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- Whittington
- Wyndham

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LONDON IN 1851:

EMBRACING

A Week's Ramble through the Great Metropolis,

WITH ITS

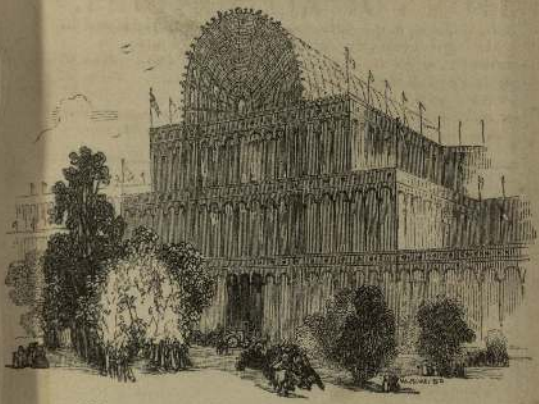
DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY,

SPORTS AND PASTIMES;

ACCOUNTS OF ITS NATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, EXHIBITIONS, THEATRES, OPERAS, CONCERTS; SHOW HOUSES OF THE ARISTOCRACY; PICTURE GALLERIES; MUSEUMS; SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS; BAZAARS; DIVANS; CASINOS; AND REFECTORIES OF EVERY CLASS.

With all that can delight the Eye or improve the Mind & Heart.

IN THREE PARTS.



Illustrated with a New Map of London

CONSTRUCTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE USE OF STRANGERS OF ALL NATIONS; COMBINING, WITH REFERENCES TO TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-ONE LOCALITIES, AND OBJECTS OF INTEREST, A SIMPLE METHOD OF FINDING THEM, AND ASCERTAINING CAB FARES, DISTANCES, ETC.

LONDON:
CRADOCK & CO. 48, PATERNOSTER ROW

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PART I.

A WEEK IN LONDON;

OR,

HOW TO VIEW THE METROPOLIS,

WITH ALL ITS

NATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

IN SEVEN DAYS.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE;

OR,

TEMPLE OF INDUSTRY AND THE ARTS.

IN HYDE PARK.

It has been justly observed, that, whatever wonders may be exhibited in this building, the building itself will be regarded as the greatest wonder of all. The space which it occupies—the rapidity with which it has been designed and executed—the novel character of its construction—its judicious arrangement and felicitous accommodation—and the beauty of its interior as well as of its exterior—are all wonderful.

The general idea of the GREAT EXHIBITION is understood to have emanated from His Royal Highness Prince Albert. The undertaking received Her Majesty's royal sanction on the 3rd of January, 1850; on the 11th of the same month, the royal commissioners held their first meeting; and on the 14th of February, Prince Albert sat as Chairman of the Commission. On the 21st of March, the Lord Mayor of London invited the Mayors of nearly all the Cities, Boroughs, and Towns of the Kingdom, to a banquet at the Mansion House, to meet the Prince; and upon that occasion His Royal Highness lucidly explained the object of the proposed Exhibition.

After numerous delays and difficulties, a design for the building, to be constructed chiefly of cast iron and glass, was proposed by Joseph Paxton, Esq., F.L.S., and accepted. The superintendence of the construction of the building was entrusted to Mr. Digby Wyatt; and the construction itself was undertaken by Messrs. Fox, Henderson, and Co. On the 26th of July, 1850, the verbal tender of those gentlemen was accepted; on the 30th of the same month, the site for the edifice was obtained; the first column was fixed on the 26th of September; on the 14th of January, 1851—not-

withstanding various alterations of plan—little of the exterior of the vast structure remained to be finished; and, by the 1st of May, every thing was complete—the contributions from all nations were in their places—and the EXHIBITION was opened by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria in person, attended by her Royal Consort, His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, Her Majesty's Ministers, the great Officers of State, the Foreign Ambassadors and Ministers, the Royal Commissioners, the Committees, &c.

Upon this exhilarating occasion, Her Majesty proceeded in State from Buckingham Palace, up Constitution Hill, and down Rotten Row, in Hyde Park; entering the Exhibition building, by the north entrance, at twelve o'clock. Her Majesty's reception was most enthusiastic; and, as the weather proved brilliantly fine, it seemed a general holiday at the west end of the metropolis, and for miles around.

Within our limited space, it is impossible to enter into details respecting this remarkable building. One of its great features is, that no stone, brick, or mortar has been used; but the whole is composed of dry material; consequently it was ready at once to receive the articles to be exhibited. By combination of no other materials but iron, wood, and glass, could this important point have been effected. The dimensions of the building are 1851 feet in length, and 456 feet in breadth, at the widest part. It covers altogether more than 18 acres; and the whole is supported on cast-iron pillars, united by bolts and nuts, fixed to flanges turned perfectly true, and resting on concrete foundations. The total cubic contents are 33 millions of feet. The width of the main avenue is within 10 feet double that of the nave of St. Paul's Cathedral, while its length is more than four times as great. The walls of St. Paul's are 14 feet in thickness; those of the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park are only 8 inches. The building consists of a nave 72 feet wide, and 64 feet high, with a series of side aisles, two of 48 feet and six of 24 feet wide each, of the respective heights of 43 feet and 23 feet; the whole spreading to a width of 436 feet. A transept 408 feet long, and 72 feet wide, intersects the building at right angles in the centre. This transept is covered with a semi-circular roof, springing at a height of 64 feet from the level of the ground, and making the entire height 100 feet. The total area of the ground-floor is equal to

772,784 square feet, and that of the galleries to 217,100 square feet.

Six galleries, of 24 feet in width each, run the entire length of the building; and there are four transverse galleries each of the same width. These galleries, admirably suited for the display of light manufactured goods, afford 25 per cent. additional exhibiting surface to that provided on the ground floor. From them, a complete view of the interior of the building, and of all the articles exhibited, is obtained.

The roof is constructed on what is termed the "*ridge-and-furrow*" principle, and glazed with British sheet glass, the sheets being 49 inches in length, and 10 inches in width, each. The quantity of glass required was about 900,000 feet, weighing upwards of 400 tons. The rafters are continued in uninterrupted lines the whole length of the building. The length of sash-bar required was 205 miles.

The gutters are arranged longitudinally and transversely; the rain-water passing from the longitudinal gutters into the transverse gutters, over the girders, and being thus conveyed into the hollow columns, and thence into the drains below.

The boards of the flooring are 9 inches broad and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick, laid half an inch apart, on sleeper joists 9 inches deep and 3 inches thick, placed 4 feet apart. This method of flooring is at once economical, dry, clean, and pleasant to walk upon: it admits the dust to fall through the spaces; and even when it may require to be thoroughly washed, the water will at once disappear between the openings, and the boards become almost immediately dry and fit for the reception of visitors. The galleries are laid with close boarding.

By means of very simple machinery, ventilation is amply provided for; and also an abundant supply of pure air, and of both hot and cold water.

Efficient means for the prompt extinction of fire, should any accident from that element occur, have been adopted. A special arrangement has been made with the Chelsea Waterworks Company for the water to be always on.

It is curious to remark, that all the dimensions of the building are multiples of 8: for instance, the width and height of the smaller aisles are each 3 times 8, or 24 feet; of the second largest aisle, the width is 6 times 8, or 48 feet; and of the great centre aisle, 72 feet, or 9 times 8.

In different compartments of the building, refreshment rooms of various classes are provided, under specific regulations as to prices, and with the requisite attendance. Pastry, &c., and light beverages are supplied; but cooking is not allowed; nor is the sale of wines, spirits, or malt-liquors permitted.

It is necessary for the visitor of the exhibition to observe, that the building lies *East* and *West*, and is intersected by the *Transept* running *North* and *South*. The Transept being taken as a point of departure, the building is divisible into two portions: the *Western Half* is appropriated to the productions of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies; the *Eastern Half* to Foreign Countries.

In the *Transept* are some beautiful fountains, various articles of sculpture, ornamental gates, &c.

In the Nave, or Central Avenue, of the *eastern* part of the building, which, as we have said, is appropriated chiefly to the productions of Foreign Countries, is the great Labore Diamond, or "*Mountain of Light*," exhibited by Her Majesty, Queen Victoria; with a Parisian organ, a stained glass window, a church bell, various groups of statuary, &c. The *Southern Half* of this division, proceeding from *west* to *east*, is occupied by the productions of China, Tunis, Brazil, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Austria, Russia, the States of the Zollverein, and the United States. The *Northern Half* embraces Persia, Arabia, Greece, Egypt, Turkey, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Holland, North Germany, &c.

Proceeding *westward* from the Transept, along the Nave, are fountains, groups of statuary, &c.

The *Galleries* are named respectively, *South*, *Central South*, *Central North*, and *North*.

Immediately over the *South Entrance*, in the *Gallery*, is the apparatus connected with the large *Electric Clock*.

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HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE SKETCH OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

A SEVEN DAYS' SURVEY.

A

WEEK IN LONDON.

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE SKETCH.

CHAPTER I.

Remote Antiquity of London.—King Lud.—Etymology.—Latitude and Longitude.—Site.—Walls, Gates, and Boundaries.—Queen Boadicea.—London, the Capital of the East Saxons.—Sacked by the Danes.—Burnt.—Restored by King Alfred.—Chartered by Edward III.—Wat Tyler.—Night Illumination.—Spanish Armada.—Queen Elizabeth.—Commerce.—New River.—First Pavements.—Pestilence.—Fire of London.—Restoration.

THE origin of the now ancient, extensive, and flourishing city of London, the "Royal Chamber of our Sovereigns"—the Metropolis, the pride and the glory of the Kingdom—is involved in obscurity. Roman authors trace its foundation to gods and demi-gods. According to Geoffrey of Monmouth, it was built by Brute, a lineal descendant from Æneas, the son of Venus, daughter of Jupiter, about the year of the world 2855, that is, 1108 years before the commencement of the Christian era, and earlier than the days of Romulus and Remus. He called it Troynovant, Trinovant, or New Troy. It became the capital and the sepulchre of numerous races of kings. Belinus, son of Dunwallo, Duke of Cornwall, built a haven in Troynovant, with a gate over it, and named it *Belin's gate*—now recognised as *Billingsgate*. It was the ancient emporium of British trade with the Gauls, Phœnicians, and Greeks, for lead, tin, &c., long before the coming of the Romans.

Tacitus is the first author who calls the city *Londinium*. In his time it abounded with merchants, and was the great treasury of the riches of the kingdom. By Ammianus Marcellinus, who flourished, A.D. 380, it is called *Vetustum Oppidum*, an ancient town. King Lud, by whom it was repaired and enlarged, and encompassed by a strong stone wall, is said to have called it *Caer Lud*, or *Lud-din*; the City of Lud, or Lud's town. Hence *Londin*, *London*. About the eighth year of the reign of Cassibelan, or Cassivellaunus, brother and successor of King Lud, Cæsar made his first descent on Britain.

The supposed etymologies of the name of London are curious. Its derivation from Lud has already been mentioned. Here is one of Camden's suggestions. The British word *Lhong* signifies a ship, and *Dinas* a town or city; and thus *London* may be regarded as a city or harbour for ships. What follows is better. Supposing London to have been peopled by descendants of Goths, who had emigrated from Scandinavia, Camden otherwise derives its name from two British words—*Llhwn*, a wood, and *Dinas*, a town. This etymology accords with the manner in which the Britons constructed their towns in the midst of woods or forests. Thus *London* formerly signified a *town in a wood*; and this, it will presently be seen, was its actual character. With a still nearer approach to accuracy, Camden might have gone a little farther. The British words *Llhwn* and *Dinas* are evidently derived from *Lun* and *Den*, in the ancient language of the Goths; the former signifying a *grove* or *wood*, the latter a *town*; and at the present time there are in the modern Scandinavia, towns or villages which retain the common name of *Lunden*.

London is situated in latitude 51° 31′ north, longitude 6′ west of the first geographical meridian of Greenwich observatory. It is distant 393 miles from Edinburgh, 340 miles from Dublin, 118 miles from Bristol, 196 miles from York, and 56 miles from Oxford. Antiquaries have ascertained that the site of modern London is the same as that of the ancient or original town. Its chief portion is on the northern bank of the Thames. An immense forest originally extended to the river side, and, even as late as the reign of Henry II., covered the northern neighbourhood of the city, and was filled with various species of beasts of chase. It was

defended naturally by fosses; one formed by the creek which ran along Fleet ditch; the other by Walbrook, a winding stream that emptied itself into the Thames at Dowgate. These are now arched over, and form serviceable sewers to receive and carry into the river the contributions from numerous smaller ones. The south side of the city was protected by the Thames; and the north by the adjacent forest. The time at which the walls were built is very uncertain. King Lud has already been mentioned as their presumed founder. By some they are attributed to Theodosius, governor of Britain, A.D. 339; by others to Constantine the Great; an opinion somewhat favoured by the circumstance that, from the Empress Helena, Constantine's mother, the city received the name of *Augusta*, which for a time superseded the more ancient name of *Londinium*. The original boundaries seem to have been Ludgate Hill on the west; a spot near the site of the Tower on the east; Cripplegate on the north; and Thames Street on the south. Four great military roads extended from London into the country: the Prætorian way, afterwards named by the Saxons Watling Street, passing under a gate on the north side of the modern Newgate; the road to Dover, beginning at Watling Street, and passing the trajectus, or ferry, at Dowgate; the Hermin Street, passing under Aldgate, by Bethnal Green, to Old Ford; and a pass through the river Lea, to Durolitum, the modern Leyton, in Essex. The gates of London are supposed to have been originally only four in number: Newgate, Cripplegate, Aldgate, and Dowgate, corresponding with the great military roads; to which six others were added as new roads were constructed; viz., Postern, on Tower Hill, Bishopsgate, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Ludgate, and Bridge-gate. These, with the walls themselves, have all been long demolished.

It is recorded by Tacitus, that in the year 61, under the Roman Emperor Nero, London was sacked by the British Queen Boadicea. From this fact it is evident that it was then a place of importance among the Roman possessions in Britain. Subsequently to the departure of the Romans in the fifth century, it was, from internal dissension and other causes, much reduced. On the establishment of the Heptarchy, or Octarchy, as Turner, in his History of the Anglo-Saxons, proves it to have been, London became the capital of

the Kingdom of the East Saxons, and again rose into consequence as a commercial town. In 819, when all the Saxon kingdoms fell under the power of Egbert, London became the metropolis of England; and, in 833, it was of such weight that it was chosen as the place of meeting of a Wittenagemot, or assembly of the great men of England, to deliberate on measures for repelling the Danes. Six years afterwards, the Danes, landing upon the coast of Kent, marched to London, sacked the city, and murdered most of its inhabitants. The invaders were expelled by Alfred the Great, who restored the city to its former liberties and beauty. In 893, however, the capital was reduced to ashes by an accidental fire; but, as the houses had been of wood, they were soon rebuilt. London sustained many subsequent attacks from the Danes; but, at the Conquest, in 1066, it was a place of great wealth and power; and at length its civil government took a form very little different from that by which it is at present distinguished. In the reign of Henry II., the king's palace was two miles from the City, in the west. Every where beyond the houses of the suburbs, which were very populous, the citizens had gardens and orchards planted with large and beautiful trees. On the north side were fields for pasture, and open meadows with meandering streams, on the banks of which were numerous windmills. In the wars under King Stephen, there went out from the City of London, to a muster, twenty thousand horsemen and sixty thousand foot, all armed and fit for war.

In 1327, Edward the Third granted the City two charters; by the first of which the Mayor, for the time being, was constituted one of the Judges of Oyer and Terminer, for the trial of criminals in Newgate, &c. By the second charter, Southwark was granted for the good and benefit of the citizens. In 1354, the same sovereign granted the citizens the privilege of having gold and silver maces carried before the chief magistrate, a privilege then peculiar to London.

In the reign of Richard II. (1381), the city suffered greatly by the rebellion of Wat Hilliard, commonly called Wat the Tyler. To the death of that rebel by Sir William Walworth, the Lord Mayor, is frequently ascribed the addition of a *dagger* to the armorial bearings of the city. This, however, is incorrect: the *cross* and *sword*, or *dagger*, are emblematical of St. Paul, and are found in the city shield anteriorly to the rebel-

lion of Wat Tyler. The memory of Sir William Walworth is perpetuated in the name of the suburban village that gave him birth.

It was not until five-and-thirty years after Wat Tyler's insurrection, that Sir Henry Barton, the Lord Mayor, first ordered lanterns to be hung out to illuminate the streets by night; a practice which, until within a few years, and not yet wholly discontinued, has been followed in Paris, with very little improvement.

At the time of the Spanish Armada, in 1588, the city raised 10,000 troops, and voted sixteen of the largest ships in the Thames, and four pinnaces or light frigates, the entire expense of which was defrayed by the inhabitants. In 1594, the citizens fitted out six ships of war, and raised 405 men for the service of the Crown; twice, in 1595, they raised 1,000 men; and, in 1597, when the rumour was spread of another invasion by the Spaniards, they provided 6,000 men, and equipped sixteen ships of war.

London obtained no new privileges during the reign of Elizabeth, but it enjoyed nearly the whole commerce of the nation. The customs of the port were seven times greater than those of all the rest of the kingdom; and although the citizens were taxed in a much higher proportion than the people in the country, they were willing, in cases of emergency, to be rated above their proportion, which had formerly been estimated at a tenth, when others paid only a fifteenth.

So recently as the time of Elizabeth, a far greater part of London was contained within the walls; and even in those narrow limits were many gardens, which have since been converted into squares, streets, lanes, courts, alleys, &c. In 1613, during the reign of James I., the New River was brought to Islington (a village now contiguous to London), from Amwell, near Ware, in Hertfordshire, to supply the inhabitants with water. In the following year, Smithfield was paved; and, in 1615, the sides, or footpaths, of the principal streets, which had previously been laid with pebbles, were paved with broad free-stone flags. So far as respects the footways, this plan, universally extended, has been ever since continued; but, in the carriage ways, the use of granite blocks has, in many parts of the town, been superseded by Macadamised pavements, composed of broken granite, &c.; and,

more recently, since the commencement of the reign of Queen Victoria, blocks of wood, cut and arranged with mathematical precision, are received as a valuable substitute for stone, in paving. Altogether, London is now the best-paved capital in Europe.

At different periods, London has suffered dreadfully by both pestilence and fire. The latest great plague, which carried off 68,596 persons, was in 1665. In the following year, London was almost wholly destroyed by a fire, which began on the 2nd of September, continued three days, and destroyed 400 streets, with 87 parish churches, and 13,200 other houses. The damage was estimated at £10,689,000. From this calamity London soon recovered; and, by widening the streets and rebuilding the houses on a more extensive plan, and in a more substantial manner, it was at once rendered more salubrious and more magnificent than ever.

From the time here noticed, London has been yearly increasing in extent, in wealth, splendour, and commercial importance. By the erection of fifty new churches in the reign of Queen Anne, the architectural aspect of the metropolis was greatly improved.

CHAPTER II.

Civil Government of the City.—Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, &c.—Customs of the City.—Borough of Southwark.

The civil government of the City of London is vested, by charters or grants from the kings of England, in its own corporation, or body of citizens. The city is divided into districts called wards; the corporation consists of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and the Common Council; the first two being chosen by the Livery, and the last, in part, by the householders. The Livery is a numerous body, which enjoys the right of electing the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, Members of Parliament * (four of which are returned for the City), the Chamberlain, and various minor officers. The livery are chosen by their respective Guilds, from amongst the freemen.

* Householders, as well as the Livery, have now the privilege of voting for Members of Parliament.

Guilds or companies are known to have existed in this country very soon after the Norman Conquest; but the date of the charter of the Goldsmiths' and Skinners' Companies, the oldest now extant, is only as far back as the year 1327. Their original object was to preserve their respective arts, trades, or mysteries, from the exercise of non-freemen. The Lord Mayor, who is the chief magistrate of the city, is chosen annually, as follows: on the 29th of September, the Livery, in Guildhall, or common assembly, return two Aldermen by show of hands; those Aldermen are then presented to a court, denominated the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, by which one of them (generally the first in seniority) is declared Lord Mayor Elect; and he enters on his office on the 9th of November following. The power and privileges of the Lord Mayor, who is assisted in the legal duties of his office by the two Sheriffs, are very great. He is attended with much state at his inauguration, and on the demise of the Crown, he is entitled to take the first place in the Privy Council until the new sovereign is proclaimed.

The Common Council consists of the mayor, twenty-six aldermen, and two hundred and thirty-six members; the latter being annually chosen by the householders. The number for each ward is regulated by ancient custom, the body-corporate having the power to extend the number. The Aldermen, who are the principal magistrates in their several wards, are chosen for life by the householders, being free, one for each ward. The only exception to this rule, is in the case of Bridge Ward Without, on a vacancy for which, the senior Alderman, or father of the city, is removed thither, and a new Alderman is elected for the vacated ward. The Aldermen are perpetual justices of the peace for the city.

The Lord Mayor, the Recorder, the Common Serjeant, and the Aldermen, are Judges of Oyer and Terminer; that is, they are judges under the crown, to try capital offences and misdemeanours, for the City of London, County of Middlesex, and part of Kent, Surrey, and Essex. The two Sheriffs, who are officers of the crown, for several important purposes of the executive government, are chosen annually by the Livery, not only for the city, but for the county of Middlesex: the same persons officiating as sheriffs for London, and jointly forming one sheriff for the county.

Amongst the customs of the city of London respecting

trade, it may be mentioned that if the wife of a freeman trade by herself, she may sue and be sued as a *feme sole*, in the *city court*, on her contracts; the husband being named only for uniformity; and should judgment be against them, the wife only will be liable to execution.

Until the reign of Edward the Third, the borough of Southwark was independent of the city of London; but a part of it has been since incorporated with the city, under the denomination of Bridge Ward Without; the officers, viz., a Justice of the Bridge Ward, High-Bailiff, Steward, &c., being appointed by the Court of Aldermen, and Common Council.

CHAPTER III.

London as it is.—Extent and Form.—The Thames and its Bridges.—Shipping.—Streets, Houses, and Population.—Enlargements and Improvements.—Increase of Beauty and Splendour.—Different Quarters of the Town.—Important Circuits for General Views.—Line of the Thames.—Cross Streets.

It is now desirable to speak of modern London—of the metropolis as it is. During the reigns of George III. and IV., William IV., and her present Majesty Victoria, the improvements which have taken place in the town and its environs are innumerable. The vastness of London is a wonder. The connected town extends east and west, from Bow to Hammersmith, or about 11 miles; and from north to south, the greatest width is from Holloway chapel to Stockwell, about 8 miles. The whole may be considered as egg-shaped: the east, or Greenwich and Stratford end, being round and broad, while the west end may be said to terminate in a point at Kensington or Hammersmith. The circumference of the whole is about 30 miles. On the south side, the town extends in length from beyond Vauxhall Bridge, westward, to Greenwich, eastward, a distance of from six to seven miles. Many populous villages, almost equal to cities and county towns, as Hampstead, Highgate, Hackney, Clapham, Wandsworth, Chelsea, &c., are not included in these statements.

London, like every ellipse, has two centres; Charing-

cross is the one to the west, and the Royal Exchange the other, to the east. The cities of London and Westminster, now regarded as one, lie on the north and west side of the Thames, and the Borough of Southwark and Lambeth on the south and east; these divisions being connected by seven superb bridges; London, Southwark, Blackfriars, Waterloo, Westminster, Vauxhall bridge, and a new suspension bridge erected opposite Hungerford Market. The river is three hundred and ten yards across at London bridge, and four hundred yards at Waterloo bridge. It runs nearly west and east from Charing-cross as far as the port: a bend in its course, near Waterloo bridge, carries it nearly south. The tide flows about fifteen miles by the river course above London; and as far as London bridge, the port for three or four miles is filled with ships at anchor, or moored to chains, besides such as are lying in the different collateral docks. It is estimated that about 15,000 vessels enter the port of London annually. Both eastward and westward of London bridge, the banks of the river are covered with wharfs for coals, timber, iron, provisions, &c.

London, taken in its largest extent, but without the circumjacent villages, is understood to contain from 10,000 to 13,000 streets, squares, courts, &c.; from 200,000 to 250,000 houses and public edifices; and from 2,000,000 to 2,250,000 of people.—Before we proceed, a retrospective glance may be serviceable for general purposes.

At the commencement of the eighteenth century, the village of St. Marylebone, now central as it were in the western part of the metropolis, was almost a mile distant from any part of London, the nearest street being Old Bond Street, which then hardly extended to the present Clifford Street. Soon after the accession of George I., Berkeley Square, New Bond Street, and other streets in the vicinity arose. Hanover Square and Cavendish Square were open fields in the year 1716. They were laid out early in the reign of George II., when houses were first built on the north side of Oxford Street, until then known as Oxford Road. Cavendish Square, Oxford Market, Oxford Street, Holles Street, Vere Street, &c., are of the same date; Harley, Wigmore, and Mortimer Streets, somewhat later. About the same time, government ordered the erection of the three churches of St. George,

Bloomsbury, St. Ann, Limehouse, and St. Paul, Deptford. About the year 1737, the west end of the town was improved by the addition of Grosvenor Square and its neighbourhood. The increase of the metropolis on all sides, was in proportion to the length of the reign of George III. The vacant space near Marylebone was filled in; Southwark and Lambeth, originally recovered by the Romans from an extensive marsh, became a mass of houses, united by a bridge with Westminster; and new towns rather than suburbs, such as Camden Town and Somers' Town, appeared in various quarters, to which, have more recently been added, Portland Town, and the larger half of Paddington, now almost joined with Kilburn. Then again, the whole of the extensive space from Goodman's Fields to Stepney, over Whitechapel Road to Shadwell, has been covered with closely compacted habitations. The London, the St. Katharine's, and the East and West India Docks, have been constructed, and the ground to Hackney, Bethnal Green, and Mile End, built upon. The neighbourhood of the respective new churches in Marylebone and the Regent's Park, presents a succession of handsome and noble mansions. Public convenience, and the improved state of society, called for enlarged thoroughfares; and in various parts of the town, crowded districts have been converted into spacious streets, lined with costly residences. Such was the origin of the architectural improvements in the vicinity of Pall Mall; and a magnificent line of streets, including Regent Street and the Quadrant, leading from St. James's Park to the Regent's Park. A stately range of elegant houses has been formed on the site of Carlton House; dividing which, in the centre, his late Majesty, William IV. commanded a way to be broken into the park, for the accommodation of the public. Exeter 'Change, and the line of old houses down the north side of the Strand, have been removed: the Strand itself has been widened; new streets have been opened, and many other improvements made. That fine edifice, St. Martin's church, formerly shut in by houses, but now open to the view, forms part of the eastern side of a spacious opening named Trafalgar Square, on the northern side of which is the National Gallery of the Fine Arts; and in the centre of its southern front, is a new national monument to the memory of Admiral Lord Nelson. Fleet Market

has been removed, and the opening now forms an open and airy street, leading to the foot of Holborn Hill and thence to Islington.

The almost endless succession of well built and regular streets, composed of houses three or four stories high, nearly all over the metropolis—more particularly the magnificent squares, mansions, and long lines of streets of splendid private dwellings at the west end—impress the spectator with the loftiest ideas of wealth and comfort. The city itself, which begins at Aldgate and ends at Temple Bar, with St. Paul's Cathedral in its centre, is a general scene of activity and bustle. Almost equally so are the Strand, Oxford Street, and Holborn. Eastward of the Royal Exchange, the town is entirely devoted to trade, and Houndsditch and its vicinity form the quarter of the Jews. North of the east end, as in Spital Fields and Bethnal Green, and stretching to the north-west, as in Clerkenwell, reside thousands of manufacturers and mechanics.

To form a general idea of the extent and splendour of the town, previously to a more particular examination of its important public edifices, &c., the stranger may walk from Hyde Park along Piccadilly, turn down St. James's Street, and continue along Pall Mall by Charing Cross, the Strand, St. Paul's and Lombard Street to Whitechapel church; and return by Leadenhall Street and Holborn, to what was formerly termed Tyburn turnpike, at the top of Oxford Street. This will be a walk or ride of about nine miles, through the heart of the town. He may afterwards make another circuit, by passing from Charing Cross southward, crossing Westminster Bridge, passing the Obelisk, and reaching London Bridge by the Borough of Southwark. Gracechurch Street and Bishopsgate Street will conduct him to Shoreditch church; and, turning short to the left, he may return to Charing Cross by the City Road, King's Cross, (formerly Battle Bridge,) Lisson Green, the Edgeware Road, Park Lane, Grosvenor Place, Pimlico, and Westminster Abbey. This will be a route of ten or twelve miles, about two miles from the centre, and about an average mile from the extremities of the mass of the town.

The line of the Thames may be considered as the leading guide to a knowledge of London. One or two principal lines of streets run parallel to the river on the north, and it

is difficult to be more than half a mile or a mile from these principal streets. Starting from Stratford in the east, we have a straight line through Bow, Mile End, and Whitechapel to Aldgate pump. This line then forks off into two lines; to the south, Fenchurch Street, and to the north, Leadenhall Street and Cornhill; these lines meet again at the Mansion House, Bank, and Royal Exchange, and continue in one line, called the Poultry and Cheapside. At the end of Cheapside it forks again southward, round St. Paul's, along Ludgate Hill, Fleet Street, the Strand, Charing Cross and Parliament Street or Pall Mall, and northward along Newgate Street, Skinner Street, Holborn, St. Giles's, and Oxford Street, to Cumberland Gate, or the north-eastern extremity of Hyde Park. The cross streets are imperfect and interrupted. Gracechurch Street and Bishopsgate Street, running from London Bridge to Shoreditch; and Regent Street, running from Pall Mall to the Regent's Park, are the two principal cross streets running north and south, or at right angles with the river.

After this general view, we shall immediately proceed to indicate to the stranger, a scheme by which he may examine the metropolis with all its national establishments, public buildings, &c., in the short period of seven days.

FIRST DAY.

INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS.

Let it be premised that fine weather is desirable for these excursions; and we must rise early that we may have long days, in which we may see and examine much, and enjoy the evenings in relaxation at the theatres, or in the society of our friends, as circumstances or choice may determine.

The cathedral of St. Paul's, frequently and with much propriety, termed the cockney's land-mark, may be conveniently taken as a centre, or point to start from, in any direction that may be preferred.

Supposing a stranger to arrive in London for the first time, without friends to meet him, or to provide for his tem-

porary accommodation, he must be vigilant and circumspect in his conduct, lest he become the prey of some of the swarms of knaves, swindlers, and thieves, who are constantly on the look out for the unwary. He should, if possible, before his departure from home, obtain a recommendation to some respectable and conveniently situated private lodging-house; without such recommendation, he cannot do better than ask advice of the landlord of the inn at which his travelling conveyance may put up. Many come now by rail-roads, and are thrown as it were into the streets at once. But inns, hotels, taverns, &c., howsoever respectable, are expensive in their accommodation. Of these establishments there are about four hundred in the metropolis, some of them magnificent, all more or less spacious and convenient; and the traveller may readily suit himself according to his taste and circumstances. The fashionable hotels at the west end of the town, are high in their prices: the city houses are more moderate. At many of the latter, the visitor may be provided with every reasonable comfort—a good bed, the use of the coffee-room, breakfast, dinner, and supper—at from six to ten shillings *per diem;* beds from one shilling to three shillings and upwards; breakfasts one shilling to two shillings and sixpence; dinners, from two shillings to five or ten; tea or coffee, one shilling to two and sixpence; waiters, chambermaids, &c., from two shillings to five. Wines and spirits are invariably charged for separately, according to printed lists. Much more economically, and without the bustle of an inn, there are well known lodging-houses, perfectly respectable in character, where gentlemen may sleep at so much per night, and have such other meals and refreshments as they may choose. Houses of this class are established in Aldersgate Street, Fleet Street, Thavies Inn, Holborn, and various other parts of the metropolis. Then, again, all over London, there are dining-rooms, and coffee-houses still cheaper. Hot dinners may be procured at all hours, from 12 to 6 or 7 o'clock, the bill of fare varied and abundant; and the prices from one shilling to half-a-crown and upwards.

Strangers, and indeed all sensible persons, should avoid crowds, lest their pockets suffer from the light fingered gentry who make plunder their trade. Mock auctions, nuisances of which there are not perhaps more than two or three in the metropolis, should be sedulously avoided. In

these dens of roguery, whatever price a person may pay for an article, he is sure to be cheated. Gambling-houses, from the highest grade to the lowest, are numerous; little danger, however, need be apprehended from them, as they are not to be found without seeking for. Against thimble-rig players, ring-droppers, sharpers and swindlers of all sorts, whose places of resort are mostly inferior public houses, too much caution cannot be exercised.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—As our starting point, we shall commence with a brief notice of *St. Paul's*. This magnificent structure, covering two acres and sixteen perches of ground, is the largest Protestant church in the world, and second in Catholic establishments only to St. Peter's at Rome. The first cathedral of the Episcopal see of London, was built in the area of a Roman Prætorian camp, on the most elevated spot within the city. The present building is on precisely the same site. The original church is supposed to have been destroyed in the general persecution under the Emperor Dioclesian—to have been re-edified under Constantine—to have been demolished by the Pagan Saxons—and to have been restored in the 7th century, when the Saxons embraced Christianity. In 961 it was destroyed by fire; in 962 it was re-built; in 1086, it was again burnt, and not completely restored until 1240. In 1444, and again in about a hundred years after, it suffered dreadfully from lightning; and at the great fire of London, in 1666, it was totally destroyed. The length of the present edifice, for which we are indebted to the genius of Sir Christopher Wren, from east to west, within the walls, is 500 feet; its breadth from north to south, 286 feet; the circuit of the entire building, 2292 feet; the height to the top of the cross, 404 feet; the circumference of the ball, (in which several persons may sit,) 19 feet; the height of the cross, 30 feet. The interior, as to its general form, resembles the plan of the ancient cathedrals, consisting of three aisles, divided by piers and arches, and covered by a vaulting. Its chief objects of interest and curiosity, are the whispering gallery, the geometrical staircase, the clock-work and great bell, the crypts or vaults, the library, and the model formed from the designs of Sir Christopher Wren. The church is open for divine service three times every day in the year: at 7 o'clock in the morning

in summer, and 8 in the 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: model room, 2*d.*; clock and great bell, 2*d.*; library, 2*d.*; whispering gallery, 2*d.*; ball, 1*s.* 6*d.*; geometrical stair-case, 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. The *coup d'œil* of the interior, when standing under the dome,—Sir James Thornhill's paintings illustrating the life of St. Paul, and the monuments of worthies and heroes appearing around,—is at once magnificent and sublime. The general effect is materially heightened by the performance of the organ and the chanting of divine service by the choristers. Leaving the cathedral by the northern portico as we entered, and turning for a few paces to the right, we reach the north-east extremity of St. Paul's Church-yard.

New Post Office.—Turning to the left, we perceive nearly opposite, in the open street called St. Martin's-le-grand, the *New Post Office*, 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. It was opened for public business on the 23d of September, 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 the newspaper, foreign, inland, and ship-letter offices; on the south side are the Receiver-General's, Accountant's, and other offices; at the south-eastern end, is what was formerly called the two-penny 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. Under the great hall is a tunnel for the conveyance of letters from one department of the office to another. Machinery is employed for supplying water to the upper parts of the building in case of fire, and for various other purposes. The Post-office is closed on a 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, and with a stamped envelope, or label, or pre-paid, are charged only one penny each. The *New Money Order Office* is in Aldersgate Street.

In Foster Lane, at the back of the Post-office, is *Goldsmiths' Hall*, a very handsome new structure, in the Italian style, from the designs of P. Hardwicke, Esq., the interior of which can only be viewed by an order obtained from a member of the court.

Turning sharp round to the left, from St. Paul's Churchyard, we proceed westward through Newgate Street. On the left, or south side of this street, but not open to view, unless by turning in to it, is *Newgate Market*. Retail butchers here purchase entire carcasses, and families are accommodated with joints. The market is also supplied with poultry, butter, eggs, &c.

Nearly opposite the entrance to Newgate Market, and effectively thrown back from the line of the street, appears the south front of *Christ's Hospital*, commonly called the Blue Coat School, from the long and loose blue garment worn by the boys. This institution, founded by Edward VI. for "the innocent and fatherless," is one of five royal hospitals that are under the guardianship of the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London. The building occupies the site of an ancient friary of Franciscans, or Grey Friars, founded in 1225. In addition to its original foundation, as a grammar school for boys, and a separate school for girls, Charles II. endowed it, for the instruction of forty boys, to be taught mathematics and navigation. This was followed by a second mathematical school, founded by Mr. Travers, for thirty-six boys. There are now in the foundation nearly 1500 children, 500 of the younger of whom receive their preliminary education at a school in the town of Hertford. Four boys are annually sent to Oxford or Cambridge. A presentation is very valuable. The expenditure of the establishment is about

£45,000 a year. For eight Sundays, terminating with Easter Day, the children sup in public. Strangers are admitted by tickets, obtainable from the governors of the school.

At the end of Newgate Street, on the left, stands the prison of *Newgate*, forming an angle with the Old Bailey. The front of the prison, with the keeper's house, as the centre, stands in the latter. Here was a receptacle for prisoners as far back as the year 1218. Within the memory of man, the building extended over Newgate Street, with a gate and postern beneath it. The present edifice dates from the year 1777. During the riots of 1780, its interior was burnt by the mob, but it was speedily restored. Strangers desirous of inspecting this, or other prisons, may obtain admittance on procuring an order from the Sheriffs, or other official persons. The Old Bailey is the scene of public executions.

In the Old Bailey are two courts, the Old and the New Courts, for the trial of criminal offences. The more serious crimes are tried in the Old Court, where the crown Judges preside. The Sessions are held once a month, and generally last five or six days. On the receipt of a small fee, sixpence or a shilling, according to circumstances, the hall-keeper will admit a stranger into the gallery to hear the trials.

Turning to the right at the end of Newgate Street, is Giltspur Street, leading to Smithfield market, and in which stands another of the City prisons, called *Giltspur Street Compter*. It was built from a design by Mr. Dance, and the front is cased with rustic stone-work. It is appropriated chiefly to persons committed for trial or for further examination. Provided with fire-places, warm and cold baths, and various other conveniences, it is considered to be the best arranged of all the London prisons. Night-charges, originating in the City, are received here.

Keeping the direct westward line from Newgate Street, we descend Skinner Street, leaving St. Sepulchre's Church and Snow Hill upon the right, and reach what was formerly known as *Holborn* or *Old Bourn Bridge*. Facing that spot, and running in a straight southerly line towards Blackfriars Bridge, is Farringdon Street, formerly the site of *Fleet Market*. *Farringdon Market* lies back to the westward of that street. From the north end of Farringdon Street, runs a new street in the direction of *Islington*.

On the right, nearly at the bottom of Holborn Hill, was

Field Lane, a narrow thoroughfare notorious as the residence of dealers in (as it is said) stolen pocket handkerchiefs, old boots and shoes, and all sorts of lumber. The houses have lately been pulled down for improvements.

On the left of the hill stands *St. Andrew's Church*; and nearly opposite is *Ely Place*, originally garden-ground of the Bishop of Ely. Here is an ancient chapel, where the service of the church of England is performed twice every Sunday, and in which a considerable number of free sittings may be had. A few paces above Ely Place, and on the same side, is *Hatton Garden*, formerly the residence of the gentry and wealthy merchants.

On the right, and just above an isolated clump of houses called *Middle Row*, is the entrance, under an arch-way, to Grays' Inn, deriving its name from Lord Grays, and chiefly occupied by chambers for lawyers. It has a handsome spacious garden. In its immediate vicinity is a fine old street, called *Bedford Row*, the residence of lawyers, merchants, &c.

Higher up Holborn on the left is a narrow passage called *Great Turnstile*, leading into *Lincoln's Inn Fields*. On the left, or eastern side of the square, extending southward, is *Lincoln's Inn*, one of the principal Inns of Court; on the site of which anciently stood a house of the Black Friars, and the palace of the Bishop of Chichester. The *Inn*, which derives its name from Henry Lacey, Earl of Lincoln, to whom the ground was granted, consists of several rows of chambers—a spacious hall, often used by the Lord Chancellor, in the sittings after term—and a chapel designed by Inigo Jones. The front of the Inn is in Chancery Lane. Its gardens are spacious, and well laid out. In these has recently been erected a handsome gothic structure, containing a dining-room, library, committee-room, &c. The interior of Lincoln's Inn Fields itself is of the same extent as the base of the largest Egyptian Pyramid. It was here that William Lord Russell was beheaded. On the north side of the square is the collection of the late Sir John Soane, R.A. Amongst other curiosities, it contains an Egyptian coffin of alabaster, covered with hieroglyphics, and considered to be about 3400 years old. In April, May, and June, the museum is open on Thursdays and Fridays; gratuitous admission by tickets, to be obtained on application to the trustees, or to the curator, at the museum.

Opposite to Sir John Soane's museum, on the south side

of the square, is the *Royal College of Surgeons*, presenting in front a neat portico, in the Ionic order. Scientifically regarded, the collection is extremely curious and valuable. It contains also the embalmed body of Van Butchell's wife, in a mahogany case; dwarf and giant skeletons, anatomical preparations, &c. 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.

Lincoln's Inn Fields has been at times the residence of many eminent statesmen. Having made its circuit, we re-enter Holborn through Little Queen Street, to the right. Extending northward and north-westward, are *Bloomsbury*, *Russell*, *Bedford*, and other *Squares*.

At the top of Holborn, on the left, is Drury Lane, leading into the Strand; on the right is Museum Street, leading to the *British Museum*, in Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury. In this national establishment are to be seen the massive Nimroud marbles lately received from the supposed site of the ancient city of Nineveh; the equally massive antiquities of Egypt, and the most tasteful productions of Greece and Rome, in innumerable works of sculpture; the celebrated Elgin Marbles, brought by Lord Elgin from Athens; relics from Herculaneum and Pompeii, presented by Sir William Hamilton and others; shells, minerals, organic remains, and other collections of natural history; with an immense library, collections of prints, &c. The museum is open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from ten o'clock till four, from September 7 to May 1; and from ten to seven, from May 7 to September 1. It is closed between the first and seventh of January; first and seventh of May; the 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 1*s.* each. The building was originally the residence of the Duke of Montagu. This noble institution was founded, by act of Parliament, in 1753, in pursuance of the will of Sir Hans Sloane, who left his collection, which had cost him £50,000, to the nation, on condition that Parliament should pay £20,000 to his executors, and purchase a house for its reception. From time to time great additions have since been made to the collection; and the buildings have been re-edified with stone, on an enlarged scale, and in an elegant style of architecture. Persons de-

sirous to avail themselves of the Reading-rooms, &c., may, under certain regulations, obtain a six months' ticket of admission, renewable at the expiration of the term.

Forming a continuation of Holborn, but veering a little to the north, is Broad Street, St. Giles's; at the back of which, between that and the upper part of Great Russell Street, is the extensive brewery of Meux and Co. From this point, running *eastward*, in continuation of Oxford Street, a wide and handsome street, called *New Oxford Street*, has been opened. It enters Holborn a little above Bloomsbury Square.

Over the entrance to *St. Giles's Church*, on the left, is a curious piece of sculpture representing the resurrection at the last day. On the right, facing the church, Tottenham Court Road leads northward to Hampstead, &c.

In Tottenham Street, Tottenham Court Road, is the *Queen's Theatre*, one of the minor houses, originally built for the performance of concerts. It has no regular season.

Oxford Street, running westward, forms nearly a right angle with Tottenham Court Road. Through Charles Street, on the left, is *Soho Square*, one of the oldest squares in London, and built in the reign of Charles II., of whom a statue appears in the centre. It took its name from the watchword of the party of the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth at the battle of Sedgemoor. In the north-western corner of the square stands the *Soho Bazaar*, established by Mr. Trotter, to afford respectable young women an opportunity of trading on a small capital. It has long been a fashionable resort for ladies at which to make their light purchases. Similar establishments have since been formed, at the *Pantheon*, somewhat higher up on the left-hand side of Oxford Street; in the *Western Exchange*, Old Bond Street; in King Street, Portman Square; recently, in Regent Street, and Regent Street North; and in the neighbourhood of Belgrave Square, Pimlico; the last of which, extensively occupied by carriages, for sale, is named the *Pantechnicon*.

Berners Street, on the right of Oxford Street, leads up to the *Middlesex Hospital*, for the sick and lame, lying-in married women, patients afflicted with cancer, &c.

