

## NOTES AND QUERIES

RECENT DISCOVERIES AND WORK AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—Mr. Laurence E. Tanner, M.V.O., F.S.A., Keeper of the Muniments and Library, Westminster Abbey, has recently prepared a most important lecture on the Abbey, which he has given at Kensington Town Hall and has repeated at Hendon Central Library and elsewhere. He points out that the Abbey was designed by architects and craftsmen, master masons and builders much in the same way that St. Paul's Cathedral, as we know it, was designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Our recent knowledge of Westminster Abbey, he remarks, is very largely due to Dr. Armitage Robinson, who was Dean, to Professor W. R. Lethaby, who wrote *Westminster Abbey and the King's Craftsmen* and *Westminster Abbey Re-examined*, and to Dr. G. J. L. Scott, who for more than 25 years worked incessantly to bring order out of the chaos in which in the vast collection of Abbey MSS. there was. He compiled the Calendar and index of these MSS., and has in this way given us some idea of the value of their contents and has made them available for students of monastic life, of national history and of the mediaeval manor.

W. R. Lethaby, by his unrivalled knowledge of French architecture, as exemplified in the great Cathedrals, showed that English craftsmen "placed themselves under the most progressive influence of their day, and imitated without reserve what was new and admirable in the great churches of France." This especially applied to the pointed arch and the flying buttress, such important features of the thirteenth century. Lethaby felt, however, that, though there was French influence in the design of Westminster, it was essentially English and was planned, conceived and executed by an Englishman. It "felt" English, and Westminster Abbey would not

seem natural in France, nor Rheims or Amiens Cathedrals in London. The designers or architects or builders of Westminster Abbey were Henry of Reynes, John of Gloucester, Robert of Beverley and Henry Yevele, the latter of whom built the nave. The craftsmen were Odo the Goldsmith, Alexander the Carpenter, and John of St. Albans, the King's Sculptor. In the Abbey's muniments these names frequently recur, and in 1930, when a scaffolding was erected in the transept to assist in the cleaning of the Abbey, it was possible to examine in detail the censuring angels, the master work of these thirteenth-century artists.

In 1936 a very remarkable discovery was made at the Abbey while the south wall was being cleared of the dirt and of the brown shellac put on as a preservative in the sixties by Sir Gilbert Scott. Both shellac and dirt were carefully removed, and there emerged two magnificent wall paintings—one of St. Christopher and the other of the Incredulity of St. Thomas—both probably the work of Master Walter of Durham.

This important discovery was due to a big scheme of cleaning which was being done by the present staff of the Abbey, with a pride, interest and enthusiasm fully worthy of their mediaeval predecessors. During a period of ten years, besides the south transept, there had also been cleaned Henry VII.'s Chapel and its side aisles, St. Faith's Chapel, St. Benedict's Chapel, St. Edmund's Chapel, the lantern, and the apse at the east end, but only up to the level of the triforium.

The removal of the dirt and preservative revealed the Abbey in all its beauty, as its designers and craftsmen originally planned it and saw it. If the brightness were at first disconcerting it was only necessary to go and sit in the north transept on a summer evening when the sun was lighting up the wall of the cleaned south transept, and there would be revealed a sight of entrancing beauty. The process of cleansing involved the use of a vacuum cleaner, a scrubbing with methylated spirit and cold

water washing. The condensed milk which was at first used to give the work a protective film had been given up, as it tended to blur the details, and was not necessary now that the Abbey was lit by electric lights instead of gas.

A falling stone from the roof of Henry VII's Chapel suggested possible danger, but careful examination had shown that, apart from some defective joints and some slipped stones, the structure of the vault was perfectly sound. The work was put in hand, and when finished was cleaned and treated with a solution of refined lime, salt and water.

In the careful cleaning of monuments colour had often been brought to light, and those who had watched the progress of the work week by week felt an increasing admiration for the old Tudor masons. More than 50 years ago there was discovered a superb head of an abbot, probably used by one of Wren's workmen. It was then forgotten, and only recently Mr. Tanner discovered it and put it in the library, where it was recognised as an outstanding work of art—probably the head of Abbot Islip, who died in 1532, only eight years before the Dissolution, when all movable treasures were scattered to the four winds.

Perhaps the most remarkable discovery of recent times occurred in cleaning a monument in St. Benedict's Chapel. Behind a desk was found a small window giving a view of the altar. There is a door, now blocked up, close to the window, and Sir Charles Peers and Mr. Laurence Tanner both think that the door led to a small room, once occupied by the Abbey anchorite or recluse. The probability is that through this door passed Henry V on the night of his father's death, when he decided to give up his boon companions—Falstaff and the rest—and to lead a new life.

Many hundreds of documents are kept in the Abbey Muniment Room dealing with the manor of Hendon, which was the property of the Abbot of Westminster

from the time of Dunstan until Abbot Gervase of Blois, natural son of King Stephen, and from 1312 until 1540, when it passed to the Herberts of Hendon. There were a number of other manors in Middlesex belonging to the Abbey, and there was an interesting connection with Kensington which Mr. Tanner mentioned in his lecture there. About the time of Magna Carta, Aubrey de Vere, second Earl of Oxford, confirmed to the almonry of Westminster Abbey for the support of the poor two parts of the whole tithing of his lordship in Kensington—that lordship which was commemorated to-day after seven centuries by the familiar Earl's Court and Barons Court.

