

CHARING CROSS TO THE CITY.

**ROUTE VIII.—THE STRAND—COVENT GARDEN—ALDWYCH AND KINGSWAY
—WATERLOO BRIDGE—THE VICTORIA EMBANKMENT—TEMPLE BAR
—LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS—THE TEMPLE—FLEET STREET—LUDGATE
CIRCUS.**

TURNING this time citywards, let us follow the Strand and Fleet Street, a line of thoroughfare surpassing even Oxford Street in the volume of traffic constantly passing between west and east. The latter part of the route, after passing Temple Bar, is within the City, and therefore outside the strict limits of this section of the Guide, but it will be better for purposes of continuity to regard Farringdon Street as the boundary.

The Strand.

Plan III. K. and L. 8.

Nearest Stations.—Western end, Trafalgar Square (Bakerloo Tube); Strand (Hampstead Tube); Charing Cross (S.E. & C. terminus); Charing Cross (District). Eastern end, Aldwych (Piccadilly Tube); Temple (District Railway).

With its medley of hotels, playhouses and shops, the Strand is one of the most famous thoroughfares in Europe, but sadly lacking in architectural dignity. Its interest is far indeed from being confined to the buildings. The intelligent visitor has only to pause in any doorway to take stock of the crowds of all ranks, ages, conditions and nationalities that surge by, to have an epitome not merely of metropolitan life but of the life of the world. This was especially so during the War, when Australians, New Zealanders, Canadians, Americans and South Africans, to say nothing of British troops on leave, jostled elbows unceasingly along its entire length.

In Elizabethan times, and long afterwards, the Strand was bordered by aristocratic mansions, with gardens extending down to the riverside. The names still survive in such streets as Burleigh Street, Villiers Street, Bedford Street, Southampton Street, etc. Indeed, there is hardly a street in the neighbourhood of the Strand the name of which would be sought unsuccessfully in the British peerage. From Charing Cross to Temple Bar, where the famous griffin marks at once the commencement of the City and of Fleet Street, the Strand is almost exactly seven-eighths of a mile long.

Northumberland Avenue we have already dealt with (p. 62). **Charing Cross Station** (South-Eastern and Chatham section of the Southern Railway) has in its courtyard a replica of the old Charing Cross (p. 60). In the forecourt, too, is an entrance to the Strand station of the Hampstead Tube. The present premises of *Coutts' Bank* (*National Provincial and Union*), across the road, occupy the site of the old Lowther Arcade, or "toyland," long the joy of children. At the back, in King William Street, is the **Charing Cross Hospital**.

To the south, between the Strand and the river, lies the quarter known as **The Adelphi**, built by the brothers Adam in 1768-70, and threatened with "reconstruction." **Adelphi Terrace**, commanding a delightful view over the Victoria Gardens and Embankment, is one of their finest works. David Garrick died at No. 5 in 1779; No. 7 is the **Savage Club**. The dark arches of the Adelphi, which had so weird a fascination for David Copperfield, can still be seen. In John Street is the **Royal Society of Arts**, established in 1754 for the encouragement of arts, manufactures and commerce. Next door is the **Little Theatre**.

On the north side of the Strand, opposite Adam Street, is the **Adelphi Theatre**, long famous for melodrama, and just beyond is the **Vaudeville**. **New Zealand House** is a fine block, housing the High Commissioner for New Zealand and his staff. On the site opposite, long occupied by the old Tivoli, and during the War by the Beaver Hut belonging to the Canadian Y.M.C.A., is being erected a huge new house of amusement. Farther along is the **Hôtel Cecil**, extending from the Embankment to the Strand, and occupying an area of $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres. There are thirteen floors and upwards of a thousand apartments. Next door is the **Savoy Hotel**, also extending from the Strand to the Embankment. It has a cream-white façade and sculptured panels. In the east block is the rebuilt *Simpson's Restaurant*, founded in 1848 and reopened in 1904, making a speciality of English food cooked in the English style. The **Savoy Theatre** was long identified with the burlesque operas of Sir W. S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan. The **Savoy Chapel Royal**, restored at the expense of Queen Victoria after a fire in 1864, stands on part of the site of the ancient Palace of the Savoy, given by Henry III. to his uncle Peter, Earl of Savoy. It afterwards passed to John of Gaunt. King John of France, the captive of Poitiers, died here in 1364, and the Palace is believed to have been the scene of Chaucer's marriage. The palace was burnt down in the reign of Richard II. by Wat Tyler. Henry VII. in the year 1505 built a hospital

on the site, and the church we see to-day was the chapel. It was made a Chapel Royal by George III. Opposite the Savoy Hotel, on the site long occupied by Exeter Hall, is the *Strand Palace Hotel and Restaurant*.

Either of the thoroughfares running northward from the Strand would bring us in a few minutes to **Covent Garden Market** (Plan III. K. 8), the chief market in London for fruit, vegetables and flowers. It was for centuries the property of the Dukes of Bedford, but was sold, with the adjoining estate, in 1913. It takes its name from the fact that it was of old the Convent Garden of St. Peter's, Westminster (the Abbey). After that Convent was, with so many others, disestablished and disendowed, the site remained vacant, and in course of time stalls were erected for the sale of vegetables against the wall of the garden of Bedford House, in the Strand. In 1631 the Earl of Bedford built around it the quadrangle (about three acres in extent); and the Piazza, designed by Inigo Jones, was long the favourite lounging place of fashionable men about town. The market buildings were erected in 1831, but have been much extended and improved in recent years. The central avenue is lined with shops in some of which fruits and flowers are displayed for retail sale. About 6 a.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, when the wholesale market is in full swing, a very animated scene may be witnessed. The Piazza and the taverns connected with it were conspicuous in the social, literary and dramatic history of the eighteenth century. On the western side of the market is **St. Paul's Church**, built by Inigo Jones in 1633. In the churchyard were buried Samuel Butler, the author of *Hudibras*; Sir Peter Lely, who painted the portraits of so many frail beauties of the Stuart Court; Wycherley, the dramatist; Dr. Arne, the composer of "Rule Britannia"; Grinling Gibbons, the wood carver; Charles Macklin, the actor; and John Wolcot ("Peter Pindar"). Nor must mention be omitted of the heroic vicar (the Rev. E. H. Mosse), who perished during an air-raid early in 1918, while bravely assisting his parishioners. At 43, King Street, is the **National Sporting Club**.