The *Princess's Theatre*, a very elegant little house, occupies the site of what was formerly termed the Queen's Bazaar, on the north side of Oxford Street.

A little higher upon the right, is *Oxford Market*. Farther on, to the left, is *Regent Street*, architecturally considered

the most splendid street in the metropolis, leading to the eastern extremity of Piccadilly, and thence, through Waterloo Place, to Pall Mall. On the right is Regent Street north, with a modern church in Langham Place, leading on through Portland Place, a range of spacious mansions, to the south-eastern entrance of the Regent's Park. On the west side of Regent Street north, not far from Oxford Street, is the *Polytechnic Institution*, the back front of which opens into Cavendish Square. 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 or five in the day, and from seven till ten in the evening. Admission one shilling each person. Various other exhibitions are in Regent Street North.

Nearly opposite to *Cavendish Square*, on the right of Oxford Street, is *Hanover Square*, on the left. In Tenterden Street, issuing from the north-west corner of Hanover Square, is the *Royal Academy of Music*, which was established in 1822, for the cultivation of music amongst the natives of England. The pupils are taught harmony, composition, the piano-forte, and the Italian language. The academy is supported by annual subscriptions and voluntary contributions.

New Bond Street, above Regent Street on the left, has been superseded by the latter as a fashionable promenade; and also in a great measure as a place of trade.

Further on, also on the left, are *Berkeley* and *Grosvenor Squares*, occupied chiefly by the aristocracy. The latter contains six acres of ground, in the centre of which is a gilt equestrian statue of George I.

To the right, still proceeding westward, are *Manchester*, *Portman*, *Montagu*, and *Bryanston Squares*. A little to the north-west of Portman Square is *Montagu House*, formerly the residence of Mrs. Montagu, the celebrated patroness of young chimney-sweepers, to whom she was accustomed to give an annual treat. In *King Street* and *Baker Street*, Portman Square, is an extensive Bazaar, in which is Madame

Tussaud's splendid exhibition of wax work, admission one shilling. The Coronation of Queen Victoria, the Napoleon group, models of the heads of the principal actors in the French Revolution, the identical shirt of Henry IV. of France, in which he was assassinated, Napoleon's carriage, &c. In the same building, recently much enlarged, is held the annual *Smithfield-Club Cattle-Show.*

At the top of Oxford Street, the stranger will find himself at the north-east angle of *Hyde Park*, now entered through the grand *Triumphal Marble Arch*, removed from the front of Buckingham Palace. Turning to the right down the *Edgeware Road*, we reach the western commencement of the *New Road*, which, taking an eastwardly direction, and leaving *Marylebone New Church* on the right, leads in the first instance to the south-western and central entrances of the *Regent's Park*, one of the wonders of the metropolis. This beautiful spot, named in honour of the Prince Regent before he became George IV., comprises about 360 acres of ground, laid out in lawns, plantations, water, roads, and gardens. In this park are the Gardens of the Zoological Society—the Gardens of the Royal Botanic Society—St. Katharine's Hospital and Church—the Colosseum—and the Diorama.

First, of the *Zoological Gardens*. This interesting establishment originated in the year 1825, consequent on a prospectus issued under the auspices of Sir Humphry 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 by munificent presents, is now extremely curious, interesting, and valuable. Amongst its recent interesting accessions are a hippopotamus, a boa constrictor, and other living specimens of serpents. The gardens are beautifully laid out; and the different animals are accommodated according to their habits, in the best possible manner, and may consequently be seen to great advantage. The admission fee, as a member of the society, is £5, with an annual subscription of £3, or a composition of £30 in lieu thereof. Strangers are admissible to the gardens on the payment of one shilling for each person. On Mondays, only sixpence. On Sundays the admittance can be effected only by the personal introduction of a member.

At a little distance to the north of the Regent's Park, of which, by inclosure, it now forms a part, is *Primrose Hill*,

from the summit of which, if the weather be fine, a beautiful and extensive prospect is afforded.

The next objects of attention in the park, are the beautiful modern *Gothic Chapel* and *Alms Houses of St. Katharine*, with the *House of the Master*. The chapel contains the curious pulpit, monuments, &c., brought from the ancient hospital at St. Katharine's, which was taken down for the construction of the docks near the Tower. The institution, originally founded by Matilda, Queen of King Stephen, for the accommodation of a certain number of brethren and sisters, is collegiate and under royal patronage.

Flanking the park, and immediately at the back of Cumberland Terrace, which runs from the south-eastward entrance, are the *Horse Barracks*.

Nearer towards the entrance is the *Colosseum*, at the top of which is a grand panoramic view of the city of London, covering 46,000 square feet of canvas. The building is a large polygon of sixteen sides, with a glazed cupola, and massive Græco-Doric portico of six columns. In the centre of the building is a contrivance by means of which visitors are raised to a level with the panorama, and thus spared the trouble of ascending the staircase. Amongst the numerous attractions are also a splendid museum of modern sculpture —an exquisitely constructed Gothic aviary—classic ruins—the stalactite caverns of Adelsberg—conservatories, refreshment rooms, a fine organ, &c. Open, in the morning, from half-past ten till five; in the evening, from seven till half-past ten. Admission, 2*s*.

The *Cyclorama*, a distinct exhibition, adjoining the Colosseum, in Albany Street, presents a moving picture, aided by machinery, of the scenery of the Tagus, and the destruction of Lisbon by an earthquake, in 1755. Admission, 2*s*.; but if the Colosseum and the Cyclorama are both seen, 3*s*. for the two exhibitions.

Still nearer to the south-eastern entrance of the park is the *Diorama*; in which are generally exhibited two different views, changed once or twice in the year, and differing from a Panorama, by the introduction of passing effects of light and shade, cloud and sunshine, &c. The Castle of Stolzenfels, on the Rhine, and the Eruption of Mount Etna, are favourite views. The optical deception is wonderful. Admission, 2s.

Re-entering the New Road from the park, we turn to the left, leave *Fitzroy Square* on the right, and cross Tottenham

Court Road. A little to the right, in Gower Street, Bedford Square, stands the *London University College*, founded in 1826, for the promotion of useful learning amongst the youth of the metropolis. This institution, in common with King's College, Somerset House, is subordinate to a royal incorporation, designated the University of London, which holds its sittings in Somerset House, and has the power of conferring degrees, excepting in divinity. The College is considered to be the first medical school in the metropolis. 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 building is a bold portico, of the Corinthian order, raised on a plinth to the height of the first story. Respectable persons are freely admitted to inspect the interior.

The New Road now cuts through Euston Square, at the back of which, on its north side, is the grand terminus of the Birmingham Railway. Just beyond Euston Square is *St. Pancras New Church*, a handsome structure in the Grecian style, erected in 1819—22, at a cost of £76,679. 7s. 8d.

Following the descent of the road we reach *King's Cross*, formerly Battle Bridge, indicating the site of a sanguinary battle between Alfred the Great and the Danes.

To the left of the Cross stood the *Small Pox Hospital*, and the *Fever Hospital*, which have lately been removed, to form a station for the direct York Railway. A new Small Pox Hospital has been erected in Islington.

Ascending the New Road from King's Cross, and turning to the left, we reach Lord John Russell's *Model Prison*, for the confinement and reformation of criminals.

Passing up Pentonville we arrive at the Angel Inn, Islington. The road to the left passes through Islington into the North Road. From the Angel, the New Road takes the name of the City Road, and leads eastward and south-eastward to Finsbury Square, and through Moorgate Street to the Bank of England. Southward from the Angel are two roads, St. John's Street Road, leading through West Smithfield, into Giltspur Street, and so into Newgate Street; and the Goswell Street Road, leading through Aldersgate Street into St. Martin's le Grand, past the New Post Office, and so to our starting point at St. Paul's. However, for the sake of

Sadler's Wells, St. John's Gate, the Charter House, and Smithfield Market, we shall take the former route.

Sadler's Wells, an old and favourite place of theatrical entertainment, especially comic pantomimes, is on the western side of St. John's Street Road, close to the *New River Head*, which is 85 feet above the level of the Thames; and from the reservoir of which, a little to the north, is discharged, for the supply of different portions of the metropolis, 214,000 hogsheads of water every twenty-four hours. Sadler's Wells Theatre is open nearly the whole of the year, for the regular drama. Admission: boxes, 2*s.*; pit, 1*s.*; gallery, 6*d.*

On the site of St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at the north end of St. John's Lane, going from St. John's Street, formerly stood the house, or *Hospital of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem*, a magnificent structure erected A.D. 1110. Its *Gate*, consisting of a large pointed arch, with a gothic window over it, and a large tower on each side, still remains. It forms the chief entrance to the square. Many years ago it was the residence of Cave, the projector and publisher of The Gentleman's Magazine, at which time it was frequently visited by Dr. Johnson, Garrick, and other celebrated men.

Charter House Square, situated in an angle between the Smithfield end of St. John's Street, and Long Lane, West Smithfield, was formerly part of the estates of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. *The Charter House*, on the north side of the square, is one of the principal foundation-schools of the metropolis. It occupies the site of a Carthusian Monastery, which was founded by Sir Walter Manny, in the year 1370. After the dissolution of monasteries, the site fell into the hands of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, who erected the present buildings; and in 1611, his son, the Earl of Suffolk, sold the estate to Mr. Thomas Sutton, an eminent merchant, for £13,000, to establish it as a charitable foundation. Endowed by Mr. Sutton with lands at that time worth £4,500 *per annum*, the house was converted into an hospital for the maintenance of a master, a preacher, two school-masters, forty-four boys, and eighty pensioners, decayed gentlemen, merchants, &c., who are allowed provisions, fire, lodging, a cloak, and £14 *per annum*. The boys are also supported in the house, and instructed in classical learning. The foundation allows £20 *per annum* each to twenty-nine scholars at the University, and they enjoy various other extensive privileges.

West Smithfield, into the area of which we now enter, is the grand cattle market of the metropolis. Its name is supposed to have been derived from a person named Smith, its owner. In this field Henry II. granted to the adjacent Priory of St. Bartholomew, the privilege of keeping an annual fair at Bartholomew-tide. The fair has now only a nominal existence. Smithfield is considered to be the largest weekly market for black cattle, sheep, and horses, in Europe. Market days: Mondays, fat cattle, sheep, &c.; Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, hay and straw; Friday, cattle, sheep, milch cows, &c.; and, in the afternoon, inferior horses, asses, &c.—From 220,000 to 230,000 cattle are sold here annually; and from 1,800,000 to 2,000,000 sheep.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital is a handsome stone fronted edifice, situated between Christ's Hospital and Smithfield. It has an entrance from the latter under an arched gateway, which leads into a spacious square court, surrounded by lofty and commodious buildings. This hospital was founded in 1102, by Rahere, minstrel to Henry I., who in his retirement, founded a priory, dedicated it to St. Bartholomew, and was its first prior. 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., and another of Dr. Ratcliffe, who left £200 a year for improving the diet and linen of the patients. The paintings on the grand staircase were contributed gratuitously by Hogarth.

From the open quadrangle of the hospital, we may pass through St. Bartholomew's Close into Aldersgate Street, turn to the right, pass the New Post Office, and again find ourselves at St. Paul's.

SECOND DAY.

HAVING yesterday made an extensive and somewhat fatiguing circuit, we will to-day content ourselves within a narrower sphere of observation.—Starting eastward from St. Paul's is a granite obelisk, occupying the site of an ancient cross or

conduit. Passing down Cheapside, on the south side stands the church of St. Mary-le-Bow, with its projecting clock. In the rear of the houses facing the church, is a handsome structure raised upon the site of Honey Lane Market. This is named the *City of London School*. John Carpenter, its original founder, was town clerk of London in the reigns of Henry V. and VI. Increased from its first endowment of £19. 10*s. per annum*, to be expended in the education of four sons of freemen of London, the clear yearly value of the estate is now not less than £900. The first stone of the present structure was laid by Lord Brougham in 1835, and it was opened in 1837. It contains nine class-rooms and a library; rooms for the masters, a theatre for lectures, apartments for the secretaries, offices for the servants, &c. The four boys are now educated, boarded, and clothed, and receive the sum of £100. each towards their advancement in life. Their education is of a high character. Other boys, sons of freemen, or householders, are admitted under certain regulations, on payment of £8. *per annum*. Four scholarships have been founded on a suggestion in Carpenter's will, on a certificate of merit from the head master.

The street called the *Poultry*, forms a continuation of Cheapside. At its eastern extremity stands the *Mansion House* of the Lord Mayor of London; a substantial building of the Palladian style of architecture, designed by the elder Dance. The interior is magnificent rather than commodious, and the state apartments are worth seeing. A trifling douceur to the porter will obtain admission. Under the portico on the left of the entrance, is the office in which the chief magistrate sits daily for the investigation of petty offences, &c.

Keeping to the right, we approach London Bridge through King William Street. In an open space, is a noble granite statue, on an elevated pedestal, of William IV. It is by Nixon, and was erected in 1844. In Fish Street Hill, to the left as we proceed to the bridge, is the *Monument*, erected by Sir Christopher Wren to commemorate the fire of London in 1666. It stands about 130 feet from the spot where the fire commenced. It is 202 feet in height, and contains upwards of 20,000 square feet of Portland stone. The column is of the Doric order, fluted, and raised on a pedestal 40 feet high. Its cost was £14,500. Admission, 6*d*.

Near the foot of the bridge, in Upper Thames Street, is the new and handsome building of *Fishmongers' Hall.*

The first bridge that ever crossed the Thames was near this spot. It was built of wood. The late stone bridge, removed a few years ago, was commenced in the year 1176. It was a few paces lower down the stream than 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, 23 feet above high-water; the two adjoining, 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 dangerous water-fall at the former bridge has been entirely done away. The approaches to the bridge, on both sides of the river, are now very fine.

A little to the westward of the southern foot of London Bridge, is *St. Saviour's Church*, a fine building, and considered to be the largest parish church in the kingdom. It contains monuments to the memory of the celebrated poet, John Gower, who was a great benefactor to the church—of William of Wykeham, the architect of Windsor Castle, and founder of Winchester School—of Bishop Andrews—and of Fletcher and Massinger, the dramatists, who lie buried in one grave.

Not far from the eastern front of St. Saviour's Church, is the *Ladye Chapel*, a beautifully renovated little structure.

At the end of Tooley Street, nearly opposite, are the *termini* of the Dover, Greenwich, Croydon, and Brighton railways.

On the eastern side of High Street, is *St. Thomas's Hospital*, established for the same purposes as that of St. Bartholomew's. With an annual expenditure of about £10,000., it contains 18 wards and 485 beds. Casualties are admitted at all hours. It is a royal foundation.

A little farther to the south is *Guy's Hospital*, founded by Thomas Guy, a bookseller, who commenced business in Cornhill, with a stock of about £200 value. He was one of the

fortunate speculators in the South Sea scheme, and amassed a colossal fortune, nearly the whole of which he devoted to charitable purposes. The building of this hospital cost him £18,700., besides which he endowed it with £219,499. With every accommodation for professors, students, &c., it has 12 large wards, and upwards of 400 beds. In the course of the year it also relieves about 2,000 out-patients. In the centre of the front area, is a bronze statue of the founder, by Scheemakers; and in the chapel is another by Bacon the elder. Guy's Hospital, as well as St. Thomas's, is amongst the royal Hospitals. Medical pupils attaching themselves to either, are entitled to the privileges of both.

Passing straight through the Borough, and Blackman Street, and by St. George's Church, on the left, is *Horsemonger Lane Prison*, the County Gaol for Surrey; and on the right is the *King's* (or *Queen's*) *Bench Prison*, for the confinement of debtors, and persons sentenced by the Court of King's Bench to suffer imprisonment for libels and other misdemeanours. It is under the control of the four Judges of that court.

We at length reach the Elephant and Castle, at Newington Butts, a noted house for the arrival and departure of stages in various directions. Here, too, the roads diverge in five different directions besides that which we have just left. Eastward, the New Kent Road; southward, through Walworth and Camberwell; south-westward, over Kennington Common, and through Tooting to Brighton; westward, by the New Bethlehem Hospital, intersecting the Westminster Road, on to Lambeth Church and Palace, by the river side; north-westward, the London Road, to the Obelisk at the top of the road leading to Blackfriars Bridge. On the western side of the London Road, is the establishment of the *Philanthropic Society*, for rescuing and providing for the children of convicted felons, &c.

Bethlehem Hospital covers a surface, including grounds for exercise, of 14 acres, and consists of a centre and two wings, extending 570 feet in length. It is four stories in height, and is capable of accommodating some hundreds of lunatic patients. Its cost was upwards of £100,000., and it has an annual income of more than £20,000. In the hall are Cibber's two celebrated statues of raving and melancholy madness.

A Roman Catholic Cathedral now stands opposite Bethlehem.

Lambeth Palace is the ancient residence of the Archbishops

of Canterbury. At the top of one of the towers on the north side, is the prison in which the Lollards were confined. In Lambeth churchyard is the tomb of the Tradescants, distinguished in the pursuits of natural history. Lambeth Church has lately been taken down, to be rebuilt.

On reaching the *Obelisk* already mentioned by the London Road, we again find roads diverging in five several directions: westward, to Westminster Bridge; north-westward, to Waterloo; northward, to Blackfriars; eastward, into the Borough; where again there are two roads, that to the left leading to the Southwark Bridge, and the one to the right to London Bridge.

Near the Obelisk, on the left, is the *School for the Indigent Blind*, established in 1799. About 60 inmates of both sexes are here taught to make baskets, cradles, clothes, &c. Strangers are admitted to view them gratuitously. The structure presents a handsome Gothic exterior, executed chiefly in white brick.

Farther on in the Westminster Road, in its angle of junction with the Kennington Road, is the *Female Orphan Asylum*, into which children are admitted about the age of nine, and maintained and educated to that of fourteen, when they are apprenticed or placed out as servants.

A little before we reach Westminster Bridge, we pass *Astley's Amphitheatre*, celebrated for feats of horsemanship and light dramatic performances. This establishment was for the third time destroyed by fire, in the autumn of 1841.

Near the Obelisk, on the west side of Blackfriars Road, stands the *Surrey Theatre*, originally the Royal Circus, another favourite place of dramatic entertainment, which has also been once or twice destroyed by fire. The performers are good—the performances are greatly varied—the prices of admission exceedingly moderate.

A little further on the same side of the road is the *Magdalen Hospital*, originally founded through the instrumentality of Dr. Dodd, for the relief and reformation of unfortunate young women; of whom it is supposed not fewer than 6000 have been thus restored to society. Admission granted on application to the treasurer, or to the committee, who meet every Thursday. Service in the chapel every Sunday morning and evening; a slight contribution is expected on entrance.

On the opposite side of the road, about half way between the Obelisk and Blackfriars Bridge, stands *Surrey Chapel*, a

celebrated dissenting place of worship, founded by the Rev. Rowland Hill.

We now take the road from the Obelisk to Waterloo Bridge; about half way to which, on the eastern side is the *Victoria Theatre*, originally the Cobourg, for the performance of melodrama, spectacle, &c. Usual price of admission, boxes, 1*s.*; pit, 6*d.*; gallery, 3*d.*

Crossing Waterloo Bridge, we arrive in the *Strand*. At the commencement of Wellington Street north, immediately opposite, is the *Lyceum*, for the representation of light operas, burlettas, spectacles, vaudevilles, &c. It occupies the site of Mr. Arnold's former theatre, which was burnt in 1829. Built from designs by Mr. Beazley, it is one of the handsomest little theatres in London. Its general prices of admission are, to the boxes, 4*s.*; upper boxes, 3*s.*; pit, 2*s.*: gallery, 1*s.*

A little to the north-west of the Lyceum is *Covent Garden Market*, for the sale of vegetables, fruit, flowers, &c. In its present form it was built at the expense of the late Duke of Bedford, on the great Bedford estate. The earliest and choicest fruits and vegetables are constantly on sale.

At the north-east corner of the market, with its front in Bow Street, is *Covent Garden Theatre*, the first stone of which was laid by the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV., on the 31st of December, 1808, a few months after the old theatre had been destroyed by fire. The building was constructed under the superintendence of Sir Robert Smirke, and opened on the 18th of September, 1809. In the spring of 1847, its interior was re-constructed and most splendidly decorated, for the performance of Italian operas and ballets, as at Her Majesty's Theatre in the Haymarket: prices of admission somewhat lower. Though now opening in the early spring, it was originally one of the patent winter theatres, opening in October, and closing in June or July.

Drury Lane Theatre, in Brydges Street, in the immediate vicinity of Covent Garden, is the other patent winter theatre, opening and closing about the same time with its rival. This, also, in its present form is a magnificent building. On the same spot two theatres have been destroyed by fire: the present was erected in 1812, by Mr. Benjamin Wyatt. Its interior, rich and tasteful, is from designs by Mr. Beazley. In the vestibule of the principal entrance to the boxes, are statues of Shakspeare, David Garrick, and Edmund Kean. Having been some time tenantless, it was re-opened, by Mr. Anderson, at Christmas, 1849, and has remained ever since

under his direction. Boxes, 5*s.* and 3*s.* 6*d.*; Pit, 2*s.*; Gallery, 1*s.*; Upper Gallery, 6*d.* It is open, occasionally, for M. Jullien's Promenade Concerts. Boxes, 2*s.*; Pit, 1*s.*

In Wych Street, between Drury Lane Theatre and Clement's Inn, is the *Olympic Theatre*, a new and elegant little house, replacing that which was burnt down in March, 1849. The new house was opened at the following Christmas, and it is now under the able management of Mr. Farren.

From Drury Lane Theatre we pass down through Catherine Street, on the right hand of which is the *New Exeter 'Change*, running into Wellington Street north. Proceeding into the Strand, on the south side, the first object of interest that presents itself, is *Somerset House*. Founded in the sixteenth century, this was formerly the palace of the Protector Somerset: Queen Elizabeth, Anne of Denmark, and Catharine, Queen of Charles II., occasionally held their courts here. Sir W. Chambers was the architect of the present structure, which was raised in 1775—6, chiefly for government offices. 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 *Royal Geographical Society*, 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, Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross. The south front of this noble building is open to the Thames. In the centre of a quadrangle, opposite to the entrance from the Strand, is a statue of George III., with Father Thames as a river god at his feet. This was sculptured by Bacon in commemoration of the king's recovery in 1789.

Forming the eastern wing of Somerset House, and completed in 1833, is *King's College*; an institution similar in its nature and objects to the London University College, in Gower Street, but more aristocratic; under a royal charter, and patronised by the dignitaries of the church, many of the nobility, &c. The theological instruction given is in accordance with the principles of the Church of England. Sir Robert Smirke was the architect.

A little lower down, on the opposite side, is the *New Church*, or *St. Mary-le-Strand*; then, that of *St. Clement Danes*; at the back of which are *Clement's Inn*, and two or three minor inns of court.

A short distance from the New Church on the south side

of the Strand, is the *Strand Theatre*, or *Punch's* Playhouse. Prices of admission vary.

We now reach *Temple Bar*, the only city gate remaining, and marking the western extremity of the city. The building is from the designs of Sir Christopher Wren. On state occasions, it is closed as a matter of form against royalty and its agents, who enter on permission. Formerly the heads of traitors were spiked over Temple Bar.

Entering the city, on the left is *Chancery Lane*, and on the right is the *Temple*, a number of buildings, quadrangles, courts, &c., used as chambers for law students, barristers, and others. It is divided into two parts, the *Inner* and *Middle Temples*, which are occupied and governed by two societies. It was anciently the residence of the Knights Templars. It extends from White Friars nearly to Essex Street, Strand, and has two halls, two libraries, a fine church, and airy gardens on the banks of the Thames. The church is very ancient, having been built by the Knights Templars on the model of the church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem. In the western tower entrance are the tombs of eleven Knights Templars. This church, which is altogether one of the finest architectural studies in existence, is in a perfect and beautiful state, and is justly regarded as an object of great interest.

A little below Chancery Lane, on the same side of Fleet Street, is the new and elegant church of *St. Dunstan in the West*.

Reaching the bottom of Fleet Street, a turning on the right leads to Blackfriars Bridge; that to the left is Farringdon Street, already mentioned. On the right is a granite Obelisk to the memory of the notorious politician, John Wilkes; to the left a corresponding monument to the memory of Alderman Waithman, once equally popular with his party.

To the right, *Bridge Street* and *Chatham Place* lead to *Blackfriars Bridge*, from which a fine view is obtained of a part of St. Paul's Cathedral, the Tower, Somerset House, Westminster Abbey, and upwards of thirty churches. The bridge, the thorough repair of which was completed in the year 1841, was built between the years 1760 and 1769, by Robert Mylne, Esq., at an expense of £152,840. It consists of nine elliptical arches, the central one, 100 feet in width. It is 995 feet in length, and 42 in breadth. Ascending *Ludgate Hill* and *Ludgate Street*, we obtain the only

good view that can be had of the west front of St. Paul's Cathedral. At the back of the north side of *St. Paul's Churchyard*, is *Paternoster Row*, celebrated for centuries as the great publishing book-mart of England.

THIRD DAY.

WESTWARD ho! To-day we may promise ourselves great variety. Proceeding from St. Paul's down Ludgate Hill, up Fleet Street, and into the Strand, we speedily arrive at Wellington Street, the northern approach to *Waterloo Bridge*. This truly noble structure, commenced in 1811, under the superintendence of Mr. Dodd, and finished in 1817, under that of Mr. Rennie, 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. M. Dupin, the celebrated French engineer, speaks of this bridge as a colossal monument worthy of Sesostris and the Cæsars. 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 the speculation of a joint stock company, Waterloo Bridge has proved a failure; but as a public ornament and a public accommodation it is invaluable. The tolls for horses and carriages have been greatly reduced. The toll for foot-passengers is a halfpenny.

A little to the westward of Waterloo Bridge, between the Strand and the Thames, is a district called the *Savoy*, in which stood an ancient palace, built by Peter, Earl of Savoy and Richmond, in 1245. It was in this chapel that John, king

of France, resided, when prisoner in England, in 1357. After many vicissitudes, as a religious house, its sole remains are the ancient chapel of the palace, a curious and interesting relic of antiquity, in fine preservation.

A little beyond the bridge, on the north side of the Strand, is the *Adelphi Theatre*, for the performance of melodramas, burlettas, &c. It is one of the best conducted and most successful of the minor theatres. Boxes 4*s*., pit 2*s*., gallery 1*s*.

The *Adelphi* is an assemblage of buildings ranged in streets, on the south side of the Strand, between that and the Thames. It takes its name from the circumstance of its having been built by four *brothers*, John, Robert, James, and William Adam. Here is the mansion and repository of the *Society for the Encouragement of Arts*. This institution was founded in 1754, for the purpose of exciting emulation and industry in the ingenious and commercial arts, agriculture, &c., by honorary and pecuniary rewards. Barry's paintings, representing the successive stages of civilization, are objects of interest; so also are numerous models in arts and manufactures. Admission by a Member's Order.

Advancing somewhat farther towards Charing Cross, on the north side of the Strand, is *Exeter Hall*, over the front entrance to which is a Greek inscription, rendered "The Loving Brethren." The grand hall, 106 feet by 76, will contain more than 4,000 persons. This is frequently used for concerts of sacred music; but the chief purpose of the building is to accommodate public meetings of a religious character.

On the same side of the Strand as Exeter Hall is the *Lowther Arcade*, 245 feet in length, with a beautiful roof, the arches of which rest on pilasters. On each side is a range of pretty shops, chiefly for the sale of fancy goods. At its northern extremity is the *Royal Adelaide Gallery of Practical Science*; originally for the same purposes as the Polytechnic Institution, of which it was the precursor, but now occupied as exhibition rooms, dancing rooms, &c.

Nearly opposite to the southern end of the arcade is the *Lowther Bazaar*, for the sale of fancy articles, with Cosmoramic views, &c. Admission free.

Towards the west end of the Strand, and opening to the Thames, is the *New Hungerford Market*. It occupies the site of an ancient large house with extensive gardens, belonging to Sir Edward Hungerford. It is an excellent fish market, with a good supply of fruit, vegetables, meat, poultry, &c.

From the front of Hungerford Market springs the *New Suspension Bridge* to the opposite shore, for the accommodation of foot-passengers. Here also are piers, at which numbers of steam boats touch to land and receive passengers.

At the north-east corner of *Trafalgar Square*, facing an equestrian statue of George IV. by Sir F. Chantrey, stands the Church of *St. Martin's in the Fields*, with its celebrated portico. Forming the north side of the Square is the *National Gallery*, with a handsome terrace in front. In its western wing is the late Mr. Angerstein's collection of paintings, formed at a cost of £57,000. Having been greatly increased, it now embraces many of the finest works of the ancient and modern masters. It is gratuitously open, on the first four days of the week; on Fridays and Saturdays to artists only, for study. The eastern wing of the building is appropriated to the *Royal Academy of Arts*, the annual exhibition of which, in painting and sculpture, opens on the first Monday in May, and continues open from eight in the morning till dusk, for about three months. Admission 1*s*.

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. The Treasury, new Houses of Parliament, &c., are supplied from the same well.

Continuing the line of Trafalgar Square, westward, on the left is the *Royal College of Physicians*, the flank of which forms a wing to the *Union Club House*. Nearly opposite the College, in Pall Mall East, are the rooms of the original *Water Colour Exhibition*, open in April, May, June, and July. The *New Water Colour Exhibition* is on the north side of Pall Mall. Admission to either, 1*s*.

A few doors westward from the old Water Colour Exhibition, in Suffolk Street, are the rooms of the *Society of British Artists*, (recently incorporated,) for the annual exhibition of paintings in April, May, June, and July. Admission, 1*s*.

In the open space between Pall Mall and Pall Mall East, is a fine equestrian statue of George III., cast in bronze, by M. C. Wyatt, and erected in 1836.

In the centre of the south front of Trafalgar Square is the *Nelson Column*, surmounted by a statue of England's greatest naval hero, and ornamented with *bas reliefs* in bronze.

Facing the Nelson Monument, at Charing Cross, is a bronze

equestrian statue, the first erected in England, of *Charles I.* It was cast by Le Sueur. It was removed during the civil wars, but replaced after the Restoration. The pedestal is by Grinling Gibbons. This is one of the spots from which the accession of a new monarch is proclaimed by the heralds.

At the south-west corner of the Strand, opposite to Charing Cross, and occupying the site of the ancient hospital of St. Mary Rounceval, stands a princely mansion, *Northumberland House*, the town residence of the Duke of Northumberland. It was built in the reign of James I. The front is surmounted by a lion, the crest of the Percy family. Here are many valuable paintings by the old masters. The house is magnificently furnished in the first modern style. The grounds extend nearly to the water-side.

Turning southward at Charing Cross, the next object of attraction, on the right, is the *Admiralty Office;* in which are transacted all maritime affairs. Here, too, the Lords of the Admiralty direct the concerns of the Royal Navy. In one of the rooms is a remarkable portrait of Lord Nelson, painted at Palermo, in 1799.

A few paces further is the chief military establishment of the country, the *Horse Guards.* The west front of the building opens into St. James's Park, which is entered by an arch-way.

Nearly opposite the Horse-Guards stands *Whitehall*, or the *Banqueting House*, a portion of the intended new palace for the kings of England, designed by Inigo Jones. It is now used as a chapel, wherein service is performed every Sunday. Soldiers on duty at the Horse Guards are accommodated in a gallery built for the purpose. The ceiling, the subject of which is the Apotheosis of James I., was painted by Rubens. 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.

Privy Gardens, anciently the private gardens of Whitehall Palace, are now occupied by several aristocratic mansions.

Opposite Privy Gardens, a little further to the west, is the *Treasury*, a modern erection by the late Sir J. Soane, on the site of the palace of Cardinal Wolsey. In this the *Home Office* is placed. From this, extending to the entrance of Downing Street, in which are the official residences of the First Lord of the Treasury, Chancellor of the Exchequer,

&c., is a handsome new range of building, appropriated to the Board of Trade, Privy Council, &c. The front of this building, lately heightened and enlarged, is copied from that of the temple of Jupiter Stator, at Rome. At the back of Parliament Street, on the opposite side, is *Cannon Row*, in which stands the office of the *Board of Control for India Affairs*.

Turning to the left at the end of Parliament Street, we arrive at *Westminster Bridge*, which crosses the Thames at Old Palace Yard to the opposite shore in Surrey. Built by M. Labelli, a Swiss architect, it was opened in 1750. Its entire length is 1223 feet. It has fifteen arches, of which the central one is 76 feet in span, each of the others gradually decreasing four feet in width.

Facing the west end of Bridge Street, the approach to Westminster Bridge, is Great George Street, which leads into *St. James's Park*, through *Storey's Gate*. This park, originally a morass, was enclosed by Henry VIII., and laid out as pleasure grounds to St. James's Palace. It was improved and enlarged by Charles II.; and William III. granted 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 its 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 a scene of great interest. 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.

At the western extremity of the park, and commanding a fine view of its plantations, stands *Buckingham Palace*, the town residence of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, having under-

gone extensive alterations and improvements. The old building was purchased by George III. of the Duke of Buckingham, in 1762, as a residence for Queen Charlotte, on whom it was settled in lieu of Somerset House, and called the Queen's Palace. The greater part of the building was taken down and the whole remodelled in the reign of George IV. 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.

Passing through Buckingham Gate, we bear to the right, by the back of the palace gardens; and arriving on the main road from Piccadilly to Kensington, we find at its commencement the new *St. George's Hospital;* an institution originally founded by subscription, in 1733. The present building, containing eight wards, 400 beds, and accommodating 160 students, is from the designs of the late W. Wilkins, Esq., R.A. It has a museum, anatomical preparations, and every necessary apparatus.

Hyde Park, immediately opposite, 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. Originally it contained 620 acres; but, by enclosing and taking part of it into the gardens of Kensington Palace, and by other grants of land for building on, its extent is now rather less than 395 acres. It has eight entrances: Hyde Park Corner; Grosvenor Gate, in Park Lane; Stanhope Gate; Cumberland Gate, at the end of Oxford Street; Victoria Gate, Uxbridge Road; Albert Gate, on the road to Kensington; Kensington Gate; and Rutland Gate, lately opened.

At Hyde Park Corner, by *Apsley House*, the mansion of the Duke of Wellington, is a handsome screen of the Ionic order. Directly opposite the central arch of this entrance, to the north, is a colossal statue of Achilles, by Westmacott, raised by the "Ladies of England," in honour of the Duke of Wellington and his associates in the great continental war. Cast from artillery taken at Salamanca, Vittoria, and Toulouse, it is about 20 feet in height and 30 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. What is called the *Serpentine River*, was formed by Queen Caroline, in 1730,

by enlarging the bed of the stream, which runs to the north-west 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. In the winter the serpentine river is much resorted to for skating. It is, however, extremely dangerous. Splendid military reviews, on a large scale, take place in the park.

Taking the broad foot-path which runs from Hyde Park Corner towards *Kensington Gardens*, we speedily arrive at the unique and splendid *Crystal Palace*, composed of glass and iron, and erected for the *Great National Exhibition of* 1851.

A few steps more, and we reach *Kensington Gardens*, which are about three miles in circumference. They were laid out by Kent, and are thought equal in arrangement to any promenade in Europe. The walks, ponds, groves, and arbours, all delightfully harmonize. In *Kensington Palace*, the residence of the late Duke of Sussex, the Princess Sophia, and other distinguished personages, are many fine paintings. Admission is obtained by a slight douceur to the housekeeper. To the gardens the entrances are—near Victoria Gate; another at Kensington Gore, adjoining the palace; another a little westward of the first mile stone on the Kensington Road; and another near the bridge over the Serpentine.

Crossing to the north-eastern corner of the Park, we either leave it at Cumberland Gate, and turn to the right down Park Lane, in which are several mansions of the nobility, or pass along its eastern side. A little to the eastward of Park Lane is *Grosvenor Square*.

Again turning to the right, on entering *Piccadilly*, a few paces bring us to *Apsley House*, the western side of which commands a view of the park, and its front that of the grand *Triumphal Arch*, through which we pass down Constitution Hill, flanking the Green Park, to Buckingham Palace. The top of the triumphal arch just mentioned, is occupied as the site of the *Colossal Equestrian Statue of the Duke of Wellington*, from the *studio* of M. Coates Wyatt. The height of the group is twenty-seven feet; its weight about forty tons.

Proceeding from the front of Buckingham Palace, we pass down the *Mall*, forming the north side of St. James's Park.

A little further to the left is *St. James's Palace*, in which our kings resided from the time that Whitehall Palace was consumed by fire in 1697, till its south-eastern wing was accidentally burnt in January, 1809. It occupies the site

of an ancient hospital dedicated to St. James. Here the royal levees and drawing rooms are generally held. It is an irregular brick building of no external beauty, but is considered to afford the best accommodation for great state assemblages of any palace in Europe.

At the corner of the Green Park is *Sutherland House*, a splendid mansion, originally intended as the state residence of the late Duke of York, at whose death it was purchased by the Duke of Sutherland. Near it is *Bridgewater House*, the magnificent mansion of the Earl of Ellesmere.

A little farther down the Mall is *Marlborough House*, erected in the reign of Queen Anne, complimentary to the great duke of that name. It was the residence of Queen Adelaide, is intended for the Prince of Wales, but is now occupied, *pro tem.*, by the pictures of the *Vernon Gallery*.

Passing *Carlton Gardens*, a splendid range of buildings occupying the site of Carlton House, we leave the Mall through the new avenue, which is ornamented by the *Duke of York's Column*, of pale red granite, 150 feet in height, and surmounted by a bronze statue of his Royal Highness. Entering Pall Mall, on the right is the *United Service Club House*, on the left that of the *Athenæum*. We are now as it were in the region of *Club Houses*; of which, throughout London, there are between 30 and 40, embracing, probably 20,000 members. The one last erected is the *Navy and Army Club House*, occupying the site of Nell Gwynne's residence, on the north side of Pall Mall.

On the south side of Pall Mall, is the *Ordnance Office*, formerly the mansion of the Duke of Buckingham. On the opposite side is the *British Institution*, which was established 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 living artists; the other, in the autumn, for the productions of all ages. Admission, 1*s*.

Turning to the right at the west end of Pall Mall, we enter *St. James's Street*, the southern terminus of which is formed by the entrance to St. James's Palace. In King Street, on the eastern side of St. James's Street, is the *Prince's Theatre*, the most elegant establishment of its kind, on a small scale, in London. It is engaged for the performance of French plays.

On the same (the southern) side of King Street, as the Prince's Theatre, are *Willis's*, or, as they are sometimes called. *Almack's Assembly Rooms.*

Crossing *St. James's Square*, and passing through Charles Street, we face the *Haymarket Theatre.* This is a theatre royal for the performance of the regular drama, operas, farces, &c. Admission, boxes, 5*s.*; pit, 3*s.*; galleries, 2*s.* and 1*s.*

On the opposite side of the Haymarket, stands *Her Majesty's Theatre*, or as it is generally termed, the *Italian Opera House.* This is the largest and most splendid theatre in the metropolis, falling little short in its dimensions, of La Scala, at Milan, and calculated to receive from 2,500 to 3000 persons. It has five tiers of boxes, private property, or let for the season to persons of rank and fashion. Visitors are expected to appear in evening costume; that is, frock coats, colored 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. Admission at the doors, to the stalls, (the front seats of the pit,) 14*s.* 6*d.*; body of the pit, 10*s.* 6*d.*; gallery stalls, 5*s.*; back seats, 3*s.* At several booksellers' and musicsellers', pit tickets may be had for 8*s.* 6*d.* each.

Ascending the Haymarket, and turning to the right at its top, we pass through Coventry Street and Sidney's Alley into *Leicester Square*, the centre of which is occupied by a large new building erected for the exhibition of Mr. Wyld's *Model of the Earth.* On the north side of the square was *Miss Linwood's Gallery of Needle-work.* The premises are now occupied at different seasons of the year, by a variety of pictorial and other miscellaneous exhibitions. At the north-eastern corner of the square, are *Burford's Panoramas:* admission to each, 1*s.*; or 2*s.* 6*d.* for the three. Views of Jerusalem, Niagara, the Lakes of Killarney, the Lake of Lucerne, &c., have all been eminently attractive.

Passing through *Cranbourn Street*, noted for cheap millinery, &c., we cross Castle Street, and enter Great Newport Street, at the end of which commences *Long Acre*, many of the premises in which are occupied as coach manufactories. At the back of its north side, in Wilson Street, is a new *Music Hall*, for Hullah's singing classes, accommodating 3000 people. Nearly adjoining is a new parochial *Ragged School.* Crossing Drury Lane, at the east end of Long Acre, we go down *Great Queen Street* (on the south side is Freemasons'

Hall Tavern) into Lincoln's Inn Fields, at the south-eastern corner of which is a narrow passage leading through *Lincoln's Inn* into *Chancery Lane*. Here is the *Law Institution*, established in 1825, and comprising a grand hall, library, club-room, office of registry, lecture rooms, &c.

On the left, near the south end of Chancery Lane, is the new *Serjeants' Inn*, with the judges' chambers, by the south front of which there is a passage into *Clifford's Inn*, and thus into either Fleet Street or Fetter Lane. Down Fleet Street and up Ludgate Hill, &c., we once more reach St. Paul's.

FOURTH DAY.

PROCEEDING eastward from the south-western corner of St. Paul's Churchyard, through an archway immediately on the right, is *Doctors' Commons*, a college for the study and practice of the civil law. Courts are held here for the trial of civil and ecclesiastical causes, under the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London; also, all causes by the Court of Admiralty. Here, too, are offices where wills are registered and deposited, and licenses for marriage granted, and a Court of Faculties and Dispensations.

On Bennet's Hill, nearly opposite to the side entrance to Doctors' Commons, is the *College of Arms*, or *Heralds' College*. This corporation, founded in 1340, consists of 15 members, under the control of the Duke of Norfolk, hereditary Earl Marshal of England, and President of the College. The college contains a Court of Honour, a library, and apartments for the members, whose business it is to attend the sovereign on particular state occasions, to arrange state processions, &c. This is the office in which to search for armorial bearings, &c.

St. Paul's School, at the eastern end of St. Paul's, was founded by Dean Colet, in 1510, and is under the management of the Mercers' Company. It is a free school, for the education of 153 boys, several of whom are transferred hence to the Universities.

Watling Street, a street of commerce, forms the continuation of the south side of St. Paul's Churchyard, and extends to Budge Row. On the right, Queen Street, commencing in Cheapside, leads to the foot of *Southwark Bridge*; a beautiful cast-iron structure, of three arches, composed of segments of circles. The span of the centre arch is 240 feet.

This bridge, erected by a joint stock company, from the designs of the elder Mr. Rennie, cost about £800,000. It was opened in March, 1819. The toll for foot passengers is 1*d.*

In *Cannon Street*, running eastward from Budge Row to Great East Cheap, is St. Swithin's Church, against the south wall of which is *London Stone*, mentioned as far back as the time of Athelstan, King of the West Saxons. It is supposed to be of Roman origin, and to have been a *milliarium*, or central stone, whence distances from London were measured.

On the eastern side of Suffolk Lane, Cannon Street, is the *Merchant Tailors' School*, one of the most eminent seminaries of England. It was founded by the Merchant Tailors' Company, in 1561. One hundred boys are taught at 5*s.* each per quarter; 50 at 2*s.* 6*d.* each; and 100 gratuitously. Several of the scholars are annually sent to St. John's College, Oxford. Private pupils are also taken.

In Great East Cheap, the continuation of Cannon Street, stood the *Boar's Head Tavern*, immortalised by Shakspeare as the scene of many of the frolics of Henry V.

Continuing the eastern line, through Upper Thames Street, we pass through one of the dry arches of the new London Bridge into Lower Thames Street; on the south side of which is the far-famed *Billingsgate Wharf* and *Fish Market*.

About a quarter of a mile from London Bridge, with its front facing the Thames, is the *New Custom House*. The building, erected in 1814, is faced with Portland stone; and the water-front, from designs by Sir Robert Smirke, is embellished with columns of the Ionic order. It is 488 feet in length, and 107 in depth, with every accommodation requisite for the business of the department. The long room on the first-floor is 186 feet in length. Near it is the *New Coal Exchange*, opened in 1849.