The Abbey was building for 600 years and was "a marvellous attempt to realise a great ideal and to produce a church dedicated to the glory of God and containing the finest work which the mind and hand of the mediaeval craftsman could conceive and execute." During the weeks of crisis in September and October people were turning instinctively to the great Abbey Church of Westminster, and the crowds that gathered round the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior were evidence of the hold which the Abbey had on all who worshipped there. "It never failed them. To-day, as ever, it laid its spell on all who entered within its walls or who served it, alike by its associations and by its incomparable beauty."

---

TRENCHES ROUND LONDON.—Perhaps the most epoch-making of all London events during the year 1938 has been the digging of trenches in many of the parks and other open spaces of the metropolis, a thing that has not been done, in all probability, for almost three centuries. The Civil War between Charles I and his Parliament involved London in the probable danger of a siege; and the City authorities, even before the battle of Edgehill, saw to the strengthening of the old wall, while Parliament ordered the fortification of the "passages about the

City with posts, chains of Courts of Guards; also it was wonderful to see how the women and children and vast numbers would come to work, digging and carrying of earth to make the new fortifications." The Venetian Ambassador informed his masters at home that "at the approaches to London they are putting up trenches and small forts of earthworks, at which a great number of people are at work"; and Butler, in his *Hudibras*, writes satirically of women who

"March'd rank and file with drum and ensign,  
 T'entrench the city for defence in . . .  
 . . . From ladies down to oyster-wenches  
 Labour'd like pioneers in trenches."

When Rupert and his cavalry were threatening London a desperate effort was made to circumvallate the city and its suburbs; and that incorrigible traveller and gossip, William Lithgow, in his *Surveigh of London*, published in 1643, describes the day's journey which he made round the forts and trenches, occupying twelve hours and eighteen Kentish miles from Gravel Lane, Wapping, through Whitechapel, Shoreditch and Islington, by Bloomsbury and Hyde Park to Tothill Fields, and across the river to Lambeth, and so through St. George's Fields to Rotherhithe.

It would be interesting to discover if the existing trenches of September, 1938, exactly follow anywhere those of 1642-3. It seems rather improbable, seeing that almost every bit of the circumvallation of the Civil War period is now built over. *The Times* gave pictures of trench-digging in several London open spaces, including a busy scene in Kensington Gardens, rather further west than the line of the Civil War trenches.

---

WATER COACHES ON THE THAMES.—It seems incredible that it is over 30 years since the London County Council ran a fleet of steamboats on the Thames. A new service is to start next Easter between Westminster Pier and

Southend, and the first boat has been built at Saunders' Shipyard, Cowes, for Mr. H. A. Harvey. It was launched on 5th April, 1938, by Lieutenant-Colonel J. T. C. Moore-Brabazon, M.P., and was named the *Pride of Westminster*. It is 70 feet long and has adequate accommodation for 100 passengers. It is built of pitch-pine, elm and steel and is run by oil engines which can develop a horse-power of 100.

---

CORAM'S FIELDS.—Captain Coram and George Frederick Handel, founder and benefactor of the Foundling Hospital, would be greatly pleased at the many improvements which have been made in the gardens now existing on the old Foundling site. Shelters, seats and games have been provided for the children who live in the district, and the saving of this admirable open-space leaves us with a fine specimen of eighteenth century planning in the Foundling site and Brunswick and Mecklenburg Squares.

---

MEMORIALS IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE.—Trafalgar Square is probably the finest site in the world, and, with the National Gallery, St. Martin's in the Fields, the South African House, Admiralty Arch and the many memorials commemorating naval and military heroes, it gives a digest of recent British and Overseas history. There is a proposal on foot to erect memorial fountains to Lord Jellicoe and Lord Beatty, with new centre-pieces standing in the existing basins, incorporating portrait busts of the two great admirals. The sculpture, which has been designed by Mr. William McMillan, R.A., and Mr. Charles Wheeler, A.R.A., will be in bronze. The general superintendence of the work has been undertaken by Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A.

---

BERKELEY SQUARE.—Some portions of the West End have resisted the invasion of flats and offices for a long while, but now that parts of Grosvenor Square and St. James's have succumbed nowhere is entirely safe. Mayfair was for long sacrosanct, but the demolition of Devonshire House and of Lansdowne House rendered Berkeley Square a prey to development. The danger began just after the war, when, in 1919, Lord Berkeley sold to Sir Marcus Samuel, afterwards the first Lord Bearsted, 20 acres in or adjacent to Berkeley Square. In 1928 the Samuel Estates granted licences for the development of Bruton Street, running at right angles to the Square on the east side, and in 1930 the C.P.R. purchased 540 feet of frontage in Bruton Street and Berkeley Square. In 1936 and 1937 the two acres in these two areas were sold on building lease, and the immense block of buildings now erected will be occupied by the Ministry of Air, with the exception of the ground floor, devoted to shopping.

The east side of Berkeley Square, which is the first to fall, was also the first to be developed, and during the eighteenth century it was an extremely fashionable centre. In one of the houses now destroyed lived Horace Walpole, and round the corner, in Bruton Street, Princess Elizabeth was born.

