

Later the palace was occupied by Sir Christopher Hatton, Lord Keeper to Queen Elizabeth. Hatton Garden is the centre of the world's diamond trade, and also contains the London offices of many of the leading manufacturers of pottery. The only portion of the palace which escaped the Fire has been restored, and now forms **St. Etheldreda's Church**, Ely Place, the only pre-Reformation church in London that has been restored to the Roman Catholic worship. The building is two-storied, and both the Chapel itself and the Undercroft should be seen. The tracery of the east and west windows—the former said to be the largest east window in London, as it is certainly the most beautiful—the oak roof, and the cloister, in which fig-trees still flourish, make this quiet nook, in the heart of the great City, a place of exceptional interest.

ROUTE XI—THREADNEEDLE STREET—BISHOPSGATE—BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM—GEFFRYES' MUSEUM—LIVERPOOL STREET—BROAD STREET—THE STOCK EXCHANGE—LOTHBURY.

From the Bank we turn this time along the quaintly-named **Threadneedle Street**, skirting the northern side of the Royal Exchange. On the right, beyond Finch Lane, is **Merchant Taylors' Hall**, the largest of those belonging to the London Livery Companies. The Company, incorporated in 1327, has an income of £50,000 a year. The present hall, in which are royal portraits by Lawrence and others, dates from 1671, its predecessor having perished in the Great Fire, the crypt alone being spared. At the junction with Bishopsgate stands the chief office of the *National Provincial and Union Bank of England*, one of the finest modern buildings in London. **Bishopsgate**, taking its name from the old Bishop's Gate, is a continuation northward of Gracechurch Street.

Nearly opposite Threadneedle Street is the **Wesleyan Centenary Hall**. The *Bank of Scotland*, housed in a magnificent modern building, is a corporation only a year younger than the Bank of England.

Great St. Helen's gives access to **St. Helen's Church** (*open daily 11.30 to 4, except Saturdays*), unrivalled among City churches for the spaciousness of its interior.

The church occupies part of the site of a very ancient nunnery founded, if tradition is to be believed, in memory of Helena, mother of Constantine. The demolition of buildings in St. Helen's Place in 1922 exposed remains of a building of Saxon date, and another believed to be Roman. There were also revealed some arches of the nunnery. The present building, dating in part from the thirteenth century, and consisting of a nave divided

into two aisles by pillars and pointed arches, was judiciously restored by J. L. Pearson in 1893, at the expense of some of the City companies. On account of its many memorials of illustrious Londoners, St. Helen's is frequently termed the "Westminster Abbey of the City." The most notable monuments are those of Sir Thomas Gresham, Sir Julius Cæsar (not the invader of Britain, but a Master of the Rolls of James I.'s time), Sir John Crosby (d. 1475), of Crosby Hall, and his lady, and Sir Wm. Pickering. A memorial window in the northern aisle, or Nun's Choir, was erected in 1884, on the probability that a William Shakespeare, assessed for rates in the parish in 1598, was the poet.

In St. Helen's Place, to the north, is the **Leathersellers' Hall**, a modern building beneath which is the crypt of the old St. Helen's Nunnery. Near this, with a shop-masked entrance from Bishopsgate, is **St. Ethelburga's Church**, one of the oldest and smallest in London, fortunate in escaping the Great Fire. A tablet on the house at the corner of Camomile Street marks the site of the former *Bishop's Gate*, erected by Bishop Erkenwald in Saxon days. On the left is the Church of **St. Botolph Without**, where Keats was baptized in 1795, its graveyard now laid out as a garden. Here stands a **Memorial Cross**, erected in 1916 and inscribed, "In Memoriam. Officers and men of the Honourable Artillery Company who died in the Great War." Other sides are inscribed to Lord Kitchener, J. T. Cornwell (the youthful hero of Jutland), and "Our Brave Dead of Bishopsgate." On the opposite side of the way is **Devonshire House**, long the headquarters of the Quaker community. In 1922 the Friends decided to sell the site and obtain larger premises elsewhere. It is curious that **Houndsditch**, leading eastward through an unmistakably Jewish quarter to Aldgate, has a church of St. Botolph at both ends. The name is a reminder of the old ditch without the city wall. The Sunday morning "old clo'" sales in this locality form one of the most curious spectacles of "Living London."

Were we to continue northward up Bishopsgate past the Great Eastern terminus, we should shortly reach **Shoreditch**, passing on the way the **Bishopsgate Institute**, opened in 1894, and partly built by means of the surplus funds of a bequest left in 1481 to provide flannel petticoats for poor old women. The library, available to all persons resident or employed in the eastern part of the City, contains about 45,000 volumes.

An excusable, but not at first sight alluring, divagation from this point would be by an Old Ford motor omnibus along Bethnal Green Road to the Bethnal Green Museum.

Bethnal Green Museum.

Plan II. Q. 5.

Access.—(a) From Liverpool Street (G.E.R.) to Bethnal Green or Cambridge Heath Station. (b) By Old Ford omnibus from the Bank or Liverpool Street.

Admission.—Open free daily, 10 a.m. till dusk. Sundays, 2.30 p.m. till dusk. Refreshment Room in basement.

This branch of the Victoria and Albert Museum, established for the benefit of residents in the East End of London, repays a short journey from the City. The permanent exhibits comprise the important Dixon bequest of oil-paintings and water-colours, including several masterpieces of world-wide fame; the Massey-Mainwaring collection of French and other furniture; pottery, glass, animal products, and some instructive and awe-inspiring cases illustrating the composition of the human body and of various articles of diet.

Old Ford Road, to the north of the Museum, leads in half a mile to Victoria Park, the principal playground of East London, occupying over 200 acres and having a boating lake.

In Kingsland Road, half a mile or so beyond Shoreditch Church, is the **Geffrye Museum**, a small but interesting collection of furniture and old woodwork housed in the hospital founded by "Sir Rob. Geffryes, Knt., Alderman and Ironmonger." Formerly known as the Ironmongers' Almshouses, the buildings were bought by the L.C.C. and converted into a museum in 1914. (*Open till 6 p.m., week-days from 11 a.m., Sundays from 2 p.m. Closed Mondays except Bank Holidays.*)

A great part of the west side of Bishopsgate at its northern end is occupied by **Liverpool Street Station** (Plan II. O. 7), the terminus of the Great Eastern section of the London and North-Eastern Railway. The large mural *War Memorial* in the booking hall is flanked by bronze medallions of the heroic *Captain Fryatt* and of *Field-Marshal Sir Henry Wilson*, who was assassinated shortly after unveiling the memorial to Great Eastern men. Connected with the station is the *Great Eastern Hotel*, one of the largest in London. In the lavishly-decorated public rooms are some interesting panels representing Old London. Adjoining Liverpool Street Station on the west is **Broad Street Station** (Plan II. O. 7), the terminus of the electrified North London line (for Willesden Junction, Richmond, Watford, etc.). Connected by subways with the Great Eastern terminus are the Liverpool Street Stations of the Underground and Central London Railways. In Eldon Street, to the west, is the rebuilt Roman Catholic Church of **St. Mary, Moorfields**.

Neither **New Broad Street** nor **Old Broad Street**, leading southward to the Bank, have any apparent right to their name, though the soaring blocks of offices make the thoroughfare.