Thames Street extends to the western entrance of the *Tower of London*—or rather to the wharf which lies between the fortress and the river, and reaches what is termed the Iron Gate, at St. Katharine's. On this wharf are ranged 61 nine-pounders, handsomely mounted, which it was formerly the custom to fire on state holidays, and upon any great naval or military victory. The present area of the Tower, within the walls, is twelve acres and five poles, and the circuit outside of the ditch 1052 yards. The origin of this fortress, the history of which teems with interest, appears

to have been a small building thrown up by William the Conqueror, in 1076. That prince is also supposed to have afterwards built the portion called the White Tower. William Rufus added a castellated tower at the south side. Henry I. is believed to have built the Lion's Tower, and Henry III., Edward IV., Richard III., and Henry VIII., made considerable repairs and additions. 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. To the westward it has four successive gates, which are opened at five in the morning, in summer, and at daylight in winter, with as much formality and precaution as though a besieging army were in its neighbourhood. There is also an entrance from the wharf, by a drawbridge. Near the bridge is a cut, connecting the river with the ditch, and having a water-gate, called Traitor's Gate; state prisoners having been formerly conveyed by this passage from the Tower to Westminster, for trial. The Tower is still used as a state prison, and is 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 story is the Council Chamber, whence, according to tradition, the Protector, Gloucester, ordered Lord Hastings to be led to instant execution. Below the chapel is a prison-lodging, in which Sir Walter Raleigh is said to have been 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 Flamsteed, 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 story 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 on the night of 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 Vincula*, the burial place of Queen Anna Boleyn and Queen Katharine Howard; Cromwell and Devereux, Earls of Essex; the Dukes of Somerset and Northumberland; Lady Jane Grey and her husband, and various others. 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 governor's residence and the church 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 is said to have been imprisoned. The Bowyer Tower is the reputed scene of the drowning of the Duke of Clarence in a butt of Malmsey. It was in a workroom, 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. Admission, 6*d.* each person to the armouries, and the same to the Jewel House.

The *Trinity House*, a handsome stone building with two wings, is on the north side of Trinity Square, Tower Hill. It is the seat of the Trinity Corporation, founded in 1512, and which takes cognizance of every thing connected with light-houses, buoys, pilotage, harbour-dues, &c. It has alms houses at Mile End and Deptford, for the maintenance and residence of decayed pilots, masters of ships, &c.

The *Royal Mint* is a large building on the east side of

Tower Hill. All the coinage of the United Kingdom is executed within its walls. It is inaccessible to strangers, unless on special introduction.

The *St. Katharine Docks* and *Basin*, capable of containing nearly 150 vessels, besides craft for loading and unloading, are the property of a joint stock company.

The *London Docks* lie further to the eastward in Wapping. St. George's Dock, occupying more than twenty acres, will hold about 500 ships. The new dock and basins cover about fourteen acres. The whole extend about a mile in length. They communicate with the river at Shadwell dock. This establishment, with its extensive warehouses, also belongs to a joint stock company. Lower down the river is the *Thames Tunnel*, projected and executed by Sir I. Brunel, and forming a communication under the bed of the Thames from Wapping to Rotherhithe. The first complete passage from side to side was effected in the autumn of 1841. Well aired and lighted with gas, it is exhibited daily at 1*d.* each person. Conveyance may be had every half-hour, by omnibus, from Gracechurch Street and Charing Cross; and also by steamboats, from Hungerford Pier, and various other points.

The *West India Docks*, still lower down the river, are in the northern part of the *Isle of Dogs*, an isthmus on the south side of Poplar High Street, deriving its name from the royal hounds having been kept there, when the court was at Greenwich. They consist of two docks and a canal; the northern dock is for vessels inward; the southern, for vessels outward-bound. The canal is used for laying up, repairing, &c. The Isle of Dogs extends from Limehouse to Blackwall, from which there are numerous stages and omnibuses, also a railway to Fenchurch Street, in the City.

Opposite the Isle of Dogs, on the southern bank of the river, is *Greenwich Hospital*, 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 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 VI., 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. By William and Mary it was appropriated for seamen disabled by wounds, age, or in-

infirmities. 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, 8 lieutenants, a number of officers, about 2730 pensioners, 170 nurses, and 32,100 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 the 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.* Steam-boats every half-hour from Hungerford Pier and London Bridge: usual fare, 6*d.* Trains, on the railroad, on the south side of London Bridge; fares, 4*d.*, 6*d.*, and 8*d.* Omnibuses, from Charing Cross and Gracechurch Street, 9*d.* and 1*s.*

Flamsteed House, or the *Royal Observatory*, on Greenwich Hill, is accessible only by special introduction; but the site ought to be visited, as affording one of the most splendid views in the world. The Observatory contains some of the largest and most accurate astronomical instruments; and a grand camera obscura, long since noticed by Addison.

Near the entrance to Greenwich Park, is the *Naval Asylum* or *School*, founded for the maintenance and education of 1000 boys and girls, children of seamen of the royal navy.

In the river, between Greenwich and Deptford, lies the *Dreadnought*, an old first-rate man of war, now used as an hospital ship, for sailors of all nations.

When at Greenwich we ought, should time permit, to make an excursion to the Woolwich Arsenal of artillery, &c.

The *Commercial Docks* are on the south side of the river, between the Thames and the *Grand Surrey Docks*. They consist of five spacious and commodious docks, opposite to the entrance to the basin of the Regent's Canal on the north, and to the East Country Dock on the south.

The *East India Docks*, originally meant for ships employed by the East India Company, but now free to vessels from all parts, are at Blackwall, about four miles from the Royal Exchange. They consist of an import dock, 1,410 feet in length, and 560 in breadth; and an export dock, 780 feet in length, and 520 feet in breadth, both being about 30 feet in depth. We may return by the *East India Dock Road*, of which the *Commercial Road* forms a continuation, and conducts us to Whitechapel Church, at the eastern end of Whitechapel High Street, and at the south side of the beginning of the Whitechapel or Mile End Road, leading on to Stepney.

In this neighbourhood is *Victoria Park*, of about 290 acres, with plantations, ornamental water, &c.

Half a mile, or less, eastward of Whitechapel Church, is the *London Hospital*, instituted in 1740, and incorporated by royal charter, in 1758. A little further on the Mile End Road are the *Jews' Hospital and Burial Ground*.

Returning to Whitechapel Church through the High Street and Market, we arrive at *St. Botolph's Aldgate*; on the left of which is a street called the *Minories*, from a convent of the nuns of St. Clare, called Minoresses, having occupied its site. It leads down to Tower Hill, nearly opposite the principal entrance to the St. Katharine's Docks. Northward from Aldgate Church, are *Houndsditch*, *Duke's Place*, &c., the great quarter of the Jews. At *Aldgate Pump*, a little further on, the road forks; Leadenhall Street to the right, leading to Cornhill and the Royal Exchange; Fenchurch Street, to the left, leading through Lombard Street, extensively occupied by bankers, to the Mansion House.

Westward from the Mansion House through Cheapside, on the right is King Street, the terminus of which is formed by the *Guildhall* of the City of London, where the principal business appertaining to the corporation is transacted. Amongst the monuments in the great hall, are one to William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, by Bacon, with an inscription by Burke; another to William Pitt, his son, the distinguished

Premier of England, by Bubb, with an inscription by Canning; one to Admiral Lord Nelson, by Smith, with an inscription by Sheridan; and one to William Beckford, Lord Mayor, in 1762 and 1769, by Moore. At the western end of the hall are the gigantic figures of Gog and Magog, believed to represent an ancient Briton and Saxon. The sittings after term, in the courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas, are held in the new courts near Guildhall. In the different offices of the Guildhall are other monuments and pictures. All the apartments, curiosities, &c., may be seen by a trifling douceur to the officer in attendance.

From this point we close our day's excursion by returning to St. Paul's.

FIFTH DAY.

STARTING once more in an eastwardly direction from St. Paul's, we proceed down Cheapside till we arrive at the Mansion House; a little to the north of which is the *Bank of England*, a modern stone structure, bounded by Princes' Street on the west, Lothbury on the north, Bartholomew Lane, with the newly erected fire offices, on the east, and Threadneedle Street and the Royal Exchange on the south. This building was erected at various periods; begun originally by Mr. George Sampson, added to by Sir Robert Taylor, and brought to its present unity of design by the late Sir John Soane. The various elevations are of the Corinthian order, selected and adapted from the Sybilline Temple at Tivoli. It occupies an irregular area of eight acres. Within the square are nine open courts, which afford light to the various offices, there being no windows in the exterior. The apartments consist of a rotunda, public offices, private rooms, committee rooms, a library, an armoury, a printing office, &c. The offices are freely open to the public from nine till five.

In Bartholomew Lane, opposite the eastern end of the Bank, is a chaste and beautiful newly erected structure, the *Alliance Insurance Office*. Beneath the upper portico of this building is the passage leading to the *Stock Exchange*, in which the *bona fide* transfers of public securities are generally

transacted. From the interior of this establishment, strangers are invariably excluded. Another new building entitled to notice, and nearly on the same spot, is the *Sun Fire Office*. The last house in Bartholomew Lane, and the first in Throgmorton Street, facing the north-eastern corner of the Bank of England, is the *Auction Mart and Coffee House*, a spacious and commodious building for the sale of estates and other property. In Lothbury, on the north side of the Bank of England, is the *London and Westminster Bank*, a joint-stock company having branch offices in various parts of the town.

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 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 of 1666, and was rebuilt, as is generally believed, by Sir Christopher Wren, with the statues of the kings, and of Sir Thomas Gresham, as formerly, 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 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. Several coins, medals, &c., having been deposited in a cavity of the basement stone, Mr. Tite the architect read a Latin inscription with an English translation engraved on a zinc plate, which he handed to Prince Albert, by whom it also was deposited in the stone. The Prince having spread some mortar with a silver gilt trowel, on the

surface of the under stone, the upper stone was lowered, when it was struck by His Royal Highness with an oaken mallet, formed from one of the beams of the old Exchange. His Royal Highness afterwards partook of a banquet at the Mansion House. The ceremony of opening the new edifice took place on the 28th of October, 1844. Her Majesty, 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. The Recorder then delivered a suitable address; after which the Lord Mayor presented the Chairman of the Gresham Committee, the Master of the Mercers' Company, the Architect, &c. Her Majesty, attended by the Lord Mayor, subsequently partook of a *déjeûner;* and on passing through the Merchants' area, on her way to her carriage, the Heralds, by her desire, proclaimed the building "The Royal Exchange."

In an open space, westward of the Exchange, is a bronze equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington, cast by Chantrey from the metal of guns taken from the enemy. Exclusively of the metal, valued at £1,500, the cost was £9,000. The inauguration took place on the 18th of June, 1844, the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo.

Leadenhall Street, with its great market for provisions, leather, hydes, &c., is a continuation of Cornhill, eastward. On the south side, beyond the market, is the *East India House*, built in 1726, and enlarged in 1799. In the library is Tippoo Saib's copy of the Koran, and many other oriental curiosities. Excepting in September, it may be viewed on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10 till 3, by tickets signed by any East India Director; on Saturdays free.

In St. Mary Axe—further to the east, on the north side of Leadenhall Street—is the great *Jews' Synagogue*, in which service is performed every Friday, an hour before sun-set.

Returning westward, and entering Bishopsgate Street on the right, the *London Tavern* is on the left. Nearly opposite are the London offices of the *Wesleyan Methodists*. Further on is *Crosby Square*, the site of *Crosby Place*, built by Sir John Crosby, in 1466.

Leaving Spitalfields, &c., on the right, and Moorfields on the left, we reach Finsbury Circus, in which is the *London Institution*, a literary society, founded in 1805. It has

an extensive library, reading rooms, a theatre for lectures, &c. Near the western side of the Circus is a large and elegant *Roman Catholic Chapel*.

On the western side of Norton Falgate, the northern continuation of Bishopsgate Street, is the *Royal City of London Theatre*, a minor establishment, the season and prices of admission to which are uncertain. On the left, running nearly westward, is Old Street Road, which intersects the City Road; at the corner of which, is the *City of London Lying-in Hospital*.

On the north side of Old Street, is *St. Luke's Hospital* for lunatics. The present building was erected at an expense of about £40,000. 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 £9,000; and the number of its patients is limited to 300.

On the entrance of Old Street into Goswell Street Road, we turn to the left and pass through Aldersgate Street; in Whitecross Street, a little to the eastward of which, is the *Debtors' Prison*, for the City of London and County of Middlesex. We again close our day's excursion at St. Paul's.

SIXTH DAY.

To save time and labour, let us take an omnibus at the top of Ludgate Street, to the *Regent Circus*, at the east end of *Piccadilly*. Regent Street, through the Quadrant, runs northward to Oxford Street. We shall proceed westward through Piccadilly. On the south side is the church of *St. James's, Westminster*. On the north is a range of chambers, named the *Albany*. This was formerly York House. The mansion in the centre was designed by Sir W. Chambers for the late Lord Melbourne, who exchanged it with the Duke of York, for Melbourne House at Whitehall. Further westward is *Burlington House*, enclosed from the street by a lofty brick wall, with three entrances to a spacious court-yard. The front is of Portland stone, designed by the great Earl of Burlington, an amateur architect. By the side of this mansion is the *Burlington Arcade*, lighted by sky-lights, and consisting of a double row of tasteful shops, with little dormitories over them, leading from Piccadilly to Cork Street.

Opposite the southern end of the Arcade is the *Egyptian Hall*, so called from its style of architecture. It is now employed for exhibitions, show-rooms, warehouses, &c.

Just beyond the Arcade, on the right, is Old Bond Street; then Albemarle Street, on the eastern side of which we find the *Royal Institution*, established in 1800. It has an extensive library, reading rooms, laboratories, an excellent theatre for lectures, apartments for philosophical experiments, &c. Tickets for the lectures, &c., may be obtained from the members. Opposite the southern end of Albemarle Street, is St. James's Street, leading to the Palace.

Further on is Berkeley Street, leading northward into Berkeley Square, in which is the princely mansion of the Marquis of Lansdowne, *Lansdowne House*. It has a gallery of antique statues, busts, &c., 100 feet in length.

Just beyond Berkeley Street, is *Devonshire House*, reaching to Stretton Street, and its gardens extending northward to those of Lansdowne House. Here, also, is a fine collection of pictures, but they can be seen only by special permission.

At the south-east corner of Dover Street is Mr. Hope's new and splendid mansion.

On the south side of Piccadilly lies the *Green Park*, extending from the west side of the Stable Yard, St. James's Palace, to Hyde Park Corner.

At Hyde Park Corner, we pass down Grosvenor Place to the commencement of the King's Road, leading to Chelsea. A little to the north-west is *Belgrave Square*.

Not far from *Sloane Square*, is the *Duke of York's School*, for the instruction and education of children of the soldiers of the regular army. About 1000 boys and girls are here brought up, and are taught several trades. The boys have an excellent military band. Open from ten till four.

A little further to the south, is the *Royal Hospital, Chelsea*, for sick and superannuated soldiers. Charles II., through the suggestions of Sir Stephen Fox, the ancestor of Lord Holland, was induced to erect the structure, at the cost of £20,000, with an endowment of £5,000 a year. Some writers, however, give the credit of the suggestion to Eleanor Gwynne, one of the king's mistresses, and a popular actress of the day. The building was raised under the superintendence of Sir Christopher Wren. 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 tetrastyle 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 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 James Ward, R.A. 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. The entire length of the building is 790 feet. In the centre of the quadrangle next the river is a statue of Charles II., in Roman Imperial armour; and over the colonnade is a Latin inscription, intimating that the establishment was commenced by Charles II., continued by James II., and finished by William and Mary, in 1690. The college accommodates about 400 pensioners, who are provided with clothes, diet, washing, lodging, and firing. The out-pensioners receive each a yearly allowance of £7. 12*s.* 6*d.* The deficiency, if any, is supplied by Parliament. Sir Hans Sloane bequeathed his botanical garden in this parish to the Company of Apothecaries, who erected a marble statue of their benefactor in the centre. The old church, by the river side, contains several curious monuments. Near Chelsea Hospital are *Cremorne Gardens*, a summer place of entertainment, somewhat resembling Vauxhall.

At some distance higher up the river are successively the three bridges of Battersea, Fulham, and Hammersmith, the last of which is a beautiful suspension bridge, erected in 1827, at an expense of £80,000.

Crossing *Vauxhall Bridge*, a very neat structure of cast-iron, which has a penny toll for foot passengers, a little to the left are the celebrated *Vauxhall Gardens*, for evening concerts, fireworks, balloon ascents, &c.

Keeping, however, on the London side of the Thames, and passing along Millbank, in the angle formed by the river and the Vauxhall Bridge Road, stands the *Penitentiary*, a large establishment for the reformation and employment of persons

convicted of minor offences, such as were formerly punished by transportation. It is indebted for its origin to Mr. Jeremy Bentham, and was built at an expense of between £40,000 and £50,000. It has a chapel, an infirmary, and other conveniences. It is under the superintendence of a committee appointed by the Sovereign in council, without whose authority no visitor is permitted to enter. The discipline is that of solitude, labour, and religious instruction.

Proceeding in a direct line by the side of the river, we pass through Westminster on to Charing Cross, where we may either step into an omnibus or walk back to St. Paul's.

SEVENTH DAY.

AGAIN westward, we pause not till we reach *New Palace Yard*, behind the southern side of Bridge Street, leading to Westminster Bridge. This extends to *Westminster Hall*, situated between Westminster Abbey and the Thames. It is the grand seat of law. Built in the old Gothic style, as a Banqueting Room to the ancient palace of Westminster, it is still used for Coronation festivals, and for trials by impeachment. It was built by William Rufus, in 1098, and repaired and enlarged by Richard II., who entertained 10,000 persons within its walls, at a Christmas festival. This 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 high. Parliaments have frequently been held here; and in it was held the ancient court of justice in which the king was accustomed to preside in person. It was here 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 Soane. 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.

Facing the west front of Palace Yard, and just within the

iron railing that surrounds St. Margaret's Churchyard, is a statue of the Right Hon. George Canning. *St. Margaret's Church* is situated at a short distance from the north door of Westminster Abbey.

On the night of the 16th of October, 1834, the two Houses of Parliament were almost entirely destroyed by fire. It was in consequence soon afterwards determined that they 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 superintendence, 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, will 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. Three towers impart both dignity and beauty to the structure: the *Royal* or *Victoria Tower*, at the south-west angle, 75 feet square, and rising 340 feet; the *Central Tower*, 60 feet in diameter and 300 feet in height; and the *Clock Tower*, abutting on Westminster Bridge, 40 feet square, and, with a richly ornamented belfry spire, attaining the height of 320 feet.—The *House of Lords* may be seen on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, when the Lord Chancellor hears appeals; and on Saturday from eleven till five, by an order from the Lord Chamberlain. When the House is not sitting the personal introduction of a member is necessary. To hear the debates in either House a member's order must be obtained.

Westminster School, southward of the Abbey, was founded by Queen Elizabeth, for the classical education of 40 boys, who are called King's or Queen's scholars. Many of the sons of the nobility and gentry are also educated here, and thus it has been rendered one of the most celebrated schools in the kingdom. A certain number of the royal scholars

are sent, when qualified, to Christ Church, Oxford, and to Trinity College, Cambridge. The school is under the management of the Dean of Westminster.

The Westminster *Guildhall*, or Court House, is on the south side of the precinct called the Sanctuary, near the Abbey. It is of an octagonal form, with a Doric portico.

Westminster Abbey, or the Collegiate Church of St. Peter, Westminster, is situated a little to the westward of Westminster Hall. Its origin is involved in obscurity and fabulous legend. It is supposed to have been founded by Sebert, King of the East Saxons, who died in 616. The church and its monastery were repaired and enlarged by Offa, King of Mercia; but, having been destroyed by the Danes, they were rebuilt by King Edgar, and supported by large endowments. Again ravaged by the Danes, they were rebuilt by Edward the Confessor, in a magnificent style and in the form of a cross. By William the Conqueror, who was solemnly crowned therein, the church was further embellished and enriched. The next prince who improved this national building, was Henry III., whose additions and repairs were completed by his successor in 1285, the date of the building as it now stands. About 1502, Henry VII. began the splendid chapel that bears his name, and which he designed as a burial place for himself and his posterity. The western towers were built by Sir Christopher Wren; and many subsequent repairs and embellishments have been executed by successive monarchs. The form of the abbey is that of a long cross; its greatest length is 489 feet; the breadth of the west front, 66 feet; the length of the cross aisle, 189 feet; and the height of the roof, 92 feet.

The usual entrance for visitors is by the side of Henry the Seventh's chapel, in *Poets' Corner*, opposite the Houses of Parliament. Never could place be named with more propriety than this; for here are to be found the names of Spenser, Chaucer, Shakspeare, Ben Jonson, Milton, Dryden, Butler, Thomson, Gay, Goldsmith, &c. Here, also, as though the spot were dedicated to genius of the highest order, are the tombs of Handel and Garrick. Amongst the more remarkable monuments may be mentioned those of the Duke of Argyle, Captain James Cornwall, Dr. Watts, &c. At the west end of the abbey, are those of Sir Godfrey Kneller, Dr. Mead, Sir Charles Wager, the Earl of Chatham, &c. On the north side of the entrance into the choir, is a monument

to the memory of Sir Isaac Newton, and at a short distance is that of Earl Stanhope. Edward the Confessor's Chapel stands immediately behind the altar of the church, upon an elevated floor, to which there is a flight of steps on the northern side. The shrine of the Confessor, standing in the centre, and within it the ashes of Edward, was erected by Henry III. In the same chapel is also the splendid tomb of Henry III.; with the tombs of Edward I. and his Queen Eleanor; and in it are kept the chairs in which the kings and queens of England are crowned. The chapel of Henry V. is on the same floor with that of the Confessor, from which it is separated by a stone screen with an iron gate. Within is the tomb of Henry V., on which lies the headless effigy of that prince; the head, which was of beaten silver, with the sceptre and ball, having been long since stolen.

From the south side of the abbey are two entrances into the cloisters, which are entire. From the east end of the cloisters is the entrance into the Chapter House, through an archway. Amongst the curious records deposited here, is the original *Domesday Book*, still as legible as when first written.

Against the south-west part of the west front of the abbey, is the north front of the Jerusalem Chamber, in which Henry IV. breathed his last.

North from the abbey stood the *Sanctuary*, the place of refuge allowed in old 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 ten and eleven in the forenoon, and between three and four in the afternoon; these being the times of divine service. During these, however, the entrance at Poets' Corner is open. In the winter the abbey closes at four o'clock. Admission, free to Poets' Corner, at all hours; to the private chapels, *6d.*, each person; and to the rest of the abbey, free.

As we commenced our first day's excursion with a view of St. Paul's Cathedral, we here close that of our last day by the view of Westminster Abbey, one of the noblest monuments of antiquity in the kingdom; and hence return, at pleasure, to our original starting point, St. Paul's.

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 most usual mode. For any *distance* not exceeding one mile, the fare is 1*s.*; and, for every additional half-mile, or fractional part of a mile, 6*d.*—For any *time* not exceeding half an hour, the fare is 1*s.*; and, for every additional quarter of an hour, or fractional part thereof, 6*d.*

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 1,000 Short Stages and Omnibuses ply, each making from two to six or eight journeys daily, according to distance. The omnibuses generally carry twelve or thirteen passengers inside, and several 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 6*d.* Some, however, run from Paddington to the east end of Oxford Street, or from the east end of Oxford Street to the Bank, for 4*d.* Others run from Paddington to Hungerford Market, for 4*d.* And there are many other 4*d.* fares.

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, A.M., till a quarter before 9, P.M. Fare, 6*d.* and 4*d.*

Brighton—from Tooley Street, Southwark. Hours vary.

Croydon—from Tooley Street, Southwark, five minutes after 9, 10, and 12; and twenty minutes after 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8.

Dover—from Tooley Street, Southwark. Hours vary.

Eastern Counties—from Shoreditch to Brentwood, Colchester, Ipswich, Norwich, &c. 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, A.M., till 10, P.M., hours of divine service on Sundays excepted. Fares: first class, 8*d.*; second class, 6*d.*; third class, 4*d.*

Northern and Eastern—from Shoreditch to Broxbourn, Hertford, Harlow, Spelbrook, &c. Hours vary.

South Western—from Waterloo Bridge Road to Richmond, Hampton Court, Windsor, Southampton, Portsmouth, &c. Hours vary.

WATERMEN'S WHERRIES.—These may be engaged by either *distance* or *time*. If by *distance*, for every half-mile, scullers (one man) 3*d.*; oars (two men) 6*d.* If by *time*, scullers, per half-hour, 6*d.*; oars, 1*s.* Or, by the *day* (that is, from 6 o'clock to 6, from Lady-day to Michaelmas, and from 7 to 8, from Michaelmas to Lady-day), scullers, 6*s.*, oars, 12*s.* For not having a book of their fares, watermen are liable to a penalty of £5.

STEAM-BOATS.—Those for

Gravesend—leave London Bridge, Hungerford Market, and the Adelphi, three or four times a day, at the hours advertised. Fares, from 6*d.* to 9*d.*

Greenwich and Woolwich—leave Hungerford market and the Adelphi, and call at London Bridge, every hour, as advertised. Fares, from 6*d.* to 8*d.*, according to distance. Boats leave London Bridge for Greenwich every half-hour during the summer.

Richmond—leave Queenhithe, Upper Thames Street, calling at Hungerford, twice a day. Fares, 1*s.*

Chelsea—leave Old Swan Stairs, London Bridge, every quarter of an hour, calling at the bridges and piers. Fare, 2*d.* On Sundays, 3*d.*

J. MASTERS, PRINTER, ALDERSGATE STREET.

PART II.

LONDON LIFE AS IT IS;

OR,

A HAND-BOOK

TO ALL THE

ATTRACTIONS, WONDERS, AND ENJOYMENTS OF THE GREAT CITY.

CONTENTS.

LONDON LIFE AS IT IS.

PRELIMINARY.

Who will presume to say, with opposing facts staring him in the face from every point the eye can meet, that London is not a gay city—a brave and gallant city—a great, a proud, and a glorious city—ay, "take it for all in all," the first city of the world! And such has she been for many an age! And where is the Briton who will not exclaim, in the heart-burst of patriotic exultation, *esto perpetua!*

Even so far back as the days of Tacitus, *Londinium* "abounded with merchants, and was the great treasury of the riches of the kingdom."* With what gigantic strides has she advanced since that period, in extent, in population, in wealth, in all the arts of civilized life, in every intellectual and ennobling pursuit!

London, it is true, does not occupy the space which, according to fabulous writers, ancient Babylon occupied—Babylon, with her 60 miles in circuit, her walls of 350 feet in height, and 87 in thickness; her 250 towers, and her 100 brazen gates; but her population is immensely beyond the most numerous population that was ever assigned to Babylon. Even in extent, though not in architectural splendour, London surpasses the ancient Thebes,

* See No. XVIII. of The New Library of Useful Knowledge—"*A Week in London; or, How to view the Metropolis, with all its National Establishments, Public Buildings, Exhibitions, &c., in Seven Days: to which is prefixed, a Historical and Descriptive Account of the Great City, from the Earliest Period to the Present Time.*"

which was only from 23 to 27 miles in circumference, whilst to encircle her would require a belt of more than 30 miles in length. And Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian empire, 19 miles in length, 11 in breadth, and from 48 to 60 in circumference, is recorded to have contained a population of not more than 600,000, whilst the population of London amounts to from *two millions to two millions and a quarter!*

In ancient times, the "city of London," restrictedly speaking, stood within a circumference of two miles: using the word "London" in its enlarged sense, embracing the city of Westminster, the borough of Southwark, and the suburbs in Essex, Surrey, Kent, and Middlesex, it has a length of from ten to twelve miles, a breadth of from five to seven miles, and a circumference of more than thirty miles; and within its area it has been estimated that there are from 12,000 to 13,000 streets, lanes, courts, alleys, &c.—from 200,000 to 250,000 houses and public edifices—and, as we have stated, from 2,000,000 to 2,250,000 inhabitants.* Yet, by means of omnibuses, cabs, &c., the whole space may be traversed two or three times a day, at a comparatively insignificant cost.

"London Life as it is!" As it *is!* Ah, how different from what it *was!* But, have we aught to regret in the change? We believe not. Great respect do we entertain for many of the sports, pastimes, and customs of our sturdy ancestors, men of "thews and sinews;" yet we cannot help thinking, that some of the said "sports, pastimes, and customs," would have been "more honoured in the breach than the observance." Thank Heaven, we have done with—let us hope for ever—such elegant and refined accomplishments as prize-fighting, bull and bear baiting, cock-fighting, whipping the cock, threshing the hen, &c.† Yet we do not plead guilty to the charge of having parted from our "thews and sinews"—of having lost one iota of our ancient, manly, and heroic spirit. Let the history of the last sixty

* In round numbers, the respective populations of the capitals of France, Austria, Russia, and Prussia, have been thus estimated:—Paris, 800,000; Vienna, 350,000; St. Petersburgh, 450,000; Berlin, 250,000.

† VIDE "*Sports, Pastimes, and Customs of London, Ancient and Modern, with Illustrative Anecdotes*, &c."—No. XXXV. of THE NEW LIBRARY OF USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.

years speak for us—we need not go farther back. Let the mountains, and plains, and valleys of the Peninsula speak for us, where British blood flowed in torrents—where British valour triumphed over a world in arms, and conquered a peace as durable as it was glorious! Let the burning shores of India bear another garland to our brows! England!

> "Land of the noble and the free!
> Land of undying liberty!
> The nations tremble as they gaze,
> And envy as they shout thy praise!"

Though we have relinquished prize-fighting, and bull-baiting, and all their ruffianly horrors, we are still men—"liege men and true;" and, in these "piping times of peace" for us, whilst revolutionised Europe, writhing amidst blood and slaughter, is in arms, we can, with active limbs and buoyant spirits, enjoy our Greenwich Fair and its sports—our tilts and tournaments—our cricket and trap-ball—our horse-racing, hunting, shooting, and fishing—our quoits and our quintain—our skating and our foot-ball, and a hundred other diversions—in all the freshness of the days of old.

In our more quiet amusements—amusements connected with literature, the drama, and music; with science, and with the fine as well as the useful arts—amusements in which our wives and daughters, our sisters, and all our best beloved ones of the gentler sex, can delightedly participate, and, by participating, invest them with a thousand heightened charms—we have (in our opinion) attained a vast superiority over our forefathers. This, too, has been achieved without the aid of any moral or religious sacrifice. On the contrary, the generous and grateful heart may luxuriate in the consciousness that, as we have advanced in our love of literature and the fine arts, we have advanced in morals; and—notwithstanding occasional instances of profligacy and crime amongst the lower classes—a sounder, purer tone of religion has been extensively acquired. And, in similar circumstances, such will ever be the case. Civilization, and mental and moral, and even religious improvement, must march onward hand-in-hand. Thanks to the philanthropic and enlightened spirit of the age (a phrase in the use of which we abjure all cant), improvement is not restricted to the higher and

middle ranks of society, but is extending to the very lowest grades. The most ignorant are imbibing "useful knowledge;" the bad are becoming better; and we are convinced that the hearts of the people—of the people, as contradistinguished from the mob—are in their right places.

A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW.

Before we enter upon details, let us take a momentary glance at the multitudinous attractions, wonders, amusements, and general *agrémens* of our vast metropolis—a metropolis which, with reference to its extent, still more with reference to its population, its commerce, and its wealth, surpasses the chief cities of the ancient world.

To say nothing of the historical or antiquarian interest of London—of its "towers of Julius," dark with many a hideous crime—its venerable abbey, within whose sacred walls repose the ashes of our illustrious dead, our poets, kings, and heroes—its noble cathedral, second in classic art and beauty only to St. Peter's in "the eternal city"—on which it is not here proposed to dilate—London contains nearly, if not quite, a score of *Theatres*, at all prices of admission, and with every variety of dramatic performance, open nightly during the greater part of the year;—*Public Exhibitions and Institutions* devoted to literature, science, sculpture, pictorial and mechanic art, &c., about five-and-twenty;—*Private Picture Galleries* (to be seen free of cost, on application to the proprietors), containing inestimably valuable collections of paintings and sculpture, by the first artists of the world, ancient and modern, also about five-and-twenty;—*Mansions of the Aristocracy*, vieing in richness and in splendour with the palaces of royalty itself, about a dozen; most of them also to be seen gratuitously on application to the owners;—*Club Houses*, for the daily accommodation of their occupants, respectively of a political, naval, military, literary, scientific, commercial, convivial, or general character, upwards of thirty;—*Inns*, *Taverns*, *Hotels*, *Coffee-Houses*, *Dining Rooms*, *Divans*, *Supping Rooms*, *Board-and-Lodging Houses*, &c., many hundreds, with accommodations in every style, and at all prices, suitable alike to the purse of the prince and that of the beggar;—*Public Gardens* in the vicinity, such as Vauxhall, the

Surrey Zoological Gardens, Cremorne Gardens, &c., where balloon ascents, fireworks, gymnastic exercises, and sports of all sorts are constantly going forward throughout the spring and summer;—also the *Zoological Gardens* in the Regent's Park;—*Tea Gardens*, in all the outskirts of the town, where tea, coffee, and other refreshments of every description may be obtained on moderate terms, from five-and-twenty to thirty or more in number;—*Public Promenades*, such as Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, St. James's Park, and the Regent's Park, in which may be seen in favourable weather, throughout the year, a display of rank, beauty, and fashion, equestrian and pedestrian, unequalled in the world; also Victoria Park, eastward of Whitechapel, and Battersea Park, opposite Chelsea, but not yet complete;—*Horticultural Fêtes* and *Flower Shows* in abundance, at Chiswick, in the Regent's Park, &c., equally rich in their display of female beauty, grace, and fashion;—*Baths* of every description, about thirty, exclusively of those on the new system for the poor, and for general accommodation;—*Fashionable Balls*, *Masquerades*, and *Concerts*, such as are given at Willis's Rooms, St. James's; Her Majesty's Concert Rooms, Hanover Square; the Philharmonic Society, the *Société Armonica*, the Royal Academy of Music, the Concert Rooms of Her Majesty's and the Princess's Theatres; Exeter Hall, chiefly for sacred music; the Cecilian Society; the Society of British Musicians; Hullah's Concert Rooms, Wilson Street, Long Acre; and hosts of others, given from time to time for the benefit of parties interested;—*Bazaars*, *Casinos*, *Arcades*, Madame Tussaud's *Wax Work*, *Tableaux Vivans*, &c., besides miscellaneous sights and shows innumerable.

But the requirements of nature must be provided for, in food and lodging, before the mind can expatiate in the "paradise of sweets" by which it may be encompassed.

TOPOGRAPHY OF LONDON.

Lines of Streets, Routes of Omnibuses, &c. &c.

It is extremely desirable that a stranger, on his first visit to the Metropolis, should have some friend to meet him at the terminus of the railway by which he may arrive, or at the inn where his stage-coach may put up. If his friend

can either receive him at his own residence, or secure an eligible lodging for his accommodation, it will be an additional advantage. Should neither of these opportunities offer, he will do well to remain for a day or two at the inn to which his coach may bring him, or at a coffee-house, tavern, or hotel, in the immediate neighbourhood of the railway terminus, until he can locate himself to his satisfaction, as fancy or convenience may indicate. But he must consult his pecuniary means, as all such establishments are more or less expensive. His landlord will most likely be able to give him any information he may require.

The visitor's first object must be to make himself acquainted with the topography of London, its lines of streets, its routes of omnibuses, &c. The task is far less difficult than, by a glance at the map, he may at first imagine. The metropolis, with its surrounding suburbs and villages, is elliptical in form, extending east and west—that is, from Bow to Hammersmith—about 11 miles; and from north to south—from Holloway chapel to Stockwell, in Surrey—about 8 miles. Its chief lines of streets run east and west, nearly parallel with the Thames; and from north to south, crossing that river by numerous bridges. Thus, with the recollection of certain land-marks, as they may be termed, such as Mile End Turnpike—Whitechapel Market—the East India House—London Bridge—the Royal Exchange, Bank of England, and the Mansion House—St. Paul's Cathedral—Blackfriars' Bridge — Temple Bar — Waterloo Bridge — Charing Cross — the National Gallery and the Nelson Column—the Admiralty and the Horseguards—the Treasury —Westminster Bridge, Hall, and Abbey—the new Houses of Parliament—St. James's Park—Buckingham and St. James's Palaces—Hyde Park Corner, &c.—the stranger need not be long in doubt regarding his route or destination.

On the south side of the Thames, a long line of street extends, by the side of the river, westward from Deptford, through Rotherhithe, Bermondsey, and Horsleydown, up to Westminster, Lambeth, and Vauxhall. From the principal bridges, roads converge towards the obelisk, in St. George's fields; and thence they radiate, as from a centre, in every direction.

All the main thoroughfares, east, west, north, and south, are thronged with omnibuses, from 8 o'clock in the morning

till 11 or 12 o'clock at night. Few of these economical and useful conveyances charge more than 6*d.* for the entire journey, amounting, in some instances, to seven or eight miles—as, from Mile End in the east, to Notting-hill or Shepherd's Bush in the west; most of them divide their journeys into two threepenny stages; and some of them—as from Mile End to Shepherd's Bush—into three or four. This cheaply accommodates the public, and well remunerates the proprietors.

The London starting points and stopping stations for the omnibuses are various according to their routes and destinations: Mile End Turnpike—Leadenhall, Bishopsgate, and Gracechurch Streets—the Royal Exchange, the Bank, the Mansion House, and the Post Office, in St. Martin's Le Grand—St. Paul's Churchyard—Fleet Street—Waterloo Bridge—Hungerford Market—Charing Cross—Coventry Street, and the east end of Piccadilly—the White Horse Cellar, in Piccadilly—Skinner Street—Holborn—Oxford Street, at the corner of Tottenham Court Road—the Regent's Circus, the Green Man, and the Green Man and Still, in Oxford Street, &c.

The principal omnibuses which start from Mile End Turnpike, one every five or ten minutes, are usually known as the *Bayswater Omnibuses*. They take their line through Whitechapel, Leadenhall Street, Cornhill, the Poultry, Cheapside, the south side of St. Paul's, Ludgate Hill, the Strand, by Charing Cross, and up Regent Street, through Oxford Street, by Tyburn Turnpike, Bayswater, Kensington Gravel Pits, and on to Notting-hill, and some of them to Shepherd's Bush.

From Leadenhall Street, omnibuses proceed eastward to *Stepney*, *Bow*, *Stratford*, &c.; from Bishopsgate Street, to *Hackney*, *Homerton*, *Clapton*, *Dalston*, *Shacklewell*, &c.; from Gracechurch Street, to *Camberwell*, *Deptford*, *Greenwich*, *Blackheath*, and various other places in Surrey and Kent. Some of the *Greenwich and Deptford Omnibuses* start from the Ship Tavern, Charing Cross.

Some of the *Islington Omnibuses* start from the Royal Exchange, some from St. Martin's le Grand, some from the Regent's Circus, Oxford Street. Some of the *Hackney and Clapton Omnibuses* also start from the Regent's Circus, Oxford Street.

Two lines of *Paddington Omnibuses*, which are exceedingly numerous, start from the Bank. The *City line* proceeds

through Cheapside, Newgate Street, Skinner Street, up Holborn, along Oxford Street, to Tyburn Turnpike, where it turns sharp off to the right, along the Edgware Road, to Paddington, Maida Hill, &c. The other, or *Finsbury line*, proceeds through Moorgate Street, by the side of Finsbury Square, along the City Road, passing the Angel, at Islington, through Pentonville, by King's Cross (formerly called Battle Bridge), up the New Road, intersecting Tottenham Court Road, passing the Regent's Park on the right, entering the Edgware Road opposite Cambridge Terrace, and turning to the right for Paddington. Some of these omnibuses go to and from the terminus of the Great Western Railway; others over that railway bridge to the Royal Oak, in Westbourne Grove.

Most of the *Kensington*, *Hammersmith*, *Richmond*, *Kew*, *Teddington*, *Twickenham*, and *Brentford Omnibuses* start from the north side of St. Paul's Churchyard, taking their route down Ludgate Hill, up Fleet Street, through the Strand, by Charing Cross, up Regent Street, to the Regent's Circus, Piccadilly, through Piccadilly, stopping at the White Horse Cellar, through Hyde Park Corner, Knightsbridge, Hammersmith, and along the great western road to their points of destination.

From the Kings and Keys, in Fleet Street, start most of the omnibuses for *Camberwell*, *Peckham*, *Dulwich*, &c. From the Saracen's Head, Skinner Street (formerly Snow Hill), proceed most of the omnibuses that run in the direction of *Edmonton*, *Enfield*, *Southgate*, &c. From the George Inn, Holborn, and also from the Regent's Circus, Piccadilly, proceed omnibuses for the conveyance of passengers and luggage for the London termini of the different railway stations.

Hungerford Market, a little to the east of Charing Cross, is the starting point for two lines of 3*d.* omnibuses: one, to Paddington, through Regent Street, and Oxford Street, and the Edgware Road; the other, to Camden Town, up St. Martin's Lane, to the bottom of Oxford Street, and through Tottenham Court Road.

Some of the omnibuses for *Kennington*, *Clapham*, *Brixton*, *Camberwell*, &c. start from the Green Man and Still, near the Regent's Circus, Oxford Street; others, from Gracechurch Street.

Islington Omnibuses start from Barnsbury Park, Islington, pass the Angel at the intersection of the roads, go down the

Goswell Street Road, through Aldersgate Street, and St. Martin's le Grand, pass the Post Office, turn to the right through Newgate Street, down the Old Bailey into Ludgate Street, cross Blackfriars' Bridge, proceed through Great Surrey Street, to the Obelisk, thence to the Elephant and Castle, and on to Kennington Gate.

What are called the *Waterloo Omnibuses* leave town from the York and Albany Tavern, near the Regent's Park Zoological Gardens, pass through Albany Street and Great Portland Street into Oxford Street, go down Regent Street and Waterloo Place, pass the Duke of York's Column on the right, and the National Gallery and the Nelson Column on the left, go down the Strand, cross Waterloo Bridge, along the Waterloo Road, take the London Road to the left, pass the Elephant and Castle, and thence through the Walworth Road to Camberwell Gate.

The *Atlas Omnibuses* start from the Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood, pass along the Wellington Road and the Park Road, through Baker Street, by Portman Square, into Oxford Street, down Regent Street, and Waterloo Place, to Charing Cross, pass the Admiralty and the Horse Guards on the right, Whitehall on the left, and the Treasury on the right, cross Westminster Bridge by the new Houses of Parliament, along the Westminster Road, pass Astley's Amphitheatre on the right, on to the Elephant and Castle, and thence through the Walworth Road, near the Surrey Zoological Gardens, on to Camberwell Gate.

INNS, HOTELS, TAVERNS, COFFEE-HOUSES, &c.

Unless previously provided for through the agency of a friend, travellers arriving in town by a late train, or a late coach, cannot do better than to remain at one of the nearest inns, taverns, or hotels, at least for a single night. There, they will incur no risk of being robbed or cheated. On the first establishment of the London railway termini, some unprincipled landlords in their vicinity, by enormous charges, were accustomed to fleece their customers to an incredible extent; but by exposure of these nefarious practices through the public press, and by the salutary spirit of competition, the evil was speedily abated, and prices were brought to an equitable level. Accommodation may now be had at such houses on terms as reasonable as at others

of their class. Still it is desirable that the visitor should call for his bill when he has breakfasted on the morning after his arrival, and that will enable him to judge as to the propriety of the charges.

At the coach and railway inns, and at many of the city houses, persons may be accommodated with the use of the coffee-room, with breakfast, dinner, supper, and a good bed, at from six to eight, ten, or twelve shillings *per diem*. Wines and spirits are always charged for separately, according to printed lists. Breakfasts are charged at from a shilling to half-a-crown, according to the style of the house and the viands required. Dinners from two shillings to five or ten; tea or coffee, from a shilling to half-a-crown. The attendance of waiters, chamber-maids, boots, &c. will cost from two shillings to five daily; with extra charges for porters or messengers, should the services of such persons be wanted. The leading houses of the class here referred to are the Golden Cross, Charing Cross; the Bull and Mouth, St. Martin's le Grand; the Spread Eagle, in Gracechurch-street; the Four Swans, in Bishopsgate Street; the White Bear, in Piccadilly; the White Horse, in Fetter Lane; the Belle Sauvage, in Ludgate Hill; the Swan with Two Necks, Lad Lane; the Bolt-in-Tun, Fleet Street; the Saracen's Head, in Skinner Street, Snow Hill; the Bell and Crown, and the George, in Holborn, &c. Similar establishments may also be found in the borough, in Whitechapel, Aldgate, Leadenhall Street, Piccadilly, Oxford Street, &c.