---

CHRISTIE'S.—It is difficult to know what are the time limits of archaeology. The recent foundation of a society to interest itself in business archives suggests that the bounds of historical and antiquarian research are being enlarged. In that case, a reference to the last fifty years of sales at Christie's is not out of place, especially seeing that many of the pictures and other items thus sold were many hundreds of years old. Fashions have changed very much during the period and prices have both increased and lowered. Pictures by such mid-Victorian painters as Mulready, Muller, Long, Landseer, Alma

Tadema and Hook have considerably lost ground, while pictures by Ruisdael and Van der Helst among Dutchmen, Guardi and Canaletto, Carpaccio, Tiepolo and the Bellinis among Italians, and the French painters so admirably represented in the Wallace Collection—Fragonard, Lancret, Le Nain, Le Brun—have come into their own.

In 1892 the famous seventeen-day sale of the Hamilton Palace collection realised almost £400,000, but in 1928 that sum was nearly reached in a single day, and the total for the Dutch, Flemish and Italian masters from the Holford Collection amounted to over £572,000. Romney, Reynolds, Raeburn, and especially Gainsborough, have soared in value, and the latter's "Blue Boy," painted as an answer to Reynolds' Academy lecture, was sold to Mr. H. P. Huntingdon for £175,000, while Reynolds' own "Tragic Muse," in which he ensured that he would go down to posterity on the hem of Mrs. Siddons' garment, fetched only £25,000.

In 1925, 163 paintings by J. S. Sargent fetched almost £150,000, a sum larger than the combined totals for pictures left behind by Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir Edwin Landseer, Lord Leighton, Sir John Millais and Sir Edward Burne-Jones.

During the war there were many sales of paintings and other artistic treasures on behalf of the Red Cross funds, and a total of over £400,000 was reached in this way. *The Times* published a very appreciative account of what is London's best known auction-room, equally famous all over the world, on the occasion of the retirement of the senior partner, Mr. Lance Hannen.

---

HISTORY AND ROMANCE UNDER THE RIVER.—In the last four years many interesting objects have come to light during the engineering operations for the rebuilding of Waterloo Bridge. Amongst them are such romantic relics as an anti-aircraft shell, a rifle and



bayonet probably dropped by a deserter, two revolvers, one old and one recent, a pair of handcuffs and an empty cash-box. Most of these might serve as starting-points for some of the modern sleuths whom Torquemada reviews in the *Observer* week by week. Two shells of a different character have been pronounced to be nautilus shells, and must date from a time when the climate of the Thames basin was sub-tropical.

The construction of Rennie's masterpiece, of which the bridge at Kelso is said to be a rehearsal, is of considerable interest, as the foundations for its piles were made by driving elm trunks into the bed of the Thames. A discovery in the excavations by the approaches in Wellington Street, Strand, revealed the foundations of a hospital—one of the many buildings destroyed by the ill-fated Protector, the Duke of Somerset, in building his palace of Somerset House.

---

BARRY'S DESIGN FOR WESTMINSTER.—The discovery of Sir Charles Barry's plan for town-planning Westminster made in 1857 recalls the fact that it is Westminster, the home of the King, the Parliament and the Cabinet, the Government offices and the Judges, and not London, which is the real capital of England and the British Empire. From time to time chances occur to realise some of the more desirable of his ideas, and the occasion now occurs in connection with the King George V Memorial. Barry's scheme involved a magnificent processional route from Trafalgar Square, down Whitehall, across Parliament Square, past Henry VII's Chapel and along by St. John's Church in Smith Square—the street so made to be called successively Whitehall, Abbey Street and New Palace Yard. The Georgian houses in Abingdon Street and Old Palace Yard were to be removed, and the Jewel House and Little Cloisters were also to be destroyed. We may well be grateful that

this piece of vandalism was not carried out. But there were many good features in Barry's plan as well as some bad ones.

---

BIRDS IN INNER LONDON.—Lovers of nature will be glad to hear of birds nesting in the gardens of the Inns of Court. The Under Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn reports blackbirds and owls, starlings and ducks, all of which seem to have brought up families, while owls, robins and carrion crows are more infrequent visitors. The correspondence which followed in the *Times* brought a reminder of a fund left by Cavendish Weedon to Lincoln's Inn, by will dated 2nd November, 1707, which runs: "In respect I made two fountains and intend to make a third in the middle of the great garden in Lincoln's Inn whereby I have given the birds drink but no victual, I give 12d. every week for feeding the said birds. All the fever time the butler is to give them the crumms of the Hall in respect these birds are warblers and singers to the best of their power."

Other correspondents called attention to birds in other parts of London, and one spoke of a kestrel at the German Hospital at Dalston, while another had seen one flying over the small park that surrounds the Imperial War Museum in Lambeth Road. Either this kestrel or a pair of carrion crows were responsible for some savage work with sparrows, but these grisly reminders did not seem to deter other birds from building in some creeper 8 feet away.

---

THE THAMES BARRAGE.—A good deal of support has been forthcoming for this scheme, and an Association has been formed to further it, but the Government have indicated their intention of vetoing the barrage, in view of the advice given by the Committee of Imperial Defence. This Committee has accepted the views of the Port of London Authority, but the Thames Barrage

Association still feel that there is a good deal to be said in favour of the barrage, and think that the case of the Suez Canal may be repeated, and the Thames barrage become a valued feature of London's development.