Running parallel with the Strand, between Bedford Street and Southampton Street, is **Maiden Lane**, a narrow street in which Voltaire lodged, and where Andrew Marvell was living when he refused Charles II.'s bribe of £1,000 to support the then Government. J. M. W. Turner, the great landscape painter, was born at No. 20, his father being a hairdresser. *Rule's Oyster House*, on the north side, is a favourite haunt of theatrical and literary people, and has many interesting old play-bills, portraits, caricatures, etc. At 27, Southampton Street (tablet), David Garrick lived from 1750-1772, prior to his removal to Adelphi Terrace. In Garrick Street, on the north-west side of the market, is the **Garrick Club**, possessing a valuable collection of portraits of famous actors. This street leads

into **Long Acre**, one of the principal centres of the motor-car industry. The labyrinth of streets hereabouts is rather confusing to strangers; we are in the neighbourhood of the notorious **Seven Dials**, at one time the haunt of the most disreputable of London's residuum, and even now none too savoury. **Long Acre** runs in a north-easterly direction, and after crossing **Drury Lane** is continued as **Great Queen Street** to **Kingsway**. In **Great Queen Street** are the **Freemasons' Hall**, where the chief meetings of the "Craft" are held, and the **Kingsway Theatre**. **Sheridan** probably wrote *The School for Scandal* while at No. 55, on the south side. In **Drury Lane** we have the famous and historic **Drury Lane Theatre** (Plan III. L. 8—main entrance in **Catherine Street**), the painted pillars of its colonnade well calculated to put waiting "pittites" in a mood to appreciate the spectacular glories within. This is the fourth theatre on the site; it was reconstructed internally, 1922. It will seat 2,500 persons. In **Bow Street** is the **Royal Opera House**, the scene of state performances and fancy dress balls. The house was rebuilt after a fire in 1858. **Bow Street** will always be associated with the famous "Bow Street runners"; and with **Fielding**, the novelist, and his brother, **Sir John Fielding**, the blind magistrate. The house they occupied was burnt during the **Gordon riots** in 1780. In **Wellington Street**, by which we can return to the **Strand**, is the **Lyceum Theatre**, so long associated with the late **Sir Henry Irving** and **Miss Ellen Terry**. The old building, with the exception of the portico, was pulled down in 1904, and replaced by a structure which will seat over 3,000 persons.

We have now reached the western horn of **Aldwych**.

Kingsway and Aldwych.

Plan II. L. 7 and III. L. 8.

Stations.—North end, **Holborn** (Piccadilly Tube), **British Museum** (Central London Tube); south end, **Aldwych** (Piccadilly Tube), **Temple** (District Railway).

Tramway, with underground stations at **Holborn** and **Aldwych**, runs beneath **Kingsway** and the western horn of **Aldwych** to the **Victoria Embankment** at **Waterloo Bridge**, thus linking the **North London tram-lines** with those of **South London**.

These spacious thoroughfares, constructed by the **London County Council**, were opened by **Edward VII.** and **Queen Alexandra** on the 18th **October, 1905**. The purpose of this great improvement—the largest and most important since the construction of **Regent Street** in 1820—was to provide direct communication between **North** and **South London**.

Kingsway, lined almost throughout with tall and stately blocks of offices—among them some of the finest in **London**—starts from the junction of **Theobald's Road** with **Southampton Row**, and after crossing **Holborn** proceeds southward in a straight line for a third of a mile and then forms a crescent, known as **Aldwych**, the western horn of which debouches into the **Strand** almost opposite **Waterloo Bridge**, while the eastern horn enters the **Strand** at **St. Clement Danes Church**. The complete thoroughfare is just over three-quarters

of a mile in length, with a width of 100 ft. throughout. The view southward is closed by the imposing portico of the great new block which dominates Aldwych. Beneath the western horn of Aldwych and the whole length of Kingsway runs a shallow Tramway, emerging at the northern end near Theobald's Road. The southern end of the subway emerges at the foot of Waterloo Bridge, where a connection is formed with the Embankment and South London tramways.

A notable feature of Kingsway is the rebuilt **Church of St. Anselm and St. Cecilia**, a Roman Catholic fane opened in 1909 to replace the historic Sardinian Chapel, which stood near by. Another rebuilt edifice, on the opposite side of the road, is **Holy Trinity Church**, the successor of a building dating from 1831, which was undermined by the Tube railways and had to be condemned as unsafe. On the eastern side of Kingsway is the *London Opera House*, erected by Mr. Oscar Hammerstein of New York, at a cost of £200,000, and opened in 1911. Failing in its original purpose, it has become a popular picture theatre. The house will seat 2,600 people. In the large block to the south are the headquarters of the **Royal Air Force**. Meteorological charts are displayed giving indications of coming weather. At the corner of Sardinia Street is a huge ten-storied block serving as the **Offices of the Public Trustee**.

On the west side of Kingsway is **Wesley House**, the head-quarters of the West London Mission, founded by the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes in connection with the Wesleyan Methodist body. **Kingsway Hall** is used for concerts and lectures.

At the western end of Aldwych is the **Gaiety Theatre**, opened in 1903, in a massive style of architecture which the wits declare is quite aggressively "*Newgatey*." Adjoining is a large block in the Florentine style, designed as a restaurant but now the head-quarters of the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co., from which are "broadcasted" temporarily stories and concerts for the benefit of thousands of "listeners-in." (L.O. 2.) On the site adjoining, with its main frontage to the foot of Kingsway, is a huge block of offices and shops, intended for the display of products of British and American industry. In Aldwych are two magnificent playhouses, the **Aldwych Theatre** and the **Strand Theatre**. Between them is the *Waldorf Hotel*. Aldwych owes its name to the fact that the district was in Saxon times the site of a Danish settlement. At the eastern end of Aldwych is **Australia House**, an imposing building in Doric classical style erected by the Commonwealth to serve as offices for the various States. The foundation-stone was laid in 1913, and the formal opening took place in 1918, both ceremonies being performed by the King. The colonnaded building is so well proportioned that at a first glance its hugeness is