Of a higher grade are the principal hotels at the west end of the town; such as the Clarendon, in New Bond Street and Albemarle Street; Fenton's, in St. James's Street; the Gloucester, in Piccadilly; Mivart's, in Brook Street and Davies Street, Grosvenor Square; Limmer's, in George Street, Hanover Square; Warren's, in Regent Street; Wright's, in Dover Street, Piccadilly; Morley's, West Strand, Trafalgar Square; the Burlington, in Old Burlington Street, &c. Most of these are patronized by the nobility and families of distinction; and as their accommodations are, in all respects, of a superior order, they are proportionately expensive. Similar in plan, but on a more moderate scale, are Rider's Hotel, in Salisbury Square, Fleet Street; and the York and Radley's Hotels, in Bridge Street, Blackfriars. Noted for mercantile transactions,

marine intelligence, &c., but at the same time furnishing refreshments of every description, are Lloyd's Coffee-House, Royal Exchange; Garraway's, in 'Change Alley; the Jamaica Coffee-House, in St. Michael's Alley; the Anti-Gallican, in Threadneedle Street; the Auction Mart Coffee-House, near the Bank, &c. These are chiefly frequented by merchants, ship-brokers, masters of ships in the merchant service, underwriters, stock-brokers, &c.

Then, again, there are the Chapter Coffee-House, in Paternoster Row, much frequented by booksellers and authors, and noted for filing a great number of provincial newspapers; and Peele's Coffee-House, in Fleet Street, and Deacon's, in Walbrook, in each of which immense numbers of daily, weekly, and provincial papers are also filed.

The Cocoa Tree, in St. James's Street; the British Coffee-House, in Cockspur Street, Charing Cross; the Albion Tavern, in Aldersgate Street; the London Tavern, in Bishopsgate Street; the Freemasons' Tavern, in Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields; the London Coffee-House, on Ludgate Hill; King's Head, Poultry, &c., are altogether of a different class, and are all of them more or less resorted to for the celebration of festive dinners, political and charitable meetings, &c.

Economically considered, and of a perfectly respectable character, there are houses in different parts of the town, which combine the advantages of an inn with those of a private family, without the publicity or bustle of the former. In these establishments, gentlemen or ladies can be accommodated for a longer or a shorter time, at so much per night for sleeping, and at so much per meal—breakfast, luncheon, dinner, tea, or supper, at any hour of the day. At most of them there is a general family breakfast—dinner also—at a stated hour, at which it is usual for the mistress or the master of the house to preside. The terms are very moderate. Of late years, houses of this class have become numerous, and they are found extremely convenient, especially for persons who do not make a long sojourn in town: for those who do, lodgings are certainly preferable. They are met with chiefly in public situations; such as the neighbourhood of the Royal Exchange, Leadenhall Street, Aldersgate Street, Fleet Street, Thavies Inn, Holborn, and various other parts of the town.

Single gentlemen, who may find it convenient to be yet more economical, may be very comfortably accommodated at many of the minor coffee-houses; such as Wetherell's, near the Silver Cross, Charing Cross; Hammond's, in St. Martin's Court, Leicester Square; Jones's, in Dean Street, Soho; and various others. At these houses, good beds, with refreshments of excellent quality—tea, coffee, chops, steaks, ham, bacon, malt-liquor, &c.—with the advantage of daily and weekly newspapers, magazines, &c., may be had on exceedingly moderate terms.

FURNISHED LODGINGS.

Furnished lodgings abound in London throughout the year; but, at the west end, in what is called "the season"—that is, during the sitting of Parliament, when there is a greater influx of visitors than at other times—they are considerably dearer than in the autumn or winter. Much also depends on the locality, as to airiness, salubrity, fashion, &c. —and again as to the style of furniture, the extent of attendance, &c. Ladies are generally charged rather more than gentlemen; and if gentlemen dine at home, they are expected to pay more than if they dine out, on account of the additional trouble. Under these circumstances no rule can be laid down as to the prices of lodgings; but, generally speaking, persons may be accommodated in proportion to what it may be convenient or agreeable for them to disburse. A sleeping room may be had for 7*s.* or 8*s.* a week, up to ten, fifteen, or twenty. First floors—that is, a sitting-room with a bed-room on the same floor—may be had at from twelve or fifteen shillings a week up to four or five guineas. Second floors are cheaper than first floors; and parlours are usually rather less than second floors. In the taking of apartments, it is necessary to stipulate what is to be expected; that, if the lodger be dissatisfied, he shall be at liberty to leave at the end of the first week without incurring any expense beyond that of the week's rent; and that, afterwards, a week's notice to quit shall be sufficient. Servants in lodging-houses always expect little gratuities; and, for the sake of civility and comfort, it is advisable that lodgers should be rather liberal than the reverse.

DINING-HOUSES AND COFFEE-HOUSES.

Exclusively of Taverns and the higher class of Coffee-houses, in which wine or spirits, as well as malt-liquor, may be had, there are, in most parts of London, numbers of exceedingly respectable dining establishments, abundantly supplied with soups, fish, meat, poultry, and even game, with a choice of vegetables and pastry. At many of them, there are private rooms for parties, or for the accommodation of ladies only.

At most of these establishments there are bills of fare, with the prices of the respective dishes, &c. affixed. At others, visitors may dine off a joint of meat, with the choice of several joints, with vegetables, at so much per head—say 1*s.* 6*d.* or 2*s.* If they take soup, or fish, and meat, or meat and poultry, with pastry, from 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* extra. At the Royal Divan Hotel (Simpson's), 103, on the south side of the Strand, for instance, one of the best of its class in town, the prices are thus regulated:—Dinner, from joint or *entrée*, 2*s.*; with soup or fish, 2*s.* 6*d.*; and the dishes marked with an asterisk (*) in the bill of fare, are 6*d.* extra; such as spring-soup, turbot, fillets of soles, salmon, salmon cutlets, fried and stewed eels, stewed pigeons, omelettes, &c.

In numbers of other houses in the same neighbourhood—at the Exeter Hall Family Hotel, corner of Burleigh Street—at Hancock's, in Rupert Street, Haymarket—at Jentzen's, in Coventry Street—at the Albany in Piccadilly—at Dolby's, the York, in Wardour Street, Soho—at Gadsby's Punch's Tavern and Dining Rooms, Nos. 98 and 99, Fleet Street, the corner of Bride Lane (where everything is served in excellent style)—and at various other places, it is usual to charge by the plate, according to the bill of fare. In houses of this description, a dinner of meat, bread, and vegetables will generally come within a shilling, or not exceed fifteen or eighteen-pence.

In such houses as the Cheshire Cheese, in Wine-office Court, Fleet Street, and others of that class in the same neighbourhood, only steaks, chops, kidneys, and sausages, with potatoes, are dressed. The usual charges are, for a rump-steak, 10*d.* or 1*s.*; a mutton-chop, 6*d.*; a kidney or a sausage,

3*d.*; potatoes, 1*d.*; bread, 1*d.*, with 1*d.* or, optionally, 2*d.* to the waiters, as at most other dining and coffee-houses.

Joe's and other chop-houses in the neighbourhood of the Royal Exchange, are celebrated for the excellent style in which their steaks, chops, &c. are dressed. They also have fish and soups.

A fish dinner at Billingsgate is, on more accounts than one, extremely well worth having. At Simpson's, Three Tuns, No. 11, are two tables daily, one at one o'clock, the other at four o'clock, supplied with the choicest fish of the season, dressed in the first style. In addition to the fish, there are generally a joint or two of meat, and chops and steaks, according to the number of guests. The landlord presides. The charge for the dinner is 1*s.* 6*d.*, and the earlier table is at one o'clock; the later at four. The house is equally celebrated for its iced punch, at 1*s.* 6*d.* per glass.

For those to whom expense is not an object, a white-bait dinner at Lovegrove's, Blackwall, or at the Sceptre, Greenwich, is a delicious treat, of which every one visiting London should, if possible, partake. Besides white-bait, the dinner usually consists of a variety of fish, dressed in various ways, with turtle and cold punch, and whatever else may be selected. With all desirable adjuncts, the cost will run up to 10*s.*, 15*s.*, or 20*s.*, or perhaps 25*s.* per head, if champagne be taken.

We have yet to mention dinners and other refreshments of an humbler class, which are to be obtained at the minor coffee-houses, many of which are extremely well served, and frequented by highly respectable people; such, for instance, as the Crown, in Holborn, and some others, which we have mentioned in a preceding page. A chop or steak, a slice of cold or of broiled ham, a rasher of bacon, or a plate of cold roast or boiled beef, with bread (and at some houses potatoes), may here be had for 8*d.* or 9*d.*, exclusively of ale, tea, or coffee. And an excellent breakfast of tea or coffee, with toast or bread-and-butter, eggs, broiled ham or bacon, or cold meat, will not cost more than twelve, fifteen, or eighteenpence.

To render this feature of "*London Life as it is*" yet more complete, we subjoin select *classified Lists*, each in alphabetical order :—

HOTELS AND TAVERNS.

ANDERTON'S, Fleet Street; a good dining house.

ALBION, Great Russell Street, Covent Garden; a house of excellent accommodation for supper refreshments after the theatres. Charges very reasonable.

BULL, Bishopsgate Street; much frequented by persons from the eastern counties.

BEDFORD HEAD, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden.

BRETT'S, Holborn.

BOWRING'S, Mincing Lane.

BLACKWALL RAILWAY.

COCK, back of the Royal Exchange; many years noted for mock turtle and other soups.

COLOSSEUM, Portland Road, Regent's Park; accommodated with hot and cold baths, &c.

CORN EXCHANGE, Mark Lane.

CAMPBELL'S, Rood Lane.

CROWN, Pope's Head Alley.

DICK'S, Fleet Street.

DICKESON'S, Strand.

DUBOURG'S, Haymarket; convenient for visitors of the Opera, &c.

EAGLE, City Road; for dinner-parties; also a place for evening entertainments of a theatrical character.

EVANS'S GRAND HOTEL, Covent Garden; noted for its evening performances of madrigals, glees, choruses, &c. by professional singers: suppers and other refreshments.

FEATHERS, Hand Court, Holborn.

GEORGE AND BLUE BOAR, Holborn; a convenient railway house.

HAMBRO', Water Lane, Tower Street.

HAKES'S, Manchester Square; quiet and comfortable for families.

HERCULES, Leadenhall Street.

HEMMING'S CAFE DE L'EUROPE, Haymarket; a first-rate house, with moderate charges, and very convenient for frequenters of the Opera, &c.

HUMMUMS, Covent Garden.

JOHN O' GROAT'S, Rupert Street, Haymarket

OFFLEY'S, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden; frequented by visitors of the theatres, &c.

PORTUGAL, Fleet Street.

RADLEY'S, Bridge Street, Blackfriars.

RAINBOW, King Street, Covent Garden.

RIDLER'S, Holborn.

ROYAL OPERA, Bow Street, Covent Garden

RUSBY'S, Water Lane, Tower Street.

SHERWIN'S, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street.

SIMPSON'S, Ball Court, Cornhill.

WOOD'S, Furnival's Inn.

DINING-ROOMS, ETC.

ADELPHI, Strand.

BAKER'S, 'Change Alley, Cornhill.

BLAMIRE'S, Tower Street.

BARTHOLOMEW'S, Holborn.

BARTON'S, King Street, Parliament Street, Westminster.

CHARLOTTE'S, Bucklersbury and the Poultry.

CHARD'S, Abchurch Lane, Lombard Street.

COAL EXCHANGE, Billingsgate.

DENT'S, Upper St. Martin's Lane.

DANIEL'S, Oxford Street.

DOLBY'S, Wardour Street, Soho; a snug, clean house, with excellent viands, well dressed, at moderate prices.

DOLLY'S, Queen's Head Court, Paternoster Row; many years noted for its rumpsteaks, &c.

GADSBY'S, Fleet Street.

GRESHAM (Izant's), Bucklersbury.

GREENSLADE'S, Bishopsgate Street.

GRASSHOPPER, Gracechurch Street.

GRECIAN, near Temple Bar, Strand.

HANCOCK'S, Rupert Street.

JACKSON'S, Mark Lane.

Joe's, Finch Lane, Cornhill; celebrated for steaks, chops, &c.
Jentzen's, Coventry Street, Haymarket.
Jones's, Cannon Street, City.
Kerk's, Oxford Street.
King's Head, Fenchurch Street.
Lamport's, Panton Street, Haymarket
Lane's, Oxford Street.
Leicester's, Holborn.
Morton's, Paternoster Row.
Salisbury, Strand.
Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street.
Simpson's (Fish), Billingsgate.
St. James's, Church Passage, Piccadilly.
Turner's, Tower Street.
Treacher's, Tower Street.
Unsworth's, Fish Street Hill.
Upton's, Strand.
Weaver's, Holborn.
Weston's, Finch Lane, Cornhill.

COFFEE AND READING ROOMS.

Barber's, Rupert Street, Haymarket.
Baker's, 'Change Alley, Cornhill.
Binmore's, Oxford Street and Newgate Street.
Chapter, Paternoster Row.
Chislett's, Brook Street, Bond Street.
Chislett's, St. Martin's-le-Grand.
Charlotte's, the Poultry and Bucklersbury.
Cobham's, Newgate Street.
Crosby Hall, Bishopsgate Street.
Clifford's Inn, St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street; beds, with breakfast included, 10*s.* 6*d.* per week; fish dinners daily.
D'Alphonse, Panton Street, Haymarket.
Deacon's, Walbrook, Mansion House.
Dent's, St. Martin's Lane.
Dyke's, Park Lane, Hyde Park.
Evans's, Bishopsgate Street.
Farrant's, London Street, Blackwall Railway.
Foster's, ditto.
Foxhall's, Oxford Street.
Francis's, Fish Street Hill.
Geddes's, Bride Lane, Fleet Street.
Gibson's, Bucklersbury.
Gould's, Tower Street.
Hammond's, St. Martin's Court, Leicester Square.
Hammond's, Oxford Street.
Herbert's, Salisbury Court, Fleet Street.
Hope's, Haymarket.
Howroyd's, Newgate Street.
Humphreys's, Crown, Holborn; a first-rate house of its class.
Inglis's, Strand.
Keal's, Little St. James's Street.
Kitto's, New Street, Covent Garden.
Leopard's, Fenchurch Street.
Luckett's, Chancery Lane.
New Exchange, Leadenhall Street.
Newton's, Great Russell Street, Covent Garden.
Pamphillon's, Brydges Street, Covent Garden.
Read's, Beak Street, Regent Street.
Sun, Cannon Street, City.
Symes's, Fish Street Hill.
St. Martin's, Ludgate Hill.
Tom's, Holborn.
Wetherell's, Charing Cross.
Williams's, St. Martin's-le-Grand.

ALE AND STOUT HOUSES.

American Stores, Oxford Street.
Blackway Railway, Fenchurch Street.
Blockey's, Jermyn Street, St. James's.
Campbell's, Beak Street, Regent Street.
Cock, near Temple Bar, Fleet Street.
Crowley's Alton Ale, King William Street, City; Cheapside, Fleet Street, Holborn, and various other parts of London: a glass of old ale, with a sandwich, for 4*d.*

GARRAWAY'S COFFEE HOUSE, 'Change Alley, Cornhill.
JOHN O' GROAT'S, Rupert Street, Haymarket.
KNIGHT'S, Charing Cross.
RAINBOW, near Temple Bar, Fleet Street.
SINCLAIR'S SCOTCH STORES, Oxford Street.
STAR AND GARTER, Pall Mall.

A-LA-MODE BEEF AND BOILED BEEF HOUSES.

[At the A-la-mode Beef Houses, the usual charges are—4*d.* and 6*d.* per plate, according to size. Salads are usually supplied. Boiled beef, exclusively of vegetables, averages 6*d.* or 8*d.* per plate.]

BALLS'S, King Edward Street, Newgate Street.
JOHNSON'S, Clare Court, Clare Market.
WILKINSON'S, Gracechurch Street.
WILLIAMS'S, Old Bailey.

RESTAURANTS.

[At the following houses, the French style of cookery is adopted; and parties may be accommodated either at so much per head, with the choice of a given number of dishes, or at so much per dish, by the *carte*. The charges are moderate.]

GIRAUDIER'S, Haymarket.
ROUGET'S, Castle Street, Leicester Square.

DIVANS.

[At these establishments, generally speaking, a single admission is 6*d.*; or, with a cup of coffee and a cigar included, 1*s.* Gentlemen may also subscribe by the month, quarter, half-year, or year. The morning, evening, and weekly papers and periodicals, the monthly magazines, the principal continental journals, and English and foreign publications of note, are liberally supplied; also, chess-boards.]

AT KILPACK'S CIGAR DIVAN, 42, King Street, Covent Garden, billiard rooms and bowling-alleys have been superadded; the ancient English game of bowls having been lately revived in this country.

RIES'S GRAND CIGAR DIVAN, 101 and 102, Strand, opposite Exeter Hall, consists of a long room fitted up in a style of oriental splendour, and, at night, brilliantly illuminated.

OYSTER AND OTHER SHELL-FISH ROOMS.

EDMONDS'S, St. Martin's Lane.
KNIGHT'S, Charing Cross.
LYNN'S, Fleet Street.
PIDDY'S, Poultry.
SIMPSON'S, adjoining the Albion Tavern, Brydges Street, Covent Garden.
SWEETING'S, west end of Cheapside.

Most of the coffee-houses, &c., here mentioned are abundantly supplied with newspapers, magazines, and other periodicals, besides a variety of standard works. At many of them, and also at many of the dining-rooms, the attendants are neat, well-dressed young women, who usually pay a weekly sum to the proprietors for their situations. Their only emolument, but that is frequently considerable, consists in their receiving the gratuity of a penny from each visitor, over and above the charge for whatever refreshments he may have had.

LONDON CALENDAR

OF

AMUSEMENTS, FESTIVALS, CUSTOMS, REMARKABLE ANNIVERSARIES, &c.

That the visitor may not miss an opportunity of seeing observing, and studying *London Life as it is*, he will find this a useful feature of our little work for him to refer to, at whatever season of the year he may happen to arrive, or take up his sojourn in the metropolis. Like a *bill of fare*, it will serve to indicate the character of the feast before him, with its substantial dishes, *entremets*, and dessert, in detail, for each successive month. We commence accordingly with

January.

On *New Year's Day*, unless the weather be extremely unfavourable, everybody seems alive and joyous. Festive parties—the tail, as they may be termed, of Christmas—are held in all parts of the town; and (excepting the Italian Opera Houses) the theatres, and every other place of amusement—even concerts, balls, &c.—are open.

The 6th of the month is *Twelfth Day*—twelve days after the Nativity of the Saviour—when the feast of the Epiphany, or Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, is celebrated at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, with sacred music, singing, and much solemnity. The Bishop of London attends; and, in commemoration of the offering made by the eastern Magi, he presents gold, frankincense, myrrh, &c. at the altar.

In the evening, the pastry-cooks all over London, but especially in the city, illuminate their shops, and make a grand display of richly ornamented twelfth-cakes. If you venture to gaze at the show from the exterior, beware of pickpockets! Beware, also—for the cockneys are always fond of practical jokes—that you do not get your coat-tails, cloaks, gowns, or petticoats nailed to the window-frames, or pinned, or sewn together, half-a-dozen people in a cluster!

Twelfth Night is famous, too, for the ancient and lively sport of drawing for king and queen, when cake and wine pass freely, and the jest and song go round.*

* See *Sports, Pastimes, and Customs of London*, pp. 18, 19, and 20.

On the first Sunday (called *Plough Sunday*) after the Epiphany, the Lord Mayor and all the corporation proceed in state from the Mansion House to St. Lawrence's Church, where they hear divine service. A quiet dinner crowns the ceremony.

On the 6th of the month, *Hilary Term* commences, when the judges breakfast with the Lord Chancellor, and afterwards proceed—about noon—to Westminster Hall, to open the respective Law Courts. The ceremony is repeated on the first day of each of the other terms. On these occasions, the judges, and also the counsel, are in full costume; and, altogether, the spectacle is of an interesting character.

The *Gresham Lectures*, on various subjects of literature and science, are delivered during term time at Gresham College, Basinghall Street, near the Bank. The admission is gratuitous; and the subjects, with the times of delivery, are announced by advertisement in the daily papers.

The *Martyrdom of King Charles* is commemorated on the 30th of this month, when the House of Peers attend divine service in Westminster Abbey, and the Commons in St. Margaret's Church.

Parliament generally meets at the latter end of this month, or early in February. The procession of her Majesty to open the session is an attractive and gratifying sight.

February.

About the 10th or 12th of this month, the gallery of the *British Institution*, on the north side of Pall Mall, opens for the exhibition and sale of paintings and sculpture by native artists: admission 1*s.*; catalogue 1*s.*

About the same time, Lectures on Painting, Sculpture, &c. commence at the Royal Academy of Arts, National Gallery, Trafalgar Square. Admission tickets can be obtained only per favour of the President, Academicians, and Associates.

St. Valentine's Day, on the 14th, when birds are said to choose their mates, is a great day in London, as well as throughout England, for the interchange of both serious and burlesque love-letters. The shops of fancy stationers, &c. abound with tender, satirical, and ludicrous verses, devices, &c., all "ready cut and dried for the occasion."* On this im-

* For much curious information respecting St. Valentine's Day

portant day, in 1850, nearly 200,000 of these missives passed through the London district of the Post Office, exclusively of about 6,000 more which passed from village to village in the suburbs; all in addition to the daily average; and it is understood that the entire correspondence of the three kingdoms is augmented, on each St. Valentine's Day, to the extent of about 400,000 letters; producing an increase to the day's revenue of 1,666*l.*!

At the latter end of February—more usually the beginning or middle of March—the *Opera Season* commences at Her Majesty's Theatre, in the Haymarket, and also in what was formerly one of the national theatres, in Covent Garden. The splendour of the season, however, does not commence earlier than the Tuesday in Easter week.

When Easter happens to fall very early, *Shrove-Tuesday*, formerly a day signalized by the celebration of brutal sports,* occurs in February. It is now chiefly noticeable for its pancakes.

In addition to its religious solemnities, *Ash-Wednesday* is equally famous for its immense consumption of salt-fish, with egg-sauce, &c.

March.

St. David's Day, kept in honour of David, the patron saint of Wales, and uncle to the renowned King Arthur, is on the 1st of March. On this anniversary, the Welch wear a leek, in commemoration, as they say, of a victory obtained by them over the Saxons. The Welch charity children go in procession from their hospital in Gray's Inn Lane, to St. Andrew's Church, Holborn. A small fair, attended chiefly by the Welch, is also held near Lambeth Church, opposite the new Houses of Parliament.

St. Patrick's Day, generally observed as a high festival at court, in honour of the tutelary saint of Ireland, is on the 17th. St. Patrick is said to have illustrated the doctrine of the Trinity by a *trefoil*, a *three*-leaved grass with *one* stalk; in commemoration of which the Irish wear a bunch of this grass, called a *shamrock*. For the promotion of education, the Benevolent Society of St. Patrick have a dinner on this day; when the chair is generally taken by a

and its ceremonies, see *Sports, Pastimes, and Customs of London*, before referred to, pp. 21, 22, and 23.

* *Ibid.* p. 23.

member of the Royal Family, supported on each side by men of distinguished rank and title.

In the course of March, April, and May, most of our charitable institutions hold their anniversary dinners, at which large collections are usually made. The tickets are generally a guinea each, and may be had, as advertised in the newspapers, of the stewards, or at the tavern where the dinner is held. The amount of the subscription, or donation, after dinner, is optional.

Every Sunday evening during *Lent*, the scholars of Christ-Church Hospital, Newgate Street (generally called *Blue-Coat Boys*), sup in public, at six o'clock. The sight is very interesting. Visitors are admitted by tickets, easily obtainable from any of the officers of the institution.

April.

On the morning of *Palm Sunday*, the first day of Passion Week, or the week immediately before Easter, which most frequently happens early in April, it is customary for young men and boys to "go a-palming," that is, to gather branches of the willow in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. They return from their excursion with slips in their hats, the breast-button-holes of their coats, &c.

The theatres being closed during *Passion Week*, various musical entertainments, lectures, &c., are given in various parts of the town, as advertised in the papers.

Maunday Thursday, the day preceding Good Friday, is distinguished by several interesting ceremonies; the first of which is a confirmation of the youthful branches of the nobility, at the Chapel Royal, St. James's. In the morning her Majesty's almoner attends at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, to distribute the annual royal donations. On this occasion, an equal number of poor women and poor men, according to the age of the Queen, receive each a liberal gift of salt-fish, beef, and bread, and some ale to drink her Majesty's health. After the evening service, which commences at three o'clock, and to which strangers may obtain admission by the fee of a shilling to the gallery-doorkeeper, "silver pennies are distributed amongst the same individuals, with woollen cloth, linen, shoes and stockings, and a cup of wine to each, again to drink the health of the royal donor." *

* For the origin and history of this custom, see *Sports, Pastimes, and Customs*, &c. pp. 25 and 26.

On *Easter Sunday*, her Majesty, if in town, partakes of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at the Chapel Royal, St. James's.

On *Easter Monday*, the Blue-Coat boys, about 600 in number, with the master and stewards, walk in procession from the school to the Royal Exchange, and thence to the Mansion House, where they are joined by the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and Aldermen, and all the other city officers, with their ladies. The procession then proceeds to Christ Church, Newgate Street, where a sermon is preached by one of the bishops, and an anthem is sung by the boys. After divine service, the Lord Mayor and suite return to the Mansion House, and partake of a grand dinner. In the evening, his lordship gives a splendid ball, to which the company are invited by tickets.

On *Easter Tuesday*, the Blue-Coat boys again walk in procession to the Mansion House, with the matron and nurses at their head. On this occasion, the boys are presented individually to the Lord Mayor, from whom each of them receives a new shilling, a glass of wine, and two buns. His lordship afterwards accompanies them to Christ Church, to hear divine service.

The whole of *Easter Week*—especially Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday—has been devoted, from time immemorial, to pleasure, gaiety, and sport. Amusements of every description abound, for the middle as well as for the lower classes. After the brief recess of Passion Week, all the *Theatres* re-open, with new and splendid after-pieces. Formerly, *Easter Monday* was appropriated to the grand *Epping Hunt*, when a stag was turned out for general sport in Epping Forest. This was in commemoration of a royal grant, confirmed to the citizens of London so far back as the year 1226, for *free warren*, or liberty to hunt a circuit about their city, in the warren of Staines, &c. The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and all the corporation, took the lead in the day's sport; and the rear was brought up, not only by the respectable citizens, but by all the tag-rag and bob-tail of the metropolis and its outskirts. At length, abuses became so gross, that, within these very few years, the custom has been discontinued.

But *Greenwich Fair*, with all its fun and frolic, riot and uproar, is still held on *Monday*, *Tuesday*, and *Wednesday*. The scene is animated and striking in an extraordinary

degree, and should be witnessed, once in his life at least, by every visitor of the metropolis. But, in giving the rein to his fancy, he must look to the safety of his pockets, and also of his person. Ladies should not venture, unless in the morning, and then not without adequate protection. Steamboats on the river—the Greenwich Railway trains from the south foot of London Bridge—and omnibuses, cabs, and vehicles of every imaginable description, are incessantly engaged, from morning till midnight, in the transport of passengers.

Early in April, the exhibition of the chartered *Society of British Artists*, in Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, is opened for the view and sale of native productions in paintings and sculpture. It remains open about three months. Admission, 1*s.*; catalogue, 1*s.*

In April also the exhibition of the *National Institution* (formerly known as the "Free Exhibition of Works of Modern Art," at Hyde Park Corner) opens in the Society's new rooms, *Portland Gallery*, No. 316, Regent Street, opposite the Polytechnic Institution. Admission, 1*s.*; catalogue, 6*d.*

On the 15th, *Easter Term* commences; and, on the Sunday following, the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Judges proceed in state to St. Paul's Cathedral, where they hear divine service, and afterwards return to the Mansion House, to partake of a grand dinner.

The festival of *St. George*, the patron saint of England, is held on the 23rd.

Towards the end of the month, the *Society of Painters in Water-Colours*, in Pall Mall East; and the *New Society of Painters in Water-Colours*, a door or two westward from the British Institution, in Pall Mall, open their annual exhibitions for the season. They remain open about three months. Admission, to each, 1*s.*; catalogue, 6*d.*

The "Spring Meeting" of *Epsom Races*, 15 miles from town, and now reached by railway from the south foot of London Bridge, takes place in April, and is always numerously attended by the first rank and fashion of the kingdom. The "Great Meeting" is in May, the "Autumn Meeting" is in October.

May.

May-day, or Flora's festival, was formerly a great day in London, as well as throughout the kingdom;* but the only

* See *Sports, Pastimes, and Customs*, &c. pp. 31 to 34.

existing relic of its departed glory is traceable in the grotesque dances of the chimney-sweepers, which may be seen in all parts of the town on the first three days of the month.

The annual exhibition of the *Royal Academy of Arts*, in Trafalgar Square, commences on the first Monday in May. The rooms usually contain from 1,300 to 1,400 productions of art in painting, sculpture, &c.; and the exhibition generally realizes from 5,000*l.* to 6,000*l.* in the season. Admission, 1*s.*; catalogue, 1*s.* On the Friday previously to opening, a numerous assemblage of the aristocracy, connoisseurs, and patrons of the arts are admitted to a private view of the exhibition. On Saturday, the Academicians and a select party dine together in the principal room of the institution.

Throughout this month, *anniversary meetings of societies*, chiefly of a religious character, are held at *Exeter Hall*, in the Strand. On these occasions, many popular preachers and speakers may be heard.

One of the most interesting anniversaries of the month is that of the *Sons of the Clergy*, held in St. Paul's Cathedral; on which occasion there is a grand performance of sacred music. Admission is obtained by a contribution to the charity at the doors.

Her Majesty's Birthday is usually kept on the 17th; when a drawing-room is held in St. James's Palace. The assemblage of female rank, beauty, and fashion, on this occasion, is most splendid. At one o'clock, a royal salute is fired by the Park and Tower guns; and, in the evening, the houses of the Queen's tradesmen, the theatres, and many other public buildings, are brilliantly illuminated.

Trinity Term commences on the 23rd; and, on the Sunday following, the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London go in state to St. Paul's Cathedral, to meet the Judges and attend divine service.

Trinity Monday is a gala day on the Thames. On that day, the "Brethren of the Trinity House," a great maritime corporation, which has charge of the pilots and lighthouses on the coast, proceed annually to their hospital for decayed sea-commanders in the merchant-service, and the widows of such commanders, at Deptford, for the purpose of choosing and swearing in a master, wardens, and other officers for that institution for the year ensuing. Early in

the day, the "Brethren" proceed from the Trinity House, on Tower Hill, embark in their state barges at the Tower, and thence are rowed to Deptford amidst an attractive display of flags of all nations, with the ringing of bells along shore, the discharge of cannon, musketry, &c. Business disposed of, the water-procession returns to the Tower in the order it came.

This is the month in which the *Society of Arts*, in the Adelphi, distributes its medals and pecuniary prizes amongst the successful candidates. The members of the Society have tickets at their gratuitous disposal.

The 29th is the anniversary of the *Restoration of King Charles II.*, which the Londoners used to commemorate by placing oak-leaves and oak-apples in their hats, and dressing their horses' heads with them. Relics of the custom are still occasionally seen, in gilt oak-apples, sold to the children.

Vauxhall Gardens generally commence their season for concerts, fire-works, balloon-ascents, &c., at the latter end of May.

On *Holy Thursday*, or *Ascension Day*, eight days before Whit-Sunday (generally in May), the churchwardens, overseers, &c. of the respective metropolitan parishes, accompanied by their charity-children, attend divine service, and walk the bounds of the different parishes. These parochial perambulations are understood to be derived from the festival of the heathen god Terminus, the guardian of fields and landmarks.

Whitsuntide, which usually falls towards the close of May or the beginning of June, is another great season for London holiday folk. On *Whit-Monday*, *Tuesday*, and *Wednesday*, the frolics of *Greenwich Fair* are repeated.

At the same time, *Woodford Races* are held at Woodford, in Essex, about nine or ten miles from town.

June.

Ascot Races, at six miles from Windsor, and six-and-twenty from London, are held in the second week after Whitsuntide.

Woolwich Races are also held in June.

The *Summer Exhibition* in the gallery of the *British Institution*, in Pall Mall, for works of the ancient masters,

commences in June, and continues open till September. Admission, 1*s.*; catalogue, 1*s.*

On the first Thursday in June, the *Charity-children of the Metropolis*, to the number of 8,000 or 9,000, have their annual meeting, to hear divine service, in St. Paul's Cathedral. The spectacle is of a most exhilarating character. Tickets for gratuitous admission may be procured from persons connected with the schools. On the preceding Tuesday, there is a rehearsal of the music for the occasion, to which the public are admitted at 6*d.* each.

On the 24th, the *Sheriffs of London and Middlesex* are elected at Guildhall.

In the course of June, July, and August, there are numerous *Rowing and Sailing Matches* on the Thames.

Also, frequent *Cricket Matches* in Lord's Cricket Ground, near the Regent's Park, and at other places in the immediate neighbourhood of London.

July.

The *Theatres* and *Public Gardens* are now all open; and this is a favourable time for visiting the different exhibitions, numbers of which court attention.

Towards the end of July, or early in August, the *Prorogation of Parliament* generally takes place. Should the Queen prorogue in person, the procession from Buckingham Palace to the House of Lords is grand, beautiful, and highly exhilarating. Her Majesty leaves the Palace about two o'clock, and returns as soon as the business of prorogation is over.

August.

The 1st of August is celebrated by a *Rowing Match* on the Thames, for a *Waterman's Coat and Silver Badge*, left by Thomas Dogget, a popular and loyal actor, to be rowed for annually by six young watermen whose apprenticeship may have expired within the preceding year. This is in commemoration of the accession of George I. to the throne of England. On a signal given, when the current is strongest against them, the competitors start from the Old Swan, near London Bridge, and row to the White Swan, at Chelsea. The scene is one of great attraction and excitement.

The season at *Her Majesty's Theatre*, in the Haymarket,

and the *Royal Italian Opera*, in Covent Garden, generally closes about the first week in August.

Edgeware Fair, eight miles from London, on the road to St. Alban's, is held on the first Wednesday in the month; and *Edgeware Races* are held on the two following days.

September.

St. Bartholomew's Fair, for centuries the scene of disgusting tumult, uproar, and vice, is nearly extinct. On the 3rd of September, it is proclaimed, and, nominally, it is held for three days in Smithfield; but a few show-booths, and a few stalls for toys and gingerbread, are now the amount of the annual nuisance.

This month, *Egham Races* are held at Runnymede, 18 miles west of London, the place where the barons compelled King John to sign Magna Charta.

About the 10th of the month, the *National Gallery*, Trafalgar Square, closes for six weeks.

On the 21st (*St. Matthew's Day*), the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Governors of the several Royal Hospitals in London, attend divine service at Christ Church, Newgate Street; after which they proceed to the Great Hall in Christ-Hospital, where the two senior scholars of the grammar school deliver orations; one in Latin, the other in English. A handsome dinner concludes the proceedings of the day.

On the 28th, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex are publicly sworn into office before the Lord Mayor and Aldermen at Guildhall.

On the 29th (Michaelmas Day), the Lord Mayor and Corporation proceed in state from the Mansion House to Guildhall. From Guildhall they walk to St. Lawrence's Church, to hear divine service; after which they return to Guildhall, where, in "common hall assembled," they elect a Lord Mayor for the year ensuing; and the proceedings of the day close with a dinner at the Mansion House, given by the chief magistrate of the city to his elected successor. Excepting these civic formalities, Michaelmas Day is distinguished only as the commencement of the season for eating *roast geese*.

On the 30th, the new Sheriffs proceed in state from Guildhall to Westminster Bridge, where they embark in the city state barges, and are rowed in state to Westminster Hall to

be accepted by the Barons of the Exchequer, on the part of her Majesty. The curious ceremonies performed on this occasion are described at length, in the "*Sports, Pastimes, and Customs of London*," page 38. After the due acceptance of the Sheriffs, the civic authorities reimbark in their barges, and return in state. In the evening, the senior sheriff gives a sumptuous dinner to the corporation and his friends, generally at one of the principal City taverns.

October.

The 3rd, 4th, and 5th of this month afford opportunity for a pleasant trip to *Croydon Fair*, a short ten miles from town, by the Dover railway, from the south foot of London Bridge. All the inns in Croydon are at this time abundantly supplied with *roast geese* for *dinner*, and *walnuts* by way of *dessert*. The fair is always very numerously and respectably attended.

The *National Gallery* re-opens about the 20th.

November.

Michaelmas Term begins on the 2nd.

The 5th is memorable as the anniversary of the *Gunpowder Plot* of 1605. Formerly it was one of the chief holidays of Londoners; and within these few years its interest has been revived with much zeal by the populace, especially in some of the outskirts of the town. The burning of Guy Fawkes, the chief conspirator, with deafening explosions of fireworks, is a scene of great glee, not only with boys, but with children of larger growth.* The ceremony of *burning the Pope*, though sometimes confounded with the *burning of Guy Fawkes*, is altogether a different affair, the origin of which is traceable to the reign of Queen Elizabeth.†

On the 8th, the new Lord Mayor is sworn into office at Guildhall.

The 9th is the *Birth-day of H. R. H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales;* and it is also the day on which the Lord Mayor for the year ensuing enters on the duties of his office. This, therefore, is doubly a gala day in London. From time immemorial, the *Lord Mayor's Day* has been celebrated by a grand show, by water as well as by land.

* See *Sports, Pastimes, and Customs*, &c., p. 39.
† *Ibid.* pp. 40, 41.

His lordship and the whole corporation proceed in state to Blackfriars Bridge, where they embark for Westminster in their splendid and gaily dressed barges. In Westminster Hall, the Lord Mayor, in conformity with certain ancient ceremonies, takes the oaths of office in presence of the Barons of the Exchequer. After this, he proceeds to the respective Law Courts, to invite the Judges to his grand official dinner in the evening. His lordship and all his splendid suite then re-embark from Old Palace Yard, and return to Blackfriars Bridge. Thence, having landed, they return to the Mansion House, still attired in their rich and gorgeous robes of office—the Lord Mayor in his massive state coach, drawn by six horses, and the Sheriffs in their new and elegant carriages, always built expressly for the year's service. This is the most magnificent and attractive part of the spectacle. The Lord Mayor is preceded in the cavalcade by the City Heralds, in antique costume, with trumpets and gaily waving plumes—the respective City Companies, with banners and music—men in ancient armour, &c. The next important portion of the day's proceedings is the dinner, which is usually attended by her Majesty's Ministers, several of the foreign ambassadors, and many of the nobility. "About 1,300 or 1,400 persons, ladies and gentlemen, generally sit down to the Lord Mayor's Dinner; which, from the disposition of the tables, the sumptuousness of the viands, the arrangement of the company, the brilliancy of the lights, music, and decorations, and the general good-humour and hilarity that prevail, is one of the most exciting spectacles the British metropolis can offer. The festivities of the day conclude with a grand ball; and, as every possible sort of refreshment is provided for the guests, the meeting never breaks up till a very late hour."* "The charges of the Lord Mayor's Day, which are borne by his lordship and the Sheriffs, generally amount to 3,000*l.* or upwards; and, as splendid entertainments are also given at the halls of the leading City Companies, as well as by numerous other parties, the total expenditure for public dinners, on this day, has been estimated to average from 8,000*l.* to 10,000*l.*"† London visitors at this season

* See *Sports, Pastimes, and Customs, &c.*; in which will be found some curious particulars of the manner in which the Lord Mayor's Day was accustomed to be celebrated by our ancestors—pp. 41 to 44.

† *Ibid.*

of the year should employ their interest to obtain tickets for the Lord Mayor's dinner; of which the bill of fare itself is no slight curiosity.

December.

About the 10th or 12th of the month, an annual four days' *Cattle Show*, at which prizes are awarded for the rearing of cattle, sheep, pigs, &c., is held at the Bazaar, King Street, Portman Square. This institution, which was formerly called the Smithfield Cattle Show, from its being held in Smithfield Market and the inn-yards in that quarter, originated with the late Francis, Duke of Bedford, by whom the prizes were offered. The prize animals are seen to infinitely greater advantage at the Bazaar, where the arrangements for their accommodation are excellent. The show is always very numerously attended; not only by agriculturists, graziers, and butchers, but by persons of every rank and station, ladies included. Admission, *One Shilling;* at which price the sum of 1,000*l.* is known to have been taken in a single day; consequently, the number of visitors must have been 20,000.

Madame Tussaud's Exhibition of Wax-work, open all the year round, is under the same roof. It contains the effigies of numerous sovereigns, generals, and statesmen, and other popular and notorious characters, from Henry VIII. and Queen Elizabeth, Robespierre, Marat, and Buonaparte, down to the murderers, Rush and the Mannings, many of them "in their habits as they lived." Admission, 1*s.*; "room of horrors," an additional 6*d.*; catalogue, 6*d.*

St. Thomas's Day—the 21st of December—the shortest day of the year—is a day of great bustle in the City, as wardmotes are held by the Aldermen of every ward for the election of officers for the year ensuing.

Admirers of highly-bred and highly-fed oxen, sheep, pigs, &c., will be much gratified by a visit to *Smithfield Market* on Monday in the week before Christmas. The show is generally larger and finer on that day than on any other market-day in the year.

With many families, the festivities of the season commence on *Christmas Eve*, the 24th of December. In some, to the infinite delight of the younger branches, the ancient and almost exploded rites of the mistletoe are not forgotten.*

* See *Sports, Pastimes, and Customs, &c.*, pp. 45 to 48.

On *Christmas Day*, divine service is performed at all churches, chapels, and other places of public worship; and, at the Roman Catholic Chapels, where high mass is generally performed, sacred music, vocal and instrumental, may be heard in very fine style. At this season, the Londoners yield to none in hospitality and mirth.

On *New Year's Eve*, the last day of the year, merry parties sit till "the witching hour"—till the church-bells have rung the old year out and the new one in.

THE THEATRES.

Although an exotic, we have no hesitation in assigning precedence to

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,

generally known as the great *Italian Opera House*, on the west side of the Haymarket, which has long enjoyed the distinguishing patronage of the sovereign. And most deservedly has it earned this proud distinction, not only by the magnificence of its appointments and the costly splendour of its performances, but as the constant resort of the British aristocracy—of the world of fashion, grace, and beauty.

The present edifice, nearly as large as the far-famed La Scala, at Milan, and holding from 2,500 to 3,000 persons, was erected in 1790, on the site of the old house, built by Sir John Vanbrugh, which had been destroyed in the preceding year, through the act of an incendiary, named Pietro Carnivalli, to gratify a private revenge. The original designs for the building were by Michael Novosielski; but it was not until the year 1820 that the exterior was finished, under the superintendence of Messrs. Nash and Repton. The east front, in which are the principal entrances, is 283 feet in length, and 64 in height. In a sunken panel, near the top, is a composition in artificial stone, from a design by Bubb. It consists chiefly of figures in *alto* and *basso relievo*, illustrating the origin and progressive improvements of the science of music in various nations. Dancing figures also are introduced, allusive to the rise and progress of the art of dancing. Internally, the dimensions of the theatre are, "from the curtain to the back of the boxes, 102 feet; the projection of the stage from the curtain to the orchestra

is 24 feet; the extreme width to the back of the boxes is 75 feet; the width of the curtain is 40 feet; the distance from the orchestra to the front boxes is 66 feet; the width of the pit is 65 feet, and its height to the ceiling 56 feet; the gallery is 40 feet in depth, and 56 feet in width; the stage measures 60 feet from the orchestra to the back wall, and 80 feet between the side walls." *

Under the present management, the whole of the interior of the theatre was renovated, and decorated in the finest style of modern art, a few seasons ago.

Amongst the directors of this establishment, since the destruction of the old house, may be mentioned Goold, Waters, Chambers, Ebers, Benelli, La Porte, Monck Mason, &c. The present and most successful lessee is Mr. Lumley. The conductor of the musical department is Mr. Balfe.

Composed almost exclusively of Italians, though with occasionally a slight intermixture of French, German, and English performers, the operatic *corps* of this establishment presents annually a choice selection of the finest vocal talent in Europe, illustrating the works of the chief musical composers of the age. In the *ballet* department, Her Majesty's Theatre is yet stronger, setting, as it were, all competition at defiance. It is here only that the exquisite "poetry of motion," aided by the joint arts of the scene-painter, the machinist, and the costumier, can be contemplated in perfection.