---

THE GREAT WEN.—William Cobbett's expressive description of London, so apt a hundred years ago, is still more expressive to-day, and the metropolis is growing by leaps and bounds without any serious attempt being made to limit its size. Factories are being erected in and near London, regardless of the plight of the distressed areas, and the efforts of Ebenezer Howard and his followers to establish satellite towns instead of building dormitories or suburbs are not being followed up. Letchworth and Welwyn are good examples of self-contained towns, "large enough to provide a full social and cultural life for its inhabitants, while allowing them all to live within reach of the open country as well as of their work." Letchworth intends to stop when it has 35,000 inhabitants; at present it has half that number. Welwyn is scheduled for 50,000, and at present is only about a quarter full. They are both self-contained and have adequate factories to keep the bulk of the inhabitants at home. They certainly seem to solve the problem of town-planning, and, with the Green Belt, they show how the growth of London can be checked by the establishment of a ring of satellites at about 20 to 25 miles outside the centre. Financially, they are successful; from every other point of view they can show even better results; and the spaciousness of the planning, the communal life, the social and recreative clubs and societies which have been formed give a vigour to the activities of the inhabitants which is so lacking in many of London's suburbs.

---

THE DORIC ARCH AT EUSTON.—One hundred and one years ago there was built from the designs of Philip Hardwick the archway at Euston Station, which is now

in danger of being removed. Lord Esher, the Chairman of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, and members of the Georgian Group, which specialises in work erected since 1700, would like the archway retained as an entrance to the new Euston. Other suggestions are its erection on Shap summit, as a gateway to the Lakes and Scotland, or in some prominent position in Yorkshire to commemorate Hutton's great innings in the final Test Match. It is a magnificent example of the Greek style so popular at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and the L.M.S. are sympathetic with the desire to save the archway from destruction. It cost £35,000 when it was put up in 1837, built from Bramley stone, and the Railway Company offer it as a present to anyone who cares to take it away.

---

SAVILE ROW.—So far there has been little change in this paradise of tailors, and we can still purchase our clothes behind discreet screens. Horace Walpole spent a whole night in Savile Row watching a fire; George Grote, the Greek historian, lived there; Richard Brinsley Sheridan died there. It was built by the third Lord Burlington, of the family that built Burlington House, and it was named after his father-in-law. Savile Row is still intact, but the narrow passage under the Alpine Club has gone, and there is a wide entry now into Mill Street and Conduit Street. It may be only a few months or years before this relic of early Georgian taste is razed to the ground. The older societies for preserving ancient buildings cease their labours at 1700, but there is a Georgian Society which tries to rescue which is best of the eighteenth century. It is difficult to say exactly how modern may be the interests of our Archaeological Society, but with each year of its growth the objects of its affection should become more modern too, so that we may well watch with regret the challenges and threats to a London of two centuries before our own.

---

EDMUND SPENSER'S GRAVE.—Spenser died in 1599 and was buried in Westminster Abbey. The learned William Camden, who was Headmaster of Westminster School at the time, records that “mournful elegies and poems with the pens that wrote them were thrown into his tomb” by all the leading poets of the time. The hope of the Bacon Society was that, if a poem were discovered ostensibly by Shakespeare, the writing could be compared with specimens of Bacon's writing and the old controversy might be settled. Accordingly, a search took place on 2nd and 3rd November, 1938, and it was found that the space in front of the Spenser was taken up by solid foundations. The nearest grave was 12 ft. to the north of the monument and it had been cut out of the foundations to the depth of 3 ft. 8 in. In the grave there was a lead coffin in a collapsed condition, surrounded by dry powdery soil, which was carefully sifted with fine-meshed sieves to discover any pens or parchment. There had apparently been three burials in the same grave, some of which were post-Elizabethan. The search was conducted under the supervision of the Dean of Westminster, Sir Charles Peers (surveyor of the Abbey and a Vice-President of our Society), Mr. Laurence E. Tanner (one of our members) and Professor H. J. Plenderleith (Assistant Keeper in the British Museum, Research Laboratory). Three officials of the Bacon Society were also present, among them Mr. Bertram G. Theobald (President), who states that he was confident that the grave opened was not that of Spenser. There will be no further search.

---

MIDDLESEX AND THE FUTURE.—It will not be long before almost the only open spaces in Middlesex will be those included in the Green Belt. The population is now, for the first time, over two millions, and the building goes on without any apparent cessation. In view of this development, almost anything that affects the development of Middlesex is of interest. For instance, it is

proposed to demolish the old hump-backed bridge over the Grand Union Canal in High Street, Yiewsley, known as Colham Bridge, and replace it by a new wider and safer bridge, more suitable for the large amount of traffic which passes that way. The cost will be in the region of £50,000.

There is further development going on in the west of the county which will be still further precipitated by electrification in the Perivale-Greenford direction. Here again there are numerous old bridges to be demolished and their places taken by far wider ones, but the bill for these developments will be over two and a half million pounds, as the railway will extend, like the new Western Avenue, to Northolt, Ruislip and Ickenham. Fortunately these districts have watchful councils, who may be trusted to do their best to preserve old buildings and to safeguard open spaces.