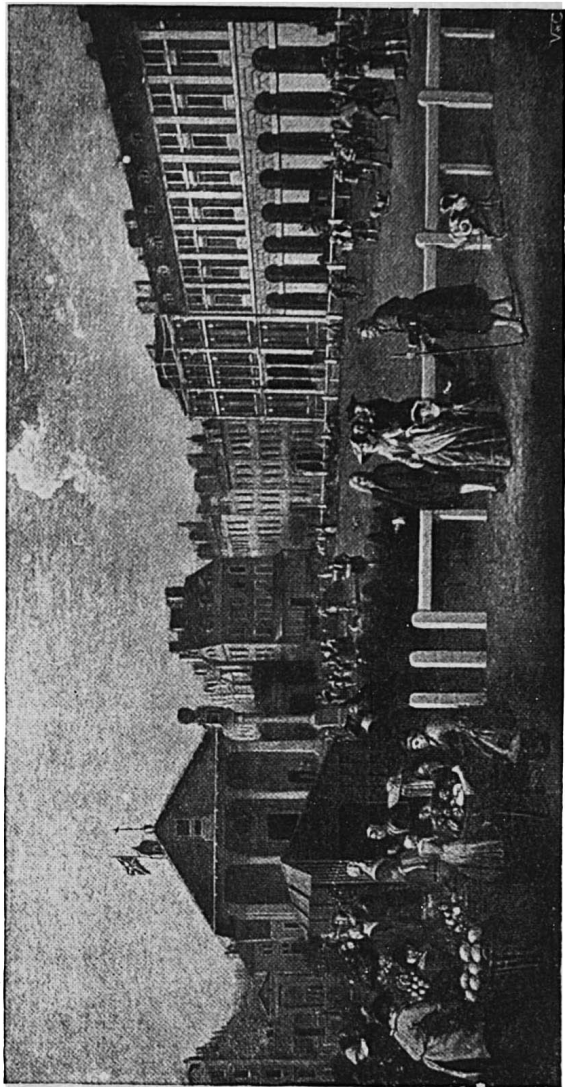
scarcely apparent. The statuary groups over the entrance represent a shearer and a reaper below a female figure symbolical of peace and prosperity. The group on the left shows a dying explorer and his comrade surmounted by a figure typifying the "Awakening of Australia." There are ten floors. The lofty entrance hall and the library and conference room on the first floor are the chief interior features. Much of the stone and woodwork is Australian, as are also the beautiful marble pillars. The site cost nearly £400,000 and the total cost amounted to nearly £1,000,000.

St. Mary-le-Strand Church was built by Gibbs in 1717. Its Ionic portico, upper Corinthian story and graceful steeple form an edifice worthy of its prominent island site. Thomas à Becket was for a time rector of this parish. For the neighbouring fane of **St. Clement Danes**, see p. 179.

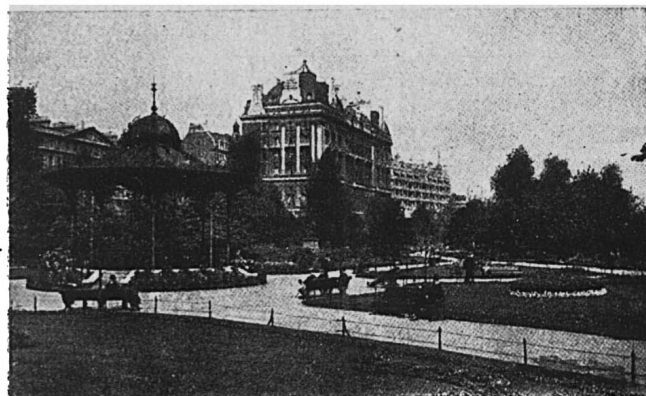
On the south side of the Strand is the dignified façade of **Somerset House**, occupying the site of the palace begun in 1547 by the Protector Somerset, who, however, did not live to see its completion, the headsman of Tower Hill abruptly closing his career.

The proud and unscrupulous Duke provided some of the materials by pulling down the cloisters of St. Paul's, with the charnel-house and chapel, flinging the bones to rot in what is now the Bunhill (Bonehill) Fields Cemetery (p. 212). After Somerset's death the palace became royal property. Inigo Jones, the great architect, died here in 1652. Towards the end of the eighteenth century it was decided to rebuild and appropriate it to public uses, Sir William Chambers being the architect employed. The south and principal front, 780 ft. long, presents a noble façade in the Palladian style, with a terrace which, before the construction of the Embankment, was lapped by the waters of the Thames. The eastern wing was added in 1828, and the western wing, with frontage to Wellington Street, in 1854-6. The *Audit Office*, the *Inland Revenue Office* (west wing), whence stamps are issued and where taxes are paid, the *Probate Registry*, where wills are kept and may be inspected for a small fee, and the *Office of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages*, are located in the building. Visitors are allowed to read copies of wills not less than 100 years old, but a small charge is made for the inspection of wills of a later date.

The east wing of Somerset House is occupied by **King's College**, founded in 1828, and now affiliated to London University. There are several large halls and a number of laboratories and class rooms. Close at hand is the *Aldwych Station* of the Great Northern and Piccadilly Tube Railway. The line between the



COVENT GARDEN MARKET, WITH ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.
(From the painting by B. Nebol in the London Museum.)



Photos by [Levy, Sons & Co.
COVENT GARDEN—SOMERSET HOUSE—EMBANKMENT GARDENS.
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Aldwych and Holborn stations is a spur from the main line, and it is always necessary to change at Holborn.

The southern part of Wellington Street would bring us in a few yards to **Waterloo Bridge** (Plan III. L. 8), considered by Cànova the finest bridge in Europe. It has nine arches, each of 120 ft. span, with granite buttresses 20 ft. thick. The bridge is 42 ft. wide and 1,380 ft. long. It cost upwards of a million pounds. The view up and down the river from this point is very fine. Below the bridge is the tunnel by which trams pass to Aldwych and North London.

The designer of the Bridge was *John Rennie*, who was also responsible for Southwark Bridge, the Plymouth Breakwater, and many other great works. His residence at 18, Stamford Street, near the Surrey approach to Waterloo Bridge, is distinguished by a tablet. His grave is in St. Paul's, next to that of Sir Christopher Wren.

By descending the stone steps we can reach the **Victoria Embankment**, and make acquaintance with one or two features of necessity overlooked in our journey eastward by way of the Strand. An arch just below the bridge marks the beginning of the subway under Aldwych and Kingsway which links the tramway systems north and south of the Thames. The more than palatial proportions of the *Hôtel Cecil* and the *Savoy* are better appreciated from this side. Next to the latter is the **Institute of Electrical Engineers**. These huge hotels overlook the **Embankment Gardens**, one of the sunniest and most delightful spots in London. The Gardens contain statues of *Burns*, *Fawcett*, the blind Postmaster-General; *Robert Raikes*, the founder of Sunday Schools; and *Sir Wilfred Lawson*, the temperance reformer. On a pedestal of the Embankment is a bronze replica of the memorial to *Sir Walter Besant* in St. Paul's Cathedral. A recent addition is the **Camel Corps Memorial**. Indisputable evidence of the fact that all this "good dry land" has been filched from the river is afforded by the presence at the foot of Buckingham Street of the beautiful **York Water Gate**, designed by Inigo Jones for York House, the seat of the first Duke of Buckingham, and the birthplace of Bacon (1561). The last house on the west side of Buckingham Street, immediately behind the Water Gate, has been the residence of no fewer than four notabilities: Samuel Pepys, Robert Harley (Earl of Oxford), William Etty, the painter, and Clarkson Standfield, the painter.

The river is here spanned by the **Charing Cross Railway Bridge**, which has a separate footway for pedestrians. The bridge superseded the Hungerford Suspension Bridge, the

ironwork of which was utilized for the lofty Suspension Bridge now spanning the Avon at Clifton. Near here stood the blacking factory at which Dickens worked in boyhood.