The season commences towards the close of February, or early in March, and continues till August. It is not, however, until after Easter that the chief attractions are brought forward. The nights of performance (subscription nights) are Tuesdays and Saturdays; but, during the greater part of the season, Thursday constitutes an extra night, to the performances on which the annual subscribers to the boxes are not admissible, unless by payment. The boxes are taken for the season, mostly by persons of distinction; and it is only when they are unoccupied for the night by the subscribers, that they are available to the public.

Prices of admission, at the doors, pit, 10*s.*; stalls, in front of the pit, 1*l.* 1*s.*; gallery, 3*s.* 6*d.*; stalls, in front of the

* Brayley's *Historical and Descriptive Accounts of the Theatres of London.*

gallery, *5s.* At many of the fashionable book and music sellers at the west end of the town, pit tickets may be had for *8s. 6d.*; and, at the same places, boxes and stalls may be engaged for the season or night. Also, at the box-office of the theatre.

Visitors to the pit must go in full dress; that is, they must not present themselves in frock coats or coloured trousers, black only being admissible.

Doors open, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at half-past 7, performance commencing at 8; on Saturdays, open at 7; and commence at half-past 7.

DRURY LANE THEATRE,

originally called the *Cock-pit*, may be traced to the early part of the 17th century, but it probably existed at a much earlier period. Having been built and rebuilt repeatedly, it was for many years regarded as the NATIONAL THEATRE, *par excellence*. Mrs. Siddons, the unrivalled tragic glory of our age, first appeared on its boards in the year 1775. The old house having been demolished, a new, spacious, and most magnificent structure was raised on its site, and opened to the public with the tragedy of *Macbeth*, on the 21st of April, 1793. Unfortunately, that building was destroyed by fire on the 24th of February, 1809. The present edifice, from the designs of Mr. Benjamin Wyatt, was first opened on the 10th of October, 1812, with the tragedy of *Hamlet*. It is of brick; but the west front is stuccoed. Its length, from east to west, is 237 feet; its width, from north to south, 131 feet. In the west front are three large doorways, approached by a flight of steps, under a plain flat-roofed portico, surmounted by a statue of Shakspeare. Below the roof of the portico are four tripod lamps, elevated on lofty pedestals. The entrance-hall, leading to the grand staircase communicating with the boxes, is large, commodious, and handsome. It contains statues of Shakspeare, Garrick, and Kean. The entrances to the pit, the private-boxes, the stage, &c., are from Brydges Street, on the north side of the theatre; those to the galleries are from Vinegar Yard, on the south side. In its present state, the interior, from designs by S. Beazley, is light, rich, tasteful, and elegant. The house will accommodate upwards of 3,000 persons.

Intended originally for the representation of the legitimate drama in all its purity and splendour, this establish-

ment has, for the last thirty years or more, been subjected to many vicissitudes, most of them unprofitable in a pecuniary sense. Having been some time closed, it was re-opened, at reduced prices, at Christmas, 1849. On this occasion Mr. Anderson, a gentleman of provincial and metropolitan respectability as a performer, became the lessee.

Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven. Admission, boxes, 4*s.*; pit, 2*s.*; gallery, 1*s.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE,

now recognised as the *Royal Italian Opera*, a formidable rival to Her Majesty's Theatre, stands on the west side of Bow Street, Covent Garden.

The theatre which originally occupied this site was built by Mr. John Rich, celebrated for his harlequinade productions, and opened on the 7th of December, 1732, with Congreve's "Way of the World." In 1792, it was partly rebuilt from the designs of Henry Holland, architect, at an expense of 25,000*l.*, of which 15,000*l.* was advanced as a loan by the Duke of Bedford, whose brother's son, the present Duke, is the ground-landlord. In the night of September 20th, 1808, the renovated structure was burnt to the ground by an accidental fire. Before the close of that year, the foundation stone of the present edifice was laid by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV.; and, within twelve months from the date of the fire—that is, on the 18th of September, 1809—it was opened with the performances of "Macbeth" and "The Quaker." The expenses of erection amounted to 150,000*l.*; of which 44,550*l.* was received from the insurance-offices, and 50,000*l.* raised by subscription shares of 500*l.* each.*

The architect was Sir Robert Smirke, R.A. The building is of the Doric order. In its eastern front, it has a

* In Brayley's historical work on the theatres, before referred to, it is related that the then Duke of Northumberland, after expressing his great concern for the accident, assured Mr. Kemble, the manager and a principal proprietor, "that if the sum of 10,000*l.* would be of any present convenience to him, it was wholly at his service, on his own bond." The offer was accepted, and the bond given; and on the day of laying the foundation-stone of the new building, the bond was returned, *cancelled.*

portico of four large fluted columns, supporting a pediment. On the upper part of the walls, at the sides of the portico, are two long panels, with *basso relievo* representations of the ancient and modern drama, by Flaxman and Rossi. This front is 220 feet in length; the north and south fronts are about 170 feet in length. The principal entrances are under the portico.

The opening of the theatre, in 1809, was rendered memorable by the commencement of the "O. P. Row," as it was called, which continued fifty nights with nearly unabated vehemence, and at length terminated in a compromise. This disturbance "was occasioned, partly, by the proprietors having increased the price of admission to the boxes to seven shillings, and of the pit to four shillings; and partly by the circumstance of the third tier being appropriated as *private boxes;* the popular impression (evidently a most absurd one) being, that those boxes were designed to favour secret assignations."

Covent Garden Theatre, after sustaining nearly as many adverse changes of fortune as that of Drury Lane, was at length taken, as a partnership concern, with the view of establishing a rival house for the representation of Italian operas in the highest style of excellence. Accordingly, in 1847, the interior was reconstructed from the designs of Mr. Albano; and all the appointments and decorations were executed in the most costly, brilliant, and tasteful style that modern art could command. Indeed, the appearance of this interior is altogether exquisitely beautiful. The expense has been estimated at 50,000*l.*

The main difference between the performances at this establishment and those in the Haymarket, is, that *here* the conductors profess to pay more close and severe attention to the entirety of the works of great composers, not allowing of curtailments or innovations, than is compatible with the system acted upon at the other house. To insure the requisite time for the performance of a full opera, they accordingly abjure ballet, excepting as incidental to the main piece. Thus, as it has been quaintly observed, while Her Majesty's Theatre is the place for minor opera and major ballet, Covent Garden is the place for major opera and minor ballet.

At first, the speculation was unsuccessful in a pecuniary sense, and heavy losses were sustained; but yet the estab-

lishment is continued with unabated energy, splendour, and power of effect.

Mr. Costa is the musical conductor; and the orchestra is probably the finest and most complete in the world.

The commencement and close of the season, the nights of performance, the hours of opening and of raising the curtain, and the regulations respecting dress, are the same as at the other house. The prices of admission are somewhat different: private boxes, by the night, from 2*l.* 2*s.* to 6*l.* 6*s.*, according to size; pit stalls, 1*l.* 1*s.*; pit, 8*s.*; amphitheatre stalls, 5*s.*; amphitheatre, 2*s.* 6*d.*

THE HAYMARKET THEATRE

is, in every point of view, one of the best conducted establishments in London. Mr. Webster, the present lessee, caters well for the public, and, consequently, well for himself. By a judicious system of management, securing in succession the services of all the most distinguished performers of the day, and sparing no expense in the production of dramatic novelties, he provides an incessant variety of entertainment, of excellent quality, for his patrons.

The first *Little Theatre* in the Haymarket, as it was originally called, was built on speculation by a carpenter in the year 1720. For many years, it was of comparatively slight consideration. In 1749, it was the scene of a ridiculous hoax—that of a man collecting an audience to witness the feat of compressing himself within a common quart bottle on the stage! The trick—said to have been contrived by the Duke of Montagu, to ascertain how far the credulity of the public might be imposed on—fully succeeded; but the audience, in revenge, nearly demolished the interior of the theatre!

In 1767, Foote, the celebrated mimic, actor, and dramatist, obtained a patent, and opened the house as a Theatre Royal. From Foote, it passed successively to the Colmans, father and son, and from George Colman the younger to Mr. Morris, who had married Colman's sister. The property now belongs to Mr. Morris's son.

On the 3rd of February, 1794, a dreadful accident occurred here. On the night of a royal visit, fifteen persons lost their lives in the rush of the crowd down a descent of several steps to the pit entrance.

The present edifice, from a design by Nash, was built in

less than four months, at an expense of 18,000*l.*, was opened on the 4th of July, 1821. It has a handsome portico, under which are the public entrances. The interior, with rectangular sides, and the front, or centre, slightly curved, is exceedingly commodious, and all the appointments are in good taste.

The performances consist of tragedy, comedy, light opera, farce, and spectacle. Doors open at half-past six o'clock, commence at seven. Boxes, 5*s.*; pit stalls, 5*s.*; pit, 3*s.*; first gallery, 2*s.*; second gallery, 1*s.* Half-price at nine: boxes, 3*s.*; pit, 2*s.*; first gallery, 1*s.*; second gallery, 6*d.* There is usually a recess of six or eight weeks in the autumn.

THE PRINCE'S THEATRE.

The Prince's, or St. James's Theatre, in King Street, on the eastern side of St. James's Street, was built in 1836, from the designs of Mr. Beazley, for Braham, the vocalist, for the performance of English operas, &c. The speculation proved a failure; but, for some years, the house has been held on lease by Mr. Mitchell, the bookseller, of Old Bond Street, for the annual performance of French comedies, vaudevilles, &c. The interior, re-decorated by Messrs. Crace, in the Louis Quartorze style, is extremely elegant, and the accommodations for the audience are altogether excellent. The season usually lasts from January to July, under the judicious management of Mr. Mitchell. Boxes, 6*s.*; pit, 3*s.*; amphitheatre, 2*s.* Doors open at seven; commence at half-past seven.

THE LYCEUM.

The original Lyceum, erected by Payne, the architect, in 1765, was many years occupied for a variety of miscellaneous exhibitions. About the year 1789 or 1790, it was engaged by the celebrated Charles Dibdin, for his entertainment called *Sans Souici*; and, twenty years later, Mr. S. A. Arnold, son of Dr. Arnold, the musical composer, obtained a license for it as an *English Opera House*. In 1815, he raised a new theatre on its site, on an enlarged scale, from the designs of Mr. Beazley. That structure was destroyed by fire on the 16th of February, 1839; and the present theatre was soon afterwards erected on its site, also from the designs of Mr. Beazley. Its front elevation, having a Corinthian portico

of six columns, surmounted by a dome and balustrade, is on the west side of Wellington Street North, in the Strand. The box entrance is under the portico; the entrance to the pit is in the Strand; and the entrance to the gallery is in Exeter Street, at the back of the Strand.

This is one of the handsomest, most compact, and most tastefully decorated theatres in London; and it possesses the superadded merit of being admirably constructed for hearing. It is under the able management of Madame Vestris and her husband, Mr. Charles Matthews, for the performance of comic opera, vaudeville, farce, spectacle, &c.; and, excepting the recess of a few weeks in the autumn, it is open all the year.

Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven. Dress circle, 4*s.*; upper boxes, 3*s.*; pit, 2*s.*; gallery, 1*s.* No half-price.

THE PRINCESS'S THEATRE,

on the north side of Oxford Street, occupies the site of what was once the Queen's Bazaar. The stage entrance, with a concert-room, &c., is in Castle Street. This elegant little structure, opened about the year 1837, is from a design by Mr. T. M. Nelson. It is very spiritedly conducted by Mr. J. Maddox, the lessee; the performances, which are greatly varied, consisting chiefly of light English operas and vaudevilles. Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven. Boxes, 4*s.*; pit, 2*s.*; gallery, 1*s.* Half-price at nine.

THE ADELPHI THEATRE,

westward from the Lyceum, on the north side of the Strand, was originally built by Mr. Scott, noted as a manufacturer of "liquid blue," and called the *Sans Pareil Theatre*. The pieces then performed were chiefly written by Miss Scott, the proprietor's daughter, who usually personated the heroines herself. In 1814, the house was enlarged; in 1820 or 1821, it passed into the hands of Messrs. Rodwell and Jones; and in the season of 1821-2, it acquired an extraordinary degree of popularity by the performance of a piece called "Tom and Jerry," in which Wrench, John Reeve, Keeley, &c. most memorably distinguished themselves. It has since been repeatedly altered and improved, and has long been remarkable for the breadth of humour displayed in its performances, which are chiefly melodramas,

burlettas, farces, &c. It is under the successful management of Madame Celeste, supported by Wright, Paul Bedford, and other favourites of the town. Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven. Boxes, 4*s.*; pit, 2*s.*; gallery, 1*s.* Half-price at nine.

THE OLYMPIC THEATRE,

in Wych Street, Drury Lane, occupies, in part, the site of the residence of Elizabeth, titular Queen of Bohemia, the only sister of Charles I. This unfortunate princess, coming to England on the restoration of her nephew, Charles II., was privately married to the Earl of Craven, who had a mansion on this spot.

The first theatre erected here was opened by the late Mr. Astley, senior, of the Royal Amphitheatre, Westminster Bridge Road, in September 1806. It was from Mr. Astley's own designs. The principal timber employed in the building was from the hull of an old man-of-war, given to him for the purpose by his Majesty George III. It was then called the *Olympic Pavilion*. In 1813, Mr. Elliston purchased the concern, and re-opened it, with improvements, as the *Olympic Theatre*. Subsequently, under the management of Madame Vestris, it was, for several seasons, one of the most fashionable places of resort in the metropolis. Unfortunately, the house was accidentally destroyed by fire, on the 29th of March, 1849. It was expeditiously rebuilt, and opened on the 26th of December in the same year, for the performance of the regular drama. After an address, delivered by Mrs. Mowatt, an American actress of great talent, who had distinguished herself at the Marylebone Theatre, in London, the play of the "Two Gentlemen of Verona" was enacted, and followed by a pantomime. The theatre is now extremely elegant and commodious; but, after a few weeks, the doors were closed in consequence of certain pecuniary failures, &c. on the part of the new lessee.

THE STRAND THEATRE,

a small establishment, under the conduct of that deservedly popular actor, William Farren, is situated on the south side of the Strand, nearly opposite Newcastle Street. Light comic pieces, vaudevilles, &c. are the usual performances.

Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven. Boxes 3*s.*; pit, 1*s.* 6*d.*; gallery, 6*d.*

THE MARYLEBONE THEATRE,

in Church Street, Paddington, is a small but very commodious and tastefully decorated house, appropriated sometimes to the regular drama, at others to melodrama, burletta, &c. Prices vary, but are always moderate.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE,

in Tottenham Street, Tottenham Court Road, known at different times as the *Regency Theatre*, the *West London Theatre*, &c., was originally appropriated to the Concerts of Ancient Music, which were patronized by King George III. These were succeeded by admirably performed French plays; since which, amidst a host of vicissitudes, it has been but rarely successful. Open occasionally: prices vary, but, of late years, always low.

THE SOHO THEATRE,

in Dean Street, Soho, was constructed some years ago by Miss Kelly, an actress of great celebrity, under the expectation of being honoured with the patronage of the Duke of Devonshire and other members of the aristocracy. But the speculation, though attended by enormous expense, proved a failure. The theatre is exceedingly small, but admirably adapted for amateur performances. Occasionally open: prices varying, but generally high.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE,

at the New River Head, St. John's Street Road, near Islington, derives its name from certain mineral springs, which were in vogue here towards the close of the seventeenth century, under the management of a person named Sadler. The discovery, or rather re-discovery, of these springs, said to have belonged to the ancient priory of St. John of Jerusalem, and which are still in existence, though covered over, induced Mr. Sadler to build a "Musick-House" on the spot, which thus became a place of public entertainment. Rope-dancing, tumbling, vaulting, pantomime, &c., were subsequently introduced; but, notwithstanding many applications, it was not until the year 1753, that a license could be obtained for the performances. Twelve years later, a builder of the name of Rosoman, into

whose hands the property had fallen, pulled down the old wooden "Musick-House," and erected the present theatre, at an expense of 4,225*l.* It has from time to time been greatly enlarged and improved. In 1772, regular pantomimes were exhibited. The prices were then 3*s.* 6*d.* for the boxes, 1*s.* 6*d.* the pit, and 1*s.* the gallery; but, for an additional 6*d.*, every spectator was allowed a pint of either Port, Mountain, Lisbon, or punch. Subsequently, this house became eminently popular under the management of the Dibdins and others. Burlettas, melodramas, pantomimes, dances, water-pieces, and serious historical spectacles, were for many years the order of the day. "Sadler's Wells has had to boast of many excellent clowns, and particularly of Jemmy Warner, Baptista Dubois, Pietro Bologna, and the Grimaldis, grandsire, father, and son. Here, too, in the summer of 1803, the late celebrated Egyptian traveller Belzoni exhibited feats of strength, &c., under the appellation of the Patagonian Samson. He had previously exhibited at St. Bartholomew's Fair, in Smithfield." *

Of late years, this establishment has assumed a higher character, under the sound and able management of Mr. Phelps. There is not another theatre in the metropolis in which the legitimate drama (Shakspeare's plays especially) is now produced in such purity, with so much critical judgment, and with so powerful an effect. The company is admirably organized, and possesses many performers, Mr. Phelps himself included, of high merit.

Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven. Boxes, 2*s.*; pit, 1*s.*; gallery, 6*d.*; half-price to the boxes, 1*s.* Open nearly all the year.

THE ROYAL PAVILION THEATRE.

This little theatre, devoted chiefly to the representation of melodrama, burletta, &c., is situated on the north side of Whitechapel Road. It was opened shortly after the destruction of the *East London*, or *Royalty Theatre*, by fire; an event which occurred on the 11th of April, 1826. The prices of admission are always very low.

The *Garrick Theatre*, another small but exceedingly pretty house, in Leman Street, Goodman's Fields, was accidentally burnt a short time since, and has not been rebuilt.

* Brayley's *Theatres of London*, in which will be found a long and curious historical account of Sadler's Wells.

THE CITY OF LONDON THEATRE,

situated on the western side of Norton Falgate, near the terminus of the Eastern Counties Railway, is a well-constructed commodious house; but, never having been extensively patronised, it is only occasionally open, and the prices are always moderate.

THE ROYAL STANDARD THEATRE

is another minor establishment, about a quarter of a mile northward from the City of London Theatre; but it is open only at uncertain periods, with varying prices, but always low.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE,

a short distance from the Surrey foot of Westminster Bridge, has been for several years the property, and under the management, of Mr. Batty, whose equestrian establishment is unquestionably the first in the kingdom. The house is large, handsome, and commodious; capable, it is said, of containing 4,000 persons. The circle for horsemanship is nearly 130 feet in circumference.

This theatre was built by the late Mr. Philip Astley, who had been in the 15th (or General Elliott's Own) Regiment of Light Horse, in which service he acquired a complete mastery of equestrian science. Having obtained his discharge, with a most honourable *certificate of service*, he commenced his feats of horsemanship on a very humble scale, in open fields round London. At length he took a piece of ground, now the site of the amphitheatre, inclosed it, and, in the course of a few years, got up a regularly roofed building, which he called the *Amphitheatre Riding-House*. This was in 1778. At length, against powerful opposition, he succeeded in obtaining a license for his performances. The establishment was successively designated the *Royal Grove*, the *Royal Saloon*, and lastly, in 1802, *Astley's Royal Amphitheatre*. It has been *thrice* destroyed by fire: in 1794, 1803, and 1841. Horse-spectacles were first introduced on the stage here shortly after the conflagration of 1803. Astley died at Paris on the 20th of October, 1814; and his son, John Astley, also died at Paris, on the 19th of October, 1821, in the same house, chamber, and bed, exactly seven years afterwards. Davis, who had long been the sole proprietor of the horses, was

the next manager; then the celebrated Ducrow; and, since his death, Mr. Batty, whose success is fully equal to that of any of his predecessors. In point of attraction and gratification, the amphitheatre is the first establishment of its class in the country.

Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven; half-price at half-past eight. Boxes, 4*s.*; pit, 2*s.*; gallery, 1*s.*; upper gallery, 6*d.*

THE ROYAL SURREY THEATRE

stands on the site of the *Royal Circus*, which was built in 1782, for equestrian and dramatic entertainments, on a plan similar to that of Astley's Amphitheatre. Its situation is near the Obelisk, at the southern extremity of Blackfriars Road. The Circus was burnt down in August, 1805; and the present building, begun in the month of November following, from designs by Mr. Cabanel, jun., was opened at Easter, 1806. Subsequently to the destruction of Drury Lane Theatre in 1809, it was let for five years to Mr. Elliston, who greatly changed and improved the style of the entertainments, and gave the house the name of the *Surrey Theatre*, which it has ever since retained. It is now under the management of Mr. Shepherd, devoted chiefly to the representation of the regular drama, which is produced in a highly laudable and effective manner. The house is very spacious, handsome, and commodious.

Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven. Boxes, 2*s.*; pit, 1*s.*; gallery, 6*d.*

THE VICTORIA THEATRE,

in the Waterloo Road, Lambeth, was originally called the *Cobourg Theatre*, in honour of the Princess Charlotte of Wales and her royal consort, the Prince of Saxe-Cobourg, now King of the Belgians, under whose patronage the building was commenced in 1816, and opened on Whit-Monday, the 13th of May 1818. The architect was Mr. Cabanel. It is a plain, massive, brick structure; but the interior is spacious and commodious. The representations are mostly melo-dramas, burlettas, and, what are termed, domestic tragedies; in the last of which Miss Vincent is generally the heroine.

Doors open at six; commence at half-past six. Boxes, 1*s.*; pit, 6*d.*; gallery, 3*d.*

MUSIC, DANCING, &c.

The English can no longer be stigmatized, as they have long unjustly been, as an unmusical people. Every city and town in the kingdom, but especially the metropolis, affords abundant proof, in each succeeding year, of an increasing love of music, both vocal and instrumental; and this love will not fail to lead on, slowly perhaps, but surely and successfully, to a complete and noble mastery of the science. Even now, several of our musical institutions may boast a high order of merit.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,

in Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, under the patronage of her Majesty, and many of the leading nobility, was established in 1822 for the cultivation of the art amongst natives, and has produced many accomplished artists of both sexes. The pupils are instructed in every branch of music; the Latin, French, Italian, and English languages, writing, arithmetic, and dancing. During the season, several public concerts are given by the pupils, at the Queen's Concert Rooms, Hanover Square, where tickets may be had, and also of most of the respectable music-sellers at the west end of the town. The principal room, appropriated for these and similar occasions, is a splendid apartment, accommodating about eight hundred persons.

MUSICAL SOCIETIES.

At the head of the numerous musical institutions in London stands the *Philharmonic Society*, the orchestra of which is conducted by Mr. Costa, who presides over the musical department of her Majesty's Theatre, in the Haymarket. This is a subscription society, the concerts of which, with those of several other societies, are also given at the Hanover Square Rooms.

Amongst other distinguished musical institutions, tickets of admission to which are obtainable mostly from their members (or if otherwise they are duly advertised, with their places of purchase, &c.) may be mentioned the *Società Armonica*—the *Musical Union*, at Willis's Rooms—the *Beethoven Quartett Society*—the *Sacred Harmonic Society*, at Exeter Hall, in the Strand, the principal room of which

will accommodate 4,000 people—the *British Musicians*—the *Cecilian Society*, in Gresham Street, near the Bank—the *Melodists' Club*, &c. There is also a new establishment, called the *Music Hall*, in Wilson Street, Long Acre, for Mr. Hullah's singing classes. The concert room accommodates about 3,000 people.

MISCELLANEOUS CONCERTS.

In the course of the season, many of our leading *artistes*, foreign and native, vocal and instrumental, give splendid concerts, under the most distinguishing patronage, and commanding a host of first-rate talent. In some instances, the noble mansions of their patrons are kindly accorded for the purpose. In others, the Concert Room at her Majesty's Theatre, the Hanover Square Rooms, &c., are engaged. Most of these first-class concerts are given in the morning—that is, they commence about two o'clock, and are over by five or six. In general, the price of tickets is high; varying from half a guinea to a guinea.

Miscellaneous concerts, of somewhat inferior grade, yet still of high respectability, are occasionally given, both morning and evening, at public rooms, in different parts of the town; such as Exeter Hall, in the Strand—the Music Hall, in Store Street, Bedford Square—the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields—Crosby Hall, Bishopsgate Street, &c.

For the humbler classes of society, there are concerts held at Mechanics' Institutes and other places, varying, in their charge for admission, from 1*s.* down to 6*d.*, 4*d.*, 3*d.*, and even 2*d.* a head.

BALLS AND ASSEMBLIES.

At *Willis's Rooms*, on the south side of King Street, St. James's, are held the celebrated subscription balls and assemblies, termed *Almack's*, established more than three-fourths of a century ago. These balls are under the management of a committee of ladies of rank; and, with the view of keeping the society as select and as exclusive as possible, the only means of access are by vouchers, or personal introduction by one of the committee. *Almack*, the original proprietor, from whom the rooms were first named, kept the Thatched House Tavern in St. James's Street, the site of which is now occupied by the Conservative Club.

Amongst other fashionable societies which hold their *reunions* at these rooms, are the *Caledonians*, the *Musical Union*, &c. The rooms are also occasionally let for public and private balls and concerts of respectability.

During the season, many respectable private subscription balls are held at taverns and other places, in different parts of the town.

MASQUERADES AND CASINOS.

Public Masquerades have never acquired a stable popularity in this country, nor is it desirable that they should. They are not congenial to the national character of the English, who possess not the requisite promptness of repartee, nor a sufficient flow of animal spirits, to support them with effect. Her Majesty's Theatre, and the theatres of Drury Lane and Covent Garden, have been occasionally desecrated by these exhibitions, at which, from the promiscuous nature of the assemblage, scenes of the most ruffianly vulgarity and disgusting indecency have too frequently been witnessed. No woman of character can with propriety be seen at these entertainments. A masquerade, at a private mansion, especially in the country, is altogether a different affair.

Masquerades given at such places as Vauxhall and Cremorne Gardens are perhaps a shade less objectionable than those at the theatres. Tickets of admission vary in price, from five shillings to half a guinea or a guinea. For the last-mentioned sum, a supper, with wines, is generally included.

There are Masquerade Warehouses, in different parts of the west end of the town, where masks may be bought, and where fancy and character dresses may be hired.

Casinos, the staple amusement at which consists of dancing, are of but recent introduction in this country. The first of them was opened in the Adelaide Gallery, at the north-western end of the Lowther Arcade, leading from the Strand, under the management of Mr. Laurent. The establishment has since been removed to the *Argyll Rooms*, in Great Windmill Street, Golden Square, under the denomination of an *Academy for Dancing*.

There is another establishment, the *Casino de Venise*, upon a similar plan, two or three doors from the corner of Little Queen Street, in Holborn.

The price of admission to these places of amusement is only a shilling; and, from their nature—from the lowness of the admission fee—and from the consequent unselect character of the visitors of both sexes—they are liable to great abuses. For the sake of public morals, therefore, it might be well that the Casinos should not be permitted to open without a license, and that they should also be placed under the regular *surveillance* of the police.

PALACES, HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT, ETC.

Not professing to describe public buildings, in a space so limited as ours, we must yet, in some instances, indicate their localities, for the sake of their contents, respecting which the curiosity of visitors is naturally excited. First, then, of

ST. JAMES'S PALACE,

at the western end of Pall Mall, and on the north side of St. James's Park. Erected in the reign of Henry VIII. on the site of an hospital dedicated to St. James, it was, until very recently, the residence of our sovereigns ever since the destruction of Whitehall Palace, by fire, in 1697. It is still used on certain state occasions; and, unsightly as is the exterior, it is understood to be the most commodious for regal display of any palace in Europe. On the western side of the open quadrangle is the chapel royal, at which her Majesty sometimes attends when in town. On these occasions, a slight douceur to the attendants will give a stranger admittance to hear the choral service, &c.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

This royal residence, apparently a favourite of her present Majesty, is situated at the west end of St. James's Park, in Pimlico. It has been so altered, enlarged, and beautified, exteriorly and interiorly, at an enormous national expense, that it presents scarcely a vestige of its origin. The first *Buckingham House*, built on the site of Arlington House, by Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham, in 1703, was purchased by George III., as a residence for Queen Charlotte, in 1762. It was then styled the Queen's Palace; and, in 1775, it was settled upon the Queen Consort, in lieu of Somerset House. The greater part of the house was taken down by George IV., and rebuilt, from designs by Nash, in 1825. Since that

period, it has been repeatedly enlarged and altered by Mr. Blore, and is yet incomplete in its arrangements. The finest apartment in the palace is the Picture Gallery, in which are many masterpieces of the Dutch and Flemish schools, collected chiefly by George IV. There are also portraits and other paintings by Sir Peter Lely, Zoffany, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir David Wilkie, Sir William Allan, &c. The state-rooms look over the gardens, in which is the Queen's Summer House, containing eight fresco paintings from Milton's "Comus," by Landseer, Maclise, Ross, Dyce, Eastlake, Uwins, Stanfield, and Leslie.

The gates of this palace are said to have cost 3,000 guineas. Admission to the interior can be obtained only by an order from the Lord Chamberlain, during the absence of the Court.

The stables (entered from Queen's Row, Pimlico), the stud of horses, &c., are well worth seeing. An order from the Master of the Horse will secure admission.

WHITEHALL.

The Banqueting House, the only portion of Whitehall Palace which escaped destruction by fire, in 1697, and which had been added from designs by Inigo Jones, was converted into a Chapel Royal by George I. Service is performed here every Sunday morning and afternoon. Over the altar are arranged the various eagles that were from time to time taken from the French, in the battles in the Peninsula and at Waterloo. The ceiling of this beautiful structure, painted by Rubens, is in nine compartments, of which the central one represents the apotheosis of James I. It was through one of the windows of this building that Charles I. walked forth to the scaffold on which he was beheaded. Within the area, at the back of the structure, is a fine bronze statue of James II., by Grinlin Gibbons.

WESTMINSTER HALL,

in New Palace Yard, between the Abbey and the Bridge, and adjoining the New Houses of Parliament, was built by William Rufus, in 1397, as a banqueting room to the ancient palace of Westminster. In this room, remarkable as being the largest in Europe unsupported by pillars, Richard II. entertained 10,000 persons at a Christmas festival. It is 270 feet long, 74 wide, and 90 high. The roof is a masterpiece of art. The Hall is still used by the Sove-

reigns of England for their coronation feasts. From its sides are entrances to the Law Courts.

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

Every visitor of the metropolis should, if possible, obtain a sight of the *New Houses of Parliament*, though yet in an unfinished state.

The *House of Lords* may be seen, during the sitting of Parliament, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, when the Lord Chancellor sits to hear appeals; and on Saturdays, from eleven till five o'clock, by orders to be had on application at the Lord Chamberlain's office on the preceding Wednesday. At times when the House is not sitting, the personal introduction of a member is necessary. For admission to the Stranger's Gallery, to hear the debates, a peer's order is necessary.

To hear the debates in the *House of Commons*, a member's order must be obtained. At other times, during the recess, a small douceur to the persons in charge will obtain admission.

LAMBETH PALACE,

the metropolitan residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, originally built in 1188, is on the eastern or Surrey bank of the Thames, nearly opposite the Houses of Parliament. It has a handsome park and gardens of nearly thirty acres—contains a fine library, with portraits of all the archbishops from the time of Laud—and should be inspected for the sake of the Lollard's Tower, at the western extremity of the chapel.

KENSINGTON PALACE,

in which her present Majesty passed much of her minority, is situated rather more than a mile westward from Hyde Park Corner and the end of Oxford Street, in the midst of most beautifully picturesque grounds upwards of three miles in circumference. These grounds, which are laid out in the finest taste, are open to the public, and constitute the most fashionable and most delightful promenade in the immediate vicinity of the metropolis. The only exclusions are, livery servants, women in pattens, and dogs. The entrances are from the town of Kensington, Hyde Park, and the Uxbridge Road. Strangers are allowed to view the palace on personal application.

are each and all now, by the aid of railroads, within an hour's ride of the metropolis. Richmond and Kew may well be embraced in a day; but Hampton Court and Windsor Castle require a day each; and, if two days can be spared, the gratification of the visitor will be more than redoubled.

Trains for Richmond, Kew, Hampton Court, and Windsor, start from the home station of the South-Western Railway, in the Waterloo Bridge Road, at brief intervals, from eight or nine o'clock in the morning till the same hour in the evening. Trains for Windsor start with almost equal frequency from the home station of the Great Western Railway, at Praed Street, Paddington.*

MANSIONS OF THE NOBILITY AND GENTRY,

WITH THEIR PICTURE-GALLERIES, &c.

Within a space so limited as ours, vain would be any attempt to indicate even a tenth part of the fine mansions by which the squares and streets, and the immediate vicinity of London, especially in its western direction, abound; the greater number, however, being distinguished by their elegant and magnificent furniture, and their beautiful and costly specimens of ancient and modern art, rather than by any architectural grandeur of effect. But we must mention

* Previously to starting upon these delightful excursions, persons should provide themselves with *The Visitor's Hand-Book to Richmond, Kew Gardens, and Hampton Court; embracing and describing all the Grand Points of those attractive Spots, with a full Catalogue of the Pictures at Hampton Court, an Engraving of the Maze, and a useful Map of the surrounding Country*;—and with *The Visitor's Hand-Book to Windsor, Eton, Virginia Water, &c.; with a complete Catalogue of the Paintings in the State Apartments of the Castle.* These useful and elegantly-arranged little Hand-Books, printed uniformly with *London Life as it is*, and forming portions of the *New Library of Useful Knowledge*, are published by Cradock and Co., 48, Paternoster Row, price 6*d.* each; and may be had at the railway stations, and of all booksellers.

a few, which, from various circumstances, seem more particularly to challenge notice.

Anglesey House, formerly known as *Uxbridge House*, the residence of the Marquis of Anglesey, is a handsome stone-fronted building, in Burlington Gardens, near Bond Street. The original architect was Leoni, an Italian, by whom it was built for the Duke of Queensbury.

Apsley House, at Hyde Park Corner, immediately opposite the Wellington statue by M. C. Wyatt, is the London residence of the Duke of Wellington. It was built by the Lord Chancellor Apsley, Earl Bathurst, about the year 1770; but enlarged and nearly re-edified for the Duke by Messrs. S. and B. Wyatt, in 1828-9. The iron blinds, bullet-proof, were put up by the Duke, in consequence of his windows having been broken, and his person insulted, by a mob, during the progress of the Reform Bill. At the foot of the grand staircase is a fine colossal statue of Buonaparte, by Canova. The paintings are numerous, and many of them extremely valuable.

Bath House, Piccadilly, the residence of Lord Ashburton, contains some fine specimens of pictorial art.

Bridgewater House, one of the noblest mansions in London, with one of the noblest collections of paintings, is the residence of the Earl of Ellesmere, in the Green Park; and, what renders it of heightened value and interest, it is free to the public, at certain periods, by means of a separate staircase built for the purpose. This truly magnificent mansion was erected in 1848-9, from the designs of Charles Barry, Esq., the architect of the new Houses of Parliament. The collection formed by the late Duke of Bridgewater, great uncle of the present noble possessor, contains some of the finest specimens extant of the Italian, Spanish, French, Flemish, Dutch, German, and English schools of painting.

Burlington House, between Sackville Street and Bond Street, is said to stand on the site of the first noble residence erected in Piccadilly. The interior, with a staircase painted by Sebastian Ricci, is in fine taste. It now belongs to the Duke of Devonshire.

Chesterfield House, in South Audley Street, one of the finest architectural elevations in the metropolis, was built for Philip, fourth Earl of Chesterfield, author of the celebrated "Letters to his Son." Its noble staircase is from Canons, the seat of the Duke of Chandos, in Hertfordshire.

Devonshire House, Piccadilly, was built by Kent for the third Duke of Devonshire, and, though only a plain brick edifice, is said to have cost 20,000*l.*, exclusively of a present of 1,000*l.* to the architect. The interior decorations are amongst the most superb in London. Here is kept John Philip Kemble's collection of old English plays, the finest extant, made at a cost of 2,000*l.*, and purchased by the present Duke after the collector's death.

Grosvenor House, the town residence of the Marquis of Westminster, in Upper Grosvenor Street, contains a very choice collection of ancient and modern pictures, which, like that of Bridgewater House, is free to the public at certain periods.

Holland House, Kensington, about two miles from Hyde Park Corner, was built in 1607. The history of this old mansion is very curious.

Mr. Hope's splendid residence at the corner of Down Street, Piccadilly, contains the valuable collection of paintings, sculpture, Egyptian antiquities, and other works of *virtù*, formed by the father of the present possessor, the author of the romance of "Anastasius," and the introducer of the Egyptian style of furniture into this country half a century ago.

Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, the residence of the Marquis of Lansdowne, has a sculpture-gallery 100 feet in length, devoted chiefly to the reception of antique statues, busts, &c., of inestimable value. Here also is the last work of Canova—the statue of a sleeping female. The collection of paintings, mostly modern, is very fine.

Marlborough House, Pall Mall, built by Sir Christopher Wren for the great Duke of Marlborough, was the residence of the late Dowager Queen Adelaide; and it is now the depository, *pro tempore*, of the Vernon collection of paintings, bequeathed, not long since, to the National Gallery.

Melbourne House, opposite the Banqueting House, Whitehall, the back front of which looks into St. James's Park, is remarkable for its large circular hall. The mansion was sold by the father of the late Lord Melbourne to the Duke of York, and was then called York House. Occupied by the widow of Lord Dover, it is now known as Dover House.

Northumberland House, at the south-west corner of the Strand, opposite Charing Cross, is one of the largest and most magnificent town-mansions of our nobility. On the site of an ancient religious house, it was built by Bernard Jansen, a Flemish architect, in the reign of James I. It contains a large and valuable collection of pictures and other works of art. The paintings are by the Caracci, Guido, Raffaelle, Rubens, Salvator Rosa, Titian, Vandyke, &c. The mansion can be seen only by special favour.

Sir Robert Peel, at his residence at Whitehall, has a fine collection of Dutch pictures, and many admirable productions of the modern English school.

The choice collection of *Samuel Rogers, Esq.* (poet and banker), of No. 22, St. James's Place, should also be seen.

Spencer House, in St. James's Place, the town residence of Earl Spencer, was built by Vardy, a pupil of Kent's, and the architect of the Horse Guards and Anglesey House. It contains one of the finest libraries in England.

Stafford House, more properly *Sutherland House*, originally built for the late Duke of York, from designs by B. and P. Wyatt, is a splendid Corinthian structure, at the south-east corner of the Green Park, St. James's. It was purchased by the late Duke of Sutherland; whose son and successor, the present Duke, raised it an additional story. The state apartments, on the first floor, are furnished in a style of surpassing taste, elegance, and splendour; the usual family apartments, also very elegantly furnished, are on the ground or basement floor. The Sutherland Gallery, containing many exquisite productions of art, is 126 feet in length, by 32 in width. The staircase is one of the finest in the kingdom. The paintings, distributed over the mansion, are *chefs d'œuvres* of ancient and of modern art. They can be seen only by express permission.

Amongst other private residences containing interesting works of art, may be mentioned those of Mr. Bevan, 4, Hamilton Place, Hyde Park Corner;—Mr. Bridel, Eaton Square, Pimlico;—Lady Garvagh, 26, Portman Square;—Earl de

Grey, St. James's Square;—Mr. Neeld, 6, Grosvenor Square;—Marquis of Hertford, Regent's Park;—Mr. Tomline, 1, Carlton House Terrace;—Mr. Sheepshanks, Rutland Gate, Knightsbridge;—Mr. Munro, Hamilton Place, Piccadilly;—Mr. Gibbon, 17, Hanover Terrace, Regent's Park, &c.

PICTORIAL AND OTHER STANDARD AND ANNUAL EXHIBITIONS, MUSEUMS, &c.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS,

in Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross, was founded in 1768, under the express patronage of his Majesty George III. From 1780 till 1837 inclusive, its annual exhibitions of painting and sculpture were held at Somerset House; and, from 1838 till the present time, it has occupied the eastern wing of the National Gallery. The whole of that building being required for its original purpose, it is expected that the Academy will receive a pecuniary grant from Government, and have to find a new location. The institution consists of forty Royal Academicians, including its President, twenty Associates (from which new Academicians are elected as vacancies occur by death), and six Associate Engravers. The funds of the Academy, which arise from its exhibitions, now averaging about 6,000*l.* a year, are appropriated to the support of students during their studies in Italy, and to pensions to decayed members and their families. Each member, on his election, presents one of his own productions to the Academy. For leave to view these pictures, apply by letter to the keeper, at the Academy. Admission to the exhibition, 1*s.*; catalogue, 1*s.* Opens on the first Monday in May, and remains open from eight in the morning till dusk, for about six weeks.—See the month of *May*, in the *Calendar of Amusements*, page 28.

THE ART UNION SOCIETY

holds its annual exhibition of prize pictures, selected by its subscribers, in the gallery of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, in the month of September. Admission by free tickets, obtainable from subscribers, or from the Secretary to the Society, at his office, West Strand. Open daily, from ten till four, and from seven till ten.

THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY'S MUSEUM,

in New Burlington Street, Regent Street, contains a choice collection of Persian, Sanscrit, and Chinese MSS., with oriental arms and armour, and various other illustrations of the history, arts, and antiquities of the eastern world. Admission free, from eleven till four, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, by written orders from members, obtainable at the Society's rooms.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION,

on the north side of Pall Mall, was founded in 1805, for the encouragement of native artists, in affording them superior facilities for the exhibition and sale of their productions. The Institution, however, has two exhibitions annually: the first from February till May, from ten till five daily, for the productions of living artists; the second from June till September, from ten till six, for the works of the old masters, lent by their proprietors for the occasion. Admission to either exhibition, 1*s.*; catalogue, 1*s.*

THE BRITISH MUSEUM,

that noble depository of literature, art, and antiquities, is situated in Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury. It has been lately enlarged and re-edified in a style of much architectural beauty; and the Nineveh marbles, discovered by Mr. Layard, after they had been entombed between two and three thousand years, constitute a new point of strong and general attraction.

From the 7th of September to the 1st of May, the Museum is open to the public from ten till four; from the 7th of May to the 1st of September, from ten till seven; and daily during the weeks of Easter, Whitsuntide, and Christmas, Saturdays excepted. It is closed, however, from the 1st to the 7th of January, the 1st to the 7th of May, and the 1st to the 7th of September, inclusive; on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and Christmas Day; and on any general fast or thanksgiving day. Admission to the reading rooms, for the purpose of study or research, is subject to the same regulations. A synopsis of the contents of the Museum may be had at the doors, price 1*s.*

BURFORD'S PANORAMA,

in the north-east corner of Leicester Square, is one of the oldest, best, and most popular pictorial exhibitions in the metropolis. It was commenced in 1790. The subjects on view, always of striking interest, are usually three in number; such as the Polar Regions, the City of Pompeii, the Lakes of Killarney, &c.; and their style of execution is admirable. Each picture is an entire circle; in the centre of which, or on some given point, the spectator is supposed to stand. Admission to each painting, 1*s.*; or to the three, 2*s.* 6*d.* Catalogue, to each, 6*d.*

THE COLOSSEUM AND THE CYCLORAMA,

in the Regent's Park, present sights of extraordinary attraction and interest.

The Colosseum has both morning and evening exhibitions of a panoramic view of Paris, brilliantly illuminated, and extending over a surface of 46,000 square feet. The Rotunda, or Hall of Sculpture, contains some fine specimens of modern art. Conservatories, classic ruins, a Gothic aviary, the Stalactite Caverns of Adelsberg, with the charms of music superadded, combine to delight the spectator. Open, in the morning, from half-past ten till five; in the evening, from seven till half-past ten. Admission, 2*s.*

The Cyclorama is a distinct exhibition, adjoining the Colosseum, in Albany-street. It presents a moving panoramic picture, aided by machinery, of the scenery of the Tagus, and the destruction of Lisbon by an earthquake, in 1755. Admission, 2*s.*; but, if The Colosseum and the Cyclorama are both seen, 3*s.* for the two.

THE COSMORAMA,

at No. 209, Regent-street, is a pleasing exhibition of interesting scenery in different parts of the world, ancient and modern cities, remains of antiquity, &c. The effects, which are admirably distinct, are produced by the aid of magnifying glasses of high power. Admission, 1*s.*—generally 6 or 8 views; catalogue, 6*d.*

Various other exhibitions are frequently to be seen at these rooms.