In view of crowded streets, it is not surprising that the Uxbridge District Council, backed by the Middlesex County Council, and sanctioned by the Home Office, has ordered that: "No persons shall on the footway, rink or skate on rollers, wheels or other mechanical contrivances to the danger of passengers." A correspondent in *The Times* recently noted that a rink in mediaeval times implied a jousting ground.

---

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—On 8th September, 1838, new reading rooms were opened at the British Museum and were said to form "part of the north side of the quadrangle and communicate with the Royal Library, the collection of books brought from Buckingham House, and presented to the Museum by George the Fourth." These rooms had a gallery round them, bookshelves lining the walls from floor to ceiling, two rooms each with twelve tables, and on the tables pens, ink, paper knives and, for the first time, blotting paper instead of sand. Before 1838 there had been rooms for readers, the first

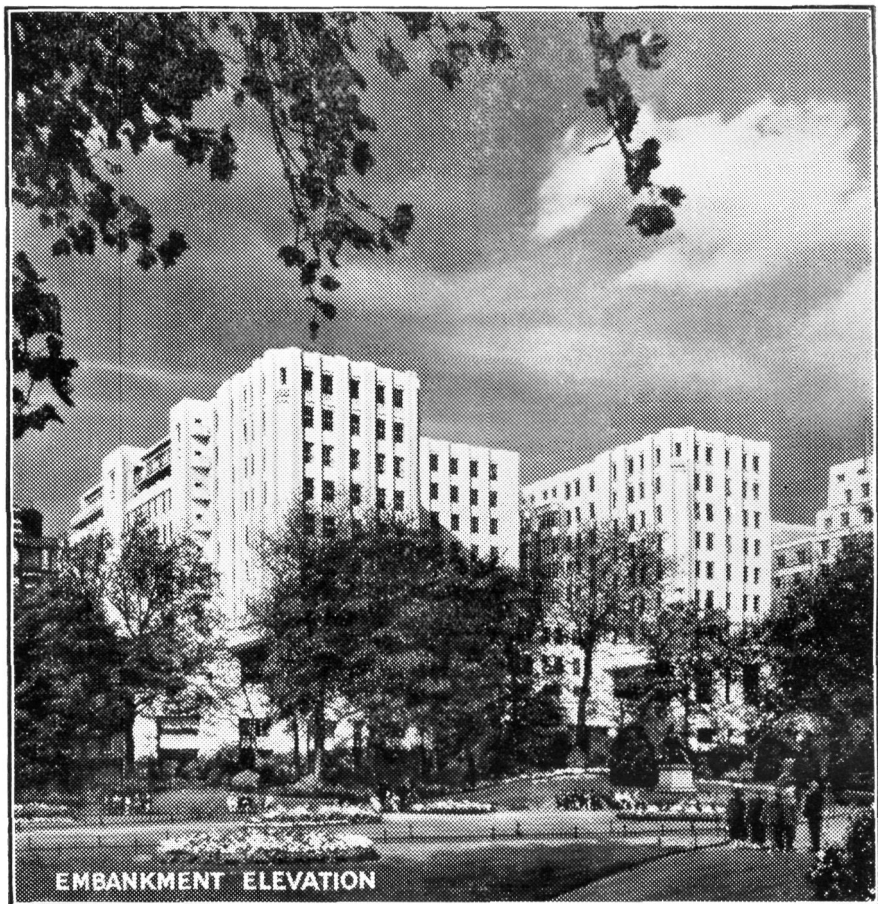
being opened for eight readers in Montagu House on 15th January, 1759, with a "proper wainscot table covered with green bays."

In 1769, 1803 and in 1817 additional rooms were opened, and as early as 1762 two ladies, Lady Ann Monson and Lady Mary Carr, used the library. In the old buildings Gibbon and Burke, Sir Walter Scott and Robert Southey and Charles Lamb used to work (on Lamb's retirement from the East India House).

In 1838 the new rooms were in full use, but not for long in their then-existing form. Sir Anthony Panizzi, Keeper of the Printed Books, was in 1857 responsible for covering over the quadrangle in the middle of the Museum buildings with a rotunda and dome, altogether bigger than any other dome in the world. This magnificent reading room, largely made of cast-iron, has accommodation for 460 persons, and on an average there are half as many readers again each day, about 700. About 80,000 books are stacked in the rotunda itself, many of them on the open shelves, and the total number in the Museum as a whole is almost four million, and they increase by about one thousand each day. Many nationalities, creeds and professions are represented in the motley gathering of readers. *Some men of potential greatness, many mediocrities, some disappointed men and a few complete failures can be seen any day of the week, and all must be grateful for the comfort and chances offered by the splendid collection of books and the courteous free service.* Thackeray's words, written in 1862, seem as applicable to-day as when they were written:—

"I have seen all sorts of domes of Peter's and Paul's, Sophia, Pantheon—what not?—and have been struck by none of them so much as by that Catholic dome in Bloomsbury, under which one million volumes [now 4] are housed. It seems to me I cannot sit down in that place without a heart full of grateful reverence."

---



*[By courtesy of "The Times"]*

THE NEW ADELPHI.