We can return to Waterloo Bridge along the Embankment, noting as we go that famous Egyptian obelisk known as **Cleopatra's Needle**, brought to this country in 1878 at a cost of £10,000, which was defrayed by Sir Erasmus Wilson.

This and the companion monolith now in New York originally stood before the great temple of Heliopolis. The "Needle," of red granite, is 68½ ft. high, and weighs 180 tons. The inscriptions relate its history. While the obelisk was being towed to England the steamer had to abandon it on account of bad weather, but it was subsequently recovered. At the foot are two large bronze sphinxes (perforated, it will be noted, by fragments from an aerial bomb).

Across the broad roadway is the **Belgian Monument**, commemorating the hospitality shown by people of this country to Belgians during the War. The fine group of statuary in bronze was designed by *M. Rousseau*; for the dignified background *Sir R. Blomfield, R.A.*, was responsible.

Passing under Waterloo Bridge we note the fine river front of Somerset House (p. 176) and reach another of the series of Embankment Gardens. Here is the *Temple Station* of the District Railway. To the east is the tasteful building originally designed by the late J. L. Pearson, for use as the Astor Estate Office. It is surmounted by a gilded caravel. In the Gardens are statues of *John Stuart Mill*, *Isambard Brunel*, the engineer, *Sir Arthur Sullivan*, the composer, *W. E. Forster*, the statesman mainly responsible for the establishment of School Boards, and another commemorative of the temperance work achieved by Lady Henry Somerset. At the east entrance are two finely executed bronze figures, the *Wrestlers*. On the Embankment is a *Memorial of W. T. Stead*, the famous journalist, who lost his life in the *Titanic*. Farther east is a bronze memorial to the officers and men of the **Submarine Service** who lost their lives in the War. The western boundary of the City is marked by a **Tablet**, with medallion of Queen Victoria, commemorating Her Majesty's last visit to the City. Nearly opposite is moored **H.M.S. President**, the headquarters of the London Division of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. Though small, it has the longest pay list in the Navy, as the names of officers serving at the Admiralty or engaged on special service at home or abroad are borne on its books. To the east, high railings enclose the pleasant **Temple Gardens** (p. 186), but on our present round we will return to the Strand by one of the streets northward, or by the steps at the foot of Essex Street.

At No. 5, Strand Lane, a narrow passage near King's College, is a genuine antiquity, the **Roman Bath**, one of the few relics of the Roman period in London. It has a continual flow of spring water and is about 13 ft. long, 6 ft. wide, and 5 ft. deep. *The Bath may be seen daily between 10 and 5 ; 6d. When closed apply at St. Clement Danes Church.*

We shall regain the Strand close to **St. Clement Danes Church**, at the eastern termination of the crescent-shaped Aldwych. The church was erected in 1681, from the designs of Wren, on the site of a much earlier building, traditionally said to have been the burial-place of Harold Harefoot and other members of the Danish colony settled here in Saxon times. The tower, 116 ft. high, was added by Gibbs in 1719. It contains the famous old peal (restored in 1919) mentioned in the nursery rhyme : "Oranges and Lemons, said the bells of St. Clements."

Outside the east end of the church is a bronze **Statue of Dr. Johnson**, unveiled in 1910. Johnson regularly attended service at St. Clement Danes, his pew in the north gallery being indicated by a brass plate. He is further commemorated by a memorial window, as is also Queen Victoria.

At the western end of the Church is the **Gladstone Memorial**, of bronze, designed by *Hamo Thornycroft, R.A.* The great statesman is shown robed as Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Here the eastern horn of Aldwych (p. 175) turns northward, overlooked by imposing blocks of offices and by **Australia House** (see p. 175). In Houghton Street is the entrance to the fine new buildings of the **London School of Economics**, which continues to occupy also the Passmore Edwards' Hall in Portugal Street. The School is a branch of London University and the new building is used in connection with the recently instituted degree in Commerce. Between Aldwych and the Law Courts stands what is left of **Clement's Inn**, an ancient Inn of Chancery in the garden of which Falstaff and Shallow "heard the chimes at midnight."

The Royal Courts of Justice.

Plan II. L. 7.

Nearest Stations.—Aldwych (Piccadilly Tube) and Temple (District Railway).

The Royal Courts of Justice, generally called the "Law Courts," have an arcaded frontage to the Strand of 500 ft., and extend back to Carey Street, the level of which is 17 ft. higher than that of the Strand. The style is what is known as Monastic Gothic, and the building, exclusive of site, cost little short of a million pounds, most of which was provided out of unclaimed funds in Chancery. The principal entrance,

facing the Strand, has a fine recessed archway, flanked by towers in which are the entrances to the public galleries of the various Courts. There are nineteen of these, serving the King's Bench, the Chancery, and the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Divisions and the Court of Appeal. These, however, proved insufficient, and four new courts were erected in 1911-13 at a cost of about £100,000. The Courts are entered by way of the mosaic-paved *Central Hall*, which is 138 ft. long and 80 ft. high, and has a fine rose window in the gable. A notable feature is the white marble *Statue of Lord Russell of Killowen*, and there are busts of other famous judges. On the south wall hangs a large oil painting, by *H. T. Wells, R.A.*, depicting the opening of the Law Courts by Queen Victoria in December, 1882. Only barristers and solicitors and persons connected with the cases are allowed in the body of the Courts and in the Central Hall, but anyone may ascend the steps in the towers and take a seat in the public galleries. The Central Hall is shown to the public during vacations. The Judges' entrance is at the back, in Carey Street.

On the west side is a pleasant stretch of greensward, thrown open in the daytime, along which we may pass to the steps leading up to *Carey Street*, where is the *Bankruptcy Court*, with which no reader will desire to be too closely acquainted. Next to it is an extensive site for many years used as King's College Hospital, an institution removed in 1913 to Denmark Hill, in the south of London. Beyond, we have an unattractive back view of the Royal College of Surgeons, which institution can be better seen by passing through Portsmouth Street, with its fictitious "Old Curiosity Shop," to *Lincoln's Inn Fields* (Plan II. L. 7), a public open space of 12 acres, the magnificent plane trees of which afford grateful shade on a summer day. (Hard tennis courts, 1s. 6d. per hour; bookable three days in advance.) The gardens were laid out by Inigo Jones early in the seventeenth century, and were long a noted resort of duellists. Lord William Russell was executed here in 1683. A tablet under the summer-house, or bandstand, in the centre marks the spot, but according to the late Sir G. L. Gomme it is inaccurately placed. Most of the houses are now occupied by solicitors, but at one time this was the most fashionable place of residence in London, and several of the existing mansions were built for members of the nobility.

