

**The stranger's intellectual guide to London, for 1839-40, containing an account of the literary and scientific institutions; exhibitions and curiosities; museums, libraries, public and private collections; botanical, horticultural, and zoological gardens, &c.; &c.; of the metropolis / By A. Booth.**

### **Contributors**

Booth, A. F.S.A.  
Dredge, William.

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THE STRANGER'S  
INTELLECTUAL GUIDE  
TO  
LONDON  
FOR  
1839-40

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THE  
STRANGER'S  
INTELLECTUAL GUIDE

TO  
L O N D O N,

FOR 1839-40,

CONTAINING

AN ACCOUNT OF THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC  
SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS;

*Exhibitions and Curiosities;*

MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE  
COLLECTIONS;

BOTANICAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND ZOOLOGICAL  
GARDENS, &c. &c.

**OF THE METROPOLIS.**

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BY

A. BOOTH, F.S.A., F.S.S.,

MEMBER OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE,  
&c. &c.

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L O N D O N:  
HENRY HOOPER, 13, PALL-MALL EAST.  
1839.

348130



## PREFACE.

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THE following work is an attempt to develop the intellectual resources of the Metropolis, and to make both strangers and residents acquainted with the nature of those numerous learned Societies which are so prominent a feature in its intellectual organization. The limited space of the work has sufficed only to give a hasty view of their objects and history; but enough has been said to afford a competent idea of the share of each in the advancement of the science of the present century. For the same reason the miscellaneous department is restricted; but nothing of importance has been omitted which comes within the scope of the comprehensive title of the work. Such a work has often been suggested to the Author as a deside-

ratum; and in presenting it in this form, he expresses his grateful acknowledgments to many of his friends and the Secretaries of the Societies, for their aid in enabling him to procure information; and also to his friend, James Hutchison, Esq., for his obliging co-operation.

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## ERRATA.

The following errors have appeared in a few impressions :—

In the title page, 6th line from the bottom, *for* "F.S.A." *read* "F.A.S."

In page 14, 19th line from the bottom, *for* "formed" *read* "found."

— 61, 13th — top, *for* "Tuesday" *read* "Thursday."

— 63, 14th — top, *for* "cost of dresses," *read* "cost of animals."

— 102, 16th — top, *for* "R. H. Jolly, Esq." *read* "R. H. Solly, Esq."

— 147, 22nd — top, *for* "Zoozological" *read* "Zoological."

Faint, illegible text on a yellowed rectangular piece of paper, possibly a document or note, placed on a light-colored background.

THE STRANGER'S  
INTELLECTUAL GUIDE TO LONDON.

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**ROYAL SOCIETY.**

Dr. SPRATT, the Bishop of Rochester, who wrote an elaborate account of this truly noble, learned, and useful institution, in the year 1634, ascribes its origin to the Honourable Robert Boyle, Sir William Petty, and Dr. Wilkins, who, with the Bishop of Bristol, Drs. Wallis, Goddard, Willis, Bathurst, and Christopher Wren, and Messrs. Rook and Matthew Wren, frequently met to read and discuss subjects connected with natural philosophy in the apartments of Dr. Wilkins, of Wadham College, Oxford. This party of studious and philosophic friends, who were not only eminently distinguished at home, but respected by the literati abroad, continued as a Society at Oxford until the year 1658, when the Members were called away to various parts of the kingdom to fulfil their several functions. The majority, however, coming to London, constantly attended the Lectures on Astronomy, Geometry, &c., delivered at Gresham College; where, being joined by several persons of talent and distinction, they met once or twice a week under the same roof, until the death of Oliver Cromwell, when the College and Royal Exchange were for a time converted into a barrack for the reception of soldiers. When Charles the Second ascended the throne, the Society resumed its meetings,\* and bound themselves by a written obligation, as well as by paying a subscription for the

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\* These meetings appear to have been suggested by Mr. Theodore Haak, a native of the Palatinate in Germany. They were sometimes held at Dr. Goddard's lodgings, in Wood-street, Cheapside; sometimes at a convenient place in Cheapside; as well as in or near Gresham College.

performance of experiments, and to defray the necessary expenses. The King, in his desire to conciliate all parties and classes in the state, expressed his wish to encourage it; and having communicated with the Members, through several of his courtiers who had shared his misfortunes and sufferings, was hailed by the Society as the patron of learning. As a distinguishing mark of his affection, he, by letters patent of the 22nd April, 1663, constituted them a body politic and corporate, by the appellation of "The President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for improving Natural Knowledge." In this charter the King declared himself their founder and patron; and they had a common seal,\* with licence to meet in any part of the metropolis they might think fit. It was further provided, that if any abuse or difference should arise respecting the government or affairs of the Society, by which its constitution or business might suffer, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Lord High Treasurer of England, the Keeper of the Privy Seal, and the Bishop of London, or any four of them, were authorized to compose or redress any such difference or abuse.

The statutes being thus framed, and approved of by the King, the affairs of the Society were established on a permanent footing, and men of all ranks and parties aided it by their contributions. The King presented them with a gilt silver mace† to be carried before the President; and as a further mark of his favour, by letters patent dated April 8th, 1667, he gave them Chelsea College, with its appurtenances, and twenty-seven acres of land surrounding the same. One stipulation, however, which was that part of it should be converted into a Botanic Garden, for the use of the public, not being fulfilled, and the King having resolved to erect an hospital for old and maimed soldiers, he purchased it back for £1300 on the 8th of February, 1681. On their removal from Gresham College, the Royal Society purchased a house in Crane-court, Fleet-street (now occupied as offices for the Scotch

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\* Their motto is, "Nullius in verba."

† This, which is still in the possession of the Society, and is laid on the table before the President during the meeting, is the identical one on which Cromwell exhibited his ire when he said, "Take away that bauble," &c.

Hospital), where they long flourished; and when Somerset House was converted into a public building, his Majesty was pleased to assign to them a spacious and commodious suite of apartments, which they have occupied ever since. It afforded great pleasure to Charles the Second, who had a great taste for mechanics, and took much delight in the performance of experiments in Natural Philosophy, to be present at the weekly meetings of the Society, where he sometimes sat covered by the side of the President, but more frequently along with the Members, with whom he conversed with the utmost familiarity, giving his opinion like other Members. Observing, however, that on many occasions too much deference was paid by the Fellows to his opinion as a sovereign, he determined, in a good-humoured fashion, to expose and correct their servility and sycophancy. One evening, entering the Society apparently wrapt in deep thought, and during a pause in the business, he stood on the floor for a few moments, with his hand over the lower part of his face. At length he exclaimed,—“Mr. President, my Lords, and Gentlemen,—What is the reason that, if I nearly fill two pails of equal dimensions, weight, and contents with river water, and that I put into one of them a living fish, weighing four pounds, still the one containing the fish shall not be heavier than the other?” The wits of the Members were set to work by his Majesty’s conundrum: one Fellow oracularly solving the mystery by saying, that “the buoyancy of the fish was the cause of no accession of weight;” whilst another advanced a confused theory, to prove that “the *momentum* of life, and the *vis inertiae* of the animal, prevented any pressure on the sides of the vessel, and an atmosphere existing around the body, the fish was, as it were, balanced or suspended therein; so that the scale could not be at all affected by its individual weight.” Other equally erudite notions were advanced, which the King listened to with the most imperturbable but mischievous gravity. At length an elderly man arose, and said,—“May it please your Majesty, I doubt the fact.” “Odds bodikins! and so do I, honest man,” exclaimed Charles, bursting into a loud laugh. “I was desirous to know how far the complaisance of some gentlemen

would go ; and I have put this trick upon them in the hope that, for the future, they will reason upon well-ascertained facts, rather than from the prompting of silly imagination ; which mode of reasoning, I take it, is the grand object, the very life-blood of this our Society.”

As it is not the object of this work to present a history of the various Societies which come before notice, we shall proceed to give an abstract of the statutes by which this illustrious body is governed ; and which, as having been the model by which the regulations of all other British and Foreign Scientific Societies have been framed, cannot, independently of their own very great excellence, be too widely disseminated.

**ADMISSION OF FELLOWS.**—Each candidate must have a certificate signed by six or more Fellows, three at least from personal knowledge, which must be suspended in the meeting-room during the meetings before the election. Any Prince, Peer, or Privy Councillor, or any Foreign Prince, may be proposed by one Fellow, and when seconded, can be balloted for on the same day of nomination. The votes are taken by ballot, and two-thirds are required for election. The elections only take place at the first meetings in December, February, April, and June, when at least twenty-one Fellows must be present. Each new Fellow must appear for his admission on or before the fourth meeting after his election, unless the Council grant longer time. On admission, as soon as the minutes have been read, he must subscribe the obligation in the charter-book, and then be introduced to the President ; who, taking him by the hand, shall say, “ I do, by the authority and in the name of the Royal Society of London for improving Natural Knowledge, admit you a Fellow thereof.”

**THE OBLIGATION TO BE SUBSCRIBED,** which, with the form of introduction above described, is nearly the same at all Societies, is as follows :—“ We, who have hereunto subscribed, do hereby promise, each for himself, that we will endeavour to promote the good of the Royal Society of London for improving Natural Knowledge ; and to pursue the ends for which the same was founded, that we will be present at the meetings of the Society, as

often as conveniently we can, especially at the anniversary elections, and upon extraordinary occasions; and that we will observe the statutes and orders of the said Society: Provided, that when any of us shall signify to the President, under our hand, that we desire to withdraw from the Society, we shall be free from this obligation for the future."

**FEEs AND CONTRIBUTIONS.**—Each Fellow must pay the sum of £10 for admission-money, and £4 per annum so long as he shall continue a Fellow. A Fellow may, at any time, effect a composition for life by paying the sum of £40. The compositions are due on the 25th of March; and if any Fellow fail to pay before the 1st of May, his name shall be suspended in the public meeting-room, as being in arrear, until the same be paid. If he fail to pay on or before the meeting next preceding St. Andrew's Day, no satisfactory reasons being assigned, he ceases to become a Fellow of the Society. On solicitation for re-admission, by an individual so circumstanced, within three months, the case shall be stated by the President at one of the ordinary meetings, and the question decided by ballot at the next meeting for elections.

**FOREIGN MEMBERS,** who are neither natives nor inhabitants of her Majesty's dominions, are elected by the Council, two-thirds of whom must give their consent, at the ballot which takes place the first week after nomination. On no account is the number to exceed fifty.

**CAUSES AND FORMS OF EJECTION.**—Fellows, who contumaciously or contemptuously disobey the statutes or orders of the Society or Council; or who, by printing, writing, or speaking, defame the Society, may be ejected by two-thirds of the Members present at an ordinary Meeting, on a report being made by the Council.

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL AND OFFICERS.**—At the two Meetings preceding the anniversary election, the President shall give notice of the same. The Council consists of twenty-one Fellows, viz., eleven members of the existing council and ten new ones, who shall be chosen by ballot.

The ordinary Meetings are held weekly, every Thursday evening, except during the established holidays, and

the week during which the anniversary meeting is held, to begin at half-past eight precisely. The session commences on the third Thursday in November, and ends on the third Thursday in June. The business is to read and discuss letters, reports, and other papers concerning philosophical matters; and nothing relative to statutes or management shall be brought forward. No strangers, except foreign ambassadors, ministers, and other distinguished persons, invited by the President, are admitted to the meetings, unless by leave obtained of the Society before the chair is taken, on the written recommendation of some Fellow. Once at least in the year, a portion of the papers, as may be selected, are published at the expense of the Society, under the name of the "Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society." The original copies of papers read are considered the property of the Society, if there be no previous engagement to the contrary; but any author may have a copy of his own papers by leave of the Council.

The Library\* of the Society is very extensive, and worthy of its own character. It is open every day from eleven till four o'clock, except Sundays and Good Friday; and during Easter, Whitsun, and Christmas weeks. Fellows have the loan of printed books, except such as are ordered by the Council not to be removed, to the extent of four volumes; but the loan of manuscripts is vested exclusively in the President and Council. The Royal Society was formerly possessed of a valuable Museum, which has however become merged into the British Museum. The Royal Society of London has been the means of doing much good both at home and abroad; and its Fellowship confers a higher scientific honour than that of any other society in the world. Instituted at a time when mere physical knowledge was but little understood and less appreciated, it became the temple of natural science, in which foreign as well as British philosophers offered up the first and best fruits of their study and speculation. Its example was followed by the literati of surrounding nations, who soon formed associations of a

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\* A large collection of books, called the Norfolkian Library, was presented by Mr. H. Howard, afterwards Duke of Norfolk.

similar nature in the cities and towns of the continent; whilst at home, in the very metropolis in which it has existed so long, it became the parent and the pattern of the many Societies for specific enquiry, which must ever confer the highest honour upon the science and literature of Great Britain. It has retained a great portion of its pristine vigour for nearly two hundred years; and, notwithstanding a few occasional signs of decrepitude, is looked up to with respect and veneration by the numerous offspring which owe their existence to it. Respecting the Royal Society, Voltaire, who could not be accused of partiality in praising the English or their institutions, makes the following observations in his 'Age of Louis XIV.:'—“To this illustrious Society the world is indebted for the late discoveries relating to light, the principles of gravitation, the motion of the fixed stars, the geometry of transcendent qualities, and a hundred other discoveries which, in this respect, might justly denominate the age we speak of to be the Age of the English, as well as the Age of Louis XIV.” In the year 1666, the great Colbert, emulous of the glory of England, advised Louis XIV., at the request of several men of learning in France, to establish the French Academy of Science; and accordingly, in 1669, the same became an incorporated body, like the Royal Society.

At the Anniversary Meeting, which is held on November 30th (St. Andrew's Day), the President reads an annual address in reference to the losses by death, which the Society has sustained within the year. This, which is separately printed, is a very valuable scientific obituary, including as it does notices of the most distinguished foreigners, as well as those of this country, who have conferred honour by their scientific reputation. At the election of Officers and Council, in 1838, the Marquis of Northampton, the distinguished President of the British Association at Bristol, was elected President, in the room of the Duke of Sussex, who held that post of honour for several years. The following Members also comprise the other Officers and the Members of the Council:—*John Wm. Lubbock, Esq.,*\* Treasurer; Peter Mark Roget, M.D.,

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\* Those in italics are new members.

and John Hunter Christie, Esqrs., Secretaries; and Wm. Henry Smyth, Capt. R.N., Foreign Secretary. Council: H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex, Francis Baily, Esq., J. G. Children, Esq., J. F. Daniell, Esq., C. G. B. Daubeny, M.D., Thomas Galloway, Esq., M.A., Thomas Graham, Esq., Sir J. F. W. Herschell, Bart., T. Kiernan, Esq., G. Rennie, Esq., Dr. Forbes Royle, Rev. A. Sedgwick, M.A., Robert B. Todd, M.D., Charles Wheatstone, Esq., and Rev. R. Willis. On that occasion, likewise, the Royal Medals, the gift of the Patron, were awarded to H. Fox Talbot, Esq., and Professor Graham; the Gold Copley Medal, from a bequest of Sir Godfrey Copley, to M. Faraday, Esq., of the Royal Institution; and the Rumford Medal to Professor Forbes. These prizes, which are annually distributed, are considered amongst the highest awards of scientific honour both at home and abroad.

The average number of Fellows who attend the meetings of the Royal Society is about fifty. The Noble President has been very attentive to the duties of the chair since his election; and in his absence these are generally fulfilled by the Treasurer. The Society is essentially aristocratic in its proceedings, as well as its constitution: and it is strongly hinted that caprice dictates the election or rejection of candidates, more than an estimate of their probable merit as Fellows.\* The papers are of so very abstract a nature, as to excite even but little interest to the members present; and it is therefore that they are only reported in their own Philosophical Transactions. The rooms are ornamented with the portraits of the most eminent Patrons, Presidents, and Members of the Society from its formation. The present President, in imitation of the example set by Sir Joseph Banks,† gives a series of *Converzationes*, which during the present season were attended by the *élite* of the Professional and Scientific world.

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\* An unpleasant instance of rejection occurred during the past session in the case of Mr. Monck Mason, a gentleman of scientific attainments, and whose certificate was testified by Dr. Faraday and other eminent men. Political feelings, unhappily, are occasionally mingled in the voting for candidates as was the case in the rejection of Alexander Raphael, Esq.

† Sir Joseph Banks gave *soirées* at his house in Soho-square, every Sunday evening.

### SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

AN Association for the study of the Antiquities of this country, claims precedence even over the Royal Society, as the first attempt at the concentration and diffusion of intelligence of a historical or scientific nature. Such was established in 1572,\* by Archbishop Parker, Camden, Sir Robert Cotton, Stowe, and others, and is described by Sir Henry Spelman as very flourishing. Application was made, in 1589, to Queen Elizabeth, for a charter and a house wherein they might hold their meetings, erect a library, and for other purposes of the Society. By the death of Elizabeth, their application proved abortive; and her successor, James I., was far from favouring their designs; and with an illiberality worthy of that despotic and superstitious age, put an end to its proceedings by Royal mandate. The Society of Antiquaries of London was founded in a happier period, in the year 1717; and incorporated by Royal charter, by George II., in 1751. The preamble to the charter states, that "Whereas the study of Antiquity and the History of former times has ever been esteemed highly commendable and useful, not only to improve the minds of men, but also to incite them to virtuous and noble actions, and such as may hereafter render them famous and worthy examples to posterity; and whereas several of our loving subjects who have for several years past met together, for their mutual improvement in such studies and enquiries, have humbly besought us to grant unto them, and such others as we should be pleased to join unto them, our Royal charter of incorporation, for the better carrying on the said purposes," &c. It then proceeds setting forth the arrangement and style of the Society, which shall be called "*The Society of the Antiquaries of London*, of which Society we do hereby declare ourselves to be the Founder and Patron; and that the said Society shall consist of a President, Council, and Fellows, and be for ever hereafter a body politic and corporate," &c.

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\* It is recorded that there was an ancient college of antiquaries erected in Ireland by Ollamh Fochla, 700 years before the Christian era, for the composing a history of that country.

The persons qualified for election into the Society, are defined in the following clause:—"And by how much any persons shall be more excelling in the knowledge and antiquity of this and other nations, by how much the more they are desirous to promote the honour, business, and emoluments of this Society; and by how much the more eminent they shall be for piety, virtue, integrity, and loyalty; by so much the more fit shall such persons be judged of being elected and admitted into the said Society." Martin Folkes was the first President; and the Society has enrolled in its long list of names those of the most eminent scholars and historians of England.

The Society at the present year consists of about 700 Fellows. The President is Lord Aberdeen; the Secretaries are Nicholas Carlisle, Esq., and Sir Henry Ellis, Chief Librarian of the British Museum; Treasurer, Thomas Amyott, Esq.; and Director, J. Gage Rokewood, Esq.; who, along with the following members of the Council, were elected at the annual meeting on St. George's Day, April 23, 1839:—H. Gurney, Esq., H. Hallam, Esq., W. R. Hamilton, Esq., H. G. Knight, Esq., T. Stapylton, Esq., and the Right Hon. W. W. Wynn, of the old Council; with Viscount Braybrooke, E. Blore, Esq., J. Bruce, Esq., the Bishop of Durham, Rev. J. Foxshall, E. Hawkins, Esq., F. Martin, Esq., the Marquis of Northampton, T. Phillips, Esq., and Rev. Professor Whewell, who were newly chosen.

At the ordinary meeting held the week preceding, the following abstract of the report of the auditors was read. The balance in hand at the last report, in 1838, was £611 16s. 3d.; and there had been received in 1838, for annual subscriptions, £959 14s.; admission fees, £218 8s.; dividends on £6500 in the 3 per cent. consols, £195; books and prints, £69 6s. 6d.; and the annual volume, £22 10s.; making a total of £1465 8s. 6d.: in addition to which there had been received for compositions the sum of £462. The expenditure was, for artists, &c., £661 10s.; taxes, £22 13s. 10d.; salaries, £447 10s.; bond fees, £27; making a total of £1438 3s. 4d., and leaving a balance of £1121 1s. 5d. The treasurer announced on that occasion, that he had invested £500 in the 3 per cent. consols, which covered the sum that the

Society had been compelled to sell out in 1834, and that the total amount of stock was £7000.

The rules of the Society of Antiquaries are taken from those of the Royal Society, of which they are a copy in every essential particular; and names of members must be held the same time in suspension before the usual ballot. The terms of subscription are 8 guineas for entrance, and 4 guineas annually; or 40 guineas as composition, in lieu of future payments. The meetings are held in the room of the Society, at Somerset House, every Thursday evening, at eight o'clock, from the months of November to June, the Christmas and Easter holidays excepted, and scarcely exceed half an hour in length, which affords those who are members of both an opportunity for attending the meeting of the Royal Society, commencing at half-past eight o'clock. The communications read are not always of the most amusing or interesting description; and the Members, generally, consider that some degree of more active energy should be infused into the proceedings: but there are often exhibited on the tables specimens of rare archæological interest which repay inspection. To these stores persons not belonging to the Society may contribute through the medium of a Fellow. Strangers are admitted through a Fellow, who has the privilege of introducing one: the same form being adopted as at the Royal Society, which is held in an adjoining apartment. The proceedings of the Society are annually printed, under the title of 'Archæologia,' which work has amounted to twenty-eight volumes quarto, a copy of each part being furnished, gratis, to the Fellows of the Society, and to the public at a very moderate price, on application to the Librarian. At longer intervals also the Society publishes the 'Vetusta Monumenta,' devoted to subjects requiring greater scope of illustration than can be comprised in the limits of the former work; such as the celebrated coloured engravings of the Bayeux tapestry, from drawings made by order of the Society, by the late Charles Stothard, which splendid work would alone testify what can be effected by such a Society when guided by men of judgment and energy.

The Library of the Society is extremely rich in ancient manuscripts, and the most costly and rare works on every subject connected with history and antiquities. Impor-

tant, however, as the Society is from wealth, influence, and interest at command, it is a matter both of vexation and regret, that there is no museum for the deposit of the valuable donations often presented to the Society; and that this deficiency should exist, in an age in which almost every town and village in the kingdom boasts of some collection of works of art or nature, is somewhat surprising. A collection of subjects illustrative of the history of our country, of our national architecture, and, in fact, a Museum of British Antiquities, a department which does not exist in the British Museum, and which could be nowhere so well attended to and promoted as it would if placed under the control and personal auspices of the Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries, whose attention would not be divided and distracted by other pursuits and objects, is valuable as a national object. The utility of such a museum is indeed now felt by the Fellows to be so essentially requisite, that application is being made to her Majesty's Government for one of the vacant rooms in Somerset House for this purpose; and there is every reason to expect such a reasonable and laudable request will be favourably responded to. There are exhibited on the tables during the time of meeting, any recently discovered antiquities, on which observations are sometimes read. The proceedings are at times interesting, and the average number of Members in attendance at the meetings is about seventy. Visitors are freely admitted on the introduction of Fellows. The title which Fellows place at the end of their names, is F.S.A.

#### NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

As the Society of Antiquaries, from the spread of a love of science and research, sprang from the Royal Society, so has the still increasing thirst for investigation of the history of Antiquity suggested the foundation of this Association for the more elaborate and complete study of a peculiar branch of antiquities. It has grown out of the parent Society, under the countenance of many of its most active Members, for the thorough and unlimited study of Ancient and Modern Coins and Medals,

both as regards their claims as works of unequalled excellence in ancient art, and as indispensable aids to the complete knowledge of ancient and modern history; and also, it is anticipated, to urge upon Government the expediency of elevating the character of our national coinage, and making it useful, as well for recording the leading features in our politics, sciences, and arts, as for the mere purposes of commerce and trade.

The Society, which was founded in 1837, consists of a President, who is elected every two years; a Council, chosen annually at the anniversary meeting, on the fourth Thursday in July; and Members elected by ballot. The terms of subscription are 1 guinea entrance, and 1 guinea annually, or a composition of 10 guineas. The President and Treasurer is Dr. Lee, of Hartwell-house, in Buckinghamshire; Secretaries, John George Akerman, F.S.A., and Francis Hobler, jun. Esq.; Librarian, W. D. Haggard, Esq.; Foreign Secretary, Captain W. H. Smyth, R. N.; and the Council, C. F. Barnwell, Esq. F. R. S., Messrs. Cuff, Cullimore, Guest, E. Hawkins, F. R. S., J. W. Morrison, Royal Mint, S. Sharpe, W. Wyon, R. A., Professor Wilson, and Col. C. R. Fox.

The meetings are held once a month, on the fourth Thursday evening, at seven o'clock; this hour being chosen in order to accommodate Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries, in the rooms of the Royal Astronomical Society at Somerset House, from November to July. The Members are about two hundred and fifty; and the proceedings of the Society are published quarterly in the 'Numismatic Chronicle.'

#### PRIVATE COLLECTIONS OF ANTIQUITIES.

THERE are many private collections of Antiquities in London, which, though necessarily not being of popular interest, are not thrown open for general public inspection, are, nevertheless, by the understood compact between men of science and congenial feelings and pursuits, readily accessible to the antiquary and scientific observer.

In Coins and Medals, the collection of Mr. Thomas, of Oxford-street, stands pre-eminent; after which, may be enumerated those of Mr. Burgon, of No. 11, Brunswick-

square; Mr. Cuff; and Mr. Haggard, of the Bullion Office at the Bank—the former rich in Saxon Coins, and the latter equally so in English Medals; Mr. Gwilt, surgeon, of Southwark; Mr. Hobler, of Wallbrook; Mr. Boyne, of No. 31, Bread-street; and the Cabinet of the Bank of England, extremely rich, which may be inspected any day on application to Mr. Smee, the chief accountant.

In General Antiquities, there is the Museum at the Guildhall library, which is intended for the reception and classification of Antiquities connected with the city of London, of which immense stores were discovered at the recent and now progressing extension of the sewerage, and in other public excavations. In the course of these works, many private individuals obtained very rich stores, and stimulated the Corporation to undertake a work which should restore some idea of ancient London. Although yet in its infancy, it already contains many objects which will repay the antiquary for a visit.

The collections of Mr. Newman, the City Surveyor of the Bridge House, and Mr. Gwilt, of Southwark, contain a multifarious assemblage of Roman and early English Antiquities of great interest and value, formed in the excavations for New London Bridge, and the sewers in the City and Southwark.

Mr. C. R. Smith, of Lothbury, possesses a large collection of Roman and Roman-British Antiquities found in the city of London, during the late extensive excavations for sewers. These relics, which individual exertion has rescued from destruction, consist of sepulchral urns, vases, domestic utensils, ornaments for the person, coins and medals, &c. The pottery, particularly that termed Samian, is very diversified in design and embellishment. In this collection must be particularized some fine specimens of ancient bronze, found also in London: one of which, the youthful Apollo, is unique and unsurpassed in beauty of workmanship and ideal propriety, by any specimen we possess of ancient skill. This, with various others of the Roman Penates, display marks of the means of destruction employed by the early Christians, who wished to deface every vestige of idolatry in their religious

zeal. Amongst various other curiosities, is a mould employed by a forger in making false crowns of Charles I. Very ample and detailed accounts of this collection, as well as that of Mr. Newman, are contained in vols. 27 and 28 of the *Archæologia*. A good collection of Anglo-Roman remains is also in the possession of Mr. Saull, at his Geological Museum, in Aldersgate-street.

The collections specified throw much light upon the domestic habits and manners of the Romans during their residence in Britain, and have done much to illustrate the topography of ancient London. When we survey these interesting collections made by private individuals, we are the more struck by the absence of any museum in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries; a deficiency before alluded to, and which, it is to be hoped, will speedily be remedied.

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Mr. William Till, of 17, Great Russell-street, Covent-garden, an extensive and well-known dealer in coins, medals, and antiques, may be consulted with advantage, by persons forming cabinets. His large and valuable collection may be inspected at any time by visitors, from ten till six o'clock; and, as a general remark, it may be stated, that the principal dealers in antique curiosities are to be found in the vicinity of Wardour-street, Soho, as well as occasionally in other parts of town.

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### MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.

THIS Society, from the date of its origin, in 1717,\* ranks near in precedence to the Royal Society; and whilst it was basking under the patronage of the Monarch, with all the resources of wealth, title, and learning, the Mathematical Society was established for the intellectual improvement of the more humble of the citizens. Although scarcely known beyond the obscure precincts of its origin, except when occasionally its Members have conferred an honour upon themselves and the philosophy of their country, it has done a great deal of good in the dissemination of information, whilst its doors opened an easy

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\* The year in which the Society of Antiquaries was founded.

channel for obtaining full and free knowledge of science. Its objects were never strictly confined to mathematical science, but embraced the whole range of philosophical information; and it was established on a friendly footing of conversational communication, the earliest obligation of the Members being to answer every question proposed to them to the best of their power. In Spitalfields and the neighbourhood, we have elsewhere alluded to the fond taste of the industrious artizans to pursuits in natural history; and mathematics and the different branches of philosophy were equally favourite objects of classic study. Although their days of virtuous independence are passed by, there is still considerable taste for mathematical and mechanical skill amongst the weavers; and the Author calls to recollection, on passing through an obscure spot in this locality, an abstruse mathematical problem suspended from the humble abode of a weaver, to which in the pride of his heart he had invited the attention of passers by.

The Mathematical Society being founded, in 1717, by Mr. Joseph Middleton, held its first meeting at the Monmouth Head, in Spitalfields, and subsequently removed to the Ben Jonson, another public-house in the same vicinity. Until the year 1772, the number of Members was limited to sixty-four, as being the square of eight; but in this year an association was made with another Mathematical Society, meeting at the Black Swan, in Brown's-lane, when the number of Members was increased to eighty-one. In 1783, a junction was formed with an Historical Society, meeting also at a tavern in the locality, which brought with them a valuable library of historical works. In this last house they remained till the year 1793, when they removed to their present abode in Crispin-street, Spitalfields: the large room in which they meet having been established as a Chapel for the French refugees. Although the entrance is humble, the interior accommodation is very adequate to the purpose of the Society. The rules have often been revised, but the present number of Members is still limited to eighty-one. So unobtrusive has been its progress, that there is little to relate in the records of the Society. As it was first established for the intellectual gratification of the humble artizans of the neighbourhood after the labours of the

week, their proceedings were carried on with the potations of pots of porter, and over the fumes of tobacco: \* that some little excess might occasionally take place, is likely, from an early rule, punishing by fine any riotous or drunken conduct on the part of the Members. Until within the last few years, drinking and smoking were allowed at their deliberations; but this has been abolished by a recent innovation, although any Member is still allowed to partake of refreshment which may be sent out for by him. It is proper, however, to state, that the manner in which the affairs of the Society is conducted cannot offend the most punctilious; and that its Members are not confined to Spitalfields, but diffused throughout the Metropolis, embracing many of Scientific and Literary distinction.

The number of Members is still limited to eighty-one; and a rule provides that so long as it consists of three Members, the Society shall not be dissolved. Any person wishing to become a Member must be twenty-one years of age, and be proposed by one and seconded by another. On being proposed a Member he pays 2*s.* 6*d.*, and if elected the further sum of 8*s.*; the annual subscription being 2*l.* per annum, payable quarterly in advance. Should there be more candidates than vacancies, the Society may ballot for them all, and if elected, they shall be Members notwithstanding the number may be increased to more than eighty-one; but those in excess shall be considered as supernumerary or extra Members, not having the full privilege of such, until by rotation the Society shall come within that number. The officers of the Society are, a President, Secretary, and eight Cu-

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\* Friendly Associations for the encouragement of the kindred pursuits of Entomology, Botany, Horticulture, &c., were for more than a century held at different public-houses; the same as clubs for the improvement of different practical branches of zoology, as breeds of pigeons, rabbits, dogs, fowls, &c. are now, and the results of which are often seen in our markets. Few records of the former remain, except here and there a tradition. A few years hence the Florist's Society of Billingsgate will be in a similar manner unknown. The Author has frequently been amused with the sign of the Tippling Philosopher, in Liqueurpond-street, Gray's Inn-lane, not so happy in its historian as the Dr. Johnson in Bolt Court, Fleet-street, where the cane and chair of the great bibliopoliſt may still be seen, although the former may have been equally the scene of intellectual orgies, and more probably so, from the great quantity of rare insects and plants found in the immediate vicinity of the ditches of the King's-road.

rators of the Collections, who are annually elected on the quarterly night in January; three of the latter are for Instruments, one Geology, one Mineralogy, one Zoology, one Botany, and one for Gems, Medals, and Antiquities. There are six Trustees of the Society's property, the number of whom shall be completed by ballot whenever by death or otherwise they shall be reduced to two. Six Stewards are also appointed, who in rotation take charge of the Library and affairs of the Society for the evening. The Library, which is very extensive, comprising upwards of 4000 volumes, and the use of the instruments, which are also extremely valuable, are open, under restrictions compatible with their safety; and the rules do not offer any impediments to study or experimental research.

