

ST. OLAVE'S CHURCH, HART STREET.  
From the North-East, 1906.

# ST OLAVE'S, HART STREET; ALL HALLOWS STAINING; AND THE ANCIENT CITY WALL.

*Visited by the Society, April 3rd, 1909, and described*

BY

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## I.—ST. OLAVE'S, HART STREET.

THE Parish is one of the 112 situated within the one square mile of the City. It is about eleven acres in extent, and its boundaries are most zealously guarded from the encroachments of adjoining parishes. The old City Wall forms its eastern boundary, and the Liberty of the Tower of London partially bounds it on the south. Ninety-six plates, some both ancient and ornamental, mark its limits, and these are periodically visited by all the parish officials and others when the ceremony of perambulating the parish known as "Beating the Bounds" takes place. The parish is partly situated in Tower and partly in Aldgate Wards, two of the twenty-six wards into which the City since about the end of the thirteenth century has been divided.

## ST. OLAVE'S CHURCH.

St. Olave's, Hart Street, is one of the most anciently recorded churches in the City of London. In a charter granted by Henry I, one of the boundaries of the soke therein mentioned is "as far as the Church of St. Olave's." More than a century later (1283) there is

record of a church standing on the site, which was dedicated to St. Olaf. St. Olaf was of royal blood, born A.D. 995, exiled from Norway, and educated in England. He became a Christian, and endeavoured to exterminate paganism with great severity wherever he went. Like other Vikings, he took to the sea, carrying fire and the sword to many lands; and, landing in England, fought for King Ethelred the Unready, who was then hard pressed by the Danes. At London Bridge the Saxons, with Olaf's help, inflicted a severe defeat on the Danes, and London was saved for the Saxon Kingdom. Olaf afterwards returned to his own country, and made himself King of Norway, but was killed in battle in 1030. In 1035 he was made Patron Saint of Norway, and Drontheim Cathedral was dedicated to him. It is quite possible that as early as the eleventh century a wooden church, dedicated to St. Olaf, king and martyr, as he was called, may have been erected on the present site of St. Olave's, Hart Street. In 1847 the Order of Olaf was created by King Oscar I, King of Sweden and Norway.

The present building dates to a great extent from the middle of the fifteenth century, and consists of a nave and north and south aisles. It is one of the eight surviving churches of about twenty that escaped the Great Fire of 1666. It is one of the smallest of City churches, being only 54 feet long and 54 feet wide. Its tower, 135 feet high, is surmounted by a vane in the form of a crown, said to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's visit to the church in 1554, when she returned thanks for her release from the Tower of London, and made a present of silken ropes for the bells. The clock projecting from the tower was pre-



ST. OLAVE'S, HART STREET.  
(From the Organ Loft.) From an Engraving in 1838.  
(This Engraving makes the Church appear too narrow.)

sented by Dr. Povah to St. Olave's in 1891. It is a relic from the Church of St. Olave Jewry. The bells, a peal of six, are often rung, and are remarkable for their sweet tone. Four of them bear the legend, "Anthony Bartlet made mee 1662." Unfortunately, the ancient crypt beneath the church, probably divided up into several vaults, with its beautiful black and white marble squares, instead of being cleared out and preserved, was filled up in 1853.

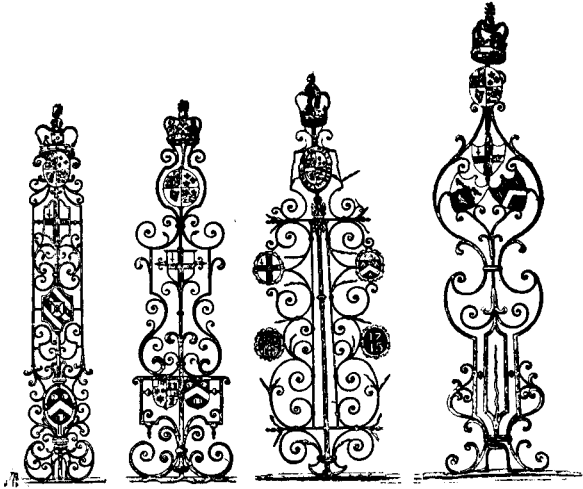
The illustration here given represents the church as it appeared in 1853, before the removal of the galleries and high pews, and the "three decker" pulpit, reading desk and parish clerk's desk, all in one. The magnificent wooden roof, renewed in 1632 after the old model, has been preserved unaltered, and is worthy of inspection. It is composed of cambered tie beams with intermediate moulded ribs and oak panelling. The beams are supported by posts resting on stone corbels, having shields attached to them. The junctions of most of the moulded ribs are ornamented with shields, but sometimes a rose is substituted, and sometimes foliage.