On the south side is the *Royal College of Surgeons*, erected in 1835 from the designs of Barry. It contains the museum of anatomy founded by John Hunter, the famous surgeon, who died in 1793. (*Visitors are admitted on the personal introduction or written order of a member, or on application to the secretary,* on

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10 and 4 in winter, and 10 and 5 in summer. The Museum is closed during September.) The collection, which has been greatly augmented since Hunter's death, occupies five large rooms, and is one of the most remarkable in the world. Some of the exhibits are decidedly gruesome. In the large room are contrasted the skeleton of Byrne, the Irish giant, 7 ft. 7 in. high, and that of Caroline Crachami, who died when ten years of age, having attained the height of only 20 in. There are numerous skeletons of animals, and cases illustrating nearly all the dreadful ills that flesh is heir to. The library contains 50,000 volumes. East of the College are the **College of Estate Management** and the **Land Registry**.

On the north side of Lincoln's Inn Fields, at No. 13, is **Sir John Soane's Museum** (Plan II. L. 7), *open free from 10.30 to 5 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from March to August inclusive. Also Thursdays and Fridays in October from 10.30 to 5, November 10.30 to 4. Cards for private days for the remainder of the year and for students may be obtained on application to the Curator. Catalogues 1s. and 6d.*

The Museum contains the fine collection of books, manuscripts, and Egyptian and Oriental antiquities formed by Sir John Soane, the architect who designed the Bank of England and who commenced life as a mason's son. One of the most important features is the alabaster sarcophagus, found in 1817, of Seti I. (1350 B.C.), the father of Rameses the Great. Much has been heard of this since the discovery in 1923 of the treasures of the tomb of Tutankhamen created world-wide interest in Egyptology. The collection of pictures, statuary, etc., includes the eight originals of Hogarth's *Rake's Progress*, and works by Reynolds, Turner, Canaletto, Watteau, etc. This interesting collection should certainly be seen.

Opposite, and within the gardens, is a memorial seat to *Margaret Macdonald* (d. 1911)—one of the few London memorials to women other than queens.

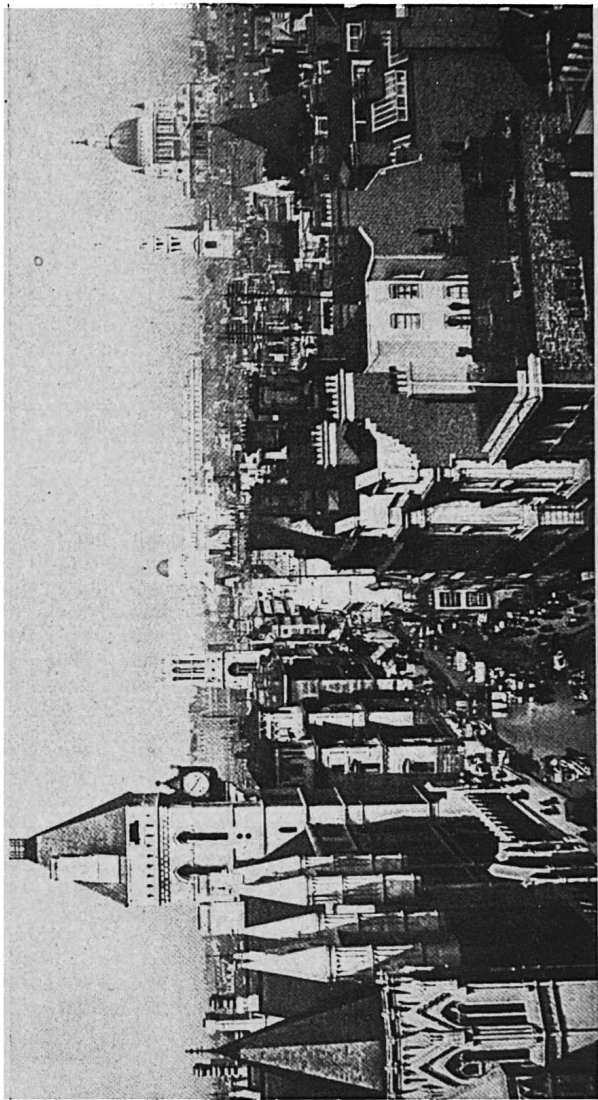
To the east of the square is **Lincoln's Inn** (Plan II. L. 7), another of the four great Inns of Court. The others are Gray's Inn, Holborn (p. 152), and the Inner and the Middle Temple (p. 184). These four corporations, governed by Benchers, alone have the power of "calling to the bar." Prior to the erection of the present Law Courts, the Court of Chancery held its sittings here. Entering by the picturesque gateway from Lincoln's Inn Fields, we see first the **Hall and Library** of red brick, built in 1845. In the Hall is a large fresco,

entitled "A School of Jurisprudence," executed gratuitously by the late G. F. Watts. It is, unfortunately, decaying rapidly, and a smaller replica has according been made for preservation in the Bar Library at the Law Courts. Another notable painting is Hogarth's "Paul before Felix." The library, founded in 1497, is the largest and finest law library in London, containing over 70,000 volumes, and a number of valuable MSS. bequeathed by Sir Matthew Hale and others. Crossing the pleasant gardens (note the fine wrought-iron gates), we come to the **Chapel**, erected from the designs of Inigo Jones in 1623, and containing some good stained-glass windows and wood carvings. The Gatehouse opening on to Chancery Lane was built in 1518 by Sir Thomas Lovell, whose arms appear above, together with those of Henry VIII. and Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln. The gateway was restored in 1899. Close to the gateway, a tablet on the wall of No. 24, Old Square, recalls the fact that John Thurloe, Cromwell's Secretary of State, resided there.

Chancery Lane (Plan II. L. 7), a far too narrow thoroughfare connecting Fleet Street with Holborn, contains several features of interest. The upper part of the western side is occupied by the somewhat dingy offices of Lincoln's Inn. Near the Fleet Street end is the **Law Society's Institution**, built in 1830; the northern wing was added in 1904. The fine Tudor building on the opposite side of the Lane is the **Public Record Office**. (*The public are freely admitted to the Museum containing the more famous treasures, between 2 and 4 p.m. daily, except Saturdays and Sundays. Search rooms open 10 to 4.30; Saturdays 10 to 2.*) Here are stored in fire-proof rooms the state papers and records formerly kept in the Chapter House of Westminster Abbey, the Rolls Chapel, and other places. Documents prior to 1801 and records of Government departments may be inspected gratis by holders of students' tickets; for others there is a small search fee. The collection includes among other interesting MSS. the original volumes and ancient covers of *Domesday Book*, most of the documents connected with the "Gunpowder Plot," including the warning sent to Lord Mounteagle, and Wellington's report from the battle of Waterloo. The Museum occupies the site of the old Rolls Chapel; several monuments are still to be seen.