The Society meets every Saturday evening, between eight and ten o'clock, the chair being taken at the earlier hour. After time allowed for friendly communication, a lecture is delivered at nine o'clock, by a Member, who previously volunteers, on any branch of science or philosophy: religion, politics, and other controversial subjects being carefully excluded. A law retained on the books is curious; that "if, at these meetings, any Member shall threaten or offer personal violence to any other Member, he shall be liable to immediate expulsion, or pay such fine as the majority of the Members present shall decide." Benjamin Gompertz, Esq., F.R.S., is the present President, and worthily occupies a chair that was once filled by Simpson, the father of English Mathematics. For a long time, and until within the last few years, there was always an excess in the number of Members; but now these are but fifty-four, which is only to be accounted for by the great increase of Societies for analagous subjects, of which the Members of this have been the most useful promoters and ornaments. There are still advantages, however, appreciable in a junction with a Society, which has conducted its sittings, without intermission, every Saturday night, for upwards of one hundred and twenty years, in the use of the library and valuable collection of apparatus, already mentioned, as well as in the free and valuable interchange of information. The Museum is not extensive, but in its early days was valuable. The room in which the meetings are

held is well furnished; and during the delivery of a lecture, the Members sit round a large table as if occupied in friendly conversation. We conclude this article by referring the intellectual stranger to visit a Society, where he will be received with urbanity and kindness, worthy the successors of those men who laid for the science of the metropolis the foundations for its present distinction. We may add, that for a long period of years it was the only Society where courses of lectures were delivered, and which, from the variety of their apparatus, became very popular.

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### SOCIETY OF ARTS.

THIS important Society was instituted in the year 1754, in pursuance of a plan formed in the preceding year, for the purpose of exciting emulation and industry in the improvement of ingenious and commercial arts, the various branches of agriculture, &c., by honorary and pecuniary rewards. The original prospectus states, that “whereas the riches, honour, strength, and prosperity of a nation depend, in a great measure, on the knowledge and improvement of useful arts, manufactures, &c., several of the nobility and gentry of this kingdom, being fully sensible that due encouragements and rewards are greatly conducive to excite a spirit of emulation and industry, have resolved to form themselves into a society for the encouragement of arts, manufactures, and commerce.” Lord Viscount Folkstone was then chosen President; Lord Romney, Rev. Dr. S. Hales, C. Whitworth, and J. Theobald, Esqrs., Vice-presidents; John Goodchild, Esq., Treasurer; and Mr. W. Shipley, Secretary; each of whom were to continue in their respective offices until the first Wednesday in March, 1756, when a new selection of officers would be made. The subscriptions for this, the first year, amounted to £361, of which £45 was awarded to premiums in the fine arts, £30 to agriculture, £23 8s. to manufactures, and £36 to colonies.

A list published for 1758, contains notices of one hundred and twenty-two objects for which premiums would be given; and so much support did the Society receive in this early period of its existence, that, up to the year

1766, or twelve years after its formation, the receipts had amounted to £33,313 4s., and the expenditure to £30,768 16s. In this period there had been expended in premiums, to the polite arts, £6964; agriculture, £2202; manufactures, £1885; mechanics, £2358; chemistry £941; colonies, £2273; exhibitions, £371; and a disbursement to Captain Blake for establishing a ready supply of fish by land-carriage to London, of a capital of £3507. Such interest was excited by the exhibition of the paintings, that in 1760 the artists, from the amount of profit received upon the sale of catalogues alone, made donations of £50 to the Middlesex Hospital; £50 to the British Lying-in Hospital; £50 to the Asylum; and a small balance to two distressed artists. In the year 1765, the corporation of Liverpool, by a vote, presented the Society with £100, and the Court of Common Council of the city of London with £300, towards the promotion of its objects. In 1758, their meetings, which had been removed from Craig's-court to the Strand, opposite the New Exchange-buildings, were again removed to a house opposite Beaufort-buildings. In 1762, a discovery was made that the great beam which supported the meeting-room was broken in two, by which the walls and the cupola were considerably damaged, occasioned, as it was supposed, by the foundation giving way. In 1771, the Society considered the proposal made to them by the Messrs. Adam, relative to a new building which they designed to erect for its use in the Adelphi, which was agreed upon, on the payment of £1000 as a premium, and an annual rental of £270 during the term of ninety-four years. The foundation-stone was laid on the 28th of March, 1772, by Lord Romney, under which was placed a plate with the following inscription:—"The Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, instituted at London in 1754: this first stone was laid by the Right Hon. Lord Romney, President; his Grace Charles Duke of Richmond, the Duke of Northumberland Earl of Lichfield, Earl of Harcourt, and others, Vice-Presidents, on the 28th of March, 1772; Robert and James Adam, architects."

At this period, and for many successive years, the Society was the only one that promoted and exhibited

the works of British artists; and when its patriotic views were realized beyond its own powers of protection, a friendly secession was formed in the old Academy, in St. Martin's-lane. From that sprang up the present Royal Academy, and more recently the British Institution, and other Societies connected with art in this country. In the early list of those who received its premiums and honours is the name of the late accomplished President of the Royal Academy, who, as Master Lawrence, at nine years of age, received that medal of distinction to which some value may fairly be attached as the stimulant to his future greatness. Flaxman, Nollekens, Bacon, and Banks were often stimulated with medals, and sometimes assisted with money. Sharp, Woollett, and Earlom will be found, with other eminent engravers, among the names of successful candidates; and there are few persons of late years who have distinguished themselves amongst our painters, sculptors, architects, and engravers in line, mezzotinto, and gems, who were not led on and excited by this Society to the attainment of that fame which has conferred honour on themselves and their country.

The chief object of the Society is to promote the arts, manufactures, and commerce of this kingdom, by giving honorary or pecuniary rewards, as may be best adapted to the case, for the communication to the Society, and through its medium to the public, of all such useful inventions, discoveries, and improvements as tend to that purpose. In pursuance of this plan, the Society have expended upwards of a hundred thousand pounds, derived from voluntary subscriptions and legacies. The meetings of the Society are held every Wednesday, at seven o'clock in the evening, from the first Wednesday in November to the second Wednesday in June. The working business of the Society is carried on by Committees, under the names of Accounts, Agriculture, Fine Arts, Chemistry, Colonies and Trade, Correspondence and Papers, Manufactures, Mechanics, and Miscellaneous Matters. To each of these Committees there are appointed two chairmen, but all Members may be present, and are entitled to vote. A person desirous to become a Member of the Society must be proposed by three Mem-

bers, and his name, being suspended in the meeting-room, is balloted for on the second ordinary meeting. Peers of the realm are balloted for immediately; and the rules are generally the same as those of the Royal Society. Subscribing Members pay 2 guineas annually, or may become Members for life, on the payment of 20 guineas. Ladies are eligible to be Members of the Society, and are entitled to vote personally, or by proxy, if such proxy be presented by a Member.

A list of the premiums which the Society undertake to distribute, is annually published, and for useful communications, on which they give gold or silver medals, or pecuniary rewards, varying from five to fifty pounds. These include—1. The class of Agriculture, and every branch of Planting, Gardening, and Rural Economy; 2. Fine Arts; 3. Chemistry and Mineralogy; 4. Colonies and Trade; 5. Class of Manufactures; 6. Class of Mechanics, including Hydraulic, Pneumatic, Optical, Mathematical, Astronomical, and Surgical Apparatus. Copious lists of these various objects are printed for gratuitous distribution, and may be obtained on application at the rooms. The prizes given in the Useful Arts are, the Gold Medal, and the Gold Isis Medal; the Large Silver, and the Silver Isis Medal; accompanied with such pecuniary awards as the Committees may think fit to suggest, and a general meeting of the Society to award. In the Fine Arts, there are awarded the Gold Medallion and Gold Isis Medal; the Large Silver and the Silver Isis Medals, and the Silver Palette.

The Meetings of the Society are held every Wednesday, at eight o'clock in the evening, from the first Wednesday in November to the second Wednesday in June; the Committees meeting on other evenings, for the purpose of taking into consideration the subjects referred to them by the Society. The meetings, which were formerly well attended and characterised with considerable interest, are now nearly deserted, a cause easily to be found in the liberality of the laws which allow a full and free discussion on any subject introduced to their notice: so that any person, for an annual subscription of two guineas, may inflict, to his heart's content, his absurdity and nonsense on others assembled for the discharge of business. The con-

stitution of the Society is essentially republican ; but this form of government by no means works well in this instance. Not the slightest matter can be done without the sanction of two general meetings, to whom the consideration and approval of the various reports of Committees must be referred ; so that it is in the power of any ignorant persons to undo what talent and labour has done. The reports of the Society have for some years complained of the decreasing revenue ; and in order to maintain its existence it has been obliged to curtail its expenditure to the very lowest sum. Venerable from its antiquity, and respected from former usefulness, all the stimulus of fresh exertion has been useless in restoring it to its former state of generosity and opulence ; and whilst those remain, who, by the factious and often insolent conduct of their proceedings at these meetings, are the bane of its prosperity, there are but few hopes for its revival to former efficiency.\* This is the case as regards the discussions to which the recommendations of the Committee give rise, and which are made the opportunity for every one to indulge his *cacoëthes loquendi*. Without the resignation of such individuals, the Society can never hope to gain confidence or funds ; and this is said "more in sorrow than in anger," from the prostitution of the reputation and resources of a Society which has done so much benefit to the arts and manufactures of this country.† The Society has experienced a loss in the resignation of Mr. Aikin, for many years the Secretary, who was respected as much for his varied mechanical attainments as for his urbanity to the Members and Exhibitors.

Without specifying anything particular in the museum, it may be stated to contain a large and varied collection

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\* It must also be stated, that one cause of the falling off is owing to the branching off of other Societies, the objects of which formerly were contemplated solely by this : such as the Institutions of Civil Engineers, and British Architects and Architectural Society, with other literary Institutions, which keep the members in their locality. There is still, however, a large field of usefulness unoccupied, which might be fruitfully cultivated, were the Society to shake off its apathy.

† Another point we humbly conceive worthy the attention of the friends of the Society, is the propriety of the discontinuance of the usual grants of prizes to the Fine Arts, to the fosterment of which so many Societies are now devoted. Thus it would leave funds more available to the legitimate purposes of the Society.

of the progress of the arts for the last eighty years. For purposes of reference these are, however, nearly valueless, on account of the crowded and ill-arranged state of the rooms; and notwithstanding there is scarcely a department for the illustration of which the most ample materials exist, these are next to useless. The visitor who has some time to devote to an inspection, will however derive much amusement; and strangers are admitted, by a new regulation, every day in the week, with the exception of Wednesday, without the necessity of an order, which was previously requisite. This has had some effect in increasing the number of visitors; but a still greater object of attraction are the celebrated pictures of Mr. Barry, which ornament the walls of the meeting-room. These were done for the Society expressly by the artist; who, however, we regret to hear it stated, had no reason to boast of their liberality for what will exist as an ornament to the rooms as long as the Society itself. They are six in number, and of the following subjects:—1. Orpheus, the object of which is to show the effects of those benefits which accrue to mankind from religion and philosophy, and the absolute necessity of substituting the love and pursuit of truth, justice, order, and social virtue, in lieu of the savage state. 2. A Grecian Harvest Home, or thanksgivings to Ceres and Bacchus. 3. The Victors at Olympia, the procession approaching the distant temple, with a sacrifice. 4. The Thames personified as by ancient artists, of a venerable, majestic, and gracious aspect, as sitting on the waters in a triumphant car, steering himself with one hand, and in the other holding a mariner's compass, the car being borne by our great navigators, Sir Francis Drake, Sir Walter Raleigh, Sebastian Cabot, and Captain Cook. In the front of the car, and apparently in the action of meeting it, are four figures, representing Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, ready to lay their several productions in his lap. 5. A picture of the distribution of the Rewards in the Society, containing excellent likenesses of the contemporaneous founders of the Society. The sixth picture, of Elysium, or the state of final retribution, is a most masterly conception. It occupies the whole length of the room, and without any of those anachronisms which tarnish the lustre of other very celebrated performances, brought

together those great and good men of all ages and nations who have acted as cultivators and benefactors of mankind. These paintings are decidedly those to which the attention of the intellectual stranger should prominently be directed. In this room also, in the spring season, the various efforts of the successful candidates for premiums are suspended, forming in themselves a very pleasing exhibition.

The Society reward, with a bounty proportionate to its merit, any communication the subject of which is of a practical nature, and calculated to promote the public good, provided the same has not been made public. No rewards are given for anything which has received the premium of any other Society, or for which a patent has been obtained, as all inventions rewarded by the Society are freely given to the public to be made by any party whatever. Persons sending models or communications are always liberally dealt with, and their communications are treated with promptness.

The following are the officers elected at the anniversary, on April 17th, 1839 :—

President, the Duke of Sussex. Honorary Vice-Presidents, the Dukes of Buccleuch, Northumberland, Bedford, and Sutherland; Earls of Dartmouth, Romney, Radnor, Stanhope, Shrewsbury, Mansfield, Harrowby, Viscount Lowther; Lord Western; Sirs Robert Peel, W. W. Wynne, F. Chantrey; and W. Tooke, Esq., F.R.S.; Acting Vice-Presidents, who preside at the meetings by rotation—Sir J. J. Guest, Bart., M.P., Thomas Hoblyn, Esq., F.R.S., G. Moore, Esq., F.R.S., A. W. Tooke, Esq., F.R.S., J. Hume, Esq., M.P., B. B. Cabbell, Esq., F.R.S., W. H. Hughes, Esq., F.L.S., William Pole, Esq., F.R.S., D. Pollock, Esq., F.R.S., Dr. Roget, F.R.S., J. A. Yates, Esq., M.P.

#### CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES :

Accounts.—W. H. Bodkin, H. Robarts.

Agriculture.—L. Cooke, G. Aikin.

Chemistry.—T. N. R. Morson, H. Hennell.

Colonies and Trade.—H. Solly, J. Phipps.

Correspondence and Papers.—P. Vaughan, R. H. Solly.

Manufactures.—B. P. Witts, T. Winkworth.

Mechanics.—J. Jones, J. De Ville.

Miscellaneous Matters.—M. Staunton, J. Payne.

Polite Arts.—J. Savage, W. Brockedon.

Secretary.—Vacant.

Assistant Secretary.—Mr. T. Woodfall.

Housekeeper.—Miss A. B. Cockings.

Collector.—Mr. H. T. Woodfall.

The statement of the funds for the last year was as follows:—The amount received for Annual Subscriptions and Donations was £926 2s.; Dividends on funded property, £46 8s. 6d., and sale of Transactions, £26 18s. 6d. There had been received for Donations, £353 10s. 6d., a donation by Mrs. Acton of £500, for the establishment of a fund to be called the Acton Fund; and a loan of £100 from Mr. Solly. The total amount of miscellaneous expenses was £1349. The funds of the Society are £388 1s. 4d. in 3½ per cent. reduced, for the Fothergill Fund; £100 in 3 per cent. consols; £536 3s. 8d., in the Acton Trust Fund; and £817 5s. 6d. for the Life Fund. The Society has published 52 volumes of its Transactions.

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### LINNEÆAN SOCIETY.