The east window, which took its present form in 1823, has decorated tracery and stained glass, the subjects being St. Peter and St. Paul, the four Evangelists, etc. The clerestory windows are large obtusely headed three-light openings.

The reredos is of Caen stone and alabaster. It was designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, R.A., and presented by the Rev. Alfred Povah, D.D., the late rector. The font, also by Sir Gilbert Scott, was presented by Mr. Bond, corn merchant, of Mark Lane, in 1862, and is in the Baptistery under the tower. The ornamental font

cover was added in 1891. There is also an old font and cover, probably from All Hallows Staining.

The pulpit is of carved oak, and is attributed to Grinling Gibbons. It formerly stood in the Church of St. Bene't Gracechurch. When that church was demolished in 1867 the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House purchased the pulpit, and presented it to St. Olave's, their parish church. The four wrought-iron sword stands (which are here shown) are of very



elaborate workmanship. When the Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, attends service officially, one of these rests is used for the Civic State sword. Each stand bears the arms of the Lord Mayor in whose honour it was made; two of these stands came from the Church of Allhallows Staining.

The present organ dates from 1782, and possesses all the sweetness and delicacy of tone for which Green's organs were so remarkable. In 1907, it having

become very antiquated, the Upper Churchwarden and others collected between £300 and £400, and the instrument was renovated in all its parts, an entirely new action, manuals and pedals, and a new draw-stop action being provided, and the swell organ extended by an octave of stopped diapason. After the alterations Dr. Bridge gave an organ recital, introducing one of Pepys' compositions. The church was crammed!

In Pepys' time the clergy protested against men wearing their hats in church. The two wrought-iron hat-stands now on the front of the organ gallery (which came from Allhallows Staining) were probably provided at that time to avoid this irreverent practice.

The communion plate is very handsome, and some of the fourteen pieces are stated to be over 300 years old.

The vestry, a quaint old-world room, was rebuilt in 1662, but the door from the church is probably about 200 years earlier. The walls are wainscotted, and over the fireplace is a painting in *chiaro oscuro* which has been ascribed to De Witte. The plaster ceiling bears in relief the figure of an angel carrying in one hand the gospels, and in the other a palm branch. The engravings hung on the walls here are worthy of notice.

The registers date from 1563. During the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when the Tower of London was a royal palace for the holding of assemblies and for the discussion of treaties, as well as a State prison, many persons of quality, wealthy merchants and distinguished foreigners and officials resided in the parish, and the registers during that period afford very interesting and instructive reading. The residences are often defined, and we learn of many trades that were carried on. Stow

says that the first Venetian glass made in England was *manufactured at Crutched Friars*.

The baptisms include: 1585, "daughter of Sir Philip Sydney"; 1590, Robert Lord "Deaveraux," son and "heyre" of Robert, Earl of Essex.

The registers record that no less than 11,533 persons were interred here between 1563 and 1853, at which latter date all City churchyards were closed. The monuments in the church nearly all refer to interments within the building or in the spacious vaults which formerly existed beneath. The registers frequently add such notes as: "at his pewe dore," "under y<sup>e</sup> communion table," "before the font," "in the valt," etc. George Penn, who was "buried in the chancell," in 1664, was the uncle of William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania, who was born on Tower Hill. In 1586 the burial of "Mother Goose" is recorded. The causes of death are often peculiar, such as "bewitched," "a swellinge in the head," "slayne of the new disease," etc.

THE ADVOWSON.—The first notice of a presentation appears in 1321 by Dame Margaret de Nevyl, and later one by Alice de Nevyl, wife of Baron Nevyl of Essex.

In 1633 Lord Windsor made a presentation. Daniel Mills was admitted in 1657, and is the Rector about whom Pepys writes none too favourably. In 1655 Sir Andrew Riccard bought the advowson, and gave it in trust for the parish to five inhabitant householders. It is now in the hands of nine trustees, elected in vestry from among the ratepaying inhabitants. In this way the parishioners have rectors of their own choosing.



MONUMENTS AND BRASSES.—SIR RICHARD HADDON (1524), Lord Mayor 1506 and 1512. A Purbeck marble slab inlaid with brass—defective: the oldest monument now in the church. The brasses show that he had two wives and five daughters. His own coat of arms in the centre—a single hose—shows that he was a mercer by trade, the crest being what is called in heraldry a canting or punning one. The arms on the right of the Mercers' Company indicate that he was a member of that Company, while the shield on the left shows that he was a "Merchant of the Staple." He endowed a Chantry in St. Olave's for a "years mind," or annual commemoration of his decease.