THE ADELPHI.—Through the courtesy of Messrs. Farebrother, Ellis & Co. and of the *Times* we are able to print a view of the embankment elevation of the new Adelphi, designed by Stanley Hamp, F.R.I.B.A., consulting architect to Mill Hill School; and of the views up and down the river, which may be compared with Canaletto's pictures drawn nearly two centuries ago. It is interesting to compare the design of to-day with that of the brothers Adam and to wonder whether the present structure will attain the fame of its predecessor. The site was originally occupied by Durham House, the town house of the Bishops of Durham, having been built by Thomas Hatfield about the middle of the fourteenth century. It was conveyed to Henry VIII by Cuthbert Tunstall, Bishop of London and Durham, whose life has recently been written in detail for the first time. Other occupants were the Princess Elizabeth (afterwards Queen), Sir Walter Raleigh, Tobias Matthew, Bishop of Durham, Lord Keeper Coventry and Philip Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, one of the "incomparable pair of brethren," to whom the first folio of Shakespeare was dedicated. For the Earl, Webb, a pupil of Inigo Jones, designed a substantial house, which was never built, and the site was in later years, according to Strype, "built into tenements or houses . . . being a handsome street descending down out of the Strand."

By the beginning of the reign of George III the site had become something of an eyesore, though retaining something of its picturesque character, and in July, 1768, there was begun on this three-acre site a magnificent series of buildings, erected on piers and arches of solid masonry, strong enough to resist falling bombs dropped on them during the Great War.

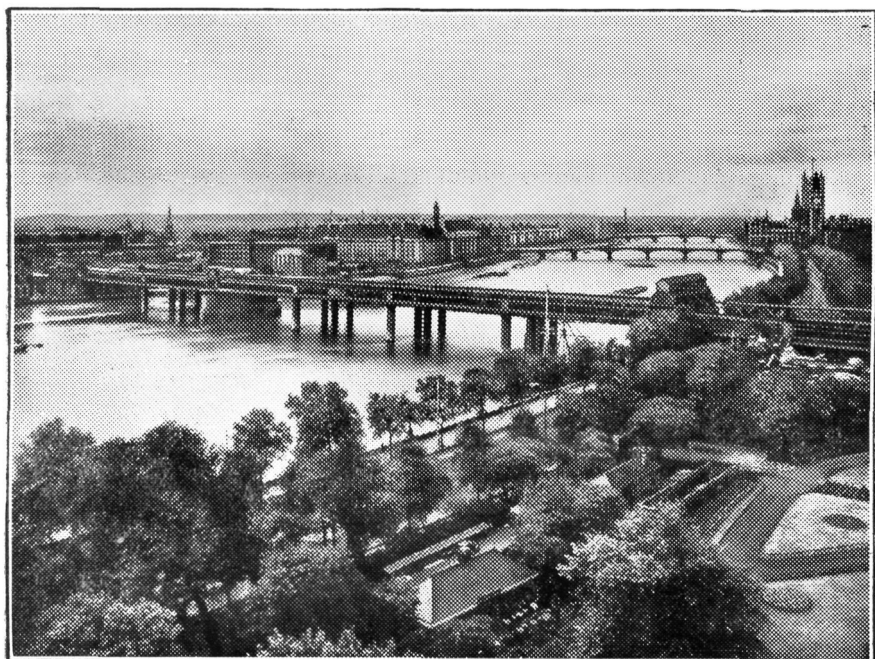
The Adam brothers were introduced to London by the unpopular minister of George III, the Earl of Bute, for whom they designed Kenwood, between Hampstead and Highgate, and Lansdowne House, formerly on the south side of Berkeley Square.

The fund for building the Adelphi was raised by a lottery and in the streets then erected many famous people have lived, including David Garrick and George Bernard Shaw. Other occupants have been the Savage Club, the Little Theatre, the Institute of Naval Architects and the Royal Society of Arts. Our Society was fortunate to have an expedition to the old Adelphi not long before its destruction.

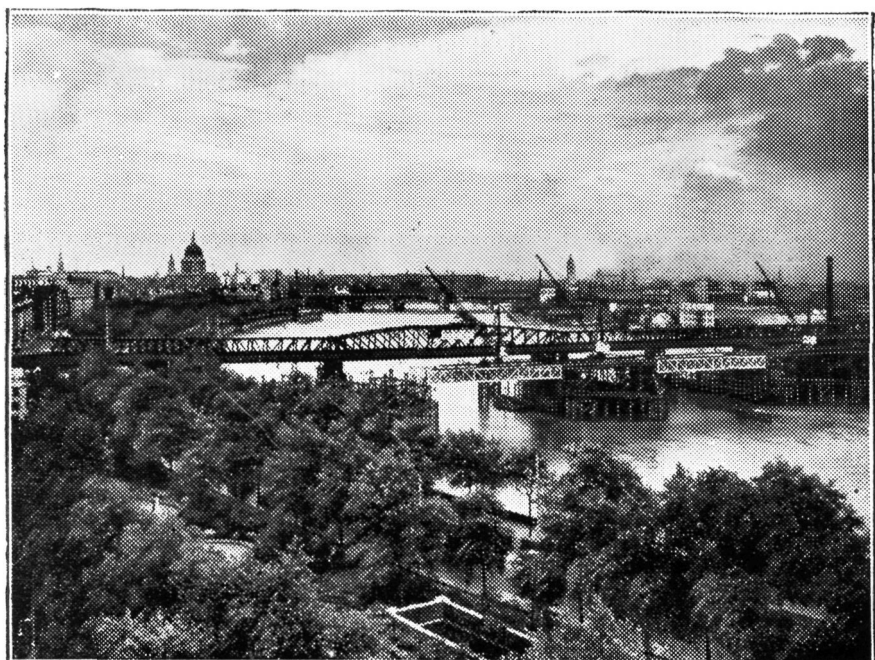
The total value of the lottery was £218,500, which was divided into 4,370 tickets, valued at £50 each, and the draw began on Thursday, 3rd March, 1774, at the Great Room, formerly Jonathan's Coffee House, in Exchange Alley. There were 108 prizes, and though the first drawn, No. 3599, was a blank, it received a special reward of £5,000. The brothers were able to pay off half their mortgages before the lottery draw took place, and the scheme helped the brothers in an enterprise which was too great for their private fortunes. In a pamphlet which they published they stated that they had engaged in the Adelphi scheme with a view to public utility, being moved more from an enthusiasm for their art than from a view to profit. The wording of the tickets is as follows: "Adelphi Lottery, Anno 1774. The Bearer of this Ticket will be intitled to such Beneficial Chance as shall belong thereto in the Adelphi Lottery to be drawn under the Authority of an Act of Parliament made in the Thirteenth Year of His Majesty's Reign. For John Robert James Adam & Self—William Adam."