THE impulse given to the prosecution of science, and the steps which were taken on the continent, in the advancement more particularly of natural history, towards the termination of the eighteenth century, gave a powerful impulse to English philosophers and naturalists. Hitherto, the transactions of the Royal Society had been the only archives for the deposit of the results of their progress, or the arena of their discussion; and its proceedings were so very extensive, that the limits of research in any capacity were of necessity extremely narrow. From the beginning, that learned body had bestowed great attention upon the physiological part of natural history. Mr. Willoughby, the distinguished English naturalist, was one of the original fellows; his friend Ray, the father of English botany, was admitted in the year 1667; Dr. Lister, the great conchologist, was very early associated with it, as well as that admirable vegetable physiologist, Dr. Grew. Nor was France behind-hand with England in attention to the sciences, and particularly natural history. An Aca-

demy of Sciences was instituted at Paris, in 1666, and another some years after at Montpellier. Many similar institutions were set on foot throughout other parts of Europe, one of which was the Imperial Academy Naturæ Curiosorum, begun in 1652. A number of botanic gardens were also established in Germany, and the gardens of Holland were overflowing with riches from the most distant parts of the globe. The Amsterdam garden was now one of the first in Europe; and that of Leyden was very celebrated. The study of nature was, however, nowhere making so uniform and steady a progress as in Sweden; for at Upsal, under the auspices of the great Rudbeck, was laid the foundation of an unrivalled school of natural history, which was destined afterwards to give laws to the rest of the world. During this period several distinguished botanists and naturalists brought forward their systems, upon many of which warm controversy ensued. Nor was this merely a systematic age; as Linnæus asserted that, at the termination of the seventeenth century, within the space of twenty years, twice as many plants were discovered as had been made known by the joint labours of all preceding botanists.

While botany was making this great progress, entomology began to be cultivated, with an assiduity which was amply repaid by the curious and astonishing facts it brought to light; and other admirers of nature turned their attention to shells and marine productions. Mineralogy yet made little progress; for even now Tournefort maintained the vegetation of stones, and Lyster asserted that extraneous fossils were only *lusus naturæ*, and never were the real shells they represented. The removal of Dillenius to England, who published an excellent edition of *Ray's Synopsis of Stirpium Britannicarum*, in 1724; the assistance and encouragement given to the science by those distinguished brothers, William and James Sherard, as well as Sir Hans Sloane, seemed to promise the establishment of the botanic sceptre in this country. Botanists were, however, almost at a stand without arrangement, and the science was again in danger of relapsing into confusion. In this state of things a new turn was given to the science of botany, and indeed to all natural history, by the publication of the *Systema Naturæ* and *Funda-*

*menta Botanica*, of Linnæus, in 1735, which in 1737 were followed by five other works of great merit, all the produce of one year. Returning in 1739 to Sweden, his native country, Linnæus laid the foundation of the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, of which he was the first president; and his medical and botanical lectures at Upsal soon attracted a number of students from all parts of the world, and exalted that university to a degree of fame previously unknown. This may be reckoned the most flourishing period of natural history, when disputes about methods and systems being for the most part laid aside, every admirer of nature's works was employed in practical observations and discoveries; whilst Linnæus, whom nothing escaped, and to whose decision all doubts and difficulties were referred, supervised and methodised the whole. His improvements, in particular, had so much facilitated the study of botany, that it was no longer an abstruse science confined to the schools, but became an agreeable amusement to persons of leisure in all ranks and situations. At this period, in England, great progress had been made in horticulture, particularly by the celebrated Miller's instrumentality. Bartram was sent to America for the purpose of supplying our gardens with plants; and we are much indebted to him, as well as to Houston, who discovered many rare plants in South America and the West Indies. Many expeditions were sent abroad to all parts of the world, in which our own countrymen were not inactive. The age of Linnæus was likewise not less brilliant in zoology; and he closed his bright career after having published his *Manissa Altera*, in 1771, soon after which he died.

In no country were the views and the system of Linnæus more quickly appreciated than in England, and a fresh and more powerful stimulus was thence given to the cultivation of every branch of natural history. The present Society was one of the immediate results; and, taking the name of this great master, was formed on March 18th, 1788, Dr. afterwards Sir Edward Smith being appointed President. The first meetings of the Society were held in a house in Panton-square, and subsequently removed to 15, Gerrard-street, where they were held till the demise of Sir Joseph Banks. Soon after, the Society removed to its present location, in Soho-square, the house

in which Sir Joseph Banks resided, and which was left by him to Mr. Brown, his librarian, of whom it is rented. The Society is endowed by a Royal charter, which was granted by George III., in 1803, when his majesty became the Royal Patron. The by-laws and regulations are nearly a copy of those of the Royal Society. Every candidate for admission must be proposed by three or more Fellows, and his recommendation is read at three successive general meetings, previous to the ballot. The terms of subscription are an admission fee of £6, and an annual payment of £3, or a compensation of £30. Every person elected a Fellow must appear personally to be admitted, within two months after his election, or such will be void.

The Library, which is very extensive, is open to all Members of the Society between the hours of twelve and four on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, and the Museum on Wednesday and Friday; and Fellows may introduce their friends in person, but not otherwise. Members may obtain the loan of books from the library with leave of the Society; but no more than two volumes can be borrowed at one time, nor is any book to be kept longer than six weeks. The ordinary meetings are held on the third Tuesday in January, the first and third Tuesdays in February, March, and April, the first Tuesday in May, and on the first and third Tuesdays in June, November, and December, at eight o'clock in the evening; and every Member may introduce a friend. The anniversary meeting for the election of council and officers is held on the 24th of May, or on the following day, if the 24th should happen to be on a Sunday. Fellows are entitled to a copy of the Transactions, of which eighteen volumes have been published. The museum of the Society is very valuable, and in botanical collections very extensive. The first or principal room, devoted to zoology, contains an extensive collection of the birds of Australia, made by Mr. Caley, who was sent out to that country as botanist by Sir Joseph Banks, and who resided there for nine years. It contains the original examples of the pigeons and parrots, described by Temmick; and the collections of land birds have been described by Mr. Vigors and Dr. Horsfield, in the fifteenth volume of the Society's

Transactions. They are all contained in glass cases made of Flinders wood (the cedar wood of the country), and were purchased by the Society of the late Mr. Caley. The quadrupeds from the same country are also numerous; and amongst others are the Ornithoryncus, Echidna Aculiata, Kola of Cuvier, and various lizards and snakes.

In another room is contained the great Indian *Herbarium*, presented to the Society by the East India Company in 1833. It contains the results of the explorations of all the most eminent modern botanists in that large field of enquiry of our eastern possessions, including those of Dr. Wallich, Buchanan Hamilton, Rotteler, Heyne, &c., and from its arrangement forms a complete geographical collection. Here also is the original herbarium of Linnæus, in the same cases as it stood in the lecture-room of the great botanist, the fruits of which are ornamented with resemblances of large leaves. They contain between 5000 and 6000 species, covered and well preserved; but although so long uninjured in their native country, and at Norwich, they require great protection from the London smoke. Every specimen is named by Linnæus himself, and the most careful reference is made to the originality of specimens. Here is also another collection of five cases, including the herbarium of the younger Linnæus, and also that of Sir James Smith, which is likewise very extensive. On the death of the younger Linnæus, his herbarium with that of his father, was purchased by Sir James Smith, at whose death they, along with his own collection, were purchased by the Society of his executors for three thousand guineas. Some shelves are here set apart to a Linnæan library, containing a collection of the works of this learned author, all of which are interleaved with most copious MS. emendations and alterations. On the title page of his *Philosophia Botanica* is a note by Dryander, stating that it was written by Loeffling, another pupil, in 1749, when Linnæus himself was ill. Amongst other curious manuscripts preserved, is one entitled 'Iter Dalekarlicum,' being the account of a journey in that province of Sweden, celebrated for its mining products, made at the expense of the governor. The journey occupied from

the 3rd of July to the 17th of August, 1734, and the account, which is very extensive and minute in detail, though never published, displays in a remarkable manner his fondness for systematizing. Amongst other particulars is that of his reception by the various parties to whom he carried letters of introduction. One he describes as "much interested in natural history, but very poor, very abject, but very learned;" another is characterized as "good but stupid;" another, "learned but indolent," &c. This collection, abounding in such rich profusion with the handy works of the great master, affords a treat of much interest to his votaries.

A third room contains the Linnæan cabinet of insects, comprising very numerous specimens in good preservation; and, although not very extensive, is useful in determining doubtful species, for which purpose it is much referred to. There are many elegant varieties of the Coleoptera, which keep well; but many of the Lepidoptera have been added by Sir James Smith, as Linnæus had possession of but few, the principal part of those described in his works being taken from those in the Queen of Sweden's collection. Amongst others, there are some varieties of the death's head moth, a great increase to which has taken place since the general introduction of potatoes into this country. The cabinet of the Society is rich, containing General Hardwicke's collection made in India, and an extensive one from New Holland. In a small ante-room are the Linnæan cabinet of shells, with a collection made by Sir Joseph Banks on the voyage with Captain Cook, and that of Dr. Pulteney. Here are also the herbaria of the latter, and a valuable Hortus Siccus of Mr. Jenkinson Woodward, bequeathed by him to the Society.

A fourth room contains a valuable collection of birds, principally made by General Hardwicke in Northern India, including a fine *Cygnus Nigricans* from the Straits of Magellan, an Albatross, &c. Amongst the quadrupeds is the *Dasiurus Ursinus*, or native devil of Van Dieman's Land; the original specimen of *Capra Americana*, or goat of the rocky mountains, from the late General Davis; the musk antelope, and wild sheep from Thibet, from General Hardwicke; *Ailurus fulgens*, from Nepaul; the striped or *Hyæna Opossum*, or the *Thylacinus Cyanocephalus*,

the largest carnivorous animal, from New Holland. The animals are generally in good preservation. In adjacent passages is a fine specimen of *Sagus Ruffia* of Madagascar in fruit, and a large tree fern from Sylhett, in Bengal (*Alsophila Brunoniana*), about thirty-five feet high. There are likewise copious indexes to the Wallichian, Linnæan, and other herbaria.

In the meeting-room are two busts, by Chantrey, of Sir Joseph Banks and Sir James Smith, the two earliest friends and supporters of the Society. The walls are ornamented with portraits of some of its most distinguished members, amongst whom are Dr. Solander, Mr. Brown, A. B. Lambert, Esq., Mr. Yarrell, Mr. Dickson, Mr. Forster, Dr. Wallich, Mr. Macleay, Mr. Menzies, the botanist, who made a voyage round the world with Vancouver, and who is still living at a ripe old age; with those of Linnæus and Dr. Trew, of Nuremberg. The library is a select and varied collection of works on every department of natural history.

The meetings of the Linnæan Society are well attended, but the proceedings are rarely possessed of interest, the communications being upon the more technical details of scientific enquiry, and never of a very popular character. The chair is generally taken at eight o'clock, and the proceedings last but one hour. The new President since his election has been pretty constant in his attendance; and in his absence the duties of the chair devolve generally upon Mr. Forster, the Vice-President and Treasurer. The Fellows themselves seem principally attracted by the opportunity for conversation which the evenings of meeting afford; and there are often exhibited upon the tables matters of botanical novelty, or specimens of natural history, which form the subject of after conversation.

The following are the officers and council elected on the 24th of May last: President, the Bishop of Norwich; Secretary, Dr. Boott, and Under-Secretary, Mr. Richard Taylor; Treasurer, Edward Forster, Esq.; Council, the Duke of Northumberland, Mr. A. Aikin, F. G. S., Mr. J. I. Bennett, Mr. G. Bentham, Dr. Robert Brown, Dr. W. J. Burchell, Dr. T. Horsfield, Mr. A. B. Lambert, Mr. J. W. Lubbock, Mr. R. Owen, Dr. J. Forbes Royle, and Mr. W. Yarrell.

The motto is "*Naturæ discere Mores.*" The crest is a wreath of flowers behind a mount, on which vegetates the *Linnæa Borealis*, the sun rising in splendour.

**BOTANY AND HORTICULTURE.**

It is remarked by Mr. Loudon, that "although London is perhaps the only capital in the world without a botanic garden, there is not a place where there is greater love for the beauties of nature." The facilities which are afforded for gratifying these intellectual and pleasing tastes, by the establishments formed particularly for their advancement, the societies which in their periodic exhibitions display the choicest products of nature, in art and skill of cultivation, with the private collections of its nurseries, however, compensate in many respects for this deficiency. The great increase of Societies through the country for the encouragement of botanical and horticultural pursuits, shows a wide spreading taste; and hence it is not improbable that this subject will form a large portion of attraction to those drawn to the metropolis on purposes of intellectual pleasure. That the support given throughout Great Britain is tolerably adequate, is shown in the following list of the

**BOTANIC GARDENS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.**

Name.	Size, Acres.	Species.	Income.
Chelsea . . . . .	3	—	—
Horticultural (Chiswick)	33	—	£6500
Kew . . . . .	—	10,000	—
Oxford . . . . .	5	3000	—
Cambridge . . . . .	3½	9000	—
Liverpool . . . . .	6	6000	—
Bury . . . . .	9	—	350
Manchester . . . . .	17	—	1403
Birmingham . . . . .	16½	3000	—
Sheffield . . . . .	17½	—	1900
Edinburgh . . . . .	16	5000	—
Glasgow . . . . .	8	9000	—
Dublin . . . . .	3½	5000	—
Do. Glasnevin . . . . .	16	5000	1020

Amongst other botanical gardens are—Hull, founded in 1802; York, in 1822; Colchester; Leeds, which cost £10,000; Cheltenham, in 1837; Newcastle and Bath, in 1838; Cork and Belfast, 1830. The Gardeners' Gazette Almanac for 1839, also contains a list of nearly 300 Provincial, Horticultural, and Botanical Societies, for public exhibitions, and the award of prizes.

The earliest record which we possess of a botanic garden in England is that of the celebrated John Gerarde, the father of English herbalism. The garden of this botanist was at Holborn, and a catalogue of its contents appeared in 1596 and 1599. In 1630, the elder Tradescant had a garden of exotics in South Lambeth, which was by Elias Ashmole presented to the University of Oxford, in 1677. The next garden on record was that of the Company of Apothecaries, which in a few years arrived at a high degree of importance, and may be looked upon as the progenitor of all others. It is known by the name of the

#### PHYSIC GARDEN, CHELSEA.

In the records of the Apothecaries' Company, we find that in June, 1676, the Court of Assistants took Mrs. Gapes's lease of a garden in Westminster off her hands, for the remaining two years, for the sum of £16, the rent being £2; but it is not clear that the place was used for any other purpose than that of growing medicinal herbs for the laboratory, though in Evelyn's Diary mention is made of a medical garden at Westminster, under "Morgan, a skilful botanist." In 1677, Richard Pratt was the gardener at Chelsea, at a salary of £30 a-year and his lodging; and in the autumn of that year the garden was planted with fruit trees, and a large crop of herbs was furnished for the laboratory. In 1680, Mr. John Watts was appointed to manage the garden, at a salary of £50 a-year; and in 1681, a greenhouse was erected at an expense of £138, which building has been removed for some years. In 1682, Dr. Herman, of Leyden, proposed an exchange of plants, which was effected; and about this time four cedar trees were planted in the garden near the river, being at the time three feet high. Two of them still remain, and are now very magnificent specimens of the cedars of Lebanon; the others being cut down about a

century ago, in consequence of their decayed state and their overshadowing the greenhouse. The expense of the garden at this period, exclusive of the gardener's salary, was estimated at £130 annually. In Evelyn's Diary of August 7th, 1685, is the following notice, which will cause a smile on the faces of those who are accustomed to the improvements of the present day:—"I went to see Mr. Watts, keeper of the Apothecaries' Garden of Simples, at Chelsea, where there is a collection of innumerable varieties of that sort, particularly, besides many rare annuals, the tree bearing Jesuit's Bark, which had done such wonders in quartan agues. What was very ingenious was the subterranean heat, conveyed by a stove under the conservatory, all vaulted with brick, so as he has the doors and windows open in the hardest frosts, secluding only the snow." In the *Archæologia* of the Antiquarian Society, the garden, in 1691, is thus described:—"Chelsea Physic Garden has great variety of plants both in and out of green-houses; their perennial green hedges, and rows of different coloured herbs, are very pretty; and so are the banks, set with shades of herbs in the Irish stichway; but many plants in the garden were not in so good order as might be expected. I learned that Mr. Watts was blamed for his neglect, and would be removed." Mr. Doody, whose intelligence in the investigation of those imperfect plants, called Cryptogamous, was unexampled, and of whom honourable mention has been made by Ray and Jussieu, continued to manage the garden till his death, in 1707. In 1718, the garden sustained a further loss in the death of James Petiver, the demonstrator of plants to the Society, at whose funeral Sir Hans Sloane officiated as pall-bearer. In 1722, the deed of conveyance of the garden from Sir Hans Sloane was laid before a Court of Assistants, approved, and ordered to be sealed; and in August of the same year the first presentation was made of fifty plants to the Royal Society, agreeably to a covenant in the deed, which has been fulfilled many years back, so that no more presentations are now made. In 1732, the Company erected the present green-house, after a design of Mr. Edward Oakley. It is 110 feet in length, and over it is a library, containing a large collection of botanical works, and specimens of dried plants,

adjoining which are the apartments of the gardener. In 1733, a statue was erected in front of the green-house to Sir Hans Sloane, but in 1748 it was removed to the place it now occupies in the centre of the garden, and placed on a pedestal. In the summer of 1771, the front of the gardens towards the Thames was embanked, at an expense of £400. Miller, Forsyth, and Curtis, have all contributed to gain for these gardens their celebrity: the two former as gardeners, and the latter as botanical demonstrator to the Company of Apothecaries; and on the death of Mr. Fairburn (who was gardener for upwards of thirty years) in 1814, on the recommendation of Sir Joseph Banks and Sir J. E. Smith, the present curator, Mr. Anderson, was appointed at a salary of £100 a-year, and the usual apartments. On account of the great age and infirmities of his predecessor, the gardens had experienced much neglect; but since Mr. Anderson has had the management these have been greatly improved.