SAMUEL PEPYS (1703), author of the celebrated "Diary," was born in 1633, educated at St. Paul's School and Magdalene College, Cambridge, where the manuscript in shorthand of his "Diary," together with his library of 3,000 volumes, is still carefully preserved. He married in 1655 Elizabeth Marchand (see note on Mrs. Pepys, p. 236). He was appointed successively clerk in the Army Pay Office and secretary on the "Naseby," leading to the further appointments of Clerk of the Acts, Surveyor-General of the Victualling Office, and eventually (1673) Secretary to the Admiralty, and in this capacity proved himself one of the most distinguished officials in naval affairs that England has ever possessed. In 1660 he came to live in Seething Lane, first in a house next door to the Navy Office, the principal entrance to which was in Crutched Friars, and afterwards in his official residence in the Navy Office. He remained at his post through the Plague year of 1665 and the Great Fire of 1666; in the latter year he did good service by

employing workmen from the dockyards to pull down houses all round the Navy Office to prevent the fire from spreading, and thus saved not only the Navy Office but the district in which were the churches of St. Olave, Hart Street, Allhallows Staining, and Allhallows Barking. Besides the care of the Navy of England, he found time to hold the offices of Master of Trinity House, Master of the Clothworkers' Company, President of the Royal Society, etc. He was also M.P., first for Castle Rising, and later for Harwich. On the occasion of the suspected Popish Plot in 1679 he was imprisoned in the Tower, but released the following year. He closed his "Diary" in 1669, as he feared the loss of his sight, but happily he recovered. He was "buried in a vault by ye comunion table" on the 5th June, 1703.

The monument erected by public subscription marks the entrance to the formerly existing gallery, in which was the Navy Office pew where Pepys was accustomed to sit. The design is by Sir Arthur Blomfield. The bust is after a portrait by Hales, in 1666. It was unveiled in 1884 by J. Russell Lowell, the distinguished author and poet, who was at that date United States Minister to this country. A slab outside the church indicates the site of a doorway, to which an enclosed flight of steps led from the churchyard to the Navy Office pew in the south gallery mentioned above. There is a drawing in the vestry showing this outside staircase.

MONKHOUSE DAVISON (1793); ABRAM NEWMAN (1790); and others. Davison and Newman were partners in a firm of that name originally founded in 1650 by one Daniel Rawlinson—a great friend of

Pepys, and frequently mentioned in the "Diary." There is a fine portrait of him at Hawkshead School, in Kent, which he rebuilt in 1675. The firm carried on a most successful grocery business at 44, Fenchurch Street, from 1650 till 1890, when City improvements necessitated their removal. The firm still flourish in their new quarters in Cree Church Lane, under the identical shop sign—a crown supporting three golden sugar loaves. They were probably the first to sell China tea—the price in 1657 being as much as £10 per pound weight. According to reliable ancient tradition this was the historic house which exported to America those celebrated chests of tea which, being sunk in Boston Harbour, gave rise to the war of American Independence.

WILLIAM FRITHE (1648). Two long inscriptions in Latin and armorial bearings. He is described as a Symbolæographus. This curious calling may mean a sign or herald painter.

PETER CAPPONE (1582), died of the Plague, a Florentine gentleman. A handsome monument representing a full-size kneeling figure, in Elizabethan costume, under a canopy. Armorial bearings.

SIR ANDREW RICCARD (1672), citizen and opulent merchant. Life-size monument in the dress of a Roman senator. Chairman for many years both of the Honorable East India Company and of the Levant Company. The latter Company erected this monument at their expense to their "Dictator." His memory should be immortalized, for the parish owes the possession of the advowson to his generosity. Christian, his daughter, was married, first to John Geare in 1655, the ceremony

being performed first by an Alderman, and afterwards by a Bishop; and secondly to Lord Berkeley of Stratton.

THOMAS MORLEY (1566), "Clarke of ye quenes Maiesties storehowse of depford and one of ye officers of ye quenes M<sup>s</sup> Navye." Curious inscription on brass, full of quaint conceits and allusions, commencing:—

"Man by lyinge downe in his bedde to reste  
Signifieth, layed in grave by ssggeste."

Some brasses from the crypt of Lambe's Chapel, Monkwell Street, are now in this church. A portion of the actual old crypt is erected in the churchyard of Allhallows Staining. The upper brass is to HENRY WELDON (1595), second son of Ralph Weldon, of Swanscombe, Kent; and the lower brass is to KATHARINE (1609), "thirde davght of Nicholas Bestney, of Grayes Inn."

The armorial bearings of SIR JOHN RADCLIFFE (1568), son of Robert, first Earl of Sussex; doubtless part of the marble tomb described by Stow, which was probably situated in the east end of the south aisle.

SIR JOHN RADCLIFFE (Ratcliffe), son of Robert, Earl of Sussex, a knight, sculptured in marble, truncated at the knees; from the position of the helmet behind the neck this statue evidently was formerly in a recumbent position, probably on an altar tomb, and that his wife's monument VI. 56, in the chancel formed part of it.

