

NOTES BY MEMBERS.

LEADENHALL STREET AND FENCHURCH STREET DEMOLITIONS.—In view of the demolition of the buildings which occupied the South side of the Eastern end of Leadenhall Street between Nos. 50 and 67, the destroyed area extending Southwards to the North side of Fenchurch Street, between Nos. 99 and 107—Mr. C. H. Hopwood, F.S.A., and Mr. William A. Cater, F.S.A., were deputed by the Society to watch for indications of antiquarian interest during the impending excavations.

The only building of any importance known as occupying a portion of the site was Sussex Hall, formerly the Hall of the Bricklayers' Guild, incorporated in 1568.

It may be observed that a considerable portion of this extensive clearance faced the church of St. Katherine Cree (Christchurch), which was built within the precincts of the Augustinian Priory of the Holy Trinity—otherwise dedicated in honour of Christ—receiving the appellation Christchurch and founded in 1108. At the period of his writing Stow states it was necessary to descend by seven steps to enter the church from the high street, in proof of which statement the excavations immediately opposite the church showed the horizon occupied by the previous edifice to have been some 15 feet below the present "datum." This earlier building was erected during the prelacy of Richard de Gravesend, Bishop of London (1280—1303), while the existing church was consecrated by Laud in 1631.

Archæologically, the result of the clearance of this extensive site has been disappointing, for no foundations of early date have been disclosed. It was also evident that those areas upon which buildings had existed, viz., fronting the main thoroughfares of Leadenhall Street and Fen-

church Street, had been previously repeatedly disturbed. Close to Fenchurch Street the base of a well was found, but contrary to the usual expectation no relics of note were contained therein. Some fragments of late pottery were found scattered throughout the site calling for no special comment. The excavations were carried down to the gravel floor, when a large body of fine sand was disclosed.

W. A. CATER.

BLACKFRIARS.—During recent sewerage work in Fleur de Lis Court, Carter Lane, E.C., some foundations of the Priory Church of the Dominicans were disclosed about 35 feet from the present street front. The work in progress necessitated the cutting through of this walling, which proved to be 3 to 4 feet in thickness, consisting of the usual mediæval materials—Kentish rubble and chalk stone. The foundations ran East and West following the line indicated in Mr. A. W. Clapham's conjectural plan published in *ARCHÆOLOGIA*, Vol. LXIII, p. 57, and are without doubt the North Wall of the Church. Projecting some 25 feet beyond this alignment, however, had existed the Lady Chapel, built subsequently to the Church in this unusual position at the North-West corner of the Nave, but the Eastern and Northern limits of this chapel have yet to be determined. This it will be possible to ascertain when the old houses which flank the entrance to the Court come to be demolished. The width of the foundations obviously suggests them to be those of the original walling before the Lady Chapel was erected. That this Court should have received the name of "Fleur de Lis" (the badge of Our Lady) is both singular and appropriate. It may be mentioned that the Friars Preachers (Letters and Papers Henry VIII, Vol. xv. 559) had been possessed of a tenement and wharf called the "Flower de Lewse," in St. Andrew's Parish.

W. A. CATER.