spring-gardens, 1797.
PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, Regent-street, 1806.
MEDICAL AND CLERICAL, Great Russell-street, 1824.
ROCK, New Bridge-street, 1806.
STAR, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, 1817.
UNITED EMPIRE, Waterloo-place, 1825.
UNIVERSITY, Suffolk-street, Cockspur-street, 1825.
WESTMINSTER, Strand and Cornhill, 1792.

FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE OFFICES.

ALBION, New Bridge-street, 1805.
ALLIANCE, Swithin's-lane, 1824.
ATLAS, Cheapside, 1808.
GLOBE, Cornhill and Pall Mall, 1803.
GUARDIAN, Lombard-street, 1821.
LONDON ASSURANCE, Birchin-lane, 1720.
NORWICH UNION, New Bridge-street, 1797.
PALLADIUM, Waterloo-place, 1824.
ROYAL EXCHANGE, at the Royal Exchange, 1720.
UNION, Cornhill, 1714.

Several of these offices are remarkable as buildings. The *Phœnix*, at Charing-cross, is one of the chastest specimens of architecture in the metropolis. The *Pelican*, Lombard-street, is likewise a very correct specimen, and ornamented with a beautiful group, executed at Coade's manufactory, by M. de Varre,

from designs by Lady Diana Beauclerc. The *County* and *Provident*, Regent-street, is a noble building; the front consists of a rusticated arcade of five arches, over which is a façade of Corinthian columns, supporting an entablature, parapet, and balustrade, the whole surmounted by a colossal statue of Britannia, with her attendant lion. The *Union*, in Cornhill, is adorned with two fine figures of Strength and Justice; the former is much admired for its muscular expression. The *Globe* is a noble building, erected in 1820, and fitted up with great elegance.

LIST OF STATIONS, WHERE THE FIRE ENGINES OF THE DIFFERENT COMPANIES ARE KEPT.

Bedford-Bury	Westminster.
Bishopsgate-street, Sweet Apple-court	Union.
Carter-lane, near St. Paul's . .	Phœnix.
Carter-lane, Tooley-street . .	Phœnix.
Carter-lane, Tooley-street . .	Royal Exchange.
Commercial road, Lambeth . .	Sun.
Crown-street, Soho	Phœnix.
Earl-street, Blackfriars . .	Atlas.
Earl street, Blackfriars . . .	Globe.
Holborn bridge	Sun.
Horseferry-road	Globe.
Horsleydown, John-street . .	Sun.
Hungerford-market . . .	British.
Hungerford-market . . .	Imperial.
King-street, Portman-square . .	Union.
Little Bridge-street, Blackfriars .	Hand in Hand.
Lower East Smithfield . . .	Imperial.
Lower Nightingale-lane. . .	Royal Exchange.
Magdalen-street, Tooley-street .	Guardian.
Ratcliffe-highway . . .	Sun.
Regent-street	County.
Swallow street	Sun.
Thomas-street, Southwark . .	London Assurance.
Threadneedle-street . . .	London Assurance.
Union-street, Blackfriars . .	Norwich Union.
Upper Thames-street, Lambeth hill	Royal Exchange.
Warwick-street, Golden-square .	Royal Exchange.
Water-lane, Fleet-street . .	Beacon.
Wellclose-square	Phœnix.
Well-street, Oxford-street . .	Westminster.
Weston-street, Bermondsey . .	Albion.
West Smithfield	Hope.
Whitechapel, Church-lane . .	Beacon.

POST OFFICE, ST. MARTIN'S-LE-GRAND.

The post-office system may well be deemed the proudest of all the peculiarities and improvements of this commercial city. It is now in a wonderful perfect state, and is one of the best conducted in Europe. Letters and parcels are now dispatched by mail coaches and railways. The receipts of the post-office, which originally amounted only to £5000, and, until 1783, never surpassed £146,000 yearly, now amount to the enormous sum of £2,400,000. Mails are made up, in London, as follows:—

France—made up daily, and due daily.
Belgium—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.
Holland—Tuesday and Friday.
Hamburgh, Sweden, and Norway—Tuesday and Friday.
Dublin—twice a-day.
Waterford—daily.
Donaghadee—daily.
Guernsey and Jersey—Tuesday and Friday.
Madeira, Vigo, Cadiz, Oporto, and Gibraltar—every Tuesday.
Malta, Greece, and Ionian Islands—twice a month.
Syria, Egypt, and India, via Southampton—first and sixteenth of each month.
Brazil, Buenos Ayres, and Canary Islands—first Tuesday in the month.
America, via Liverpool—once a-week during summer months, and fortnightly during winter.

Besides the general post-office, there are above sixty receiving houses in different parts of the metropolis, which are open every day except Sundays.

MARKETS, AND SUPPLIES.

London is, perhaps, better supplied with every article of domestic consumption than any other town in England, both as to quality and quantity; consequently, provisions are as cheap in the heart of the metropolis, as in those more nearly surrounded by the productions. Considering the amazing extent of surface which London itself occupies, the large portion of

its environs devoted to rural dwellings, and the absence of all useful cultivation for miles around—the stranger might be inclined to ask, whether the inhabitants are averse to the wholesome luxuries of fruit and vegetables, whether milk be an article known amongst them; and whether horses are ever indulged with their natural food. But, in truth, these articles are in the greatest abundance, and at reasonable prices; while, at the same time, nine-tenths of the inhabitants have not the least conception whence they spring. The market-gardener, at some miles distance, toils during the day in rearing the sources of his support, and at night loads his cart, wends his way to town, where he arrives in time to unload, dispose of his goods, generally by contract, and retraces his way homeward before the bustle of the day begins. The lazy Londoner, rising at eight or nine, is in the habit of seeing the market well stocked with a fresh succession of vegetables, without enquiring whether they have grown there, or dropped from the moon. 10,000 acres of ground, occupied in kitchen garden, would not suffice for the consumption of London, did not art lend its assistance, and ingenuity prompt measures to render the soil as productive as nature could allow. The radish and onion crops scarcely shoot above the ground, ere the cauliflowers from the frames are planted among them, as thickly as if the spot was solely devoted to them. By the time the radishes are gathered and disposed of, the cauliflowers are fit for earthing up; this being done, cabbages are planted between them. When these come to maturity and are removed, the ground is cleared and planted with endive and celery. Thus, on the same spot of ground, is produced a fresh succession of crops, which in successful seasons are highly profitable. The annual average produce of such of these gardens as are wholly cultivated by the spade, has been stated to amount to £200 per acre; and taking the whole

10,000 acres collectively, with about 3,000 acres devoted to the production of fruit, they produce provisions to the value of £1,050,000 annually, for the London markets; and this exclusive of the fruit from Kent and Surrey, the grapes and apples from the continent, and an immense quantity of potatoes sent from distant provinces of Great Britain and Ireland.

The ORCHARDS and FRUIT GARDENS are laid out with as much ingenuity as their vegetable brethren. First are planted the wide-spreading apple, pear, cherry, plum, &c.; beneath these, the bushy gooseberry and raspberry, with here and there, between the rows, the creeping strawberry. The surrounding walls are covered with the peach and nectarine, the apricot, or plum, &c. In convenient places, earthen banks are raised with sloping aspects towards the sun. In the autumnal season endive is planted on these banks, where it is preserved from rotting; at the lower extremity peas are drilled or sown, which come to maturity nearly as soon as those planted on borders under a wall.

MILK.—The metropolis is supplied with milk by about 10,000 cows, which are supposed to yield a daily average of nine quarts each, making a total of 8,212,500 gallons. This is sold to the retail dealers at an average of 1*s.* 9*d.* per gallon, making a sum of £400,000, on which they lay a profit of cent. per cent.; and not content with this, the quantity is considerably increased by the addition of water; and in several instances it has been ascertained that different preparations have been resorted to. By the nearest calculation that has been made, it is supposed that the charge to the consumers for milk is not less than one million annually. Dairies are also situated in various parts of the town, where good milk may be found previously to its undergoing the process of adulteration.

EGGS are, also, a favourite article of consumption;

and though the form or fashion of a living fowl is scarcely known to our cockney friends; yet, eggs may be had fresh at all the dairies. They are to be found in great abundance through town, some, the produce of the neighbouring farms, principally of the cow-keepers in the vicinity; others brought from a distance. Ireland, also, sends over millions annually; yet, notwithstanding the distance whence they come, and their being rather subject to breakage, they are often retailed as low as 6*d.* per dozen, and seldom reach more than 1*s.* 6*d.* At the scarcest period of the year, as Easter and Christmas, the consumption is incredible, and beyond calculation.

OF BUTTER AND CHEESE, the annual consumption is estimated at near 60,000,000 lbs., the largest proportion of each being the produce of our inland counties, and the remainder imported from Holland, Ireland, &c. Butter varies in price from tenpence to one shilling and sixpence retail, and cheese from fivepence to one shilling per lb.

THE POULTRY consumed in the metropolis are estimated at £80,000 annually, and to this must be added game, as well as pigeons, rabbits, &c., which will amount to as much in price, though the supply is less in quantity than the product of the farm-yard.

FISH is an article of luxury, which, from various causes, is both scarce and expensive. Looking at the situation of London, placed on its beautiful river, one would expect the fish market to be well supplied. This, however, cannot always be the case, as the vessels engaged in the trade are often weather bound at the Nore, till their cargo is spoiled, and they are obliged to throw it overboard, and return for a fresh supply, which, of course, enhances the value of the cargo, when it at last reaches town. The supply of the whole metropolis is almost solely confined to one market, where every advantage is taken of circumstances, which, together with the expense of carriage through

town, fishmongers' establishments, &c., render the price very high to the consumer.

NURSERIES, to gratify the growing refinement of taste, may deserve to be mentioned here, as furnishing a portion of the supplies, since flowers of fragrance and plants of rarity and beauty are much in demand. The nurserymen spare neither pains nor expense in collecting the greatest variety of the choicest plants, shrubs &c., from all quarters of the globe. They are reared in numerous places in the immediate vicinity of the city, where our native gardeners have attained such celebrity for the cultivation of exotics, that we are enabled to command a considerable export trade in them to various parts of Europe.

MARKETS.

SMITHFIELD, famous for the sale of cattle, sheep, lambs, calves, and hogs, every Monday; and again, though in a less degree, on Friday; on the latter day there is also a market for horses. It consists of a large open space, ill arranged for the purpose. The cattle and sheep arrive here over night, for the sake of traversing the streets with less obstruction and danger; and it is distressing to see them, especially in summer, when penned up sometimes for fifteen hours, without food or drink, after having travelled many miles. This is one of the dark spots upon the fair face of London, but there is some difficulty in pointing out how it should be effectually removed.

LEADENHALL AND NEWGATE MARKETS, in streets of the same name, are the principal places in London for the sale of country-killed meat, and hides. Retail butchers, who have no slaughter-houses, purchase the carcase entire at these markets. These markets are likewise well supplied with poultry, fresh butter, eggs, &c.

FARRINGDON MARKET, Farringdon-street, is a con-

venient structure, erected for the sale of meat, fruit, and vegetables. This market occupies a space of an acre and a half. An avenue, well roofed and ventilated, with shops on each side, extends round three sides of a quadrangle, and embraces an open square, terminated by an iron railing, with gates for the entrance of waggons. There are entrances to the market on three of the sides.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, for fruit, flowers, shrubs, seeds, and vegetable, sconsist of three sides of a quadrangle, with a Doric colonnade running round it, supported by granite pillars. The wings have shops towards the square, and others looking towards the open market. In the centre, facing Great Russel-street, runs a line of buildings collateral with the wings; these are roofed in, and form a beautiful passage, with shops on each side, through to St. Paul's. Over the building is a conservatory well stocked with the choicest plants and flowers: it is approached by a flight of steps, from each corner of the wings. The present elegant market was built at the expense of the Duke of Bedford, on whose estate it stands.

BILLINGSGATE, at the west extremity of the Custom-house, is the fish-market for the metropolis. The fishing smacks moor alongside the market, where they dispose of their cargoes. The business of this place, which we presume few will feel inclined to visit from curiosity, is generally commenced and terminated at an early hour in the morning. The female dealers are proverbial for a peculiar volubility of tongue, and a strange choice of expressions.

FINSBURY MARKET, NEWPORT MARKET, AND BOROUGH MARKET, are severally supplied with the necessary variety for domestic purposes—meat, vegetables, butter, eggs, fowls, &c.

The principal market for hay and straw for many years disgraced the neighbourhood of Pall Mall; but it has been very properly removed to Cumberland

Market, in the vicinity of the Regent's Park. There are also markets for these commodities at Paddington, Smithfield, Southwark, Whitechapel, &c.

Besides the markets we have enumerated, others are held weekly in Middlesex; at Barnet, on Monday; Southall, on Wednesday; Uxbridge, Hounslow, Brentford, and Edgeware, on Thursday; Staines, on Friday; and Enfield, on Saturday. At Hounslow, there are generally a fine show of fat cattle, and those not disposed of are sent to London.

Distance from a market, however, need be no occasion for disappointment in the attainment of anything required; shops for the sale of every consumable article being plentiful in all parts of London, where, generally speaking, the best goods are to be found—the parties keeping them attending to purchase at an early hour, so as to gain the choice of the market. The prices, of course, are higher to the consumer.

FAIRS or markets are appointed to be held at stated places, on certain days. These fairs, which are arranged so as not to interfere with each other, are generally established for the sale of every species of commodities, and are attended with various kinds of amusement, which some might term vulgar merriment. The sovereign appoints both time and place for holding these fairs or markets, the charter of establishment specifying the duration of each, beyond which time it is held illegal to continue it. The principal fairs held in London and its immediate vicinity are—

When holden.		Days
Easter	Greenwich	3
,,	Battersea	3
Whitsuntide	Greenwich	3
Week after May 1	Deptford	1
May 2nd or 3rd	Walthamstow	1
,,	Brentford	3

,,	Ham-common	3
Holy Thursday	Twickenham	2
June 24th	Ealing-green	3
July 1st	Wandsworth	3
Monday after	Isleworth	2
1st Friday in July	Fairlop	1
July 15th	Chiswick	3
August 5th	Bromley	2
,, 12th	Mitcham	3
August 18	Camberwell	3
,, 21	Peckham	3
September 3	Bartholemew	4
,, 19	Southwark	3
,, 23	Enfield	2
,, 25	Walthamstow	2
,, 27	Northall	1
,, 29	Twickenham	2
October 2	Croydon	3
,, 18	Charlton, Horn-fair	3

These fairs are generally frequented by great numbers of the lower orders of the people, and particularly by females. Greenwich fairs are perhaps the best deserving a visit. The situation, the sail down the river, and various local attractions, induce the attendance of greater numbers of a more respectable class. The sports on the hill are in general highly amusing.

WATER.

Notwithstanding the extent, and irregular shape and surface of this metropolis, there is not a city in the world, perhaps, so amply and well provided with this important necessary of domestic life. The works by which it is obtained and distributed have been erected by companies, and are numerous and curious. The water is conveyed by means of cast-iron pipes, which run beneath the surface of the streets; and smaller pipes, communicating with these, carry it into the houses. Among those that supply London, *The New River Company* claims precedence, not only as it is the most extensive, but also as it was the earliest

that was established—having now supplied London considerably more than two centuries. It originated with Sir H. Middleton (who laid out £500,000 in the undertaking), and was encouraged by James I. The water is collected from several springs into a basin, at forty miles' distance from London; thence it is made to flow to the basin, or reservoir, at Islington, called the New River-head, which is eighty-five feet above the level of the Thames, and discharges 214,000 hogsheads of 63 gallons each, every twenty-four hours. To increase its force, the water is raised, by means of a steam-engine, thirty-five feet above the level of its reservoir, whence it is propelled into the second stories of many of the houses.

THE EAST LONDON WATER WORKS, at Old Ford, on the Lea, distribute 6,000,000 gallons of water daily, through pipes which, if extended in a direct line, would reach 200 miles.

THE HAMMERSMITH WORKS are supplied from the Thames, whence they force the water into a reservoir at Kensington, 120 feet above high water mark; a second reservoir stands 68 feet higher, on Little Primrose Hill. The daily supply is 2,250,000 gallons.

THE CHELSEA WATER WORKS, near Chelsea Hospital, are also supplied from the Thames, whence they force the water into two reservoirs, one in Hyde-park, and the other in the Green-park.

THE GRAND JUNCTION COMPANY, THE LAMBETH COMPANY, THE VAUXHALL COMPANY, and THE SOUTHWARK COMPANY, are all supplied from the Thames. The first of these has three reservoirs at Paddington, whence the water is distributed; the others by means of engines deliver the water directly from the river.

Houses supplied by any of these companies pay a yearly sum for the accommodation, which entitles them to find water at all times in their pipes. In the winter season, during hard frosts, great precautions

are used to prevent the water from freezing in the smaller pipes.

This general distribution of water through all the streets of London is, moreover, the salvation of many lives and much property. In cases of fire, large bodies of water can be raised into the streets to supply the fire-engines. Boards at certain places point out the precise spot where the fire-plugs are to be found, to prevent loss of time.

Besides this supply of water, which is mostly intended for domestic and culinary purposes, pumps are erected in convenient situations all through the town, supplied from springs, some of which are at immense depths. Aldgate and St. Bartholomew pumps are celebrated for the exquisite purity of their water. It is strong, clear, and in the heat of summer, cold as ice.

CHAPTER IV.

Public Buildings, including Churches, Palaces, Public Offices, Noblemen's Residences, Squares, Bridges, &c.

RELIGIOUS EDIFICES IN THE METROPOLIS.

St. Paul's Cathedral.—This magnificent edifice holds the most distinguished place among the modern works of architecture which adorn the British metropolis. Even foreigners generally regard it with respect and admiration as only second to the church of St. Peter, at Rome. It stands nearly in the centre of London, and has been supposed to occupy the site of an ancient Roman temple of Diana; but this notion is rejected by Sir Christopher Wren. A Christian

church was erected here on the conversion of Sebert, King of Essex, who founded the bishopric of London, about the year 610: and the cathedral of the diocese has ever since been situated on the spot. It was more than once destroyed by fire, and re-edified previous to the Norman conquest. In 1086, it again experienced the same fate; after which Maurice, then Bishop of London, began to rebuild the noble pile, the destruction of which in 1666 made way for the present fabric. The ancient cathedral was one of the most stupendous architectural remains of the middle ages. It was not the work of one period, but was gradually enlarged and improved by the successors of Maurice, till it became one of the most extensive among the religious edifices of this country. The subscriptions for building amounted in the course of ten years to £125,000. A new duty was laid on coals for the same purpose, which produced £5000 annually; and Charles II. contributed £1000 per annum.

The commission for rebuilding the cathedral was issued under the great seal, dated November 12, 1673, Sir Chrirtopher Wren being appointed architect. The business of taking down the ruins of the old structure was one of considerable labour and difficulty. To the middle tower, the ruins of which were 200 feet high, a blast of eighteen pounds of gunpowder was applied, under the direction of the architect; and comparatively small as this force was it raised the whole angle of the tower, with several adjoining arches, visibly lifting about nine inches the vast mass, which was not less than 3000 tons in weight, when, tumbling back again suddenly, it dropped into a heap of ruins, but with such a concussion, that the inhabitants in the neighbourhood took it for an earthquake. A less skilful engineer, on whom the demolition of the building devolved during the temporary absence of the architect, was not equally successful; for in attempting to blow up part of the building, a frag-

ment of a large stone was thrown into a private house, where some women were sitting at work, which made the commissioners order that no more gunpowder should be used. Sir Christopher Wren then resorted to that ancient engine of war, the battering-ram; a beam of timber forty feet long, well secured with ferules, and suspended from a triangle, was worked by thirty men for a whole day against a part of the wall without any apparent effect, but on the second day the whole was thrown down.

The first stone of the new cathedral was laid on the 21st of June, 1675, by the architect himself, who lived to see his son, then but a few months old, thirty-five years afterwards, deposit the highest stone of the lantern on the cupola.

During the early progress of the work an incident occurred, which, even in a less superstitious age, might have been considered as a favourable omen. Sir Christopher was marking out the dimensions of the great cupola, when he ordered one of the workmen to bring him a flat stone, to use as a station. A piece was brought: it was the fragment of a tombstone, on which but one word of the inscription was left—that word was *resurgam*. Some authors suppose this circumstance to have been the origin of the emblem sculptured over the south portico, by Cibber, viz., a phœnix rising out of its fiery nest, with this word beneath.

In 1693, the walls of the new choir were finished, and the scaffolding removed; and on the 2nd of December, 1697, it was opened for divine service, on the occasion of the thanksgiving for the peace of Ryswick.

It is remarkable, that this mighty fabric was begun and finished by one architect, Sir Christopher Wren; one principal mason, Mr. Strong; and during one bishopric, that of Dr. Henry Compton, bishop of London.

The time occupied in its erection was thought, at the period, to have been unnecessarily protracted; yet the whole time occupied in this building did not exceed thirty-five years; while St. Peter's, at Rome, the only fabric of modern times which can be placed in competition with it, was not completed in less than one hundred and forty-five years.

In the construction of the edifice, the architect was forced to observe the general shape of a cross; and yet it exhibits little or none of the awkwardness of that form of building. By means of an additional transept or arm, he has given due breadth to the west end or principal front; the east end terminates in a projecting semicircle; and at the extremities of the principal transepts, there are also semicircular projections for porticos, while the angles of the cross are occupied with square appendages, which serve as buttresses to a magnificent dome or cupola. The front of the building on the west presents a grand portico of the Corinthian and Composite orders, surmounted by a spacious pediment, with a lofty tower or steeple, of great elegance and richness on each side. In the tympanum, is the conversion of St. Paul, well sculptured in basso-relievo, by Bird; on the apex, is a colossal statue of St. Paul; and on either hand, at different distances along the summit of this front, are similar statues of St. Peter, St. James, and the four evangelists. The semicircular porticos at each end of the principal transept are of the Corinthian order, and are also crowned by statues of the apostles. The tympanum of that on the north side exhibits a sculpture of the royal arms and regalia, supported by angels; and that of the other, the phœnix rising from the flames, as before mentioned. The side-walls of the building present the appearance of a two-storied structure, there being two ranges of pilasters all round—one of the Corinthian, the other of the Composite order; the intervals between which are

occupied with windows. The dome, or cupola, is the most striking feature of the whole edifice. A plain circular basement rises from the roof of the church to the height of twenty feet; above that there is a Corinthian colonnade of thirty-two columns; and every fourth intercolumniation is filled with masonry, so disposed as to form an ornamental niche, or recess; while, at the same time, the projecting buttresses of the cupola are thus concealed. By a happy combination of profound skill and exquisite taste, a construction adapted to oppose, with insuperable solidity, the enormous pressure of the dome, the cone, and the lantern, is thus converted into a decoration of the most grand and beautiful character. The columns, being of a large proportion, and placed at regular intervals, are crowned with a complete entablature, which, continuing without a single break, forms an entire circle, and thus connects all the parts into one grand and harmonious whole. The entablature of the peristyle supports a handsome gallery, surrounded with a balustrade. Within this rises an attic story, with pilasters and windows, from the entablature of which springs the exterior dome. Round an aperture on the summit of the dome there is another gallery, from the centre of which ascends an elegant lantern, surrounded with Corinthian columns, and surmounted by a ball and cross richly guilt.

The exterior of St. Paul's has been the subject of frequent criticism; and judged of, according to the strict rules of art, it is probably not without its faults. The adoption of two orders of architecture in the body of the building; the want of two towers or steeples at the east end, to correspond with those at the west; the height of the pillars which form the peristyle of the dome, being little less than the lowest order, and larger than those immediately below them; and the magnitude of the cupola, as compared with the rest of the structure, are all complained of, as

departures from acknowledged principles of harmony. It must be confessed, however, that these are nice discrepancies discovered by the learned few only; and that with the great mass of ordinary observers, the appearance of the building excites emotions of unmingled admiration and wonder. When viewed, especially from any of the heights around the metropolis, such as Hampstead, or Highgate, or Shooter's-hill, its dome has a very noble appearance; though there, perhaps, it is rather to be regarded as a cupola to the vast metropolis itself, than to any single edifice.

On entering the building, there is one discrepancy which strikes a stranger more forcibly than any that can be remarked in the exterior. Contrary to what he has been led to expect from the division of the walls on the outside into two stories, he finds no such corresponding division within. Although disappointed, however, he is far from being displeased. The unexpected loftiness of the vaulting, and of the long range of columns and piers which burst on the sight, add much to those ideas of vastness and magnificence which the exterior has inspired. Sir Christopher chose the hemispherical manner of vaulting, as being much lighter than diagonal cross vaults; and that demonstration we have before us. One writer says,—"The whole vault of St. Paul's consists of twenty-four cupolas, cut of semicircular, with segments to join to the great arches one way, and which are cut across the other way with elliptical cylinders, to let in the upper lights of the nave; but in the aisles, the lesser cupolas are both ways cut into semicircular sections, altogether making a graceful geometrical form, distinguished by circular wreaths."

The great dome over the central area is supported by eight stupendous piers, four of the arches formed by which open into the side aisles. The advantges of this mode of construction are, that it gives an air of superior lightness to the clustered columns, affords

striking and picturesque views in every direction, and gives greater unity to the whole area of the building. The view upwards into the interior of the dome, is extremely striking. It has been so constructed, as to show a spacious concave every way; and from the lantern at the top, the light is poured down with admirable effect over the whole, as well as through the great colonnade that encircles its basement. The inside is divided into eight compartments, in which there are as many paintings of subjects from Scripture by Sir James Thornhill; but though originally executed with much animation and relief, the colours are now so faded, as to present to the eye of the spectator below, only a confused mass of stains. Sir Christopher Wren wished to have beautified the inside with the most durable monuments of Mosaic work; but in this, as in other instances of correct foresight, he was unhappily overruled.

The choir is separated from the body of the church by handsome iron railings. Over the entrance to it is the organ gallery and an organ in it, supposed to be one of the finest in the kingdom. It was erected in 1694, and cost £2000. On the south-side of the choir is a throne for the bishops; on the north, another for the lord mayor; and besides these, there is on each side a long range of stalls. The whole are richly ornamented with carvings. In the chancel or semicircular recess at the east end, stands the communion table. What is called the altar piece, has four fluted pilasters, painted in imitation of *lapis lazuli*, and is, besides, ornamented with a profusion of gilding; but its appearance is on the whole insignificant, when contrasted with the lofty widows above it, and the general magnitude of the choir. The pulpit and reading desk are both splendid objects; the former is richly carved and gilt; the latter consists entirely of brass gilt, and is very light and airy.

In the south end of the western transept there is a

chapel for morning prayers, and in the north the consistory; both are divided from the aisles by screens of insulated columns and ornamental carved work.

Over the entrance to the choir is a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation:—

"Beneath lies Christopher Wren, the builder of this church, and of this city, who lived upwards of ninety years, not for himself, but for the public good. Reader, wouldst thou search out his monument, look around."

The first statue erected in St. Paul's, was that of the great lexicographer and moralist, Dr. Johnson. Since then, many more monumental tributes to the illustrious dead of this country have been added, and unquestionably contribute greatly to the relief and embellishment of the architecture. The monuments have in themselves, however, little to boast of. Many finely sculptured forms are to be found among them, but, generally speaking, they are masses of absurdity in point of invention and composition.

Dr. Johnson is represented in a Roman toga, with the right arm and breast naked, and in an attitude of intense study. The inscription on the pedestal was written by Dr. Parr. This statue is situated in an angle opposite the north-east pier which supports the dome; at the opposite angle is a statue of the philanthropic Howard, which was executed by Bacon, and cost 1300 guineas. The Roman costume is also employed in this figure. He is represented trampling on fetters and chains, with a key in one hand, and a scroll in the other, inscribed "Plan for the Improvement of Prisons." On the pedestal is a basso-relievo, representing Mr. Howard relieving poor prisoners. In the south-west angle below the dome, is a similar figure by Bacon, erected in 1799, to the memory of Sir W. Jones, the celebrated orientalist. He is represented standing with a roll of paper in his hand, inscribed "Plan of the Asiatic Society." In front

of the pedestal is a bas-relief representing Study and Genius unveiling oriental science. The base of the north-west pier is occupied by the statue of Sir Joshua Reynolds, the first president of the Royal Academy. He is represented in his Doctor of Laws gown, with his "Discourses to the Royal Academy" in his right hand; his left is resting on a pedestal, attached to which is a bust of Michael Angelo. This monument was by Flaxman.

Between the dome and the choir on the south side is the monument to the memory of Lord Nelson. The statue of the hero represents him in the pelisse, given to him by the Grand Signor, and leaning on an anchor. Beneath on the right Britannia directs the attention of two young seamen to Nelson, their great example. The British lion on the other side guards the monument. The figures on the pedestal represent the North Sea, the German Ocean, the Nile, and the Mediterranean. On the cornice are the words "Copenhagen," "Nile," and "Trafalgar."

In a pannel above this monument is a mural tablet in commemoration of Captain Duff, who was killed in the battle of Trafalgar. It consists of a small antique sarcophagus (on the front of which is a sculptured medallion of the deceased), a figure of Britannia on the right, holding a wreath of laurel over the sarcophagus, and on the left a sailor, reclining his head in sorrow upon the edge of the pedestal.

Opposite to Lord Nelson's monument is that to the memory of Marquis Cornwallis. On a circular pedestal is placed the figure of Lord Cornwallis, standing in the robes of the Order of the Garter. The two principal figures forming the base of this group are personifications of the British empire, in Europe and the East; represented as doing honour to the memory of a faithful servant of the state. The third figure of the group is the Bagareth, one of the great rivers in

India; and the small one on his right hand is the Ganges, being the right branch of the Bagareth. The Ganges is seated on a fish and a calabash.

In the pannel above is an alto-relievo, to the memory of Captain John Cooke, of the Bellerophon. Britannia mourning her hero is consoled by one of her children bringing her the trident; while another is playfully bearing her helmet.

In the south transept, against the south-west pier is a monument in memory of Captain Burgess, who gloriously fell in the battle fought with the Dutch off Camperdown, by Admiral Duncan. The faults and excellencies of this expensive piece of sculpture are singularly blended; yet it must be confessed that the former affect the conception more than the execution; which, generally speaking, is deserving of high praise. The principal figures are those of Victory, and the deceased, both of whom are standing on the opposite sides of a cannon, near which are coils of rope, balls, &c. Victory, who is a meagre and insipid figure, is in the act of presenting a sword to the brave Burgess, whose statue is finely expressive of heroic animation, but almost literally naked, a state by far more befitting the goddess herself than the representation of a naval officer. On the circular base or pedestal, in front, beneath the pannel with the inscription, is an aged captive, with a log-line and compass, sitting between the prows of two ships, one of which is antique, the other modern. At the sides are other figures, male and female, beautifully sculptured, and, in a classical taste, expressive of disgrace, discomfiture, and captivity; and in the spaces are antique shields, clubs, &c.

Above this monument, on a pannel, is a group of sculpture to the memory of Captain Hardinge. It represent an Indian warrior bearing the victorious British standard, and seated by the side of a sarcophagus, while Fame, recumbent on its base, displays her wreath over the hero's name.

Against the opposite pier is another large monument, commemorating the fate and gallant exploits of the lamented Captain Faulkner, who fell in battle in the West Indies. This intrepid officer (who is very injudiciously represented with a Roman sword in his right hand, and a Roman shield on his left arm, as if intended for a gladiator) is exhibited in the moment of death, and falling into the arms of Neptune; the latter is a gigantic figure seated on a rock, with a slight portion of drapery thrown over his left knee and middle, and occupying the most central and prominent place in the composition; his form appears somewhat uncouth and his attitude ungracious: below him is a dolphin, and on his left, the goddess Victory with a palm branch in her left hand, and a wreath in her right, which she holds over the head of the dying hero. The lassitude resulting from the approach of death is well expressed in the figure of the captain; and the statue of Victory has considerable merit.

The pannel above contains a tabular monument by Mr. Flaxman, in which Britannia and Victory unite in raising Captain Miller's medallion against a palm tree. The head of the Theseus, in which vessel the captain died off the coast of Acre, is by the side of Victory.

Against the south side of this pier is the statue of Lord Heathfield. It represents the hero resting in a standing attitude, in the uniform of the times, and wearing the Order of the Bath. In front of the pedestal, in alto-relievo, is represented the British power at Gibraltar, by the warrior and the lion reposing, after having defended the rock, and defeating their enemies. The female figure holding two wreaths in her right hand, and a palm branch in her left, presenting them to the hero, represents Victory and Peace.

The monument to Earl Howe, is under the east window of the south transept. Britannia is sitting on a rostrated pedestal, holding the trident in her right

hand; the earl stands by her, leaning on a telescope; the British lion is watching by his side. History records in golden letters the relief of Gibraltar, and the defeat of the French fleet on the first of June, 1794. Victory (without wings) leans on the shoulder of History, and lays a branch of palm on the lap of Britannia.

Against the south wall of the same transept is a monument erected in memory of Lord Collingwood. The moment for illustration chosen in this composition is the arrival of the remains of Lord Collingwood on the British shores. The body shrouded in the colours torn from the enemy, is represented on the deck of a man-of-war: in the hands of the hero is placed the sword which he used with so much glory to himself and to a grateful country. On the foreground attended by the genii of his confluent streams, is Thames, in a recumbent position, thoughtfully regarding Fame, who, from the prow of the ship, reclines over the illustrious admiral, and proclaims his heroic achievements. The alto-relievo on the gunwale of the ship illustrates the progress of navigation. The genius of man, discovering the properties of the nautilus, is led to venture on the expansive bosom of the ocean: acquiring confidence from success, he leaves his native landmarks, the stars his only guide. The magnet's power next directs his course; and now to counteract the machinations of pirates and the feuds of nations, he forges the instruments of war.

Adjoining the south door is a monument to the memory of General Pakenham and General Gibbs, who were killed at the battle of New Orleans. They are represented in their full uniforms, the arm of the one resting on the shoulder of the other.

The statue of General Gillespie is on the other side of the door. He is represented in full military uniform, one hand resting on a sword, and the

other holding a roll of paper. The figure is very commanding.

The monument of Sir John Moore represents his interment by the hands of Valour and Victory, while the Genius of Spain (distinguished by the shield bearing the Spanish arms,) is planting the victorious standard on his tomb. Victory lowers the hero to his grave by a wreath of laurel.

Under the west transept is the very noble equestrian monument of Sir Ralph Abercromby, who was mortally wounded in Egypt, soon after the landing of the British troops in that country, in 1801. This was erected in consequence of a vote of parliament. The brave and able general is represented as wounded, and falling from his horse into the arms of an attendant Highlander. Both figures are arrayed in the proper costume of their respective stations: and below the fore feet of the horse, which is springing forward, is the naked body of a fallen foe. The position of the Highland soldier is well conceived and judiciously balanced, so as to sustain the additionl weight of the general without exhibiting any indication of weak or inefficient power. The countenance of the immortal Abercromby, though languid, displays a placid dignity, highly expressive of the strength of mind and undaunted heroism which distinguished his character. Upon the freestone plinth of this monument, and on each side of the principal group, is a large figure of the Egyptian Sphinx.

In the western ambulatory of the south transept is a tabular monument to the memory of Sir Isaac Brook: it represents a military monument on which are placed the sword and helmet of the deceased. His corpse reclines in the arms of a British soldier, whilst an Indian pays the tribute of regret his bravery and humanity elicited.

In the east ambulatory of the same transept, over the door leading to the crypt, is a tabular monument

to the memory of Major General Ross, who was killed at Baltimore, in the last American war. The design represents Valour laying an American flag upon the tomb of the departed warrior, on which Britannia is recumbent in tears, while Fame is descending with the laurel to crown his bust.

The monument to the memory of Colonel Cadogan occupies the opposite pannel. The design is historical. When the Colonel was mortally wounded at the battle of Vittoria, he caused his men to place him on an eminence, where he might contemplate the victory he had assisted to achieve. He is here represented borne off in the arms of his soldiers, with his face to the enemy, his troops having broken the enemy's ranks with their bayonets. One of the enemy's eagles, with its bearer, is represented as trodden on the ground, while another standard bearer is turning to fly. The soldiers who support their leader appear waving their hats in the moment of victory.