ANDREW BAYNINGE (1610) in his aldermanic gown. This and his brother's adjoining monument on the nave arcade are, perhaps, the most picturesque in the church. The entry in the register is:—  
"Buried in the up end of the Chancell in the Valt

where St James Deane was Buried, the ground is clere." A pedigree of this family is given in Povah's "Annals."

SIR JOHN MENNES (1671), scholar, poet, man of letters, and traveller; Vice-Admiral, sub-Chief of Ordnance, Chief Comptroller of the Navy, Master of Trinity House, and Governor of Dover Castle. Author of the famous couplets, "For he that fights and runs away may live to fight another day," "Sir John he got him an ambling nag," etc. As to the former couplet, however, there has been much literary controversy. "Buried in y<sup>e</sup> chauncell."

PETER TURNER, M.D. (1614); son of William Turner. Half-length effigy. The Latin inscription is by his brother-in-law, Dr. Parr, Bishop of Worcester. Buried "in the south Ile of ye church closs by his father."

WILLIAM TURNER, M.D. (1568), educated at Cambridge under Bishop Latimer, and fellow collegian of Bishop Ridley the Martyr, Physician to Protector Somerset, Dean of Wells in the reigns of Edward VI. and Queen Elizabeth. He was the first English scientific botanist, and author of many books on this and other sciences, and of a treatise on the wines then in use; he had a botanical garden behind his house in Crutched Friars.

JOHN AND ELLYNE ORGONE (1584). A curious brass, a woosack at the top bearing his trade mark, with his initials J. O. at the side. The inscription runs:—

Learne to dye	As I was, so be ye;	ys ye waye to life.
	As I am, you shall be;	
	That I gave, that I have;	
	That I spent, that I had:	
	Thus I count all my cost;	
	That I leffte, that I loste.	

MRS. ELIZABETH PEPYS (1669), married the Diarist at the age of 15; she was a daughter of Alexander Marchand, Sieur de St. Michel, a Huguenot who came to England with Henrietta Maria when she married Charles I. He was a descendant of a distinguished family of Anjou. This is a conspicuous white marble monument, with a bust of the lady looking in the direction of the Navy office pew in the south gallery where her husband used to sit. "Buried in y<sup>e</sup> Chaunsell."

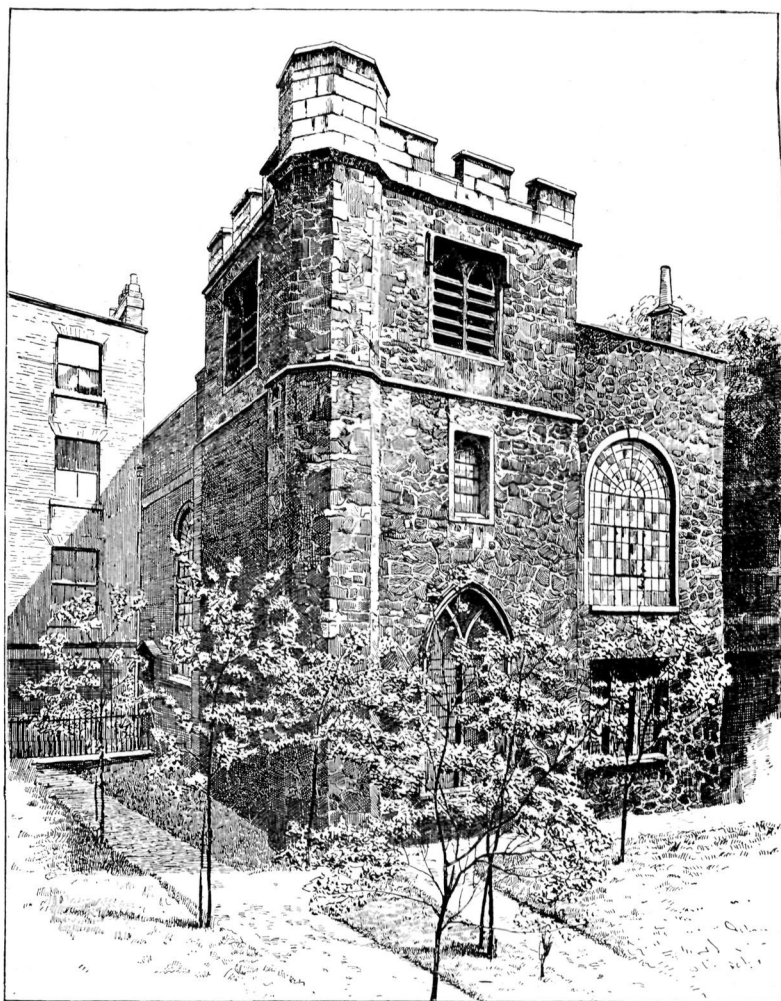
PAUL BAYNINGE (1616), Alderman and Sheriff, brother of Andrew, of the adjoining monument. Both buried in the same vault. He died at his house in Mark Lane. His son, Lord Bayning (1629), the first Viscount Sudbury, who bequeathed £3,500 for a hospital in St. Olave's, Hart Street, for 10 poor aged parishioners, is buried also in the same vault. The doggerel inscription respecting Paul and his brother is amusing. It ends:—

" The happy summe & end of their affaires  
Provided well both for their soules & heires."