THE DIORAMA,

on the eastern side of the Regent's Park, presents a striking display, almost amounting to illusion, of architectural and of landscape scenery, arranged and lighted in a peculiar manner by mechanical means. The changes of light and shade, and other atmospheric phenomena, are truly surprising. There are always two subjects on view; one, an exterior, as the Castle of Stolzenfels, on the Rhine; the other, an interior, as the Shrine of the Nativity, at Bethlehem. These are seen from an ingeniously constructed little theatre, which turns upon a pivot, with a scarcely perceptible motion, from one painting to another. Open from ten till the approach of dusk. Admission, 2*s.*

THE DULWICH GALLERY,

in the beautiful village from which it takes its name, five miles south from town, contains nearly 400 fine pictures, chiefly by the old masters, bequeathed to Dulwich College by Sir Francis Bourgeois. The gallery is open throughout the year, Sundays and Fridays excepted; from ten till five in summer; from ten till three in winter. Admission free, by tickets, to be obtained from Messrs. Graves and Co., 6, Pall Mall; Colnaghi and Co., Pall Mall East; Alderman Moon, Threadneedle Street; and Leggatt and Co., Cornhill. Catalogue, 1*s.*

THE EAST INDIA MUSEUM

of oriental curiosities, at the East India House, Leadenhall Street, is open, excepting in the month of October, on producing a Director's order, from eleven o'clock till three; and on Saturdays, without any restrictions. By a Director's order, the sales room, committee room, Levant room, &c., may be seen any day in the week.

THE EGYPTIAN HALL,

opposite the end of Bond Street, in Piccadilly, generally contains various pictorial and other exhibitions of interest.

THE ENTOMOLOGICAL MUSEUM,

at No. 17, Old Bond Street, is gratuitously open from twelve till four o'clock, every Tuesday, to the members of the Entomological Society, and their friends. A considerable portion of this extensive and valuable collection was presented by the Rev. Mr. Kirby, of Suffolk.

THE GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION,

at No. 14, Regent Street, Waterloo Place, was first opened for public exhibitions on Easter Monday, 1850, and promises to become extremely popular for that purpose. An admirably well executed representation of the Route of the Overland Mail to India, from Southampton to Calcutta, seems likely to become a permanent attraction to the Gallery.

GEOLOGICAL MUSEUMS.

The *Museum of the London Geological Society*, at Somerset House, is open every day from eleven till five, and may be seen through the introduction of a member.

Mr. *Saull's Museum of Geology*, at No. 15, Aldersgate Street, is open at eleven o'clock every Thursday. Admission free.

The *Museum of Economic Geology*, in Piccadilly and Jermyn Street, is gratuitously open daily, on previous application.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL

may be approached at any hour in the day, by omnibus, from Charing Cross, or Gracechurch Street—by steam-boat, from Hungerford Pier, Strand, or London Bridge—by the Blackwall Railway, from Fenchurch Street, crossing the river to Greenwich—or by the Greenwich Railway, from the south foot of London Bridge.

The Hospital, one of the finest modern buildings in Europe, contains a thousand objects of interest, especially as regards the British Navy and its retired pensioners. In the *Painted Hall* are many portraits and busts of distinguished naval officers, models of ships, representations of great sea fights, &c.; and, amongst its curiosities are the coat which Nelson wore at the battle of the Nile, and the coat and waistcoat in which he received his death-wound in the battle of Trafalgar. On Mondays and Fridays, the Hall and Chapel are gratuitously open, from nine in the morning till dusk; on other days, the admission is 4*d*.*

Greenwich Park, remarkable for its scenery and prospects, is much frequented in the summer season, especially by the holiday folk at Easter and Whitsuntide. The *Royal Observatory*, considered to possess the best instruments in Europe, can be seen only by favour.

THE MEDICAL MUSEUM,

at Guy's Hospital, Southwark, containing specimens of anatomical and physiological structure, may be inspected at any time through an introduction by one of the students.

THE MISSIONARY MUSEUM,

with an extensive collection of objects of heathen worship, &c., is gratuitously open every day, from ten till dusk, in Blomfield Street, London Wall.

* See *A Week in London*, &c. No. 18 of the *New Library of Useful Knowledge*.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY,

in Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross, is, in its western wing, appropriated to our national collection of paintings, chiefly by the old masters, founded at the death of the late John Julius Angerstein, Esq., by the purchase of his fine collection of pictures. The eastern half of the building is occupied by the Royal Academy of Arts.

"The National Gallery is open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, to the public generally; on Friday and Saturday to artists; from ten till five during the months of November, December, January, February, March, and April; and from ten till six during the months of May, June, July, and August, and the first two weeks of September. The Gallery is wholly closed during the last two weeks of September and the month of October." The pictures forming what is called the Vernon Collection, lately bequeathed to the nation by Mr. Vernon, of Pall Mall, are to be shown in Marlborough House, Pall Mall, till room is made for them in the National Gallery, by the removal of the Royal Academy to another building.—Admission to the National Gallery, free; official catalogues, 1*s.*; but cheap catalogues, from 1*d.* to 6*d.* may be had either within the doors or outside.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION,

for the exhibition of works of modern painting, sculpture, &c., is now located in the *Portland Gallery*, No. 316, Regent Street North, opposite the Polytechnic Institution. This society of artists formerly occupied (under the designation of the Free Exhibition of Modern Art) what was originally the Chinese Gallery, near Hyde Park Corner. Open from nine till dusk, from April till July. Admission, 1*s.*; catalogue, 6*d.*

THE PICTORIAL GALLERY,

next door to the Polytechnic Institution, Regent Street North, was first opened in the spring of 1850, for the representation of the *Britannia Tubular Bridge*, over the Menai Straits. Admission, 1*s.*

THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION,

in Regent Street North, is open from ten till five in the day, from seven till ten in the evening. Admission, 1*s.*; catalogue, 1*s.* Amongst the innumerable interesting objects of this instructive exhibition, founded for the promotion of arts, sciences, manufactures, &c., are the diving-bell, the oxy-hydrogen microscope, steam-engines, and large electrical apparatus, dissolving views, &c.; besides a variety of lectures on popular subjects.

THE ROYAL INSTITUTION MUSEUM,

in Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, contains an extensive collection of minerals, and other objects of natural history. Open from ten till four daily. Admission by a member's order.

SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM,

on the north side of Lincoln's Inn Fields, was bequeathed to the nation by its founder, the architect of the Bank of England. Admission, free, on Thursdays and Fridays in April, May, and June; and, for the accommodation of foreigners, &c., on Tuesdays, from the first in February to the last in August. For tickets, apply by letter to the Curator, or personally at the museum, leaving a card of address, and in a day or two they will be forwarded per post to the applicant. The museum contains much that is curious and valuable in antiquities and in the fine arts, but the gem of the collection is the alabaster sarcophagus, discovered in Egypt by Belzoni, and purchased by Sir John Soane for 2,000*l.* It is supposed to have been the sarcophagus of Osirei, the father of Rameses the Great.

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS,

John Street, Adelphi, was founded in 1754, for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce. With this view, premiums and medals are annually distributed. The museum consists of models, &c.; and, in the Council Room are six allegorical pictures, painted by James Barry, R.A. Admission free,

every day, Sundays and Wednesdays excepted, and during the month of September. At the distribution of prizes, usually at the latter end of May, members have the privilege of distributing tickets amongst their friends.

Exhibitions connected with the arts are occasionally held here; as, in 1850, rare and curious *specimens of ancient mediæval, and modern art*. Admission, 1*s*. Catalogue, 1*s*.

THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS,

incorporated in 1846, has its gallery of paintings and sculpture in Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East. The season of exhibition is in April, May, June, and July; open daily from nine till dusk. Admission, 1*s*. Catalogue, 1*s*.

SOCIETIES OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

The *Old* Society, established in 1805, holds its annual exhibitions in Pall Mall East, during the months of May, June, and July; open daily, from nine till dusk. Admission, 1*s*. Catalogue, 6*d*.

The Rooms of the *New* Society are at No. 53, on the north side of Pall Mall. Open daily, during the months of April, May, June, and July, from nine till dusk. Admission, 1*s*. Catalogue, 6*d*.

THE TOWER OF LONDON,

situated on the north bank of the Thames, at the eastern extremity of the City, contains much to interest the visitor, whether native or foreigner. It is open daily, from ten till four o'clock. Admission to the Crown Jewels, 6*d*.; and to the Armouries 6*d*.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S WAX-WORK,

at No. 58, Baker Street, Portman Square, is the most celebrated and extensive collection of its class in the kingdom. Madame Tussaud, who died in the spring of 1850, at the age of 90, taught the art of modelling in wax in the family of Louis XVI. Exclusively of historical personages, kings, heroes, &c., most of the remarkable individuals who have figured within the last 50 or 60 years, down to the murderers, Rush and the Mannings, are here to be seen in their habits as they lived. Open daily from eleven in the morning till ten at night. Admission, 1*s*.; to the "Chamber of Horrors," an additional 6*d*. Catalogue, 6*d*.

THE UNITED SERVICE MUSEUM,

patronised by her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Duke of Wellington, &c., as a repository for objects interesting to the army and navy in particular, and to the public in general, is situated in Whitehall-yard, Whitehall. Supported by subscriptions, its library and collection of rare and curious objects are very extensive. Admission free, by a member's order; and three days at Christmas, and at Easter, and on the anniversaries of the battles of Trafalgar and Waterloo, without orders.

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

The *Gardens of the Zoological Society of London*, a society established in 1826, for the advancement of zoology, &c., are in the north-east portion of the Regent's Park. Lord Auckland, Sir Humphry Davy, and Sir Stamford Raffles were amongst the founders of the Society. Nowhere can curious, rare, and undomesticated specimens of the animal kingdom be seen to such advantage as in these gardens. Open daily, from ten in the morning till sunset; on Mondays, 6*d*. each person; on other days, 1*s*.; children, 6*d*.

The *Museum of the London Zoological Society*, containing a collection of preserved specimens, is at No. 11, Hanover Square. Admission free, by a member's order.

The *Surrey Zoological Gardens* at *Walworth*, two miles from Waterloo Bridge, are upwards of fifteen acres in extent, with a fine sheet of water covering near three acres, surrounded by trees of beautiful growth. The lions and tigers in these gardens are noble animals. In the summer season, morning *fêtes*, with flower shows, balloon ascents, &c. are frequently given here. In the evening, there is usually some interesting exhibition, such as the siege of Badajos, or of

Gibraltar, accompanied by a magnificent display of fire-works. The most favourable time for viewing the animals is when they are fed, between four and five in the afternoon. Admission, 1*s.*

We believe we have now completed a more numerous and more complete list of the *Standard Exhibitions* of the Metropolis, commencing with the *Royal Academy of Arts* and closing with the *Zoological Gardens*, than can be found in any other *Handbook for London*, howsoever bulky or high-priced it may be. We have *indicated much*, though we have *described but little*, as we could not create space. Evanescent, as meteors of the summer's eve, temporary exhibitions of all grades of merit and of interest are constantly appearing and disappearing. The London visitor will always find them duly advertised in the Newspapers and their announcements placarded about the streets.

For accounts and descriptions of our national edifices and other public buildings, such as St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, the Bridges, Churches, &c. and the facilities for viewing them, we must refer him to a little work already mentioned: —*A Week in London; or, How to view the Metropolis, with all its National Establishments, &c. in Seven Days.*

For a descriptive account of eight or ten delightful *Excursions in the vicinity of London*, within a circle of fifty miles, each of them commanded in a day by railway or steam-boat travelling, we must refer him to No. 26 of the same series of little works as the present—*The New Library of Useful Knowledge.*

Parks and Gardens.

The chief of the metropolitan parks is *Hyde Park*, extending from Apsley House, Piccadilly, along the great western road to Kensington Gardens, and from the western end of Oxford Street, to which it extends northward, to the northern side of those gardens. The *Serpentine River*, which flows through it, feeds the ornamental sheets of water in Buckingham Palace Gardens and St. James's Park. Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens are, from April to July, the daily resort of the world of fashion. It contains nearly 400 acres.

St. James's Park, between the Horse Guards and Buckingham Palace, consists of eighty-seven acres, and is very beautifully laid out. The ornamental water in the centre abounds with aquatic birds, foreign and domestic. On the parade, at the eastern end, are two curious pieces of ordnance; one, a Turkish cannon, captured by our troops in Egypt; the other, a mortar, taken at the siege of Cadiz, and presented, by the Spanish Regency, to the Sovereign of Great Britain.

The Green Park, an open area of fifty-six acres, is flanked by St. James's Park on the south, Constitution Hill on the west, Piccadilly on the north, and numerous splendid mansions of our nobility on the east. On a triumphal arch, at its entrance from Hyde Park Corner, is the grand equestrian statue, in bronze, of the Duke of Wellington, by M. C. Wyatt. The horse was modelled from the Duke's charger, Copenhagen, which he rode at the battle of Waterloo.

The Regent's Park, St. Marylebone, so named in honour of the regency of George IV., comprises (including *Primrose Hill*, now within its limits) nearly, if not quite, 400 acres. It is tastefully ornamented with plantations, gardens, sheets of water, bridges, &c. In the inner circle are the gardens of the Royal Botanic Society, patronised by her Majesty. St. Katherine's Hospital, the Colosseum, the Diorama, the grounds for the Zoological Society, &c., are amongst its numerous attractions.

Victoria Park, beyond Mile End, at the eastern extremity of London, has an area of nearly 300 acres, with an ornamental piece of water of about four acres. It is laid out in good taste, and promises to be very attractive.

Battersea Park, on the southern bank of the Thames, opposite Chelsea is yet only in progress.

Kensington Gardens, the beautiful adjuncts of Kensington Palace, and connected with Hyde Park, have been duly noticed.

Vauxhall Gardens, celebrated for their concerts, illuminations, fireworks, and other attractions, have been a favoured place of evening entertainment from the time of Charles II. They are situated near Vauxhall Bridge, on the Surrey side

of the river, and are open nightly from June till September, the performances commencing at eight o'clock. Visitors may be accommodated with suppers, wines, arrack punch, and other refreshments, the prices of which are marked in all the boxes, &c. Admission (usually) 2*s*.

Cremorne House and Gardens, formerly the residence of Lord Cremorne, form a modern rival of Vauxhall, at Chelsea, on the opposite bank of the Thames. During the summer, they are generally open in the day, as well as in the evening. They are noted for balloon ascents, gymnastic exercises, and other amusements. Admission, except on gala nights, or on other particular occasions, 6*d*.

The Surrey Zoological Gardens, at Walworth, have been already noted as a menagerie and a place of morning and evening entertainment.

Amongst the *Tea Gardens*, which abound in the outskirts of the town, many of them embracing arrangements for vocal and instrumental music, may be mentioned Camberwell Grove House, Camberwell; Chalk Farm, Primrose Hill; the Eagle, City Road; the Woodman, Highgate Archway; Kilburn Wells, Edgware Road; Highbury Barn, Islington; Hornsey Wood House, Hornsey; the Mermaid, Hackney; the Spaniards, and Jack Straw's Castle, Hampstead; the Red House, Battersea; White Conduit House, Pentonville, &c.

Arcades and Bazaars.

With the exception of *Burlington Arcade*, a covered street (or *passage*, as the French would call it) of tasteful little shops and dormitories, running from Piccadilly into Cork-street, Burlington Gardens, by the side of Burlington House, our arcades are of little note.

Exeter Change, built upon this principle, though upon an insignificant scale, runs from the west side of Catherine-street, in the Strand, into Wellington-street North. Most of the shops are unoccupied.

The *Lowther Arcade*, on the north side of the Strand, at its western end, is, on the contrary, full to overflowing. It leads into Adelaide-street, towards the back of St. Martin's Church. It is wider and more lofty than the Burlington Arcade, and its glass domes are elegantly designed. The occupants are mostly dealers in French and German toys, cheap glass, and various fancy goods.

The Soho Bazaar, on the western side of Soho-square, was founded in 1815, to afford respectable young women an opportunity of trading in fancy articles, millinery, jewellery, perfumery, &c. It has proved eminently successful, and has long been a place of fashionable resort, especially for ladies.

The Pantheon, entered from No. 359, Oxford Street, and from Great Marlborough Street, through a small conservatory, is an establishment of a similar character, very tastefully fitted up. There are many good paintings on view here for sale.

The Lowther Bazaar, opposite the Lowther Arcade, in the Strand, is chiefly appropriated for the sale of foreign fancy articles. To some extent, it may be regarded as a place of amusement; and, in the evening, it is always very prettily illuminated.

The Baker Street Bazaar (with entrances from Baker Street and King Street, Portman Square) is a large establishment for the sale of upholstery in all its branches, iron work, carriages, and miscellaneous goods of all descriptions. Madame Tussaud's wax-work occupies part of the premises; and there is excellent accommodation here for the great annual cattle-show, just before Christmas.

The Pantechnicon, near Belgrave Square, Pimlico, is another large bazaar for the disposal (or safe keeping) of carriages, household furniture, &c. On the amount of sales effected here, a commission of five per cent. is charged.

Club-Houses.

The principal Subscription Club-Houses are—the *Athenæum*, occupying the site of Carlton Palace, Pall Mall, for the patrons and professors of literature, science, and the fine arts;—the *United Service*, on the corner opposite the *Athenæum*, for the higher grades of naval and military officers;—the *Junior United Service*, at the corner of Charles Street, Regent Street;—the *Union*, chiefly for eminent mercantile men, at the north-east corner of Cockspur Street, Trafal-

gar Square;—the *Naval, Military, and County Service* (formerly Crockford's), on the west side of St. James's Street;—the *Naval and Military*, Pall Mall; the *University*, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East; the *Conservative*, on the west side of St. James's Street;—the *Carlton*, 103, the *Reform*, 103, and the *Travellers'*, 104, all on the south side of Pall Mall;—the *Army and Navy*, the *Wyndham*, and the *Colonial*, in St. James's Square;—the *Royal Naval*, New Bond Street;—the *Oriental*, Hanover Square;—the *Cercle des Etrangers*, and the *Parthenon*, Regent Street;—the *Portland*, Stratford Place, Oxford Street;—the *Alfred*, Albemarle Street;—*Boodle's*, 29, *White's*, 38, *Brookes's*, 69, and *Arthur's*, 69, all in St. James's Street;—the *Garrick*, King Street, Covent Garden;—the *National*, Palace Yard;—the *Westminster Chess*, Strand;—the *Whittington*, at what was formerly the Crown and Anchor Tavern, Strand;—the *Gresham*, King William Street, City;—the *City of London*, Broad Street, City;—the *City Conservative*, Threadneedle Street, &c.

The Metropolitan Termini of the Railways out of London are as follows:—

Birmingham, Liverpool, &c., from Euston Square, New Road, St. Pancras;—*Blackwall*, from No. 60, Fenchurch Street, every fifteen or twenty minutes;—*Brighton*, from Tooley Street, south foot of London Bridge;—*Croydon*, from ditto;—*Eastern Counties*, from Shoreditch, through Brentwood, Chelmsford, Colchester, Ipswich, Diss, on to Norwich;—*Great Western*, from Paddington, to Windsor, Bath, &c.;—*Greenwich*, from Tooley Street;—*Northern and Eastern*, from Shoreditch, to Broxbourne, Hertford, &c.;—*North Kent*, from Tooley Street, to Blackheath, Woolwich, Gravesend, &c.;—*South Eastern*, from ditto, to Sevenoaks, Tonbridge, &c., on to Folkstone and Dover;—*South Western*, from Waterloo Bridge Road, to Richmond, Hampton Court, Windsor, Southampton, Portsmouth, &c.

Fares, and times of starting, vary; but *Time Tables*, with all the requisite information, are to be had at the respective termini, and at all the railway booking offices in town.

Steam-Boats

for *Gravesend*, leave Hungerford Pier, the Adelphi, and London Bridge, three or four times a day, as advertised;—for *Greenwich and Woolwich*, leave Hungerford Pier and the Adelphi, and call at London Bridge and other stations, every half-hour;—for Richmond, leave Queenhithe, Upper Thames Street, calling at Hungerford, twice a day;—for *Chelsea*, leave Old Swan Stairs, London Bridge, every quarter of an hour, calling at the different stations. The fares vary, but are always very moderate.

Watermen's Wherries

may be engaged by either *distance* or *time*. If by *distance*, for every half-mile, scullers (one man), 3*d.*; oars (two men), 6*d.* If by *time*, scullers, per half-hour, 6*d.*; oars, 1*s.* Or, by the day (that is, from six o'clock, to six, from Lady Day to Michaelmas; and from seven to eight, from Michaelmas to Lady Day), scullers, 6*s.*; oars, 12*s.* For not having a book of their fares, watermen are liable to a penalty of 5*l.*

Hackney Coaches and Cabriolets,

the former drawn by two horses, the latter by a single horse, may be engaged according to *distance* or *time*; but *time* is the more usual mode. For *Coaches*, for any *distance* not exceeding one mile, the fare is 1*s.*; and, for every additional half-mile, or fractional part of a mile, 6*d.* For any *time* not exceeding half an hour, the fare is 1*s.*; and for every additional quarter of an hour, or fractional part thereof, 6*d.* The fares of *Cabriolets*, either by *distance* or *time*, are *two-thirds* of the fares of the *Coaches*.

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PART III.

SPORTS, PASTIMES, AND CUSTOMS OF LONDON.

ANCIENT AND MODERN.

WITH ILLUSTRATIVE ANECDOTES.

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SPORTS, PASTIMES,

AND

CUSTOMS OF LONDON.

SECTION I.

Historical Sketch, etc.

General and Introductory Remarks.—Writings for "the Million"—London in a Wood—The vicinity of the Metropolis in Ancient Times—Beasts of the Chase, &c.—Fitz-Stephen's Compliment to the Londoners, especially to the Virtues of the Women—Hunting, Hawking, and other Sports—Edward III.—Hunting Exploits of Queen Elizabeth—Privileges of the Chase enjoyed by Londoners—Easter Monday Stag Hunt—"Mysteries" and "Moralities"—Juvenile Sports—Sunday Pastimes—The Water Quintain—Origin of Skating—Dancing Maidens—Accident at Paris Garden—Queen Elizabeth and James I.—Amusements in the 16th and 17th Centuries—Prize Fighting—Bull and Bear-Baiting—Advance of Civilization—The Drama—Literature and the Fine Arts—Concerts—Coffee Shops—Railway and Steam-Boat Conveyance.

To indicate, to the native of the metropolis as well as to the stranger, the simplest mode of obtaining a general view of London, with "all its national establishments, public buildings, exhibitions, &c.," within the brief period of seven days, was one of our former labours in the diffusion of "useful knowledge;" more recently we offered, equally to the resident as to the visitor, a series of "Excursions"—by railway, steam-boat, stage-coach, and omnibus—within a circle of from forty to fifty miles around the capital;* and we now

* Vide Nos. 10 and 26 of "The New Library of Useful Knowledge."

venture upon the not less agreeable task of presenting a rapid sketch, historical and descriptive, of the "Sports, Pastimes, and Customs" of the first city of the empire, as followed in ancient and in modern times.

The attempt has been made before, by earlier and also by contemporary writers, but never upon so moderate and economical a scale as on the present occasion. *Our* view is for "the million." Students with weightier purses, and greater affluence of leisure, may pursue their researches amongst antiquarian tomes and the costly publications of the age. *Our* labours, we repeat, are for "the million"—for those who seek for, and seeking for may obtain, knowledge by a cheap expenditure of time and money.

It is well to think of the days of "merrie Englande;" well to bear in mind, as we offer up our orisons to Heaven, that "there is no devotion so pure and ardent as the harmless exhilaration of a grateful heart."

From the concurrence of unimpeachable testimony—and even from the nature of things—it is evident that London, now occupying a site of many miles in circumference, crowded with buildings, and swarming with inhabitants, was originally situated in a vast forest, extending northward from the Thames. No wonder, then, that the Londoners, now by many deemed so plodding in their pursuits, were addicted, in those early days, to hunting, and to field-sports of every description; abundant facilities for which were offered without wandering far a-field. As man increased and multiplied, the wilder animals gradually disappeared, and rural sports were, to a great extent, as gradually superseded by those of a civic character. The adjacent forest-land was cleared, and converted into corn-fields, meadows, gardens, and orchards; and civilization made rapid advances. Fitz-Stephen, who flourished in the twelfth century, and from whom we derive our first descriptive account of London and of its inhabitants, thus speaks of the city and its vicinity, as they appeared in his time:—

"Adjoining to the buildings all round lie the gardens of those citizens who dwell in the suburbs, which are well furnished with trees, and are spacious and beautiful. On the north are corn-fields, pastures, and delightful meadows, intermixed with pleasant streams, on which stands many a mill, whose clack is so grateful to the ear." But, be it observed, the game, the beasts of the chase, were not all yet

exterminated. Beyond these delightful meadows, pleasant streams, &c. continues Fitz-Stephen, "an immense forest extends itself, beautified with woods and groves, and full of the lairs and coverts of beasts and game, stags, bucks, bears, and wild bulls. The fields above mentioned are by no means hungry gravel, or barren sands, but may vie with the fertile plains of Asia, as capable of producing the most luxuriant crops, and filling the barns of the hinds and farmers 'with Ceres's' golden sheaf. Round the city, again, and towards the north, arise certain excellent springs at a small distance, whose waters are sweet, salubrious, clear, and

'Whose runnels murmur o'er the shining stones.'"

And then he proceeds to observe, that, amongst these springs, "Holywell, Clerkenwell, and St. Clement's well"—the localities of which are yet known—"may be esteemed the principal, as being much the best frequented, both by scholars from the schools, and the youth of the city, when in a summer's evening they are disposed to take an airing." At this period, too, on the holidays during the summer season, the youth of London were accustomed to exercise themselves in the fields with leaping, shooting with the bow, wrestling, and fighting with their shields; or, as Stow, in his survey of London, terms it, "practising with their wasters and bucklers,"—a favourite play, even down to his own time, by the apprentices, in front of their masters' doors.

Fitz-Stephen was not slightly complimentary to the Londoners when he remarked that "The citizens of London, everywhere, and throughout the whole kingdom, are esteemed the politest of all others, in their manners, their dress, and the elegance and splendour of their tables. Insomuch, that whilst the inhabitants of other cities are styled citizens, they are dignified with the name of *Barons:* and with them an oath is the end of all strife." And then, as for the ladies, he adds, "the matrons of the city are perfect Sabines;" the Sabine women having been eminent for their chastity, industry, and frugality; in short, as it was said by Mr. Pegge, the learned translator of Fitz-Stephen from the original Latin, for every quality respectable in good housewives.

Besides the May-games, morris-dancings, (of which more hereafter), pageants and processions, which were commonly

exhibited throughout the kingdom, in all great towns and cities, the Londoners had peculiar and extensive privileges of hunting, hawking, and fishing. As an exemplification of the prevalent passion for hunting, not only amongst the inhabitants of London, but generally, with the higher classes, and even throughout Europe, it may be mentioned, upon the authority of Froissart, as cited by Strutt, that Edward the Third took so much delight in the sport, that "even at the time he was engaged in war in France, and resident in that country, he had with him sixty couple of stag-hounds, and as many hare-hounds, and every day amused himself with hunting or hawking;" and many of the great lords in the army had hounds and hawks as well as the king; and Froissart, an eye-witness of the fact, tells us that Gaston, Earl of Foix, a foreign nobleman, contemporary with King Edward, kept upwards of six hundred dogs in his castle, for the purpose of hunting. Queen Elizabeth, too, was extremely fond of the chase. We find it related, in the second volume of Nichols's Progresses of the Virgin Queen, in a letter from a certain courtier, dated September 12, 1600, that her Majesty, when she had just entered the seventy-seventh year of her age, "was well and excellently disposed to hunting, for every second day she was on horseback, and continued the sport long." It is further related, that when she visited Lord Montacute, at Cowdrey, in Sussex, "Her Highness tooke horse and rode into the park, at eight o'clock in the morning, where was a delicate bowre prepared, under the which were her Highness's musicians placed; and a cross-bow, by a nymph, with a sweet song, was delivered into her hands, to shoote at the deere: about some thirty in number were put into a paddock, of which number she killed three or four, and the Countess of Kildare one."

From a very early period, the Londoners had large portions of ground allotted to them in the vicinity of the city, for the practice of such pastimes as were not prohibited by the government, and for such, in particular, as were best calculated to render them strong and hearty. Moreover, they had the liberty of hunting in Middlesex, Hertfordshire, all the Chiltern country, and in Kent, to the waters of the river Cray. However, towards the close of the sixteenth century, these exercises seem to have been in a great measure discontinued; not for want of taste for the amusement,

observes Stow, but of leisure to pursue it. Strype, in his edition of Stow's Survey, so late as the reign of George the First, reckons amongst the then modern amusements of the Londoners, "riding on horseback, and hunting with my Lord Mayor's hounds, when the common hunt goes out." But, of these sportsmanlike glories of the citizens, nothing has remained of late years but the Easter Monday stag-hunt in Epping Forest; and even that, the last relic of venatorial exploits in the land of Cockayne, has been doomed to extinction in the reign of Queen Victoria.

Adverting for a moment to the "mysteries" and "moralities" of the old English drama, and which at first were principally represented by ecclesiastics, and in churches, or within the precincts of religious houses; "London," observes Fitz-Stephen, "in lieu of the ancient shows of the [Greek and Roman] theatre, has exhibitions of a more devout kind; either representations of those miracles which are wrought by holy confessors, or of those passions and sufferings in which the martyrs so signally displayed their fortitude."

But here are depicted, and very vividly, scenes of a more inspiriting character. "Besides," continues our author, "that we may begin with the pastimes of the boys (as we have all been boys), annually, on the day which is called Shrove Tuesday, the boys of the respective schools bring to the masters each one his fighting-cock, and they are indulged all the morning with seeing their cocks fight in the school-room."

Far better than that, as holding forth much to exhilarate and nothing to brutalize the generous minds of the participants—"After dinner, all the youth of the city go in the field of the suburbs [Moorfields, probably, or Smithfield] and address themselves to the famous game of football. The scholars of each school have their peculiar ball; and the particular trades have most of them theirs. The elders of the city, the fathers of the parties, and the rich and the worthy, come to the field on horseback, in order to behold the exercises of the youth; and, in appearance, are themselves as youthful as the youngest, their natural heat seeming to be revived at the sight of so much agility, and in a participation of the diversions of their festive sons."

Bearing in mind that Fitz-Stephen wrote in the times of Popery, when amusements of every sort were freely followed

on the Sunday, as they still are in all Roman Catholic countries, what follows will be read with a yet livelier interest:—

"Every Sunday in Lent, a noble train of young men take the field, after dinner, well mounted on horses of the best mettle, of which

'Each steed 's well taught to gallop in a ring.'

The lay sons of the citizens rush out of the gates in shoals, furnished with lances and shields; the younger sons with javelins, pointed, but disarmed of their steel: they ape the feats of war, and act the sham-fight, practising the agonistic exercises of that kind. If the King happens to be near the city, many courtiers honour them with their presence, together with the juvenile part of the households of the bishops, earls, and barons, such as are not yet dignified with the honour of knighthood, and are desirous of trying their skill. The hope of victory excites their emulation. The generous chargers neigh and champ their bit. At length, when the course begins, and the youthful combatants are divided into classes or parties, one body retreats, and another pursues, without being able to come up with them; whilst, in another quarter, the pursuers overtake the foe, unhorse them, and pass them many a length."

Advancing in the year—"At Easter, the diversion is prosecuted on the water: a target is strongly fastened to a trunk or mast fixed in the middle of the river, and a youngster standing upright in the stern of a boat, made to move as fast as the oars and the current can carry it, is to strike the target with his lance; and if, in hitting it, he breaks his lance and keeps his place in the boat, he gains his point, and triumphs; but if it happens the lance is not shivered by the force of the blow, he is of course tumbled into the water, and away goes his vessel without him. However, a couple of boats full of young men are placed, one on each side of the target, so as to be ready to take up the unsuccessful adventurer, the moment he emerges from the stream and comes fairly to the surface. The bridge, and the balconies on the bank, are filled with spectators, whose business is to laugh.

"On holidays, in summer, the pastime of the youth is to exercise themselves in archery, in running, leaping, wrestling, casting of stones, and flinging to certain distances; and

lastly, with bucklers. The maidens, as soon as the moon rises, dance to the guitar, and with their nimble movements shake the ground.

"In the winter holidays, the youths are entertained in a morning with boars fighting to the last gasp, as likewise with hogs, full tusked, intended to be converted into bacon; or game bulls, and bears of a large bulk, are baited with dogs. And when that vast lake which waters the walls of the city towards the north* is hard frozen, the youth, in great numbers, go to divert themselves on the ice. Some, taking a small run for an increasement of velocity, place their feet at a proper distance, and are carried, sliding sideways, a great way; others will take a large cake of ice, and seating one of their companions upon it, they take hold of one another's hands and draw him along; when it sometimes happens that, moving swiftly on so slippery a plain, they all fall down headlong."

In the following, may be seen the rude origin of skating, a noble exercise, which is now practised with great excellence throughout the northern parts of Europe:—

"Others there are who are still more expert in these amusements on the ice. They place certain bones, the leg-bones of some animal, under the soles of their feet, by tying them round their ankles; and then taking a pole, shod with iron, into their hands, they push themselves forward by striking it against the ice, and are carried along with a velocity equal to the flight of a bird, or a bolt discharged from a crossbow. Sometimes two of them, thus furnished, agree to start opposite one to another, at a great distance: they meet, elevate their poles, attack and strike each other, when one or both of them fall, and not without some bodily hurt; and even after their fall they shall be carried a good distance from each other, by a rapidity of the motion; and whatever part of your head comes upon the ice, it is sure to be laid bare to the skull."

Nor were the city damsels without their recreations on the celebration of church and other festivals. According to the testimony of Fitz-Stephen, they played upon guitars, citherns, timbrels, or other instruments of the time, and danced to the music; and as this amusement probably did

* Meaning, probably, the marshy parts of Finsbury, or *Fens*bury, as it was anciently called, and Moorfields.

not commence before the close of day, they were occasionally allowed to continue it by moonlight. From Stow, who wrote at the distance of more than four hundred years later than Fitz-Stephen, we learn that it was then customary for the maidens, after evening prayers, to dance in the presence of their masters and mistresses, whilst one of their companions played the measure upon a timbrel; and, to stimulate them to pursue this exercise with alacrity, the best dancers were rewarded with garlands, the prizes being exposed to public view, hung across the street during the whole of the performance.

In the year 1579, the magistrates of the city of London obtained an edict from Queen Elizabeth, that, "all heathenish plays and interludes should be banished upon Sabbath-days;" but this restriction is supposed to have been confined to the jurisdiction of the Lord Mayor, as it is certain that such amusements were publicly exhibited in other districts, and especially at the Paris Garden in Southwark, a place where such pastimes were usually to be witnessed; and where, three years afterwards, a prodigious concourse of people being assembled together on a Sunday, "to see plays and a bear-baiting, the whole theatre gave way, and fell to the ground, by which accident many of the spectators were killed, and more hurt." This calamity was regarded as a judgment from God, and occasioned a general prohibition of all public pastimes on the Sabbath-day.

James I. differing in his notions from his predecessor Queen Elizabeth, considering that the restrictions on public sports were too generally and too strictly applied, especially in country places, issued, on the 24th of May 1618, a declaration, the following passage from which is both curious and important:—

"It is our will, that after divine service [on Sundays and other holy days, in the afternoon], our good people be not disturbed, letted, or discouraged, from any lawful recreation, such as dancing, either for man or woman; archery for men, leaping, vaulting, or any other such recreation; nor for having of May-games, Whitsun-ales, and Morris-daunces and the setting up of May-poles, and other sports herewith used, so as the same be had in due and convenient time, without impediment or neglect of divine service. But withall, we doe here account still, as prohibited, all unlawful games to be used upon Sundayes onely, as beare and

bull-baitings, interludes, and at all times, in the meaner sort of people, by law prohibited, bowling."

This declaration was renewed by Charles the First, in 1632; a renewal which led to many serious complaints from the puritanical party, and a consequent very warm controversy. In a pamphlet by a high-churchman, one of the supporters of the royal proclamation, the writer observes,—"Those recreations are the meetest to be used, which give the best refreshment to the bodie, and leave the least impression on the minde. In this respect, shooting, leaping, pitching the barre, stool-ball, and the like, are rather to be chosen than diceing or carding."

Robert Burton, in his remarkable work entitled the "Anatomy of Melancholy," published in the year 1660, speaking of the Londoners, in reference to their amusements, says—"They take pleasure to see some pageant or sight go by, as of a coronation, wedding, and such like solemn niceties; to see an ambassador or a prince received and entertained with masks, shows, and fireworks." This opinion is equally just and applicable now as it was at the moment when first expressed. The following pastimes Burton considers as common to both town and country:—"Bull-baitings and bear-baitings, in which our countrymen and citizens greatly delight, and frequently use; dancers on ropes, jugglers, comedies, tragedies, artillery gardens, and cock-fighting." * * * "Ordinary recreation we have in winter, as cards, tables, dice, shovelboard, chess-play, the philosopher's game, small trunks, shuttlecock, billiards, music, masks, singing, dancing, ale-games, frolics, jests, riddles, catches, cross purposes, questions and commands, merry tales of errant knights, queens, lovers, lords, ladies, giants, dwarfs, thieves, cheaters, witches, fairies, goblins, and friars." * * * "Dancing, singing, masking, mumming, and stage-plays, are reasonable recreations, if in season; as are May-games, wakes and Whitsun-ales, if not at unseasonable hours, are justly permitted. Let them"—meaning the lower classes—"freely feast, sing, dance, have puppet-plays, hobby-horses, tabers, crowds [fiddles], and bagpipes." Let them "play at ball and barley-brakes;" and "plays," he adds, "masks, jesters, gladiators, tumblers, and jugglers, are to be winked at, lest the people should do worse than attend them." There is excellent sense in the last of these remarks.

Strype, in his edition of Stow's Survey of London,

already quoted from, and which was published sixty years later than Burton's work, observes that "the modern sports of the citizens, besides drinking, are cock-fighting, bowling upon greens, playing at tables, or backgammon, cards, dice, and billiards; also musical entertainments, dancing, masks, balls, stage-plays, and club-meetings, in the evening; they sometimes ride out on horseback, and hunt with the Lord Mayor's pack, &c. The lower classes divert themselves at foot-balls, wrestling, cudgels, nine-pins, shovelboard, cricket, stool-balls, ringing of bells, quoits, pitching the bar, bull and bear-baitings, throwing at cocks, and lying at ale-houses."

Maitland, in his History of London, published in 1739, tells us of "sailing, rowing, swimming, and fishing, in the river Thames; horse and foot races, leaping, archery, bowling in alleys, and skittles, tennis, chess, and draughts; and in the winter, skating, sliding, and shooting." In the summer, duck-hunting was once a favourite amusement.

During the reign of George the Third, and indeed for some preceding years, boxing—pugilism—prize-fighting—or, to assign to the barbarous practice its most *elevated* designation "the noble science of self-defence"—was a favourite pursuit, not amongst the lower classes only, but even many of the younger nobility and gentry. To the credit of the age, however, a prize-fight is now an event of rare occurrence, and yet more rarely is it ever attended by any but the scum of society.

Bull-baiting, another gross and most offensive nuisance, the opprobrium of our ancestors, having long been on the decline, is now nearly, if not quite, extinct; at least, so far as the metropolis and its neighbourhood are concerned. Bear-baiting, its kindred relic of savagery, which even the "Virgin Queen" did not disdain to witness, on her visit to Kenilworth Castle, had been doomed to an earlier fall. Yet, as an illustration of the subject, and as a curious specimen of the low London dialect and orthography, towards the close of the sixteenth century, the following description of a bear-baiting, extracted from a work published in the year 1575, will be found worthy of perusal:—

"Well, syr, the beerz wear brought foorth into the court, the dogs wear set to them, to argu the pointz cum face to face. They had learned counsel too a' both partis. Very feerse both t' one and t' other, and eager in argument. If

the dog in pleadyng woold pluk the bear by the throte, the bear with havers woold claw him again by the scalp. *Con-fess* an' he list, but *avoyd* a coold not that was bound too the bar. Thearfore thus, each fending and proovyng, with plucking and lugging, skralling and bytyng, by plain tooth and nayll, a t' one side and t' other. Such expens of blood and leather was thear between them, as a month's licking, I wean, will not recover. It waz a sport very pleazaunt of theeze beastz, to see the bear with his pinkenyes leering after hiz enemie's approach; the nimbleness and wayt too of the dog too take hiz advantage; and the forz and experiens of the bear agayn to avoyd the assault. If he wear bitten in one place, hoow he would pynch in another to get free; that if he wer taken onez, then, what shyft with bytyng, with clawyng, with roaryng, tossyng, and tumblyng, he could woorke too wynde hymselfe from them. And when he was lose, to shake his ears twyse or thryse with the blood, and slaver about his fiznomy, was a matter of a goodly reliefe," &c.

The decline of demoralizing pastimes and pursuits, must invariably be taken in proof of mental and social improvement. And, assuredly, the advance of civilization, in our metropolis especially—as the inhabitants of a metropolis will ever take the lead, whether for good or evil—within the last forty or fifty years, has been rapid and wonderful. This is one of the happy results of a long period of peace. Peace affords leisure for the cultivation of intellect; for the study and practice of the fine arts; and, after the precepts of a holy and enlightened religion, nothing has so powerful a tendency to refine, to elevate, to expand the mind, as a practical acquaintance with literature, science, and the sister arts of poetry and music, painting and sculpture. In proportion as the mind attains loftier and more sublime conceptions, even the sports and pastimes of a people acquire beauty, refinement, and dignity; and without the sacrifice, in any way, of national manliness, spirit, or gallant bearing.

The truth of this is abundantly exemplified in the present favourable aspect of the amusements and relaxations of the Londoners, even those of the poorer classes.

Of late years, the national love of the drama is thought to have suffered an abatement; but the declension, we apprehend, is rather apparent than real. Never was the affection

of the English people for Shakspeare and the other ancient dramatists more ardent than it is at the present moment; but, alas! we have few, if any, worthy representatives of their characters and scenes. Moreover, novelty, as well as excellence, is essential to the gratification of the public; and, unfortunately, whilst every other department of polite literature has advanced in merit and in interest, that of the drama is rather retrograde than progressive. Besides, the culture of the mind having received more attention of late years, our taste has necessarily become more fastidious. A host of adventitious circumstances also combine to lessen the extent of that support which the principal theatres formerly enjoyed. We are fonder of reading than we were a few years ago—witness the swarms of daily, weekly, monthly, and other publications, obtainable at the lowest conceivable prices; we are more intellectual—more conversational—more musical.

And so far as mere amusement and social enjoyment are concerned, we find much of our compensation in music; the practice and love of which are daily and hourly on the increase. Hullah and others instruct "the masses" in singing by hundreds at a time; and, to say nothing of the two Italian opera houses, and a multitude of theatres, we have daily and nightly concerts, of all grades and of all prices, from a guinea to twopence! A musical *penchant* may thus be gratified, even by the humblest mechanic and his family.*

Nor, amongst the causes of advancing sobriety, and the improvement of health, manners, tastes, and feelings, in the working classes of the community, should we omit to mention the increase in the number of coffee shops which has taken place of late years, and the consequent decrease — for decrease unquestionably there is — in the consumption of spirituous liquors, "the bane of manhood and of life."

And, again, the salubrious facilities afforded by railroad and steamboat conveyance. The residents of the metropolis,

* The 28th and 29th numbers of the "New Library of Useful Knowledge," contain The Progress of Music, both foreign and domestic, from the earliest period to the present time; and number 31, The Musical Guide, for teaching singing and the pianoforte.

whose health, mental and bodily, equally demands an occasional supply of fresh air and exercise, relaxation and amusement, are no longer condemned, "from a difficulty of getting out of town," to sacrifice their precious hours of leisure in taverns and pot-houses, amidst the pestiferous fumes of beer, spirits, and tobacco.

SECTION II.

Days of Note and their Observances, &c

New Year's Day — Gifts to Queen Elizabeth — Observances in Paris—Twelfth Day—How to Draw for King and Queen—Candlemas—St. Valentine's Day—Love Divinations—Shrove Tuesday—St. David's Day—St. Patrick's Day—Palm Sunday—Maunday Thursday—Royal Donations—Good Friday—Cross Buns—Greenwich Fair and its Sports—Spital Sermons—Boys of Christ Church Hospital—Rogation Week—Holy Thursday—Parochial Perambulations—Whitsuntide.