Against the east pier of the north transept is a magnificent group of sculpture, in commemoration of Major General Thomas Dundas, who died of the yellow fever in the West Indies, June 3rd, 1794 It is a very fine and spirited performance. Britannia, with her attendant lion couchant, is here represented in the act of encircling the bust of the deceased with a laurel wreath, whilst at the same time she "is receiving under her protection the Genius of the captured islands," another full-length figure "bearing the produce of the various settlements," having a youthful form and a countenance expressive of sensibility. At her feet is an infant boy with an olive branch, and behind, a trident. The bust is sustained on a circular pedestal, on which is a bas-relief of Britannia giving protection to a fugitive female against the pursuit of two other figures representing Deceit and Oppression.

Above this is a tabular monument to Generals Mackenzie and Langworth. Victory laments the loss of her heroes, while the sons of Britain recount their valiant achievements. Against the tomb are two wreaths, intimating the fall of two warriors. One of the boys holds the broken French Imperial Eagle, which he is displaying to the other. The helmet on the one boy, and the wreath of oak on the head of the other, imply the military service, connected with its honours and rewards, in the sons of Britain.

Immediately opposite is a monument to the memory of Captain Westcote, who was killed in the battle of the Nile. The dying hero, a fine figure, in a falling attitude, is here supported by Victory. On the basement, in the centre, is a bas-relief of a gigantic figure, intended for the god Nilus, with numerous naked boys, indicative of the various streams of the river Nile; and on each side are basso-relievos representing the explosion of the L'Orient, and a vessel under sail.

Above this tablet is a monument to the memory of Generals Crawford and Mackinnon. The sculpture represents the hardy Highlander weeping over the tombs of his fallen commanders, while planting the standard between them. Victory alights, and places her wreath on the top of the standard, to mark the spot as sacred to the ashes of successful valour. The British lion, the imperial eagle, and the shield on which are the arms of Spain, denote that the talents and operations of the generals, when they fell, were directed against the French power in the Spanish dominions.

Against the same pier, on the north side, is a colossal statue of the late Earl St. Vincent, in full uniform, standing on a pedestal, and resting on a telescope.—The bas-relief represents History recording the name of the deceased hero on a pyramid, while Victory laments his loss.

The recess under the west window of the north transept is occupied by a group in honour of Lord Rodney. The principal figure is standing on a square pedestal, while Clio, the historic muse (who is seated), instructed by Fame, is recording the great and useful actions of this naval hero.

On the north side of this transept is a monument to General Picton. The design represents Genius and Valour rewarded by Victory. The group is surmounted by a bust of the general.

Near the north door is a monument to the memory of Major-general Andrew Hay. He is represented falling into the arms of Valour, while a soldier stands lamenting the loss of his commander.

The recess under the east window of the north transept is occupied with a monument to the memory of Captains Masse and Rion. An insulated base contains a sarcophagus, on the front of which Victory and Fame place the medallions of the two deceased officers.

Immediately opposite, is a monument to the memory of Lord Duncan. This tribute consists simply in a statue of the admiral, with his boat-cloak thrown around him—his hands being engaged in holding his sword, which rests across his body. On the pedestal to the statue is an alto-relievo of a seaman, with his wife and child, illustrative of the regard with which Lord Duncan's memory is held by the poor but gallant companions of his achievements.

In the eastern ambulatory of the north transept is a tabular monument to the memory of Major-general Bowes. The design represents the general storming the forts of Salamanca; a shattered wall presents a steep breach, crowded with the enemy, and covered with the slain. The general conducts his troops to charge its defenders with the bayonet; the French standard and its bearer fall at his feet, and victory is

already secure—when he receives a mortal wound, and falls into the arms of one of his soldiers.

In the western ambulatory of the north transept is a tabular monument, to the memory of Major-general Hoghton. The design is simple, and arises out of the peculiar circumstances of the event it celebrates.—General Hoghton, while leading his troops to a successful charge on the French at Albuera, received a mortal wound, but lived for a moment to witness the total defeat of the enemy. The design, therefore, represents General Hoghton starting from the ground, eagerly stretching out his hand, directing his men, who are rushing on the enemy with levelled bayonets —while Victory, ascending from the field of battle, sustains with one hand the British colours, and with the other proceeds to crown the dying victor with laurel.

The entrance to the vaults is by a broad flight of steps in the south-east angle of the great transept. In these gloomy recesses, which receive only a partial distant light from grated prison-like windows, the vast piers and arches that sustain the superstructure cannot be seen without interest. They form the whole space into three main avenues, the principal inner one under the dome being almost totally dark.

Here, in the very centre of the building, repose the mortal remains of the great Lord Nelson, a man whose consummate skill and daring intrepidity advanced the naval superiority of the British nation to a height and splendour previously unparalleled. The colours of the Victory, the ship which he commanded, were deposited with the chieftain who so gloriously fell under them, and whose revered reliques have since been enclosed within a base of Scotch granite, built upon the floor of the vault, and supporting a large sarcophagus, formed of black and dark-coloured marbles, brought from the tomb-house of Cardinal Wolsey at Windsor.

Near the tomb of Nelson the remains of his gallant

and much-esteemed friend and companion in victory, Cuthbert Lord Collingwood, have been interred.

After examining all that is to be seen in the lower part of the cathedral, the visitor has still to make the ascent to the summit, to examine the interior of the vast dome, and to enjoy the splendid views which the outside galleries furnish of this vast metropolis, before his curiosity can be fully gratified. The ascent is by a spacious circular stair-case to a gallery which encircles the lower part of the interior of the dome, and is called the Whispering Gallery, from the circumstance, that the lowest whisper breathed against the wall in any part of this vast circle may be accurately distinguished by an attentive ear on the opposite side. Branching off from the circular staircase at this place, there are passages which lead to other galleries and chambers over the side aisles. One leads to the library of the dean and chapter, which is immediately over the consistory. It is a handsome room, about fifty feet by forty, having shelves with books to the top, with a gallery running along the sides. The floor is of oak, consisting of 2376 small square pieces, and is not only curious for its being inlaid, without a nail or peg to fasten the parts, but is extremely neat in the workmanship. Over the morning-prayer chapel, at the opposite end of the transept, is a room called the model-room, which contains, besides some ancient designs and models of architecture, the great lantern which was suspended from the dome, and other heraldic emblems used at the funeral of the gallant Nelson. In this room is kept the rejected model, according to which Sir Christopher Wren first proposed to erect this cathedral; and also the model of the altar-piece, which was left unexecuted.

From the whispering gallery the visitor ascends to the stone gallery, which surrounds the exterior dome above the colonnade; and from this elevation, when the atmosphere is clear, the view around is magnificent.

As the staircase above this becomes very steep, narrow and dark, not many visitors can be prevailed on to go higher; and yet there is much to repay both the trouble and apprehension attending the ascent. In the crown of the dome there is a circular opening, from which the superstructure of the cone and lantern, and the cross, rise nearly a hundred feet higher.

Around the exterior base of the cone, there is a railed gallery, called the Golden Gallery, from which there is a more extended, and, on account of the increased diminution of individual objects, a more curious view of the busy world beneath. If the visitor's head is steady enough to master the feeling of giddiness, which overpowers most people at so great an elevation, and makes them feel that the only pleasure in going up is the pleasure of coming down again, he may even ascend by ladders into the lantern itself, and from the bull's-eye chamber extend his survey far into the country on either side.

When the visitor has reached the bull's-eye chamber, it will not cost him much additional exertion of courage to mount into the ball which crowns the lantern. It is six feet two inches in diameter, and capacious enough to contain eight persons with ease. The weight of it is said to be 5600lbs. The cross, which is solid, weighs 3360lbs.

In descending from this lofty perambulation, the visitor, when he reaches the whispering gallery, may return to the lower part of the church by a different staircase from that by which he ascended, called the Geometrical Staircase. It is, however, seldom used, and is chiefly resorted to by the curious in architectural matters, on account of the singularity and skilfulness of its construction. The stairs go round the concave in a spiral direction; and the base is a circle inlaid with black and white marble, in the form of a star.

The towers or steeples, forming part of the western

front, serve, one as the belfry, and the other as the clock tower. The clock-work is curious, both for the magnitude of its wheels and other parts. and the very great accuracy and firmness of its workmanship. The length of the pendulum is fourteen feet, and the weight, at its extremity, is equal to one cwt. The great bell, in the southern campanile, is said to weigh four tons and a quarter, and is ten feet in diameter. The great bell of St. Paul's, which is of some celebrity, is never tolled except at the deaths and funerals of members of the royal family, or of the bishops and lord mayors of London, when the sound of it is heard at a great distance. It has these words inscribed on it, "Richard Phelps made me, 1716."

In the area before the west front of the cathedral, there is a statue of Queen Anne, on a sculptured pedestal, representing Britannia, Hibernia, America, and France. Neither the statue nor the pedestal does much credit to the artist.

The vaults of St. Paul's, as we have previously remarked, are dark, dreary mansions. The centre one under the dome is totally dark; but a portion of the north aisle, at the east end, is railed in, and dedicated to St. Faith, and is used for interments. When the ancient church was finally pulled down, many monumental statues were broken to pieces, and the alabaster powdered for cement. A few escaped, and are now preserved in the vaults of St. Faith. Among them is the celebrated figure of Dr. Donne, representing him as a corpse in a winding sheet: it was executed in his lifetime, for the purpose of daily contemplation, as a *memento mori*.

Two very interesting opportunities for visiting this cathedral are annually presented to the public. The first is in the month of May, when a grand musical meeting is held for the benefit of the children and widows of poor clergymen. The other occurs in June, and consists in the assemblage, upon an average, of

6,000 children, from the various parochial schools, for the purpose of uniting in the public worship and praise of the Deity.

The church is open for divine service three times every day in the year: at seven o'clock in the morning in summer, and eight in winter; at a quarter before ten in the forenoon, and a quarter after three in the afternoon. At those times the public have free entrance to the body of the church; at all other times, admittance can be obtained only by paying. The entrance, for general purposes, is by the door of the northern portico.

The terms of admission are—to the model room, 2*d.*; clock and great bell, 2*d.*; library, 2*d.*; whispering gallery, 2*d.*; ball, 1*s.* 6*d.*; geometrical staircase, 2*d.*; stone or iron gallery on the exterior, 2*d.* The ascent is safe but fatiguing, as there are 280 steps to the whispering gallery round the bottom of the dome; 254 more to the gallery at the top of the dome, and 82 from that gallery into the ball; in all 616.

SUMMARY OF DIMENSIONS.

	Feet.
Length, from east to west, within the walls	500
From north to south, within the doors of the porticos	286
The breadth of the west entrance	100
The circuit of the entire building	2,292
The circumference of the cupola	430
The diameter of the ball	6
From the ball to the top of the cross	30
The diameter of the columns of the porticos	4
The height to the top of the west pediment under the figure of St. Paul	120
The height of the campaniles of the west front	287

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

Westminster Abbey, or the collegiate church of St. Peter, derives its name from its situation in the western part of the metropolis; and its original des-

tination, as the church of a monastery. It was founded by Sebert, King of the East Saxons; but being afterwards destroyed by the Danes, it was rebuilt by King Edgar in 958. King Edward the Confessor again rebuilt the church in 1065; and Pope Nicholas II. constituted it a place of inauguration of the kings of England. The monastery was surrendered by the abbot and convent to Henry VIII., who at first converted the establishment into a college of secular canons, under the government of a dean, and afterwards into a cathedral, of which the county of Middlesex (with the exception of the parish of Fulham, belonging to the bishop of London), was the diocese. Edward VI. dissolved the see, and restored the college, which was subsequently converted, by Mary, to its original appropriation of an abbey. Elizabeth dissolved that institution in 1650, and founded the present establishment, for a dean, twelve secular canons, and thirty petty canons; a school of forty boys, denominated the queen's or king's scholars, with a master and usher, together with twelve almsmen, an organist, choristers, &c.

The present church was principally built by Henry III. On the completion of the chapel in the first of Edward the Confessor, that monarch resolved that the remains of the saint should be removed into the new shrine in the chapel; and, says Mr. Brayley, in his history of this abbey, "in the sight of all the principal nobility and gentry of the land, who were assembled here, he and his brother Richard carried the chest, containing St. Edward's remains, upon their shoulders to the new shrine, wherein it was deposited with vast ceremony and exultation. The princes Edward and Edmund, together with the Earl of Warren, the Lord Philip Basset, and others of the nobility, assisted to support the chest;" and we are informed by Matthew of Westminster, that, "on seeing it exalted, the devils were instantly cast out of two

possessed persons, who had come purposely—the one from Ireland, the other from Winchester—to receive benefit on the day of St. Edward's removal!"

The anniversary of St. Edward's translation was long observed by the corporation and principal citizens of London visiting his shrine, and the monarch and his court frequently mingled in the group.

During the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I., the eastern part of the nave and the aisles were rebuilt, and finished in 1307. In the reigns of Edward II., Edward III., and Richard II., the great cloisters, abbot's house, and the principal monastic buildings were erected. The western part of the nave and the aisles were rebuilt by successive monarchs, between the years 1340 and 1483. The west front and the great window were built by Richard III. and Henry VII.; and it was the latter monarch who commenced the magnificent chapel which bears his name, and which was finished by his son and successor. The first stone of this chapel was laid on the 24th of January, 1502-3, by the Abbot Islip; and although the king did not live to see the work finished, yet, after amply endowing the abbey, he gave Islip £5000 towards completing it, only a few days before his decease. Although Henry VIII. finished the chapel, yet he did not spare the abbey from the general dissolution of the monasteries, nor could an existence of upwards of nine centuries successfully plead in its behalf. The monarch, however, while he seized on its revenues, which were nearly £4000 a-year, raised it to the dignity of a cathedral, by royal letters patent, and endowed it with a revenue of £586 13*s*. 1*d*. Queen Mary restored its monastic privileges; but in 1556 Elizabeth finally established it as a collegiate church.

From the time of Henry VIII. to the accession of the House of Brunswick, little appears to have been done to improve the abbey; but, on the contrary, it

suffered the profanation of the soldiery during the early part of the commonwealth, when Sir Robert Harlow, who was employed to demolish the venerable cross at Cheapside, broke into Henry VII.'s chapel, demolished the altar-stone, and committed other outrages. In July, 1643, it appears that the abbey was converted into barracks for the soldiers, who broke down the rails about the altars, placed forms around the communion table, from off which they dined and supped, drinking ale and smoking tobacco as they sat; they demolished the organ, and pawned the pipes at the neighbouring pot-houses for ale; and dressing themselves in the canonical habits, made a mockery of everything that was religious.

During the reign of George I. and II. the great west window was rebuilt, and the western tower completed; but it is to their immediate successors that Westminster Abbey is most indebted, in the restoration of the exterior of Henry VII.'s chapel to its original beauty, after it had become so much delapidated. This work was commenced in 1809, under the direction of Mr. James Wyatt, and has been completed at an expense of about £42,000. The external appearance of the Abbey is not strictly uniform, but the appearance of the west front is extremely beautiful. The gate is wrought with much delicacy, and the light and elegant screen corresponds with the large window it supports. The two towers, which are of more recent date, were completed by Sir Christopher Wren, but are not so much to be admired.

The front of the north transept has a very noble appearance, to which the elegant rose window, rebuilt about 1722, greatly contributes. In the south front is a similar window, erected in 1814, in the place of one decayed. The north window is filled with stained glass, representing our Saviour, the evangelists, and apostles.

On entering the great western door, the body of the

church presents an impressive appearance, to which its loftiness, lightness, symmetry, and elegance contribute, although the view is somewhat disfigured by the monuments, many of which are neither good in themselves nor tastefully arranged. The church consists of a nave and two side aisles, separated by ranges of lofty columns supporting the roof, which is very high. The nave is separated from the choir by a screen; the choir, in the form of a semi-octagon, was formerly surrounded by ten chapels, but there are now only seven—that which was formerly the central chapel now forms the porch to that of Henry VII.

THE CHOIR is celebrated for its beautiful mosaic pavement, venerable in its age, costly in its material, and of elegant workmanship. This pavement, made at the expense of Abbot Ware, and named after him, is formed of innumerable pieces of jasper, alabaster, porphyry, lapis lazuli, serpentine marbles, and touchstone; these pieces, which vary in size from half an inch to four inches, are arranged in the most varied and beautiful forms, and present a platform of singular beauty. On the 9th of July, 1805, the roof of the choir was much injured by a fire, which threatened the entire destruction of this magnificent structure.

In 1776 the stalls, &c., were rebuilt, and the floor somewhat raised, by which the choir is made more commodious for divine service, and for the performance of the ceremonies of coronations, installations, &c. All the alterations are in a light and elegant Gothic style, and the whole choir is very beautiful. Among other improvements, it can be thrown more open to make room for temporary buildings to join St. Edward's chapel, where our sovereigns retire to refresh at their coronations. On the side of this aisle is the entrance to the enclosed chapels, and to the chapel of Edward the Confessor, which stands in the centre, and is enclosed in the body of the church.

The monuments in the chapel and round the walls

of the abbey which claim particular attention are described with great correctness; but our limits will only permit us to enumerate a few.

CHAPEL OF ST. BENEDICT.—On the side next the area is an antique tomb of freestone, inclosed in an iron railing, to the memory of Archbishop Langham, who died July 22, 1376. A figure of the archbishop lies on the tomb.

A majestic and curious monument of black and white marble, to the memory of Lyonel Cranfield, Earl of Middlesex, who died in 1645. On it are represented an ancient nobleman in his robes, with his lady, recumbent.

A handsome monument, composed of different coloured marbles, to the memory of Lady Frances, Countess of Hertford, who died 1598. The lady is in her robes in a recumbent posture; her feet on the back of a lion, and her head resting on an embroidered cushion. The sculpture deserves attention. A stately temple is represented, adorned with the ensigns and devices of the families of Somerset and Effingham.

As we proceed from this chapel to the next, affixed in the wall, is a table monument to the children of Henry III. and Edward I. This has been a costly monument of mosaic work.

CHAPEL OF ST. EDMUND.—On the left of the entrance is a monument of John Eltham, second son of King Edward II. The figure of this nobleman, who died in 1334, is of white alabaster, habited like an armed knight; a coronet of greater and lesser leaves encircles the head, said to be the first of the kind.

A monument to the memory of William of Windsor, sixth son of Edward III., and of Blanch of the Tower, his sister, so named from the place of their nativity. The effigies of these children lie on a small table monument; the boy is dressed in a short doublet, and the girl in a horned head-dress, the habits of their time.

An altar to Lady Elizabeth Russell, daughter of Lord Russell. The image is of white marble, and sits in a sleeping posture. Beneath her foot is a death's-head, at which she points with her finger. It has been said that a bleeding of the finger caused her death; but the design alludes to her composure of mind at the approach of death, which she seems to consider only as a profound sleep, and that she would awake again in the gladness of a glorious resurrection —of which the motto is a proof, "She is not dead, but sleepeth." An eagle, the emblem of eternity, stands on a florilege of roses, &c.

An ancient table-monument of grey marble, to Humphrey Bouchier, bearing, in plated brass, the figure of a knight in armour, having one foot upon an eagle, and the other upon a leopard, and his head reclining upon a helmet. He was slain in the battle of Barnet-field, 1470.

Another ancient altar-tomb to William de Valence, who was slain at Bayonne, 1296. This is a wooden figure, lying in a recumbent posture, on a wainscot-chest, which stands upon a tomb of grey marble, plated and ornamented with images, &c.

Chapel of St. Nicholas.—A costly monument to Mildred, wife of the great Lord Burleigh, and his daughter Anne, Countess of Oxford. In the upper compartment, Lord Burleigh is represented as a Knight of the Garter, devoutly kneeling; and in the lower compartment, in a recumbent posture, lie Lady Burleigh and Anne. Her children and grandchildren are kneeling at her head and feet.—Lady Burleigh died in 1529; her daughter, in 1588.

A very handsome monument of white marble to the Duchess of Northumberland. In the centre is a pyramid, with a flaming vase at the top; at its base is a sarcophagus, on which, in bas-relief, the Duchess is represented as Charity, surrounded by distressed objects, to whom she is dispensing relief. On one

side is Faith, and on the other, Hope; the altars against which they stand are adorned with festoons and rams' heads, with flaming vases on the top.—Above is an urn, with two weeping figures mourning for her loss; and in the arch beneath is the Percy crescent over two hymeneal torches reversed, with the lion and unicorn sciant.

Henry VII.'s Chapel.—This magnificent chapel, which adjoins the east end of the abbey church, and communicates with the body by a flight of steps, was erected by Henry as a place of sepulture for himself and family; and till the reign of Charles I., no persons but those of the blood-royal were allowed to be interred there. The expense of erecting this handsome chapel is said to have been £14,000, which would be equal to £200,000 in our time.

Every part of this edifice, except the plinth, is covered with scriptural decorations. It seems, indeed, as if the artist had intended to give to stone the character of embroidery, and enclose the walls within the meshes of lace-work. The interior consists of a beautiful porch, or vestibule; a choir, with side-aisles; and five small projecting chapels, surrounding the eastend. The roof and vaulting are surrounded by fourteen octagonal buttress-towers, richly ornamented, from which spring the elegantly-pierced dying buttresses that support the superstructure of the nave. The badges and supporters of the royal founder, the portcullis, the rose, the fleur-de-lis, the lion, the greyhound, and the dragon, are sculptured on many parts; and every tower presents a series of either three or four canopied niches, which originally were occupied by statues. In the year 1803, this chapel had become so completely ruinous, externally, and the stone was so much decayed, that the safety of the whole fabric was endangered; but, as we have previously noticed, it was repaired at an expense of £42,000. The repairs were executed with Bath stone. On ascending the steps

below the vestibule, the interior is approached by three arches, closed by highly-ornamented gules of oak, covered with thick plates of brass, richly gilt. The central-plates are double, and the upper parts are perforated into numerous compartments, occupied by King Henry's initials; arms, badges, and other heraldic insignia in relief, frequently repeated, and corresponding on both sides.

The choir is separated from the aisles and chapels by lofty arches, springing from clustered columns or piers; above which, under rich canopies is a continued range of statues, representing apostles, saints, bishops, &c., many of which are sculptured with considerable skill, and gracefulness. Great elegance is displayed in the forms and tracey, of the windows, and particularly of that towards the west. The eastern windows project in acute angles, but those of the aisles are embowed. Originally there were all filled with stained and painted glass; but the whole have been removed or destroyed, except a figure of Henry VII. in the uppermost east window, and some trifling heraldic memorials.

In the middle of the chapel, within a screen, near the east end, is the magnificent tomb of Henry and his queen, which was executed by special contract for £1500. The figures of the deceased, designated in a style of great simplicity, lie upon the tomb with their hands raised as in prayer; these statues are of cast copper, and were once resplendent with gilding, but but are now much discoloured. The pedestal is principally of black marble, but the figures, pilasters, relievos, rose branches, &c., which adorn it are of copper gilt, as directed by King Henry's will. On each side within boldly sculptured wreaths of fruit and flowers, are three circular plates of cast metal, each of which includes two small whole length figures of the king's patron saints. On the angles of the tomb are small angels seated, and at the ends are the royal arms

and quarterings. The screen or enclosure, which is wholly of brass and copper, is one of the most elaborate specimens of the art of founding in open work that exists. It is designed in the pointed style of decoration, and is of an oblong form. At each angle rises an octagonal tower, and on each side there is an arched door-way, surmounted by a large rose and a shield of arms. A projecting cornice and a parapet ornamented with the king's badges form the summit; and at the sides, on the transverse plates, between the two divisions into which the upright compartments are separated, is a long inscription to the memory of the monarch. This elegantly wrought fabric was both designed and executed by English artists.

On each side of the choir, upon a raised flooring, is a row of stalls, with elaborate pierced canopies of polished oak; in front are reading desks, and below the latter, on the pavement, are rows of seats. The *subsellia* display a very whimsical assemblage of historical and other carvings, some of which are extremely grotesque and ludicrous. Both the stalls and seats have long been appropriated to the knights of the Bath and their esquires; and the installations of all the Knights of that Order, have taken place in the chapel, since its revival by George I. On the dome of the canopies are the helmets, crests, and swords of the knights; and over them are silken banners painted with the arms of all the Knights who belonged to the Order at the time of the last installation.

The vaulting of the choir has been truly termed a prodigy of art, and it is altogether, perhaps, without a parallel in architecture. Erected entirely of stone, the vastness of its extent and fearful height excite astonishment at the hardihood and skill which could raise such masses, and counteract the power of gravity.

The east end of the side aisles are formed into beautiful little chapels, before which were formerly elegant

screens. Among the many monuments here we will only mention the following:—

One to the memory of Mary Queen of Scots; to the Countess of Richmond, mother of Henry VII.; to John Sheffield, and George Villiers, Dukes of Buckingham: and a noble monument to the memory of Queen Elizabeth.

EDWARD THE CONFESSOR'S CHAPEL, is situated immediately behind the altar; the venerable shrine of St. Edward, erected by Henry III., stands in the centre, but it is sadly defaced. Edward I. made an offering to it of the Scottish regalia and chair, with the still more celebrated stone, which tradition relates to have been Jacob's pillar. This stone is placed within the frame work of the chair, and was brought from Scone, in Scotland, in 1267, by Edward I. It is a remarkable instance of the force of superstition, that this stone has been the subject of an express article in a treaty of peace, as well as of a conference between Edward III. and David King of Scotland. By the treaty it was agreed to give the stone up to Scotland, and in the conference, it was resolved that the king, after being crowned in England, should repair to Scotland and be crowned king at Scone; but neither of these resolutions were carried into effect.

A prophetic distich, said to have been cut on this stone by King Kennith, is no doubt the cause of the superstitious reverence which the Scots attached to this stone; when translated it reads—

> Where'er this stone is found, or fate's decree is vain,
> The Scots the same shall hold, and there supremely reign.

And this prophecy is said, in a great measure, to have reconciled many of the Scottish nation to the union with England.

There are several monuments in this chapel, among which are—

An ancient table monument, on which lies the effigy of Eleanor, queen of Edward I.

A large plain sarcophagus of grey marble. This unpolished tomb encloses the embalmed body of the celebrated King Edward I., who died 1307. In May, 1774, this sarcophagus was opened; when, in a coffin of yellow stone, the royal body was found in perfect preservation, enclosed in two wrappers, the inner one, which was of gold tissue, being strongly waxed, was fresh; the outer one was more decayed. The strictest care was observed in replacing everything about it.

The tomb of Edward III. covered with a Gothic canopy. On a table of grey marble lies the effigy of this prince. At the head is the shield and sword which were carried before him in France.

Another to Richard II. and his queen, over which is a canopy of wood, remarkable for a curious painting of the Virgin Mary and our Saviour, still visible upon it. He was murdered 1399; she died 1394.

In a wainscot press in this chapel is the waxen effigy of Edmund Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham, who died 1735.

HENRY V's. CHAPEL contains the magnificent tomb of that glorious and warlike prince. On the tomb are his effigies, formerly covered with silver, which caused the head to be stolen during the disorders of the Reformation. Models of the abbey and of several churches in London, are likewise deposited in this chapel.

ST. ERASMUS's CHAPEL contains a monument to the memory of Thomas Vaughan, who lived in the reign of Edward IV.

A monument to Col. Edward Popham and his lady. Beneath a lofty canopy are represented their figures, as large as life, in white marble. They are resting their arms in a thoughtful posture, upon a marble altar, where lie the gloves of an armed knight.

About the middle is a large table-monument to Thomas Cecil, Earl of Exeter. He is represented in his robes, having his lady on his right side, and on his left a vacant place for his second wife; which she expressly forbid by her will, her pride not suffering her to take a place on his left side.

CHAPEL OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST.—In this chapel are only two monuments worth notice; one to the memory of John Islip, the founder, who was Abbot of Westminster, a plain marble table, supported by four small pillars of brass, and is placed in the centre; he died in 1510. The other to Sir Christopher Hatton, the figure of a knight, in armour, and a lady in deep mourning, both resting on the ascending sides of a triangular pediment, parted in the middle by a trunkless helmet. In the centre of a neat piece of architecture, above their heads, is a scroll with their arms, held by naked boys; the one over the knight has his torch put out and reversed, showing that Sir Christopher died first; the other over the lady has his torch erect and burning, to signify her surviving him. He was Chancellor of England in the reign of Elizabeth, and died in 1619.

In the chauntry of this chapel, in wainscot presses, are the wax-work effigies of King William and Queen Mary, with Queens Anne and Elizabeth, all in their coronation robes. In another press is an excellent wax figure of the late Lord Chatham. It is a striking likeness of his lordship in his parliamentary robes; and, also, a wax figure of the celebrated Lord Nelson.

CHAPEL OF ST. JOHN AND ST. MICHAEL.—In this chapel are many monuments worthy of notice.

A curious table-monument to Sir Francis Vere, a gentleman famed for learning and arms, is placed in the area of the chapel. Four knights kneeling support the table, and on it lie the several parts of a complete suit of armour; beneath, in a loose gown, on a

quilt of alabaster, lies the effigy of Sir Francis. He died in 1606.

Close to the wall on the east, is a monument to Sir George Holles, Sir Francis Vere's nephew, and major-general under him. The siege of a town in relief, in represented on the pedestal. A general on horseback is the principal figure; he holds a baton, and has received a blemish in one of his eyes. On one sits Bellona, and on the other Pallas, lamenting this warrior's death, who is represented standing erect upon a lofty altar.

Here is a beautiful monument erected to the memory of Joseph Gascoigne Nightingale and his lady. She died in 1734; he died in 1752. Beneath, is represented, creeping from a tomb, the grim visaged King of Terrors pointing his unerring dart at the lady above, who is expiring in the arms of her husband; at the sight of whom he is suddenly struck with astonishment, horror, and despair, and is attempting to put aside the fatal stroke. The whole is executed with astonishing truth and effect.

A beautiful monument to Jonas Hanway. On the top of a pyramid is a lamp, emblematical of perpetual light, under which is a medallion of the deceased. Beneath is a sarcophagus, decorated with his arms, the motto "never despair," and festoons; and on it Britannia with a lion and the emblems of government. Peace, War, Trade and Navigation, represent the Marine Society giving clothing to an almost naked boy, who receives them with gratitude: a second boy is imploring the same bounty; and a third, who is made happy by being fitted out and trained for sea, sustains a ship's rudder, and points up to the head of his benefactor. From behind the pyramid on the right flies a British flag over a conquered one; and on the left that of the Marine Society, with the motto "charity and policy united." Mr. Hanway was the friend and father of the poor; by an active zeal he

assisted the following charities:—the Foundling Hospital, where destitute infants are nurtured; the Magdalen, where friendless prostitutes are sheltered and reformed; the Marine Society, by which many boys are rescued from misery and ruin, and trained to defend their country. In short, he possessed an universal philanthropy, which was ever exerting itself for the relief of distress. He died in 1786.

On the east side of the door leading to the choir is the monument to the memory of the eminent statesman, C. J. Fox. He is represented in a recumbent position falling into the arms of Liberty; at his feet is Peace lamenting the loss of one whose voice had so often been raised in her behalf, and an African negro testifying his gratitude for the patriotic efforts of Mr. Fox to abolish the slave trade. He died in 1806, but this monument was not erected till 1823.

A very lofty and magnificent monument to Lord Chatham. The emblematical figures are large, pleasing, and well executed. A rich pediment supports Britannia: on her right hand is Ocean, and on her left Earth, whose countenances are expressive of sorrow at the loss of this great statesman. Above these are the figures of Prudence and Fortitude. At the top is a full length figure of his lordship, in parliamentary robes, as speaking; it is a striking likeness, in a graceful attitude. Died in 1778.

In the area, behind the choir on the right hand, is a stately monument to Lord Ligonier, commander-in-chief of his majesty's forces. It is a masterly performance. The principal figure is History, resting on a sepulchral urn, on which are the arms and ensigns of the Order of the Bath; in her right hand she holds a pen, and with it points to a scroll in her left, whereon are recorded the ten chief battles in which he distinguished himself. On the base of the urn, each side of which is adorned with trophies of war, is his lordship's portrait in profile. The carriage of a cannon sup-

ports a Roman coat of mail, in which the emblem of Fortitude, supporting the laurelled helmet, represents the soldier at rest. Behind History is a pyramid, and on the top of it his lordship's crest. Above are the medallions of Queen Anne, George I., II., and III., under whom he served seventy years; as also a medallion of Britannia. Died in 1770.

Opposite, is a noble monument to Major-general Wolfe, a brave officer, who, after surmounting innumerable obstacles in the conquest of Quebec, received a ball in his breast, and expired in the moment of victory. At this instant, he is here represented with his hand covering the wound which the ball had made, and falling into the arms of a grenadier, who catches and endeavours to support him, at the same time pointing to the clouds, where Fame, in the character of Victory, is ready to crown him with a wreath of laurel. On the pyramid, is the Highland sergeant who attended him, whose inexpressible sorrow is most admirably shown by the sculptor. Two lions support the monument, and wolves' heads decorate the flanks. On the front, in alto-relievo, is an excellent representation of the landing of the troops at Quebec. Killed in 1759. Erected by parliament.

Poets' Corner.—So called from the number of monuments erected there to celebrate English poets; though we find here a most magnificent monument, erected at the south end, to the memory of John, Duke of Argyle; and others, to Camden, the antiquary; Dr. Isaac Barrow; and Thomas Parr, who died at the age of 152 years.

Among other tributes to departed talent, we have here a monument to the immortal Shakspeare. It is extremely beautiful; the attitude, shape, air, and dress of the figure, are finely expressed. On the pedestal are the the heads of Henry V., Richard III., and Queen Elizabeth, alluding to characters in his

dramatic works. On the scroll are his celebrated lines:—

> The cloud-capt towers, the gorgeous palaces,
> The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
> Yea, all which it inherits, shall dissolve,
> And, like the baseless fabric of a vision,
> Leave not a wreck behind!

A handsome monument to the celebrated poet, James Thomson. This gentleman is represented sitting, having his left arm upon a pedestal, and a book with the Cap of Liberty in his other hand. The Seasons are carved upon the pedestal in basso-relievo, to which a boy points, offering him a crown of laurel as the reward of his genius The tragic mask, with the ancient harp lies at his feet. A projecting pedestal supports the whole. Died 1748.

A monument to the celebrated John Gay, who died 1732. This gentleman excelled in farce, satire, fable, and pastoral; of which the mask, dagger, and instruments of music, here blended together, are emblems. The two lines in front were written by himself.

> Life is a jest, and all things show it;
> I thought so once; but now I know it!

A monument to David Garrick, the eminent actor, who died in 1769. The background is of dove-coloured marble. Tragedy and Comedy, with their relative attributes, are acknowledging the actor's superior power of calling forth and supporting the characters of the great Shakspeare, which is expressed by Garrick's removing the curtain which concealed the bard and showing his medallion.

SOUTH AISLE.—A small handsome monument in white marble, to Dr. Isaac Watts, the eminent divine. His bust is supported by Genii, whose countenances express a pleasing satisfaction. Below is a beautiful

figure of the actor contemplatively sitting on a stool, whilst an angel is opening to him the wonders of creation. He has a pen in one hand, and points to a celestial globe with the other. Died 1748.

A very neat monument to Major John Andre. It is composed of a sarcophagus, elevated on a pedestal. On the front, General Washington is represented in his tent at the time he received the report of the court-martial which tried Major Andre. A flag of truce from the British army is likewise seen, with a letter to the General to treat for the Major's life, which was unsuccessful. He is here represented as going with great fortitude to meet his doom. On the top, Britannia laments his fate; and the lion seems to mourn his untimely death. He was executed in America as a spy, during the unhappy troubles in that country in 1780.

To the memory of Sir Palmer Fairborne, governor of Tangier. This fine monument is placed between two grand pyramids of black marble, which stands on cannon balls; on the tops are two Moorish emperors' heads in profile, and emblematical devices, in relief, adorn their middles. The enrichments, in relief, on the pyramids, show the manner of his glorious death; one side represents his execution while viewing the enemy's lines before the town, and the other, a hearse and six horses bringing him wounded to the castle. His arms, with the motto, "*Tutis si fortis*," are on a lofty dome; and over them, by way of crest, is a Turk's head on a dagger, which he won by his courage when fighting against the Turks in the German war. Died 1680.