ANDREAS RICCARD (1672). A large brass plate, on the floor, next the chancel step formerly in front of the chancel rails at the entrance to the vault, "& buried in y<sup>e</sup> chauncell."

GEORGE SCHRADER (1605), on the floor, nearer the vestry, a slab with four brasses. Latin inscriptions; armorial bearings. A young man of good family, from Brunswick, travelling to complete his education. "Burrid in the Chancell."

MARY BENAN (BAYNHAM), widow (1577). A wooden tablet in the vestry commemorates her gifts to St.



ALLHALLOWS STAINING, AS SEEN FROM CLOTHWORKERS' HALL.  
From a Photograph taken in 1870. The Tower is the only part now remaining.

Olave's and Allhallows. Her benefactions were shared by the united parishes for more than 300 years.

## II.—ALL HALLOWS STAINING.

Near the north-west end of Mark Lane is Star Alley, which leads to a churchyard, now laid out as a garden, in which stands, alone, a square tower some 70 feet high. This is all that remains of the ancient Church of Allhallows Staining, the body of the church having been pulled down on the union of the parish with St. Olave's in 1870. The facts are commemorated on a brass tablet erected in St. Olave's. Stow, the antiquary, records the tradition that the name Staining was applied to this church because it was one of the earliest stone churches in London. In a will dated 1347 the testator directed his body to be buried in All Hallows de Stanyngechirche, and another fourteenth-century will speaks of Stanenchirche near Blaunchapelton.\* The latter was the name of a manor situated at the north-east corner of Mark Lane. The name survived till recently in Blindchapel Court, which was cleared away when the present No. 82, Mark Lane was erected.

The tower is a good example of Perpendicular architecture, with fine pointed arches. We may note that it remained standing when the body of the previous church, believed to have been erected in the fifteenth century, fell with a crash in 1671. This was five years

\* [NOTE.—A much earlier record of these may be cited, viz., a deed (Records Office, Deed A 7295) of 1177, which confirms a grant by David de Cornhella (Cornhill) to the convent of Holy Trinity, Aldgate, of land at “Blanchesapeltuna which is in his soke”; and this is endorsed “Staniggecherch.”—EDITOR.]



after the Great Fire of London, which, in common with St. Olave's, it had escaped.

According to the earliest records the advowson belonged to Hugh de Waltham, Town Clerk of London in 1335, who bequeathed it to Stephen, his son. Little more than one generation later, Simon de Sudbury, Bishop of London, presented the church and rectory to the Cistercian Abbey of Grace. On the dissolution by Henry VIII., this benefice reverted to the Crown. In 1663 the advowson was purchased by the Grocers' Company, in whose hands the benefice remained till its union in 1870 with St. Olave's. The Company, in surrendering the advowson, received in lieu thereof the rights of patronage of three churches, which were built and endowed under the provisions of Lady Slaney's (Trust) Estate Act, 1869, namely, Allhallows, Bromley-by-Bow; St. Anthony, Stepney; and St. Paul's, Homerton. The tithes payable in respect of the parish of Allhallows Staining had been commuted in 1864 at £1,600 per annum, and are now distributed among the three new churches.

The Clothworkers' Company purchased at this time from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for some £13,000 the sites of the Church of Allhallows Staining and of the parsonage, No. 7, Mark Lane, subject to an undertaking to maintain and keep in repair the tower of the church. They also pledged themselves not to build on the sites of the church, or of the parsonage, or of the churchyard, excepting a defined strip of ground fronting Mark Lane. It was also agreed that the freehold of the churchyard should vest in the Rector for the time being of the United Parishes. In 1873 Lambe's Chapel of St.-James-in-the-Wall, Monkwell Street,

belonging to the Clothworkers' Company, was pulled down under special Act of Parliament. Beneath this chapel was an ancient crypt, of the transitional Norman period, with vaulted roof, supported by short columns with ornate capitals. A considerable portion of the crypt was removed to this churchyard, and is here reinstated as a vault at the south of the tower. Two brasses, dated 1595 and 1609 respectively, from this crypt, are now in *St. Olave's*.