---

ADAM WORK IN LONDON.—In addition to the Adelphi, now vanished, and Lansdowne House, which has also had to give room for offices, the Adam Brothers designed a good deal of fine buildings in London and in Middlesex. Belmont, built for Sir Charles Flower, Bart., at Mill Hill, and now the junior department of Mill Hill School, is one of their best dwelling houses; and Kenwood, thanks to the generosity and pertinacity of Lord Iveagh and



[By courtesy of "The Times"]



VIEWS UP AND DOWN THE RIVER.

[By courtesy of The "Times"]

Sir Arthur Crosfield, is now national property. The Scottish Office in Whitehall is their work, and so is the screen in front of the Admiralty on the same side of the street.

On the site of Wallingford House, Thomas Ripley, architect of Walpole's Houghton House, built the Admiralty in 1728, with a courtyard extending into Whitehall. Horace Walpole thought the building "a most ugly edifice," and Pope, in the *Dunciad*, wrote:

"See under Ripley rise a new Whitehall,  
While Jones' and Boyle's united labours fall."

In 1759 the Admiralty Commissioners gave up part of the Courtyard to admit of the enlargement of Whitehall, and Robert Adam designed the screen wall, which has recently been cleaned. Horace Walpole thought the building deservedly veiled by Mr. Adams' handsome screen.

Various changes and chances have happened to this screen, including the removal of some of the columns to accommodate the Duke of Clarence's carriage in 1827 and their replacement by Lord Lee of Fareham in 1923. This year the Office of Works has cleared away accumulated grime and filth by means of a fine spray of water played on the screen, which has brought to light the original carvings in perfect condition. N.G.B.-J.

---

RENAMED CITY CHURCHES.—A paper in this issue of the Society's *Transactions* bears the name of St. Sepulchre's. Anyone who walks down Holborn to-day will not find that long familiar name, but instead he is introduced to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. That admirable work is being done there I am fully aware, but I think that protest ought to be made against the changing of the name of an historic City church like St. Sepulchre's, attached to it for many centuries, at the whim of the incumbent, necessarily himself a transitory figure.

In early days, it is true, the style was variously interpreted, but St. Sepulchre has always been a part of the name, save that in a thirteenth century will it appears as S. Edmund without Newgate, and in a later will is shortened to St. Poulchers. The fabric, so far as I can ascertain, has never been styled the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and there is no justification for destroying its historical name.

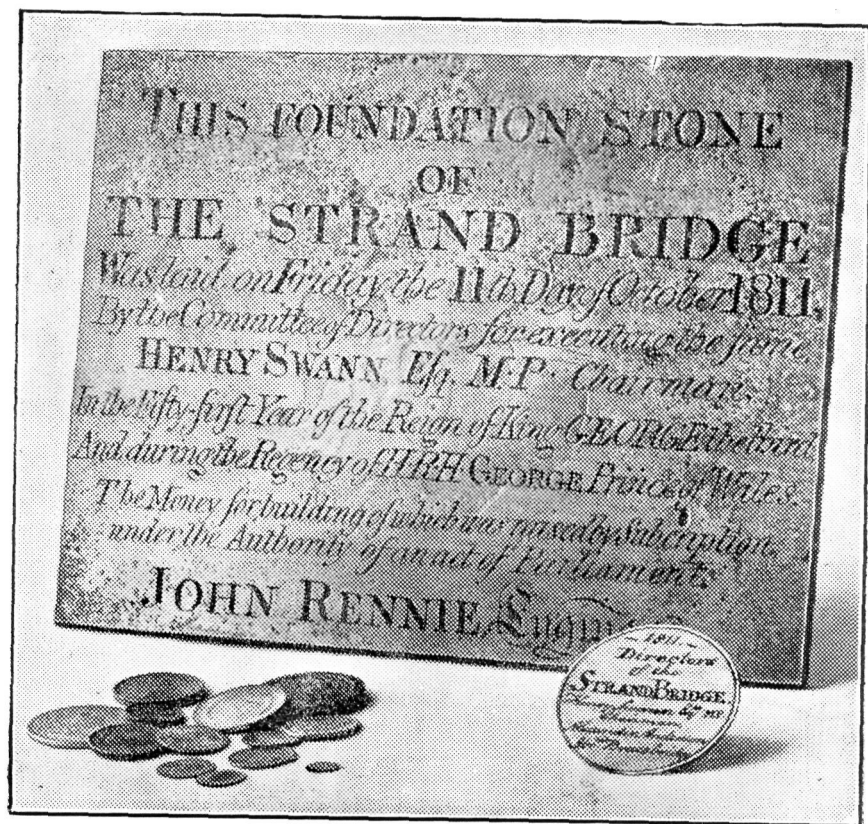
The parish remains St. Sepulchre's, as will be seen on the church notice board.