The monument to the memory of William Hargrave, Esq., governor of Gibraltar, must not escape notice. It was designed and executed by Roubiliac. The resurrection is represented by a body rising from a sarcophagus. A contest between Time and Death: Time proves victorious, and by breaking his an-

tagonist's dart, divests him of his power, and tumbles him down; the King of Terrors drops his crown from his head. Above is a vast building in a state of desolation; and in the clouds is a cherub sounding the last trumpet. The whole has a noble appearance. Died 1748.

A magnificent monument of Admiral Tyrrell. The device is from the burial service. "When the sea shall give up the dead." An angel descending is sounding the last trumpet, while the admiral is rising from the sea behind a large rock, on which are placed his arms, with emblems of Valour, Prudence, and Justice. The background represents darkness. The separation of the cloud discovers the celestial light, and a choir of cherubims singing praises to the Almighty; over the rock, at a vast distance, the sea and clouds seem to join. The admiral's countenance, with his right hand on his breast, is expressive of hope and anxiety, and his left arm significant of seeing something wonderfully awful. On the rock an angel has written this inscription: "The sea shall give up her dead, and every one shall be rewarded according to his works." Hope is on the top of the rock; in her left hand is a celestial crown to reward his virtue, and with joyful countenance she extends her right to receive the admiral. Hibernia leans on a globe lamenting his loss, and pointing to that part of the sea where his body was committed. The admiral's ship, Buckingham, with its masts imperfect, are on one side of the rock, and on the other is a flag with trophies of war.

The next noble monument has a bold base and pyramids of Sicilian marble; is fifty-six feet high, and and is erected to Captain James Cornwall. The rock seen against the pyramid is embellished with naval trophies, sea-weeds, &c., and in it are two cavities; in one, is a Latin epitaph, and in the other is a view of the sea-fight before Toulon, in basso-relievo. On the

foreground the Marlborough, of ninety guns, is seen fiercely engaged with Admiral Navarro's ship, the Real, of 114 guns, and her two seconds, all raking the Marlborough fore and aft. On the rock stand two figures; one is Britannia, under the character of Minerva, accompanied by a lion; the other figure represents Fame, who, having presented to Minerva a medallion of the hero, supports her whilst exhibited to public view. The medallion is accompanied with a globe, and various honorary crowns, as due to Valour. Behind the figures is a lofty palm-tree (whereon is fixed the hero's shield, or coat-of-arms), together with a laurel-tree—both of which issue from the naturally barren rock, as alluding to some heroic and uncommon event. Killed in the above fight, 1743.

The monument to the Right Hon. William Pitt is over the great west door. He is represented in his robes, as Chancellor of the Exchequer. On the right, History is recording the acts of his administration—whilst Anarchy, on his left, lies subdued and chained at his feet. He died, 1806.

Sir Godfrey Kneller, died, 1723. His bust is under a canopy of state, the curtains of which are finely gilt, and tied up with golden strings. On each side of the bust is a weeping cherub, one resting on a framed picture, the other holding a paintor's pallet and pen. He was painter to several of the Kings of England.

At the entrance to the choir is a grand and expressive monument to Sir Isaac Newton. He is recumbent, leaning his right arm on four folios, "Divinity, Chronology, Optics, and Phil. Prin. Matth.," and pointing to a scroll supported by a winged cherubim. Above is a globe projecting from a pyramid behind, whereon is delineated the course of the comet in 1680, with the signs, constellations and planets. On this globe sits a figure of Astronomy, with her book closed,

in a very composed and pensive mood. Beneath is a very curious bas-relief, representng the labours in which Sir Isaac chiefly employed his time—as discovering the cause of gravitation, settling the principle of light and colours, and reducing the coinage to a determined standard. The device of weighing the sun by the steelyard is bold and striking; and the whole monument has been much praised. Died 1726.

On the opposite side is a lofty and magnificent monument to James Earl Stanhope. The principal figure leans upon his arm in a recumbent posture, having in one hand a general's staff, and in the other a parchment scroll. Cupid stands before him resting on a shield. Over a martial tent sits a beautiful figure of Pallas, holding in her right hand a javelin, and in the other a scroll. Behind is a slender pyramid, answering to that of Sir Isaac Newton's. On the middle of the pedestal are two medals, one on each side of the pilasters. He was a soldier, and a statesman. Died in 1721.

In the cloisters which adjoin the abbey, on the south side, are interred many eminent individuals: among them may be noticed G. Vertue, who died 1756, and William Woolett, who died 1785, both eminent engravers; Dr. R. Jebb, A. O'Keefe, Esq. and Mrs. Addison, 1715. In the south walk are also the mutilated tombs of the abbots of the conventual church.

From the east end of the cloisters there is an entrance through a vaulted passage into the chapter-house. This is an octagonal building and was formerly very lofty, with a pillar rising from the centre of the floor to the roof, and having arches springing from the walls of each angle, and meeting at the top. Only a small part of the central pillar is remaining, and the whole building has been fitted up with galleries, to contain the records of the crown, which are now deposited here. Among these is the celebrated Domesday Book, compiled towards the end of the eleventh

century, still as legible as when first written. It is comprised in two volumes: the first containing thirty-one counties, is written on 382 double pages of vellum, in the same hand, throughout, in a small plain character; the second is on 450 pages of vellum, in single columns, and in a large fair character, and contains the counties of Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk. The records of the Star-chamber proceedings are also deposited here.

In 1377, the Commons of Great Britain first held their meetings in this building; but in 1547, Edward VI. gave them the chapel of St. Stephen.

North from the abbey stood the *Sanctuary*, the place of refuge allowed, in olden times, to criminals of certain classes; and on the south was the Almonry, where the alms of the abbot were distributed. On this spot the first printing press ever used in England was set up.

The abbey is open throughout the day from nine till dusk; but the public are not shown the tombs, &c., between the hours of ten and eleven in the forenoon, and between three and four in the afternoon; these being the hours of divine service. During these, however, the entrance at Poets' corner is open. In winter the abbey closes at four o'clock. Admission, free to Poets' Corner at all hours; to the nave 3*d*; to the chapels, Henry VII's chapel, and the remainder of the abbey 3*d*.

SUMMARY OF DIMENSIONS—ABBEY CHURCH.

	feet	inches
Length—Exterior from east to west, including Henry VII's chapel	530	0
Of the church in the clear	375	0
Vestibule before Henry VII's chapel	18	0
Transept, from north to south, in the clear	204	10
Cloister from east to west	141	0
——— north to south	160	0
Diameter of the chapter-house (octagon)	59	6
Width—Church, west-front	119	0

	Nave, interior	31	6
	Aisles, interior	12	6
	Total, in the clear	79	0
	Each arch	21	0
Height—	West towers each	225	0
	Central tower	153	9
	Church, exterior, to upper parapet	114	0
	——— to ridge of roof	141	0
	—— interior, to vault of nave	103	0

HENRY VII's CHAPEL.

Length—	Exterior	113	7
	Interior	83	4
	Aisles	61	9
Width—	Exterior	77	4
	Choir, interior	33	8
Height—	Exterior to parapet of aisles	41	6
	Buttresses, ditto	70	9
	Upper parapet	74	2
	West buttress	101	6
	Interior to vault of choir	63	7

CHURCHES.

St. Margaret, Westminster.—This church was founded by Edward the Confessor, within a few yards from the abbey, in 1064. The ancient edifice remained until the reign of Edward I., when it was rebuilt by the merchants of the staple, and the parishioners, with the exception of the chancel, which was built by the Abbot of Westminster, about the year 1307. The church underwent frequent repairs during the seventeenth century, principally by the benevolence of individuals; but, in 1735, it was found necessary to call upon the government, and parliament granted a sum of £3,500, in order to rebuild a part of the tower, and make other substantial repairs.—Twenty-three years afterwards, a sum of £4,000 was appropriated to embellish this church; and in 1803, when other repairs were found necessary, a richly-ornamented pulpit and reading-desk, with a new organ, and a chair for the Speaker of the House of Commons, were added.

The church is a neat Gothic edifice; but its principal ornament is a beautiful window of the Crucifixion, which was painted by direction of the magistrates of Dort, as a present to Henry VII. for his chapel.—The king and queen sent their portraits, and they are represented at their devotions in the picture, which not being finished when the king died, it fell into the hands of the Abbot of Waltham. On the suppression of that monastery, the window was removed to New-hall, in Essex, then in possession of General Monck, and by him preserved during the civil wars; and after passing to several persons, it was sold to the committee appointed for superintending the repairs of this church, for four hundred guineas; the figures, which are numerous, are extremely fine; and in addition to that of our Saviour, there is a representation of the two thieves reaping the different rewards of their obstinacy and penitence. A fiend is bearing off the soul of the hardened thief—while an angel waits to receive that of the penitent. The subordinate figures are the two Marys; the Roman centurion, mounted on a spirited charger, finely executed; St. George of Cappodocia; Catharine the Martyr, of Alexandria; Henry VII. and his queen; and other auxiliaries, which are finely grouped, and have a striking effect. Beneath this window is a striking representation of "Our Saviour's meeting at Emmaus." The Church of St. Margaret contains few monuments worthy of notice; nor, with the exception of Sir Walter Raleigh, does it contain any of the illustrious dead, who are to be found in many of the churches of the metropolis. The only memorial that has been raised to this victim of tyranny is a tablet, with the following inscription:

"Within the walls of this church was deposited the body of Sir Walter Raleigh, Knt., on the day he was beheaded in Old Palace-yard, Westminster, Oct. 18th, an. Dom. 1618.

> Reader, should you reflect on his errors,
> Remember his many virtues,
> And that he was but mortal."

Posterity might surely afford a monument to this great man, who distinguished himself as much by his literary talents, as by his valour, and magnanimity.—The head of Sir Walter was not interred in the church, but was long preserved by his family.

The Roxburghe club have erected a neat tablet to the memory of William Caxton, who introduced into this country the art of printing, which he exercised in the adjacent abbey of Westminster, 1477.

St. John the Baptist.—This church is almost the only remains of the ancient palace of the Savoy, in the Strand, which was built in the year 1245. It does not appear that the chapel suffered by the riots of the Kentish rebels in the reign of Henry VI., but a considerable part of the palace was demolished, and the whole was repaired in 1509. The roof of this church is very fine, being divided into pannels, on which numerous religious and heraldic devices are carved. This church, which was tastefully repaired in 1820, contains several ancient monuments of the Willoughby, Howard, and Compton families, as well as of other persons.

St. Dunstan in the West.—No church in London was, perhaps, so well known as St. Dunstan's, in Fleet-street; not certainly on account of its external elegance, but for the equivocal celebrity it has acquired by the two wooden figures placed in a niche in front, in 1671, representing savages, who indicated the hours and quarters by striking a bell with their clubs. As they were visible in the street, they were, says an historian, "More admired by many of the populace on Sundays, than the most eloquent preacher from the pulpit within." Charity induces us to hope better, particularly as Dr. Donne, the celebrated Richard Baxter, and the pious Romaine, were preach-

ers at St. Dunstan's. There is no evidence when this church was erected, but Stowe records burials in it as early as the year 1421. In 1820 it underwent considerable repairs; but in 1828 it was found to be in such a decayed state, that it was ordered to be removed, to improve the thoroughfare in Fleet-street.

St. Dunstan in the East, St. Dunstan's-hill.—This church was rebuilt in 1820, with the exception of the tower, which is very much admired for its singular construction; the spire rests on the crowns of four pointed arches—a bold attempt in architecture, and one proof, amongst many, of the geometrical skill of Sir Christopher Wren, by whom it was constructed in 1678. The windows of the church are richly decorated with painted glass; that at the east end, containing representations of the Ark, with Moses and Aaron, and over them our Saviour and the four Evangelists.

St. Giles, Cripplegate, one of the neatest Gothic buildings in London, was erected in 1546, on the site of the ancient church built by Alfune, the first master of Bartholomew Hospital in 1090, and burnt down in the year 1545. It is a light, airy, well-proportioned structure, which will always be attractive to the antiquary and the poet, on account of its being the place where Speed, the historian, Fox, the martyrologist, and Milton, the poet, were interred. Oliver Cromwell was married in this church.

St. Mary, Inner Temple, usually called The Temple Church, belongs to the societies of the Inner and Middle Temple. The western part, which is circular, is highly interesting, as being one of the earliest specimens of the pointed style of architecture. It was built by the Knights Templars about 1185, and displays a series of six clustered columns, supporting the same number of pointed arches, over which is a triforium and a clerestory, with semicircular arches.

Near the centre, in the area, is a series of recumbent effigies of Knights Templars. The body of the church is of a later date, and is one of the purest examples of the style of the thirteenth century. The exterior of this church was substantially repaired in 1827.

St. Bartholomew the Great.—This church, which was a part of the ancient priory of St. Bartholomew, in Smithfield, owed its foundation to Rahere, the king's minstrel, about the year 1202. It was in part rebuilt about the year 1410. It is one of the most ancient churches in London, and exhibits some fine specimens of Norman architecture. On the north side of the altar is a fine monument to Rahere, the founder,

St. Bartholomew the Less.—This church, which is entered through Smithfield, appears to be of considerable antiquity, as there are monuments in it of as early a date as 1438. The sculpture in the interior, which is the Gothic style, is very neat, and it was repaired, and in part rebuilt, in 1823, in a very substantial manner.

St. Helen, Bishopsgate, so called on account of its being dedicated to the mother of Constantine, was originally a priory of black nuns. The church, which is a light Gothic structure, with a tower built in 1669, is honoured with the remains of Sir Julius Cæsar, Sir Thomas Gresham, founder of the Royal Exchange, Sir John Crosby, and other worthies.

St. Andrew Undershaft.—This church, which is situated in Leadenhall-street, is so called on account of a may-pole, or shaft, having formerly been raised every year on the first of May, which was higher than the church steeple. This church was rebuilt in 1525, at the expense of William Fitzwilliam, the founder of the noble house of Wentworth. In it are the monuments of several eminent persons; amongst them may be noticed one to Stowe, the historian of the city.

St. Olave, Hart-street, Crutched Friars, a church which has nothing but its antiquity to recommend it. The first record of this church is in 1319, since which time it has had neither external or internal grandeur to boast of.

St. Peter ad Vincula, Tower of London.—This is a small neat church, principally celebrated for containing the remains of the following eminent persons:—Gerald Fitzgerald, ninth Earl of Kildare, who died in 1534; John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester; and the great Sir Thomas Moore. In front of the altar repose the remains of the lovely Anne Boleyne, and Lord Rochford, her brother; Queen Catharine Howard; the venerable Margaret, Countess of Salisbury; Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex; and Robert Devereux, also Earl of Essex, favourite of Elizabeth. Under the communion-table lie the Duke of Monmouth; and under the western gallery the headless bodies of Lords Lovat, Balmerino, and Kilmarnock, who were executed in 1747.

St. Dunstan, Stepney.—This church, which is of Gothic architecture, was erected in the fourteenth century. On the exterior of the walls are some pieces of rude sculpture, representing the crucifixion, and the Virgin and child. The churchyard, celebrated in the Spectator on account of the epitaphs, has quite a rural character, from the limes and poplars which line its paths.

St. Saviour, Southwark.—This church, which was originally founded previous to the arrival of the Normans in this country, was successively a House of Sisters, a College of Priests, and a Priory of Canons regular, and was supported by a ferry across the river. The church, which was formerly, and is now, sometimes called St. Mary Overy, was rebuilt in 1400. John Gower, the poet, was a liberal benefactor, and was interred within its ancient walls, where there is a handsome monument to him. When the priory had

been surrendered to Henry VIII., or rather seized upon by that monarch, the inhabitants of Southwark purchased it, with a charter, which constituted the churchwardens a corporation. At a subsequent period the corporation appears to have manifested very little regard for their purchase, and to have actually let a part of it for a common bakehouse; and for upwards of sixty years were the bakers suffered to carry on their traffic in the temple of St. Saviour's, Southwark. This church, which is very spacious, is of the pointed order; twenty-six pillars, in two rows, support the roof of the church; and the chancel and galleries in the walls of the choir are adorned with pillars and arches similar to Westminster Abbey. The tower, which is erected on four very strong pillars, is one hundred and fifty feet high, and contains twelve of the finest bells in Britain. Gower is not the only poet who has been buried in this church, for here sleep in one grave Philip Massinger and Fletcher, of whom it may be said—

> They were friendly in their lives,
> And in their death they were not divided.

ST. MARY, LAMBETH.—The tower of this church, which is eighty-seven feet high, was erected about the year 1375, but the other parts of the edifice appear to have been built towards the end of the fifteenth century. The church is about one hundred and ten feet in length, fifty in breadth, and thirty-eight in height. In one of the windows is the figure of a pedlar and his dog, painted on glass; this person is said to have left to the parish the ground called Pedlar's Acre. The south aisle contains a marble slab, with a Latin inscription, to the memory of Elias Ashmole, the celebrated antiquary. In the cemetery belonging to this church, are interred Moore and T.

Cooke, the poets; and the celebrated Countesss de la Motte.

ST. PANCRAS.—This church was built in the fourteenth century, and is of small size and rude architecture; it consists of a nave and chancel, in which are several monuments; and no church or churchyard in or near the metropolis affords a last home to such a diversity of characters as are buried within its precincts. The churchyard of St. Pancras is remarkable for the great number of Roman Catholics interred in it; and this church was the last in England where mass was performed after the Reformation.

ALLHALLOWS, BARKING.—This church was built in 1651, at the corner of Seething-lane, Great Tower-street, belonging to the abbess and convent of Barking, in Essex, whence its name is derived.

ST. STEPHEN, WALBROOK.—This church is more celebrated on the continent than the cathedral of St. Paul, or Westminster Abbey. The first stone of this church was laid in 1672, and in 1679 it was completed. The interior of this church is allowed to be of the most beautiful and matchless architecture. Externally it displays no architectural attractions; but the interior is calculated to gratify every lover of the art. The walls inclose an area of eighty-two feet from east to west, by fifty-nine feet from north to south. The roof is supported and the area divided by sixteen Corinthian columns, eight of which sustain an hemispherical cupola, adorned with caissons, and having a lantern-light in the centre.

ST. SEPULCHRE, SKINNER-STREET.—It is not known when this church was first erected, but there are records of its existence in the middle of the thirteenth century; and it is probable that it has one of the oldest foundations in London. The church that was erected in 1440 was not entirely destroyed by the great fire, but it was almost entirely rebuilt in 1670. The tower, which is about 140 feet high, has four an-

gular pinnacles. The interior is elegant, and has twelve columns of the Tuscan order supporting a vaulted ceiling. The altar piece is decorated with Corinthian columns, and the whole has been much admired. It was long a custom for the bellman of St. Sepulchre's parish, on the night preceding an execution, to proceed under Newgate, and repeat the following lines to the criminals in the condemned cell:—

> All you that in the condemn'd hold do lie,
> Prepare you, for to-morrow you shall die.
> Watch all and pray, the hour is drawing near
> That you before the Almighty must appear.
> Examine well yourselves, in time repent,
> That you may not to eternal flames be sent:
> And when St. 'Pulcre's bell to morrow tolls,
> The Lord have mercy on your souls!—
> Past twelve o'clock.

St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside.—This church, which is supposed to have been erected in the reign of William I., was the scene of many interesting events. It was unroofed in 1090, by a tempest, and in 1271, a great part of the steeple fell down, when several persons were killed. Five years afterwards, when Fitz-Osbert, commonly called Long Beard, had raised an insurrection, he sought refuge in this church, and fortified it; but fearing that the king's justiciary would set it on fire, he made a desperate effort to escape, but was taken, and, with eight of his companions, executed. When the church had been destroyed by the great fire of 1666, Sir C. Wren, who had intended to raise two arches over the pavement, was compelled to erect the edifice to range with the street; when, in digging to the depth of eighteen feet, he found a Roman causeway four feet thick, on which he laid the foundation. The principal ornament of this church is its steeple, which combines the five orders of architecture. It is 225 feet high, and is

surmounted with a gilt ball and dragon. The inside contains two Corinthian and two semi-pillars in length, against each of which are two pilasters; and it is from those that the arches between the nave and the side aisles are turned. Their capitals are foliage, and the arches have cherubim on the key stones. In 1818, a survey having been made of this church, the steeple was deemed unsafe, and it was determined that it should be taken down and rebuilt. This spire is distinguished for its beauty; it rises to the height of 228 feet from the foundation of the tower, and was rebuilt in 1820. In this church the consecration of the bishops of London always takes place.

ST. BRIDE, FLEET-STREET.—This church is of a plain but neat structure, but it is in the lofty spire that the taste and skill of the architect is displayed. This spire was much injured by lightning in 1764, when several large stones were forced from their places, one of which fell through the roof into the north gallery, and another was thrown into a house in Bride-lane. It was, however, soon repaired, though at an expense of £3000. This spire was again struck by lightning in 1805, and in repairing it the steeple was somewhat lowered. In 1822, this church was substantially repaired, and a rich window of stained glass added. Among the eminent persons buried here, is Wynken de Worde, the famous printer.

ST. SWITHIN, CANNON STREET, a small but elegant church, built in 1480, on the ruins of one of very ancient foundation. This church is memorable from the celebrated "London Stone," being placed in front of it.

CHRIST CHURCH, NEWGATE, was built in the beginning of the fourteenth century, and consecrated in 1325. The ancient church, which was burnt down in the fire of London, was of large dimensions. The only part that has been rebuilt is the choir, to which has been added a tower, not remarkable for its ex-

terior grandeur. It is an elegant and commodious church, which is much frequented on account of the scholars of Christ's Hospital regularly attending here upon divine service.

St. Michael's, Crooked Lane.—This church, which was rebuilt in 1689, stands in Miles-lane. Sir William Walworth, who killed Wat Tyler, was buried in this church, to which Walter Warden bequeathed the Boar's Head, Eastcheap—the identical house in which Falstaff kept his revels.

St. Clement Danes, Strand, was erected in 1680, except the tower, which was raised to its present height of 116 feet, in 1719. On the north and south sides are domed porticos supported by Ionic columns. In the vestry-room there is a picture, some of the figures of which are said to be portraits of the wife and children of the Pretender.

St. Andrew's, Holborn.—This spacious fabric was erected in 1687, under the direction of Sir C. Wren. The altar-piece and roof are richly ornamented with fret work, and over the former is a fine painted window, representing the Last Supper and the Ascension. The organ is remarkable for its fine tone. This church is 105 feet in length, 63 in breadth, and 43 in height. The height of the tower is 110 feet.

St. Martin's, St. Martin's Lane.—This elegant church was rebuilt between 1721 and 1726, on the site on which there had been a church before 1222. On the west front is a noble portico of eight Corinthian columns supporting a pediment, in which are represented the royal arms in basso-relievo, and underneath, a Latin inscription respecting the erection of the church. The length of this church is about 140 feet, the breadth 60, and the height 45. It has a fine arched roof, sustained by stone columns of the Corinthian order. The steeple has a beautiful spire, and is very stately and elegant. In the tower is an excellent peal of twelve bells. The interior decora-

tions are very fine. The vestry-room adjoining contains a fine model of the church, and portraits of the vicars since 1670.

ST. GEORGE, HANOVER SQUARE.—The front of this church is very fine, and forms a singular contrast to the uncouth construction of the interior. The portico consists of six Corinthian columns, with an entablature and pediment. The steeple is grand and majestic; but the interior of the church exhibits a total disregard of the rules of architecture.

MARY-LE-BONE, NEW ROAD, was originally designed as an additional chapel of ease to the parish; but when the interior had been fitted up, it was so much admired, that it was thought expedient to make it the parish church. A small stone cupola which had been erected was taken down, and the present tower, adorned with representations of the winds substituted. The front was increased in length, and the portico of six Corinthian colums was tastefully attached to the building. No alteration however was deemed necessary to the interior, which is rendered remarkable by a double gallery; but the arrangement was more assimilated to a theatre than a place of worship. The removal, however, of the transparency in the centre of the organ, and the private galleries at the sides of the instrument, in 1819, have given a more decidedly ecclesiastical character to the edifice.

Soon after the completion of the last named edifice, the new church of ST. PANCRAS, in Tavistock-place Euston-square, New Road, was erected. It was consecrated May 7, 1822. It is built in imitation of the ancient temple of Erectheus, at Athens. The portico is a beautiful erection, consisting of six Ionic pillars, beneath which are three doors, the centre being an exact representation of the entrance to the Greek Temple. At the east end of the church are two projecting wings, designed for the registry and vestry-room, and formed upon the model of the Pandrosium,

which was attached to the temple of Erectheus. The steeple, which is 165 feet in height, is also from an Athenian model, being built in resemblance of the Temple of the Winds. The interior is very elegant, the windows being composed of ground glass with stained borders; the galleries supported by pillars taken from casts of the Elgin marbles, and the end of the church over the communion table adorned with six antique Scagliola columns, with bases and capitals of white marble, copied from the Temple of Minerva.

St. Paul, Shadwell.—This church was rebuilt in 1820. The steeple is peculiarly beautiful, and, in the simple harmony of its several parts, scarcely yields to the most admired object of the kind.

All Souls' Church, at the corner of Regent-street, is a singular building. It has a circular portico, supported by twelve Corinthian columns, above which is another colonnade of the Corinthian order, surmounted by a spire. Mr. Westall's painting of "Christ crowned with thorns," forms the altar-piece.

St. Mary, Haggerstone, in Shoreditch, is in the Gothic style.

Hanover Chapel, Regent-street, is a beautiful composition of Grecian architecture, on the model of the famed St. Stephen's, Walbrook.

St. Peter, Pimlico, and St. Mark's Chapel, North Audley-street, are situated in the same parish; and are both elegant Grecian structures of the Ionic order.

St. Philip's Chapel, Regent-street, built in 1821, has a portico of four columns, and the interior is very richly fitted up.

St. Mary, Wyndham-place, was consecrated January 7, 1824. It is a plain and substantial edifice, capable of accommodating 2000 persons.

St. Peter, Walworth, consecrated February 28,

1825. The interior is elegantly fitted up, and has three windows of stained glass.

CHRIST CHURCH, MARY-LE-BONE, was built by Mr. Hardwick; and the same gentleman designed St. Barnabas Chapel, in King-square, in the Gothic style.

ST. LUKE, CHELSEA, is deserving of attention; its stone vaulted roof, and magnificent organ and altar-piece, are unrivalled among modern specimens.

ST. JOHN'S, UPPER HOLLOWAY, AND ST. PAUL'S, BALL'S POND, IN ISLINGTON PARISH, are light but beautiful specimens of the Gothic style.

ST. MARK, KENNINGTON, has a four-columned portico, of the Greek Doric order. It is remarkable, as being built on that part of Kennington Common, which was formerly the common place of execution for the county; and, on digging the foundation, an iron swivel was found, which had probably been used to suspend some malefactor in chains.

Besides these already named, there are many other churches in London which do not require particular mention.

PALACES, PARKS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.

ST. JAMES'S PALACE, PALL-MALL.—This palace is built on the site of an hospital for lepers, which was erected here before the Conquest, and dedicated to St. James. The hospital was continued until the reign of Henry VIII., who seized upon its revenues, pensioned a few persons who were on the establishment, razed the house, and built the present edifice. Henry only intended it for a private residence, and it was called the King's Manor-house. His daughter, Queen Mary, resided here during the last two years of her reign, and terminated her inglorious life within its walls. Prince Henry, son of James I., also died in this palace.

Charles I. enriched the palace with many valuable works of art, and employed a foreign agent to collect them. St. James's Palace was for some time the prison of this unfortunate monarch*; and his body was brought back here after his execution, and exhibited publicly for several days.

James II., William III., Queen Anne, and George I., II., III., and IV., and William IV., all resided in this palace, where many royal births and baptisms have taken place, and many a nuptial ceremony has been celebrated in the chapel royal.

St. James's Palace is an irregular brick-building, without a single external beauty to recommend it as a royal residence. In the front, next St. James's-street, an old gatehouse appears, which serves as an entrance to a small square court, with a piazza on the west side of it, leading to the grand staircase. The buildings are low, plain, and mean; beyond this are two other courts, which have little appearance of a royal palace. The state apartments look towards the park; and this side, though certainly not imposing, cannot be pronounced mean. It is of one storey, and has a regular appearance not to be found in other parts of the building. The south-east wing was destroyed by fire in 1809, and has never been rebuilt, though the rest of the palace was thoroughly repaired in 1821-22, and 1823.

The state apartments, neatly furnished by George IV. in 1824, are commodious and handsome, and are entered by an elegant passage and staircase. The walls are of a dead stone colour, and are lighted by Grecian bronze lights, with moon shades, placed on plain granite pedestals, which have an air of neatness corresponding with this part of the edifice.

On ascending the staircase you enter a gallery or guardroom, converted into an armoury, the walls of which are tastefully decorated with various kinds of arms, in different devices, such as stars, diamonds.

circles, &c. When a drawing-room is held, this apartment is occupied by the yeomen of the guard, in full costume.

The next room is a small chamber covered with beautiful specimens of tapestry, in good preservation, from the ceiling of which is suspended a magnificent chandelier. When a drawing-room is held, a person attends here to receive the cards containing the names of the parties to be presented, with the circumstances under which such presentation takes place. A duplicate of the card is subsequently handed to the lord in waiting, in order to prevent the introduction of improper persons.

The next room is the first of a succession of three rooms, the last of which may be styled the Presence Chamber. It is fitted up in matchless splendour. The walls are covered with crimson damask, and the window curtains, which hang in rich and luxuriant folds, are composed of the same material. The cornices and basements are formed of broad carved and gilt moulding, and extend to every part of the room. On entering, the eye of the spectator is first attracted by a looking-glass of unusal magnitude, which extends completely from the ceiling to the floor, and is, perhaps, not to be equalled by any other glass in the kingdom. At the east end of the room is a painting of George II. in his parliamentary robes, and on the other walls hang two large pictures of Tournay and Lisle. The furniture consists of sofas, ottomans, and stools, covered with crimson velvet, trimmed with gold lace. From the ceiling hangs a superb lustre containing two rows of lights of three branches each, and at each end of the apartment are two splendid candelabras, elegantly gilt, calculated to receive twelve lights each.

The next room is fitted up in the same style of decoration, and contains an excellent full-length portrait of George III., in the robes of the Order of the Garter.

On each side of this are two paintings of the celebrated sea-fights by Lord Howe on the first of June, 1794, and by Lord Nelson at Trafalgar, October 21, 1805. The brilliant effect of the whole is considerably heightened by the addition of three magnificent pier-glasses reaching from the ceiling to the floor. From the centre of the ceiling hangs a richly chased Grecian lustre.

The third and last room is the Presence Chamber, where levees and drawing-rooms are held. This in point of gorgeous and rich decoration, far exceeds the preceeding rooms, although the style is somewhat similar. The throne upon which the sovereign receives the company, is splendid, and in point of size and magnificence of effect far exceeds that in the House of Lords. It is composed of rich crimson Genoa velvet, thickly covered with gold lace, and is surmounted by a canopy of the same nature, on the inside of which is a star embroidered in gold. There are three steps to ascend, which lead to a state chair of exquisite workmanship, close to which is a footstool to correspond. Over the fireplace is a full length portrait of George IV. in his coronation robes. On each side of this are paintings of the battles of Vittoria and Waterloo. In both, the Duke of Wellington is the most prominent figure. The piers of the room are entirely filled up with plate glass, before which are some beautiful marble slabs. The window-curtains are of crimson satin trimmed with gold-coloured fringe and lace. The cornice, mouldings, &c., are richly gilt, and the other embellishments and furniture of corresponding elegance.

Behind the Presence Chamber is the royal closet in which the sovereign gives audience, and receives the members of the royal family, foreign ambassadors, cabinet ministers, and officers of state. It unites every thing that is grand, and though smaller than the other rooms, is not less appropriate. It contains a state-

chair and footstool; elegant writing table with ink-stand, and other necessary furniture. The dressing-room is beyond this.

The old ball-room has been modelled upon the French plan, and formed into a supper-room. The fitting-up and furniture are of the most elegant description.

In one of the rooms, formerly the ante-chamber to the levee room, James, the son of James II., afterwards styled the Pretender was born.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, ST. JAMES PARK, the town residence of her majesty Queen Victoria.—Buckingham house was erected in 1703, on the site of what was originally called the Mulberry Gardens, by the accomplished John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham, who died in 1720. In 1762 this palace became the property of Queen Charlotte, who made it her town residence; and here all her children, with the exception of George IV., were born. Here likewise several royal marriages have taken place. The front was of red brick, with white pilasters, entablatures, and window frames. It had before it a spacious lawn enclosed with iron railing, and behind it extensive gardens and a small piece of water. The walls of the grand staircase exhibit the story of Dido and the ceiling represents Juno, Venus, and other mythological figures.

In 1825, parliament granted a considerable sum of money to enlarge and indeed rebuild this palace as the residence of George IV. The architect appointed was Mr. Nash.

The palace is very extensive, and forms three sides of a quadrangle. The centre is three stories in height, with a double portico of the Doric and Corinthian orders, surmounted by a pediment, in the tympanum of which is an alto-relievo of the triumph of Britannia. On the apex is a gigantic statue of Neptune; and in other parts of this front trophies and statues are similarly

disposed. The wings were originally exceedingly mean, but they have been improved at an expense of £50,000. In the right wing are the private apartments, and in the left, the chapel, kitchens, &c. The state apartments look towards the gardens at the back, which are beautifully laid out. The royal entrance is through a grand triumphal arch of white marble, modelled from that of Constantine at Rome. The chapel is of a beautiful form, and adorned with the cartoons of Raphael.

WHITEHALL-PALACE—The old palace of this name occupied a space along the banks of the river, a little to the north of Westminster Bridge. It was originally the residence of Hubert de Burgh, justiciary of England under Henry III., from whom it passed to the archbishops of York, and was from them called York-house. Henry VIII. seized it on the fall of Cardinal Wolsey, and from that time it became the residence of the Kings of England, till the reign of Queen Anne, who held her court at St. James's, in consequence of the principal part having been burnt down in 1695. On that occasion, the Banquetting-house which had been added to the structure by James I., alone escaped the conflagration, and remains a monument of the classic taste in architecture introduced into this country by Inigo Jones.

The great room of this edifice is converted into a chapel, in which service is performed in the morning and evening of every Sunday. Soldiers on duty at the Horse-guards are accommodated in a gallery built for the purpose. The ceiling of this room was painted by Rubens, and represents the apotheosis of James I., which is treated in nine compartments. It was in front of Whitehall, upon a scaffold erected for the purpose, that Charles I. was beheaded; having passed to the block through one of the windows. Within the area, behind the building, is a fine bronze statue of James II., by Gibbons.

KENSINGTON PALACE was formerly the seat of Lord Chancellor Finch, afterwards Earl of Nottingham, but was purchased and made a royal residence by William III. It is a large irregular edifice of brick, but contains a good suite of state-apartments, and some painted staircases and ceilings. The great staircase leads from the principal entrance to the palace by a long corridor, the sides of which are painted to represent a gallery crowded with spectators, on a grand court-day. William and Mary, Queen Anne, George I. and II. made this palace their place of frequent residence, and the last-mentioned prince died here. Here is a range of apartments, which was occupied by the late Duke of Sussex, Princess Sophia, and other distinguished personages. Admission is obtained by a slight douceur to the housekeeper.

The garden, or park, originally attached to the building, and which King William greatly improved, consisted, in his time, of only twenty-six acres.—Queen Anne added thirty more; and Queen Caroline, consort to George II., extended them by the addition of two hundred acres taken out of Hyde-park. These beautiful gardens, which are nearly three miles in circumference, were laid out by Kent, and are considered equal in arrangement to any promenade in Europe.—The walks, ponds, groves, and arbours, all delightfully harmonize. To the gardens the entrances are—Victoria Gate; another at Kensington Gate, adjoining the palace; another a little westward of the first milestone on the Kensington-road, and another near the bridge over the Serpentine.