The parish registers of Allhallows Staining are incomplete. In all 14 volumes have been preserved. These records recall some noteworthy names. On February 22nd, 1654, a son was baptised of Radolphus Button, first Public Orator of the University of Oxford. On March 10th, 1690, Sir Cloudesley Shovell, described as of London, Knight, was married here to Lady Elizabeth Narborough. This was, of course, the Commander of the Forces, the great admiral who lost his life when his ship, the "Association," foundered on the treacherous "Bishop and his Clerks" rocks, near Land's End. John Chaplin, Esq., of Tathwell, in Lincolnshire, married, on February 3rd, 1691, to Lady Frances Rouse, was probably an ancestor of the present Mr. Henry Chaplin, M.P.

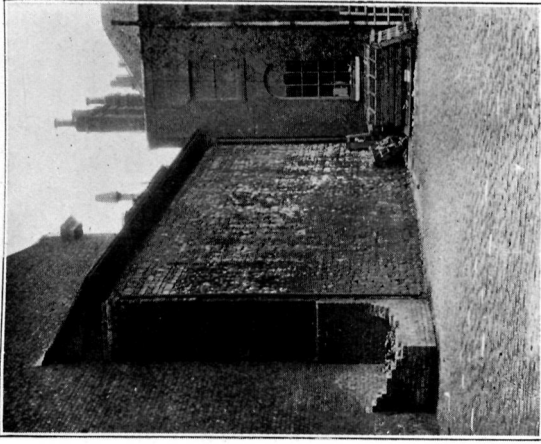
The Churchwardens' minute books, which, with one break of eighteen years (May, 1628, to April, 1646), cover a period of four centuries, from 1491 to the present day, comprise accounts of all disbursements on behalf of the parish, vestry minutes, and a host of memoranda now of great historical interest. An entry of 1587, "Pd. to the Ringers for Joye the traytors were taken, 6d." refers to the arrest of Babington and his fellow conspirators. The ringers got 8d. more when the Queen

of Scots was "proclaymed traytor," and a whole shilling on February 9th, "For Joye of ye execution of ye Queene of Scotts." Few, if any, parishes in this country have anything like such a connected history as is furnished by these books, which would be well worth publication in full.

### III.—THE CITY WALL.

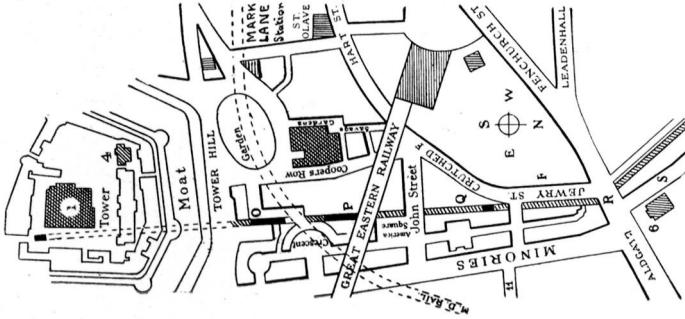
During the eighteen or more centuries which have elapsed since the Romans first built the wall the ground levels have gradually risen, and while the earth piled against it has effectually preserved 10 to 15 feet of the lower part, the exposed upper part of about equal height decayed; our mediæval ancestors, desiring still to retain the protection of the wall, were forced to make very substantial repairs and to re-case it, adding gradually much to its height, as the surface of the adjoining ground rose. Thus it is that we find now very little of the Roman work above the ground level; we do find in St. Olave's extensive portions of the City Wall visible above ground, in some instances to a height of 24 feet 6 inches, which are all mediæval work. The plan indicates the parts now to be seen (O) at Trinity Place, Tower Hill; (P) at Barber's Bonded Warehouses, Cooper's Row; and (Q) at Roman Wall House, No. 1, Crutched Friars. There is also a fragment, undoubtedly part of the Roman Wall, in the Tower of London immediately south-east of the Keep or White Tower (1). It indirectly furnishes evidence of the fact that William the Conqueror, in erecting his fortress, took care to build it within the City boundaries.

(O.) Trinity Place.—Here we are *inside* the City and can inspect a large portion of the wall (mediæval)



**CITY WALL, TRINITY PLACE, TOWER HILL.**

This fragment has been repaired, and a roof placed over the top to preserve it.



**PLAN SHOWING LINE OF CITY WALL BETWEEN THE TOWER AND ALDGATE.**

The black portions of the wall indicate the remains that are now visible.

from the level of the street, walk about it and realise the sense of security it gave to the old citizens in the Middle Ages. Through the skylight of the cellar in front we can perhaps see the Roman work upon which the superstructure was raised. The City Wall continues thence southward towards the Tower.

In 1852 Mr. C. Roach Smith carefully examined the portion of Roman Wall beyond Trinity Place (O), and in his "Illustrations of Roman London, 1859," he describes the Roman method of building the wall.

"In the first place, a trench was dug between two and three feet deep. This trench was filled in or 'puddled in,' as it is termed, with a bed of clay and flints. Upon this were laid boulders and concrete to about a foot thick.

