

## THE CITY WALL OF LONDON.

BY FREDERICK WALLEN, ESQ.

A portion of the ancient wall of London was discovered in Cooper's Row, Crutched Friars, while preparing for the erection of a warehouse there. The length of this piece of wall is one hundred and six feet six inches. The lower part is Roman, and the upper part mediæval. The latter consists of rubble, chalk, and flints, and is seventeen feet four inches high to the foot face, which is two feet wide, and has a parapet or breast wall five feet high and two feet thick. It is much defaced by holes cut for the insertion of timbers of modern buildings, and is cased in parts with brickwork. On the west side are two semi-circular arched recesses. This mediæval wall is set back and battered at the lower part on both sides, until it reaches the thickness of the Roman wall on which it is built. The Roman wall remains in its primitive state to a depth of five feet seven inches, and in this part is faced with Kentish rag in courses, and has two double rows of tiles. The first course is two feet eight inches from the top, and four inches thick. The second is two feet two inches and a half lower down, and four inches and a half thick. The tiles are from one inch and a quarter to one and three quarters thick, and of the size called *sesquipedales*, viz. a Roman foot wide, and one foot and a half long. They are laid, some length-wise and others cross-wise, as headers and stretchers. At the level of the upper course of tiles is a set-off of half a Roman foot. Below the second course the wall is cased with brickwork forming a modern vault, but at the foot of the brick casing a double row of Roman tiles is again visible three feet nine inches and a half below the last-mentioned course, and these two courses are four inches and a half thick. These tiles come out to the face of the modern brickwork, which is about five inches in advance of the wall above it, so that there would seem to be a second set-off in the wall. One course of rag-stone facing is seen below these tile-courses, but the excavation has not yet reached the foundation of the wall. The total height of Roman wall discovered is ten feet three inches. The upper part of the Roman wall is eight or nine feet thick.