The garden is nearly square, and covers about two acres of ground; the southern side being bounded by the river, and the northern by the main street of Chelsea, the whole being surrounded by a lofty wall. The green-house and two conservatories which adjoin it, are on the northern side, and the whole is laid out in walks, dividing the ground into square and oblong plots, of which there are a great many; and there is also on the western side another hot-house of smaller dimensions, and two tanks of an oval shape, for the cultivation of aquatic plants, which are very old, and surrounded by stone in a very ruinous condition. On the southern side are the two gigantic cedars already mentioned, which when measured by Miller, in 1750, were eleven feet in circumference. They were again measured by Sir Joseph Banks in 1793, when the larger of them was, at three feet from the ground, twelve feet eleven inches and a half in circumference, and the smaller eleven feet, since which time they have not much increased in size. The walls of the garden are covered with trees of various sorts, but there is nothing of any rarity amongst them. In the first conservatory, amongst the finest specimens, are *Zamia Caffra*; the *Zamia horrida*, or date tree; many specimens of Cacti; the *Opuntia cochinalifera*; *Musa Paradisica*; *Cycas revoluta*, &c. In the

green-house is a superb specimen of the *Aloe plicatulus*, as old as the days of Miller; *Yucca Spinosa*, or Adam's needle; *Ficus elastica*; and in the western green-house various sorts of hardy herbaceous plants. Here are a collection of Cacti; the *Buonapartia juncea*, or Buona-parté's rush, a plant taken at sea, when being sent as a present to the Empress Josephine; a small collection of *Bignonia*, recently sent from Berlin by M. Otto, curator of the botanic garden there. The western sides of the garden-beds have recently been laid out with almost every species of grass, arranged according to the latest improvements in botanical science. The plants are generally in a very healthy state, but the gardens are susceptible of very great improvement, and many repairs are absolutely necessary. These have been retarded by the prospect of changing the site of the gardens, respecting which some observations may be seen at a future page. We must also notice the beds containing almost every species of Rhubarb.

The Physic Garden, as belonging to the Company of Apothecaries, is not strictly open to the public, but through the introduction of members of that body. Lectures to students are delivered during the season by Dr. Lindley, in the lecture-room fitted up in the green-house, which are practically illustrated from the numerous specimens contained in the gardens. Mr. Anderson, the present curator, who is a fellow of the Linnæan Society, and enthusiastically devoted to botanical pursuits, gives every facility to the admission of strangers, none of whom can go away unimproved or uninstructed with the benefit of his conversation.

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### **KEW BOTANIC GARDENS.**

THE Royal Gardens at Kew, on the banks of the Thames, deserve the next notice, as having preceded the formation of societies for the special cultivation of horticulture, and as containing an extremely varied and rich collection. They were originally planned by that distinguished character, Frederick, Prince of Wales, the father of King George the Third; and comprise an extent of 120 acres. The surface is flat, but owing to the tasteful

disposition of trees and shrubs, the grounds exhibit a considerable variety of scenery. They are nearly surrounded by wood, amidst which rises a pagoda or Chinese temple to the height of 160 feet, and was designed by Sir William Chambers, who afterwards published a description of the Gardens and Palace of Kew, in folio. The exotic garden was established about the year 1760, after the Prince's death, chiefly by the influence of the Marquis of Bute, a great encourager of botany and gardening. By him it was placed under the care of Mr. William Aiton, who had long been assistant to the famous Philip Miller at Chelsea. A catalogue of the plants of this garden was first published by Dr. Hill in 1768, under the title of *Hortus Kewensis*. A more scientific work under the same title was given to the public in 1789 by Mr. Aiton, the superintendent, assisted by Dr. Solander, which extended to three volumes octavo; and between 1810 and 1813, an improved and enlarged edition, in five volumes octavo, was published by Mr. William Townsend Aiton, the present curator, who succeeded his father, being assisted in the first three volumes by the late Mr. Dryander, and, after the death of that botanist, in the remaining two volumes by Mr. Robert Brown, author of the *Prodromus Floræ Novæ Hollandiæ*, and justly considered as one of the first botanists of the age.

The first house to which the attention of visitors is directed is the Palm House, the dimensions of which are 60 feet by 14 feet. It contains about fifteen species; amongst the most prominent of which is the *Corypha umbrachillifera*, or Talipot plant, from the Isle of France, the fibres of which the natives spin into cloth. The second house, called the Middle Stove, is devoted to tropical plants from the East and West Indies; amongst which is the Bread Fruit tree, the attempt to the introduction of which into the latter was the cause of the celebrated mutiny of the *Bounty*. The third house, which is of the highest degree of temperature, and technically called the Roaster, is also devoted to tropical plants; amongst the most prominent of which is the *Papyrus antiquorum*, grown in water; and at the alternate end of the building is the *Cyprus alternifolia*, from which

the Ceylonese make their straw plaits and sails. The fourth house contains plants from the Cape of Good Hope, Madeira, the South of Europe, and Botany Bay; and amongst other rare plants, is a fine specimen of *Araucaria Cunninghamii*. The fifth house is exclusively devoted to Botany Bay specimens; amongst which is a fine plant of *Araucaria imbricata*, with several varieties of *Banksia* and *Dryandrea*; this collection displaying the great activity and enterprise of Sir Joseph Banks in the obtaining of specimens from that country. The sixth house, called the Geranium House, is devoted to the Dwarf Palms and half Orchidaceous plants, where is seen *Strelitzia Augusta*; *Cycas sassenalis*, or the Sago tree; *Ficus elastica*, or Indian Rubber tree, from which much milky juice exudes on excision; several Tree Ferns; a fine specimen of *Phoenix dactylifera*, or the Date Palm; a *Zamia pungens*, from Africa, which has bloomed for the first time in this collection; several specimens of *Cereus* and *Euphorbia*; an *Agave Americanus*, of very large size; and *Euphorbia grandidens*, the plant from which the Indians poison their arrows. The small dry stove contains a fine collection of the Cactus tribe, in high perfection; including four specimens of *Cereus grandiflorus*, which bloomed this season; *Opuntia cochinitifera*, the Cochineal plant; and several Rocky plants from the Cape of Good Hope. The Orange House is of the dimensions of 140 feet by 60 feet, and contains a large collection of plants; which, however, deteriorate much by their being transferred for the artificial decoration of Buckingham Palace. The *New House*, originated by his late Majesty, is about 100 feet in length, and 48 in breadth, with a height of 40 feet: it is devoted principally to New Holland plants, which are in a very healthy condition. It is heated by hot water; and the arrangements are very well concealed in a subterranean excavation under the building.

Amongst the trees in the grounds, the first which strikes attention is one grown from a slip of the Willow over Buonaparte's tomb at St. Helena, a new species, and denominated *Salix Buonapartea*, which is on the principal walk in the entrance to the gardens. The most remarkable specimen is the *Araucaria imbricata*, or

Chili Pine, which has been in the gardens for thirty-one years, of which it has been exposed in the open grounds for twenty-one years. The plant is about twelve feet high, the stem being two feet in circumference; and it never grows higher in its native country, where it is used in making fences. This specimen merely requires protection in winter: it stood the last severe one remarkably well, being little affected. There is likewise, in the open ground, a fine *Araucaria excelsa*, from Norfolk Island, thirty-feet high; *A. Cunninghamii*, from New South Wales; and *A. Braziliensis*, from the Brazils. Amongst other plants deserving notice are the Green and Black Tea plants; a fine *Vitis vinifera laciniosa*; and *Brussonelia papyrifera*, or Paper Mulberry, a native of the Levant, which is, however, fading from the effects of the winter of 1837.

Until within the last year, the Gardens had got into great disorder, were almost unworthy public notice, and nearly unknown. Through the exertions of Mr. Glenny, however, whose merits are well known to the botanical as well as the horticultural world, the gardens have been put in good order, and great steps have been taken in labelling the plants so as to render them easy of reference. An intelligent man waits upon each company, and directs their attention to the most prominent articles of notice. No specimens from the gardens are sold, but exchanges are made with different public horticultural societies, or private individuals. The Gardens are open to the public daily throughout the year, with the exception of Sundays, from one till six o'clock in summer, and dusk in winter.

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THE GARDENS OF KEW PALACE are open to the public every Thursday and Sunday, from twelve o'clock; and the walks have an extent of upwards of three miles. In the Arboretum are several fine *Acacias*, from North America; *Laurus sassafras*, or Sassafras tree; *Pyrus torminales*; several fine variegated Oaks. In these grounds are several temples, which have a picturesque effect in display; one of which, called the Mushroom Temple, derives its name from an anecdote told of it

relating to George III. It was built by order of the Princess Amelia, opposite, though very remote from, the bed-room of her father, and erected in one night. On rising in the morning, that monarch expressed his surprise that such a large mushroom had sprung up in the night, to which his fancy not inaptly associated it.

As a national collection, the expenses of these Gardens are defrayed by a national grant, but their continuance under present arrangements is problematical.

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### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WHILST in proportion to the progress of refinement in science, the principal attention of the Royal Society was devoted to abstruse and scientific labours, which could not be addressed to the mass of mankind, and the Linnæan Society became the special conservator of nomenclature and scientific classification, Horticulture was for some time comparatively neglected, and left to the common gardener, who generally pursued the dull routine of his predecessor; and if he deviated from it, rarely possessed a sufficient share of science and information to enable him to do so with success. It was known that improved flowers and fruits were the necessary produce of improved culture, and that the offspring in a greater or less degree inherited the character of the parent; that the austere crab of our woods had thus been converted into the golden pippin, and the numerous varieties of plums could boast of no other parent than the common sloe. Few experiments had however been made, and the prospects of an ample and unexplored field for enquiry, in bringing forth the practical benefits of botanical knowledge, stimulated the formation of the Horticultural Society. The idea for establishing it originated with John Wedgewood, Esq. of Betley, in Staffordshire, at whose instance a meeting was held at the house of Mr. Hatchard, in Piccadilly, on 7th March, 1804, to take into consideration the most effectual means of accomplishing the object desired. At this meeting, which was attended by the Rt. Hon. Charles Greville, Sir Joseph Banks, Bart., Messrs. Salisbury, Aiton,

Maher, Forsyth, and Dickson, the chair was taken by Mr. Wedgewood, when such resolutions were passed as were deemed necessary for the immediate regulation of the infant Society. It was also agreed, that each of these original Members should have the privilege of recommending three persons to become Members. From the year 1804 to the spring of 1809, the Society continued to increase, the Members after their first nomination being chosen by ballot; and as it was daily acquiring a character which promised fair to place it beyond the vicissitudes arising from fashion or caprice, those gentlemen who took an active share in its direction, felt the propriety of obtaining its incorporation by royal charter. This was accomplished, and the charter, bearing date of 17th April, 1809, was addressed to George Earl of Dartmouth, Earl Powis, Bishop of Winchester, Lord Selsey, Charles Greville, Sir Joseph Banks, W. Aiton, J. Elliot, T. A. Knight, C. Miller, R. A. Salisbury, J. Trevelyan, James Dickson, Thomas Hoy, and William Smith, of whom the three last were gardeners. The first volume of Transactions was published in 1812, containing fifty-five communications, from Sir Joseph Banks, Mr. Knight, Mr. Maher,\* Mr. Salisbury, and other practical men. These have gone on since increasing in interest, until the last few years, when a stop seems to have been put upon the horticultural energy of the Society, as far as its exertions in the cause of science are concerned.

The first gardens of the Society were at Hammersmith, opposite Holland House, and occupied a space of one acre and a half, of which they took possession in 1816. In 1823, through the exertions of Mr. Sabine, a very active Member of the Council, possession was obtained of thirty-three acres from the Duke of Devonshire, of land adjoining his own at Chiswick, on Turnham Green. These have since been planted with every regard to display, and the collection of hardy exotic, as well as indigenous species, particularly New Holland and Cape plants, is both valuable and extensive. The grounds are also laid out

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\* Mr. Maher, of Fisher-street, Red Lion-square, now the only remaining of the seven original Members, is possessed of extensive horticultural knowledge, which he is very ready to communicate.

in a very picturesque manner, with every regard to the effect of the periodical exhibitions which take place. The part laid aside for the cultivation of fruit is extensive, and the houses include one for orchidaceæ, one for greenhouse plants, two for stove plants, and one for cacti and mesembreanthemums. There are also two vineries, with a display of the most excellent quality of grapes, with several pits and frames for forced productions.

The Society have published seven volumes of its Transactions, containing a record of all the useful developments that have taken place in horticultural science since its establishment. A great drawback to its prosperity is the very heavy debt, incurred during the period when the late Mr. Sabine was secretary, which exceeded £19,000, but which is not to be ascribed, perhaps, to any fault of his, but rather to the council not enabling him to carry out projects which they had previously sanctioned. At the thirtieth annual meeting, held the 1st of May, 1839, the report exhibited a more favourable account of the finances of the Society than for many years past, as the increase exceeded the expenditure by £1364 16s. 6d. The receipts for 1838 were £5721 10s. 4d., and the expenditure was £5664 12s. 6d., including a bond cancelled of £500. The bonded debt is now £9850, and that on open account £2556, making the total debts £12,406, not including however a sum of £430 due for medals awarded. Against this amount is to be placed £7101 due to the Society, much of which consists of arrears that can never be collected; but the other assets of the Society, comprising the house, furniture, and library, in Regent-street, and the Gardens at Chiswick, with the various property therein, are of greater value. Amongst the receipts was the item of subscription of £3962 3s. 6d., and a balance transferred from the garden exhibition account, being the profit of the three shows for 1838 of £1712 5s. 7d. The interest of the bond is one of the heaviest amounts in the disbursements, being £515, and greatly cripples the Society's usefulness; amongst other items of expenditure was that of foreign missions. The officers and council then elected for the present year were, President, the Duke of Devonshire; Treasurer, Thomas. Edgar, Esq.; and Secretary, G.

Bentham, Esq. Council, Mr. E. W. Pendarves, M. P., R. H. Solly, J. R. Gowen, E. Barnard, H. Moreton Dyer, G. Loddiges, H. Bevan, Sir P. G. Egerton, Oswald Mosley, and Charles Lemon, and Dr. Henderson. Dr. Lindley holds the appointment of Assistant Secretary, but is not a Member of the Council.

The general meetings of the Fellows are held at the house of the Society, 21, Regent-street, on the first and third Tuesdays in every month, from February to October, on the first Tuesdays of November and December, and on the third Tuesday in January, the chair being taken at two o'clock precisely in winter, and three o'clock in summer. At these Meetings, communications made to the Society, on new or important subjects in horticulture, are read; the most remarkable produce of the garden of the Society for the time being is displayed; fruits, vegetables, and flowers, sent for exhibition are shown, and prizes awarded to the most meritorious; and seeds, cuttings, grafts, and plants procured by, or presented to the Society, are occasionally distributed to the fellows present. Visitors introduced by a fellow, are admitted. In addition to the business above mentioned, candidates to become fellows and members of the Society are balloted for, and medals are awarded to meritorious exhibitors.

Every candidate for admission into the Society as a fellow, must be proposed by three or more fellows, one of whom must be personally acquainted with him, or with his writings. The certificate of recommendation must specify the name, rank, and usual place of residence of the candidate, who will be balloted for, after the certificate has been read at two general meetings of the Society. The fee to be paid on the election and admission of a new fellow is six guineas, and the contribution to the Society in each year, from the time of his election, is four guineas, which charge is payable on the first of May, for the year preceding, but may be compounded for, by the payment of forty guineas at any one time, before the contribution of the current year becomes due. Ladies have all the rights and privileges of other fellows, and have also the right of naming a proxy to vote at all general meetings of the Society, such proxy not to be changed more than once in each year.