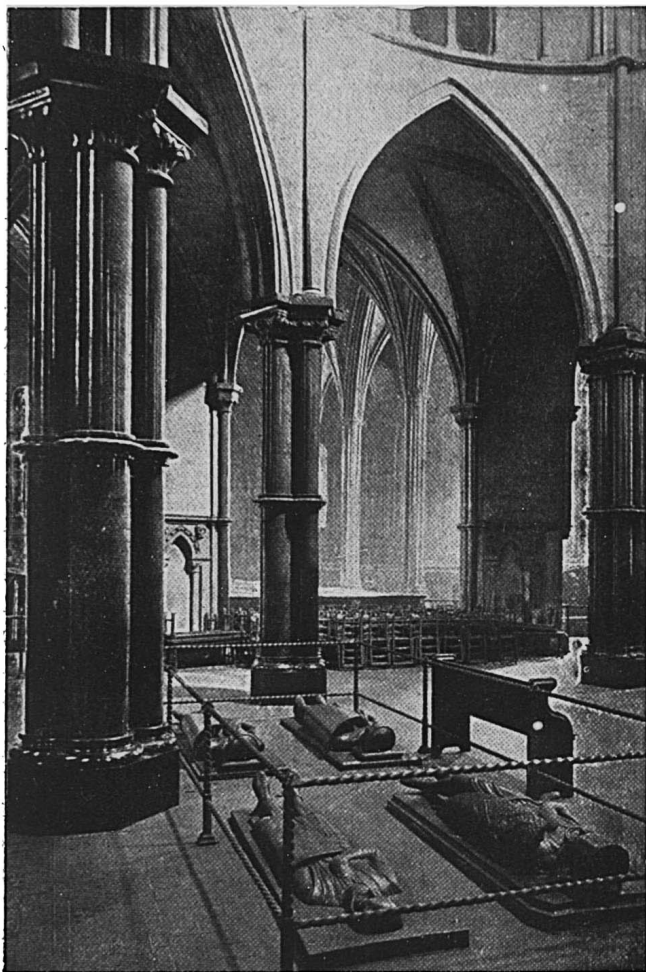
South of the Record Office is old-world **Clifford's Inn**, with its cobbled pavement and quaint corners. The Chancery Lane side of the Inn has been built over in recent years. The old Hall contains the Library and Museum of the *British Optical Association*.

To the north of the Record Office are Bream's Buildings, with several important newspaper offices, and the **Birkbeck College**, founded in 1824 as the Birkbeck Institute, the



Rotary Series.

VIEW EASTWARD FROM ST. CLEMENT DANES CHURCH.
Showing the Law Courts, St. Dunstan's and St. Bride's Churches, and St. Paul's Cathedral.



Photochrom Co., Ltd.,

THE TEMPLE CHURCH.

[*London.*

evening classes at which have been, and are, a priceless boon to thousands of busy City workers. Near the Holborn end of Chancery Lane, Southampton Buildings provide another entrance to Staple Inn (p. 154). Nearly opposite is the Patent Office, where inventions and trade marks are registered. The excellent library (over 100,000 vols.), rich in scientific works, journals, transactions, etc., both British and foreign, may be used by anyone on signing the visitors' book (10-5, Sats. 10-1). Fetter Lane (Plan II. M. 7), to the east, running approximately parallel with Chancery Lane, though hardly an inviting thoroughfare, has some interesting associations. It is variously said to derive its name from the *faiteurs*, or beggars, once infesting it, and a colony of *feutriers* (felt-makers or saddlers). Dryden and Otway, the poets, at one time lived here. The Moravian Chapel, opposite the Record Office and approached by a long passage, is more than 150 years old.

We regain our main line of route in Fleet Street, but it will be advisable to retrace our steps for a few yards to the spot opposite the Law Courts where a monument in the roadway marks the site of the old Temple Bar (Plan III. L. 8). This famous portal to the City, which callous Londoners allowed to be carted away to private grounds at Theobalds Park, Cheshunt, was built by Wren in 1670, and was long used for the exhibition of conspirators' and criminals' heads, notably those who were "out" in 1745. It had, however, more pleasing associations. As one writer well says:—

"The shadow of every monarch and popular hero since Charles II.'s time rested for at least a passing moment at the old gateway. Queen Anne passed here to return thanks at St. Paul's for the victory of Blenheim. Here Marlborough's coach ominously broke down in 1714, when he returned from his voluntary exile. George III. passed through Temple Bar, young and happy, the year after his coronation; and again, when old and almost broken-hearted, he returned thanks for his partial recovery from insanity; and that graceless son of his, the Prince Regent, came through the Bar in 1814, to thank God at St. Paul's for the downfall of Bonaparte. Queen Victoria sued for admission to the City at Temple Bar on November 9th, 1837, when she attended the Lord Mayor's banquet after her accession; and in 1844 her carriage again rested for a brief space at the gateway when she went to open the Royal Exchange. The Diamond Jubilee, in 1897, saw her here again."

In accordance with ancient custom, it is still the practice whenever the Sovereign visits the City in state for the Lord Mayor to receive him here, at Holborn Bars, or at the boundary on the Embankment (p. 178), and to tender the sword of state. The present ugly monument is usually known as the "Griffin," though, as a matter of heraldic fact, the supporters of the City

arms are dragons—held by some calumnious individuals to typify the rapacity of the citizens. Adjoining the Law Courts we have the *Branch Bank of England*, designed by Blomfield; while on the south side is *Child's Bank*, the successor of the building where the fair but frail Nell Gwynne kept her account, and which figured as "Tellson's" in Dickens' *Tale of Two Cities*. At the entrance to the Inner Temple is No. 17, Fleet Street, with a projecting upper storey. The house was built in 1610. On the first floor is a chamber known as **Prince Henry's Room**, open free week-days 10 to 5 April to September, and 10 to 4 during the rest of the year. It is believed to have been used as the Council Chamber of the Duchy of Cornwall. In view of the interest attached to the house, the London County Council, with the assistance of the Corporation, purchased the building in 1900, when it was on the point of demolition, and restored the premises at a total cost of £30,000.

The Temple

(Plan III. L. and M. 8)

is one of the most interesting places in London. Between busy Fleet Street and the broad Embankment are a venerable church, Gothic halls, piles of stately buildings, dull old quadrangles, spacious lawns, trees and flower gardens, and a shady nook where plays a little fountain in the midst of rockeries and flowers. The Temple has the flavour of a university town, mingled with associations of the old Crusading times and the literary history of the eighteenth century. "It is the most elegant spot in the metropolis," wrote Charles Lamb, who was born in Crown Office Row. "What a cheerful, liberal look hath that portion of it which, from three sides, overlooks the greater garden—that goodly pile 'of building strong, albeit of Paper height,' confronting, with massy contrast, the lighter, older, more fantastically shrouded one, named of Harcourt, with the cheerful Crown Office Row (place of my kindly engendure) right opposite the stately stream which washes the garden-foot with her yet scarcely trade-polluted waters . . . a man would give something to have been born in such places."