My good friend and everybody's friend, the Rev. P. T. B. Clayton, in the same way deserves a black mark for renaming his City church Allhallows, Barking-by-the-Tower. Where is this modern alteration of the names of historical churches to end?

WALTER G. BELL.

---

A BANKING CENTENARY.—London has a long and honoured history as the centre of the banking world, and Barclay's Bank has its distinguished place amongst banks. The story of banking has been written from many angles, and most of the individual concerns, which have now been concentrated in the "Big Five," have found their chronicler. Here is a variation from the normal theme, and a very excellent story is told of one hundred years of expansion overseas. The text, which is printed at the beginning of the volume, is ample justification for its publication, and is quoted from Robertson's *Historical Disquisition on India*. It is a satisfactory reply to the historians of the blood and battle school. "It is a cruel mortification, in searching for what is instructive in the history of past times, to find that the exploits of conquerors who have desolated the earth, and the freaks of tyrants who have rendered nations unhappy, are recorded with minute and often disgusting accuracy, while the discovery of useful arts and the progress of the most beneficial branches of



[By courtesy of "The Times"]  
FOUNDATION STONE OF WATERLOO BRIDGE.

commerce are passed over in silence and suffered to sink into oblivion."

Not long after the passing of the first Reform Bill and the culmination of the work of Wilberforce in the abolition of slavery throughout the British Empire, a charter was granted to the Colonial Bank by King William IV on 1st June, 1836. This bank was to deal with the West Indies and British Guiana, and after nearly a century of progress it changed its name to Barclay's Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas).

Some of the romance which used to characterise London business in the days of Sebastian Cabot and Hawkins, or later in the days of Pett and Pepys, is recalled in these pages. Perhaps the most interesting features of the book from the point of view of a London antiquarian are a bill of exchange dated 1750, drawn on James Barclay, and having on the back the signature of George Washington; and a picture of the old bank garden in Bishopsgate—a little oasis in the wilderness of office buildings—one of the few that remain in the city of London.

---

STRAND OR WATERLOO BRIDGE.—The work of laying the foundations of the new Waterloo Bridge is progressing, and the piers are nearly complete. Some of the implements used in laying one pier are then transferred to another, and where the four piers are completed as well as the two abutments north and south it will then be time to commence the five arches which are to span the river. About 350 workmen are busy on the new bridge, and, as the work is taking shape, the Highways Committee of the L.C.C. are considering the question of a foundation stone. If they decide to lay one, no doubt coins of the present king will be concealed beneath it, as was done when the bridge was first built.

Quite recently the original foundation stone was discovered in the south abutment of the bridge, indicating that the construction of the first bridge started

that side. The stone is a block of granite, 2ft. by 6 ft. by 1ft. 9 in., and it was found "in the top of the bottom foundation course about twelve feet from its front face, and approximately on the centre line of the abutment. Let into the stone was a lead plate, 12 in. by 9 in., with the following inscription:—This Foundation Stone of the Strand Bridge was laid on Friday the 11th day of October, 1811, by the Committee of Directors for executing the same, Henry Swann, Esq., M.P., Chairman, in the Fifty-first Year of the Reign of King George the Third, and during the Regency of H.R.H. George Prince of Wales. The Money for building of which was raised by Subscription under the Authority of an Act of Parliament.—John Rennie, Engineer."

It was intended to call the bridge the Strand Bridge, and it was a Strand Bridge Company that secured an Act of June, 1809. But, in 1816, the name was changed to Waterloo in consequence of the Duke of Wellington's victory in the previous June. The opening took place on 18th June, 1817, exactly two days after the battle.

Under the plate was found a glass container, with thirteen coins, each carefully wrapped in waxed linen. The coins were a farthing, halfpenny and penny and twopenny piece in bronze; and one penny, sixpence, one shilling, eighteenpence, three shilling piece and crown in silver; five shillings, ten shillings and one guinea in gold. It is suggested that the penny in silver is part of the Maundy money used at Westminster Abbey in 1800.

Inside the glass container, which was unfortunately broken, was a circular piece of parchment, which can be seen with accompanying plate, kindly lent for reproduction by the courtesy of the *Times*.

The inscription is on both sides and runs:—"1811: Directors of the Strand Bridge, Henry Swann, Esq., M.P., Alexander Anderson, Abrm. Bracebridge," on the obverse; while on the reverse:—"Bery, Bracknell, Willm. Chalklen, John Duddell, John Kingston, M.P., Henry Lawson, Sir Willm. Rawlins, Knt., Willm. Rayley, Revd. John Rush, Valentine Rutter, 1811."

N.G.B.-J.