In the present and following section, it is proposed to offer a sketch or bird's-eye view of the observances, sports, and pastimes, which have for ages been appropriated to the respective public days throughout the year; commencing, agreeably to the order of time, with *New Year's Day*.

With our ancestors, this was a day of devout religious observance as well as of general festivity and rejoicing, not in London only, but throughout the kingdom. As a festival of the Church, it appears to have been instituted about the year 457. On this day, the Druids were accustomed, with much ceremony, to distribute branches of the sacred mistletoe amongst the people; those precious gifts having been cut from the oak-tree in a forest dedicated to the gods. Amongst the Saxons and other northern nations, the new year was also ushered in by friendly gifts, and celebrated with such extraordinary festivity that the people used to reckon their age by the number of annual merry-makings in which they had participated. The ancient Roman practice of interchanging presents, and of making new year's donations to servants, remained in force during the middle and later ages,

especially amongst our kings, queens, and the nobility. Henry III. is said to have followed the discreditable example of some of the Roman emperors in extorting them; and Elizabeth has been accused of principally supporting her wardrobe and jewellery by exacting similar contributions, even from her household. It is on record, too, that her *dustman* presented her with "two bolts of cambric." At that time, pins were acceptable new year's gifts to the ladies, as substitutes for the "wooden skewers" which had been in use till the end of the fifteenth century. It is understood that, in lieu of *pins*, they occasionally received a composition in *money;* and hence the allowance for the separate use of married women has obtained the denomination of "pin-money."

Of late years—in London especially—new year's day has been celebrated with but little public festivity. The only open joyous demonstration is the ringing of merry peals from the belfries of the numerous churches, towards the close of the departing year, until after the clock has sounded its last hour. In the French capital it is widely different. There, at an early hour, an interchange of visits, and the distribution of *bon-bons* and other sweatmeats, are in full activity; the nearest relations being first visited, until the farthest in consanguinity, and next their friends and acquaintances have all had their complimentary calls. It is usual for some member of the family to give a dinner to all the rest; and the evening is passed, like that of Christmas day, with cards, dancing, and other amusements. It has been estimated, that the amount expended upon *bon-bons*, &c., alone, for presents on new year's day in Paris, exceeds 20,000*l* sterling; and that the sale of jewellery and fancy articles, during the first week of the year, amounts to one-fourth of the sale in the whole twelve months. Thus, the advantage to trade and manufactures is immense.

Twelfth Day, so called because it is the twelfth day after the Nativity, is also termed the Epiphany, or Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, when the eastern magi—presumed to have been kings—were guided by the star to pay their homage to the infant Saviour. In reference to this, in the calendar of the Romish Church, it is styled the "Festival of Kings;" and in their commemoration is supposed to have originated the festive rites and gambols—the drawing for King and Queen, &c.—of the anniversary. In France it was

customary, in former times, to choose one of the courtiers as King, and he was waited upon by the real sovereign and his nobles in a grand entertainment.

> "The *bean* found out, and *monarch* crowned,
> He dubs a fool, and sends him round,
> To raise the frolic when it's low—
> Himself commands the wine to flow.
> Each watches for the king to quaff,
> When, all at once, up springs the laugh;
> They cry 'The King drinks!' and away
> They shout a long and loud huzza!
> And when it's ended comes the dance,
> And—thus is Twelfth-night spent in France."

In London—though the practice is not so extensive as it was a few years ago—every pastry-cook in the city, and also at the west end of the town, makes a grand display of his wares on twelfth day; and, at night, the gas is turned on with supernumerary wax-lights in countless numbers, to illuminate countless cakes of all prices and dimensions, that stand in rows and piles on the counters and sideboards, and in the windows. And all these assemblages of sweets are decorated with "stars, castles, kings, queens, cottages, palaces, dragons, trees, fish, cats, dogs, churches, lions, milkmaids, knights, servants, and innumerable other forms, in snow-white confectionery, painted with variegated colours, glittering by 'excess of light,' reflected from mirrors against the walls, festooned with artificial 'wonders of Flora.'" But this is only the *interior* spectacle: the uproarious *fun* is all *outside*. From the throng besetting the house, alternate tappings of hammers, shouts, and peals of laughter are heard. Boys—ay, and men and women too—assemble around the inviting shops of the pastry-cooks, and dextrously contrive to nail the coat-tails, gowns, and cloaks of the spectators, who venture near enough, to the bottoms of the window-frames, or pin, or even sew them strongly together by their clothes. Sometimes as many as eight or ten persons have found themselves thus "pleasantly connected."

In London society, the commemoration of Twelfth Night now consists of little more than the custom of drawing King and Queen, with perhaps a little music and dancing, and a supper. How to *eat* Twelfth Cake, observes Hone, in his "Everyday Book," requires no recipe; but how to

provide it, and draw the characters, are another affair; and this he gives, upon authority, as follows:—

"First, buy your cake. Then, before your visitors arrive, buy your characters, each of which should have a pleasant verse beneath. Next look at your invitation list, and count the number of ladies you expect; and afterwards the number of gentlemen. Then, take as many female characters as you have invited ladies; fold them up exactly of the same size, and number each on the back; taking care to make the King No. 1. and the Queen No. 2. Then prepare and number the gentlemen's characters. Cause tea and coffee to be handed to your visitors as they drop in. When all are assembled and tea over, put as many ladies' characters in a reticule as there are ladies present; next, put the gentlemen's characters in a hat. Then call on a gentleman to carry the reticule to the ladies as they sit, from which each lady is to draw one ticket, and to preserve it unopened. Select a lady to carry the hat to the gentlemen for the same purpose. There will be one ticket left in the reticule, and another in the hat, which the lady and gentleman who carried each is to interchange, as having fallen to each. Next, arrange your visitors according to their numbers; the King No. 1, the Queen No. 2, and so on. The King is then to recite the verse on his ticket; then the Queen the verse on hers; and so the characters are to proceed in numerical order. This done, let the cake and refreshments go round, and hey for merriment!

"They come! they come! each blue-eyed sport,
The Twelfth-night King and all his court—
'Tis mirth fresh crowned with mistletoe!
Music with her merry fiddles,
Joy 'on light fantastic toe.'
Wit with all his jests and riddles,
Singing and dancing as they go;
And love, young love, among the rest,
A welcome—nor unbidden guest."

Candlemas (February the 2d) deriving its name, probably, from some ancient religious ceremonies performed by candlelight, is the Church anniversary for the Purification of the Blessed Virgin. According to some, it originated in the Roman festival of *Februa*, the mother of Mars, when the people were accustomed to run about the streets with lighted torches. Candles, and the bearing and blessing of candles,

have much to do with the ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church. From Candlemas, the use of tapers, of vespers and litanies, which prevailed throughout the winter, ceased until the ensuing All Hallow Mass; and hence the origin of the old English saying—

"On Candlemas-day
Throw candle and candle-stick away."

The Christmas-day log may be burnt till Candlemas-day, but at night it must be quenched, and—

"End now the white-loafe and the pye,
And let all sports with Christmas dye."

There is a general belief, that, in the words of Bishop Hall, if Candlemas-day be "clear and sun-shiny, it portends a hard weather to come; if cloudy and lowering, a mild and gentle season ensuing." Or according to some old almanacs—

"If Candlemas-day be fair and bright,
Winter will have another flight;
But if Candlemas-day be clouds and rain,
Winter is gone, and will not come again."

These, and other recollections of Candlemas, are as common in London as in the more remote parts of the kingdom.

Valentine's-day (February the 14th).—A volume might easily be written upon this day and its exciting observance amongst the youthful parts of the London population alone. Birds are said to choose their mates about this time of the year; whence probably arose the custom of young persons selecting valentines, and sending flattering,—or possibly some burlesque or satirical—effusions to the object designed for notice. The dispatch of these missives, embracing all sorts of devices, poetical and pictorial, seems to be yearly on the increase,—an increase greater in proportion than that of the population; from two hundred thousand to three hundred thousand letters passing annually through the London district (or as it used to be called, the two-penny post) office, beyond the usual daily average, on St. Valentine's-day. The antiquity of the custom is evident from a curious French valentine, composed by Gower, the early pride of London bards, which Warton has printed among his additions to the second volume of his "History of English Poetry."

Misson, a foreign traveller, who died in England rather

more than a century ago, describes the amusing practices of his time, in substance, as follows:—On St. Valentine's Eve the young folk celebrate a little festival. An equal number of maids and bachelors get together, when each individual writes his or her name upon a separate billet. The billets are then rolled up, and afterwards drawn, as lots; the maids taking the men's billets, and the men those of the maids, so that each of the young men alights upon a girl, whom he calls his valentine, and each of the girls upon a young man, whom she calls hers. Thus, each has two valentines; but the man holds closer to the valentine who has fallen to him than to the valentine to whom he has been allotted. Fortune having thus divided the company into so many couples, the young men give balls and treats to their mistresses, wear their billets several days upon their breasts, or sleeves, and this little sport often ends in love.

The custom varies in different parts of the country; but in London, more particularly, the lad's valentine is the first lass he sees in the morning; the lass's valentine is the first youth she sees. Gay, the poet, in one of his pastorals, alludes to the usage, in making a rustic damsel say—

> "I early rose just at the break of day,
> Before the sun had chased the stars away;
> At first I went, amid the morning dew,
> To milk my kine (for so should housewives do).
> *Thee* first I spied, and the first swain we see,
> In spite of fortune, shall *our true love* be."

The subjoined amusing description of certain love divinations practised at this time, is from the *Connoisseur*, No. 56:—"Last Friday was Valentine Day, and the night before I got five bay-leaves, and pinned four of them to the four corners of my pillow, and the fifth to the middle; and then, if I dreamt of my sweetheart, Betty said we should be married before the year was out; but, to make it more sure, I boiled an egg hard, and took out the yolk, and filled it with salt, and, when I went to bed, ate it, shell and all, without speaking or drinking after it. We also wrote our lovers' names upon bits of paper, and rolled them up in clay, and put them into water, and the first that rose up was to be our valentine. Would you think, Mr. Blossom was my man. I lay a-bed, and shut my eyes all the morning, till he came to our house, for I would not have seen another man before him for all the world."

Old Herrick, in his Hesperides, alluding to another custom formerly celebrated on this day, thus speaks of a bride:—

"She must no more a-Maying;
Nor by *rose-buds* divine
Who'll be her valentine."

St. Valentine was a presbyter of the church, and suffered martyrdom in the reign of the Emperor Claudius; but there is no recorded incident of his life that can have given rise to the ceremonies observed on his anniversary. Butler, in his Lives of the Saints, has the following ridiculous passage:—"To abolish the heathens' lewd superstitious custom of boys drawing the names of girls, in honour of their goddess *Februata Juno*, on the 15th of February, several zealous pastors substituted the names of saints in billets given on that day." The only suitable reply to this is—*Honi soit qui mal y pense.*

Shrove Tuesday, or *Shrove Tide*, was a season anciently set apart by the Church of Rome, for the purpose of *shriving* or *confessing of sins*, that people might be the better prepared for the following season of Lent. Barbarous sports, however—such as cock-fighting and throwing at cocks, and gluttonous feasting—became associated with the religious observances of the day. According to an ancient author, "men ate and drank, and abandoned themselves to every kind of sportive foolery, as if resolved to have their fill of pleasure before they were to die." The day is now commemorated throughout the kingdom chiefly by the eating of pancakes. There was formerly a custom in the city of London, for the peace-officers to make search after women of ill-fame, and after carting them through the streets in an ignominious manner, to confine them during the season of Lent. The carting and whipping of such characters is frequently mentioned by Stow and other writers. In this exercise, the "London 'prentices" were allowed extensively to participate. Indeed, the *indulgences* of those youths were great, and their licentious disturbances are conspicuous in the annals of many an affray. Mixing in every brawl, to raise it if possible into open riot, they at length presumed to interfere with public affairs, and went in bodies, with their petitions and remonstrances, to the bar of the House of Commons, with as much importance as their masters of the corporation.

Until of late years, Shrove Tuesday was the great holiday of the apprentices. In Westminster School, it is usual for the cook, preceded by the beadle and other officers, to enter the school, and throw a large pancake over the curtain which separates the forms of the upper from those of the under scholars. In many parts of England it is customary to have "eggs and collops" (thin slices of bacon or hung-beef) on Shrove or Collop Monday, "pancakes" on Tuesday, and "fritters" on Wednesday, in the same week, for dinner.

St. David's Day, March 1.—According to tradition, St. David, the patron saint of Wales, was uncle to the celebrated British King Arthur. It is stated, in the *Festa Anglo-Romana*, published in 1678, that, "on this day, the Britons do constantly wear a *leek*, in memory of a famous and notable victory obtained by them over the Saxons; they during the battle having *leeks in their hats* for their military colours and distinction of themselves, by persuasion of their prelate, St. David." Of the origin of the custom, however, there are various accounts. It is more prevalent in London than even in Wales; and not only are common garden leeks worn, by the poorer classes of Welshmen, but also artificial ones of tinsel, and, by those who can afford it, of silver and gold. Formerly it was a practice, "more honoured in the breach than in the observance," for the London populace, on St. David's Day—as may be illustrated by the following extract from Pepys's *Diary*, under the date of March 1, 1666-7—to insult the Welsh by dressing up a man of straw to represent a Cambrian hero. Having been carried in procession, the effigy was then hung up in some conspicuous place. "I do observe the picture of a man, dressed like a Welshman, hanging by the neck upon one of the poles that stand out at the top of one of the merchant's houses, in full proportion, and very handsomely done, which is one of the oddest sights I have seen a good while." On this day, the Welsh charity children go in procession to St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, from the hospital in Gray's Inn Lane, with wands, ribbons, leeks, &c. There is also a low sort of fair held on this anniversary, frequented chiefly by the Welsh, near Lambeth Church.

St Patrick's Day, March 17.—In the metropolis this anniversary is generally observed at court as a high festival, and the nobility crowd to pay their compliments in

honour of the tutelary saint of Ireland. It is usually selected, also, for soliciting aid to a great national object—the promotion of education. The following reason has been assigned for wearing "the immortal green shamrock" on this day:—When St. Patrick preached the Gospel to the pagan Irish, he illustrated the doctrine of the Trinity by shewing them a *trefoil*, a three-leaved grass with one stalk, which operating to their conviction, the shamrock—which is a bundle of this grass—has ever since been worn upon the saint's anniversary, in commemoration of the event.

Palm Sunday, the first day of Passion Week, or the week immediately before Easter, used to be commemorated in the Roman Catholic Church, by carrying branches of palm-trees in procession, in imitation of those strewed before the Saviour when he rode into Jerusalem. Many superstitious ceremonies followed. Palm, or, to speak more correctly, slips of the willow, with their bright velvet-looking buds, are still sometimes stuck in churches on this day, and in London it is yet customary for men and boys to "go a-palming" on Palm Sunday morning; that is, by gathering branches of the willow in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. They come home with slips in their hats, and in the breast button-holes of their coats, and a sprig in the mouth, and branches in their hands. During Passion Week, according to Stow, there used to be great shows in London for going to the woods, and fetching into the king's house a twisted tree, or *withe*; and the like into the house of every man of note or consequence.

Maunday Thursday, the day preceding Good Friday, on which the Sovereign distributes alms to a certain number of poor persons at Whitehall, was anciently so named from the *maunds*, or *baskets*, in which the gifts were contained. It was also called *Shere Thursday*, signifying that it was the day on which the clergy were accustomed to *shere* or *shear* their heads, or get them shorn or shaven, and to clip their beards against Easter Sunday.

"In ancient times, on Maunday Thursday, the kings and queens of England were accustomed to wash and kiss the feet of as many poor men and women as they were years old, besides bestowing their *maunday* on each. This was in commemoration of the Saviour washing the feet of his disciples. Queen Elizabeth performed this at Greenwich, when she was thirty-nine years old, on which occasion the

feet of the same number of poor persons were first washed by the yoemen of the laundry with warm water and sweet herbs; afterwards by the sub-almoner, and lastly by the Queen herself; the person who washed making each time a cross on the pauper's foot above the toes, and kissing it. This ceremony was performed by the Queen kneeling, being attended by thirty-nine ladies and gentlemen. Clothes, victuals, and money were then distributed amongst the poor. James II. is understood to have been the last of our monarchs who performed this ceremony in person. It was afterwards performed by the almoner, but has long been wholly discontinued." The royal donations, however, are still distributed, with considerable form and ceremony, at the chapel royal, Whitehall. In the morning, an equal number of poor women and poor men, according to the age of the Sovereign, receive each a liberal quantity of salt-fish, beef, and bread, and some ale to drink the monarch's health. After the evening service, silver pennies are distributed amongst the same individuals, with woollen cloth, linen, shoes and stockings, and a cup of wine to each again to drink the health of the royal donor.

Good Friday.—Professedly commemorative of the Crucifixion, much mummery was formerly practised on this day. Good Friday and Christmas-day are the only two close holidays now observed throughout London, by the general shutting up of shops, and the opening of all the churches. The dawn of the former is awakened by a cry in the streets of "Hot-cross-buns; one-a-penny buns, two-a-penny buns; one-a-penny, two-a-penny, hot-cross-buns!" Formerly, these buns were commonly eaten in London by families at breakfast, or at tea in the afternoon, and in some establishments the usage is still retained. Cross-buns are evidently the succession of the ecclesiastical *eulogiæ*, or consecrated loaves, bestowed in the church as alms, or given to those who, from any impediment, could not receive the host. Bryan deduces the Good Friday bun from the *boun* or sacred bread which used to be offered to the pagan gods, even so far back as the time of Cecrops, the founder of Athens. And it is a curious fact, that, in the ruins of Herculaneum, destroyed by an eruption of Vesuvius in the first century of the Christian era, were found two entire loaves, of about the same size, each marked with a cross.

For a long period, it was customary for a sermon to be

preached on Good Friday at St. Paul's Cross, an ancient structure, situated in the middle of the churchyard, on the north side, towards the east end.

Easter, commemorating the resurrection of Christ. This has always been considered by the Church as a season of great festivity; and, in the days of popery, it was signalized by extraordinary dramatic worship, with appropriate scenery, machinery, dresses, and decorations; the theatrical representations taking place in the churches, and the monks being the actors. For its name we are indebted to our Saxon ancestors, who at this season held a solemn festival in honour of the goddess *Eastor*, probably the Astarte of the eastern nations.

Easter Monday and Tuesday have for ages been renowned as holidays in most of the manufactories and trades conducted in the metropolis. Monday used to be appropriated to the grand "Epping Hunt." So far back as the year 1226, King Henry III. confirmed to the citizens of London *free warren*, or liberty to hunt a circuit about their city, in the warren of Staines, &c.; and in ancient times, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Corporation, attended by a due number of their constituents, availed themselves of this right of chase "in solemn guise." But years agone, the "Epping Hunt" lost the Lord Mayor and his brethren in their corporate capacity; the annual sport subsequently dwindled into a mere burlesque and farcical show amongst the mob; and even that has died away, and is now numbered "amongst the things that were."

Greenwich Fair, however, survives in all its glory. The fair commences on Monday; and, during that and the following day, it forms a grand object of attraction to thousands and tens of thousands of visitors from London and its vicinity. The chief scene of resort is the park, wherein stands the Royal Observatory on a hill, adown which it is the delight of boys and girls, women and men, to run and pull one another till they are wearied. Mechanics and their wives, apprentices and their sweethearts, whole families of the working classes, pickpockets, the "swell mob," bullies and blackguards of all sorts, make their way to this fair. The lowest join in the park sports; others regale in the booths and public houses; and many are merely spectators of what are termed the humours of the day. At the very dawn of day, every

outlet from London towards Greenwich gives sign of this annual saturnalia. Hackney coaches, stages, and omnibuses; gigs, pony-chaises, market-carts, vans, and even coal-waggons, are in vast requisition. Formerly, the Thames watermen used to reap a rich harvest, at Easter and Whitsuntide, by conveying passengers from London to Greenwich, and from Greenwich to London; but, alas! *their* occupation is nearly gone. Watermen's wherries have been superseded by steam-packets; and the railway (from the southern foot of London-bridge) now also gives its powerful aid to "the million." This is at once the quickest and the quietest mode of transit. It is hardly necessary to add that, at night-fall, "life in London," as it is called, or "life amongst the cockneys," is found at Greenwich. Every booth, and every room in every public house, is fully occupied by drinkers, smokers, singers, and dancers; and the "balls" are kept up during the greater part of the night. The way to town then becomes an indescribable scene. The vehicles congregated by the visitors to the fair throughout the day resume their motion; and, notwithstanding the relief afforded by the railway trains, which, at these seasons, run nearly the whole of the night, the living reflux on the road is dense even to an excess of annoyance.

So much—though not a tithe proportion of what might be related on the subject—for Greenwich Fair.

Turn we to different scenes. On Easter Monday and Tuesday, the *Spital Sermons*—deriving their designation from the priory and hospital of "Our blessed lady, St. Mary Spital"—are preached. This hospital, founded in the year 1197, was situated on the east side of Bishopsgate Street, with fields in its rear, which now form the suburb called Spitalfields. It had a large churchyard, with a pulpit cross, whence it was an ancient custom on Easter Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, for sermons to be preached on the Resurrection, before the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and others, who sat in a house of two storeys for that purpose; the Bishop of London and other prelates being above them. In 1596, the pulpit was taken down and a new one set up, and a large house for the governors and children of Christ's Hospital to sit in. In April 1559, Queen Elizabeth came in great state from St. Mary Spital, attended by a thousand men in harness, with shirts of mail and corslets, and morris-pikes, and ten great pieces carried through Lon-

don unto the court, with drums, flutes, and trumpets sounding, and two morris-dancers, and two white bears in a cart! The pulpit was broken down during the troubles in the time of Charles the First; and after the Restoration the sermons were preached at St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street, on the three usual days. Of late years they have been preached in Christ Church, Newgate Street, where they are attended by the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen and the Governors of Christ's, St. Bartholomew's, St. Thomas's, Bridewell, and Bethlem Hospitals. "On Easter Monday, the boys of Christ's Hospital walk in procession, accompanied by the master and stewards, to the Royal Exchange, whence they proceed to the Mansion House, where they are joined by the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs, Aldermen, Recorder, Chamberlain, Town Clerk, and other city officers with their ladies. Thence the cavalcade proceeds to Christ Church, where the Spital sermon is preached, always by one of the bishops, and an anthem sung by the children. His lordship afterwards returns to the Mansion House, where a grand civic entertainment is prepared, which is followed by a splendid ball in the evening. On Easter Tuesday, the boys again walk in procession to the Mansion House, but, instead of the masters, they are accompanied by the matron and nurses. On Monday, they walk in the order of the schools, each master being at the head of the school over which he presides; and the boys in the mathematical school carry their various instruments. On Tuesday, they walk in the order of the different wards, the nurses walking at the head of the boys under their immediate care. On their arrival at the Mansion House they have the honour of being presented, individually, to the Lord Mayor, who gives to each boy a new sixpence, a glass of wine, and two buns. His lordship afterwards accompanies them to Christ Church, where the service is the same as on Monday. The sermon on Tuesday is usually preached by the Lord Mayor's chaplain."

Rogation Sunday, the fifth after Easter, obtained its name from the succeeding Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, called Rogation days, from the Latin word *rogare*, to beseech, which were instituted by Mammertus, Archbishop of Vienne, in Dauphiné, about the year 469. The object of these institutions was to procure, through religious supplication, deliverance from the earthquakes, fires, and wild beasts,

with which the city had been afflicted. The custom soon spread, and the rogations and processions, or singing of litanies, along the streets of London, and other parts of England, during this week, were practised until the Reformation. In 1554, the priests of Queen Mary's Chapel made public processions. "All the three days," says Strype, "there went her chapel about the fields: the first day to St. Giles's, and there sang mass; the next day, being Tuesday, to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and there a sermon was preached and mass sung, and the company drank there; the third day, to Westminster, where a sermon was made, and then mass and good cheer made; and after, about the park, and so to St. James's Court. The same Rogation week went out of the Tower, in procession, priests and clerks, and the lieutenant, with all his waiters; and the axe of the Tower borne in procession. The waits attended. There joined in this procession the inhabitants of St. Katharine's, Radcliffe, Limehouse, Poplar, Stratford, Bow, Shoreditch, and all those that belonged to the Tower, with their halberts. They went about the fields of St. Katharine's, and the liberties."

And on the following Thursday being *Holy Thursday*, or *Ascension Day*, "the Queen, in procession, within St. James's, with heralds and serjeants-at-arms, and four bishops mitred; and Bishop Bonner, besides his mitre, wore a pair of slippers and gilt, and a pair of rich gloves with ouches of silver upon them, very rich."

At this season of the year, as is still practised in some places, were made the parochial perambulations, to fix the bounds and limits of the respective parishes, a custom derived from the heathen festival of the god Terminus, the guardian of fields and land-marks. One of our Church homilies was composed especially for this ceremony.

Whit-Sunday, the feast of Pentecost, or *Whiten-Sunday*, was so named from being one of the stated times for baptism in the ancient church, when they who were baptized put on *white* garments, as types of that spiritual purity with which they had been invested. Formerly, Whitsuntide was one of the seasons greatly preferred for marrying. It is now noticed chiefly as one of the holidays of the year; a period at which the sports of Greenwich Fair are repeated, with all their boisterous revelry and fun.

SECTION III.

Days of Note and their Observances, etc.

All Fools' Day—May-Day—May-Poles—Symbols—May Fair—Milkmaids' Garlands—Chimney Sweepers—Trinity Sunday and Monday—Restoration of Charles the Second—Midsummer-Day—Worship of Baal and Moloch—Festive Illuminations, &c.—The City Watch—Lammas-Day—Dogget's Prize Coat-and-Badge—Swan-Hopping—St. Bartholomew's Fair.—St. Matthew's Day—St. Michael the Archangel—Michaelmas—Goose-eating—Ancient Tenures—Croydon Fair—Civic Ceremonies—Swearing-in of the Sheriffs—Chopping the Sticks, and counting the Hob-nails—The Gunpowder Plot, and the burning of Guy Fawkes—The Butchers of Clare Market—Ceremony of "Burning the Pope"—Lord Mayor's Day.—St. Thomas's Day—Christmas-Eve Ceremonies—Christmas Carols—The Mistletoe—Boar's Head at the Temple—The King of Christmas at Lincoln's Inn—Childermas-Day—The King of the Cockneys—Origin of Christmas-boxes.

The exceedingly ancient practice of "making fools" of people—though many of them are found "ready made"—on the *first of April*, appears to be general throughout the civilized world; but neither is its origin known, nor has it any point peculiarly referrible to London.

With us, May-day is the grandest festival of nature—the bridal of heaven and earth. Many of its observances were doubtlessly derived from the heathen celebrations in honour of the goddess Flora, which chiefly consisted, however, of licentious dances in the fields and woods, to the sound of trumpets. And Stow tells us, in his Survey of London, that, on May-day morning, "every man, except impediment, would walk into the sweet meddowes and green woods, there to rejoice their spirits with the beauty and savour of sweet flowers, and with the harmony of birds praising God in their kinde." Nor was the custom of "going a-Maying" confined to the populace, but was equally observed by royal and noble personages. Thus we read in Chaucer's Court of Love, that, early on May-day, "fourth goeth al the Court, both most and lest, to fetche the flouris fresh, and braunch and blome." Henry the Eighth also occasionally partook of this diversion, with his Queen and courtiers. "In the month of May," observes Stow, "the citizens of London, of

all estates, had their several Mayings, and did fetch in May-poles, with divers warlike shows, with good archers, morrice-dancers, and other devices for pastime, all the day long; and towards the evening they had stage-plays and bonfires in the streets. These great Mayings and May-games were made by the governors and masters of the city, together with the triumphant setting up of the great shaft, or principal May-pole, in Cornhill, before the parish church of Saint Andrew;" which, observes Strut, "was thence called Saint Andrew Undershaft." Considerable interruption of these sports was occasioned by an insurrection of the London apprentices and other young persons, against aliens, in which several lives were lost, on May-day—hence called "Evil May-day"—in 1517. From other authorities it appears, that "sometimes the May-pole was brought home from the woods with great pomp, being drawn by twenty or forty yoke of oxen, each having his horns garlanded with flowers, with which, as well as with branches, flags, and streamers, the pole itself was profusely wreathed and decked. When it was reared up, arbours and bowers were formed beneath it; the ground was strewed with flowers; and then, says Stubbes, a puritanical author of the time of Queen Elizabeth, "they fall to banquet and feast, to leepe and dance about it, as the heathen people did at the dedication of their idolles, whereof this is a perfect pattern, or rather the thing itself." Another writer, of a more rational stamp, tells us, that our ancestors held an anniversary assembly on May-day; that the "column of May"—whence our May-pole—was the great standard of justice on the Ey-commons or fields of May; that here it was that the people, if they saw cause, deposed their governors, their barons, and their kings; that the judge's bough or wand, now discontinued, and represented only by a trifling nosegay, and the staff or rod of authority in the civil and in the military power—for it was the *mace* of civil power and the *truncheon* of field-officers—are both derived from hence; that a *mayor* received his name from this *May*, in the sense of lawful power; and that the crown, a symbol of dignity like the mace and sceptre, was taken from the garland or crown hung at the top of the May, the arches which sprang from the wicket, and met together at the mound, or round bell, being necessarily so formed to suspend it from the top of the pole.

The May-games were not restricted to the 1st of the month, nor were they always concluded on the day of commencement. At the celebration of these sports, it was customary to elect a lord and lady of the May to preside; and we are told that, on the 30th of the month, in 1557, there "was a goodly May-game in Fenchurch Street, with drums, and guns, and pikes; and with the nine worthies who rode, and each of them made his speech, there was also a morris dance, and an elephant and castle, and the lord and lady of the May [decorated with scarfs, ribbons, and other fineries], to make up the show."

By an ordinance of the Long Parliament, in April 1644, all the London May-poles were taken down, and the games suppressed. The restoration of Charles the Second, however, was the signal for their restoration; and on the very first May-day afterwards, in 1661, the May-pole in the Strand was reared with great ceremony and rejoicing. This is described as having stood within a door or two westward from Catherine Street. Brayley, in his Londiniana (vol. iv. p. 318), furnishes the following curious particulars:— "Nearly opposite to Craven Buildings is a low public-house, bearing the sign of the *Cock and Pye* (a contraction for the Cock and *Magpye*), which, two centuries ago, was almost the only dwelling in the eastern part of Drury Lane, except the mansion of the Drewries. Hither the youths and maidens of the metropolis, who, in social revelry on May-day, threaded the jocund dance around the May-pole in the Strand, were accustomed to resort for cakes and ale, and other refreshments."

Within a century, a great *May* fair was annually held near Piccadilly, on the site which now bears that name. A faint reminiscence of the old May-day sports is still kept up by the "Milkmaid's Garland" (but its flowers, alas! are faded), the best account of which that we have seen is the following, from "Misson's Travels:"—

"On the First of May, and the five or six days following, all the pretty young country girls that serve the town with milk, dress themselves up very neatly, and borrow abundance of silver plate, whereof they make a *pyramid* [the *base* of which is understood to be a *milkpail*], which they adorn with ribbons and flowers, and carry upon their heads, instead of their common milk-pails. In this equipage, accompanied by some of their fellow milkmaids, and a bag-pipe

or fiddle, they go from door to door, dancing before the houses of their customers, in the midst of boys and girls that follow them in troops; and everybody gives them something."

More recently, the "Milkmaid's Garland" was carried by two chairmen upon one of their horses, used for the conveyance of luggage, &c.

The Chimney-Sweepers of London have also long observed the early days of May as an established holiday; on which occasion they parade the streets in parties, fantastically tricked out in tawdry finery, *enriched* with strips of gilt and various coloured papers, &c. With their faces chalked, and their shovels and brushes in hand, they caper the "Chimney-Sweepers' Dance," to a well-known tune, considered by amateurs as more noisy than musical. Some of the larger parties are accompanied by a fiddle, and a "Jack-in-the-Green," and a "Lord and Lady of the May." The "Jack-in-the-Green" is a man concealed within a frame of wicker-work, covered with leaves, flowers, &c.

On *Trinity Sunday*, in conformity with ancient usage, the judges and law-officers of the Crown, with the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, attend divine service at St. Paul's Cathedral, and hear a sermon preached by the Lord Mayor's chaplain.

Trinity Monday is a sort of gala day on the Thames; that great maritime corporation, the "Brethren of the Trinity House," meeting annually on that day at Deptford, in their hospital for decayed sea-commanders and their widows, to choose and swear in a master, wardens, and other officers, for the year ensuing. In the early part of the day, the master and brethren proceed from the Trinity House, on Tower Hill, and embark in their state barges at the Tower. Thence they are rowed, in splendid style, to Deptford, amidst an endless display of flags and firing of cannon. Their business having been finished at Deptford, they return to the Tower in the same stately order. On this occasion, it is customary for the Trinity Yacht, off Deptford, to be gaily hung with the colours of all nations. The appearance is beautiful.

The anniversary of the *Restoration of Charles the Second*, on the 29th of May, 1660, used formerly to be commemorated by the Londoners, by placing oak-leaves and oak-apples in their hats, and dressing their horses' heads with them.

Midsummer Day, June 24th.—The summer solstice has been celebrated through many ages by the lighting up of fires; a vestige, probably, of the ancient worship of Baal and Moloch. Hence, on St. John's Eve, or the vigil of the festival of John the Baptist, there have been popular ceremonials of this kind, from the earliest times of the Romish church to the present day. Stow informs us that, in London, in addition to the bonfires on the eve of this saint, as well as upon the eves of St. Peter and St. Paul, "every man's door was shaded with green birch, long fennel, Saint John's wort, orpin, white lilies, and the like, ornamented with garlands of beautiful flowers. They (the citizens) had also lamps of glass, with oil burning in them all night; and some of them hung out branches of iron, curiously wrought, containing hundreds of lamps lighted at once, which made a goodly sight, namely, in New Fish Street, Thames Street, &c."

In former times—commencing, it would appear, in the 13th century, in consequence of great disorders committed in the streets of London—it was customary to set the "Midsummer Watch" upon the eve of St. John the Baptist. The ceremony was performed with great pomp and pageantry, and the whole was conducted at a heavy expense. The custom was maintained till the year 1539, when it was discontinued—revived in 1548—and soon afterwards finally abolished.

Many superstitious practices, connected with love divinations, &c., were formerly much resorted to amongst the vulgar on Midsummer eve.

Lammas Day, or the festival of St. Peter *ad vincula*, on the 1st of August, is more noticed in London for an annual rowing match on the Thames, instituted by Thomas Dogget, an actor of celebrity, in honour of the accession of George I. to the throne of England. Dogget was so warmly attached to the Brunswick family, that Sir Richard Steele termed him "a whig up to the head and ears." In the year after George I. came to the throne, Dogget gave a *Waterman's Coat and Silver Badge*, to be rowed for by six watermen on the 1st of August. This he not only continued till his death, but he bequeathed a certain sum of money, the interest of which was to be appropriated annually, for ever, to the purchase of a like coat and badge, by six young watermen, whose apprenticeships had expired the year be-

fore. This ceremony is performed every year; the competitors setting out, at a signal given, at that time of the tide when the current is strongest against them, and rowing from the Old Swan, near London Bridge, to the White Swan, at Chelsea.

Formerly—but the practice has been some time discontinued—the members of the corporation of London, in gaily decorated barges, went up the Thames annually in August, for the purpose of *nicking*, or marking, and counting their swans. They used to land off Barn Elms, and, after partaking of a collation on the grass, they merrily danced away a few hours. This yearly "progress" was commonly, but incorrectly, termed "Swan-*hopping*:" the correct designation is shewn, by the ancient statutes, to be "Swan-*upping*;" the swans being taken *up* and *nicked*, or marked. A "Swan-with-two-Nicks" (not Necks) indicated, by his second nick, that he had been "taken-*up*" twice.

The *Fair of St. Bartholomew.*—The only fair held within the city of London—if it can still be said to be held—is annually proclaimed at the great gate going into Cloth Fair, Smithfield. Altogether it lasted four days, during which shows and diversions of all sorts, mostly of a very coarse character, with exhibitions of wild beasts, &c., abounded, not only in the vast area of Smithfield Market, but through all the avenues. It had become so intolerable a nuisance, that indirect means were taken for its virtual suppression, and it no longer exists but in name.

On *St. Matthew's-day*, (September 21) the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Governors of the several Royal Hospitals in London, attend Divine Service, and hear a sermon preached at Christ Church, Newgate-street. They then repair to the Great Hall in Christ's Hospital, where two orations are delivered, one in Latin and the other in English, by the two senior scholars of the grammar school, and afterwards partake of a sumptuous dinner.

Michaelmas Day, September 29.—"Michaelmas," remarks Bailey, "is a festival appointed by the church to be served in honour of St. Michael, the archangel, who is supposed to be the chief of the host of heaven, as Lucifer is of the infernal host; and as he was supposed the protector of the Jewish, so is he now esteemed the guardian and defender of the Christian Church." The Rev. Edward Barnard, in his "Protestant Beadsman," says, "St. Michael is

mentioned in Scripture five times, and always in a military view; thrice by Daniel, as fighting for the Jewish church against Persia; once by St. John, as fighting at the head of his angelic troops against the dragon and his host; and once by St. Jude, as fighting personally with the devil about the body of Moses: for the very ashes of God's servants have angelic protection. It has been thought by many that there is no other archangel but Michael, and that he succeeded Lucifer in this high dignity."

Excepting as a rent-day, and for certain civic customs, Michaelmas is now recognised chiefly for its annual destruction of geese, not only in London, but more or less throughout the kingdom. To this destruction, the popular saying, that, "if you eat goose on Michaelmas-day, you will never want money all the year round," has not slightly contributed. According to Churchill, the poet—

"———— by custom (right divine)
Geese are ordained to bleed at Michael's shrine!"

but the cause remains unexplained. It was long a prevalent notion, that the practice of goose-eating on Michaelmas-day arose from the circumstance, that Queen Elizabeth received the news of the defeat of the Spanish Armada whilst partaking of a goose on that anniversary. This, however, is disproved by the fact, that, so far back as the tenth year of Edward the Fourth, (1470) one John de la Hay was bound, amongst other services, to render to William Barnaby, Lord of Lastres, in Herefordshire, for a parcel of the demesne lands, "xxd. and *one goose* fit for his lord's dinner on the *Feast of St. Michael* the *Archangel*." Also, amongst "Gascoigne's Posies," published in 1575, are the following lines:—

"And when the tenauntes come to paie their quarter's rent,
They bring some fowle at Midsummer, a dish of fish in Lent;
At Christmasse a capon, *at Michaelmasse, a goose*;
And somewhat else at New-yeres tide, *for feare their lease flie loose*."

After all, the solution of the mystery may probably be found in the fact, that geese are finer and more plentiful at this season than at any other.

Croydon Fair (ten miles from town) commencing on the 3d of October, is a scene of great resort with the Londoners,

one of whose objects is to partake of roast goose, with walnuts by way of dessert.

On Michaelmas-day, the Lord Mayor for the year ensuing is elected at the Guildhall. On the next day—or, should that fall on a Sunday, on the Monday following—the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex previously chosen, are solemnly sworn into office. On the latter occasion, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen proceed from Guildhall, and the two Sheriffs, with their respective companies, proceed from their halls, and embark on the Thames, the Lord Mayor in the city barge, and the Sheriffs in a barge of one of the companies, and thus go in aquatic state up the river to Palace Yard, Westminster. They land there, and proceed to the Court of Exchequer, where, after salutations to the bench, (the cursitor Baron presiding) the Recorder presents the Sheriffs. The several writs are then read, and the Sheriffs, and the senior under-Sheriff take the customary oaths.

The next proceeding is to call upon the tenants of a certain manor in Shropshire, to come forth to do their suit and service. The corporation of London being the tenants, the senior Alderman below the chair steps forward and chops a single stick, in token of its having been customary for the tenants of that manor to supply their lord with fuel. The Sheriffs in fact have nothing to do with the chopping of sticks, and the counting of hobnails, respecting which much has been said. The origin of the latter ceremony and its present performance are as follows:—

The owners of a forge in the parish of St. Clement (which formerly belonged to the city, and stood in the high road from the Temple to Westminster, but now no longer exists), are then called forth to do their suit and service; when an officer of the court, in the presence of the senior Alderman, produces six horse-shoes and sixty-one hob-nails, which are counted over in form before the cursitor Baron, who, on this particular occasion, is the immediate representative of the Sovereign.

This usage originated in a grant from Henry the Third, in the year 1235, to Walter de Bruin, a farrier, of the said piece of ground, whereon to erect a forge; he rendering annually to the Exchequer, for the same, a quit-rent of six horse-shoes, with the nails belonging to them. In the course of time, the land became vested in the city; and, though now lost to it, the city still renders the quit-rent.

After these ceremonies, the civic authorities re-embark in their barges, and return to Blackfriars-bridge, whence they proceed in the state carriages to the company's hall, and partake of an elegant dinner.

With reference to the *Gunpowder-plot*, happily discovered in the year 1605, Bishop Sanderson, in one of his "Sermons to the People," says, "God grant that we nor ours ever live to see November the Fifth forgotten, or the solemnity of it silenced!" The details of the affair are too generally known to require any notice here. The *Fifth of November* is still one of the principal holidays of London; though, until within these few years, it had not been observed by the populace with so much festive diversion as formerly. Originally the burning of Guy Fawkes in effigy was a ceremony much in vogue, especially amongst the lower classes; but subsequently it was confined chiefly to school-boys, with whom it was the most joyous anniversary of the year. Even with them it degenerated. The greater attention of the police to prevent tumult, and restrain the letting off of fireworks, through which frequent accidents occurred in commemorating the day, were perhaps the leading causes of the disuse of the ancient custom. Very recently, however, it has been revived with much zeal, particularly in some of the outskirts of the metropolis. Nor has the old doggerel ditty, commencing with the following stanza, been forgotten:—

'Pray remember
The Fifth of November,
Gunpowder Treason and Plot
For I know no reason
Why Gunpowder Treason
Should ever be forgot.
Holla boys! Holla boys! Huzza!"

Formerly, the burning of "a good Guy" was a scene of uproar unknown to the present day. "The bonfire in Lincoln's-inn-fields was of this superior order of disorder. It was made at the Great Queen-street corner, immediately opposite Newcastle House. Fuel came all day long, in carts properly guarded against surprise. Old people have remembered when upwards of two hundred cart-loads were brought to make and feed this bonfire, and more than thirty 'Guys' were burnt upon gibbets between eight and twelve o'clock at night." "The butchers of Clare Market, also,

were accustomed to celebrate this anniversary in a somewhat peculiar style; one of their body, personating Guy Fawkes, being seated in a cart, with a prayer-book in his hand, and a priest, executioner, &c., attending, and drawn backwards through the streets, as if going to the place of execution; while a select party, with marrow-bones and cleavers, led the way, and others solicited money from the inhabitants and spectators. The sums thus obtained were at night spent in jollity and carousing."

The ceremony of "*Burning the Pope*," though sometimes erroneously confounded with that of the immolation of Guy Fawkes, is entirely distinct. The proceeding originated in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and it was occasionally observed on the anniversary of her birth (November 17), till after the commencement of the last century, though not always with equal pomp and uproariousness. After the discovery of what was termed the "Meal-Tub Plot," in 1679, the people became so indignant against Roman Catholics, that the annual solemnity of Burning the Pope in effigy was celebrated with additional ceremonies of mock grandeur. In the latter part of Charles the Second's reign, these anti-papistical exhibitions were employed as engines to excite the popular resentment against the Duke of York and his religion, and they were played off with great state and at considerable expense. The most famous of these processions were in 1679, 1680, and 1681. An exceedingly curious account of the tumultuary procession of 1679 appears in a very scarce pamphlet, entitled, "The Burning of the Pope at Temple Bar, in London," &c., and in an equally rare broad-side, quoted by Sir Walter Scott, in the sixth volume of his edition of Dryden's Works. Brayley, in his "*Londiniana*" (vol. iv. page 74, *et seq.*) has extracted the main points from these authorities, and from them we shall transcribe one or two illustrative passages. A long and strikingly characteristic procession is thus closed:—

"Lastly, the Pope himself, in a lofty gorgeous pageant, representing a chair of state, covered with scarlet, richly embroidered and fringed, and bedecked with golden balls and crosses. At his feet, a cushion of state, and two boys in surplices, with white silk banners painted with red crosses, and bloody consecrated daggers for murdering protestant kings and princes, with an incense pot before them, causing his Holiness, who was arrayed in a splendid scarlet gown,

lined throughout with ermine, and richly daubed with gold and silver lace; on his head a triple crown of gold, and a glorious collar of precious stones, St. Peter's keys, a number of beads, *Agnus Deis*, and other Catholic trumpery. At his back, his Holiness's privy-councillor, the degraded seraphim (*Anglice*, the devil,) frequently caressing, hugging, and whispering to him, and oft-times instructing him aloud to destroy his Majesty, to forge a Protestant plot, and to fire the city again, to which purpose he held an infernal torch in his hand. The whole procession was attended with 150 flambeaux and lights, by order; but as many more came in volunteers, as made up some thousands."