"Upon the foundation was placed a set off row of large stones, upon them four layers of smaller stones, regularly and neatly cut; then a bonding course of three rows of red tiles, above which are six layers of stones separated, by a bonding course of tiles as before, from a third division of five layers of stones; the bonding course of tiles above these is composed of two rows of tiles; and in like manner the facing was carried to the top."

(P.) In Joseph Barber and Co.'s Bonded Warehouse, Cooper's Row (illustration). Here the old City Wall has been made use of as portion of the eastern wall of the great warehouse and vaults. The total height of the wall proper is 35 feet, portions showing in the basement and on the ground and first floors. It forms a magnificent stretch of wall no less than 112 feet long and with only slight obstructions to the view for its entire length.

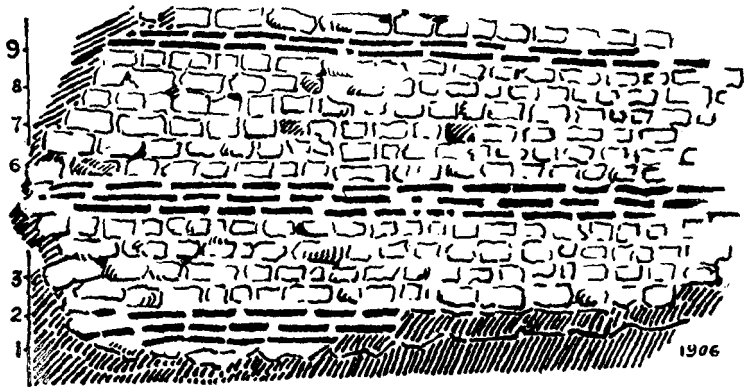
In the basement the Roman Wall is 8 feet thick, the base of it, or rather the present vault floor, being

10 feet 3 inches below the level of Coopers Row, and as the foundations are nowhere exposed the actual base may be lower still, thus giving proof of how much the level of the land has risen. At the southern end is an archway reported to have given access to a passage which it is said formerly connected the Tower with St. Michael's Priory Church in Aldgate.

On the ground floor the wall is mediæval work, and in it is a small window 13 feet from the floor (*see* illustration) which is of unique character in the wall throughout the City.

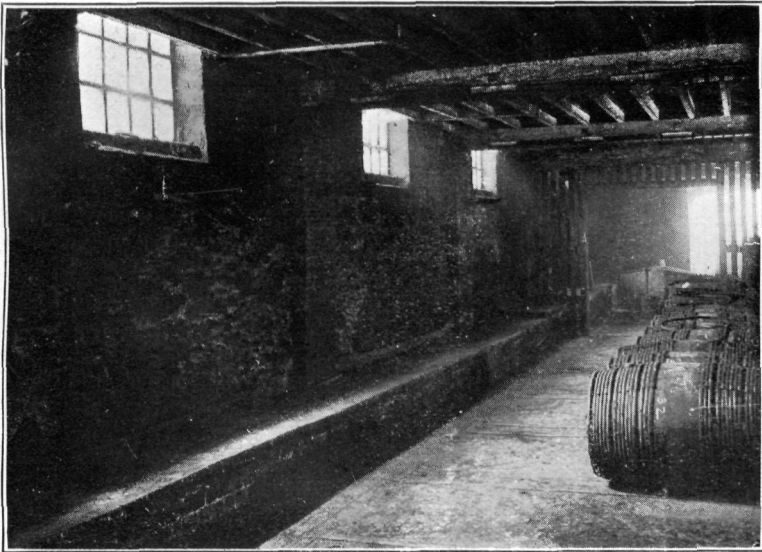
On the first floor we see in the illustration the rampart along which the sentry who guarded the wall tramped his nightly round, protected by a bulwark 4 feet 6 inches high.

(Q.) In "Roman Wall House," now No. 1, Crutched Friars, *within* the City, is a perfect specimen of the Roman Wall, about 9 feet high and 20 feet long, showing the inside face in so well-preserved a condition

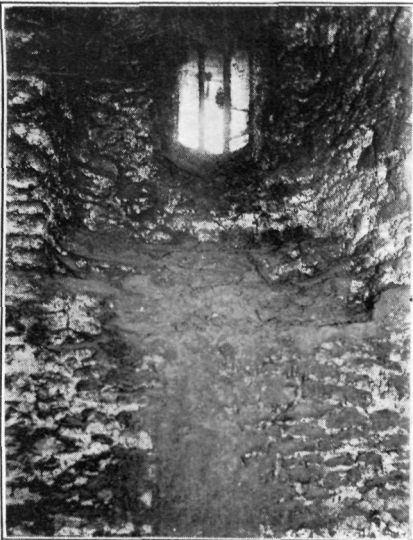


THE FRAGMENT OF ROMAN WALL, "ROMAN WALL HOUSE."