LAMBETH PALACE is an irregular pile of building on the bank of the Thames. Having been erected at different periods, it displays various kinds of architecture. A considerable portion was built as far back as the thirteenth century. The corners of the edifice are faced with rustic work, and the top surrounded

with battlements. The principal apartments are of good proportions, and well lighted. Some of the rooms command delightful views of the Thames, and the buildings on its banks. When viewed from the river, this palace and the adjacent church have a very picturesque appearance. The chapel erected in the twelfth century contains the remains of Archbishop Parker; and in the vestry are portraits of several bishops. The long gallery, 90 feet in length, and 60 in breadth, is adorned with portraits of numerous bishops, and of all the archbishops from Laud to the present time. From the bow-window at the end, St. Paul's, Westminster-bridge, and the abbey, are seen to great advantage, through openings formed in the foliage of the gardens. The galleries over the cloisters contain the library, which was founded by Archbishop Bancroft, but has been increased, at different periods, by his successors, till the number of volumes now amount to upwards of 25,000 The windows of the library are ornamented with painted glass. The Lollards' Tower, at the western extremity of the chapel, contains a small room, wainscotted with oak, on which are inscribed several names and portions of sentences. in ancient characters; and the walls are furnished with large rings, to which the Lollards, and other persons, confined for heretical opinions, are supposed to have been affixed. In the grounds, which are laid out with good taste, are two fig-trees of extraordinary size, supposed to have been planted about the year 1558, by Cardinal Pole. This palace is the town-residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

St. James's Park was a complete morass till the time of Henry VIII., who, having built St. James's Palace, enclosed it, laid it out in walks, and, collecting the waters, gave the new enclosed ground and building the name of St. James's. It was afterwards much improved by Charles II., who employed Le Notre to add several fields, to plant rows of lime-trees, and to

lay out the Mall, which is a vista half-a-mile in length, at that time formed into a smooth walk, skirted by a wooden border, with an iron hoop at the further end, for the purpose of playing a game with a ball called a mall. He formed the canal, which was 100 feet broad, and 2,800 feet long, with a decoy, and other ponds for water-fowl. Succeeding kings allowed the people the privilege of walking here; and William III., in 1699, granted the neighbouring inhabitants a passage into it from Spring-gardens, at its north-east corner. It was further improved by George IV.; and William IV. gave it a new entrance from Waterloo-place, Pall Mall. Buckingham Gate and the Stable-yard Gate are open all night. The interior of the park is now extremely beautiful. In the centre is a fine piece of water, diversified by rocky mounds and islands, and surrounded by serpentine-walks through parterres and shrubberies. On the water are great varieties of aquatic birds, foreign and domestic. In fine weather, this is an interesting scene. The gates of the interior are open from eight in the morning till dusk. On the northern and southern sides, outside the iron railing, are broad and well-planted walks. Every forenoon, from ten to eleven, a regiment of the Foot Guards parades the park with its band; after which it relieves the sentinels on duty at Buckingham Palace.

On the PARADE, in front of the Horse Guards, are some curious pieces of ancient foreign ordnance.

In the BIRD CAGE WALK, extending, on the south side of the Park, from Storey's Gate to Buckingham Gate, is a range of barracks.

THE GREEN PARK forms part of the ground enclosed by Henry VIII. It is situated north of Buckingham Palace, and extends from St. James's Park to Hyde Park. This park adds greatly to the pleasantness of both palaces, as well as of the surrounding houses, which are so fortunately situated as

to overlook it. The promenade round the basin, and other parts of this small but beautiful park, possesses, for a town scene, unequalled attractions. At the north-west extremity, surrounded by a shrubbery, is the lodge of the deputy-ranger of St. James's and Hyde Parks.

HYDE PARK is situated at the western extremity of the metropolis, between the roads leading to Hounslow and Uxbridge. This park derives its name from the ancient manor of *Hida*, which belonged to the monastery of St. Peter, at Westminster, till, in the reign of Henry VIII., it became the property of the crown. It contained originally about six hundred and twenty acres; but by enclosing and taking part of it into Kensington gardens, and by other grants of land for building on, its extent is now under three hundred and ninety-five acres. It has seven entrances: Hyde Park corner; Grosvenor Gate, in Park-lane; Stanhope Gate; Cumberland Gate, at the end of Oxford-street; Victoria Gate; Albert Gate, on the road to Kensington; and a gate at the entrance of Kensington.

At the south-east corner of Hyde Park, near APSLEY HOUSE, the mansion of the Duke of Wellington, is a handsome screen of the Ionic order. Directly opposite the central arch of the entrance at Hyde Park corner, to the north, is a colossal statue of Achilles, by Mr. Westmacott, and bearing the following inscription:—"To Arthur, Duke of Wellington and his brave companions in arms, this statue of Achilles, cast from cannon taken in the battles of Salamanca, Vittoria, Toulouse, and Waterloo, is inscribed by their countrywomen." On the base is inscribed, "Placed on this spot, on the 18th day of June, 1822, by command of his majesty George IV." The statue is about twenty feet in height, and thirty tons in weight, and stands on a basement of granite. The park is open every day from six in the morning

till nine at night, to the exclusion only of hackney and stage-coaches.

The sheet of water called the SERPENTINE RIVER, although in the form of a parallelogram, was formed by Queen Caroline in 1730, by enlarging the bed of the stream, which runs to the north of Bayswater, on the Uxbridge-road, passes through Kensington Gardens and the park, at the eastern extremity of which an artificial waterfall has been constructed. A handsome bridge crosses the stream not far from Kensington Gardens. It is much frequented in summer for bathing, and in winter for skating. It is, however, extremely dangerous. On the north side of the river is one of the stations of the Humane Society, two powder-magazines, and the Keeper's house; and here also are two springs—one a mineral water, fit for drinking; the other, used for diseased eyes. Splendid military reviews, on a large scale, take place in this park; on the south side of which are the barracks of the Life Guards.

REGENT'S PARK is a spacious enclosure on the north side of the metropolis, between the New Road and Hampstead. It is nearly of a circular form, and comprises about four hundred and fifty acres, laid out in shrubberies, interspersed with various pieces of water, and intersected by several roads, which render it one of the most frequented promenades in the vicinity of London. The buildings round this park are truly beautiful, finished in a very superior style of architecture, and so variously adorned, that, though very numerous, and following in such close succession, they are sure to keep alive the admiration of the stranger. Independently, however, of its own attractions, this park possesses so many detached points worthy of attention, that strangers especially are early induced to visit it. On the east side are seen the Diorama, the Colosseum, Cambridge-terrace; Chester-terrace, adorned with statues of some of our most

celebrated countrymen; Cumberland-terrace; St. Catherine's Hospital, with its collegiate church. On the south side are Ulster-terrace, York-terrace, and Cornwall-terrace; and on the west side are Clarence-terrace, Sussex-place, and Hanover-terrace. The pediment in the centre of the last range contains figures in relievo, representing Medicine, Chemistry, Architecture, Sculpture, Poetry, Peace, Justice, Agriculture, Plenty, Music, History, and Navigation.

WESTMINSTER HALL was built by William Rufus in 1098; and here, on his return from Normandy in 1099, "he kept his feast of Whitsuntide very royally." It was, therefore, first used as a banqueting house to the palace which stood on the site of Old Palace-yard. It became ruinous previous to the reign of Richard II., who repaired it in 1397, raised the walls two feet, altered the windows, and added a new roof, as well as a stately porch and other buildings. In 1236, Henry III., on New-Year's-day, caused 6000 poor men, women and children, to be entertained in this hall, and in the other rooms of his palace, as a celebration of his queen's coronation. The king and queen had been married at Canterbury; and, on the day of this great feast made their public entry into London. As a proof of its size it may be mentioned that Richard II. kept his Christmas festival in the new hall, accompanied with all that splendour and magnificence for which his court was conspicuous: and that, on this occasion, 28 oxen, 300 sheep, and fowls without number, were consumed. The number of guests on each day of the feast amounted to 10,000; and 2000 cooks were employed.

The present hall was first called the New Hall Palace, to distinguish it from the Old Palace at the south end of the hall. Westminster Hall is the largest room in Europe, excepting the theatre at Oxford, unsupported by columns. It is 380 feet long, 72 broad, and from 90 to 100 feet high. The roof

consists chiefly of chesnut wood, most curiously constructed, and a fine species of Gothic carving. It is everywhere adorned with angels supporting the arms of Richard II., or those of Edward the Confessor, as is the stone moulding that runs round the hall, with the hart couchant under a tree, and other devices of the former monarch. Parliaments have often been held in this hall. In 1397, when it was extremely ruinous, Richard II. built a temporary room for his parliament, formed of wood and covered with tiles.

This edifice was completely repaired and new fronted during the years 1820, 21, and 22, during which period the upper windows at the sides of the hall were first constructed; the lantern also on the roof was then rebuilt. The main entrance forms a noble recessed archway, flanked by embattled towers, adorned with niches for full sized statues as in the old front. The large windows at each end of the hall are designed in the pointed style. On the west side are communications with the new courts of law and equity; at the south end is an avenue to the New Palace-yard, and in the centre a passage by a flight of steps which formerly led into the House of Commons. It was in this hall that Charles I. received sentence of death. On the western side of the hall are the Courts of Justice, arranged in their present form by the late Sir John Sloane. The first on the right hand, in the corner, is the Court of King's Bench, and its Bail Court; the next is the Court of Common Pleas; the third is the Court of Exchequer; and the fourth is the Court of Chancery. Here are also the courts of the Vice-Chancellors, for the assistance of the Lord Chancellor in his judicial duties. These courts are all open to the public. Westminster Hall has also been used for the trial of peers and other distinguished persons, such as the late Lord Melville, Warren Hastings, &c., accused of high treason or other crimes

and misdemeanours. In this hall likewise are held the coronation feasts of the sovereigns of England.

Houses of Parliament.—On the night of the 16th of October, 1834, the two Houses of Parliament were almost entirely destroyed by fire.' What was then termed the Painted Gallery, is now appropriated to the use of the Peers. It was the house which Guy Fawkes endeavoured to blow up. The former House of Lords has been converted into the House of Commons. These structures may be seen by strangers, when parliament is not sitting, by paying a shilling to the housekeeper.

In consequence of this destructive fire, it was determined that the two houses of the legislature should be re-edified, upon a scale of extent, convenience and magnificence worthy of the first nation in the world. Mr Barry's design, with certain modifications, was determined on, and, under that gentleman's superintendance, the noble pile is rapidly advancing towards its completion. The Houses of Parliament, the Courts of Law, and Westminster Hall, will constitute one comprehensive whole. St. Stephen's Chapel, the Crypt, and the Cloisters are to be restored. Exclusively of the space occupied by Westminster Hall and the Law Courts, the design covers a space of about six acres. The eastern or river front is 870 feet in length, running nearly at right angles with Westminster Bridge. The south front extending westward to the eastern flank of Westminster Hall, is 340 feet in length. The western front is 410 feet in extent; and the Hall with its adjuncts occupies a further length of 330 feet. The north end of the Law Courts and of Westminster Hall, with a portion of the new building at the Commons' end, and embracing the Commons' entrance, exhibits a length of 300 feet. Mr. Barry's plan happily avoids the ecclesiastical, collegiate, castellated and domestic styles of

architecture, and adopts that which is better suited to the characteristic nature of the building.

The original estimate for the building of the new Houses of Parliament, was £1,025,463 8*s*. 3*d*.; but on account of numerous alterations from the first design, such as deepening the foundations, rendering the whole structure fire-proof, &c., we observe that that sum has been more than doubled; as from a paper presented to Parliament during this session (1849), the expense will amount to £2,045,923 10*s*. 1*d*. This large sum is, we believe, exclusive of the expense of ventilating, &c. The work has been delayed beyond the time anticipated for its completion, by *strikes* amongst the workmen employed, and other causes; but now it is fully expected that the whole will be finished early in 1850.

THE TOWER OF LONDON is situated on the east side of the city, near the banks of the river Thames. This extensive edifice originally consisted of no more than what is now called the White Tower. It has been traditionally reported, but without any authority, to have been built by Julius Cæsar, though there is the strongest evidence of its being marked out and a part of it first erected by William I., in the year 1076, doubtless with a view to secure to himself and followers a safe retreat, in case the English should ever have recourse to arms to recover their ancient possessions and lost liberties.

However, the death of William, in 1087, about eight years after he had commenced this fortress, for some time prevented its progress, and left it to be completed by his son William Rufus, who, in 1098, surrounded it with walls, and a broad and deep ditch, which is in some places 120 feet wide, into which water from the Thames was introduced. In 1240, Henry III., ordered a stone gate, bulwarks, and other additions to be made to this fortress, and the original tower to be whitened, from whence it was called the

White Tower. Edward IV., in 1465, greatly enlarged the fortifications, and built the Lion's Tower, for the reception of foreign beasts, birds, &c., presented to the kings of England. In 1663, by the command of Charles II., the ditch was completely cleansed, and the wharfing rebuilt with stone and brick, and sluices erected for admitting and retaining water from the river, as occasion might require; the walls of the White Tower have been repaired, and a great number of additional buildings have been added.

The Tower is in the best situation that could have been chosen for a fortress, it lying near enough to protect the metropolis and the seat of commerce from invasion by water. It is to the north of the Thames, from which it is separated by a commodious wharf and ditch, over which is a drawbridge for the convenience of issuing and receiving ammunition and stores. Upon this wharf is a noble platform, on which are placed upwards of sixty pieces of cannon mounted on handsome iron carriages. Parallel to the middle part of the wharf is a platform, seventy yards in length, called the Ladies' Line, from its being much frequented in the summer evenings, as on the inside it is shaded with a row of lofty trees, and affords a fine prospect of the shipping, and of the boats passing and repassing on the river. The ascent to this line is by stone steps, and being once upon it, there is a walk almost round the Tower walls without interruption, in doing which one passes three batteries: the first called the Devil's Battery, where there is a platform on which are mounted seven pieces of cannon; the next is named the Stone Battery, and is defended by eight pieces of cannon; and the last called the Wooden Battery, is mounted with six pieces of cannon; all these are brass nine pounders.

The wharf, which is separated from Tower-hill at each end by gates, is opened every morning for the

convenience of a free intercourse between the respective inhabitants of the tower, the city, and its suburbs. From this wharf is an entrance for persons on foot over the drawbridge; and also a water-gate under the Tower wall, commonly called the Traitor's Gate, through which it has been customary, for the sake of privacy, to convey traitors and other state prisoners by water to and from the Tower. Over the water-gate is a regular building, terminated at each end by a round tower, on which are embrasures for pointing cannon. The infirmary was formerly in this building, but now it is converted into regular apartments for persons employed in the ordnance department, also a mill, and the water-works for supplying the garrison with water from the Thames, by means of a steam engine.

The principal entrance into the Tower is by four gates to the west, one within another, and each large enough to admit coaches and heavy carriages. Having passed through the third of these, you proceed over a strong stone bridge, built over the ditch, to the fourth, which is the strongest; it has a portcullis, to let down on occasion, and it is guarded not only by some soldiers, but by the warders of the tower.

The gates are opened at five o'clock in the morning during summer, and as soon as it is light in winter. The time for closing them is eleven o'clock every night. On the occasion of opening or shutting the gates the following ceremony takes place:—the yeoman porter, with a sergeant and six men, goes to the governor's house for the keys; having received them, he proceeds to the innermost gate; passing which, it is again shut. He then opens the three outermost gates, at each of which the guards rest their firelocks, while the keys pass and repass. On his return to the innermost gate, he calls to the warders on duty to take in Queen Victoria's keys; when they open the gate, and the keys are placed in the warder's hall.

At night, the same formality is used in shutting the gates; and as the yeoman porter, with his guard, is returning with the keys to the governor's house, the main guard, with their officers, are under arms, who challenge him with "Who comes there?" he answers, "The keys:" the challenger replies, "Pass keys." The guards rest their firelocks, and the yeoman porter says, "God save Queen Victoria!" the soldiers all answering "Amen." He then goes on to the governor's house, and there leaves the keys. After which, no person can go in or out without the watch-word for the night. The officer, to whom the government and care of the Tower are committed, is the Constable of the Tower, who is always a person of the highest rank. Under him is a lieutenant, a deputy-lieutenant, a major of the Tower, a chaplain, a physician, an apothecary, gentleman porter, yeoman porter, gentleman gaoler, four quarter-gunners, and forty warders. The warders wear the same uniform as the yeomen of the guard.

The Tower was formerly a royal residence; but since the time of Elizabeth, it has been occupied chiefly as a state prison, a royal arsenal, and a place of safety for the crown jewels. It is now under the government of the Duke of Wellington, as Constable. On the second floor of the White Tower, in which King John of France was at one period confined, is the beautiful Norman chapel of St. John, where our early kings performed their devotions. In another storey is the Council Chamber, whence, according to tradition, the Protector, Gloucestor, ordered Lord Hastings to be led to instant execution. Below the chapel is a prison lodging, in which Sir Walter Raleigh was confined; it is now appropriated to the Queen Elizabeth Armoury. The lower portions of the White Tower are occupied as store-rooms by the ordnance department, and the upper portions by a part of the national records. The circular turret on the

north-east, was used as an observatory by Flamstead, the astronomer. The square tower opposite the water-gate, is called the Bloody Tower, and traditionally asserted to have been the scene of the murder of the two infant princes, by their uncle, Richard III. The upper floor of the Wakefield, or Record Tower, is said to have been the scene of the murder of Henry VI. Passing through the gateway of the Bloody Tower, we find ourselves under the walls of the White Tower, in front of the spot formerly occupied by the Grand Storehouse, or Small Armoury, which was destroyed by fire, October 30, 1841. The idea, that the whole of the armouries, with their antiquities, fell a prey to the flames, is incorrect. The Small Armoury, at the time of its destruction, and the room below, contained upwards of 100,000 stand of arms—muskets, carbines, and rifles. Of 12,000 percussion muskets, 11,000 were destroyed. The collection of ancient armour and weapons was deposited in the White Tower, and in the building called the Horse Armoury, on its south side, both of them unapproached by the fire. To the left, is the church of *St. Peter ad Vircula*, formerly noticed as the burial place of several distinguished individuals. Opposite the church, on the south-west corner of the Tower-green, the place of execution, are the lieutenant's lodgings, now the residence of the governor. Half-way between the church and the governor's residence, stands the Beauchamp Tower, the walls of which are covered with the carved memorials of its numerous noble and unfortunate occupants. Its upper chamber is said to have been the prison of Anna Boleyn. North of the Beauchamp Tower is the Develin Tower, to the eastward of which are the remains of the Flint, Bowyer, and Brick Towers; in the last of which Lady Jane Grey was imprisoned. The Bowyer Tower was the scene of the drowning of the Duke of Clarence in a butt of Malmsey. It was in a work-room over the Bowyer

Tower, that the fire originated, which destroyed the grand storehouse in 1841. At the north-east angle of the Ballium wall stands the Martin Tower, formerly the depository of the crown jewels. The present Jewel House for the exhibition of the regalia, was completed in 1841. A few years since all the armouries were re-arranged under the superintendence of Sir S. Meyrick, the antiquary.

Having taken notice of the principal buildings, we will now point out a few of the curiosities which are exhibited; the first of which is—

THE ROYAL MENAGERIE, situate a few paces within the outer gate, and distinguished by a painted lion placed over the door of the building, for the purpose of attracting the notice of strangers. The larger animals, of which there is a small collection, are confined in dens, disposed in the form of a half moon, in order that a comprehensive view may be afforded. The whole are judiciously fronted with iron grates. The smaller animals, birds, serpents, &c., are in great variety.

THE SPANISH ARMOURY contains a most interesting variety of Spanish spoils, comprising swords, bayonets, musketoons, pistols, halberts, the invincible banner of the Spanish Armada, &c., &c.

THE NEW HORSE ARMOURY.—This is a spacious room, 149 feet by 33. Here are arranged in chronological order, no less a number than twenty-two equestrian figures, comprising many of the most celebrated Kings of England, accompanied by their favourite lords; all of them, together with their horses in their respective armour of the period when they flourished; many, indeed, in the identical suits in which they appeared while living. Along the centre of the ceiling, immediately over each figure, is a Gothic arch, on the columns of which, on the right hand side of the effigy, is fixed a crimson banner, which, in letters of gold, express the name, rank, and

date of existence of the personage on its left. The horses stand, mounted by their riders, almost without any visible support, on a floor of brick, raised a little from the adjoining boarded flooring, which is appropriated to the spectators, and are fenced off, both before and behind, by a light iron railing. The walls of the building are also decorated with a profusion of pieces of armour, military instruments, &c., with the dates when they were in use, neatly inscribed on the spot. The imposing magnificence and deep interest which pervades this enchanting scene, is probably unequalled.

THE VOLUNTEER ARMOURY contains upwards of 30,000 stand of arms, curiously and conveniently arranged in racks, all bright, clean, and fit for service at five minutes' notice; as also, pistols, swords, &c., ingeniously displayed, and forming various devices. Here is also a fine figure of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, wearing a curious suit of bright steel armour, holding a tilting lance in his right hand, about eighteen feet in length, said to be the identical weapon with which he performed many of his signal exploits.

THE SEA ARMOURY contains arms for more than 50,000 sailors and marines; a short and curious suit of bright steel armour, invented by the Earl of Dartmouth, for the light cavalry in the reign of James II.; two very handsome brass cannons, presented by the City of London to the young Duke of Gloucester, Queen Anne's son, to assist him in learning the art of war; several suits of ancient armour; together with numerous trophies, iron caps, breast-plates, pistols, swords, spears, and bayonets, curiously displayed.

Admission—sixpence each person to the Armouries, and the same to the Jewel-house; to the Menagerie one shilling.

THE MINT is a handsome stone building on the east side of Tower-hill. It is of Grecian architecture,

and consists of three stories, having a centre and wings; the former ornamented with columns, and a pediment displaying the British arms. The Mint is inaccessible to strangers, except on special introduction.

THE MONUMENT, FISH STREET-HILL is a magnificent column, erected by Sir Christopher Wren, by order of parliament, to perpetuate the remembrance of the great fire, which, in 1666, broke out at the distance of 202 feet (the height of the column) from this spot, and destroyed a great number of the buildings of the metropolis. It is fluted, and of the Doric order; the diameter of the base is 15 feet, and the height of the shaft 120 feet; the cone at the top, with its blazing urn of gilt brass, measures 42 feet; and the height of the massy pedestal is 40 feet. Within the column is a flight of three hundred and forty-five steps of black marble; and the iron balcony at the top commands a very extensive prospect of the metropolis and the adjacent country. The charge for admittance is sixpence. It was begun in 1671, and completed in 1677. On the north and south sides of the pedestal are inscriptions, in English and Latin, descriptive of the conflagration which consumed the city, and of its subsequent restoration. On the cap of the pedestal, at the angles, are four dragons, and between them, trophies and symbols of regality, arts, sciences, commerce, &c. On the west side is an emblematical group of sculpture in alto and basso-relievo.

EAST INDIA HOUSE, LEADEN HALL STREET.—This noble edifice comprises the principal offices of the home establishment of the East India Company. Here the courts are held, and the directors assemble to conduct the affairs of their vast empire and extensive trade; here likewise all the sales of teas and other oriental produce are regularly carried on at stated periods. This building was preceded by a smaller house, erected in 1726, which only occupied the extent of the present

east wing. The inconvenient accommodation which it afforded to the increasing business of the company, led to the construction of the present fabric, which was executed in the years 1798—99. The principal front consists of six Ionic columns, supporting an enriched entablature and pediment. The frieze is sculptured with ornaments, and the pediment contains a group of figures, emblematical of the commerce of the company, protected by George III., who is represented as extending a shield over them. On the apex of the pediment is a statue of Britannia, at the east corner a figure of Asia seated on a dromedary, and at the west, another representing Europe seated on a horse. The interior is well worth visiting, and the stranger may see great part of it without expense, and the rest by a trifle to the porter, or an order from one of the directors. The grand court-room, which is elegantly fitted up, contains a fine bas-relief of Britannia, in white marble, attended by the Thames and three female figures, emblematical of India, Asia, and Africa, presenting their various productions. In the committee room, is a good portrait of Major-general Lawrence, whose skill and gallantry so greatly contributed to the preservation of the East India possessions in the middle of the last century. In the old sale room are statues of Lord Clive, Admiral Pocock, Major-general Lawrence, Marquis Cornwallis, Warren Hastings, and Sir Eyre Coote. Portraits of the Marquis Cornwallis, Warren Hastings, the famous nabob of Arcot, and various views of buildings, &c., in the east, are contained in the room where the committee of correspondence meet. Within the eastern wing are the library and museum; the former contains a considerable collection of oriental manuscripts, many of which are adorned with historical and mythological drawings, executed in the most brilliant colours, and heightened with gold: one of the most curious is

Tippoo Saib's copy of the Koran. In the museum are many finely sculptured representations of the Hindoo deities, together with inscribed bricks, in the Persepolitan or nail-headed character, from the banks of the Euphrates, and numerous other articles of interest from the countries forming the British empire in the Indies. Here are also many of the trophies taken at Seringapatam, particularly the standards of Tippoo Saib, the golden footstool of his throne, his velvet carpet, mantle, and various pieces of his armour. The curiosities may be seen, except in the month of September, every Tuesday and Thursday, from ten till three, by tickets signed by any East India Director; on Saturdays free.

The Bank of England, Threadneedle Street.—This immense pile of buildings is more extensive in its range of offices, and more eminent for its architecural ornaments and interior arrangements than any public office in the metropolis. In 1732 the first stone of this building was laid, and it was completed in the following year: it then comprised only what now forms the central façade of the south front, with the court-yard, the hall, and the bullion court. Between the years 1780 and 1786 wings to the east and west were added, but the latter have been rebuilt in a more elegant manner, under the direction of the late Sir John Soane, who also rebuilt a new and elegant centre, of the Corinthian order. In most parts of the exterior, both the order and forms have been copied from the Sybilline Temple at Tivoli; and the heavy appearance which such an immense line of wall would otherwise have displayed, has been considerably obviated by projecting entrances under lofty arches, panneled windows, cornices, &c.; the entrances being ornamented by Corinthian columns, fluted, supporting entablatures crowned by elevated turrets. This extensive pile covers an area of eight acres. The extent in front, or on the south side measures 365 feet, on the

west side 440 feet, and on the east side 245. Within this space are nine open courts, a spacious rotunda, numerous public offices, court and committee rooms, an armoury, engraving and printing offices, a library, and many convenient apartments for principal officers and servants. The principal entrance is in Threadneedle-street, but there are others in Bartholomew-lane and Lothbury, and at the north-west angle in Prince's-street.

THE NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, occupying the site of the old one, considerably enlarged, is at the south-east corner of the Bank of England. The original establishment was founded by Sir Thomas Gresham, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and opened in November, 1567. On that occasion it was honoured with its distinctive epithet by her majesty. The building was destroyed by the great fire in 1666, and was rebuilt under the superintendence of Sir Christopher Wren, with the statues of Charles I. and II. in Roman habits, and Sir Thomas Gresham, at an expense of nearly £100,000. It was opened in 1669. The latter 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; and the consequence was the entire destruction of one of the noblest monuments of British wealth and mercantile power. Of the numerous architectural competitors for designing the new structure Mr. Tite was selected by the city authorities, and approved by government. The foundations having been sufficiently far advanced, the first stone was laid with great pomp and ceremony by his royal highness Prince Albert, on the 17th day of January, 1842. The ceremony took place within a circular pavilion of great extent, and tastefully decorated in the interior. The Bishops of London and Llandaff, the Duke of Wellington, nearly all her Majesty's ministers, and the Lord Mayor and Corporation

of London were present. The ceremony of opening the new edifice took place October 28, 1844. Her Majesty Queen Victoria having been received by the civic authorities in front of the western portico, was conducted round the building. In the commercial reading room, up stairs, a throne having been erected, the Queen took her seat, when the recorder delivered a suitable address. Her Majesty, attended by the Lord Mayor, subsequently partook of a dejeuner; and on passing through the merchants' area on her going to her carriage, the heralds, by her desire, proclaimed the building "The Royal Exchange." This building is in the Grecian style of architecture, supported by columns of different Orders, is truly worthy of the commercial enterprise which it represents. Some idea of the business carried on in the vicinity of the Royal Exchange may be formed from the calculation that upwards of 200,000 persons daily pass the south-west corner.

The Auction Mart, Bartholemew-lane, derives some importance from its immediate contiguity to those active scenes of business, the Bank of England, the Royal Exchange, and other public offices. This structure, which was opened in 1810, though grand and imposing, the peculiar construction of the building has made it necessary, in some degree, to sacrifice appearance to convenience. The interior contains a spacious saloon for the exhibition of particulars of sales of every description, together with various apartments for auctions, and auctioneers, coffee room, &c. *Particulars* of all sales are preserved here for the purpose of public reference, as are also all charters, and acts of parliament, relating to canals, railways, bridges, and other commercial speculations.

Trinity House, Tower-hill.—The society of the Trinity was founded in the year 1515, at a time when the British navy began to assume a warlike aspect. It is a corporation, consisting of a master, four war-

dens, eight assailants, and eighteen elder brethren, selected from commanders in the navy and merchant service, but as a compliment, some of the nobility are occasionally admitted. They may be considered as the guardians of our ships, military and commercial. They examine the children in Christ's hospital, and the masters of queen's ships, appoint pilots for the Thames, settle the rates of pilotage, erect light-houses, and sea-marks, and hear and determine complaints of officers and men in the merchant service, and all business connected with the Thames.

The present structure was commenced in 1793, and finished in 1795. It is built of Portland stone, and consists of a rustic basement, over which is one storey adorned with Ionic pillars and pilasters. It is also ornamented with busts and allegorical relievos. The interior is embellished with portraits of several eminent men, as well as with numerous naval curiosities. It has alms houses at Mile End, and Deptford, for the maintenance and residence of decayed pilots, masters of ships, &c.

Custom House, Lower Thames-street.—The new Custom house was opened for business on the 12th of May, 1817; and is now deservedly ranked among the most celebrated public buildings of the metropolis. The general character of this building is that of plainness and solidity, being chiefly designed for the convenience of business; but from its great magnitude, and the simplicity and just proportions of its parts, the effect is grand and imposing. The building is 480 feet in length, and 100 in depth. The south front towards the Thames, together with those towards the east and west, are faced with Portland stone, but the north front is chiefly of brick; there is an entire continuity of parts throughout, so that the unity of design is preserved, notwithstanding the variation of materials. The front, towards the river, consists of a centre, and wings; the former is embellished with a portico of six

Ionic columns, elevated on an arched basement, the columns surmounted by an entablature and balustrade. The long room is a dull looking apartment, covered with a coved ceiling; its length is 190 feet by 66 feet broad, and about fifty-five feet high in the centre. The board room and the corridor leading to it, are decorated with architectural ornaments; but the finishing of all the other parts is confined to a judicious neatness alone. The building is, in a great measure, rendered indestructible by fire, and various incombustible rooms are distributed throughout, for depositing books and other important documents. Iron doors are also provided, to shut out at night the communication between the centre and wings, that in case of accident the fire may not possibly spread to any great extent. For the convenience of the various branches into which this service is divided, and the building distributed, there are numerous entrances on all sides, with separate staircases and communications, to prevent confusion. The two principal entrances for the public are from Thames-street, having a hall to each. The business of the Customs is managed by thirteen commissioners; also a secretary, clerks, and a great number of officers.

EXCISE OFFICE, BROAD-STREET.—This extensive edifice was erected in 1763. It consists of two ranges of buildings, one of stone, the other of brick, separated from each other by a large yard. From the centre of each structure, passages and staircases lead to the apartments of the commissioners, and clerks. The business is managed by nine commissioners, under whom are a great number of clerks, who receive the duty on tea, soap, malt, and other excise articles. The Excise office is open for the transaction of business from nine till three.

GUILDHALL, KING-STREET, CHEAPSIDE.—This is an extensive structure, partly ancient and partly modern. It is the public hall of the city of London, in which are held the various courts, the meetings of

the livery, and in which most of the grand city entertainments are given. Guildhall was originally built in 1411; but the exterior having been greatly damaged by the fire of 1666, it was repaired, and in 1789 the present front was erected. It consists of three divisions, separated by fluted pilasters, and above, in the centre, are the city arms. The hall itself, which will contain 7000 persons, is 153 feet long, 48 broad, and 55 in height, to the roof; the latter is flat, and divided into pannels. The windows at each end are enriched with painted glass, representing the royal arms, the insignia of the Orders of the Garter, Bath, St. Andrew, St. Patrick, &c. Amongst the monuments in the great hall are one to William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, with an inscription from the pen of the celebrated Burke; another to William Pitt, his son, the distinguished premier of England, with an inscription by Canning; one to Lord Nelson, with an inscription by Sheridan; and one to William Beckford, Lord Mayor in 1762 and 1769. The monument to Beckford represents the spirited chief magistrate in the attitude in which he replied to George III's. answer to the address, remonstrance, and petition of the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council of the city of London, on the 23rd of May, 1770. On a black marble tablet, in letters of gold, are the words of this eloquent and patriotic reply, which has been the subject of much encomium. At the west end of the hall are the gigantic figures of Gog and Magog, believed to represent an ancient Briton and Saxon. In the different offices of the Guildhall are other munuments and numerous pictures. The hall is open to strangers from ten in the morning to six in the evening, and the other apartments may be seen by a trifling douceur to the officer in attendance.

The Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, is one of the finest specimens of architecture in the metropolis. This extensive pile of building, replete with

convenience, and in all respects worthy of the commercial importance of the establishment, was erected under the superintendence of Sir Robert Smirke, in the latter end of the reign of George IV. It was opened for public business September 23, 1829. The great hall, through which there is a thoroughfare from St. Martin's-le-Grand to Foster-lane, is 80 feet in width, 60 in length, and 50 in height. The roof is supported by six Portland stone columns of the Ionic order. On the north side are newspaper, foreign, inland, and ship-letter offices; on the south side are the Receiver-general's, Accountant's, Money-order, and other offices; at the south-east end, is what was formerly called the twopenny post, but now the London District department; and at the western, on each side of the grand entrance, are boards with lists of persons to whom letters have been addressed, and whose abodes are unknown. North of the centre is the hall where the bags are received from the mails, and this hall communicates with the inland sorters' office, and letter carriers' office. These offices are upwards of 100 feet long, and the immense number of drawers, boxes, and pigeon holes, with which they are fitted up in order to meet the necessities of this department, must be seen to be duly appreciated. At the eastern end of the hall, at the north side, is a staircase, leading to the dead-letter, mis-sent, and returned letter offices, which, together with the board-room, secretaries' rooms, occupy the first floor. The second floor and upper storey are almost exclusively occupied by sleeping-rooms for the clerks of the foreign department. In the basement storey, which is rendered fire-proof, by brick vaulting, is the mail-guards' room and armoury. Immediately under the portico are two large gas-meters capable of registering 4000 cubic feet of gas per hour; and some curious machinery has been introduced for supplying water to the upper parts of the building in case of fire, and also for raising coals

from the cellars to the different floors. Under the great hall is a tunnel for the conveyance of letters from one department of the office to another. The Post-office is closed on Sunday, but numerous receiving-boxes in all parts of the metropolis, are open night and day, for the reception of newspapers, stamped letters, &c. Since the establishment of the new postage, all letters, if not exceeding half an ounce in weight, with a stamped envelope, or label, or prepaid, are charged only one penny each;—if not stamped, or prepaid, twopence.

THE HERALD'S COLLEGE, BENNEET'S-HILL, is an ancient foundation, in which are kept records of the descent of all the great families of the kingdom. It is a brick edifice, erected in 1683, and adorned with four Ionic pilasters; it contains a court of honour, a library, and apartments for the members, consisting of three kings-at-arms, six heralds-at-arms, and four pursuivants-at-arms, whose business it is to attend the queen on particular state occasions, to arrange state-processions, make proclamations, &c. A common search for a coat-of-arms costs 5*s*., or a general search, £1 1*s*.; but if a new coat-of-arms be required, the fees amount to £10 10*s*., or more, according to circumstances.