. In 1185 the Knights Templars, that remarkable Order which so successfully combined the priestly and the military characters, removed from Holborn to the banks of the Thames, and built the famous Church. After the abolition of the Order, in 1312, Edward II. gave the property to Aymer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, whose tomb may be seen in Westminster Abbey. On his death the knights of the rival Order of St. John of Jeru-

salem—the Hospitallers—became possessed of the property, and in 1346 leased it to the doctors and students of the law, who have ever since, with characteristic tenacity, retained it. In 1609 James I. abandoned his rights in favour of the corporations of the Inner and Middle Temple. The Inner Temple was so called to distinguish it from the Outer Temple, beyond the City boundary, the Middle Temple being between the two. The Outer Temple has long ceased to have any official recognition, though the name is still applied to a block of offices adjoining Temple Bar. The heraldic device of the Inner Temple is a winged horse (*Pegasus*), that of the Middle Temple the holy lamb (*Agnus Dei*). Wags have it that "the lamb sets forth the innocence; the horse the expedition of the lawyers."

The Temple Church.

Open daily, except Saturdays, 10.30 to 4.

Sunday Services at 11 and 3 (except Aug. and Sept.). The choir is reserved for members and their friends. The music is very fine.

There are two parts, the characteristic "Round Church" of the Templars, of which there are only four examples in this country, and the Early English Choir. The former, 58 ft. in diameter, was built by the Templars and consecrated by Heraclius, Patriarch of Jerusalem, in 1185. It is in the Transition-Norman style. The choir dates from 1240. The Norman porch, by which the church is entered, is much admired. The tiled pavement, with the oft-repeated emblems of the Temple, the painted ceiling and the nine tombs of Crusaders, with recumbent figures in full armour, are the chief features of the interior. Most of the stained-glass windows are modern. In the stair leading up to the circular triforium is a small penitential cell with slits through which the choir is seen. In this narrow prison disobedient Templars were confined; and there is a grim tradition that those who had broken their vows were here starved to death, while day by day the services of the church were chanted in their ears. Within the church are memorials of John Selden (1654) and Richard Hooker (1660), but far more interesting is the **Grave of Oliver Goldsmith** (1774), outside the church, to the north of the choir. Poor Noll wrote many of his best works and died at No. 2, Brick Court (second floor), marked by a memorial. His neighbour below (first floor) was Sir Wm. Blackstone, of the *Commentaries*. Thackeray also rented chambers for a time in the same block. The **Master's House**, close to the church, has had many distinguished occupants.

The **Inner Temple Hall** is a modern building (1870), designed by Smirke. Adjoining is the **Inner Temple Library**, a handsome Gothic building erected in 1862, and containing about 70,000 volumes, including the Petyt collection, bequeathed in 1707 by a former keeper of the Tower records.

Middle Temple Hall, in which the benchers and students dine, was built in 1572, and has a magnificent oak roof, richly carved, and a fine oak screen. Among several royal portraits is a replica of the equestrian figure of Charles I. by *Van Dyck*. On the dais at the end of the Hall, Shakespeare is believed to have acted in *Twelfth Night* early in 1602. The long table that stands here, made from an oak in Windsor Park, was the gift of Queen Elizabeth to the Benchers. Upon it she is said to have signed the death-warrant of Mary, Queen of Scots. The smaller table was constructed from the timbers of Drake's ship, *The Golden Hind*. When the Hall is not in use, visitors can gain access freely at reasonable hours by pulling the bell at the entrance.

The **Middle Temple Library** (50,000 vols.) is housed in a beautiful Gothic building nearer the river.

It is very restful to stroll for a while through the various courts and quadrangles, with their interesting associations. It was in **Fountain Court** that Ruth Pinch, of *Martin Chuzzlewit*, was accustomed to meet her brother Tom, "with the best little laugh upon her face that ever played in opposition to the fountain and beat it all to nothing." The old fountain familiar to Dickens was removed many years ago, and other alterations were made in 1919. Of the host of eminent names, legal and otherwise, associated with the Temple, we need only mention Raleigh, Pym, Ireton, Beaumont, Wycherley, Burke, Sheridan, Moore and Cowper. Dr. Johnson had rooms in Inner Temple Lane, the modern Johnson's Buildings marking the site; and Charles Lamb, as we have seen, was born in Crown Office Row.

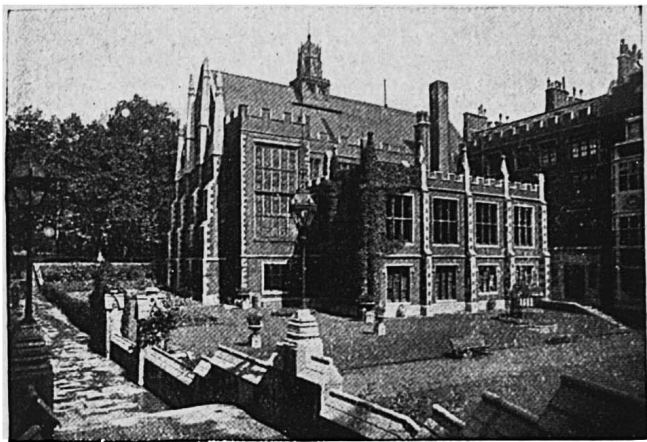
The pleasant **Temple Gardens**, formerly reaching right down to the river, but now separated from it by the Embankment, have been rendered immortal by Shakespeare in *Henry VI., Part I*, as the scene of the quarrel between Plantagenet and Somerset, when the white and red roses—those fatal emblems of civil war—were plucked and adopted as badges.

From the quiet of the Temple with its stately buildings and green lawns it is but a step to the bustle of—

Fleet Street,

(Plan II. L. and M. 7.)

famous the world over as the journalistic centre of London. In or near it are the offices of nearly all the great newspapers and periodicals, where hosts of busy toilers are at work both day and night. The name is, of course, derived from the old *Fleet River* (now debased to the rank of a common sewer) which flowed from Holborn and entered the Thames at Blackfriars. Readers of Pope's *Dunciad* will recall the not very pleasant references—



MIDDLE TEMPLE HALL.



Photo]

THE HALL, LINCOLN'S INN.

[H. N. King.



Photo-hrom Co., Ltd.,

THE CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT, OLD BAILEY.

[London.]



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

THE YORK WATER GATE.

[Dundee.]

"To where Fleet Ditch, with disemboгуing streams,
Rolls the large tribute of dead dogs to Thames."

and again—

"Sons of a day! just buoyant on the flood,
Then numbered with the puppies in the mud."