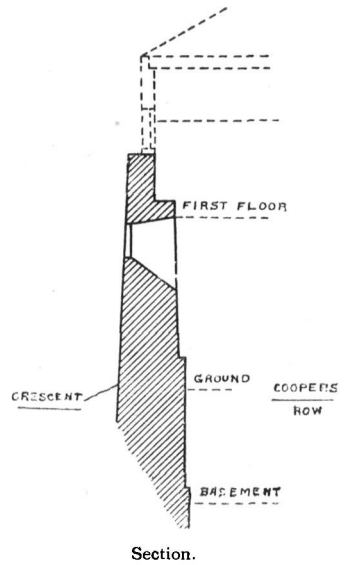
(Drawn from a photograph.)



First Floor, Battlement and Bulwark, with modern windows above.



Ground Floor. Mediæval Window.



Section.

CITY WALL IN BARBER'S WAREHOUSE, COOPER'S ROW.

as to make it probable that an earthen bank was raised against it as soon as it was built. When Nos. 18, 19, and 20, Jewry Street were pulled down in 1904 for building these new premises, 65 feet of Roman Wall was found to form the foundation of these houses and those at the back in Vine Street. We owe a debt of gratitude to the Saddlers' Company, the ground landlords, who altered the plans so that in one of the basement rooms this specimen is preserved, and it can now be seen *in situ* (illustration). The new building is appropriately named "Roman Wall House." The wall is 9 feet thick, 3 feet of it projects into the apartment, the other 6 feet form the party wall and foundation of the houses in Vine Street (which is outside the City). The top of the ballast or foundation of the wall is 8 feet 6 inches below the present ground level. We see, first, the three layers of tiles above the foundation, which only penetrate the width of one tile into the structure of the wall, then the lowest four courses of Kentish "rag stone," then the layer of three bonding tiles going right through the wall, then the six courses of rag stone and a bonding layer of two tiles right through. It is interesting to note that when the exterior of the wall was exposed in the excavations in 1908 in America Square, at the same level on the outside as the lowest three layers of tiles above mentioned are found on the inside, there was uncovered a boldly chamfered plinth formed of blocks of ferruginous sandstone. Each block averaged 21 inches in length, 8½ inches in height, and 1 foot in thickness. This exterior sandstone plinth runs right round the Roman City Wall. It is the only other stone beside the Kentish rag stone which enters into the structure of the wall. It probably came from



Ightham, in Kent, and being scarce was only used by the Romans for this one purpose.

To get to the *outside* of the wall formerly one had to go round either by way of the Tower Postern or through the "Aldgate." Now, we can pass out of the City along John Street, which has been cut through the top of the wall (much of the lower part still remaining under the street). We enter Vine Street, a straight, narrow lane parallel to the Minories. It is on what was the outer bank of the City Ditch, and leads us through America Square to The Crescent, where, from the back windows of several of the houses, we can see 70 or 80 feet by 24 feet high of the *outside* of the wall.

#### IV.—NO. 33, MARK LANE.

On the western side of Mark Lane, up a passageway between Nos. 31 and 34, stands No. 33, a grand old City mansion, with fine banqueting halls and a lovely carved and inlaid staircase. This is doubtless the oldest house in the parish. It is entered from the courtyard by a doorway, a beautiful example of the work of the period, but much blurred by many coats of paint. The mansion has the reputation of having been the residence of the Spanish Ambassador in the time of Queen Mary, but the present building could not have existed then. What is, however, likely, is that it was owned by the noble family of Neville—of which the Earl of Abergavenny is now the representative—as the crest of that family appears twice in the carved stonework on the front, and the parish records clearly show the Nevyls as inhabitants of the parish and owners of the advowson of St. Olave's. Later, in the seven-

teenth century, the mansion became the property of the Haddons, or Hattons (see page 231), and one of these in 1705 left it to his nephew, charged with payment of £20 per annum to the Vicar of East Molesey, which sum is still paid. In the interior, the elaborately inlaid and carved woodwork and the highly decorated ceilings give us some idea of how the merchant princes of former days lived when the City was their home as well as their place of commerce. A life-size female figure in lead is preserved in the hall. This formerly stood in the centre of the fountain in the garden. The front buildings, condemned as unsafe, were pulled down and rebuilt in 1888, and are now Nos. 31 and 34, Mark Lane. The very fine entrance gateway and doorway were both presented to the South Kensington Museum, where they are now shown in the Southern Galleries of the Victoria and Albert Museum, the date ascribed being 1680. Visitors pass under them immediately after going through the turnstile.

[NOTE.—For the illustrations to the above paper the Society is indebted to the Author. The remains of the ancient City Wall described in Section III were seen by the Society at a former meeting.]