TEMPLE BAR.—This handsome gate is the only one of the city boundaries now remaining. It stands at the western extremity of the corporate jurisdiction, between Fleet-street and the Strand. It is of the Corinthian order, and composed of Portland stone, with a rusticated basement. Over the gateway, on the outside, in two niches, are iron statues of Queen Elizabeth and James I., with the royal arms over the keystone; and, on the west side, are statues of Charles I. and II. On the east side is an inscription, nearly effaced, which states that it was erected during 1670-1-2, and the names of the lord mayors for those years. Temple Bar is still closed, on certain occasions,

against the official agents of the court, and it is opened only by the special order of the lord mayor, who, as Governor of the City of London, thus maintains his peculiar privileges.

THE ADELPHI, STRAND, is a handsome range of buildings, erected on the site of Durham-yard, by Messrs. Adams, four brothers, whose labours have embellished the metropolis with several edifices of distinguished excellence; and whose many improvements in ornamental architecture will be highly appreciated, as long as good taste prevails. The whole is built on arches forming subterranean passages from the river to George-street. Adelphi is a Greek word, denoting the fraternal relationship. The Adelphi is one of the principal objects visible from the bridges of Waterloo and Westminster, and the view from the terrace, as it is lofty, and built at a bend of the river, is very commanding.

SOMERSET HOUSE, STRAND.—On the site of the present range of buildings formerly stood a magnificent palace, erected in the sixteenth century, which belonged to the Protector Somerset. Queen Elizabeth, Anne of Denmark, and Catherine, Queen of Charles II., occasionally held their courts here. In 1774, it was determined to erect a large suite of government offices on this spot. Sir William Chambers was appointed the architect; and although the economical spirit of the government prevented him from completing his design, yet the building is such as to do credit to himself, and to the age in which he lived.

Somerset House consists of a spacious quadrangle; the south front, on the banks of the river, has a very fine terrace, raised fifty feet above the bed of the river. The front, in the Strand, is composed of a rustic basement, supporting columns of the Corinthian order, crowned in the centre with an attic, and at the extremities with a balustrade. The basement consists of

nine large arches—three in the middle, open, and forming the principal entrance; and three at each end, filled with windows of the Roman Doric order, adorned with pilasters, entablatures, and pediments. On the keystones of the nine arches are carved, in alto-relievo, nine colossal masks, representing Ocean, and the eight great rivers of England, viz., the Thames, Humber, Mersey, Dee, Medway, Tweed, Tyne, and Severn, with various emblems to denote their characters. The Corinthian columns over the basement are ten in number, placed upon pedestals, having their regular entablature. Here are comprehended two floors. The attic, which distinguishes the centre of the front, extends over three intercolumniations, and is divided into three parts, by four colossal statues, placed on the columns of the order. It terminates with a group, consisting of the arms of the British empire, supported on one side by figures emblematic of the Genius of England, and on the other, by Fame sounding her trumpet. The three open arches in the Strand front form the principal entrances to the whole structure. They open to a spacious vestibule, decorated with Roman Doric columns. The inner front of this main body of the building, that overlooks the magnificent quadrangular court, is also of the most elegant composition, considerably wider than that facing the Strand, and has two projecting wings.—A continuous pile of stately buildings ranges round the court, and presents, on the side next the Thames, a yet grander, though still incomplete front, which comprises one of the finest terraces in the world. This terrace, which forms a truly-delightful promenade, is open to the public. In the spacious court, and directly fronting the entrance, is a statue of George III., with father Thames, as a river-god, at his feet, pouring wealth and plenty from a cornucopia. The major part of this grand national structure is occupied by the various offices, and by the abodes of different

officers of the government. Here are the Navy Pay-office, Stamps and Taxes, Legacy Duty, Poor Law Commissioners, Audit Offices, &c. Here also are the apartments of the Royal Society of Arts, the Royal Society of Antiquaries, the University of London, the School of Design, &c. And here, too, until the year 1837, were the Exhibition Rooms of the Royal Academy of Arts, now in the National Gallery.

HORSE GUARDS, WHITEHALL.—This edifice owes its name to the circumstance of its being the principal station where that military corps is usually on duty, and is a noble but rather heavy building of hewn stone, erected about 1730, at an expense of upwards of £30,000. It consists of a centre and two wings, in the former of which is an arched passage into St. James's Park, and above, in the middle, a cupola containing a clock. In front of the street is a gateway, at the sides of which are two small stone pavilions, where sentries daily mount guard. Here is transacted all the business of the British army, in a great variety of departments; consisting of the office of the Commander of the Forces, the office of the Secretary at War, the Adjutant-general's office, the Quarter-master-general's office, besides the orderly rooms for the regiments of foot-guards, whose arms are kept here.

THE ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, WHITEHALL, is a large pile, built with brick and stone, receding from, but communicating with, the street by advancing wings; the portico of the main building is in a heavy bad taste, as a specimen of the Ionic order. It was built in the reign of George II., on the sight of a mansion belonging to the family of Wallingford. Here are the offices, and the spacious abodes of the Lords of the Admiralty, together with a handsome hall, &c.

THE TREASURY, ST. JAMES'S PARK, is a handsome stone building, near the Horse Guards, facing the parade. The front, which was erected by Kent, consists of three stories, displaying the Tuscan, Doric,

and Ionic orders of architecture, the whole surmounted by a pediment.

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE, WHITEHALL.—This edifice was rebuilt in 1826. It is a highly enriched building of stone, the order of architecture being that of the Temple of Jupiter Stator, at Rome. The principal front has a series of attached columns, and a magnificent entablature finished with a balustrade. The interior is very elegant.

SESSIONS'-HOUSE, OLD BAILEY, is a handsome building of stone and brick. The entrance to the court is formed by two flights of steps, on either side of which staircases ascend to the galleries. On each side the court are seats for the sheriffs, who can speak to each other by means of a pipe passing along the front of the bench. The prisoner stands nearly at the extremity of the court, facing the bench. During the trials, admission to the galleries may be obtained on application to the officers who are constantly in attendance, and demand a sum proportionate to the interest of the case. The fee in ordinary cases is 6*d.* or 1*s.* Behind the Sessions'-house is a colonnade, which was built for the witnesses in waiting—over which a new court was built in 1824, for the purpose of facilitating the trials during the sessions.

Sessions'-house, Clerkenwell, for the county of Middlesex, situated in St. John's-street, and called Hicks's-hall, having become ruinous, the present building was erected about 1780. The front is of stone, with a rustic basement, over which are four Ionic pillars and two pilasters, supporting an architrave, frieze, and cornice, with a pediment. Over the centre window is a medallion of George III., and over two others are representations of Justice and Mercy, executed by Nollekens. At each extremity is a medallion of the Roman fasces and sword. The tympanum contains the county arms. The interior is divided

into the court, the hall, and rooms for the magistrates, grand jury, &c. The court is open to the public.

TOWN-HALL, SOUTHWARK, is a modern brick edifice, with a stone front, consisting of a rustic basement, above which are several Ionic pilasters, surmounted by a handsome balustrade. The Steward of the city of London holds a court of record here, for all trespasses, &c., within his jurisdiction.

NEW COURT-HOUSE, OR WESTMINSTER GUILDHALL. —This handsome modern structure is built on part of the ancient Sanctuary. It is of an octagonal form, and is entered by a few steps under the vestibule, supported by massy columns of the Doric order. It is plain and substantial, and is used as the Court of Sessions for the city of Westminster. It is open to the public during the transaction of business.

THE CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, is a quadrangular paved court, surrounded by a colonnade. The entrance is ornamented by Doric columns, supporting a plain edifice, in which are two coffee-houses. It is an open market, and convenient enough in its plan, except that it is too small. The market-days are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; but the day on which the most business is transacted is Monday.

THE NEW CORN EXCHANGE, adjoining the last mentioned, is a very elegant building, erected in 1828. The principal front is made into a centre and wings; the former consists of a portico of six fluted Doric columns sustaining an elegant entablature. The interior is particularly pleasing, the roof is supported by columns, the capitals formed of wheat sheafs. This building was erected according to an act of parliament passed in the seventh year of George IV.

THE ALBANY, PICCADILLY, derived its name from the second title of the late Duke of York, by whom it was formerly inhabited. After his royal highness left it, it was partly taken down, and its site and gardens were covered with buildings forming the

present establishment. Apartments are here let to the nobility, members of parliament, and others, who have no fixed town residence. The buildings extend to Burlington Gardens, and has a porter's lodge at each end; but it is not a public thoroughfare.

SUBSCRIPTION OR CLUB HOUSES.

THESE establishments are frequented by celebrated political and fashionable characters, who meet for the purpose of reading, conversation, or refreshment, and no one can be admitted who has not been elected according to the rules of the Society. The principal are

THE UNION CLUB HOUSE, Union-square, a noble building erected in 1824, contains some of the finest rooms in the metropolis.

THE UNIVERSITY CLUB HOUSE, Suffolk-street, a chaste and elegant edifice erected in 1824.

THE SENIOR UNITED SERVICE CLUB HOUSE, Pall Mall, was erected in 1828, on the site of part of Carlton Palace. The rooms are spacious and elegantly adorned.

THE JUNIOR UNITED SERVICE CLUB HOUSE, corner of Charles-street, Regent-street, is adorned with a basso-relievo, representing Britannia distributing rewards to Naval and Military heroes.

CROCKFORD'S CLUB HOUSE, St. James's-street, is a very chaste specimen of architecture, built in 1827.

THE ATHENÆUM CLUB, Pall Mall, was instituted in 1824, for the association of literary and scientific individuals, artists of eminence, and noblemen and gentlemen distinguished as liberal patrons of science, literature, and the arts. The building has been erected in a rich style of Grecian architecture. Over the portico is a statue of Minerva.

ARTHUR'S CLUB HOUSE, St. James's-street, is a stone fronted building, presenting a rustic basement

of five arches, above which are six columns of the Corinthian order, supporting an entablature, cornice, and balustrade.

In addition to the foregoing may be enumerated the Oriental Club, Hanover-square; Verulam Club, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Literary Union, Waterloo-place; Cocoa Tree Club, Graham's Club, Guards' Club, St. James's Club, Albion Club, Colonial Club, Brooke's Subscription House, White's Subscription House, Boodle's Subscription House, St. James's-street; Royal Naval Club, Bond-street; Portland Club, Stratford-place; Alfred, Albemarle-street.

NOBLEMEN'S RESIDENCES.

NORTHUMBERLAND HOUSE, CHARING-CROSS.—This magnificent edifice was built in the reign of James I., by Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, during whose life it was called Northampton House, and consisted originally of three sides only. After his death, it came into the possession of the Earl of Suffolk; and in 1642, Algernon, Earl of Northumberland, became its proprietor, by marrying Lord Suffolk's daughter, at which time it obtained its present name. The front to the street is magnificent, and is surmounted by a lion, the crest of the Percy family. Here are many paintings by the old masters. The whole of the building was completely repaired in 1821, and fitted up in the most sumptuous style. The grounds extend nearly to the water side.

BURLINGTON HOUSE, PICCADILLY.—The front of this handsome mansion is remarkable for its beauty, but is hid from public view by a lofty brick wall. The wings of the building are connected with the centre by a colonnade of the Doric order. The front is of Portland stone, designed by the great Earl of Burlington, an amateur architect.

SPENCER HOUSE, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, the town re-

sidence of Earl Spencer, is a noble pile of building in the Grecian style of architecture. The principal ornament of the interior is the library, an elegant room, containing one of the finest collections of books in the kingdom.

MALBOROUGH HOUSE, PALL MALL, is a stately brick edifice, erected during the reign of Queen Anne as a testimony of Britain's approbation of the services of the great Duke of Marlborough. The wings are adorned with rustic stone work, and the interior is splendidly furnished. In the vestibule is a painting of the battle of Hochstet, in which the Duke of Marlborough, Prince Eugene, and Marshall Tallard are represented.

APSLEY HOUSE, HYDE PARK CORNER, has for many years been the town residence of the Duke of Wellington, who, in the years 1828 and 1829, caused it to be enlarged and remodelled, so as to correspond with the beauties that had lately sprung up around it. The ornamental architecture is Corinthian; the whole enclosed by a rich bronzed palisade. The rooms are large, richly ornamented, and are furnished in the first style of magnificence.

Our limits prohibiting us from giving an ample description of all the noble houses in London we can only enumerate those which are of the most distinguished rank.

Chesterfield-House, South Audley-street; the Duke of Devonshire's, Piccadilly; Hertford-House, Manchester-square; Melbourne-House, Whitehall; Warwick-House, Warwick-street; Grosvenor-house, Upper Grosvenor-street; Gloucester-House, Piccadilly; Earl Harcourt's, Cavendish-square; Duke of Norfolk's, St. James's-square; Duke of Buckingham's, Pall Mall; Earl of Liverpool's, Fife-House, &c., &c.

SQUARES.

Belgrave-square, commenced in 1825, is now one of the most distinguished ornaments of the metropolis; it is 684 feet long, and 617 broad; the houses which are large and uniform, are adorned with Corinthian columns.

Berkeley-square, on the north side of Piccadilly, is situated on one of the few descents found in London. The south side is occupied by the wall of an extensive garden, in the midst of which is a large stone house of heavy proportions, built for the late Earl of Bute, but now the property of the Marquis of Lansdowne.

Bloomsbury-square, was once called Southampton-square. The house which formerly occupied the north side was built after a design by Inigo Jones. To forward those improvements, of which Russel, Tavistock, Euston-squares, &c., are the result, this house and its gardens were sold, and the whole site is now built over. On the north side is a fine colossal statue of Charles James Fox, elevated on several steps resting on a pedestal of granite; the whole about 16 feet high. The patriot is represented seated, and habited in a consular robe, with his right arm extended, supporting Magna Charta.

Cavendish-square contains some very noble mansions. In the centre is a gilt equestrian statue of William Duke of Cumberland.

Euston-square is situated to the north of Tavistock-square, and is bisected by the New Road.

Finsbury-square, at the north-east part of the metropolis, is a handsome quadrangular range of building, surrounding a spacious garden.

Fitzroy-square, is near the Regent's Park. The houses on the south and east sides are faced with stone, and have a greater proportion of architectural excellence and embellishment than most others in the me-

tropolis. The north side of the square, which is faced with stucco, was not erected till 1825.

GROSVENOR-SQUARE, is situated on the south side of Oxford-street, and contains six acres of ground. The houses are magnificent, and the shrubs and walks well arranged. In the centre is a gilt equestrian statue of George I.

HANOVER-SQUARE is a fashionable and celebrated place, built soon after the accession of the House of Hanover. The square occupies about two acres; and the middle is enclosed with a handsome iron railing.

ST. JAMES'S-SQUARE, is one of uncommon celebrity, chiefly on account of the elevated characters who inhabit it. It is very large, and in the centre is an extensive sheet of water, from the middle of which rises a pedestal, surmounted by a statue of William III. The space, within the railings, is occupied by walks ornamented with shrubs, plants, &c.

LEICESTER-SQUARE, which is still frequently called "Leicester-fields," is adorned with a fine gilt equestrian statue of George I.

PORTMAN-SQUARE was begun in 1764, and was not completed for twenty years; it consists of large and elegant mansions.

QUEEN-SQUARE is a neat and rural parallelogram, so named in honour of Queen Anne, whose statue is placed here in the centre of the gardens.

RUSSEL-SQUARE is a large and well-arranged plot of ground, about 670 feet square, surrounded by capital houses. On the south side is a colossal bronze statue of the late Duke of Bedford.

SOHO-SQUARE is said to have derived its name from "Soho" being the word of the day at the battle of Sedgemoor. In the centre is a large area, with a handsome railing, enclosing trees and shrubs, and a pedestrian statue of Charles II., at whose feet are emblematical figures of the rivers Thames, Trent, Severn, and Humber. In the north-western corner of

the square stands the Soho Bazar, established by Mr. Trotter, in 1815, to afford respectable young women an opportunity of trading on a small capital. It has long been a fashionable resort for ladies.

TAVISTOCK-SQUARE is situated a short distance north of Russell-square. It consists of handsome and spacious houses.

TRAFALGAR-SQUARE is one of the most modern embellishments of the metropolis. Forming the north side of the square is the National Gallery, with a handsome terrace in front. Between the National Gallery and Charing-cross it occupies a vast area: it has two fountains in the centre, and a magnificent column to perpetuate the memory of Admiral Lord Nelson, and record to posterity his naval intrepidity and deathless renown.

WELLCLOSE-SQUARE, situated at the east end of the metropolis, is small, but neat. The Danish church, in the centre, is an elegant structure, with a tower and turret. It was erected, according to an inscription on it, in 1696, at the expense of Christian V., King of Denmark. Caius Gabriel Cibber, the architect of this church, and his wife Jane, the father and mother of Colley Cibber, are both buried here. The monument of the latter was erected by her husband.

BRIDGES.

Formerly there were but few bridges over the Thames, and those few constructed on rude and inferior principles; but both these defects are now well remedied.

The first bridge that ever crossed the Thames was near the Fishmongers' Hall. It was built of wood. The Old London Bridge, removed a few years ago, was commenced in 1176, but was not finished till 1209, at which time it was covered with houses on each side, and connected together by arches of timber, which

crossed the street or centre. This monument of the early ages, the stability of which appeared to defy the hand of time, has at length disappeared; and, a few paces higher up the stream, has been built the

NEW LONDON BRIDGE, the first pile of which was driven in March, 1824; and the first stone was laid by the lord mayor, on the 15th of June, 1825. It was opened by his late Majesty, William IV., and Queen Adelaide, in state, on the 1st of August, 1831. At the northern foot of the bridge, an elegant pavilion was erected, on the occasion, for the accommodation of their majesties, the royal suite, the civic authorities, &c.; and a princely collation was served. The bridge consists of five arches, the centre of which is 150 feet in the clear rising, and 23 feet above high water; the two adjoining are 140, and the others, 130 feet. The length of the bridge, including the abutments, is 950 feet; within the abutments, 782 feet; its width from parapet to parapet, 83 feet; the carriage-way, 55 feet. The approaches to the bridge, on both sides of the river, are very fine.

BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE is an elegant structure, the thorough repair of which was completed in 1841; it was built between the years 1760 and 1769, at an expense of £152,840, which was defrayed by a toll on the passengers. On a tin plate, placed over the first stone, is a Latin inscription, indicating the year in which the erection was commenced, as well as the sovereign, and lord mayor, at that period. It consists of nine elliptical arches, the centre one 100 feet in width. It is 995 feet long, and 42 broad. This bridge is situated at about an equal distance from those of Southwark and Waterloo. It commands a fine view of St. Paul's Cathedral, as well as of both sides of the river, including the Tower, the Monument, Somerset House, Westminster Abbey, and upwards of thirty churches.

WESTMINSTER BRIDGE is esteemed one of the most

complete and elegant structures of the kind in the world. It is built entirely of Portland stone and crosses the river, where the breadth is 1223 feet, which is above 300 feet more than at London Bridge. On each side is a fine stone balustrade, 6 feet 9 inches in height, with places for shelter from the rain. The width of the bridge is 44 feet, having on each side a footway for passengers seven feet broad. It consists of fourteen piers, and thirteen large and two small arches, all semicircular; that is, the centre being 76 feet wide, and the rest decreasing four feet each from the other; so that the two last arches of the thirteen great ones are each 52 feet. The width of the two small arches at the abutments is about 20 feet. It is computed that about £40,000 value in stone, and other materials, is under water. The proportions of this bridge are so accurate, that if a person speak against the wall of any of the recesses on one side of the way, he may be distinctly heard on the opposite side; even a whisper is perceptible during the stillness of the night. This magnificent structure was begun in 1739, and was finished in 1750, at the expense of £389,000, defrayed by parliament.

WATERLOO BRIDGE.—This truly noble structure commenced in 1811, under the superintendence of Mr. G. Dodd, and finished in 1817, under that of Mr. Rennie; it was opened on the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo, in the presence of the Prince Regent, the Duke of Wellington, and an immense concourse of spectators. The width of the river at this part is 1326 feet at high water. The bridge consists of nine elliptical arches of 120 feet span, and 35 feet high, supported on piers 20 feet wide. Its entire length is 2456 feet, and its breadth, within the balustrades, 42 feet; the bridge and abutments being 1380 feet, the approach from the Strand 310 feet, and the causeway on the Surrey side, so far as it is supported by the land arches, 766 feet. The roadway on the summit

of the arches is level on a line with the Strand, carried on by a gentle declivity on the opposite side. As a public ornament and a public accommodation, Waterloo Bridge is invaluable. The toll for foot-passengers is a halfpenny.

VAUXHALL BRIDGE is a very elegant structure, thrown over the Thames at an expense of £150,000. The first stone was laid in 1813, and the bridge was completed in 1816. It consists of nine cast-iron arches with piers formed by a wooden frame as a foundation, faced with Kentish ragstone and Roman cement. The arches are 78 feet in span, and 29 feet in height, and the length of the bridge is 860 feet. It contributes greatly to the beauty of the metropolis, and affords the inhabitants of Vauxhall, Lambeth, &c., an easy communication with the courts of law, Pimlico, Chelsea, and their populous neighbourhoods. The toll for foot-passengers is one penny.

SOUTHWARK BRIDGE is a noble fabric of cast-iron, laid upon stone piers; it was commenced in 1814. It consists of three arches, the centre one having a span of 240 feet, and that on either side, 210. The weight of metal employed exceeds 5300 tons. The foundations of the piers are 12 feet below the bed of the river; and the boxes of the immense wooden piles on which these foundations rest are 26½ feet lower: the distance between the two abutments is 708 feet. The expense of the construction was £800,000. It was completed and open for public use in March, 1819. Toll for foot-passengers one penny.

THE THAMES TUNNEL is an extraordinary undertaking, and a triumph of human ingenuity over seeming impossibilities. The work was projected and executed by Sir J. Brunel, and forms a communication under the bed of the Thames from Wapping to Rotherhithe. The first complete excavation, from side to side, was effected in the autumn of 1841. The Tunnel is admitted to be one of the most astonishing

and marvellous constructions of modern times: it consists of two arches built of brick; carriages as well as foot-passengers can pass through it. The passages are well aired and lighted with gas. Dimensions,—length, 1300 feet; width, 35 feet; height, 22 feet; width of each arch, 14 feet; thickness, between the vault of the Tunnel and the Thames, about 15 feet. One penny is the charge for passing through.

CHAPTER V.

Public Schools, Charitable Institutions, Alms Houses, &c.

EDUCATION.

In the most extended sense of the phrase we may say that Education is widely spread over the metropolis of Great Britain. Schools amply endowed for the gratuitous education of thousands of every class had long existed;—parish schools, supported by voluntary contributions, were also numerous; seminaries and preparatory schools abounded; but from all such the pupil was ushered forth unfinished, and his education had to be completed by a course at Oxford or Cambridge at an expense beyond the reach of many who only required proper cultivation of mind to render them conspicuous in the literary world. This evil was seen by many philanthropic individuals, whose laudable principles led them to endeavour to find a remedy: we are proud to say that success has crowned their efforts, and

The London University, Gower-Street, stands forth as a lasting testimony of their labour of love. It was founded in 1826, for the promotion of useful

learning amongst the youth of the metropolis. This institution is subordinate to a royal incorporation, designated the University of London, which holds its sittings in Somerset-house, and has the power of conferring all kinds of degrees, except divinity. The College is considered to be the first medical school in London, and was much wanted, as medical students before its foundation were compelled to attend the colleges of Edinburgh or Glasgow, to obtain their diploma. No theological principles are taught within its walls. The establishment has every requisite accommodation for professors, theatres for lectures, laboratories, museums, apparatus, &c. In the centre of the buildings is a bold portico, of the Corinthian order, raised on a plinth to the height of the first storey. To the east is the hall, 90 feet long by 45. To the north is the museum of natural history, 118 feet by 50, communicating with the museum of anatomy, which contains an excellent collection of preparations, several mummies, &c. To the south of the vestibule is the library, of the same dimensions as the museum. The London University was opened October 2, 1828. Respectable persons are freely admitted to inspect the interior.

KING'S COLLEGE, SOMERSET HOUSE, STRAND. A noble emulation among the more aristocratic part of the community, excited by the institution of the London University, gave rise to this rival establishment, the object of which is to supply a liberal education, blended with instruction according to the principles of the Church of England, to the members of which it is exclusively confined. It is patronized by the dignitaries of the church, and has received a royal charter. It forms the eastern wing of Somerset-house, and was completed in 1833.

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL, commonly called the Blue Coat School, from the long blue garment worn by the boys, was founded by Edward VI. for the "innocent

and fatherless." It at first consisted of a grammar school for boys, and a separate school for girls, where they were taught to read, sew, &c. In addition to its original foundation, Charles II. liberally endowed it with £1000 to be paid from the Exchequer yearly for seven years, to found a mathematical school for the instruction of forty boys in mathematics and navigation. This was afterwards followed by a second mathematical school for thirty-six boys, founded by Mr. Travers. There are on the foundation nearly 1200 children, 500 of the younger of whom are educated at an establishment in the healthy town of Hertford. The lord mayor and coporation of London are directors of the institution.

The building is very irregular, and occupies the site of the ancient friary of the Franciscans founded in 1225, the ancient cloisters of which still remain, forming part of the thoroughfare from Little Britain into Newgate-street, and serving as a place of recreation for the boys in wet weather. The south front, adjoining Newgate-street, is ornamented with Doric pilasters, and a statue of the young founder. A new and commodious hall was built and opened for the reception of the boys of the establishment, on the 29th May, 1829. It is of the Tudor style of architecture, and is one of the noblest buildings in the metropolis. The revenues of Christ's hospital, arising from royal and private donations in houses and lands, and from a grant by the City, of various privileges conferred on it by the charter, are very considerable. The annual expenditure amounts to about £45,000. The dress of the boys consists of a long dark blue cloth tunic, made close to the body down to the waist, and descending loosely and open in front to the ancles; yellow under coat; yellow worsted stockings; drab knee breeches; a small round flat worsted cap, which is more frequently carried in the hand than worn on the head; and a leather belt round the waist. Their food is plain but

wholesome, and their dormitories spacious and cleanly. They are principally instructed so as to fit them for counting houses, and trades. Few boys however are annually sent to Oxford or Cambridge, to be educated for the church.—A presentation is valuable. A most interesting ceremony takes place at the meeting of the boys to supper, every Sunday evening, for eight Sundays, from March to May, at six o'clock, to which strangers are admitted by tickets, easily obtained from persons connected with the institution. When the supper is terminated, they retire in procession, bowing to the company.

THE CHARTER HOUSE, CHARTER HOUSE-SQUARE, was formerly a priory for monks of the Carthusian Order; but in 1611 the building was converted into a hospital for a master, preacher, second master, forty-four boys, and eighty decayed merchants or military men. Thomas Sutton, Esq. endowed it with lands at that time worth £1400 per annum. The boys are instructed in classical learning; and the pensioners are allowed provisions, lodgings, a gown, and £14 per annum. This foundation allows £21 per annum each to twenty scholars at the university, and they enjoy various other privileges. The buildings have an ancient appearance. In the governor's room is a half-length portrait of the founder. His effigy is placed above his tomb in the chapel, above which is a preacher addressing his auditory.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, DEAN'S YARD, WESTMINSTER, was founded by Queen Elizabeth, in 1560, for forty boys, called the Queen's scholars, who are prepared for the university. It is situated within the walls of the abbey, and is divided into upper and lower schools, comprising seven classes. Besides the scholars on the foundation, many of the nobility and gentry send their sons to Westminster for instruction, so that this establishment vies with Eton in respectability. Many celebrated persons have presided over

this establishment. The school is under the management of the Dean of Westminster.

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, was founded in 1509, by Dr. John Colet, Dean of St. Paul's. The Mercers' Company were appointed trustees of this charity, which was instituted to be a free school for the education of one hundred and fifty-three boys, under the superintendence of a master, an usher, and a chaplain. Many of the scholars are removed to the universities with exhibitions to defray a portion of their expenses. This school is divided into eight classes. In 1822 the building situated on the east side of St. Paul's churchyard was taken down; it has since been rebuilt, and greatly enlarged towards the north. The new edifice, which was erected under the direction and from the designs of G. Smith, Esq., architect, is a very handsome building, fronted with stone, and consisting of a centre and wings, ornamented with a Corinthian colonnade.

MERCHANT TAILORS' SCHOOL, SUFFOLK LANE, CURZON STREET, was founded by the company of Merchant Tailors in 1561. Agreeably to the original statutes one hundred boys are here taught at five shillings each, per quarter; fifty, at half-a-crown each; and one hundred gratis. The present building consists of the school-house, apartments for the ushers, a house for the head master, library, and a chapel, erected after the great fire in 1666. Several scholars are annually sent from this establishment to St. John's College, Oxford.

Besides these there are various minor schools maintained by charity; the parish school, the Lancastrian and national schools, the Sunday schools, and nearly four thousand private schools in and about the metropolis.

PUBLIC CHARITIES, HOSPITALS, &c.

THE FOUNDLING HOSPITAL, GUILDFORD-STREET, was founded through the exertions of Captain Thomas Coram, in the year 1735, by royal charter, granted by George II., for the maintenance and education of exposed and destitute infants. They are not, however, as in some foreign establishments of a similar nature, received indiscriminately or under secresy. Application must be made personally by the mother, who must be able to prove her previous good conduct, the desertion of the father, and also that the reception of the child with the secresy observed, may be the means of restoring her to virtuous behaviour and an honest livelihood. Private donations, large grants from government, liberal bequests, and endowments, constitute the property of the foundation. The interest of this property, together with the collections in the chapel, the produce of the childrens' work, benefactions, legacies, rents, &c., produce an annual income of about £18,500, which provides for the maintenance and education of about four hundred children, nearly one-half of whom are reared in the country, being at the tender ages of from one to five years, after which they are removed to town. The boys at thirteen, and the girls at fourteen, are advantageously placed by the care of the committee with a view to their future prospects. On leaving the hospital they receive clothes, money, or necessaries, at the discretion of the committee, to an amount not exceeding £10.

The edifice is spacious and convenient; the chapel forms the centre. The east wing is appropriated to the girls, and the west to the boys; and a good garden, and an extensive play-ground complete the accommodation of the establishment. Divine service is performed every Sunday at eleven in the forenoon,

and seven in the evening. The hymns and anthems performed in a scientific manner, render the chapel very attractive. The organ was presented by Handel, who, for some time, performed his celebrated Messiah annually, for the benefit of the institution. The altar-piece, by West, is a noble work; and in different parts of the building, paintings by Hogarth, and other eminent artists, are to be found in considerable numbers. The hospital may be seen on Sundays and Mondays in the middle of the day.

THE DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM, KENT-ROAD, is indebted for its origin to the humane exertions of the Rev. John Townsend. The building, erected in 1807, was enlarged in 1819, and made capable of receiving two hundred children. The pupils are not admitted before the age of nine, nor after fourteen. They are taught to read, and write, and cipher, as well as to comprehend the grammatical arrangement of words, and, in some cases, to articulate so as be understood. They are also taught the art of mechanism and manufacture, which they are generally found very expert; on leaving the hospital, they generally follow useful occupations.

MAGDALEN, BLACKFRIAR'S-ROAD. — This useful institution was established to reclaim unfortunate females from the paths of prostitution. It was formed in 1758, principally by the exertions of Dr. Dodd, and many thousands of abandoned women have enjoyed the benefits of the establishment, and have been restored to their families, friends, and society. By far the greater number who have been protected here, have subsequently continued honourable and correct in their behaviour. No female who has conducted herself with propriety in the house, is allowed to leave it unprovided for. The apartments of the building are kept with great cleanliness and order. The chapel is open to the public every Sunday morning and evening, when a collection is made on

entrance. Persons wishing to see through the building, may be admitted on application to the Treasurer, or Committee, who meet every Thursday. The unhappy women, who wish to take the benefit of this institution, must apply on the first Thursday in the month, between eleven and three, when those whom the Committee consider the most deserving, will be admitted without recommendation.

THE ASYLUM, LAMBETH, is a house of refuge for female orphan children, which was instituted in 1758. It has been eminently useful in securing the objects originally intended by its benevolent founders, in rescuing poor girls from that state of wretchedness and neglect which might expose them to all the miseries of prostitution. The asylum was rebuilt in 1825, and forms three sides of a quadrangle. In the centre is a handsome chapel, which is open to the public every Sunday, when collections are made for the benefit of the children, whose cleanly and healthy appearance cannot fail to interest the spectator.

LONDON ORPHAN HOSPITAL, CLAPTON, was instituted for the maintenance and education of destitute orphans, particularly those of respectable parentage. The present building, erected in 1825, is capable of accommodating three hundred children.

THE SCHOOL FOR THE INDIGENT BLIND, near the Obelisk, was instituted in 1799. About sixty persons, of both sexes, are taught to make baskets, cradles, clothes, &c. Strangers are admitted to view them gratuitously. The structure presents a handsome Gothic exterior, chiefly in white brick.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL, situated on the south bank of the Thames, about five miles from London Bridge, is one of the noblest buildings in the world, devoted to one of the noblest objects—public gratitude to the humble heroes of the country: it is a retreat for seamen, who, by age, wounds, or infirmities, are disabled for service, and for the widows and children of those

who are slain in battle. It stands on the site of an ancient palace, the birth-place of some of our kings and queens, and a royal residence as late as Edward IV., who died there. The old palace was taken down by order of Charles II., who commenced the present edifice, from designs by Sir Christopher Wren. It was enlarged and completed in the reign of George II. It consists of four grand edifices, forming an entire and beautiful plan. They are respectively designated King Charles's, Queen Anne's, King William's, and Queen Mary's wards. The entrance to the chapel in Queen Mary's ward is through a vestibule, in which are niches containing statues of Faith, Hope, Charity, and Meekness. The chapel will accommodate 1300 persons. Over the altar is a painting by West, of the escape of St. Paul from shipwreck. The Painted Hall, equal in size with the chapel, contains a large collection of paintings, some of them of recent date, representing sea engagements, with portraits of naval officers. An emblematical representation of the Death of Nelson, in high relief, enriches a pediment of an inner quadrangle of this building. In the hall is the funeral car in which the remains of Nelson were conveyed to St. Paul's. The establishment consists of a governor, lieutenant-governor, eight lieutenants, a number of officers, about two thousand seven hundred and thirty pensioners, one hundred and seventy nurses, and thirty-two thousand one hundred out-pensioners. The in-pensioners are provided with diet and clothing, and, according to their rank, receive from 1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* a-week as pocket-money. The out-pensioners receive from £4 11*s.* 3*d.* to £27 7*s.* 6*d.* each, annually, according to their service, wounds, &c. The hospital gates open at sunrise; the chapel and hall not till ten, and close at sunset. The pensioners dine at one, in public. Admission to the Painted Hall, 3*d.*; to the Chapel, 2*d.* If a pensioner show the chief ward, or dormitory, he will expect 6*d.*

Near the entrance to Greenwich Park is the NAVAL ASYLUM, founded for the maintenance and education of one thousand boys and girls, children of seamen of the royal navy.

CHELSEA HOSPITAL is intended to afford an asylum to sick and superannuated soldiers who have been engaged in the service of their country. It was founded by Charles II., carried on by James II., and completed in 1690, in the reign of William III., by Sir C. Wren, at an expense of about £150,000. The building is a handsome brick structure, about 790 feet in length, and the grounds occupy a space of about forty acres. It forms three sides of a quadrangle towards the river, and the area formed between the wings and the bank of the river is laid out in walks and grass plots for a promenade. The centre of the building is embellished with a terrastyle portico of the Roman Doric Order, surmounted by a handsome clock turret. Under the portico are the principal entrances. On one side is the chapel, the furniture and plate of which were presented by James the II., and the organ by Major Ingram; on the other side is the hall where all the pensioners dine. In this hall is an equestrian portrait of Charles II., and other portraits, and a fine allegorical painting of the Triumphs of the Duke of Wellington, by Ward. The altar-piece of the chapel is ornamented by a picture of the Ascension, by Sebastian Ricci, and both the chapel and hall are paved with black and white marble. In the centre of the quadrangle next the river is a statue of Charles II., in Roman Imperial armour. The college accomodates about four hundred pensioners, who are provided with clothes, diet, washing, lodging and firing. The out-pensioners receive each a yearly sum of £7 12*s.* 6*d.* The deficiency, if any, is supplied by Parliament.