The procession at length reached Temple Bar [from Moorgate, and through all the principal streets of the city]; and then, after various other ceremonies, "the thronging spectators were entertained, for some time, with ingenious fireworks; and a vast fire being prepared, just over against the Inner Temple Gate, his Holiness, after some compliments and reluctances, was decently toppled from all his grandeur into the impartial flames; the crafty devil leaving his infallibilityship in the lurch, and laughing as heartily at his ignominious end as subtle Jesuits do at the ruin of bigoted lay Catholics, whom themselves have drawn in; or as credulous Coleman's abettors did, when, with pretences of a reprieve at his last gasp, they made him vomit up his soul with a lie, and sealed his dangerous chops with a halter.* This [act of] justice was attended with a prodigious shout, that might be heard far beyond Somerset House,† and 't was believed the echo, by continued reverberations, before it ceased, reached *Scotland* [the Duke was there then], France, and even Rome itself, damping them all with a dreadful astonishment."

Lord Mayor's Day, the 9th of November, when the "King of the City" is inaugurated in his high office, always presented, in ancient times, a grand civic festival and pageant; the glories and triumphs of which—performed by giants, blackamoors, gypsies, and other "strange cattle," extolled by laureates, and recorded by historians—are but dimly shadowed forth in the comparatively meagre pomp of

* "Coleman was secretary to the Duke of York, and had been convicted, in 1657, for carrying on a traitorous correspondence with Père la Chaise, the French King's Confessor."

† "Somerset House was at that time the Queen's residence."

modern celebrations. Perhaps the feasting part—as will presently be seen—is that alone in which we fall not behind our ancestors.

With the processions, &c., of late years, most readers are sufficiently well acquainted, from the newspapers of the day. Fully to describe those of former ages, would require a volume of no mean size; but some idea of their general character may be formed from the following brief sketch:—

"The first account of this annual exhibition known to have been published, was written by George Peele, for the inauguration of Sir Wolstone Dixie, Knight, on the 29th of October (O. S.) 1585. On that occasion, as was customary to the times, there were dramatic representations in the procession, of an allegorical character. Children were dressed to personify the City, Magnanimity, Loyalty, Science, the Country, and the river Thames. They also represented soldiers, sailors, and nymphs, with appropriate speeches. The show opened with a Moor, mounted on a lynx. On Sir Thomas Middleton's mayoralty, in 1613, the solemnity is described as unparalleled for the cost, art, and magnificence of the shows, pageants, chariots, morning, noon, and night triumphs. In 1655, the city pageants, after a discontinuance of about fourteen years, were revived. Edmund Gayton, the author of the description for that year, says, that 'our metropolis, for these planetary pageants, was as famous and renowned in foreign nations, as for their faith, wealth, and valour.' In the show of 1659, a European, an Egyptian, and a Persian, were personated. On Lord Mayor's Day, 1671, the King, Queen, and Duke of York, and most of the nobility, being present, there were 'sundry shows, shapes, scenes, speeches, and songs in parts;' and the like in 1672 and 1673, when the King again 'graced the triumphs.' The King, Queen, Duke and Duchess of York, Prince Rupert, the Duke of Monmouth, foreign ambassadors, the chief nobility, and Secretary of State, were at the celebration of Lord Mayor's Day, in 1674, when there were 'emblematical figures, artful pieces of architecture, and rural dancing, with pieces spoken on each pageant.'"—"The speeches in the pageants were usually composed by the 'City Poet,' an officer of the corporation, with an annual salary, who provided a description for the respective members, before the day. Settle, the last city poet, wrote

the last pamphlet intended to describe a Lord Mayor's Show: it was for Sir Charles Duncombe's, in 1708; but the Prince of Denmark's death, the day before, prevented the exhibition. The last Lord Mayor who rode on horseback at his mayoralty, was Sir Gilbert Heathcote, in the reign of Queen Anne."

It is not unamusing to remark, that the first morning lesson appointed by the rubric to be read on the 9th of November is the 31st chapter of Ecclesiasticus, which, from the 12th verse to the end, contains admonitions on temperance in eating and drinking, and on the observance of decorum at table, together with advice on the advantages of hospitality. However, after the Lord Mayor's usual aquatic excursion, from Blackfriars Bridge to Westminster, and his return by land, a splendid banquet awaits him and his friends at the Guildhall. Moreover, most of the City Companies dine together on the occasion.

"Now countless turbots and unnumber'd soles
Fill the wide kitchens of each livery hall:
From pot to pot, to kettle, stew, and pan,
The busy hum of greasy scullions sounds,
That the fixed beadles do almost perceive
The secret dainties of each other's watch:
Fire answers fire, and through their paly flames
Each table sees the other's bill of fare:
Cook threatens cook in high and saucy vau
Of rare and new-made dishes; confectioners,
Both pastrycooks and fruiterers in league,
With candied art their rivets closing up,
Give pleasing notice of a rich dessert."

About 1300 or 1400 persons, ladies and gentlemen, generally sit down to the Lord Mayor's Dinner; which, from the disposition of the tables, the sumptuousness of the viands, the arrangement of the company, the brilliancy of the lights, music, and decorations, and the general good humour and hilarity that prevail, is one of the most exciting spectacles the British metropolis can offer. The festivities of the day conclude with a grand ball; and as every possible sort of refreshment is provided for the guests, the meeting never breaks up till a very late hour. Some of its "glories" are not inaptly illustrated by the following parody, inscribed to an alderman:—

"Know ye the land where the leaf of the myrtle
Is bestowed on good livers in eating sublime?
Where the rage for fat *ven'son*, and love of the *turtle*,
Preside o'er the realms of an epicure clime?
Know ye the land where the juice of the vine
Makes Aldermen learned, and Bishops divine?
Where each *Corporation*, deep flushed with its bloom,
Waxes fat o'er the eyes of the claret's perfume?
Thick spread is the table with choicest of fruit,
And the voice of the reveller never is mute:
Their rich robes, though varied, in beauty may vie,
Yet the purple of BACCHUS is deepest in dye:—
'Tis the clime of the EAST—the return of the sun
Looks down on the deeds which his children have done;
Then wild is the note, and discordant the yell,
When, reeling and staggering, they hiccup—Farewell?"

The charges of the Lord Mayor's day, which are borne by his Lordship and the Sheriffs, generally amount to 3000*l.* or upwards; and, as splendid entertainments are also given at the halls of the leading city companies, as well as by numerous other parties, the total expenditure for public dinners on this day, has been estimated to average from 8,000*l.* to 10,000*l.*

St. Thomas's Day—the 21st of December—the shortest day in the year, is a busy day in London; for, as Hone says in his Every-Day Book, "ward-motes are held in the city by the aldermen of every ward, 'for the election of officers for the year ensuing;' and hence, in the social public rooms of the citizens, there is a great debate this evening on the merits of the common council-men returned without opposition, or on the qualifications of candidates who contest the poll for two days longer. The 'Lumber Troop' muster strong at their head-quarters near Gough Square; the 'Codgers' enlighten each other and their pipes in Bride Lane; the 'Counsellors under the Cauliflower' hold divided counsel, they know where; and the 'Free-and-Easy Johns' are to-night more free than easy. These societies are undercurrents that set in strong, and often turn the tide of an election in favour of some 'good fellow,' who is good nowhere but in 'sot's hole.' And now the 'gentlemen of the inquest, chosen at the church' in the morning, dine together, as the first important duty of their office; and the re-elected ward-beadles are busy with the fresh-chosen constables;

and the watchmen are particularly civil to every 'drunken gentleman' who happens to look like one of the new authorities. And now the bell-man, who revives the history and poetry of his predecessors, will vociferate—

"My masters all, this is St. *Thomas*' Day,
And Christmas now can't be far off, you 'll say;
But when you to the ward-motes do repair,
I hope such good men will be chosen there,
As *constables* for the ensuing year,
As will not *grutch* the *watchmen* good strong beer!"

The joyous celebrations of *Christmas* are understood to commence on the vigil or preceding eve of the Nativity. At this time it was customary with our ancestors to light up candles of an extraordinary size, and lay a log of wood upon the fire, called a yule log, to illuminate the house, and, as it were, turn night into day. In the "Hesperides" of the old poet, Herrick, we find the following illustrative stanzas:—

"Come bring with a noise, my merry merry boys,
The Christmas log to the firing,
While my good dame she—bids you all be free,
And drink to your heart's desiring.

"With the last yeer's brand—light the new block, and
For good service in his spending,
On your psal'tries play—that sweet luck may
Come while the log is teending.

"Drink now the strong beere, cut the white loafe here,
The while the meat is a-shredding,
For the rare mince-pie, and the plums stand by,
To fill the paste that 's a-kneeding."

Immediately after midnight three masses were sung by the priests.

"This done, a wooden child in clowtes
Is on the aultar set,
About the which both boys and gyrles
Do daunce and nimbly jet;

"And carrols sing, in praise of Christ,
And for to help them heare,
The organs answere every verse
With sweete and solemn cheare:

"The priests do rore aloud, and round
About the parents stand,
To see the sport, and with their voyce
Do help them, and their hande."

Jeremy Taylor observes, that the "*Gloria in excelsis*" —the song of the angels on the birth of the Saviour—was the first Christmas carol (a term derived from *cantare*, to sing, and *rola*, an interjection of joy). Anciently, the bishops were accustomed to sing these pious canticles amongst their clergy.

Waits—musicians who play by night in the streets at Christmas—are supposed to have been originally "minstrels," or "*watchmen*," attached to the King's court, who sounded the *watch* every night, and paraded the streets during winter to prevent depredations. In London, the waits are regarded as remains of the musicians attached to the corporation of the city under that denomination. To denote that they were the Lord Mayor's music, they anciently wore a *cognizance*, or badge, on the arm.

In "days of yore" it was customary at this season for the chandlers to give candles to their customers; and for the bakers to present to them the yule-cake, a sort of baby or little image in paste, the origin, probably, of our mince-pies.

Amongst the ancient Romans the laurel was an emblem of peace, joy, and victory; whence it has been conjectured we derived the custom of dressing up our churches and houses with branches of that shrub, and other evergreens, as emblems of joy for the victory gained over the powers of darkness, and of that peace on earth, and good-will towards men, which the angels sang over the fields of Bethlehem. But the mistletoe, as a plant connected with the rites of Druidism, was not deemed admissible in churches. It was hung up, however, in kitchens, subjecting every female who passed under it to a salute from any young man who might be present; and, even in sophisticated London, the custom is continued in many families, to the infinite gratification and delight of the younger branches.

Anciently there were great doings in the halls of the inns of court at Christmas time. At the Inner Temple, early in the morning, the gentlemen of the inn went to church; and after the service they did then "presently repair into the hall to breakfast with brawn, mustard, and malmsey." At the first course of dinner, also, was "served in a fair and

large *bore's head*, upon a silver platter, with minstralsye;" that is, to the chaunting of a special carol, thus given in Wynkyn de Worde's Booke of Christmasse Carolles, printed in 1521:—

"*Caput Apri defero*
Reddens laudes Domino.
"The bore's head in hande bring I,
With garlandes gay and rosemary,
I pray you all synge merely,
Qui estis in convivio.

"The bore's head, I understande,
Is the chefe servyce in this lande,
Loke wherever it be fande,
Servite cum Cantico.

"Be gladde, lordes, both more and lasse,
For this hath ordayned our stewarde
To chere you all this Christmasse,
The bore's head with mustarde."

Nor was this excellent custom restricted to any of the inns of court, but, on the contrary, it was general in respectable families, both in town and country.

"The society belonging to Lincoln's Inn," observes Strutt, in his Sports and Pastimes of the People of England, "had anciently an officer chosen at this season, who was honoured with the title of King of Christmas-day, because he presided in the hall upon that day. This temporary potentate had a marshal and a steward to attend upon him. The marshal, in the absence of the monarch, was permitted to assume his state; and upon New Year's Day he sat as king in the hall, when the master of the revels, during the time of dining, supplied the marshal's place. Upon Childermas-day they had another officer, denominated the King of the Cockneys, who also presided on the day of his appointment, and had his inferior officers to wait upon him."

Boxing—a practice amongst servants, apprentices, &c., of soliciting pecuniary compliments on the day after Christmas-day, but now in a great measure obsolete—appears to have originated thus:—"The Christmas-box was a box containing the money gathered against this season, that masses might be said by the priests to obtain forgiveness for the debaucheries committed by the people. Servants had the liberty to collect box-money, that they too might be enabled

to pay the priest for his masses; knowing well the truth of the proverb—'No penny, no paternoster.'"

SECTION IV.

Retrospective Glance, Field Sports, &c.

Necessity for Relaxation—A Retrospective Glance—British and Saxon Eras—Christianity—The Norman Conquest, and its Advantages — Civilizing Influences — Tilts and Tournaments — Henry the Eighth—James the First—Ascendancy of the Puritans—Hunting, Hawking, &c.—Seasons for Hunting—Game Laws—Preservation of Game at Westminster—Horse-racing in Smithfield, Hyde Park, &c. — Foot-racing — Foot-ball, Trap-ball, and Cricket—Prisoners' Base—The Quintain.

Relaxation and pastime constitute the most valuable medicine for both mind and body. "The greatest minds," observes a pleasant contemporary, "are known to have stooped to simplicity, and even to childishness in their sports; as the lark, although it flies higher than any other bird, sinks to the lowly ground to repose itself, and to build its nest. None but a pompous blockhead, or solemn prig, will pretend that he never relaxes, never indulges in pastime, never wastes his breath in idle waggery and merriment. Such gravity is of the very essence of imposture, where it does not spring, as is frequently the case, from a morbid austerity, or morose ignorance. 'Let us be wise now, for I see a fool coming,' said Plato, when he was once joking with his disciples, and saw a churl of this stamp approaching them. Occasional playfulness, indeed, seems to be natural to all strong minds. 'The most grave and studious,' says Plutarch, 'use feasts, and jests, and toys, as we do sauce to our meat.' Agesilaus, as everybody knows, amused himself and his children by riding on a stick; the great Scipio diverted himself with picking up shells on the sea-shore; Socrates used to dance and sing by way of relaxation; the facetious Lucian and the grave Scaliger have both confessed the pleasure they found in singing, dancing, and music. Mæcenas, with his friends Virgil and Horace, delighted in sports and games. Shakspeare played on the bass-viol, which he

accompanied with his voice; and the witty Swift amused himself with hunting and chasing his friends, the two Sheridans, through all the rooms of the deanery." To these might be added the names of Goldsmith, Burke, and hundreds of others.

With the relaxations and pastimes of the ancient Britons we are unacquainted, but as their religion, like that of the early Greeks and Romans, was a savage superstition, delighting in human sacrifices, it may be inferred that their sports and games were of an equally ferocious character. However, there can be no doubt that, in imitation of their Roman conquerors, they partially adopted paganism, and introduced many classical customs, sports, and holidays. And those had not entirely disappeared when the Saxon conquest effected a total change in the laws and government of England, which, having driven the subdued Britons into their fastnessess, they may be said, in a great measure, to have re-peopled. In addition to their natural love for hunting and other robust exercises, the Saxons appear to have inherited from their German ancestors an immoderate attachment to gaming, the only vice, unaccountable as the fact may be, which seems to exercise an equal influence over the most barbarous and the most civilized nations. After dice, chess and backgammon appear to have been the most favourite sedentary amusements of the Saxons and Danes; amusements in which the inhabitants of London, as well as of the kingdom at large, extensively participated.

At length, Christianity dawned upon the land, and with its thousand blessings meliorated the condition of the people. Even the feasts, processions, shows, spectacles, mysteries, moralities, mummeries, and all "the pride, pomp, and circumstance" of the Roman Catholic worship, exercised a beneficial influence in winning over, or attaching to religion, the illiterate masses amongst whom they were first instituted and practised. These were the precursors of better and brighter days.

And then came the Norman Conquest, which occasioned two striking changes in the sports and pastimes that were prevalent at the close of the Saxon era, by restricting the privileges of the chase, and by establishing the game-laws. But, take it for all and all, the descent of William the Norman proved a blessing of no mean value to the country. "The transfusion of the rich Norman blood into our veins

improved the breed. Additional physical strength, additional courage—physical or moral—the Normans could not give us; but by their introduction and spread of literature and the polite arts, they polished, refined, and heightened our national character, and made us what we are—made us better than they themselves had ever been. The intermixture of the two races produced an infinite improvement upon both."

Another remarkable change in our sports and pastimes, occasioned by the descent of the Normans, was the introduction of tournaments and jousts, with all the splendid and exciting observances of chivalry, which, though they bore the visible impress of war, were decidedly of a civilizing character, and even ennobling in their general tendency. Under these influences, and those of female society, the mind began to be cultivated as well as the powers of the body; and the manners of those times experienced a sensible improvement by an infusion of incipient politeness and urbanity. Indeed, when such qualities are found to distinguish the upper classes, fashion, and an inherent love of imitation will soon cause them to penetrate, more or less extensively, into those of a lower grade. Accordingly, the sons of citizens and yeomen, especially the young Londoners, as has been amply shown in some of the preceding pages, affected to adopt, in all their sports and pastimes, the martial exercises and usages of chivalry. In this country the decline of chivalry may be dated from the conflict of the Roses, which had too much of the reality of war to leave much time for the exercise of its mockery. Henry VIII. proud of his physical strength and agility, and passionately fond of display, gave a new impetus—a temporary fashion—to military pastimes and athletic sports. According to Hall, his biographer, "even after his accession to the throne, he continued daily to amuse himself in archery, casting of the bar, wrestling, or dancing, and frequently in tilting, tournaying, fighting at the barriers with swords and battle-axes, and such like martial recreations." But these, we are told, "were not practised to the exclusion of intellectual pursuits; for he spent his leisure time in playing at the recorders, flute, and virginals, in setting of songs, singing, and making of ballads."

But the amusements of the court and nobility, and subsequently of the people, gradually assumed a more subdued

aspect. Thus we find, in the "Itinerary of Fynes Morison," published in 1617, the following notice of the sports and relaxations of Charles, Lord Mountjoy:—"He delighted in study, in gardens, in riding on a pad to take the air, in playing at shovelboard, at cards, and in reading of playbooks for recreation, and especially in fishing and fishponds, seldom using any other exercises, and using these rightly as pastimes, only for a short and convenient time, and with great variety of change from one to the other." Something of a milk-sop, by-the-by, his lordship certainly appears to have been; at all events, one not likely to have incurred the risk of strangulation for "setting the Thames on fire."

James the First's notions on these points were of a more manly stamp than might have been expected. In a set of "Rules" which he drew up, and addressed to his eldest son, Henry Prince of Wales, we find the following instructions respecting amusements:—"From this court I debarre all rough and violent exercises; as the foote-ball, meter for laming than making able the users thereof; as likewise such tumbling trickes as only serve for comædians and balladines to win their bread with; but the exercises that I would have you to use, although but moderately, not making a craft of them, are running, leaping, wrestling, fencing, dancing, and playing at the caitch or tennise, archerie, palle-malle, and such like other fair and pleasant field games. And the honourablest and most recommendable games that yee can use on horseback, and especially such as may teach you to handle your arms thereon, such as the tilt, the ring, and low-riding for the handling of your sword. I cannot omit here the hunting, namely, with running houndes, which is the most honourable and noblest sort thereof; for it is a thievish sort of hunting to shoote with gunnes and bowes; and greyhound hunting is not so martial a game. As for hawkinge, I condemn it not, but I must praise it more sparingly, because it neither resembleth the wars so neere as hunting, and is more uncertain and subject to mischances; and, which is worst of all, is there-through an extreme stirrer up of the passions. As for sitting or house pastimes, since they may at times supply the rooms which, being empty, would be potent to pernicious idleness, I will not, therefore, agree with the curiosity of some learned men of our age, in forbidding cards, dice, and such like games of hazard: when it is

foul or stormy weather, then, I say, may yee lawfully play at the cardes or tables; for, as to dicing, I think it becometh best deboshed souldiers to play it on the heads of their drums, being only ruled by hazard, and subject to knavish cogging; and as for the chesse, I think it overfonde, because it is overwise and philosophicke folly."

During, and subsequently to the civil wars of the time of Charles the First, when the Puritans had gained the ascendency, the sports and pleasures of all classes, especially the lower, were lamentably crushed. All the theatres and public gardens were closed; and a war of extermination was carried on against May-poles, wakes, fairs, organs, fiddles, dancing, Whitsun-ales, puppet-shows, &c. Under these proceedings, the national mind received a saturnine stamp, which, notwithstanding the burst of licentiousness and demoralization that disgraced the return and reign of the heartless profligate, Charles the Second, has to this day prevented it from recovering its natural and healthful tone.

Were it not for the recollection that the metropolis was anciently backed by an extensive forest, the resort of not only beasts of the chase, but beasts of prey, and game of various kinds, it might excite a smile to enumerate hunting, hawking, shooting, &c., amongst the sports and pastimes of the Londoners. It is certain, however, that they were much followed by the citizens, if not so far back as in the days of the Britons, at least in those of the Saxons and Normans. So early as the ninth century, and probably much earlier, hunting constituted an essential branch of the education of a young English nobleman; and, as late as the time of Henry VIII.—"It is enough," said a person of rank, "for the sons of the nobility to wind their horn and carry their hawk fair, and leave study and learning to the children of meaner people." Although it had not been thought necessary to teach Alfred the Great his letters before he was twelve years of age, he was at that time a "most expert and active hunter, and excelled in all the branches of that most noble art." The seasons for hunting were, according to the ancient books of the practice of sporting, as follows:—"The time of grace begins at mid-summer, and lasteth to Holyrood-day (14th of September). The fox may be hunted from the Nativity to the Annunication of our Lady (25th of March); the roe-buck from Easter to Michaelmas; the roe from

Michaelmas to Candlemas (2d of February); the hare from Michaelmas to Mid-summer; the wolf, as well as the fox and the bear, from the Nativity to the Purification of our Lady (2d of February)."

Hawking, according to some writers, was borrowed by the Romans from the Britons, as early as the reign of Vespasian. The Welch had a saying in very early times, that "you may know a gentleman by his hawk, horse, and greyhound." Alfred the Great is said to have written a treatise on falconry. In the fields and open country, hawking was followed on horseback; in the woods and coverts on foot. On one occasion, Henry VIII. whilst pursuing his hawk on foot, at Hitchen, in Hertfordshire, was plunged into a deep slough by the breaking of his leaping-pole, and would have been stifled, but for the prompt aid of one of his attendants.

By the game laws enacted under the Norman dynasty, the exclusive right of hunting and sporting was reserved to the king, and to those on whom he should bestow it, who were only his barons, chiefs, and feudatories. Accordingly, there is a Proclamation extant, issued by Henry VIII. in July 1546, for the preservation of the game therein mentioned, "within the Honour of the Palace of Westminster." The instrument is curious:—

"*A Proclamation y' noe p'son interrupt the King's Game of Partridge or Pheasant.*

"Rex majori et vicecomitibus London. Vobis mandamus, &c.—Forasmuch as the King's most royal ma'tie is much desirous to have the Games of *Hare*, *Partridge*, *Pheasant*, and *Heron* p'served in and about his *Honor* of his *Palace of Westm'*. for his own disport and pastime; that is to saye, from his said Palace of Westm'. to *St. Gyles in the Fields*, and from thence to *Islington*, to *O' Lady of the Oke*, to Highgate, to Hornsey Parke, to Hampstead Heath, and from thence to his said Palace of Westm., to be preserved and kept for his own disport, pleasure, and recreac'on; his Highness, therefore, straightlie chargeth and commandeth all, and singular, his subjects, of what estate, degree, or condic'on soev' they be, that they, ne any of them do p'sume or attempt to *Hunt* or to *Hawke*, or in any means to take or kill any of the said Game within the precinctes aforesaid, as they tender his favour, and will estchue the ymprisonment of their bodies, and further punishment at his ma'ties will and pleasure."

The mention of "game at Westminster" will not excite surprise, when it is added, that, previously to the laying out of the Regent's-park, a few years ago, snipe-shooting was common in the neighbourhood; and that, within the Park itself, there has been, until very recently, an abundance of hares.

The diversion of *horse-racing*, for which the English have been for ages renowned, is believed to have been introduced into this country by the Romans, who are also supposed to have established regular courses at York and Chester. Fitz-Stephen, in his curious description of London, as it existed in the time of Henry II., presents a most graphic view of Smithfield-market at that period. "Every Friday," says he, "unless it should happen to be one of the more solemn festivals, there is a celebrated rendezvous of fine horses, brought thither to be sold. Thither come, either to look or to buy, a great number of persons resident in the city, earls, barons, knights, and a swarm of citizens." After noticing the different kinds of horses, especially "the more valuable hackneys and charging steeds, beautiful in shape, noble of stature, with ears and necks erect, and plump buttocks," he proceeds to give what is thought to be the earliest description extant of a horse-race in England.

"When a race is to be run by this sort of horses, and, perhaps, by others which also in their kind are strong and fleet, a shout is immediately raised, and the common horses are ordered to withdraw out of the way. Three jockies, sometimes only two, according as the match is made, prepare themselves for the contest (such as, being used to ride, know how to manage the horses with judgment): the grand point is, to prevent a competitor from getting before them. The horses, on their parts, are not without emulation: they tremble, are impatient, and are continually in motion; and at last, the signal once given, they strike, devour the course, hurrying along with unremitting velocity. The jockies, inspired with the thoughts of applause, and the hopes of victory, clap spurs to the willing horses, brandish their whips, and cheer them with their cries."

Public courses were at length established in various parts of the kingdom. Towards the end of the reign of Charles I., races were held in Hyde Park; but, from the subsequent troubles, as well as through the confusion attending the contiguity of the course to a populous capital, were after-

wards discontinued. George IV., in his younger days, was greatly attached to this sport, and had one of the finest studs of horses ever collected.

Foot-racing, though one of the most ancient exercises known, and in the middle ages considered as an essential part of a young man's education—especially if he were the son of a man of rank, and intended for the military profession—is now but little encouraged; seldom occurring, indeed, but with a view to betting, when the racers are generally paid for their performance.

The game of *Foot-ball* is so called, because the ball is driven about with the feet instead of the hands. Its origin is unknown; but it is thought to have been one of the usual amusements of the populace as early as the reign of Henry II.; and that Fitz-Stephen alluded to it, amongst other games at ball, in his notice of the sports of the London citizens about that period. "At Shrovetide, after dinner," says he, "all the youths of the city go into the fields to play at ball. The scholars of every school have their balls; and the teachers also, that train up others to feats and exercises, have each of them their ball." The common foot-ball is nothing more than an inflated bladder; but that of regular players is a bladder covered with leather, which opposes a more certain resistance to thorns and prickles, and is of course far more durable.

Trap-ball, so named from the trap which is used to elevate the ball when it is to be stricken by the batsman, is a good game if well played—which it seldom is. It is of a date anterior to that of cricket, and probably coeval with most of the early games played with the bat and ball.

The manly and truly noble game of *Cricket* is believed to be of Saxon origin; though Strutt, in his "Sports and Pastimes," considering it to have been formed on the ancient game of club-ball, states that he can find no record of it, under its present designation, beyond the commencement of the last century, when it occurs in one of the songs published by Tom D'Urfey. In spirit, the game is thoroughly English — the pride and glory not only of the London *athletæ*, but those of all England. It has been well observed, that "a man who is essentially stupid will not make a fine cricketer; neither will he who is not essentially active." The first four lines of the old ballad, "Of a noble race was Shenkin," run thus:—

"Her was the prettiest fellow,
At foot-ball or at cricket;
At hunting chase, or nimble race,
How featly her could prick it."

In "The Laws of Cricket, revised at the Star and Garter, Pall Mall, on February 25, 1774, by a committee of noblemen and gentlemen," the rules and directions are prefaced by a woodcut of the bat then in use, by which it appears that it was curved, and the face flat. The modern bat is not only perfectly straight, but its face is convex. Perhaps the best information in every point relating to the game, may be derived from a little work entitled, "The Young Cricketer's Tutor, by John Nyren, who was for many years a player in the celebrated old Hambledon Club."

Prisoners' Base (Bars, or Bays), though formerly much practised, has fallen into disuse—at least in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. So far back as the reign of Edward III., it was spoken of as a childish amusement, and prohibited to be played in the avenues of the palace at Westminster, during the sessions of Parliament, because of the interruption it occasioned to the members and others in passing to and fro as their business required. Shakspeare, too, speaks of it as a game practised by the boys. It is, however, an athletic game, and was unquestionably played by men. "About 1770," observes Strutt, "I saw a grand match at base played in the fields behind Montague House, now the British Museum, by twelve gentlemen of Cheshire against twelve of Derbyshire, for a considerable sum of money, which afforded much entertainment to the spectators." The game, which consists chiefly of running, and presents much variety, is well described by Strutt.

The author just named has devoted much space in his "Sports and Pastimes" to the *Quintain*, originally a military exercise of great antiquity, and formerly much practised by the Londoners. The sport is understood to have received its name from Quinctus, or Quintas, the inventor; but who he was, or at what period he lived, is unknown. Antecedent to jousts and tournaments, the quintain appears to have been originally nothing more than the trunk of a tree, or a post, set up for the practice of tyros in chivalry. Subsequently, "a staff or spear was fixed in the earth, and a shield being hung upon it, was the mark to strike at: the dexterity of the performer consisted in smiting the shield in such a man-

ner as to break the ligatures and bear it to the ground. In process of time, this diversion was improved, and instead of the staff and the shield, the resemblance of a human figure carved in wood was introduced. To render the appearance of this figure more formidable, it was generally made in the likeness of a Turk or a Saracen armed at all points, bearing a shield upon his left arm, and brandishing a club or a sabre with his right. The quintain thus fashioned was placed upon a pivot, and so contrived as to move round with facility. In running at this figure it was necessary for the horseman to direct his lance with great adroitness, and make his stroke upon the forehead between the eyes, or upon the nose, for if he struck wide of those parts, especially upon the shield, the quintain turned about with much velocity, and, in case he was not exceedingly careful, would give him a severe blow upon the back with the wooden sabre held in the right hand, which was considered as highly disgraceful to the performer, while it excited the laughter and ridicule of the spectators."

There were many modifications of the quintain, though all essentially upon the same principle. It was not confined to the exercise of young warriors on horseback, but was also an object of practice for those on foot, by which they were enabled to acquire strength and skill in assaulting an enemy with their swords, spears, and battle-axes.

Matthew Paris relates, that, in the reign of Henry the Third, A.D. 1254, "the young Londoners, who were expert horsemen, assembled together to run at the quintain, and set up a peacock as a reward for the best performer. The king then keeping his court at Westminster, some of his domestics came into the city to see the pastime, where they behaved in a very disorderly manner, and treated the Londoners with much insolence, calling them cowardly knaves and rascally clowns, which the Londoners resented by beating them soundly. The king, however, was incensed at the indignity put upon his servants, and not taking into consideration the provocation on their parts, fined the city 1000 marks."

Stow, in his Survey of London, after relating the above particulars, observes, that "this exercise of running at the quintain was practised in London, as well in the summer as in the winter, but especially at the feast of Christmas. I have seen, he continues, "a quintain set upon Cornhill, by

Leadenhall, where the attendants of the lords of merry disports have run and made great pastime; for he that hit not the board end of the quintain was laughed to scorn, and he that hit it full, if he rode not the faster, had a sound blow upon his neck, with a bag full of sand hanged on the other end."

The aquatic or water quintain, as described by Fitz-Stephen, is noticed in a preceding page. For the fixed quintain, the moveable quintain, the human quintain, and the various sports which were probably derived from the original, we have not here the requisite space.

SECTION V.

Tournaments, Archery, &c.

Tilting—Tournaments and Jousts—The Troy Game—Sword-play—Swash-Bucklers—Prize-fighting Swordsmen—A Chivalric Contrast—Prohibition of Fencing—Bull and Bear-Baiting—Cock-fighting—Whipping the Cock—Thrashing the Hen—Camberwell, Peckham, and Fairlop Fairs, &c.—Vauxhall Gardens, &c.—Archery.

Tilting, or running at the ring, an exercise to which the London youth were formerly much devoted, appears to have been derived from the quintain; the object of the tilter being to thrust the point of his lance through a hoop or ring suspended at a given height from a supporter. At the commencement of the seventeenth century, this pastime had been reduced to a science. The length of the course, observes Strutt, quoting from an authority of the time, was measured and marked out according to the properties of the horses that were to run: for one of the swiftest kind, one hundred paces from the starting place to the ring, and thirty paces beyond it, to stop him, were deemed necessary; but for such horses as had been trained to the exercise, and were more regular in their movements, eighty paces to the ring, and twenty beyond it, were thought to be sufficient. Three courses were allowed to each candidate, and he who thrust the point of his lance through the ring the oftenest, or, if no

such thing were done, struck it the most frequently, was the victor. London Bridge and Smithfield were frequently the scenes of tilting-matches, jousts, tournaments, &c.

Tournaments and *Jousts*—pastimes introduced by the Normans—though often confounded with each other, differed materially. The tournament—signifying to turn a wheel about in a circular manner—was, in its original institution, a martial conflict, in which the combatants engaged without any animosity, merely to exhibit their strength and dexterity; but, at the same time, engaged in considerable numbers to represent a battle. The joust, on the other hand, was a separate trial of skill, in which only one man was opposed to another. The latter was frequently, though not invariably, included in the former. It is a received opinion, that the tournament originated from a pastime practised by the Roman youths, called *Ludus Troiæ* (the Troy Game), said to have been so named because it was derived from the Trojans, and first brought into Italy by Ascanius the son of Æneas.

Formerly, tilting upon the ice, and also in boats upon the water, were much practised by the young Londoners.

Sword-play—the sword-dance, or more properly a combat with swords and bucklers, regulated by music—was, so far back as the times of the Saxons, exhibited by their *gleemen*, or merry-makers. It seems to have been identical with much of the sword-play of the modern stage.

After Smithfield had ceased to be a place of recreative exercise for the better classes, loose serving-men and other quarrelsome persons resorted thither, and caused uproars; and thus becoming the rendezvous of bullies and bravoes, it obtained the name of "Ruffians' Hall." The "sword and buckler" were at that time in use, and a serving-man would carry a buckler, or shield, at his back, which hung by the hilt or pummel of his sword hanging before him. Fellows of this sort, who hectored and blustered, were called "swash-bucklers," from the noise they made with the sword and buckler to frighten an antagonist. A "bully," or fellow all voice and no courage, was called "a swasher."

Of a more recent date (1709), the following copy of a show-bill exhibits the common mode of challenging and answering used by prize-fighting swordsmen:—

"At the Bear Garden, in Hockley-in-the-Hole, near Clerkenwell Green, a trial of skill shall be performed be-

tween Two Masters of the noble Science of Defence, on Wednesday next, at two of the clock precisely.

"I, George Gray, born in the city of Norwich, who have fought in most parts of the West Indies, namely, Jamaica and Barbadoes, and several other parts of the world, in all twenty-five times, and upon a stage, and never yet was worsted, and being now lately come to London, do invite James Harris to meet and exercise at these following weapons, namely, back-sword, sword and dagger, sword and buckler, single falchon, and case of falchons."

"I, James Harris, Master of the said noble Science of Defence, who formerly rid in the horse-guards, and hath fought a hundred and ten prizes, and never left a stage to any man, will not fail, God willing, to meet this brave and bold inviter at the time and place appointed; desiring sharp swords, and from him no favour. No person to be upon the stage but the seconds. Vivat Regina!"

How amusingly does the following extract from a MS. in the Harleian Collection contrast with the above. Six gentlemen challenged "all commers at the just roial, to run in osting harnies along a tilte, and to strike thirteen strokes with swordes, in honour of the marriage of Richard Duke of York [son to King Edward IV., supposed to have lost his life with his brother Edward in the Tower], with the Lady Anne, daughter to the Duke of Norfolk." Acceding to the proposition, the king promised to reward the best performer at the jousts royal with a ring of gold set with a ruby; and the best performer at the tournament with another golden ring set with a diamond, equal in value to the former.

What is now considered the polite accomplishment of *Fencing* was, about the year 1285, totally prohibited in the city. Owing to the licentiousness of the time, the king suspended the government of the corporation; and a statute was passed, enacting, amongst other points, that, "whereas it was customary for profligates to learn the art of fencing, who were thereby emboldened to commit the most unheard-of vilainies, no such school should be kept in the city for the future, upon the penalty of 40 marks for every offence: and that all the aldermen should make a thorough search in their several wards for the detecting such offenders, in order to bring them to justice, and an exemplary punishment."

Of *bull* and *bear baiting*, nearly enough has been already said, considering the horrible brutality of the sport—a sport hardly exceeded in its sanguinary ferocity by the bull-fighting of Spain and Portugal, from which it is thought to have been derived. Erasmus, who visited England in the time of Henry the Eighth, states that there were many herds of bears maintained in the court for the purpose of baiting. Queen Mary, and her sister, the Princess (afterwards Queen) Elizabeth, had the credit of being "right well content" with the sport, after having attended "mass!" And Queen Elizabeth, soon after her accession, gave a splendid dinner to the French ambassadors, who afterwards were *entertained* with the baiting of bulls and bears: *the Queen herself standing with the ambassadors to look at the pastime till six at night.* Next day the sport was repeated, and, twenty-seven years later, Elizabeth, when she received the Danish ambassador at Greenwich, *treated* him with a bear and bull baiting; "tempered," says Holinshed, "with other merry disports; and for the diversion of the populace there was a horse with an ape upon his back, which highly pleased them, so that they expressed *their inward conceived joy and delight with shrill shouts, and variety of gestures!*" Thank heaven, and the advance of civilization, such "royal pastimes" are now obsolete—even amongst the lowest classes.

Cock-fighting, *cock-throwing*, *whipping the cock*, *threshing the hen*, and the like, fall within the same category. The first of these is of antiquity far beyond record—in Greece, China, Persia, and throughout the East. In China, even the *ladies* participate in the pastime. In London and other parts of England, Shrove-tide used to be the great season for cock-fighting, cock-throwing, and similar amusements. In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, we are told that noblemen "would also go to the *threshing* of the cocke, pucke with hens blindfolde, and the like." According to Grose, "whipping the cock" was a sport practised at wakes, horse-races, and fairs; "a cock being tied or fastened into a hat or basket, half-a-dozen carters, blind-folded, and armed with their cart-whips, are placed round it, who, after being turned thrice about, begin to whip the cock, which if any one strikes so as to make it cry out, it becomes his property; the joke is, that instead of whipping the cock they flog each other heartily."

Threshing the Hen, a similar practice, is thus referred to on a note in the following lines in *Tusser Redivivus*:—

"At Shrove-tide to shroving, next *thresh the fat hen*;
If blind-fold can kill her, then give it thy men."

"The hen is hung on a fellow's back, who has also some horse-bells about him; the rest of the fellows are blinded, and have boughs in their hands, with which they chase this fellow and his hen about some large court or small enclosure. The fellow with his hen and bells shifting as well as he can, they follow the sound, and sometimes hit him and his hen; other times, if he can get behind one of them, they thresh one another well favouredly; but the jest is, the maids are to blind the fellows, which they do with their aprons, and the cunning baggages will endear their sweethearts with a peeping-hole, while the others look out as sharp to hinder it. After this the hen is boiled with bacon, and store of pancakes and fritters are made. She that is noted for lying-a-bed long, or any other miscarriage, hath the first pancake presented to her, which most commonly falls to the dog's share at last, for no one will own it their due."

On the abolition of the inhuman practice of throwing at cocks, observes Strutt, "toys made in the shape of cocks were supplied in lieu of the living bird, with large and heavy stands of lead, and he that could overturn the toy claimed it as a reward for his adroitness."

Of *Fairs*, in the immediate vicinity of the metropolis, there are but few now left. *Camberwell Fair*, in Surrey, may be mentioned as the chief. It has been said, though upon questionable testimony, to have existed prior to the Conquest. Formerly, it commenced on the 9th of August, and continued three weeks, ending on the festival of St. Giles. Now it lasts only three days. *Peckham Fair*, held immediately afterwards, is said to be only a continuation of that of Camberwell, and not a distinct fair; yet, there is a tradition, that King John, when hunting at Peckham, killed a stag, and was so well pleased with his day's sport, that he granted the inhabitants a charter for an annual fair.

Fairlop Fair, commencing on the 2d of July, has long been celebrated for its rural festivities. It takes its name from the Fairlop Oak, near Epping Forest, the existence of which has been traced, traditionally, half way up the Christian era. Many years ago, Mr. John Day, a worthy

but eccentric character of Wapping, used annually to go and dine with friends, on beans and bacon, under this tree; from which circumstance originated the fair. Of the tree itself there are now only some slight remains.

Bow Fair, *Stepney Fair*, *Brook Green Fair*, Hammersmith, and some others, are yet nominally in existence, at holiday seasons, but they are little frequented.

Amongst numerous places of summer evenings' resort, may be mentioned, *Vauxhall Gardens*, Lambeth—the *Surrey Zoological Gardens*, Newington—*Cremorne Gardens*, Chelsea, &c. In these gardens, music and fireworks, with occasional masquerades, balloon ascents, flower-shows, &c. are the usual attractions.

Passing over many comparatively unimportant points, and hastening towards a close, we have one interesting subject yet briefly to notice; one of the most ancient exercises of man, as a sportsman or as a hero—a war-game and a sport in which London and all England have excelled every nation on the face of the earth—an amusement which, from its intrinsic merit—though in war and in the chase its utility has been superseded by the introduction of gunpowder and guns—still maintains its ground, and continues to be warmly patronized, not only by the sons, but by the daughters of the land—the "fairest of the fair."

Archery was well known to our Saxon and Danish ancestors; but the use of the long bow, in warfare, is thought to have been first introduced into this country by the Normans. The last important battle decided by English archers appears to have been that of Agincourt, in 1415. So late, however, as the reign of Elizabeth, it remained a matter of doubt with many, which was the more advantageous weapon, the matchlock or the bow. In the chivalric ages, the usage of the bow was considered as an essential part of the education of every young man who wished to make a figure in life. In the reign of Richard II., an act was passed to compel all servants to shoot on Sundays and holidays. In the time of Edward IV., every Englishman was ordered to provide himself with a bow of his own height; and butts were directed to be put up in every township for the inhabitants to shoot at on feast days. Archery was a fashionable sport during the reign of Henry VIII. Edward VI., Queen Elizabeth, and Charles I. and II., are known to have been fond of the exercise, which retained its attractions during the suc-

ceeding reigns, and was occasionally sustained by the presence and practice of the sovereign. The Artillery Company of London, though they have long disused the weapon, are remains of the ancient bowmen or archers. In 1498, the Old Artillery Ground, by Devonshire Square, Bishopsgate Street, was inclosed for their use; and it has been asserted that towards the end of the reign of Henry VIII. the City of London could muster 15,000 archers. The Company, revived in 1610, retained the use of the bow, as well as their place of exercise, which had been removed to the New Artillery Ground, near the city end of Moorfields.

Henry VIII., besides making laws in favour of archery, instituted a chartered society for the practice of shooting, under the designation of "The Fraternity of St. George," at whose exercises he sometimes attended. It is stated, in a work entitled "The Bowman's Glory," that "one day having fixed a meeting of them at Windsor, a person of the name of Barlow far outshot the rest, which pleased the King so much that he jocosely saluted him as the 'Duke of Shoreditch,' of which place the man was an inhabitant. This dignity was long preserved by the Captain of the London Archers, who used to summon the officers of his several divisions by the titles of the Duke of Shoreditch, the Marquises of Clerkenwell, Islington, Hoxton, the Earl of Pancras," &c.

So lately as the year 1753, targets were erected in the Finsbury Fields during the Easter and Whitsun holidays; when the best shooter was styled Captain for the ensuing year, and the second, Lieutenant.

Towards the close of the 18th century, archery again started into favour as an amusement: at that time there were at least twenty distinguished societies in existence; and, ten or twelve years ago, archery meetings, supported by the first rank and fashion of both sexes, were prevalent throughout the country.

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