Any person exercising the trade or profession of a gardener (not in business upon his own account), who shall have received the large medal of the Society, or shall have communicated a paper, which shall have been printed in the Transactions of the Society, may, if approved by the council, be elected, and enjoy all the privileges of a fellow, upon the payment of one guinea for his admission fee, and of one guinea for his contribution in each year. The corresponding members are not subject to any payments; they are elected at a general meeting of the Society, on the recommendation of the council, as persons who, from their knowledge and skill in horticulture, or from the circumstance of their residing in particular places, are likely, by their communications and assistance, to promote the objects of the Society.

The Garden at Chiswick is open from nine o'clock till six every day, except Sunday, for the inspection of fellows of the Society, and visitors introduced by the fellows, either personally or by order. From this garden, seeds or cuttings are supplied gratuitously to the fellows of the Society. Three exhibitions are annually held at the Garden, at which medals are awarded to the best exhibitors. On these occasions, fellows alone are admitted without tickets, and are entitled to purchase tickets for the admission of their friends, part of which are issued to them at a lower price than to the public. The Society has formed a collection of drawings of the most approved fruits and ornamental plants, kept for the inspection of the fellows, in the library, at the Society's house in Regent-street; and also an extensive collection of waxen models of fruit, kept at the Garden of the Society. The library consists principally of books on subjects relating to horticulture; it has been formed both by purchases and presents, and contains now the most considerable collection of horticultural works in this kingdom.

The meetings of the Horticultural Society are very well attended during the fashionable season; and no stranger who possesses the facility of introduction through the medium of a member, but will be struck with the ever-varying novel productions which are there displayed. The exhibition embraces specimens of art and skill from members and others, for which medals are awarded ac-

ording to their degree of merit; and a selection of specimens from the Gardens of the Society which are the most prominent or the most novel. Articles for exhibition must be sent before noon, when they are displayed on the different tables in the meeting-room, which from its degree of light is well adapted for their exhibition, and visitors are admitted to inspect them one hour previous to the time of meeting. The chairman is very punctual in presiding: this duty generally devolving upon Dr. Henderson or Mr. H. M. Dyer, a well-known metropolitan magistrate. It is rare that either have to make observations; but the latter made a very feeling address on the occasion of a meeting held June 19th, 1838, for the election of a new President, in the room of T. A. Knight, Esq., and when the Duke of Devonshire was appointed to that office. The decease of the former took place on May 11th, just after the anniversary meeting for 1838, to attend which he had purposely come up to town from his seat at Downton Castle, in Herefordshire. For the last few years of his life his annual attendance was confined but to two or three occasions, and his successor has at yet presided but on one occasion, that of the meeting following his election. The anniversary meeting is confined to reading a short report of the auditors, and the usual election of officers, and it is attended by a very few members. At the ordinary meetings, after the usual routine business of similar Societies, any paper or communication that may have been received is read by Dr. Lindley. The same gentleman then describes the most prominent articles contained in the various collections; making such remarks upon their qualities or modes of growth, or giving such information as may be desirable. This is done in a pleasing conversational style, and from the learning and acquirements of Dr. Lindley, proves very instructive and interesting. Novel specimens of fruit, which may be exhibited, are sent round the room to be inspected or eaten.

The number of exhibitors is not very great; but amongst the most prominent are Mrs. Lawrence, from her garden at Acton, whose collections consist of miscellaneous plants and heaths; Mr. Redding, gardener to Mrs. Marryatt, at Wimbledon; Mr. Green, gardener to Sir Edmund

Antrobus, at Cheam; Mr. Pratt, gardener to Mr. Harrison, at Cheshunt; Mr. Glenny, of Worton-lodge, near Isleworth; Mr. Don, gardener to Mr. Bateman, of Congleton, in Cheshire, the well-known author of *Sertum orchidaceæ* (new and rare orchidaceous plants); Mr. Toward, gardener to the Duchess of Gloucester, at Bagshot Park; Mr. Rollison, of Tooting, for orchidaceous plants; Hon. W. F. Strangways, Abbotsbury, Dorsetshire, for cut flowers, &c. The exhibitors at the Gardens, where the prizes are profusely distributed, are much more numerous.

The Medals awarded by the Society are the gold Knightian\* and Banksian; the large silver, and the silver Knightian and Banksian Medals. Tickets for the exhibitions are obtainable early in April, at 3s. 6d. each; prior to the shows, at 5s.; and on the days of exhibition, at the Gardens, 10s. each.

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### **ROYAL SOCIETY AND CENTRAL SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE AND AGRICULTURE.**

THIS Society was established in a spirit of honest rivalry to the Horticultural Society, through the exertions of Mr. George Glenny, for a long time an active exhibitor and Fellow of that Association. Its objects are alike to promote the interests of Horticulture and Agriculture, and to encourage the cultivation of superior Fruit, Flowers, Plants, Vegetables, and Agricultural produce.

The means by which it is proposed to accomplish these are—

1st. By establishing periodical Exhibitions of Fruit,

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\* Mr. Knight was one of the earliest promoters of the Horticultural Society, his name being inserted in the charter of incorporation. On the death of Lord Dartmouth, the first President, in 1811, he was elected to fill that office; Sir Joseph Banks, who was solicited to undertake it, having resigned in his favour. He was a constant, and of late almost the sole contributor, to the Transactions of the Society, and although distinguished particularly for his attention to fruits, he was well versed in every department of practical horticulture. His fortune was not princely, but his gifts to the promotion of science were munificent, and his domains in Herefordshire displayed a very interesting development of the principles of modern horticulture.—*Gardener's Gazette*, Vol. ii. p. 308.

Plants, Flowers, Agricultural Produce, and Machines and Implements used in their production, on fixed days in each month, at which rewards shall be given for whatever is really meritorious or rare.

2nd. By providing periodical Lectures on Botany, Natural History, and Practical Gardening and Agriculture, to which Working Gardeners and Amateurs shall be admitted under certain regulations; and at which proper and separate accommodation shall be provided for the Patrons and Patronesses, and persons introduced by them. At such Lectures, plants are to be introduced, various experiments made, and the whole rendered as light, entertaining, and popular as possible.

3rd. By the formation of a Library, a collection of Drawings and Engravings, and a Museum—by the reading of papers on the cultivation of various subjects, and by their publication afterwards.

The operations of the Society commenced on the 5th of October, 1837, by a splendid Exhibition of Fruit, Flowers, Plants, and Vegetables, in the principal room and gallery of the Egyptian Hall, when the distribution of nearly seventy medals for superior productions took place; and it is not too much to say, that no exhibition in the metropolis ever approached it in the quality of the subjects exhibited, many of which were exceedingly rare and beautiful; and one, a noble specimen of the *Cycas revoluta*, which has rarely been bloomed, and never before exhibited in that state in Europe, was honoured with the Gold Victoria Medal, value ten guineas. Since this, the Exhibitions have been held monthly, and have been distinguished by the introduction of rare and valuable specimens never before equalled in this country. The *Musa Cavendishii*, the first exhibited in fruit, has been honoured by the Gold Medal, awarded to Lucombe, Pince, and Co.; and many rare subjects have been produced by exhibitors, two hundred and twenty of whom have been successful. The Exhibitions of May, June, and July of last year, held at Cremorne House, Chelsea, excelled everything of the kind previously held in this country; and those of the present year, although held under every disadvantage of weather, have kept up its well-earned reputation. The Lectures have been esta-

blished upwards of twelve months; and are continued on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings throughout the year, with the interval only of a short recess. They are for convenience delivered in a large room over the *Gardeners' Gazette* Office: where also the Botanical periodicals and a few works, presented towards a library, are kept, and to which all the exhibitors are admitted free of expense.

The Exhibitions and distribution of Medals are supported by the sale of tickets of admission, in the same way as those of the Horticultural Society of London are supported. The Gardens, Library, and Museum are also supported by subscriptions; such subscriptions entitling the subscriber to access on all open days, so long as such shall be continued. The great objection of the public to subscribe to projects which render them liable for the engagements of a society, has always operated as a drawback upon all institutions which require large outlay; and the subscriptions, therefore, of two guineas per annum, entitle the subscribers to attend all the Shows and Lectures of the Society, and to write orders for the admission of their friends to the Gardens on certain days in the week; but they are by no means liable to serve any office or become responsible in any way whatever.

The Gardens of the Society are in a first-rate situation, on the Great Western Road, opposite Chiswick-lane, known as Stafford House and grounds. A large flower-hall has recently been erected for the purpose of the summer shows, which is 150 feet in length by  $21\frac{1}{2}$  feet in height, and of a fine broad bold span; the present extent of the ground enclosed being three acres. With respect to this department an evil incurred by other societies is removed; for it is intended that whatever new Plants or seeds, beyond what are required for the collections, or for ornamenting the Gardens, may be procured or presented, shall be immediately disposed of among the exhibitors and supporters of the undertaking; but that at no time shall there be any propagation of Plants or Seeds that may interfere with the trade or profession of a nurseryman or florist.

The Exhibitors of this Society are extremely numerous: including not only all those of the parent one, but a great

many others beside, who are stimulated by the liberality of the awards. The prizes are distributed with justice and discretion; and the decisions of the judges are universally approved as a pattern to other Societies. The management of the grounds is conducted by Mr. Vernon, who is a very successful cultivator. The visitors to the exhibitions, although not so numerous as the above, are select, frequently including members of the Royal Family and the Nobility, who, under her Majesty, are the patrons.

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### ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY.

THE want of a public Botanical Garden in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, now professes to be realised, as it forms one of the principal objects of this Society. It has been established in the course of the present year, having for its President the Duke of Richmond, and including amongst its supporters the most eminent Botanists and Scientific men in the metropolis. As yet the Society is scarcely organized; but it will be constituted similarly to other Scientific Societies, under the management of a President and Council, and composed of Fellows and Members—a charter of incorporation likewise being in progress. It is also intended to hold periodical meetings, for the reading of papers and the discussion of subjects connected with Botany, or its adaptation to the Arts, which form a very prominent object of the operations of the Society. The site chosen for the Gardens is the inner circle of the Regent's Park, once occupied as Jenkins's Nursery-ground, of an extent of about 18 acres. In the laying out of the grounds, the geographical and physical distribution of plants is to be preserved as much as possible; and a necessary adjunct is the application of national architecture in the buildings devoted to the production of individual countries; and while these several ornamental edifices will present a synopsis of the various styles of architecture, a proper selection of statues and vases will afford the benefit of a gallery or museum. The plants are to be arranged according to the two great systems of classification—the artificial and natural; and the circle is proposed to be distributed

into compartments for the reception of those indigenous to the different quarters of the globe, these being again subdivided into gardens, in illustration of the style of ornamental gardens of the several countries of the great divisions. The grounds allow of excellent opportunity for display; and the conservatory will be on a large scale, so as to give every facility for the growth of the more magnificent tropical plants. At the entrance of the grounds from the grand drive leading from the Colosseum, a building will be erected, devoted to the general business of the Society, and containing a library, a museum, and rooms for study. The library will consist of botanical works and periodicals, and to it will be annexed a reading-room for the use of Fellows and Members. The museum will contain dried specimens, drawings, and engravings of recent plants, and specimens of fossils; and it would augment the value of these latter, if they were accompanied by such recent plants as are identical to them, or have the nearest relation. Mr. Laxton is the able architect of the grounds, and is well known for his taste in garden display.

The first *Converzazione*, which was given on the 1st of June, was an earnest of the future prosperity of the Society, as well as its utility in the promotion of those objects for which it was established. The company was extremely numerous and select, and amongst other distinguished individuals who were present were—the Prince of Oude; the Duke and Duchess of Richmond; the Duke of Norfolk; the Earls of Albemarle, Roseberry, Dartmouth, and Stanhope; the Countesses of Dartmouth, Stanhope, de Salis, &c.; the Bishop of Durham; Sir George Staunton; A. W. Hope, Esq., M.P.; and many others equally capable of appreciating its objects and carrying out its designs to their fullest extent. The show of flowers was only secondary to the various branches of art, which demonstrate the successful application of the principles educed from Botanical study, to use or ornamental embellishment. The former were supplied liberally from the Gardens of the Society; and Sir Geo. Staunton contributed some valuable specimens, that were contained in the large front room, which formed a pleasing introduction to the instances and efforts of their practical application that occupied several other rooms. The advantages of this Society in these exhibitions are the more obvious, as what should be legitimately done by the Society of Arts is not attempted by any other society or establishment; and here the author may notice the unsuccessful attempt for the establishment on a permanent basis of the Museum of National Manufactures, in Leicester-square, as he had the honour to be connected with

that establishment nearly the whole period of its existence, and was personally known to the majority of its exhibitors and patrons. Many whose objects were at that establishment brought before public notice to the benefit of the exhibitors and the advantage of the public, will now find in the Conversations, a source of patronage and support. In illustration of this, we will refer to the principal subjects exhibited on the occasion:—

A splendid collection of nearly one thousand drawings of Mexican plants, drawn for the Empress Josephine, by M. Bompland, and deposited by G. F. Dickson, Esq., the Mexican Consul.

Several artificial stone Vases, of a material sufficiently strong to bear exposure to the most severe weather, and well adapted as ornaments for gardens, from Mr. Austin, of the New-road; and Terra Cotta Vases, and Mosaic Pavements, from Messrs. Greenwood and Routlege, of the Lowesby pottery.

Various specimens of Wood, used for dyeing, ship-building, cabinet-making, veneering, &c., from different members; an useful exhibition, and calculated to be of considerable utility as illustrative of the principles of strength, utility, and structure.

Specimens of figured Silk and Poplins, of Irish manufacture, from Mrs. Hall Elliott, who, from the encouragement she has received, has bestowed considerable care in the introduction of articles of the most choice and rare manufacture.

Artificial Flowers, made from the feathers of Birds, of their natural colour, by Mrs. Randolph. This lady has brought the art to great perfection; and her specimens far exceed in beauty those made by the Nuns of Brazil, as the chief employment of their leisure hours. The most delicate taste is shown in the arrangement of the various parts of the flower, each tint being very appropriately placed; and her collection is exceedingly rich.\* From the species to which the birds belong, being principally tropical, the art can never be exercised with profit here.

A Bouquet of Flowers, modelled in Wax, by Mrs. Cornish; also a successful cultivator of an art nearly allied to the former.

A table of Papier-Maché, with a splendid painting of Flowers, and several other beautiful specimens of this art, from the manufactory of Messrs. Jennings and Bettridge, at Birmingham. As specimens of what this art is susceptible, these are unequalled. There was also a beautiful piece of ornamental work executed in Papier-Maché, and modelled after nature, by Mr. Charles Bielefield.

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\* Mrs. Randolph, who is purely an amateur, working at these flowers for her own recreation, resides at No. 2, Bridge-road, Westminster-bridge, and politely exhibits her valuable collection to strangers, who consult her convenience. The curious cannot fail in deriving a rich treat.

Of the new art of Photogenic Drawing, there was a book of collections from Messrs. Ackermann; and also some unique and perfect specimens from Mr. Sheldon, of Euston-square, who has effected some decided improvements upon the paper, by which very superior impressions are taken.

Some superior specimens of China, remarkable for the beauty of their Botanical embellishment, were exhibited from Mr. Sharpus, who has extensive show-rooms in the Strand; and Messrs. Brameld, of Piccadilly, whose warehouse is quite a museum of this important branch of art; and where is displayed a collection of specimens exhibiting all that taste could perfect.

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### FLORISTS' SOCIETIES.

THE origin of Florists' Societies has been ascribed by Sir J. E. Smith, to Norwich; where a love of flowers, and a great degree of skill in their culture, was introduced into that city, with its worsted manufacture, about the middle of the sixteenth century. There are records that florists' feasts were held there as early as 1637: a play, called Rhodon and Iris, being extant, which was performed before the company in that year. It is probable that the next sprang up in London; and Nathaniel Wrench, of Fulham, is said to have been the first who established them; and a later author, from the record of his father (Mr. Davy, of King's-road), states, that the florists' feasts and meetings were at their greatest height about London, between 1740 and 1770. They were then what the Horticultural Societies of this day are; and, although they declined to the end of the last century, are now rapidly and numerously increasing. One of the most flourishing was the Islington Floral Society; the meetings of which at its first formation were held at the Barley Mow, an old and respectable public-house, situated in the parish of Islington, on the side of one of the old pack-horse roads leading from Blackwell Hall, in the city, to the north of England, now called Troy-lane. They were afterwards held at the Britannia Tavern, where there exists a copy of their rules; from whence they removed to Canonbury House, and subsequently to the King's Arms Tavern, opposite the church. Here, after it had been in existence for upwards of half a century, the Society was dissolved, the members

merging into various other Societies which have since then come into existence.