DUKE OF YORK'S SCHOOL.—This building was

erected in 1801, for the maintenance and instruction of children of the soldiers of the regular army. About one thousand boys and girls are here brought up, and taught several useful trades. The boys have an excellent military band. Open from ten till four.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, is a handsome stone-fronted building, situated between Christ's Hospital and Smithfield. It originally belonged to the Priory of St. Bartholomew, and was founded by Rahere, the minstrel of Henry I. It has an entrance from Smithfield under an arched gateway, which leads into a spacious square court, surrounded by lofty and commodious buildings. The building now in use was erected in 1730. It forms an excellent practical school of medicine and surgery, for students while walking the hospitals. Lectures are delivered by eminent professors. Persons meeting with accidents are admitted at all hours, day and night. Amongst other pictures in the great hall is a portrait of Henry VIII., who presented this house to the citizens; and a portrait of Dr. Ratcliffe, who left £2000 a-year for the improvement of the patients' diet and providing linen. The grand staircase was painted gratuitously by Hogarth. The subjects are—The Good Samaritan; the Pool of Bethesda; Rahere (the founder) laying the foundation-stone; and a sick man carried on a bier, attended by monks. The number of in-patients received here is about five thousand annually; that of out-patients about eight thousand.

St. Thomas's Hospital, Southwark.—This edifice is another royal foundation endowed for the same purposes as that of Bartholomew's. With an annual expenditure of about £10,000, it contains eighteen wards and four hundred and eighty five beds. Casualties are admitted at all hours.

Guy's Hospital, St. Thomas's-street, Southwark.—This noble institution was the work of one

benevolent individual, a citizen and a bookseller, from whom it is justly and appropriately denominated. Mr. Thomas Guy commenced business in 1668, with a stock of about £200 value; and by industry and extreme frugality, joined to some very successful speculations in the South Sea scheme, he amassed a colossal fortune, nearly the whole of which he devoted to charitable purposes. The building of this hospital cost him £18,793, besides which he endowed it with £219,499. The hospital has in its front an iron gate leading into a spacious area, in the centre of which is a bronze statue of the founder in his livery gown. On the east side of the pedestal, is a representation of Christ healing an impotent man; on the west, another of the good Samaritan; on the south Mr. Guy's arms; and on the north an inscription that the hospital was founded in 1721, in the lifetime of Mr. Guy. The building consists of a centre and wings, and behind these is a quadrangle; while a detached edifice is appropriated to the reception of lunatics. The west wing includes a chapel, in which there is a marble statue of the founder at the cost of £1000. He is here represented holding out one hand to raise an emaciated recumbent figure, and pointing with the other to a second, whom two persons are carrying into the hospital. With every accommodation for professors, students, &c., this hospital has twelve wards and upwards of four hundred beds. In the course of the year it also relieves about two thousand out-patients. Guy's, as well as St. Thomas's being royal hospitals, medical students attaching themselves to either are entitled to the privileges of both.

New Bethlehem Hospital, St. George's Fields, is on a scale of great extent and magnificence. The first stone was laid on the 20th April, 1812; but the original foundation, for which the city of London is indebted to Henry VIII., was in Moorfields, which was taken down in 1814. The front of the edifice is

about 570 feet in length, consisting of a centre and two wings, the former of which has a portico of six Ionic columns, supporting a pediment, on which are displayed the arms of the United Kingdom. It is four stories in height, and is capable of accommodating some hundreds of lunatic patients. Its cost was upwards of £100,000, and its annual income is £18,000. In the hall are Cibber's two celebrated statues of Raving Madness, and Melancholy Madness. With the grounds, for the exercise of the patients, it covers an extent of about twelve acres.

St. Luke's Hospital, Old-street, was originally established in 1732, by voluntary contributions. It was intended as an asylum for such unfortunate lunatics as could not obtain admission into Bethlehem hospital. The present building was erected at an expense of upwards of £50,000. It is under the management of a committee of Governors, and is regarded as a model for asylums of this class. Its annual income is about £9000; and the number of its patients is limited to three hundred.

St. George's Hospital, Hyde-park Corner, presents an imposing aspect. The grand front is 200 feet in length; in its centre is a vestibule, 30 feet high, surmounted by lofty pilasters. The theatre for the delivery of lectures is well adapted for the purpose, and will accommodate one hundred and sixty students. This hospital contains twenty-eight wards and four hundred beds. It has a museum, anatomical preparations, and every necessary apparatus.

The London Hospital, Whitechapel-road, was established originally in Goodman's-fields, in 1740, and removed to its present healthy situation in 1759. The patients of this hospital are mostly sick and wounded seamen, watermen, and labourers, employed in the docks and on the various quays.

The Westminster Hospital, James-street, is the oldest hospital supported by voluntary contribu-

tion, and is open to the sick and needy from all parts. Instituted 1719.

THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL, CHARLES-STREET, was instituted in 1745, for the reception of sick and lame patients. In 1747 the benefits of the charity were extended to parturient married females; and in 1792 a ward of this hospital was set apart for patients afflicted with cancer.

THE SMALL-POX HOSPITAL was established in 1746, at a house in Tottenham-court-road, and removed, in 1767, to a spacious building, built expressly for the purpose, at Battle-bridge. Here Doctor Woodville, physician to the institution, introduced vaccination, in 1799. In 1802, a part of the premises was appropriated to the relief of patients labouring under typhus and scarlet fevers.

AN HOSPITAL OF THE DUTCH AND GERMAN JEWS, Mile-end, was established in 1795: also, the JEWS' HOSPITAL, Mile-end, was instituted in 1811; and the FRENCH HOSPITAL, Old-street, for Protestants, was established in 1716.

No description of distress is more extensively provided for in London, than that which arises from the helpless condition of poor lying-in women. There are not fewer than fourteen considerable establishments of this kind, in some of which they are amply provided with every comfort, whilst others provide midwives, medicines, and linen, gratuitously, to indigent females, at their own houses.

The dispensaries are very numerous, and are established in various parts of the metropolis, for the purpose of affording medicine gratis, or at a cheap rate, together with medical advice, and, when it is necessary, attendance at the habitation of the patients.—They are supported by voluntary contributions.

NATIONAL VACCINE SOCIETY.—The total extermination of the small-pox by the substitution of vaccine inoculation, is the end for which this society was in-

stituted. For this purpose, numerous houses are opened in London and its neighbourhood, at which persons are, without any recommendation, inoculated (gratis). The principal house is in Percy-street, Rathbone-place; the directors are, the President and Directors of the College of Physicians, and the Master and Governor of the College of Surgeons.

There are three other institutions having the same meritorious object: the Royal Humane Society, Holborn-hill; the Vaccine Pock Institution, Broad-street, established by Dr. George Pearson, soon after Dr. Jenner announced his great discovery; and the London Vaccine Institution, Bond-court, Walbrook.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY, BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.—This institution, for the recovery of persons apparently drowned or dead, was founded in 1774, by Drs. Goldsmith, Heberden, Towers, Lettsom, Howes, and Cogan, but principally by the exertions of the last three gentlemen. The society offers rewards to persons who, within a certain time after the accident, rescue drowned persons from the water, and bring them to places where means may be used for their recovery. It likewise confers honorary medals on persons who have exerted themselves in saving the lives of others. The society has eighteen receiving-houses in the metropolis, all of which are supplied with perfect and excellent apparatus, and designated by conspicuous boards, announcing their object. The principal receiving-house, however, was erected in 1794, and is situated on a spot of ground given by his Majesty, George III., on the north side of the Serpentine river, in Hyde-park. In this house, everything necessary for the resuscitating process is kept in constant readiness; and, during the bathing-season, a medical gentleman attends to render assistance in case of accident. At the season of the year, when the river is frozen over, ladders and ropes are always in readiness, and people employed by the society are

constantly on the spot. The office, in Bridge-street, is open from eleven till three.

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF AND DISCARGE OF PERSONS CONFINED FOR SMALL DEBTS, CRAVEN-STREET, STRAND.—The liberal views of this society, instituted in 1773, with a fund of £81 1*s.*, the produce of collections made in two chapels of the metropolis for the purpose, were soon ably seconded by the public; for, within fifteen months from the commencement, they were enabled to discharge one hundred prisoners, many of whom were confined for their fees only.—From the annual report, it appears that 958 debtors, of whom 679 had wives, with 1681 children, were discharged from the provincial prisons, by this society, in one year, at an average expense of £2 8*s.* 3*d.* each.

SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF MENDICITY, RED LION-SQUARE.—This institution was established, in 1818, for the purpose of removing from the street every description of mendicant. Those whose characters are found to be good, are relieved, whilst those who prefer begging to honest industry are prosecuted and punished. The society is under the direction of a board of management—two of the members of which attend daily at the office, to superintend the examination, relief, and disposal of cases. The office hours are from nine to six o'clock. During two years, this society investigated 7966 cases, bestowed 49,858 meals, and committed 965 vagrants.

THE PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETY, LONDON ROAD, was formed in 1788, and incorporated in 1806. The children taken under its care are such as have been engaged in criminal courses, or are the offspring of convicted felons. It was established by the exertions of Robert Younger, Esq., (the first proposer of the plan), Dr Lettson, the Hon. Robert Pusey, Sir James Sims, and the late Duke of Leeds. The first institution was at Cambridge-heath, near Hackney; but the present building was afterwards raised, and

soon received within its walls two hundred youth of both sexes. For the employment of the children, buildings have been erected called the Philanthropic Reform, in which, under the direction of the several master workmen, are carried on the trades of a printer, copperplate printer, bookbinder, shoemaker, tailor, &c. The girls are educated as servants, and employed in washing the linen, making their own clothing, shirts for the boys, &c. Industry is excited by rewards that bear a proportion to exertion. Education and religious instruction are also carefully attended to. The chapel is open to the public every Sunday, when a collection is made in aid of the charity.

PRISON DISCIPLINE SOCIETY.—The society for the improvement of prison discipline, and the reformation of juvenile offenders, held its first public meeting in 1820, although it had been in operation for a considerable time before. Its objects are, the amelioration of gaols, by the diffusion of information respecting their construction and management, the classification and employment of the prisoners, and the prevention of crime, by inspiring a dread of punishment, and by inducing the criminal, on his discharge from confinement, to abandon his vicious pursuits.

THE AFRICAN INSTITUTION was founded in 1807, for the purpose of civilizing and instructing the natives of Africa—an immense but a laudable undertaking. Many schools have been established, particularly at Sierra Leone, where the number of scholars male and female amounts to upwards of 1400. The schools are generally well attended, and both males and females appear zealous to reap the advantage of instruction. The "Royal British," and "Dr. Bell's" system of education are adopted. A report is published annually, and is valuable for its details respecting the progress made to abolish the slave trade by the various foreign powers, and the success attending their efforts to civilize and instruct Africa.

SION COLLEGE, LONDON WALL.—This institution is situated on the site of a nunnery, which having fallen into decay, was purchased by William Elsynge and converted into a college and hospital; but in 1340 he changed it into an ecclesiastical priory, which was afterwards granted to Sir John Williams, master of the jewel-office to Henry VIII., who, with Sir Rowland Hayward, inhabited it till its destruction by fire. In 1623, Dr. Thomas White having bequeathed £3000 towards purchasing and building a college and almshouse on the ancient site, his executors erected the present college. It is held by two charters of incorporation; by which authorities, a president, two deans, and four assistants, with all the rectors and vicars, lecturers and curates of the city, were constituted a corporation, and an almshouse was established for ten men and ten women. Dr. White endowed these by a rent-charge of £120 per annum, besides £40 per annum for the common charges of the college. In addition to the founder's benevolence, the college holds a farm in Hertfordshire, left by a person of the name of Brewer, in 1634.

ST. CATHARINE'S HOSPITAL, REGENT'S PARK, was originally founded by Matilda, Queen of Stephen.—Queen Eleanor afterwards appointed a master, three brethren, chaplains, and three sisters, ten poor women, and six poor clerks. Several other queens of England have been benefactors to this hospital; and its present name is derived from Catharine, the wife of Henry VIII., who founded a guild, of which many distinguished persons were members. This establishment was formerly situated near the Tower; but in 1826, when the construction of St. Catharine's Docks was commenced, the members presented a memorial to the lords of the treasury, praying that the ground on which the hospital and master's house now stand, might be given them, a request which was immediately complied with. The building is of white

brick, in the pointed style of architecture, and consists of two ranges, each forming three houses. In the centre, but detached, is the collegiate church, consisting of a nave and aisles. This is also built of white brick, but the front is cased with stone, and surmounted by a tower. The organ, which was brought from the old church, has a larger swell than any other in England. On the opposite side of the road is the master's house, surrounded by about two acres of pleasure-ground.

WESTMINSTER BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—This useful institution is for the relief of the afflicted poor, particularly the families of soldiers, and distressed married women, at the time of child-birth. The society grants the loan of a box of child-bed linen to each poor married woman during her confinement; and pecuniary aid to the amount of ten or twenty shillings, during the month. It was established in 1810, and the business is conducted by two committees, male and female, who personally investigate every case.

MISCELLANEOUS CHARITABLE SOCIETIES.

MASONIC SOCIETY, founded in 1798, for clothing and educating the sons of deceased or indigent freemasons.

FREEMASONS' CHARITY FOR FEMALE CHILDREN, instituted in 1788, to clothe, maintain, and educate the female children and orphans of indigent brethren. The building is adorned with three elegant and appropriate statues of Faith, Hope, and Charity.

PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY, KING'S-STREET, BRYANSTON-SQUARE, established in 1792, for the general instruction and clothing of the sons of poor clergymen, naval and military officers, reduced tradesmen and mechanics.

NATIONAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION founded by

Peter Hervey, Esq., in 1812, for the relief of distressed persons in the *middle ranks* of life, of whatever country or persuasion.

RAINE'S CHARITY, founded by Henry Raine, Esq., who, about 1719, built two schools in Fawdon-fields, near where he had lived and realized his property. He made provision for the maintenance of fifty boys and fifty girls, and for the support of a master and mistress. By his will, he made a singular provision for bestowing annually, on one girl of six, who should, in the course of the year, leave the school, with proper certificate, and exact observance of religious duties, the sum of £100, as a marriage portion, to be paid on the wedding-day. The female, to whom the donation is given, becomes entitled to it by drawing a lot, and, on the day of her marriage, which is always on the first of May, £5 in addition to the portion, is to be expended in a dinner.

LONDON FEMALE PENITENTIARY, established in Pentonville, to afford prompt reception to all females who have fallen into vice, and are desirous of being reformed.

REFUGE FOR THE DESTITUTE, IN HACKNEY ROAD, for the purpose of providing for persons discharged from prison, or the Hulks, unfortunate females, and others, who, from loss of character and extreme indigence, could not, though willing to work, obtain an honest employment. The house for the males is at Hoxton.

QUAKERS' WORKHOUSE, 51, GOSWELL-STREET ROAD, founded about 1692, but at that period situated in Clerkenwell, where there is still a piece of ground appropriated to the sepulture of the Society of Friends.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF ST. PATRICK, STAMFORD-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, a flourishing institution, established in 1784, to form schools in, and near London, for the education of neglected children, born of poor Irish parents residing near the metropolis.

Welsh School, Gray's-inn-lane Road, established for the education and maintenance of poor children of Welsh parents, born in, or near London.

Society of Schoolmasters, formed for the purpose of assistance to the wives and orphans of schoolmasters, and to schoolmasters in necessitous circumstances.

Scottish Hospital, Crane-court, Fleet-street, for relieving distressed natives of Scotland, originally founded by Charles II., and re-incorporated by George III. In the hall is a bust of Charles II., and an exquisite whole length of Mary Queen of Scots.

Caledonian Asylum, Hatton-garden, was instituted in 1815 for supporting and educating the children of soldiers, sailors, marines, &c., natives of Scotland, or born of indigent Scotch parents resident in London.

The Highland Society of London, incorporated by an act of parliament for preserving the martial spirit, language, dress, &c., of the Gael; for establishing and supporting Gaelic schools in the Highlands of Scotland; for relieving distressed Highlanders at a distance from home; and for promoting the general welfare of the northern parts of the kingdom.

The Caledonian Society was established with the very liberal design of affording relief to distressed persons of whatever country or persuasion.

Society for the Relief of Foreigners, established for the purpose of giving pecuniary assistance, legal and medical advice, &c., to those indigent persons who are not natives of this kingdom.

Literary Fund, Lincoln's-inn-Fields, intended to relieve authors and literary men, who by age or infirmities, are reduced to poverty.

National Benefit Society, 51, Threadneedle-street, formed for the relief of the sick and infirm poor.

DRURY-LANE THdATRICAL FUND, established in 1777, through the patronage and assistance of Garrick, and confirmed by parliament. Its object is to afford pecuniary aid to performers in old age, and when reduced to poverty.

COVENT-GARDEN THEATRICAL FUND, instituted in 1765, and afterwards confirmed by parliament, for the same purpose as the former.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, CITY-ROAD, established in 1760, and principally supported by dissenters.

CLERGY ORPHAN SCHOOL, for clothing and educating the orphan children of clergymen.

LAW ASSOCIATION, established in 1817, for the benefit of the widows and children of professional men.

ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK, established in 1824.

SOCIETY FOR THE EDUCATION OF NEGRO SLAVES.

CITY OF LONDON GENERAL PENSION SOCIETY, for allowing pensions to decayed artisans, mechanics, and their widows.

THE SHERIFFS' FUND was instituted in 1807, by Sir R. Phillips for the relief of the wives and children of the prisoners of the metropolis, and for the temporary subsistence of those who are discharged from prison.

THE ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION, and the ARTISTS' JOINT-STOCK FUND, are two societies originating with artists, and designed to afford them and their families pecuniary assistance in times of distress. The first society disperses its funds generally, and the second to its own members only.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MUSICIANS, the CHORAL FUND, and the NEW MUSICAL FUND, are three different societies, instituted for the benefit of decayed or sick musicians, and their widows and orphans.

The Guardian Society was instituted in 1816, for the preservation of public morals, &c.

The Society of Guardians, for the protection of trade against sharpers and swindlers.

Society for Procuring Nightly Shelter for the Houseless, formed to protect the poor residents of London during inclement winters.

Thd Strangers' Friend Society was established for relieving the sick and distressed poor at their own houses.

The French House of Charity, Spitalfields, was formed about the middle of the last century for the distribution of provisions to distressed Frenchmen.

There are a great many other societies, the benefits of which are restricted to persons engaged in certain trades or occupations.

ALMS-HOUSES.

The objects of these institutions are too well known to require explanation. They are exceedingly numerous in the metropolis and its vicinity. The following are the most extensive.

Morden College, Blackheath, erected and endowed by Sir John Morden, in 1695, for the support of twelve decayed merchants. The founder died in 1708, leaving the whole of his estates, after the death of his lady, to this charitable institution.

The Haberdashers' Alms-house, Hoxton, founded by the Company of Haberdashers, in 1692, in pursuance of the will of Robert Aske, Esq., who left £30,000 for erecting and endowing them. This foundation maintains twenty poor Haberdashers, besides supporting and educating the same number of boys. A new building has been erected, in 1826, in place of the old alms-houses.

The Drapers' Alms-houses, Greenwich, were founded and endowed by William Lambarde, in 1576.

St. Peter's Hospital, or Fishmongers' Alms-houses, Newington Butts, was founded in 1618.

Norfolk College, Greenwich, is an hospital or alms-house, founded and endowed by Henry, Earl of Northampton, in 1613. The Mercers' Company are the trustees of this institution, the revenue of which amounts to about £11,000 per annum.

The Trinity Company, have endowed alms-houses in Mile-end-road which were founded in the year 1695. These consist of twenty-eight tenements, surrounding a quadrangle, and are appropriated to decayed commanders of ships, or mates, or pilots, with their wives, &c.

Bancroft's Alms-houses, Mile-end, founded in pursuance of the will of Francis Bancroft, in 1727. Bancroft was the grandson of Archbishop Bancroft, but his family being reduced, he became one of the lord mayor's officers, and by very discreditable means amassed the sum of £28,000, which he granted to the Drapers' Company, in trust, for the foundation of his alms-house and a school. During his life he erected a vault for his interment; and he ordered that his body should be embalmed and put into a chest, with a lid on hinges, and unfastened, having a piece of glass over the corpse. He also directed that his tomb should be visited at intervals during a given period, as he expected to return to life; and he left forty shillings a year to the sexton of the church for keeping his monument free from dust.

At Vauxhall is an establishment founded by Sir Noel Carron, Dutch ambassador, in 1622. Its inmates are poor aged women of Lambeth parish; and it is said to have owed its endowment to the contribution of the ambassador for an amour with a milk-maid during his long residence in England.

The East India Company's Alms-houses, Poplar, were founded about the beginning of the seven-

teenth century, for the widows of officers and seamen in the Company's service.

EDWARD'S ALMS-HOUSES, CHRIST-CHURCH, SURREY, were established in the year 1717.

STAFFORD'S ALMS-HOUSES, GRAY'S-INN ROAD, were established in 1613.

WHITTINGTON'S ALMS-HOUSES were founded in 1415, and established at College-hill, in the city. A new, commodious, and very handsome suite of buildings has been recently erected at the bottom of Highgate-hill for the reception of its inmates.

DAME OWEN'S ALMS-HOUSES, ISLINGTON, were founded in 1610. An arrow, from the bow of an archer in Islington-fields, having pierced the high crowned hat which she wore, she endowed this charity as a monument of gratitude for her escape.

EMANUEL HOSPITAL, TOTHILL-FIELDS, WESTMINSTER, was founded by Lady Dacre, in the year 1601, for decayed inhabitants of St. John's parish, Westminster.

THE FISHMONGERS' ALMS-HOUSES, in KINGSLAND-ROAD, comprise a chapel in the centre, fourteen dwelling-houses, and a dwelling-house for the chaplain. The establishment supports about forty persons and their families.

THE JOURNEYMEN PRINTERS OF LONDON, in June, 1849, laid the foundation stone for an alms-house. The building is intended for decayed members of that profession.

There can be little doubt, that all parties will allow the charities of the metropolis of Great Britain to be more numerous, more richly endowed, more widely beneficial, and more scientifically conceived, than those of any other kingdom of the world. Societies for the relief of every species of suffering are to be met with; and every parish is provided with a workhouse for the relief of the poor parishioners, who cannot find sufficient employment to provide for themselves and

families. The benevolence displayed by the inhabitants of London confers honour on the British empire.

CHAPTER VI.

Medicine and Surgery, Colleges, Lectures, Scientific Institutions, Exhibitions, &c.

EARLY in the eighteenth century Schools of Anatomy were opened in London, when pupils began to attend the practice of the hospitals, and thus to acquire a scientific knowledge of their profession. The advantages, the only true method of obtaining the requisite information, became apparent; and, in the course of a few years, almost every hospital in London became a school, at which not only anatomy, but every other branch of medical and chirurgical science was taught. This gave rise to private theatres in various parts of the metropolis, where anatomical instruction was given by men of sterling worth and great talents; and this effective system of imparting knowledge of the healing art has ever since continued to be followed with great benefit to the student, and credit to the country.

At the head of the several hospitals are physicians of first-rate eminence, who visit the various wards, accompanied by surgeons, students, &c., and prescribe for the patients, or ascertain the accuracy of what has been prescribed.

LECTURES are delivered to the medical students during the winter season, generally in the theatres of the hospitals; and, on these occasions, practice is combined with theory.

Pupils require to "walk the hospitals" for a cer-

tain period, many of them attending as "dressers," &c.; and if, at the end of one or two years, they are deemed qualified, certificates to that effect are delivered, which enable them at any future time to apply for diplomas.

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, PALL MALL, EAST.—This college owes its foundation to Dr. Thomas Linacre, of All Souls, Oxford, one of the physicians to Henry VIII., who, through his interest with Cardinal Wolsey, obtained, in 1518, letters patent, constituting a corporate body of regular physicians in London, with peculiar privileges. Linacre was elected the first president of the college, which held its meetings at his house in Knight-Rider-street, and was succeeded by the celebrated Dr. Caius, founder of Caius College, Cambridge. Dr. Harvey, to whom we are indebted for the discovery of the circulation of the blood, was also an ornament and benefactor to this institution, about 1652; the college having removed to a house at Amen Corner, Dr. Harvey built them a library and public hall, which he granted for ever to the college, with his books and instruments. The college was afterwards held in a building in Warwick-lane, erected by Sir Christopher Wren, where it continued till 1823, when the present elegant stone edifice was erected, from designs by Mr. Smirke.

The portico is formed by six columns of the Ionic Order, and leads to the spacious hall, the roof of which is supported by fluted Doric pillars, each consisting of a single block of stone. On the left is the dining-room, extending the whole depth of the building; it contains numerous portraits, amongst which are those of Henry VIII., Cardinal Wolsey, Sir Hans Sloane, &c. The floor and walls are of polished wood, and the chimney slabs of black marble. From the hall a stone staircase, with a chaste bronzed railing capped with mahogany, leads to the library. This is a noble room; it is surrounded by a gallery, and contains a

capital collection of books and anatomical preparations. Here, also, are portraits of Drs. Harvey and Ratcliffe, and an exquisite bust of George IV., by Chantrey. The Examiner's room is also adorned with several portraits, as well as with busts of Sir H. Halford and Dr. Baillie, by Chantrey; Dr. Mead, by Roubiliac; and Dr. Sydenham, by Wilton. The wainscoting, which is curiously carved, was brought from the old building. Beyond this apartment is a reading-room. The theatre is small, but neat; it contains some portraits, and a picture representing Mr. Hunter delivering a lecture to the members of the college.

The rapid improvement which the medical science had undergone, by the institution of this college, is the best proof of its utility. England, which, in the beginning of the sixteenth century, had been behind all the then civilized world in medical knowledge, finds herself, in the nineteenth, inferior to none in any branch, superior to most in some, and taking a decided lead in all the ramifications into which the science of physic and the sister arts have divided themselves. The college consists of a president, elects, and fellows; and no persons, except those included in the following classes, are legally entitled to practice as physicians:—

1. Those who, being graduates of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, are licensed to practice by the college in London, and within seven miles, during their respective periods of probation previous to their becoming fellows.

2. The medical graduates of the two universities.

3. The licentiates, who are admitted to practice in London, and within seven miles; and the extra licentiates, who are admitted to practice in the country, but not within the privileged district of the college.

Besides the quarterly meetings for the granting of diplomas, &c., the Guestonian Lecture, and the Harveyan Oration in Latin are delivered in the course of

the year. The celebrated Dr. Akenside once delivered the Harveyan Oration.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS.—Till 1800, the surgeons remained united in the charter granted by Henry VIII., which incorporated them with the barbers; but at that time they obtained a new charter, making them a separate college. Since that period various legislative and other important regulations have been adopted to promote their utility and respectability; and no person is legally entitled to practice as a surgeon in the cities of London and Westminster, or within seven miles of the former, who has not been examined by this college.

SURGEONS' HALL, OR ROYAL COLLEGE AND THEATRE, was erected by Mr. Dance. It is a noble building of the Ionic order, with a handsome portico, on the frieze of which is inscribed, "*Collegium regale chirurgorum*;" and on the summit are placed the arms of the college, supported by Machoon and Padalirius, two sons of Esculapius. The back entrance in Portugal-street, is that by which the public were admitted to view the dissection of murderers; but as this practice is now done away with, it is not used for that purpose, but on any necessary occasion.

The interior is grand, spacious and appropriate. The museum is an extensive building, of an oblong form, with galleries; and amongst its valuable possessions is the inestimable collection of the celebrated John Hunter, purchased by order of government. To use the language of Sir Everard Home, "In this collection we find an attempt to expose to view the gradations of nature from the most simple state in which life is found to exist, up to the most perfect and most complex of the animal creation,—Man himself." It contains anatomical preparations of every part of the human body, in a sound and natural state; as well as a great number of deviations from the natural form and usual structure of the several parts. A portion of

it is allotted to morbid preparations; and there are few of the diseases to which man is liable, of which examples are not to be found. There is also a rare and extensive collection of objects of natural history, which, through the medium of comparative anatomy, greatly contribute to physiological illustration; likewise a very considerable number of fossil and vegetable productions. The whole amount to twenty thousand specimens and preparations. They are displayed in the gallery, except such parts as consist of specimens too large for preservation in spirits, or are better preserved or seen in a dried state, and those are on the floor of the museum. The museum also contains many valuable contributions made by Sir Joseph Bankes: five hundred specimens of natural and diseased structure presented by Sir William Blizard; specimens in natural history, and contributions to the library, by Sir E. Home, &c. Amongst the many curiosities that are to be found here, may be mentioned the *preserved wife* of the celebrated Van Butchell. She is laid out in a long square mahogany box. The spaces are occupied with some composition; but over the face is a square of glass, which may be removed at pleasure. The face is completely preserved, and it is justly considered a curious specimen of what art can accomplish.

The other buildings connected with the institution, the theatre, &c., possess equal merit; utility, and architectural elegance, having been successfully combined.

There are at least twenty-four lectures delivered annually at this college, called the "Museum Lectures," the subjects of which are illustrated by the preparations, according to an agreement made with government, when the Hunterian collection was presented to it. There are also anatomical lectures, according to the intention of Alderman Arris and Mr. Gale, the donors of funds for that purpose. The library is only accessible to the members.

Admittance is usually obtained by an order from a member of the college, or on Tuesdays and Thursdays, in May and June, by leaving the name of the party desirous of inspection.

VETERINARY COLLEGE, CAMDEN TOWN.—The objects of this institution are the reformation and improvement of farriery. It was established in 1791, under the auspices of persons of distinguished rank, and is managed by a president, ten vice-presidents, twenty-four directors, a professor, treasurer, &c. The school is under the direction of the professor. The buildings are extensive, and admirably adapted for their various purposes. The stables are scientifically arranged, and the institution has connected with it a theatre, for dissections and the delivery of lectures, an apartment containing anatomical preparations, and an infirmary for sixty horses.

THE APOTHECARIES' COMPANY was originally incorporated with the Grocers, by James I., in 1606; but, eleven years afterwards, he granted the apothecaries a distinct charter, forbidding grocers and others to retail any medicine or drugs, and ordaining the sale of such articles to be entirely under the direction of this company. There were then only 104 apothecaries' shops in London and the vicinity. They have since obtained various privileges by act of parliament; and no person is now allowed to practise as an apothecary, in any part of England or Wales, without having first obtained a certificate of his qualifications from the Court of Examiners belonging to this company. The freehold of the Physic Garden, at Chelsea, was given to them, by Sir Hans Sloane, on condition that they should present, annually, to the Royal Society, fifty new plants, till the number should amount to 2000. This condition was punctually fulfilled, and the specimens are preserved in the society's collection. The Company's Hall is a spacious building in Water-lane, Blackfriars, which was finished in 1670. The hall

contains a portrait of James I., as well as a bust of Gideon Delaune, his apothecary. Here prescriptions are prepared, and unadulterated drugs sold to the public, as well as the profession. The whole of the medicines used in the army and navy are received from this hall. A general *herbarizing* takes place, annually, amongst the members, for the improvement of students, apprentices, &c., and several others, of less extent, are made in the course of the summer.

THE MEDICAL SOCIETY, BOLT-COURT, FLEET-STREET, was instituted to give the practitioners of the healing art frequent opportunties of meeting together, to receive medical papers and useful facts, respecting difficult and extraordinary cases; to excite practitioners to increased exertion, by the bestowment of honorary rewards; and to found a medical library, for the use of the members. The library now consists of about 40,000 volumes, 10,000 of which were presented by Dr. Sims. The society is composed of physicians, surgeons, apothecaries, and other persons versed in sciences connected with medicine. Its first meeting was held January 7, 1773. The meetings were held in Crane-court, Fleet-street, till 1788, when Dr. Lettson presented the society with the house they now occupy.

THE MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY, founded in 1805, and meeting in Lincoln's-inn-fields, has analogous objects to the preceding society, and includes among its members some of the most eminent of the faculty in London. Its library consists of upwards of 50,000 volumes, on the science and practice of medicine.

THE LINNÆAN SOCIETY is a chartered institution, devoted to Botany and Natural History, and holds its meetings in Soho-square, in the house formerly inhabited by that liberal patron of science, Sir Joseph Bankes, who bequeathed it to the members for that purpose. This society was instituted in 1788. It

was incorporated in 1802, and consists of a president, treasurer, secretary, council, and an infinite number of fellows.

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY was instituted in February, 1813, and holds its meetings at Bedford-street, Covent-garden, for the purpose of investigating and ascertaining the formation and structure of the earth, and the principles of mineralogy.

THE MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, CRISPIN-STREET, SPITALFIELDS, has been the means of propagating much useful knowledge. It was originally formed in 1717, by an association of journeymen mechanics.—Lectures are delivered here, on philosophical and scientific subjects, during the winter season.

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, instituted in 1804, is chartered for the purpose of impoving the growth of useful fruit trees, and other vegetable productions, and has proved its beneficial purposes by some volumes of transactions of singular worth and beauty. The society has a spacious garden at Turnham-green. The members assemble at No. 23, in Regent-street.

MEDICAL LECTURES, on Anatomy, Physiology, Surgery, Medicine, Obstetrics, Chemistry, &c., are delivered at stated times, at the various hospitals, by the most celebrated men in the profession. Many eminent physicians and surgeons likewise lecture at the Theatre of Anatomy, Great Windmill-street; at Mr. Taunton's theatre, Hatton-garden; or at their own houses. The lectures are generally advertised in the newspapers; but every information respecting them may be obtained at the medical booksellers. The terms vary from two to five guineas for the first course; but a reduction is made by each lecturer for the second and third courses, also for an annual ticket of admission. The first usually commences in October, and the second in January.

At St. Bartholomew's Hospital, lectures are delivered on Anatomy and Surgery, on the Practice of

Medicine, Chemistry, Materia Medica, and Midwifery.

At Guy's Hospital, on the Theory and Practice of Medicine, on the Principles and Practice of Chemistry, on Experimental Philosophy, on Midwifery, and the Diseases of Women and Children, on Physiology or the Laws of the Animal Economy, on the Structure and Diseases of the Teeth, and on Practical Botany. Clinical lectures are likewise given here.

At St. Thomas's Hospital, on the Principles and Practice of Surgery, on Anatomy and Operations of Surgery, and on the Practice of Medicine and Materia Medica.

At the London Hospital, on Anatomy, on Surgery, on the Theory and Practice of Midwifery, and on Chemistry and Materia Medica. Clinical lectures on Surgical cases are likewise given here.

At St. George's, Medical, Chirurgical, and Chemical Schools, on the Animal Economy, on the Practice of Physic, on Therapeutics, on Materia Medica, on Chemistry, Medical Jurisprudence, and on the Theory and Practice of Surgery.

At the Middlesex Hospital, on the Theory and Practice of Midwifery, on the Practice of Physic, and on Materia Medica. Clinical lectures are likewise delivered here.

INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY originated from the private meetings of a few scientific members of the University of Oxford, and others, who, during the Commonwealth, assembled in that city to enjoy the benefits of improving conversation. The chief subject of their investigations was experimental philosophy, which, by tracing effects to their causes, and renouncing abstract

reasonings, and by hypothetical speculations, tended to the advancement of genuine science. The meetings of this society were adjourned to Gresham-college, London, in 1658, for the purpose of attending the lectures there established; but the death of Cromwell occasioned a serious interruption to their progress, as the college was then converted into barracks for soldiers. On the restoration of Charles II. the society assembled with fresh ardour, persons of rank were added to the list of members, and a charter of incorporation was granted by the King, on the 22d April, 1663. When the celebrated Sir Isaac Newton became its president in 1703, it attracted the notice of all Europe. The society is governed by a president and council, consisting together of twenty-one members; and all persons chosen by the said president and council, and noted in a register to be kept for that purpose shall be fellows of the said society. The statutes which were afterwards framed and approved of by the King, established the society on a more respectable footing. Their principal provisions were, that each fellow should sign an obligation promising to promote the good of the society, attend its meetings and observe its statutes, with a proviso that any one may withdraw on giving notice in writing to the president. Each member pays an admission fee of eight guineas, and is subject to an annual payment of five guineas, unless he redeems it by paying at once fifty guineas. The society publishes an annual volume in two parts, under the name of "Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London," which is justly considered a most valuable treasury of progressive information. The society being fully established, men of all ranks and professions vied in promoting its designs, by communicating everything within their power *relating to natural and artificial discoveries.* Charles II. presented them with a stately gilt silver mace to be carried before the president, and in 1667

gave them Chelsea-college, and twenty-six acres of ground surrounding, but the society not having converted part of it into a physic garden, as was intended, and the King having resolved to erect an hospital for old and maimed soldiers, purchased it back for the sum of £1300. The Royal Society purchased a house in Crane-court, Fleet-street, but when Somerset House was converted into a public building, George III. was pleased to assign them the spacious apartments which they now occupy.