The street itself, owing to successive widenings, is almost entirely modern, but the explorer has only to turn into any of the quaintly-named courts and by-ways on either side to find an abundance of Queen Anne and Georgian houses.

On the north side is the well-known **St. Dunstan's Church**, erected 1831-3. Some monuments from the church which formerly occupied the site are preserved within, including a brass of 1530. Note the beautiful lantern tower, very similar to the famous Boston "Stump." The figure of Queen Elizabeth over the school door on the east side of the church formerly adorned the old Lud Gate at the foot of Ludgate Hill. The church was immortalized by Dickens in *The Chimes*, and is also interesting for its association with Izaak Walton, of *Compleat Angler* fame. A tablet, easily read from the street, informs all and sundry that "Walton resided for some years in Fleet Street, at the corner of Chancery Lane (west side), and, between 1652 and 1664, was overseer of the poor and a sidesman and vestryman of this parish." A stained-glass window was erected to his memory by the principal angling associations in 1895.

On the opposite side is *Gosling's Bank* (now Barclay and Co., Ltd.), the windows bearing the sign of the old "Three Squirrels," where Warren Hastings, Clive, Pope, Samuel Richardson, Camden, Ellenborough, Sir Philip Francis and many other famous men kept their accounts. The *Cock Tavern* displays as sign a gilded chanticleer, the original of which, carved by no less a hand than that of Grinling Gibbons, is preserved inside.

Fetter Lane has already been noticed (p. 183).

Crane Court, on the north side of Fleet Street, witnessed the first meetings of the Royal Society. In **Wine Office Court** is the celebrated *Old Cheshire Cheese*, always associated with Johnson and Goldsmith. American visitors in particular like to find their way to this quaint old hostelry—still with the pristine simplicity of wooden benches and sanded floor—to try its noted beef-steak puddings (Wednesdays). At No. 9 is the *City Women's Club*. A tablet on No. 17, **Gough Square**, beyond the head of the Court, marks the house where Johnson lived from 1748 to 1758, and where he toiled over his great Dictionary. The house has been carefully restored to its eighteenth-century condition, and may usually be inspected (10 to 4.30), together with

a number of MSS., autographs, first editions, etc., of great interest to Johnsonians. The Great Cham died in Bolt Court, hard by.

Whitefriars Street and Bouverie Street, now given over to printers and their myrmidons, lead down to the former Alsatia, so vividly described by Scott in *The Fortunes of Nigel*.

In Salisbury Square, Richardson, the father of the English novel, carried on his printing business; and here, as we may without immodesty remind the reader, is Warwick House, the headquarters of Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co., Limited, the publishers of this Guide and of a hundred and fifty similar volumes dealing with holiday resorts in this country and abroad, of the *Windsor Magazine*, Mrs. Beeton's cookery books, and numerous children's books and other works. In this Square, too, are the offices of the Church Missionary Society. Close at hand rises the steeple (223 ft. high) of St. Bride's Church (*open daily 12 to 3*), rebuilt by Wren in 1680—one of the finest specimens of the Italian style in England. In the central aisle is the flat tombstone of Samuel Richardson. Lovelace, the author of "Stone walls do not a prison make," and "I could not love thee, dear, so much, Loved I not honour more," was buried in the old church, destroyed during the Great Fire. Among the entries in the register of christenings is one recording the baptism of Samuel "the son of John Peapis and his wife Margaret," on 3rd March, 1632-3. It is now generally accepted that the infant was no other than Samuel Pepys of the immortal *Diary*, and that he first saw the light in a house close to the Church. In another house, now demolished, overlooking the churchyard, John Milton lived.

Bride Lane leads round the church to the St. Bride Foundation Institute, containing a general lending and reference library, free to persons resident or employed in the western portion of the City; a typographical reference library (the most complete in the kingdom); halls; baths, etc. A bust of Samuel Richardson, by Sir George Frampton, R.A., appropriately occupies a place of honour. To the south, Bridewell Lane recalls the old Bridewell, a palace (*vide* Shakespeare's *Henry VIII.*) presented by Edward VI. to the City authorities and afterwards used as a house of correction for recalcitrant City apprentices and other misdemeanants. Bridewell Hospital was afterwards united with Bethlem or "Bedlam." The boys' home in connection, known as King Edward's School, is at Witley, near Haslemere. The girls' school is at Southwark.

Any of the streets hereabouts would bring us down again to the Embankment, east of Temple Gardens. In this locality are a number of imposing buildings and blocks of offices; it

is almost another Fleet Street, so numerous are the newspaper and publishing premises. Overlooking the Embankment are several fine insurance offices, and the headquarters of the Asylums Board. Adjoining is **Slon College**, founded in 1630 and containing a library of over 110,000 volumes, especially rich in theological works. The **City of London School**, for boys, faces the river. In John Carpenter Street is the **Guildhall School of Music**, maintained by the Corporation of London to provide high-class musical instruction at moderate fees. There are about 140 professors and over 3,000 pupils. Close at hand, in Tudor Street, are the headquarters of the **Institute of Journalists**.

Blackfriars Bridge

is the widest in London. About 20,000 vehicles and nearly 60,000 pedestrians cross it every day.

Subways for pedestrians have been constructed beneath the roadways at this dangerous crossing. The bridge takes its name from the monastery of the Black Friars, founded early in the thirteenth century, on the north bank of the river. In 1450 Henry VI.'s Parliament assembled in the monastery, and three-quarters of a century later it was the scene of the court held by Wolsey and the Papal Legate to try the divorce case of Henry VIII. and Katherine of Aragon, a scene that lives for ever in the pages of Shakespeare's *Henry VIII*. On the other side of New Bridge Street is the *Blackfriars Station* of the District Railway, with the *St. Paul's Station* of the Southern (South-Eastern and Chatham,) Railway adjoining.

Turning northward up **New Bridge Street** past **Ludgate Hill Station**, we reach **Ludgate Circus** (Plan II. M. 7), at the eastern termination of Fleet Street and the foot of Ludgate Hill. A fine architectural opportunity was missed when this Circus was constructed, and people of taste have never ceased to deplore the indifference which permitted the railway bridge to be carried right across the only clear approach to St. Paul's Cathedral. **Farringdon Street**, leading northward to King's Cross, covers the old Fleet River (p. 186). On the east side, on a site partly occupied now by the Memorial Hall, stood for many generations the infamous **Fleet Prison** for debtors, rendered immortal by Dickens as the scene of the incarceration of Mr. Pickwick. Sir Walter Besant's *Chaplain of the Fleet* gives some vivid pictures of life in this foul den at another period. The **Memorial Hall**, long the head-quarters of the Congregational body, was built in 1874 in memory of the "fidelity to conscience" of the 2,000 ministers ejected from the Church in 1662 by the Act of Uniformity.