The leading Society for stimulating the cultivation of Florists' flowers, is the

METROPOLITAN SOCIETY OF FLORISTS AND  
AMATEURS,

brought into existence through the active exertions of Mr. Glenny, on account of some acts of injustice of the judges of the Horticultural Society, committed upon the exhibitors. The Society holds its meetings every first and third Tuesday of each month throughout the year, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, where the attendance is very select; and there is perhaps no society where the stranger, whose object is information, will derive more from the urbanity and intelligence of its members. It is, in fact, made the universal arbiter of disputes at most of the provincial Societies in the kingdom, the judgment of Mr. Glenny, the Secretary, being generally acknowledged. It has been in the habit of holding open shows; but latterly these have been in connexion with the Royal Society of Horticulture, between which a very friendly union exists. The Earl of Errol is President; and the terms of admission are one guinea entrance, and the same sum for an annual subscription. The prizes distributed are of different value: characterized as the large and small Adelaide, Victoria, and King William Medals. A show of Tulips is held annually at the grounds of the late Mr. Lawrence, at Hampton, which is generally well attended. A Dahlia show has for several years past been held at Salt Hill, near Slough, but this year at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

ROYAL SOUTH LONDON FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society was established, July 14th, 1835, and received the patronage of her present Majesty, in 1838, who also gave permission that it should take the title of Royal. It bears the following distinguished list of names:—

Patroness—Her Majesty. President—Earl Stanhope. Vice-Presidents—The Earl of Ripon; Lord Arden; B. Hawes, Esq., M.P.; John Allnutt, Esq.; W. T. Iliff, Esq.,

F.L.S.; James Forbes Young, M.D.; and John Bright, Esq., Treasurer. Committee—Messrs. Atlee, Barnard, Bowler, W. Buchanan, Burnard, Burrup, R. Chandler, Chard, Cooper, Fairbairn, Fisher, J. Gard, Jennings, Jeff, Nutting, Sadler, Rev. F. J. Stainforth, Seldon, Tyler, and Watts.

The Society holds four shows annually: the first at the Horns' Tavern, Kennington, and the other three in spacious marquees at the Surrey Zoological Gardens. The times fixed for 1839, were—Thursday, April 18th, where Auriculas, Polyanthuses, and Hyacinths, were in good perfection; and for Tuesday, June 18th, Tuesday, July 30th, and Tuesday, September 10th. The entrance to members is 5s., and to non-members 10s.; and exhibitors are required to sign a declaration, that the specimens they exhibit are their own property, and have been in their possession at least two months. There are three kinds of Medals distributed: the small, middle, and large silver, for superior productions; the rules of exhibition being the same as those of other Societies. Members of the Society are admitted to the rooms and grounds from twelve to seven o'clock; and their friends and the public from one to seven; those not having a member's ticket paying 1s. each.

The annual subscription to the Society is one guinea; and there are now on its books about 280 members. Since its establishment, it has held fifteen shows, at the Surrey Zoological Gardens and the Horns' Tavern, Kennington, and has distributed upwards of 760 prizes. The exhibitions are well supported by the gentry of the vicinity, and occasionally display an unique collection of valuable specimens.

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The South Essex Floricultural Society holds three shows annually in the romantic grounds of Wanstead Park. There are also Societies of merit at Windsor, Highgate, Barnet, Blackheath, Tooting, Stamford Hill, Woolwich, Croydon, with others in the immediate locality of London, particulars of which will be found duly announced in the *Gardeners' Gazette*.

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### **BOTANICAL SOCIETY.**

THIS Society was established in November, 1836, for the cultivation and extension of Botanical science, the first public meeting being held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, G. E. Gray, Esq., F.R.S., in the chair. On that occasion the Chairman was elected President, an appointment which he still retains; and other officers and Council were also chosen. The early meetings were held at chambers in the Adelphi, and subsequently in Newman-street, from whence they were removed to No. 25, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn, where the Society still remains. It has, however, made but little progress in the formation of Herbaria and a Library, whilst that of a Botanic Garden, also an original object contemplated by the founders, has not been commenced. The meetings are not characterised by much interest; but although the proceedings are not much calculated for the advancement of Botanical science, the young botanist will have the advantage of being directed and assisted in his studies by those who are more proficient. There are about one hundred members; and the terms of subscription are one guinea entrance, and one guinea annually. The meetings are held throughout the year, on the first and third Fridays in the months, from November to May, and on the first Friday from June to October; the anniversary meeting being held on 29th November, that being the birth-day of Ray, the father of English Botany.

At the last anniversary meeting, Mr. G. E. Gray was re-elected President; Dr. Macreight and J. G. Children, Esq., F.R.S., Vice-presidents; Mr. G. E. Dennes, Secretary; and Mr. D. Cooper, Curator. The following were also appointed Council.—Dr. Willshire, Dr. Ord, Dr. Bossey, Dr. Meeson, Mr. W. H. White, &c.

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### **ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.**

THIS Society, the boldest of attempt, the most valuable in design, the most extensive in its resources, and the most complete in execution perhaps of any that this king-

dom can boast, and which has in a few years risen to a station that its most sanguine projectors could not possibly have anticipated, originated about April, 1825, through the means of a prospectus issued under the auspices of Sir Humphry Davy, the then President of the Royal Society. The plan and arguments were published under "A Prospectus of a Society for introducing or domesticating new breeds and varieties of Animals, such as Quadrupeds, Birds, or Fishes, likely to be useful in common life, and for forming a general collection in Zoology." It was observed, that it had long been a matter of regret to the cultivators of Natural History, that England was in possession of no great scientific establishment, either for teaching or elucidating Zoology, and no public menageries or collections of living animals, where their nature, properties, or habits might be studied. In almost every other part of Europe, except the metropolis of the British empire, something of this kind was in existence; but though richer than any other country in the extent and variety of our possessions, and having more facilities from our colonies, our fleets, and our varied and constant intercourse with every quarter of the globe, for collecting dead specimens, and introducing living animals, little has been attempted, and still less effected; and the student of natural history, or the philosopher, who wished to examine animated nature, had no other resource but that of visiting and profiting by the magnificent institutions of a neighbouring and a rival country. There could scarcely be a better period than that for an undertaking of this description: a state of profound peace, increasing prosperity, and overflowing wealth; when the public mind, matured in arts and civilization, was prepared to employ its activity, and direct its resources to new objects and enterprises.

In order to accomplish these desirable ends, it was proposed to establish a Society bearing the same relations to zoology that the Horticultural Society *should have been* to botany. The great objects were the introduction of new varieties, breeds, and races of animals for the purpose of domestication, or for stocking farm-yards, woods, pleasure-grounds, and wastes, with the establishment of a general zoological collection, consisting of prepared

specimens in the different classes and orders, so as to afford a correct view of the animal kingdom at large, in as complete a series as might be practicable, and at the same time point out the analogies between the animals already domesticated and those which are similar in character, upon which the first experiments might be made. It was proposed, that for this purpose a piece of ground should be provided, with abundance of water and variety of soil and aspect, where covers, thickets, lakes, extensive menageries and aviaries might be formed, and where such quadrupeds, birds, and fishes as should be imported by the Society, were to be placed for ascertaining their uses and power of increase and improvement. Sufficient accommodation for the museum was also to be provided in the metropolis, with a suitable establishment, so conducted as to admit of its extension on additional means being provided. It was presumed that a number of persons would feel disposed to encourage an institution of this kind; and it was therefore proposed to make the annual subscription from each individual only two pounds, and the admission-fee three pounds, the Members having free access to the collection and grounds, and to be furnished with living specimens, or the ova of fishes and birds, at a reasonable expense. When it was considered how few amongst the immense varieties of animated beings had been hitherto applied to the uses of man, and that none of those which had been domesticated or subdued, belonged to the early periods of society, and to the efforts of savage or uncultivated nations, it was impossible not to hope for many new, brilliant, and useful results in the same field, by the application of the wealth, ingenuity, and varied resources of a civilized people.

The prospectus further stated, that it was well known, that, with respect to most of the animal tribes, domestication is a process which requires time, and that the offspring of wild animals raised in a domesticated state, are more easily tamed than their parents; and in a certain number of generations, the effect is made permanent, and connected with a change, not merely in the habits, but even in the nature of the animal. Even migration may be in certain cases prevented, and the wildest animals, supplied abundantly with food, lose the instinct of loco-

motion,—their offspring acquire new habits; and a breed fairly domesticated is with difficulty brought back to its original state. But not only would the success of the Society prove useful in common life, for it would likewise promote the best and most extensive objects of the scientific history of animated nature, and offer a collection of living animals such as never yet existed in ancient or modern times. The previous menageries of Europe were devoted to objects of curiosity. Rome, at the period of her greatest splendour, brought savage monsters from every part of the globe then known, to be shown in her amphitheatres, to destroy or be destroyed, as spectacles of wonder to her citizens; and it well became Britain to offer another and a very different series of exhibitions to the population of her metropolis—animals brought from every part of the globe to be applied to some useful purpose, as objects of scientific research, and not of vulgar admiration; and upon such an institution, a philosophy of zoology founded, pointing out the comparative anatomy, the habits of life, the improvement, and the methods of multiplying those races of animals which are most useful to man, and thus fixing a most beautiful and important branch of knowledge on the permanent bases of direct utility.

Popular and probable as were these designs, they met with considerable opposition. Mr. Jerdan asks, in one of the numbers of the *Literary Gazette*, in which he styles it the Noah's Ark Society:—"If it can rationally be expected that such a multitude of persons would subscribe, as to render the undertaking effective and useful? The most popular societies in Britain vary from a thousand to three thousand members, and how far would £2000, or even £6000 a-year go towards laying out such a place as contemplated? Like too many of our modern Associations and Companies, it is extremely sonorous on paper; but, alas, for the execution of the design—is it not altogether visionary?"

The Society commenced its proceedings by the occupation of a house in Bruton-street, Bond-street, where a collection both of living and preserved animals was obtained, which soon gave promise of rapid prosperity. Amongst the most early and valuable supporters was Sir

Thomas Stamford Raffles, the first President, who had just returned from Sumatra with a very extensive collection, which he presented to the Society: and he found a most valuable coadjutor in Mr. N. A. Vigors, the first Secretary, who also presented his celebrated collection of Birds, each of these being denominated after their spirited donors.

On the death of Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, the Marquis of Lansdowne was chosen in his place; and a charter being obtained on 27th March, 1829, in the names of the Marquis of Lansdowne, who was appointed the first President, Joseph Sabine, the first Treasurer, and Nicholas Aylward Vigors, the first Secretary; and to which were added George Lord Auckland, and Charles Baring Wall, as Fellows, the Society soon commenced active operations. The receipts for the year ending December 31, 1829, amounted to £16,500, and the disbursements to nearly an equal sum. The secure occupation of the land on the north and south sides of the road in the Regent's-park was obtained; and land was also purchased for the farm at Kingston, to the value of £1100, intended for the purpose of breeding and rearing young animals, and giving facilities for observations on matters of physiological interest and research; and, above all, in making attempts to naturalize such species as were hitherto rare or unknown in this country. The advantages to be anticipated from this department, however, turning out fallacious, the farm was gradually reduced, till, in 1834, it ceased to be an object of the Society's operations, although it was not till the present year that the Council succeeded in finally ridding themselves from this incumbrance, by the sale of the land. In 1830, Mr. Sabine resigned the office of Treasurer; and, in 1831, the Marquis of Lansdowne that of President, an appointment which he had held for the first five years of the Society's operations. In the same year, his late Majesty became the patron, and presented to the Society all the animals belonging to the Royal Menagerie in Windsor-park; a donation, which was succeeded by other royal gifts of the preserved collection of animals at Cumberland-gate, and the animals from the Tower Menagerie. In 1833, the above resignations were followed by that of Mr. Vigors,

to whose scientific zeal and assiduity the Society is mainly indebted for the foundation of that standing which it occupies in the scientific world. The latter appointment was filled up with that of Mr. Bennett, who ably completed what his predecessor had begun, and whose lamented death, in 1836, was felt an irreparable loss to the zoological world.

At the commencement of its operations, and for some time afterwards, the Society held monthly meetings for the transaction of general business, as well as the discussion of scientific subjects connected with zoology, and the exhibition of specimens. The number of the elections and of the recommendation of candidates, with the reports on the progress of the Society in its several establishments, led the Council to have recourse to the institution of a Committee of Science and Correspondence, which held meetings twice every month, and were continued for more than two years. In 1833, an alteration in the by-laws was enacted, which set apart the first Tuesday in every month for the despatch of general business at three o'clock, and the second and fourth Tuesday for scientific business at half-past eight; since which the meetings have been regularly held. The publications resulting from the communications made to these meetings are Proceedings and Transactions; the former, containing notices and abstracts, which are delivered gratuitously to every member who applies for them; and the latter, consisting of the more important papers, are sold at such a price as is adequate to the expense incurred in their preparation. These proceedings are often possessed of great interest, and have raised the character of the Society to a very high degree all over the Continent.

At the establishment of the Society the annual subscription was £2, and the admission fee £3; but these terms were altered in 1832 to an admission fee of £5, and an annual subscription of £3, due on the first day of every January, and payable in advance, or a composition in lieu thereof of £30. Every candidate for admission must be proposed and recommended by three or more Fellows—one at least shall be from personal knowledge; and this certificate must be read at one meeting and balloted for at the next. This regulation is very rigidly

enforced, as it is essential for the respectability of the Society, consisting as it does of so large a number of members. The Honorary Members are eminent and distinguished persons, subjects of the United Kingdom, and zealous patrons of zoology, who must not exceed twelve in number: any foreigner, not being domiciled in the United Kingdom, who has distinguished himself as a zoologist, may be elected a foreign member, provided the number does not exceed twenty-five; and the Corresponding Members, who are not limited to numbers, are constituted of persons not residing within fifty miles of London, who show a willingness to promote the objects of the Society. The privileges of Fellows to the Gardens and Museum are as follow:—

Every Fellow shall have personal admission, and may introduce two companions on each day. If accompanied by more than two companions, one shilling shall be paid for each extra person.

Honorary, Foreign, and Corresponding Members shall have personal admission, and may introduce any number of companions to either establishment, on the payment of one shilling for each person.

A Fellow or Honorary, Foreign or Corresponding Member, on payment of one guinea annually, may obtain an ivory ticket, which will admit one named person, of his or her immediate family, with a companion, to both establishments. The holder of such ticket may introduce any number of extra companions to either establishment, on the payment of one shilling for each person.

Strangers may be admitted either to the Gardens or Museum, by orders signed by Fellows, upon payment of one shilling by each person.

Fellows, with two companions, persons holding named tickets, with one companion, and Honorary, Foreign, and Corresponding Members, only can be admitted on Sundays.

The Library, consisting of an extensive selection of zoological works, is opened daily, and easy access is afforded to the manuscripts on application to the Secretary.