The meetings of the society are held at half-past eight o'clock every Thursday evening, from the beginning of November to the end of Trinity term. Strangers may attend them by permission of the president and fellows present. The museum of this society is a collection worthy of its character, and the library is furnished with a large and valuable stock of the best authors. The annual meeting for the election of officers is held on St. Andrew's day.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, SOMERSET HOUSE.—Research into history, beauties, defects, and properties of those objects which have survived the ravages of time, has always been a favourite pursuit of the liberal and enlightened. These dumb witnesses speak with irrefutable certainty of the manners, customs, and habits of the ages in which they were formed, and enable us to form a correct judgment on matters connected with the history of those times. Societies for the prosecution of this study have been often attempted in England. Sir H. Spelman speaks of a society of antiquarians in his time, to whom his treatise on the terms, written in 1614, was communicated, he himself being one of the number. This society was founded in 1572, by Archbishop Parker, Camden, Sir R. Cotton, Stowe, and others. Application was made in 1589 to Queen Elizabeth for a charter; but by her death the application proved abortive, and her successor, James I., was far from favouring their de-

sign. In 1717, this society was revived, and in 1751, it received its charter of incorportion from George II. The statutes provide for the due management of the revenues, and for the publication of drawings and papers; the latter are, as often as the council think fit, collected in volumes, under the title *Archæologia*. The Society of Antiquaries possess a library, the books in which may, on proper application, be lent to the fellows. Their apartments are contiguous to those of the Royal Society, and contain several curious antiques. The meetings are held every Thursday evening, from the beginning of November to the end of Trinity term. Strangers are allowed to attend them by permission of the president and fellows present. Each member of the society pays four guineas annually, besides eight guineas on admission; or fifty guineas at once, which exempts him from all further contribution.

SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF ARTS, MANUFACTURES, AND COMMERCE, JOHN-STREET, ADELPHI.—This society was instituted in 1754. It originated in the patriotic zeal of Mr. William Shipley, brother of Dr. Jonathan Shipley, Bishop of St. Asaph; and was patronised by Lords Folkestone and Romney, through whose public-spirited exertions it was carried into execution. The chief object of the society is the promotion of the arts, manufactures, and commerce of the united kingdom, by the donation of premiums and bounties for useful inventions, discoveries, and improvements. In pursuance of this plan, the society has already expended nearly £100,000. The institution consists of a president, sixteen vice presidents, two chairmen of each of the committees, a principal and assistant secretary, a housekeeper, a collector, and a messenger, and about 1700 members. The general meetings of the society are held every Wednesday evening, at seven o'clock, from the first Wednesday in November, to the second Wednesday in June. There

are *nine* committees, whose meetings are appointed to be held on other evenings, according to convenience. The matters referred to them occasion their division into several classes. The rewards bestowed by the society are both honorary and pecuniary. Of the first, the gold medal is the highest; silver medals are also given. In the class of the polite arts, gold and silver palettes, of a greater and lesser size, are also distributed as premiums. Inventions and improvements of every kind, on which the society bestow their rewards, are laid open for public use and inspection. The society publishes an annual volume of their transactions.

The society's house, erected by Adams, is a handsome brick building, ornamented with four Ionic stone columns, supporting a pediment, on the entablature of which is inscribed, "*Arts and Commerce promoted.*" The series of paintings, by Barry, which occupies the whole circumference of the great room, an extent of 114 feet, by 11 feet 10 inches in height, forms not only the greatest ornament of the institution, but the first feature in the character of the British arts in the united empire. Its design is to illustrate this maxim, "That the attainment of happiness, individual and public, depends on the cultivation of the human faculties." The first of the six pictures of which this series is composed, represents man in his uncultivated state, with its attendant misery, invited by Orpheus to the enjoyment of social order; the second, a Grecian thanksgiving to Ceres and Bacchus; the third, the victors of the Olympic games; the fourth, the Triumph of the Thames, or Navigation; the fifth, the Society of Arts, &c., distributing their rewards; and the sixth, Elysium, or the State of Retribution.

Admission to see the pictures and models gratuitous.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—The first public meeting of the fellows of this society was held on Tuesday, June 17th, 1823, under the patronage of

George IV., and the immediate superintendence of the learned Dr. Burgess. Its design is the advancement of literature as conducing to the interest and happiness of mankind, by the publication of inedited remains of ancient literature, and of such works as may be of great intrinsic value, but not of that popular character which claims the attention of publishers—by the promotion of discoveries in literature—by endeavouring, as far as practicable, to fix the standard, and to preserve the purity of our language—by the critical improvement of lexicography—by the reading at public meetings, of interesting papers on history, philosophy, philology and arts, and the publication of such of those papers as shall be approved of in the society's transactions—by the assigning of honorary rewards to works of great literary merit, and to important discoveries in literature—and by establishing a correspondence with learned men in foreign countries, for the purpose of literary inquiry and information. Meetings are held at three o'clock, every alternate Wednesday throughout the year, with the exception of a short recess during the summer.

The Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, was founded in 1800, under the patronage of George III., for the spread of useful knowledge. The application of science to the common purposes of life is taught by means of lectures, assisted by experimental illustrations. The building, which is well adapted to the intended purposes, contains a laboratory on a large scale, well supplied with the best chemical apparatus; also, a well-stocked library, a theatre for the delivery of lectures, and rooms for the perusal of periodical publications, &c. The repository, containing models of many curious and useful machines, and productions of the arts, is extremely interesting. Tickets for the lectures, &c., may be obtained from the members.

The London Institution, Moorfields, was established in 1806, by a liberal subscription, amounting

to nearly £80,000. The objects contemplated by this institution were the formation of an extensive miscellaneous library, of the most valuable works in all languages, ancient and modern—the establishing of reading-rooms for periodicals, and foreign and domestic journals—and the diffusion of knowledge by means of lectures and experiments. Proprietors have each a transferable ticket, admitting the bearer to all parts of the institution.

THE LONDON LITERARY INSTITUTION, ALDERSGATE-STREET, was established in 1825, in consequence of the wide spread of literary and scientific inquiry. It is based upon similar principles to the Royal Institution, and consists of library and reading-rooms, public experimental lectures, and classes for instruction in languages. It is supported by annual subscriptions and donations.

THE WESTERN LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, LEICESTER-SQUARE, is similar to the preceding, both in its objects and the means of attaining them.

THE RUSSEL INSTITUTION, CORAM-STREET, RUSSEL-SQUARE.—The objects of this society are—the formation of an extensive library, consisting of the most valuable books in ancient and modern literature, to be circulated among the proprietors; the delivery of lectures on literary and scientific subjects; and the establishment of a reading room. The building is adorned with a Doric portico of four columns, and comprises a library, newspaper-room and theatre.

THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN, was established in 1823, through the praiseworthy efforts of Dr. Birkbeck, assisted by liberal donations from public spirited and patriotic individuals. Its objects are to diffuse a knowledge of the principles of the arts and sciences among the mechanics of the metropolis, by means of public experimental lectures; and to afford the means of obtaining useful information by reference to a well

selected library; and the acquirement of knowledge in the arts, sciences and languages, by means of classes, conducted upon the principles of mutual instruction. Lectures are delivered in a commodious theatre twice a week. The reading room is open every day from ten to ten; and members are entitled to take books to their residence, on application to the librarian.

THE DISSENTING MINISTERS' LIBRARY, REDCROSS-STREET, CRIPPELGATE, was founded in the early part of the eighteenth century, by Dr. Daniel Williams, a dissenting clergyman, for the use of protestant dissenting ministers. It contains nearly 20,000 volumes, a collection of portraits of non-conformist divines, and other objects of interest to the dissenting body in general. Access to this library may be obtained by procuring a written order from one of the trustees: the days of admission are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, between the hours of ten and three, except during the Christmas and Whitsuntide weeks, and the month of August.

EXHIBITIONS CONNECTED WITH SCIENCE AND ART.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—This national collection of antiquities, books, and natural curiosities is placed in the house formerly belonging to the Duke of Montague, in Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury. It was established by act of parliament, in 1753, in consequence of the will of Sir Hans Sloane, who left to the nation his museum (which he declared in that instrument had cost him £50,000,) on condition that parliament paid £20,000 to his executors, and purchased a house sufficiently commodious for it. This proposal was readily adopted; several other valuable collections were added to that of Sir Hans Sloane, and the whole establishment completed for the sum of

£85,000, which was raised by way of lottery. The additions to the Sloanean museum comprise the Cottonian library, given by Sir Robert Cotton to the public; Major Edward's library of printed books; the Harleian collection of manuscripts; Sir William Hamilton's invaluable collection of Greek vases; the Townlein collection of antique marbles; the manuscripts of the late Marquis of Lansdowne; the Elgin marbles from Athens; Dr. Burney's classical library; and various other collections. George II. gave the whole of the printed books and manuscripts which had been gradually collected by our kings from Henry VII. to William III. George III, gave a numerous collection of pamphlets published in the interval between 1640 and 1690. That monarch likewise contributed the two finest mummies in Europe; a sum of money arising from lottery tickets, which belonged to his predecessors, amounting to £1123; a complete set of journals of the Lords and Commons; a collection of natural and artificial curiosities sent to him by Mr. Menzies from the north-west coast of America; and several single books of great value. In 1803 the government deposited in this building many Egyptian antiquities which were acquired from the French by the capitulation of Alexandria, in 1802. In 1824, a most valuable and extensive library, formed under the direction of George III., was presented to the museum by George IV., and is deposited in a splendid apartment built purposely to contain it. Numerous collections have been added at different times by the trustees of the museum. The present building was erected by P. Paget, who was sent from Paris, by Ralph first Duke of Montague, for the sole purpose of constructing it. As a museum, its whole economy is under excellent regulations. On entering the gate, a spacious quadrangle presents itself, with an

Ionic colonnade on the south side, and the main building on the north, which measures 216 feet in length, and 57 in height, to the top of the staircase. Considerable additions have been made to the buildings within the present century. A new museum was erected which surrounds a quadrangular court. The east and west wings are about 500 feet in length; each includes a gallery 300 feet long, 40 feet wide, and thirty feet high; the eastern one contains the library presented by George IV. Over this is a suite of apartments for pictures; and adjoining the king's library is a handsome room, containing the manuscripts belonging to the museum, to the south of which are large and commodious reading-rooms. The ground floor of the old building consists of a suite of sixteen rooms, containing the library of printed books; but strangers are not admitted to those apartments. The decorations of the staircase are handsome. The ceiling was painted by Charles de la Fosse, who painted the interior of the dome of the Invalids at Paris. It represents Phaeton petitioning Apollo for leave to drive his chariot. In the hall is the statue of Shakspeare, which formerly adorned Garrick's villa at Hampton; a figure of the god Guadma, also a very curious piece of antiquity brought from the East Indies, surrounded by sculptured figures of dancing girls, minstrels, &c.; and a statue of Mrs. Damer in white marble. On the landing-places are preserved the skins of the white bear and musk ox, brought from the North Seas, a male and female cameleopard; and a bust of Sir Joseph Bankes in bronze. Upper-floor—In the cases in the first room are arranged a variety of implements of war, and other articles from the west coast of North America, and from the South Sea Islands; a rich collection of curiosities from the South Pacific Ocean, brought to England by Captain Cook. On the tables in the windows are various manufactured mineralogical objects, including nume-

rous specimens of lavas and other volcanic productions, and in the centre of the room is the general collection of fossil univalve shells. The ceiling of this room represents the fall of Phæton. The magnificent saloon is filled with a valuable collection of British and foreign minerals, excellently arranged and labelled. The dome of this saloon deserves notice. It represents the birth of Minerva, painted by La Fosse; the garlands of flowers are by John Baptist Monoyer; and the architectural decorations, by Rousseau. To enumerate the natural curiosities of this saloon would alone fill a volume. Round the room are some foreign birds, and near the windows are some birds' nests and eggs, and also the celebrated foot of the Dodo, which with the head at Oxford, are the only remains of that curious bird at present known. The eleventh room is one of the most general interest in the building. It contains, in its upper cases and between the windows, the general collection of quadrupeds, among which are several exceedingly interesting sorts. The collection of British birds is placed under the quadrupeds; and in the centre of the room is a table exhibiting some very curious insects.

The Gallery of Antiquities is amazingly extensive, occupying several apartments, and containing in fifteen rooms nearly one thousand articles. Over the door of the first room is a marble bust of Charles Townley, Esq., to which the Museum is indebted for the fine collection of terra-cottas, this apartment contains, as well as for many of the other valuable antiquities in this gallery. The 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th and 10th rooms, contain Greek and Roman sculptures; the 5th, Roman sepulchral antiquities; the 7th, Roman antiquities; the 8th and 9th, Egyptian antiquities; the 11th contains the collection of coins and medals. It is comprehended under three heads:—1. Ancient coins; 2. Modern coins; 3. Medals. This room can only be seen by a special order. In the centre of the

ante-room at the head of the stairs, is placed the celebrated Barborini Vase. It was found about the middle of the sixteenth century, two miles and a half from Rome, in the road leading to Frescati. At the time of its discovery the vase was enclosed in a marble sarcophagus, within a sepulchral chamber, under *Monte del Grano.* The material of which the vase is formed is glass; the figures which are executed in relief, are of a beautiful opaque white. The 12th room contains the collection of Sir William Hamilton; the 13th room, containing prints and drawings, is not open to visitors without special permission. The 14th room is occupied by the Phigalian marbles; and the 15th room contains upwards of three hundred pieces of sculpture, forming the Elgin collection. The whole establishment certainly does great honour to the nation; and the varieties which constitute the several collections, render it at once gratifying to the foreigner and the resident. The museum is open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from ten till four o'clock from September 7th to May 1st; and from ten to seven, from May 7th to September 1st. It is closed between the first and seventh of January; first and seventh of May; first and seventh of September; and on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Christmas Day, and all public fast and thanksgiving days. Descriptive catalogues may be had in the hall, price one shilling each.

NATIONAL GALLERY, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.—This excellent collection of paintings includes some of the rarest and best works of Titian, Coreggio, Rubens, Claude Lorrain, the Caraccis, Rembrandt, and other celebrated masters; together with some of the finest specimens of native skill, amongst which are Hogarth's Marriage a-la-mode; Wilkies Village Festival; Reynold's General Elliot, &c. The principal part of the collection belonged to the late Mr. Angerstein, which was purchased by the Earl of Liverpool in

March, 1824, on the part of government, for the sum of £57,000. They are deposited in a handsome gallery in the western wing. It is gratuitously open on the first four days of the week ; on Fridays and Saturdays to artists only for study. The National Gallery forms the north side of the square, and has a handsome terrace in front. In the square, fronting the gallery, are two fountains of imitation porphyry ; the water for which is supplied from an Artesian well, sunk at the back of the building.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—The Academy was established by Royal Chartor, in 1768, and consists of forty members called royal academicians, twenty associates, and six associate engravers. The academy possesses a collection of casts and models from antique statues; a school of colouring, from pictures by the old masters; copies by Sir James Thornhill, from the cartoons of Raphael, at Hampton-court, and others from some of the works of Rubens, &c. The annual exhibition, in Trafalgar-square, generally opens on the first Monday in May, and continues open from eight in the morning till dusk, for about three months.—Admission, one shilling.

THE GALLERY OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL, was founded on the 14th of June, 1805, under the patronage of George III., for the purpose of encouraging British artists, and affording them opportunities of exhibiting their productions to greater advantage than in the rooms of the Royal Academy. This institution has two exhibitions annually ; one, in the spring, for the paintings of artists; the other, in the autumn, for the productions of all ages. Admission, one shilling.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS, PALL MALL EAST.—This society was formed in 1804, for the purpose of giving due encouragement to an interesting branch of art, which had been slighted at previous exhibitions. The present gallery was erected

in 1823, and first opened in 1824. They are open in April, May, June, and July. Admission, one shilling.

THE NEW WATER COLOUR EXHIBITION is on the north side of Pall Mall. Admission, one shilling.

THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS, SUFFOLK-STREET, PALL MALL EAST, made its first public exhibition in 1824. This society, like the Royal Academy, admits the works of artists generally, whether belonging to its own body or not. The annual exhition of paintings opens in April, and continues till July. Admission, one shilling.

MISS LINWOOD'S GALLERY, LEICESTER-SQUARE, is an interesting display of ingenuity and taste, consisting of copies, in needlework, from some of the best English and foreign pictures. They are exhibited in large and elegant apartments, comprising a gallery 100 feet long, and a grotto of the same length, and a room appropriated to sacred subjects. Amongst the works which Miss Linwood has copied, with unparalleled taste and skill are, the Girl and Kitten, the Laughing Girl, the head of Lear, and the Sleeping Girl, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; the Woodman, by Barker; Moonlight, by Rubens; the Madonna, by Raphael; the Gleaner, by Westall; Virgil's Tomb, and Cottage in Flames, by Wright; David, with his sling, by Carlo Dolci; St. Peter, by Guido; Eloisa, and Jephtha's Rash Vow, by Opie; Herbert and Arthur, by Northcote; Children in a Cottage, by Gainsborough; two Landscapes, by Francisco Mola; Dead Birds, and Shellfish, by Haughton: a portrait of Napoleon Bonaparte; a portrait of herself, &c.—Open all day.—Admission one shilling.

There are many private collections, which are open to the public, on proper introduction. Among them may be noticed the following:—

STAFFORD GALLERY, STABLE-YARD.—This is one of the richest and most numerous collections of the old masters in England. The Marquis of Stafford, its

possessor, was the first patron of the arts in the metropolis, who opened his valuable collection for the inspection of the public—an example which has since been imitated by many others, much to the advantage of the national taste. Admissions were first granted in May, 1806; since which time his lordship has appropriated one day in the week (Wednesday, from twelve to five o'clock), during the months of May and June, for the public to view his pictures. Tickets are obtained by application at the house, on any day except Tuesday, if the party is known to any member of the family, or is recommended by some distinguished person, either of noble family, or of known taste in the arts. The mansion was erected for the late Duke of York, and is a large, but heavy edifice. Artists may obtain admission by a recommendation from any member of the Royal Academy.

Lord de Tabley's Gallery, Hill-street, Berkeley-square, contains a splendid collection of paintings and sculpture, by English artists: amongst the many fine specimens may be mentioned Reynold's Girl and Kitten, and Studious Boy; Gainsborough's Cottage Door; Lawrence's Lady Leicester, as Hope; Thomson's Girl and Child crossing a brook; Harlowe's Proposal and Congratulation; Hilton's Europa; Hopner's Sleeping Nymph; Behne's Bust of West; West's Lot and his Family; and several fine pieces by Turner, particularly the Sun dissipating a Fog, with Dutch shipping. By the praiseworthy liberality of his lordship this gallery is open to the public, by tickets, every Monday during the season.

The Grosvenor Collection, Grosvenor-street.—The first effectual foundation of this superb collection was laid by the purchase of the late Mr. Agar's pictures for 30,000 guineas, and it has since been gradually enlarged till it has become one of the finest in the kingdom. It is not confined to the works of the old masters, but embraces the best productions of

some of the most celebrated modern painters in various ages and countries. The pictures are so disposed as to appear in due subordination as ornaments to the apartments, which are of handsome proportions, and elegantly finished. The Earl of Grosvenor has, for some years, been in the habit of admitting the public, in the months of May and June, to inspect his pictures under restrictions similar to those of the Marquis of Stafford.

MR. SOANE'S MUSEUM, LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS, is a splendid suite of four rooms, ornamented with paintings by Canaletti and Hogarth, and with designs by Mr. Soane himself. They are likewise enriched with a choice collection of Roman and Grecian specimens of architecture, Etruscan vases, Egyptian antiquities, &c., particularly the celebrated alabaster sarcophagus, brought by the late enterprising traveller Belzoni, from the ruins of Thebes.

There are many other valuable private collections of pictures and curiosities in the metropolis, but they cannot be inspected without the special permission of the proprietors.

EXHIBITIONS.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—This interesting establishment originated in 1825, consequent on a prospectus issued under the auspices of Sir Humphrey Davy, the then president of the Royal Society. Its objects were to introduce and domesticate new breeds and varieties of quadrupeds, birds, and fishes, likely to be useful in common life, and to form a general collection for zoology. The society has flourished beyond expectation; and its collection, by purchases and munificent presents, is now extremely curious, interesting, and valuable. In different enclosures and dens, (all ample enough to give the animals full liberty compatible with their safety,) are

bears, tigers, monkeys, racoons, Mackenzie river dogs, amas, kangaroos, and a great variety of birds and smaller animals—all accommodated according to their habits in the best possible manner, and may consequently be seen to great advantage. The gardens are beautifully laid out, and form one of the most pleasant and fashionable promenades in the metropolis. The admission fee, as a member of the society, is £5, with an annual subscription of £3, or a compensation of 30 in lieu thereof. Strangers are admissible to the gardens by orders, signed by members, on the payment of one shilling for each person. On Sundays, the admittance can only be effected by a member's ticket given personally at the gate.

THE COLOSSEUM, REGENT'S PARK.—This is one of the most extensive exhibitions in the metropolis, and derives its name from its really colossal extent. The building is almost circular, with a large dome, and the front towards the park is ornamented with a noble Doric portico, with a large door in the centre. On entering the edifice by this door, a staircase on the right leads to a circular saloon hung with coloured drapery. This room, which is the largest of the kind in London, occupies the whole internal space, or the basement of the building, with the exception of the staircase leading to the summit, which rises like a large column from the centre. This circular saloon is intended for the exhibition of paintings, and other productions of the fine arts. The wall of the building above this room, represents a panoramic view of London, as seen from the several galleries of St. Paul's cathedral. The view of the picture is obtained from three galleries, approached by the staircase before mentioned—the first corresponds, in relation to the view, with the first gallery at the summit of the dome of St. Paul's; the second is like that of the upper gallery of the same edifice; and the third, from its great elevation, commands a view of the remote distance

which describes the horizon in the painting. Above the last mentioned gallery is placed the identical copper-ball which for so many years occupied the summit of St. Paul's; and above it is a fac-simile of the cross by which it was surmounted. A small flight of stairs leads from this spot to the open gallery which surrounds the top of the Colosseum, commanding a view of the Regent's park and subjacent country. The communication with the galleries is by staircases of peculiar construction, built on the outer side of the central column already mentioned. This column is hollow, and within it a small circular chamber is to be caused to ascend when freighted with company, by means of machinery, with an imperceptible motion, to the first gallery. The doors of the chamber will then open, and by this novel means of being elevated, visitors may avoid the fatigue of ascending by the the stairs, and then walk out into the gallery to enjoy the picture. In extent or accuracy, the panorama is one of the most surprising achievements in this, or any other country. The painting covers 46,000 square feet of canvas; the dome of the building, on which the sky is painted, is thirty feet more in diameter than the cupola of St. Paul's; and the circumference of the horizon, from the point of view, is nearly 130 miles. The grand and distinguishing merit of this panorama is the unusual interest of picturesque effect with the most scrupulous accuracy; and, in illustration of the latter excellence, so plain are the principal streets in the view, that thousands of visitors will be able to identify their own dwellings. On descending from this splendid view, we leave the building, and enter the left hand lodge door, where is a range of arched conservatories, in the centre of which is a Camellia Japonica, which produces thirty varieties of flower, and is, perhaps, the most magnificent specimen in England. There are several rare and beautiful plants —a large proportion of exotics, and some of the most

curious plants of this country's growth. In the centre of one of the chambers is a circular tank of water, surrounded by small jets, which raise their streams so as to form a round case of water, within which are aquatic plants, &c. At the end of this room is an aviary. Near this is a beautiful reading-room, with French* windows, and rusticated Gothic verandahs. A passage thence leads from the saloon to a suite of small chambers representing a Swiss cottage. One of the rooms is wainscoted with knotted wood, and carved in imitation of the fanciful interior of the dwellings of the Swiss mountaineers. The immense projecting chimney, its capacious corners, and the stupendous fire-dogs, are truly characteristic charms of cottage life; and the illusion is not a little enhanced by the prospect from the windows, consisting of terrific rocks, and caverns, among which a cascade falls from a great height into a lake. Besides these, there are marine caves, through the openings of which are seen views of the sea; a collection of casts of sculptures; an orrery; models of parts of the Isle of Wight, &c. Admission to see the panorama, saloon, ball and cross, one shilling, conservatories, Swiss cottage, &c., one shilling; optical gallery, one shilling; camera obscura, sixpence. Open from ten till dusk.

THE DIORAMA, near the last edifice, is as exhibition of architectural and landscape scenery, so arranged and illuminated, as to display changes of light and shade, and to represent, with surprising accuracy, the appearances of nature. The building consists of a vestibule, with doors opening into the boxes and saloon, the floor of which turns on a pivot, in order to bring the spectators, successively, opposite to openings like the prosceuuim of a theatre, behind which are the picture rooms. Two large paintings, seventy-two feet by forty-two, placed in these, are lighted by windows behind, and by skylights in the roof. By the aid of transparent and opaque curtains before the

windows, various effects of light and shade are produced; and many others may be similarly executed. The optical deception is so wonderful, that it is difficult for a spectator to persuade himself that he is contemplating a picture on a plane surface. The views are generally changed once or twice a year. Admission one shilling.

Burford's Panorama, Leicester-square.—Paintings of this nature may be fairly entitled to the triumph of aerial and linear perspective. Here are two circles, an upper and a lower, in which are constantly exhibited views of great cities, of battles, &c. The illusion is so complete, that the spectator may imagine he is present at the actual display of the objects represented. There is also a Panorama at 168, Strand, in which either one or two views of celebrated places may be seen. The admission to each is one shilling.

The Cosmorama, Regent-street, is an exhibition for the display of views of celebrated remains of antiquity, combined with modern subjects, both of cities and particular edifices, and natural scenery, by means of convex glasses, which add much to the effect, by giving to the objects the appearance of reality.—Admission, one shilling.

Missionary Museum, 26, Austin's Friars.—The London Missionary Society having procured, from various parts of the world, curious specimens of natural productions, and of the manufactures of rude nations, have opened a room for their exhibition, to which admission may be obtained, on Wednesdays only, between ten and three o'clock, by tickets from any of the directors of the society.

The Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, was erected by Mr. Bullock, in 1812, for the reception of his museum. This building takes its name from the elevation being in imitation of the style of architecture peculiar to Egypt. The museum having been sold and dispersed, the building has been divided into

apartments for exhibitions of various kinds, more particularly those which are of a transitory nature. The rooms are let by the day, week, or month, for any purpose of public entertainment to which they are adapted. Their nature and prices of admission, with hours of exhibition, are always duly announced by bills and advertisements.

WEEKS'S MUSEUM, TICHBORNE-STREET, is an exhibition of some curious and surprising mechanism. A tarantula spider, made of steel, comes out of a box, and runs backward and forward on a table; stretches out and draws in its claws, as if at will; moves its horns and claws, and opens them with ease. This singular automaton, that has no other power of action than the mechanism contained within its body, is composed of one hundred and fifteen pieces! Here also are seen two magnificent clocks, in the form of temples, supported by sixteen elephants, and embellished with upwards of seventeen hundred pieces of jewellery, in the first style of elegance. Admission, two shillings and sixpence.

GLASS-WORKING EXHIBITION, REGENT-STREET, is a very ingenious exhibition, which merits particular attention; here is exhibited the experiments of fancy glass-working, in miniature, and of spinning common glass into the finest substances. Here are also made various kinds of ornaments, of all colours, before the company; such as pens, ornamental ships, fancy figures of various descriptions, crosses, birds, quadrupeds, baskets, &c. It is open from eleven to eight; and specimens to the amount of the admission money (one shilling) are given to the visitors.

WAX WORKS, BAKER-STREET.—These consist of upwards of three hundred figures, all of the natural size. Among the most remarkable persons here presented to the spectator are, the Duke of Wellington; Mr. Bouchier, the lucky gamester; Grimaldi; Shakspeare; Bonaparte; Tom Paine; Guy Fawkes;

Thomas Blood, &c., all in appropriate costume. By an appropriate arrangement of these figures, public events are sometimes represented, which proves very attractive. Admission, one shilling.

THE APOLLONICON, ST. MARTIN'S-LANE, is a grand mechanical musical instrument, invented and constructed by Messrs. Flight and Robson, under the patronage of George IV. By its mechanical, or self-acting powers, it is capable of performing any piece of music which may be arranged on it, with a grandeur and precision unequalled by any orchestra of the most scientific performers. Any piece of music may likewise be played on it, by one or six performers, at the same time. This exhibition is open daily, from one to four; but an eminent professor is engaged to play on Saturdays, during the winter season. Admission, one shilling.

NATIONAL REPOSITORY, ROYAL MEWS, CHARING-CROSS.—This valuable institution, which was opened in 1828, is governed by a Board of Management of noblemen and gentlemen. It is intended for the annual exhibition of specimens of new and improved productions of our artisans and manufacturers, and is conducted on a scale that commands the attention of the British public, resident in, and annually visiting the metropolis. Such an exhibition will not only prove a powerful stimulus in promoting the further improvement of our already successful manufactures, but will also bring into notice the latent talents of many skilful artisans and small manufacturers, now labouring in obscurity, and sacrificing their inventions, valuable alike to the country and to themselves, for want of such an opportunity of introducing them to the public. This exhibition, for variety, interest, and utility, is second to none in the kingdom. Admission, one shilling.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, REGENT STREET.—This establishment for the illustration of practical science,

in connection with agriculture, the arts, mines, manufactures, &c., is incorporated by royal charter, and was opened in 1838. Amongst its innumerable objects of interest are a diving bell, the voltaic light, the method of blowing up sunken vessels, models of ship-building and launching, illustrations of photogenic drawing, a large oxy-hydrogen microscope, an electrical apparatus, clocks regulated by galvanism, dissolving views, optical illusions, &c. Lectures on art or science are given two or three times in the course of the day. The exhibition is open from ten till four in the day, and from seven till ten in the evening. Admission, one shilling. This is one of the most interesting exhibitions in the metropolis.

THE MOUNTAINS OF SWITZERLAND, RATHBONE-PLACE.—This exhibition consists of representations in relievo, of the mountains of Switzerland, including the valley of Chamouni; Mont Blanc, with the glaciers; the Sea of Ice, Grotto of l'Arveiron; the passage of the Simplon, and view of the rocks perforated by order of Napoleon, in order to facilitate the passage of his army into Italy; the Valley of Bagnes, prior to and since the dreadful innundation; beautiful model of the city of Geneva, and of Switzerland, 5 feet by 4, including Mont Blanc; the Pays de Vaud; the Passage of St. Bernard; and the Lakes of Geneva, Bienne, Morat and Neufchatel. Admission one shilling.

THE ROYAL MENAGERIE, KING'S-MEWS, consists of a fine collection of living beasts and birds, the most extensive and curious in the world. Among the more extraordinary quadrupeds is an elephant, several lions and lionesses, Bengal tigers, panthers, leopards, hyænas, bears, emews, alpacas, the bison, Ethiopian zebra, the condor of South America, kangaroos, the boa-constrictor, chameleons, vultures, pelicans, &c.; the whole forming one of the most extraordinary exhibitions ever beheld. Admission, one shilling. At four o'clock in the afternoon all the animals are fed, to

be present at which no extra charge is made. The voracious and savage nature of the beasts is most interestingly displayed during the feeding time, and particularly as contrasted with their familiarity to their keeper before.

Various other exhibitions of temporary interest, or but of short duration are frequently opened in London: these are rendered sufficiently public by bills and advertisements.

CHAPTER VII.

Amusements of the Metropolis: Theatres and Places of Public Entertainment. Diary of Amusements. The Thames.

CONSIDERING the vast extent, population and wealth of the metropolis of Great Britain, it certainly contains fewer places of public amusement than any other capital city in Europe, and less varied than in many continental towns of not more than one-tenth of its importance in point of magnitude and population. Whether this be the result of accidental causes, or of the genius and habits of the people, we are not prepared to say. But whatever deficiency exists in regard to number, it yields to no city in the world in the excellency and splendour of those which it does possess; and not only are they celebrated for their brilliancy, and for the immense capital embarked in them, but the English stage is conspicuous as having produced some of the most able writers, and the most eminent performers ever seen in the world. Although they may cease to exist, their works will survive; and they still warm and illumine, not only our own intellectual atmosphere, but that of the whole of Europe;

they have given us "a local habitation and a name," and to the age immortality.

A species of dramatic performances appears to have been a part of the popular entertainment in this country from a very early period. Religious and moral mysteries first appeared;—then they were mixed up with satire, coarseness and vulgarity; at length a peculiar and national style was formed, and ennobled by the towering genius of Shakspeare, which burst asunder the fettering rules of the ancient and foreign drama. It may not be equal to the ancient drama in classical dignity and pompous precision, but it surpasses whatever has been produced by any other nation in discrimination and variety of incident and character, and in irresistible appeals to all the passions and feelings of our nature. Excess of refinement, in our times, has deprived it of some of the more splendid properties of its vigorous originality; but, notwithstanding the sacrifices that may have been made to critical rules and long-established dogmas, England has produced, even in the last half century, dramatists of a very high order of excellence.

The necessity of controlling the stage by legislative enactments, of preserving the good that its right use may have on morals, manners, and intellect, by checking its licentiousness, few will be found hardy enough to question, and all experience will support. From the history of our stage, it appears that no period ever existed when it was not subject to superintendence; when players were not licensed, and when plays were not reviewed and amended, allowed or rejected. Before the reign of Henry VII., the power of superintending the king's hunting parties, the direction of the comedians, musicians, and other royal servants, appointed either for use or recreation, was exclusively vested in the Lord Chamberlain. Under Elizabeth, some wise regulations, with the advice of Walsing-

ham, and co-operation of the celebrated Burleigh, were made for allowing the use, but correcting the abuse, of the stage, particularly, when the Earl of Leicester obtained the first general license for his theatrical servants to act stage plays in any part of the kingdom, a provision was added in the patent, enjoining that "all comedies, tragedies, interludes, and stage-plays, should be examined and allowed by the master of the revels." Thus, that authority, which was before confined to the pastimes of the court, was extended to the theatrical exhibitions of the whole kingdom. During the reign of Elizabeth, also, the privy-council exercised an authority, legislative and executive, over the dramatic world. They opened and shut play-houses, granted and recalled licenses, appointed the proper seasons when plays ought to be presented or withheld, and regulated the conduct of the lord mayor of London, and the vice-chancellors of Oxford and Cambridge, with regard to plays and players. The privy-council gave Tilney, the master of the revels, in 1589, two coadjutors, a statesman and a divine, to assist him in reforming comedies and tragedies.

During the latter part of the reign of James I. and Charles I. the office was held by Sir Henry Herbert, nearly allied to the Earl of Pembroke, lord chamberlain, under whose prudent management the reputation and consequence of the situation increased, and produced the most salutary effects, until his functions were suspended by the troubles and confusion of the civil wars, and the fanaticism of the republicans. On the restoration of Charles II., the master of the revels endeavoured to reassume his former authority, but met with great and insuperable opposition from the proprietors and managers of the king's and duke's companies, one of whom had obtained a fresh license to act plays—the other, a renewal of a former grant. On the death of Sir Henry Herbert, the mastership

of the revels was conferred on Charles Killegrew, manager of the king's company. The union of these two functions increased the evil, and not the slightest check was impôsed on the glaring immorality of the stage.

At the Revolution, the power of the lord chamberlain was revived without restriction. He opened and shut play-houses, imprisoned and licensed players, corrected and rejected plays. Under him the master of the revels seems to have recovered some part of his former power, and to have had his share in the revolutions of the theatre. He revised and sanctioned plays, and greatly contributed to the celebrated conquest that Jeremy Collier obtained over the immortality of the drama, by the publication of his short view of the stage. Soon after the accession of George I., the power of the master of the revels, which had been considerably circumscribed, was almost annihilated: a new patent was injudiciously granted to Sir Richard Steele, Colley Cibber, and Booth, for acting plays without subjecting them to the revision of any officer.

Afterwards a bill was brought into parliament, called "A bill to explain and amend so much of an act, made in the twelfth year of the reign of Queen Anne, entitled 'An act for reducing the laws relating to rogues, vagabonds, sturdy beggars, and vagrants, and sending them whither they ought to be sent; as relates to the common players of interludes.'" Pelham, Doddington, Howe, the Master of the Rolls, the Attorney and Solicitor-Generals, were ordered to prepare it. During its rapid progress through the house, certain amendments were made, and two clauses were added. The first, which occasioned so much obloquy, empowered the lord chamberlain to prohibit the representation of any theatrical performances, and compelled all persons to send copies of any new plays, prologues, and epilogues, fourteen days before they

were acted, and not to perform them under forfeiture of fifty pounds, and of the license of the house, if any such existed, in which the play was acted. The second, which is said to have been added at the instigation of Sir John Barnard, operated in restraining the number of play-houses, by enjoining that no person should be authorised to act except within the liberties of Westminster, and where the king should reside. The bill ultimately succeeded; and it embodies the chief regulations now enforced, regarding play-houses, players, &c.

Foreigners are apt to condemn London for its dulness in comparison with other continental cities, and not without foundation. Abroad, men frequently appear to make pleasure their business, while in England business seems the reigning pleasure. Domestic and social intercourse constitute a great source of London enjoyments, which strangers have not always an opportunity of witnessing; but when seen and participated, they invariably draw forth their admiration.

London amusements, besides theatres, consist of balls, operas, masquerades, concerts, exhibitions of art and natural history, and to a considerable extent, of private parties, where music, dancing, and conversation agreeably engage their respective votaries. In addition to these more refined amusements, are diversions more immediately confined to the people of this country, such as horse-racing cock-fighting, though still occasionally resorted to by the more depraved, is, we are happy to say, gradually disappearing from our sports; tennis, billiards, sailing, and rowing, are favourite recreations. The noble game of cricket has now become very general;—played in the open air, and affording much exercise, it contributes to the health of our youth, nor is it deficient in scope for the display of skill and activity.

THEATRES.

Her Majesty's Theatre; or Italian Opera-House, Haymarket.—This is the largest and most splendid theatre in the metropolis, and the most fashionable resort of our nobility and gentry. The stage of this theatre is exclusively devoted to music and dancing, a prevailing taste for which, in this country, seems to have originated towards the commencement of the last century, when a theatre on the site of the present edifice was erected by Sir John Vanbruyl, the celebrated architect. The principal part of the existing edifice was built about 1790, and no important changes have been made in the interior since it was finished. But the exterior was completed in 1820, from the designs of J. Nash, and G. Repton, Esqs. Three sides of the theatre are encompassed by a colonnade of the Roman Doric order; and on the west side is a covered arcade. The front towards the Haymarket is decorated with a long pannel filled with groups of emblematical figures, in basso-relievo, illustrative of the Origin and Progress of Music and Dancing, executed in artificial stone, by Bubb. In dimensions, the Opera-house nearly approaches the great theatre of La Scala, at Milan, and calculated to receive from twenty-five hundred to three thousand persons. The stage is sixty feet deep, and eighty feet wide. From the orchestra to the centre of the front boxes, the pit is sixty-six feet in length, and sixty-five in breadth, and contains twenty-one benches, besides a passage about three feet wide, which goes round the seats and down the centre. The height is fifty-five feet from the floor of the pit to the dome. There are five tiers of boxes, and each box is about seven feet in depth and four in breadth, and so constructed as to hold six persons with ease, all of whom command a full view of the stage. Each box

has its curtains to enclose it, according to the fashion of the Neapolitan theatres, and is furnished with six chairs, but these are not raised above each other like the seats of the English theatres. The boxes are private property, or let for the season to persons of rank and fashion. The gallery is forty-two feet in depth, sixty-two in breadth, and contains seventeen benches. The great concert-room is ninety-five feet long, forty-six broad, thirty-five feet high, and is fitted up in the most superb manner. Visitors are expected to appear in evening dress; that is, frock coats, coloured trowsers, &c., are not admissible. The season usually commences in February, and continues till August: nights of performance are with occasional exceptions, Tuesdays and Saturdays. The doors are open at seven, and the performances commence at eight o'clock. Admission at the doors, to the stalls, (the front seats of the pit,) fourteen shillings and six-pence; body of the pit, ten shillings and six-pence; gallery stalls, five shillings; back seats, three shillings. At several booksellers and music-sellers, pit tickets may be had for eight shillings and six-pence each.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE, is one of the patent winter theatres, and generally opens in October, and closes about June or July—Admission to the boxes, five shillings; pit, three shillings; lower gallery, one shilling and sixpence; upper gallery, one shilling. This extensive and superb edifice was rebuilt in 1812, on the ruins of the former theatre which had been burnt down in 1809. The architect was Mr. Benjamin Wyatt. The front towards Brydges-street, which is exceedingly plain, has pilasters of the Doric Order, with a portico. Previously to the commencement of the season of 1822, the interior of the theatre was entirely new modelled by Mr. Peto, from designs by Mr. Beazley, architect. The house was originally built to accomodate 2810 persons; but since the above alterations it will contain 3060 persons. The house

was completed for £112,000; including lamps, lustres, furniture, &c., £125,000; and including scenery, wardrobe, and other properties, nearly £150,000. The chief entrance to the boxes is from Brydges-street, through a spacious hall, which also communicates with the pit entrance. This hall opens into a handsome rotunda, on each side of which are passages to the great staircases, which are remarkably spacious and elegant. The saloon is eighty-six feet long, circular at each extremity, and separated from the box corridors by the rotunda and staircase. The ceiling is arched, and the general effect of two massy Corinthian columns, painted in imitation of variegated marble, at each end, with eight duplicated corresponding pilasters on each side, is peculiarly magnificent. At the extremities of the saloon are refreshments. The interior of the theatre has been altered to the lyre or horse-shoe form as seen from the stage. There are three circles of boxes, with family, or private boxes behind them. The *coup d'œil* is extremely imposing, especially since its effect has been heightened by suspending from the ceiling a most magnificent glass chandelier with gas-lights. A competent judgment of the extent of this concern can only be formed by persons who, on a proper application for the purpose, obtain permission to see the vast interior in the day-time. In the vestibule of the principal entrance to the boxes, are statues of Shakspeare, David Garrick, and Edmund Kean. The nightly expenses of this theatre are averaged at £260; and the house holds from £600 to £700.

Covent Garden Theatre.—This theatre, like the preceding, was destroyed by fire in September, 1808. The first stone of the present building was laid by the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV., on the 31st of December, about two months after the old theatre had been destroyed; it was built under the superintendence of Sir Robert Smirke, and opened on the 18th of September, 1809, scarcely ten months having

been occupied in its erection. Both internally and externally it is a magnificent building. The portico consists of four columns of the Greek Doric Order, supporting a pediment. Near the lateral extremities of this front are niches, containing statues of Tragedy and Comedy, by J. Flaxman, and over the windows on each side of the portico, are compartments containing emblematical representations, in basso-relievo of the Ancient and Modern Drama. The interior is particularly elegant, the vestibule grand, and the staircase ascending between two rows of Ionic columns has a splendid effect. At the head of the staircase is the ante-room, surrounded with Ionic pilasters, in which is a statue of Shakspeare. The lobby to the lower tier of boxes is in the same style of architecture, and is divided by arched recesses. The fronts of the boxes are rich without being gaudy. Slender pillars, richly gilt, separate them from each other. From the centre of the ceiling, over the pit, depends a superb gas-chandelier. The stage is large, and well calculated by its depth, for the exhibition of processions and extensive scenery. Two very elegant and lofty pilasters support a semi-elliptical arch, over which are the royal arms. A crimson fall of drapery, in rich folds, appears within the arch, and covers the supporters of the curtain. The ceiling is painted to resemble a cupola divided into compartments, and surmounted by the figure of an ancient lyre. The shape of the house before the curtain is that of a lyre, which is continued from the bottom to the top of the house, with an unbroken uniformity, and by that means every sound as it enters is regularly diffused. The width of the proscenium is such as to present the scenery complete to the view of even those at the sides of the pit, or in the side boxes. This is also one of the patent winter theatres, and opens and closes about the same time as its rival. Admission, dress boxes, seven

shillings; upper circles, five shillings; pit, three shillings; gallery, one shilling.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET, for the performance of the regular drama, operas, farces, &c. This theatre was erected from the designs of J. Nash, Esq., and opened for dramatic exhibitions, July 4, 1821. The front is a handsome Corinthian portico of six columns, and above the pediment are nine circular windows, connected by sculptured work in a tasteful manner. The auditory is very convenient. The fronts of the boxes are decorated with gold lattice work, on a purple ground; and the whole interior is elegantly fitted up. This house opens during the summer months. The term of its performances, formerly restricted to the period within the patent, viz., from the 14th of May to the 14th of September, has been extended to seven months. Admission to the boxes five shillings; pit, three shillings; upper gallery, two shillings; lower gallery, one shilling. The doors open at half-past six o'clock, and the performances commence at seven.

ROYAL CITY OF LONDON THEATRE, NORTON FALGATE, the northern communication of Bishopsgate-street.—This is a minor establishment of recent erection; the season and prices of admission are uncertain.

ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE, formerly called the LYCEUM, for the representation of serious and comic operas, vaudevilles, &c. It occupies the site of Mr. Arnold's former theatre, which was destroyed by fire in 1822. The building is from designs by Mr. Beazley, and is one of the handsomest little theatres in the metropolis. Its general prices of admission are, to the boxes, four shilltngs; pit, two shillings; gallery, one shilling. It is occasionally used for Italian comic operas, French plays, and instrumental concerts.

ADELPHI THEATRE, STRAND.—This theatre is licensed by the Lord Chamberlain for the performance

of burlettas, ballets, and pantomines, &c. It is one of the best conducted and most successful of the minor theatres, and by far the most fashionably attended. Admission, boxes, four shillings; pit, two shillings; gallery, one shilling.

ASTLEY'S AMPHITHEATRE, WESTMINSTER ROAD, is celebrated for feats of horsemanship and light dramatic performances. The pieces of the melo-drama kind are got up with great splendour; and the introduction of a fine stud of horses adds considerably to their effect. In the centre of the house, between the pit and the stage, is an arena, called the ring, in which is displayed the wonderful power of man in the training of that noble animal the horse. In no part of the world is this exhibition excelled, we might with great safety say, equalled; and all strangers are recommended to judge for themselves of that to which we feel it impossible to do justice in our circumscribed limits. The performances commence at half-past six: boxes, four shillings; pit, two shillings; gallery, one shilling. Half-price at half-past eight. This establishment was for the third time destroyed by fire in the autumn of 1841.

THE SURREY THEATRE, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD, formerly devoted to equestrian exhibitions, under the name of the Royal Circus, was burned down in 1805. The present theatre was erected shortly after on the site of the former one. Here under an annual license from the magistrates of the county, burlettas, melodramas, dances, and pantomines are performed. The performers are good—the performances first-rate, and the prices of admission, though varied, are exceedingly moderate.

THE VICTORIA THEATRE, WATERLOO-ROAD, originally the Cobourg, sustains a highly respectable character for melo-dramatic entertainments. The bowl and dagger flourish here in all the horrors of romance, laughing burlettas intervening, to relieve

the interest. This theatre was first opened in 18[illegible]; when it held forth the attraction of a looking-glass curtain, in imitation of one of the Parisian theatres; but failing to produce the desired effect, it was shortly afterwards withdrawn. This theatre continues open throughout the year, is managed with great spirit, and much frequented. A few years ago, a new system sprung up at this theatre, which was originally intended to give a temporary impetus. The box audience of this and other minor theatres, having considerably fallen off in point of numbers, every effort of attraction proving fruitless, to improve them, the method of reducing the prices was adopted: —printed orders were sent under cover to the respectable inhabitants of the neighbourhood, for themselves and friends, admitting them to seats in the pit or boxes, on payment of one shilling for each person. After a time, they became more widely diffused; they were extended to the tradespeople of the establishment, and ultimately became so general, as to be exhibited in shop windows, and freely given to whoever applied for them. The usual prices of admission, now are, boxes, two shillings; pit, one shilling; and gallery, sixpence.

SADLER'S WELLS, ST. JOHN-STREET-ROAD, an old and favourite place of theatrical entertainment. This theatre is situated close to the New River Head. Its amusements are limited to burlettas, pantomimes, melo-dramas, &c. Formerly, the pieces finished with a concluding scene on a large sheet of water, extending the entire length and breadth of the stage, on which, vessels of large size, aquatic pageants, &c., were produced: no other theatre here, or on the continent, could present a similar attraction. This practice is now, however, discontinued. Sadler's Wells theatre, is open nearly the whole of the year.—Admission, boxes, two shillings; pit, one shilling: and gallery, sixpence.

THE OLYMPIC THEATRE, WYCH-STREET, is a very small house, originally constructed for horsemanship, by the late Mr. Astley. For some time, this place of amusement lay dormant, but was at length rescued from oblivion, and raised to a pre-eminence over all the minor theatres, by Madame Vestris, the most attractive female performer of her time, becoming the lessee and conductor of this establishment; and under her management it flourished. The house is richly embellished, and always well attended. The entertainments are generally of a light, but amusing description. Prices varying, but always moderate.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, TOTTENHAM-STREET, formerly called the Regency theatre, was originally built for the performance of concerts: it has, however, for some years past, been classed with the minor theatres, and is celebrated for its melo-dramatic exhibitions. The company is select and well chosen; and the entertainments, which are mostly musical, are well got up. Placed in a most respectable neighbourhood, the audience is always genteel, fashionable, and frequently very numerous. An attempt was made to restrict the entertainments of this theatre, on the plea of an infringement of the great patents. The proceedings, which terminated in the deserved overthrow of the attempt, excited considerable public interest, and the result was hailed with approbation by all enemies of monopoly. It is open throughout the year.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ST. JAMES'S-STREET, is the most elegant establishment of its kind, on a small scale, in London. It was built from the designs of Mr. Beazley, for Braham, the celebrated vocalist, for the performance of English operas, farces, &c; but not being successful in that, it is now occasionally engaged for the performance of German operas, French plays, &c.

FRENCH THEATRE.—A company of French comedians usually occupy the Haymarket theatre, from

January to May. It is attended with considerable success, arising from its arrangements and the abilities of its members. Considerable judgment has hitherto been displayed in the formation of the corps, and the selection of the entertainments. It is supported by subscribers, who purchase tickets for the entire season.

THE ROYAL PAVILION THEATRE, WHITECHAPEL-ROAD, is a small but neat theatre, at the extreme east of the metropolis; and being subject to no immediate competition, has proved a very successful speculation to the proprietors. The entertainments are very varied; for, though under the same restrictions as other minor theatres, it is less liable to obstruction in consequence of its distance from the great patents. Performances commence at half-past six: boxes, four shillings; pit, two shillings; gallery, one shilling.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE, OXFORD-STREET.—This small but splendidly decorated house outstrips all the minor theatres in its gorgeous magnificence and dazzling interior; it represents tragedy, sometimes comedy, and almost always ballets and farces. The performers in general are well selected, and the performances effectively produced. Prices of admission the same as the other minors.

STRAND THEATRE, STRAND, is a place of minor theatrical entertainments and exhibitions of various sorts. The performances consist usually of smart vaudevilles and broad burlesques.

THE GARRICK THEATRE, GOODMAN'S-FIELDS.—This truly elegant little theatre was opened on the 27th December, 1830. The company is superior to the general run of minor theatres, and was selected with a view to exhibit the choicest productions of the poet on a superior scale, and to revive in this neighbourhood that pure dramatic taste that formerly existed here, when the genius whose name the theatre bears drew admirers from all parts of London. The interior, on a small scale, is a perfect gem; the auditory

is easy and convenient; the embellishments are beautiful, and heightened in effect by the dazzling light from five rich lustres, suspended round the front of the house. Over the proscenium is a well executed painting, representing Garrick between the Comic and Tragic Muses—the design borrowed from a painting of great celebrity. Everything in this establishment is neat and tasteful, bespeaking purity and good sense. Performances commence at half-past six o'clock, and close a little after eleven: boxes, two shillings; pit, one shilling; gallery, sixpence; half-price at half-past eight o'clock.

COOKE'S EQUESTRIAN CIRCUS, GREAT WINDMILL-STREET, HAYMARKET, was, within these twenty years, a favourite arena for pugilistic exhibitions. The change is considerably for the better. The house is calculated to contain 2,500 persons: the exhibitions are less dramatic than Astley's, being intended more to illustrate, on a grand scale, the ancient Olympic games. The performances commence at seven o'clock: boxes, three shillings; pit, two shillings; gallery, one shilling: half-price at half-past eight o'clock.

CONCERTS, BALLS, &c.

During the fashionable season, from November to June, morning and evening concerts, balls and masquerades, are frequently given through town, at the various public rooms; they are previously announced as to time and place, by public advertisements in the newspapers, &c.; the prices vary from one shilling to one guinea.

WILLIS'S ROOMS, or, as they are sometimes called, ALMACK'S ROOMS, KING-STREET, ST. JAMES'S-SQUARE, is the most fashionable seat of these entertainments. In these rooms the weekly meetings of the exclusive and fashionable assembly called Almack's, under the direction of a committee of ladies of the highest rank,

are held. To gain admittance, it is necessary that the name of the intending visitor should be inserted in one of the lady patroness's books, for the purpose of their status in society being duly canvassed, so that the company may be as select as strict regulations can make it. The Caledonian assemblies are also held in these rooms; but they have no connection with Almack's.

ARGYLE ROOMS, REGENT-STREET.—This rendezvous of fashion was, a few years back, a private residence, which was purchased by Colonel Greville, and converted into a place of entertainment, exclusively fashionable. These very splendid rooms consist of a suite of four; a ball-room between 50 and 60 feet long; a drawing-room and ante-room; both of which are superbly furnished; and the grand concert-room, a parallelogram, extended at one end by the orchestra, and at the other by four tiers of boxes. They are devoted to concerts, balls, and exhibitions, and are much frequented by persons of rank and fashion. The usual price of tickets for the concerts are ten shillings and sixpence.

THE NEW ROOMS, HANOVER-SQUARE, are a handsome suite of apartments, fitted up in the most splendid style, for the performance of concerts, &c. The price of tickets (ten shillings and sixpence) renders this place of amusement entirely dependent upon the higher classes.

THE CONCERT ROOM, QUEEN'S THEATRE, admirably adapted to the purpose, is also a fashionable scene for the display of musical abilities. This species of entertainment, varying so much in kind, and so uncertain as to time, prevents our fixing precise rules for the guidance of strangers. We must refer them all, in such cases, to the publicity invariably given in the newspapers of the day. However, we would recommend those whose taste leads them to give a decided preference to this particular kind of amusement, to

make inquiries at any respectable library or reading-room.

PROMENADES.

The Promenades of the metropolis are numerous as well as pleasant, though none of them can be put in competition with those of the French capital. For a description of the principal of which we have to refer the reader to the following articles:—Hyde-park, Kensington Palace, the Green-park, Regent's-park, Inner Temple, Gray's Inn, St. James's-park, Tower of London, &c. Bond-street, St. James' street, Pall Mall, and Regent-street, are likewise much frequented as promenades.

LAND AND WATER CONVEYANCES.

HACKNEY COACHES.—These vehicles drawn by two horses each may be engaged either according to distance or time: the former is the more usual mode.—For any distance not exceeding one mile, the fare is one shilling; and for every additional half-mile, or fractional part of a mile, sixpence. For any time not exceeding half-an-hour, the fare is one shilling; and for every additional quarter of an hour, or fractional part thereof, sixpence.

CABRIOLETS.—These carriages drawn by one horse each, and accommodating two persons, are chargeable at two-thirds of the rates and fares of hackney-coaches.

SHORT STAGES AND OMNIBUSES.—Within a ten-mile circuit of St. Paul's, about 1000 Short Stages and Omnibuses ply, making from two to six or eight journeys daily, according to distance. The omnibuses generally carry twelve or fourteen passengers inside, and two or three outside, and are in constant progress through the chief lines of streets. For such distances

as from Paddington to the Bank, or from Mile-end turnpike to Chelsea, the usual fare is sixpence; the entire fare, however, being charged, whether the passenger goes the whole length, or not.

RAILWAYS.—Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, York, &c.—from Euston-square, New-road. Hours of departure and arrival vary.

Blackwall—from 60, Fenchurch-street, every quarter of an hour, from 8, in the morning, till a quarter before 9, in the evening. Fare, sixpence and fourpence.

Brighton—from Tooley-street, Southwark. Hours vary.

Croydon—from ditto, five minutes after 9, 10, and 12; and twenty minutes after 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8 o'clock.

Eastern Counties—from Shoreditch to Brentwood, and intended to extend to Colchester. Hours vary.

Great Western—from Paddington to Windsor, Bath, Bristol, &c. Hours vary.

Greenwich—from Tooley-street, Southwark, every quarter of an hour, from 8 in the morning till 10 at night; hours of divine service on Sundays excepted. Fares, sixpence and fourpence.

Northern and Eastern—from Shoreditch to Broxbourne, Harlow, Spell-brook, &c. Hours vary.

South Western—from Nine Elms, Vauxhall, to Southampton, Portsmouth, &c. Hours vary.

WATERMEN'S WHERRIES.—These may be engaged either by distance or time. If by distance, for every half mile, scullers (one man) threepence; oars (two men) sixpence. If by time, scullers, per half hour, sixpence; oars, one shilling. Or, by the day (that is from 6 o'clock in the morning to 6 o'clock in the evening, from Lady-day to Michaelmas; and from 7 o'clock to 8, from Michaelmas to Lady-day), scullers, six shillings oars, twelve shillings. For not having a

book of their fares, watermen are liable to a penalty of £5.

STEAM-BOATS—for

Gravesend—leave London-bridge, Hungerford-market, and the Adelphi, three or four times a day, at the hours advertised.

Greenwich and Woolwich—leave Hungerford-market, and the Adelphi, and call at London-bridge every hour as advertised. Fares from eightpence, to a shilling, according to distance. Boats leave London-bridge for Greenwich every half hour during the summer months.

Richmond—leave Queenhithe, Upper Thames-street, calling at Hungerford, twice a day. Fare, one shilling.

Chelsea—leave Old Swan Stairs, London-bridge, every quarter of an hour, calling at the bridges and piers. Fare, fourpence.

DIARY OF AMUSEMENTS IN LONDON,

Pointing out the principal occurrences worthy of notice during the year.

JANUARY.

6th. Twelfth day. Epiphany is celebrated at the Chapel-Royal, St. James's. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh, are presented at the altar, in imitation of the wise men of the East; and the music, vocal and instrumental, on this occasion, is generally performed by the first professional talent in the metropolis.

This is, also, a day of fun and frolic for the juvenile part of the community. The confectioners' shops, for some days previously, are filled with cakes of the richest flavour, decorated with all the variety that fancy can supply. In the evening the cutting up of these dainties is attended with innocent games replete with merriment.

On Plough Sunday, or first Sunday after Epiphany, the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen, go in state from the Mansion-house to St. Lawrence's Church, and afterwards return to dinner.

23rd. Hilary term commences. On this, as well as on the first day of the other terms, the judges breakfast at the Lord Chancellor's house, and afterwards proceed, about twelve, to Westminster-hall, to open the courts of law. The judges, as well as the counsel, are, on this occasion, full dressed, and the whole spectacle is well worthy a stranger's attention.

30th. King Charles's decapitation. On this day the members of the House of Lords go in procession to Westminster-abbey. The members of the House of Commons likewise go in procession to St. Margaret's.

FEBRUARY.

The British gallery opens in this month for the exhibition and sale of the works of British Artists. Admission, one shilling: Catalogues, one shilling.

Lectures on painting also commence in this month, at the Royal Academy. Admission *gratis*, by tickets, to be had of the Academicians.

On the Wednesday and Friday evenings in Lent, oratorios of sacred music are performed at Covent-garden and Drury-lane theatres. The first native talent is procured.

14th. An old but almost exploded custom still partially exists of sending verses, amatory, laudatory, or satirical, in honour of St. Valentine. For such as are not blessed with an inspiration from the muses, the stationers and printsellers, during several previous days, decorate their windows with a fanciful collection, duly illustrated, at prices varying from one halfpenny up to half-a-guinea. A gentleman, standing high in female estimation, may expect to receive

inflammatory epistles sufficient to light his *merchaum* for the ensuing month at least. The *beau ideal* of a young lady's fancy on Valentine's day, is a postman.

MARCH.

1st. St. David's-day. The anniversary of the Welsh Charity School is held.

17. St. Patrick's-day, when the anniversary of the Benevolent Society of St. Patrick is held. This feast is celebrated for its hilarity.

During March and the two preceding months, most of the charitable institutions and other societies hold their anniversaries. They are generally celebrated by a public dinner, preceded by a sermon on the same day, or the previous Sunday; the days are generally made known by public advertisement. The dinners are generally well attended, and frequently graced by splendid oratory. Admission by tickets, which may be procured of the respective stewards, or at the tavern.

APRIL.

23rd. St. George's-day, the patron saint of Great Britain.

On Maunday Thursday, a confirmation of the juvenile branches of the nobility takes place, at the Chapel Royal, St. James's; and at Whitehall Chapel, the annual royal donations are distributed by her majesty's almoner, to as many poor men and women as the queen is years of age. The service at Whitehall commences at three o'clock, and strangers who cannot obtain tickets, may procure admission to the gallery by giving one shilling to the door-keeper.

Easter Sunday. The queen, if in town, attends the Chapel Royal, St. James's, and receives the sacrament.

Easter Monday. The lord mayor, sheriffs, aldermen, &c., proceed from the Mansion-house in state, to Christ Church, where they hear the Spital sermon, and afterwards return to the Mansion-house to dinner. The evening is concluded by a grand ball.

On the same day, according to annual custom, a stag is turned out near the Bald-faced Stag in Epping-forest. The queen's hounds also generally meet in the vicinity of Windsor.

On Easter Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, is held Greenwich fair, to which crowds of the lovers of fun and revelry resort from far and near. The sports and scenery united, form an animated picture.

Easter week. Most of the theatres bring forth pieces adapted to please the taste of youth. They are usually got up with great splendour.

The Society of Painters in Water Colours, generally open their exhibition towards the end of April.—Admission, one shilling.

Easter Term begins the third Wednesday after Easter Sunday.

MAY.

1st, or May-day, is a day of jubilee to the fraternity of chimney-sweepers. Grotesque groups meet in various parts of the town. The family of the sweep-general turns out in tawdry finery, playing their antics, to the great amusement of children, and the sensible increase of their worldly store.

The exhibition of the Royal Academy generally opens on the first Monday in May. On the preceding Friday, a numerous company enjoy what is termed a private view of the exhibition; and on the Saturday, the royal academicians and a select party dine together at Somerset-house.

On Holy Thursday, the church-wardens, overseers, &c., of each parish of the metropolis, accompanied by

the charity children, attend church, and walk the bounds of the parish.

In May, the anniversary of the Sons of the Clergy is held at St. Paul's, when a fine concert of sacred music is performed. All persons contributing to the charity at the doors are admitted. After the concert there is a dinner at Merchant Tailors' Hall.

In May also, the medals and rewards offered by the Society of Arts, are distributed to the successful candidates.

JUNE.

Early in June, the meeting of the children of the parochial schools to the number of upwards of eight thousand, at St. Paul's cathedral, to join in homage to their Creator, and invoke a blessing on their benefactors, is a most gratifying exhibition. Tickets of admission can only be obtained of persons connected with the schools. A rehearsal takes place a day or two before, to which strangers are admitted on payment of sixpence each.

Whit-Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Greenwich fair is repeated as at Easter.

In the second week after Whitsuntide, Ascot races take place.

Trinity Term commences the first Friday after Trinity Sunday. On the first Sunday in this term, the lord mayor, sheriffs, aldermen, &c., go in state to St. Paul's cathedral, to meet the judges, and attend Divine service.

During this and the two succeeding months, numerous cricket matches take place in the vicinity of London; and there are frequent rowing and sailing matches on the Thames.

The theatres of Covent-garden and Drury-lane close about the end of this month, and the Haymarket and English Opera open.

On Trinity Monday a grand procession leaves the Trinity-house and proceeds by water to Deptford.

Woolwich races take place this month.

JULY.

31st. The British Museum is closed for two months.

AUGUST.

1st. The celebrated annual rowing match, which gave rise to the popular farce of the Waterman, takes place on this day. The prize is a coat and badge, bequeathed by Doggett an actor, to be rowed for by six watermen, in the first year after being out of their apprenticeship.

On the first Wednesday in this month, Edgeware fair; and on the two following days, Edgeware races.

SEPTEMBER.

3rd. Bartholomew fair, which forms a scene of vulgar merriment, is annually held in Smithfield at this time, and continues four days. The lord mayor, attended by a part of the corporation, opens it with great ceremony. The booths of every description, whether for frolic, toys, or gingerbread, are erected some days previously; and the moment his lordship closes his customary oration, the explosion takes place—tongues and trumpets vie with each other in the horrid din: invitations to purchase, vociferous recommendations in favour of wonderful sights, the music of the dancing booths, the roaring of the menageries, the bellowing of the histrionic candidate for public favour, strangely intermingle with the shouting, screaming, and laughing of the crowd. Should the stranger be induced to visit this Babylonish

scene of uproar, we recommend great caution, lest their pockets should suffer from the light-fingered gentry, who make plunder their trade; as well as to avoid thimble-rig players, ring-droppers, sharpers and swindlers of all sorts, who frequent this fair in great numbers.

Egham races are held this month.

21st. St. Matthew's Day. The lord mayor, sheriffs, &c., repair to Christ Church, to hear a sermon; after which they proceed to the hall of Christ's Hospital, where two of the senior blue-coat schoolboys deliver an oration.

28th. The sheriffs are sworn into office at Guildhall, before the lord mayor, &c. The hall is open to the public.

21st. Michaelmas Day. The lord mayor, sheriffs, and other city officers go in state from the Mansion-house to Guildhall, whence they walk to St. Lawrence's Church, to hear divine service. They then return to Guildhall, where a common hall is held for the purpose of electing the lord mayor for the ensuing year. The day is terminated by a feast given by the magistrate in office to his successor, at the Mansion-house.

30th. The new sheriffs go in procession to Blackfriars' Bridge, where they enter the city state-barges, and proceed to Westminster, in order to be accepted by the Barons of the Exchequer, on the part of the king. On their return, the junior sheriff entertains the corporation and his friends with a grand dinner, in the hall of the company to which he belongs.

OCTOBER.

1st. The British Museum opens.

NOVEMBER.

6th. Michaelmas Term begins.

8th. The lord mayor is sworn into office at Guildhall.

9th. The lord mayor enters upon office for the ensuing year, on which occasion he proceeds, in great state, attended by the sheriffs, in their state-coaches, the aldermen, in their carriages, and the livery of the several companies, to Blackfriars' Bridge, where they embark in the splendid city-barge, attended by the several city companies, in their respective barges, adorned with flags. On arriving at Westminster, his lordship, after certain prescribed ceremonies, takes the usual oaths before the Barons of the Exchequer. He then proceeds to the other courts, to invite the judges to dinner, and finally returns, by water, to Blackfriars' Bridge. After again landing, he is preceded by the several companies, with banners and music, the heralds in the old English dress, with sounding trumpets and waving plumes—men in armour, on horseback—to which succeeds his lordship's domestics and servants, in gorgeous liveries, followed by his lordship, seated in his massive state-coach, drawn by six horses—the procession brought up by the whole corporation. This annual cavalcade generally excites great interest, and draws crowds from all parts of the town; passing along a considerable line of streets, besides the water-course, it affords all an opportunity of witnessing it. The line of the procession, commencing at Guildhall, goes along King-street, into Cheapside, round St. Paul's Church-yard, Ludgate-street, Bridge-street, till it reaches Blackfriars' Bridge: it then proceeds, by water, and, after the necessary formalities, returns by the same route.

DECEMBER.

About the middle of this month, an annual show of cattle is held, at Sadler's Repository, Goswell-street. This originated with the late Francis, Duke of Bedford, who offered prizes for rearing cattle, pigs, &c.

21st. St. Thomas's Day. Election in all the wardmotes for members to serve in the common council of the city of London.

25th. Christmas Day, celebrated at most of the public chapels. Good vocal and instrumental music may be heard at the Roman Catholic chapels.

THE THAMES,

To which the Metropolis is so much indebted for its prosperity, rises in Trewsbury Mead, two miles from Cirencester, in Gloucestershire, and becomes navigable for barges of eighty or ninety tons at Lechlade, one hundred and thirty-eight miles above London. Ships of the largest size may ascend the river as far as Deptford, and vessels of seven or eight hundred tons can come up to London Bridge. The entire course of the river, from its source to the Nore, is about two hundred miles. From Oxford to Maidenhead it falls twelve feet and a half every five miles, and from Maidenhead to Brentford, ten feet every five miles; although the fall from Brentford to the Nore, a distance of sixty miles, is only seven feet. The breadth of the Thames at London is about one quarter of a mile, and at Gravesend about a mile. The tide flows up to Richmond, which, following the winding of the river, is seventy miles from the sea, a greater distance than the tide is carried by any other river in Europe. The water, however, is not salt much higher than

Gravesend, which, by the river, is thirty miles from London. The Nore is forty miles from London; and it is high water at London Bridge two hours after it is high water at the Nore.

The Thames, exclusive of the national interest attached to it, is one of the most remarkable rivers in the world. From its fountain-head, it is constantly acquiring importance, until swelling to a vast expanse, the waters lose their designation in the conflux with the German ocean. What country can boast, on the bosom of a river, such power and grandeur as are displayed on passing London, the emporium of the world? The proud forest of lofty masts crowding its waters—the flags of every nation fluttering in the breeze—ships from each quarter of the globe, bearing their wealth on its deep and broad stream—innumerable vessels of all sizes, from the "trim-built" wherry, to the mighty wooden castles of England—from the heavy barge and scudding fishing-smack, to the huge and stately ships employed in traffic with the Indies. In the following address to the Thames, the various objects of admiration it possesses are correctly and concisely described:—

The blood-stain'd scourge no tyrants wield,
No groaning slaves enrich the field,
But Health and Labour's willing train,
Crowns all thy banks with waving grain;
With beauty decks thy sylvan shades,
With livelier green invests thy glades;
And grace, and bloom, and plenty pours,
On thy sweet meads and willowy shores.
The field where herds unnumber'd rove,
The laurel'd path, the beechen grove,
The oak in lonely grandeur free,
Lord of the Forest and the Sea;
The spreading plain, the cultured hill,
The tranquil cot, the restless mill,
The lonely hamlet, calm and still;
The village spire, the busy town,
The shelving bank, the rising down,

The fisher's punt, the peasant's home,
The woodland seat, the regal dome,
In quick succession rise to charm
The mind, with virtuous feelings warm ;
Till where thy widening current glides,
To mingle with the turbid tides ;
Thy spacious breast displays unfurl'd
The ensigns of the assembled world.

FINIS.

D. Sullivan, Printer, Dublin.

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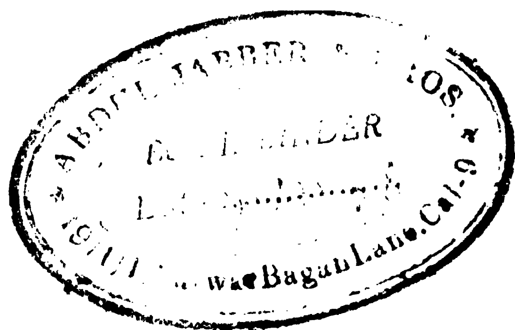
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