In the earlier progress of the Society the Council became involved in circumstances, which have necessarily caused a considerable retrenchment in the expenditure,

and which it appears, by the report delivered at the last anniversary meeting, had been brought to the lowest possible degree without impairing the Society's exertions. It was there stated, that the total income received in 1838 was £14,094 2s. 9d., whilst that of expenditure was but £12,588 12s. 1d. Some idea of the operations of the Society may be formed from the items of receipts and expenditure: amongst the former, being for admission fees, £675; annual subscriptions, £5565; compositions, £380; ivory tickets, £401 2s.; admissions to the Gardens, £5689 17s.; and to the Museum, £46 4s. The principal items of expenditure were for rent, taxes, and rates, £609 0s. 7d.; for salaries and wages, £3859 18s. 11d.; keepers' dresses, £87 6s.; cost of dresses, £818 18s. 6d.; carriage of animals, £47 16s. 10d.; keepers' travelling expenses, £10 19s.; provisions, £2154 8s. 7d.; menagerie expenses, £546 12s.; work, materials, and repairs, £1471 2s.; garden expenses, £341 12s.; carriage of subjects, £23 6s.; and cost of subjects, £145 16s., with payment for medal dies, £100. The assets for living and preserved collections were stated as uncertain; for arrears of previous and the current years, £900 15s.; invested in exchequer bills, £209 6s.; invested in land, £1100; funded capital, £11,291 12s. 7d.; and the cash balance in hand, £341 2s. 9d. The liabilities were on the other hand for debts, £1774 16s. 4d.; and contracts pending, £304. The number of Fellows and Fellows-elect was 3011, and there were 38 candidates for the Fellowship of the Society. The collection of mammalia in the Museum contained 1288 specimens, of which 760 were examples of species; the total number of birds exhibited was 5230, of which 113 had been added since the last anniversary, above 3000 specimens being named; of reptiles there were 1000 specimens, and of fishes 1070, exhibited; besides 70 skeletons mounted. The Menagerie then contained a total of 933 specimens, including 303 quadrupeds, 592 birds, and 38 reptiles.

The Library of the Society has hitherto been but a subordinate part of its operations, although it received a great deal of attention and benefit from the exertions of the late Mr. Bennett. It is, however, extremely rich in foreign as well as domestic works on zoology, and is highly

prized by English as well as foreign zoologists. Under the head of the Museum is comprised a recollection of what the Society has contributed to the advancement of zoology. In it are performed the greater part of the dissections of the rarer animals, by which are determined the relations existing in the organization of the species, and their living habits and peculiarities. It opens to the zoologist, from abroad or at home, resorts for the solution of his doubts and enquiries, and for the comparison of his own rarities with the rich and well-arranged series of specimens which now constitute so important and valuable a department of the property of the Society. The design of the menagerie is too well known to need any description of the varied objects which it contains, and which are constantly meeting with additions from all parts of the world. The "Catalogue of the Mammalia preserved in the Museum," by Mr. G. R. Waterhouse, the Curator; and the "List of the Animals in the Gardens," are recommended to the visitor as equally interesting to the common observer as to the naturalist.

At the last anniversary meeting the following were the Officers and Council who were elected;—President, the Earl of Derby; Treasurer, Charles Drummond, Esq.; and Secretary, Rev. John Barlow, F. R. S. COUNCIL—*Charles Darwin, Esq., Right Hon. T. F. Lewis, William Ogilby, Esq., James Whishaw, Esq., William Yarrell, Esq. V. P., Sir George Clerk,\** Professor Bell, V. P., Dr. Bostock, F. R. S., Captain Bowles, R. N., V. P., Lord Braybrooke, V. P., B. Bond Cabbell, Esq. V. P., Hon. Sir Edward Cust, George Dodd, Esq., J. Edward Gray, Esq. F. R. S., Rev. F. W. Hope, F. R. S., A. Milne, Esq., and Lord Seymour, M. P. Since that period Mr. Barlow has resigned the office of Secretary, in which he has been succeeded by Mr. Ogilby, who is well qualified for the appointment from his urbanity, as well as his scientific and his business acquirements. Mr. Rees is the Assistant Secretary and Accomptant, and Mr. G. R. Waterhouse the Curator of the establishment.

The Zoological Society—assuredly the most popular of any institution in the metropolis—well deserves to

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\* Those in Italics are new members.

to maintain that character from the efficient zeal displayed by the Council when any striking object can be attained. The Gardens in the Regent's-park are an earnest of this, and there is constantly displayed all that enterprise or money can procure. The Museum, though rich in natural history, is situate in an ill-chosen locality, and attracts but a small degree of public attention; and it is to be regretted that, on account of the insecurity of the building in which it is deposited in Leicester-square, the views of some of the liberal members have been thwarted in throwing it open to the public freely. To place it in a proper and convenient situation has for some years occupied the attention of the Council, and various proposals have been made for the purpose, the present building having been taken but for a temporary period of three years, in order to afford a speedy opportunity of placing it in a condition suitable to the vast resources of the Society. As the parent of Zoological Societies throughout the empire, there is little doubt but that this will long be admired as having given rise to the present prevalent taste for the study of natural history.\*

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### ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE study of insects has always been a popular and interesting branch of natural history, and its votaries have early associated for intercourse and the friendly communication of information. The first society for the purpose was known under the name of the Aurelian Society, which held its meetings at the Swan Tavern, Change-alley; but its date of formation is unknown, although we learn that it was in existence in 1745. On the 25th of March, 1748, the great fire which happened in Cornhill, burnt down the place of meeting, together with the Society's valuable

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\* The increase of zoological taste has led to the establishment of a new branch of commercial intercourse in the importation of wild beasts, and caravans regularly traverse the wilds of Southern Africa for the purpose of obtaining them. This spirited attempt has been successfully made by Mr. Garnett, of Welbeck-street, who is the only regular wild beast importer, and is generally applied to in the formation of zoological gardens. Mr. Wombwell, of the itinerant menagerie, is also a large dealer, and a very successful breeder, having reared no less than 19 lions in the last year.

collection of insects and all the regalia. The Society was even sitting at the time; yet so sudden and so rapid was the impetuous course of the fire, that the flames beat against the windows before the members could leave the room, and many of them left behind their hats and canes. This loss so much disheartened the members, that although they met several times for that purpose, they never could collect a sufficient number to form a society, so that for 14 years there was no meeting. Another Society, under a similar name, was established in the year 1762, arising, phoenix-like, out of the ashes of the old, which existed about four years. In the year 1780, another society was established, called the Society of Entomologists of London, the minute-book of which was carried down to August, 1782, at which time it appears to have discontinued its sittings. Another association, called the Aurelian Society, was proposed by the late Mr. Haworth, but neither the society nor the collection ever attained perfection, as it was dissolved in 1806. The Entomological Society of London arose from its ruins, comprehending nearly the same members as the former, which made more progress than any of the preceding, as it met regularly, and published three volumes of its transactions, the last of which appeared in 1812; after which the death of some of its members, and the defalcation of others, brought the society into considerable trouble, and the regular meetings were abandoned in the following year. The Entomological Society of Great Britain was formed out of its ruins, and was a non-subscribing society, lasting only two years, when it emerged into the Zoological Club of the Linneæan Society of London.

An association for the prosecution of Entomology was again formed in 1825, under the title of the Entomological Club. This was also a non-subscribing society, consisting of eight members, with no power to add to their number. In the winter of 1831-2, it was agreed at a meeting of the club to publish a Quarterly Magazine, the management of which was undertaken by the members present; and the first number of the work, entitled the "Entomological Magazine," was published on the 1st of September, 1832, since which it has appeared every three months, treating not only of scientific entomology,

but devoting a large portion of its pages to the history of insects, as connected with agriculture and horticulture. It was, however, discontinued last April; but the members of the club meet alternately at each other's houses, the collection being at Mr. Newman's, Union-street, Deptford. The members are Mr. Edward Newman; Mr. J. S. Bow-erbank; Mr. Bennett, of King William-street, London-bridge; Mr. Doubleday, of Epping; Mr. James Beving-ton, King William-street; Mr. Hoyer, of Stoke Newing-ton; Mr. John Christy, of Clapham-road; and Mr. Francis Walker, of Arno-grove.

The Entomological Society of London was formed in 1833, its first meeting being on the 4th of November, at its rooms at 17, Old Bond-street, where about fifty members assembled, the chair being first taken by J. G. Children, Esq. F.R.S., who proposed the election of the Rev. Mr. Kirby, the venerable patriarch of science and of entomology, as President. Its first scientific meeting was held on the 2nd of December; and it has continued to meet ever since on the first Monday in every month. The terms of subscription are two guineas for entrance, and one guinea annually, or a composition of ten guineas; candidates for election being proposed at three meetings, when the ballot takes place, the requisitions being signed by three or more members. At the anniversary meeting, held on Jan. 28th, 1838, the following were elected as Of-ficers and Council:—President—Rev. F. W. Hope, F.R.S. Treasurer—William Yarrell, Esq., F.L.S. Secretary—J. O. Westwood, Esq. Curator—Mr. Shuckard. Council—Dr. Horsfield, F.R.S.; Mr. Marshall, Mr. Newport, Mr. J. Walton, Mr. Westwood, Mr. Shuckard, Mr. Ingpen, and Mr. Ainsworth. The Assistant Curator is Mr. William Bainbridge, who is a very ardent entomologist.

The society gives annually a prize for the best written essay on some branch of practical entomology connected with agriculture, the last of which was awarded to Mr. Newport, for an essay on the *Athalia centifolia*. Much good is expected to result from the friendly union re-cently made by the society with the Saffron Walden Asso-ciation, which has already distinguished itself in many useful and practical investigations. The meetings are very rarely interesting except to the entomologist, although

often some sprightly conversation enlivens the details of insect anatomical structure. Amongst the leading members is the present President, a gentleman of great insect research, particularly in Coleoptera; Mr. Westwood, the Secretary, whose contributions form a very great part of the transactions; Mr. Waterhouse, Curator of the Zoological Society; Mr. Ingpen; Mr. Sells, of Kingston; Mr. Shuckard; Mr. Newport; Mr. Raddon, of Bristol, &c.

The collection of the society is very extensive, one considerable portion of it being that of the Rev. Mr. Kirby, which he presented about three years since. There are in the Museum five cabinets; the number of individual species may be stated at about 14,000; and of individual specimens at 30,000. The Museum is open for the inspection of members and their friends, every Tuesday from twelve o'clock till four.

Entomology has for a long time been a favourite study and pursuit in London; and before the depression of the staple manufacture of Spitalfields, its weavers were far and near distinguished as collectors. Many a cabinet in that district has contained as costly a collection as any that were to be found elsewhere; and whilst these and kindred pursuits of tulip and flower-fancying were carried on, the inhabitants were sober, prosperous, and happy. Although few in that unhappy district now have time or inclination to follow these pursuits, still it is a very favourite study in London, and one in which the healthful pleasures of recreation are combined with the delights which arise from the indulgence of a scientific and enquiring taste. The entomologist, with his net and box, sallying forth in pursuit of insects, is often an object in country rambles on leisure days; and the woods of Shooter's-hill, Combe-wood, in Surrey, Hampstead, and Colney-hatch, Epping-forest, and the neighbourhood of the Darent, in Kent, afford abundant opportunities for pleasure and research.

The principal cabinets in London, and its vicinity, are those of Mr. Stephens, author of "Illustrations of British Entomology," at Cold Harbour-lane, Camberwell, chiefly of British insects, which is open for inspection on Wednesday evenings; Mr. Curtis, author of "British Entomology," at Robert-street, Hampstead-road, open on Fridays; Rev.

F. W. Hope, F.R.S., the President, at 37, Upper Seymour-street, Portman-square, containing upwards of 35,000 species, a great proportion of which are Coleopterous, on Thursday; Messrs. Bentley and Chant, Critchell-place, New North-road, Hoxton, consisting principally of Lepidoptera, open every day; Mr. Shuckard, Robert-street Chelsea, principally Hymenoptera, any day by permission; Mr. Westwood, Grove, Hammersmith, open on Saturday; Mr. Engelhart, of Blackheath; Mr. Bennett, of King William-street; and Mr. Doubleday, of Epping. None of these collections are strictly open to the public, but are freely shown in the spirit of scientific and friendly communication to fellow cultivators.\*

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#### ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

THE original institution from which this took its rise, was designed by the late Sir William Jones, and formed at Calcutta on the 15th January, 1784, for the purpose of tracing the history, antiquities, arts, science, and literature of the immense continent of Asia. It was resolved to follow, as nearly as possible, the plan of the Royal Society of London; and the patronage of the Asiatic Society was offered to the Governor-General and Council, as the executive power in the territories of the Company. This offer was accepted by Mr. Hastings, then Governor-General, who, as the first liberal promoter of useful knowledge in Bengal, and especially as the great encourager of Persian and Sanscrit literature, was requested to accept the office of President. This was handsomely declined in a letter from Mr. Hastings, in which he requested to yield his pretensions to the gentleman whose genius planned the Institution, and was most capable of conducting it to the great and splendid purposes of its formation. On the receipt of this Sir William Jones was nominated President; and his first address delivered from the chair,

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\* Mr. Bainbridge, of 6, Frederick-street, Hampstead-road, the Assistant Curator of the Entomological Society, is also forming an extensive cabinet; and it is to the interest of those who wish for advice respecting the formation of a collection to consult him on the subject. We have always found him ready and apt in the communication of information.

gave a lucid account of its proposed objects: "These, considering Hindostan as a centre, contained on the right the many important kingdoms in the Eastern peninsula, the ancient and wonderful empire of China, with all her Tartarian dependencies, and that of Japan with its cluster of islands; before them was that prodigious range of mountains which formerly perhaps was a barrier against the violence of the sea; and beyond the interesting country of Thibet and the vast regions of Tartary, whose dominion extended at least from the banks of the Ilyssus to the mouths of the Ganges. On the left are the beautiful and celebrated provinces of Iran or Persia, the unmeasurable deserts of Arabia, and the once flourishing kingdom of Yemen, with the pleasant isles that the Arabs have subdued or colonized; and further westward the Asiatic dominions of the Turkish sultans. If it be asked, what are the intended objects of our enquiries within these spacious limits? we answer, *Man and Nature*; whatever is *performed* by the one or *produced* by the other."

The Society, established on this broad and stable basis, had contributed vastly towards the knowledge of the intellectual, moral, political, and physical resources of the Eastern world, when many of the friends of science, and particularly those who were conversant with India, deemed it advisable to extend the sphere of its operations, by instituting a Society in London; and a general meeting was convened by circular for the 15th of March, 1823, communicating to those who had expressed their intention to subscribe more fully, the objects for which it was to be established, and the plan of operation. The meeting accordingly took place at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street, when H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., was called to the chair, and delivered an address, in which he fully developed the views of the Society. He also announced that his Majesty King George IV. had been pleased to declare himself Patron; and that the President of the Board of Commissioners of the Affairs of India, for the time being, would also be the Vice-patron. Resolutions were also passed empowering the Council to frame regulations for the governance of the Society; to provide a suitable place for the Society's meetings, and to obtain

a charter of incorporation as early as could be found convenient and practicable. The chairman congratulated the meeting on the promising aspect which the Society then bore, and stated that the number of members already entered on the list exceeded 300. The first Council was chosen, consisting of the Dukes of Somerset and Buckingham, Marquis of Lansdowne, Earl of Aberdeen, &c. The Right Hon. C. W. W. Wynn was elected President, an appointment which he has ever since held, to the satisfaction of the members and the advantage and best interests of the Society; H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., Director, which he held till 1837, when increasing age and infirmities compelled his withdrawal; James Alexander, Esq., Treasurer, who resigned last year; and Sir Geo. Staunton, Sir Alexander Johnston, Sir John Malcolm, and Colonel Mark Wilks, Vice-presidents; with Dr. Noehden, a distinguished Orientalist, as Secretary. The regulations were subsequently framed and sanctioned by the Society at the general meeting, April 19th, 1823: the lease of the house at present in their occupancy, was taken possession of in the name of the Society, on the 15th January, 1824, where the members met on the 17th of that month; and the charter by which the Society was incorporated, was dated August 11th, 1824.

From its first formation the Society has regularly progressed in its useful labours in a very unobtrusive but zealous manner. The Committee of Correspondence constitutes a very important section; and the annual statement made by Sir Alexander Johnston, the Chairman, details the useful objects to which its enquiry has been directed, which often includes subjects of very useful and rare interest. Another Committee of considerable value was formed in 1837, for investigating the produce of the East, and determining its value for European commerce; and the results of its enquiries have been published in several numbers of its transactions. Of this Committee the Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie is the present Chairman, an appointment which he is well qualified to fill, from his extensive practical acquaintance with the resources of India. Dr. Royle is the Secretary of this department, and Mr. Solly the Chemical Analyser. But notwithstanding the nature of these valuable exertions, it is only by a

very forced retrenchment that the Society has been able to carry on its important exertions; several applications to government for aid in the grant of some apartments in a public building having been refused. The report at the last anniversary meeting, held May 12th, announced the income of the past year as £1151. 8s. 10d., of which £793. 10s. was for annual subscriptions, admission fees, and compositions; £105, the annual subscription of the East India Company; and £31. 12s. 10d. from dividends on stock. The expenditure was £1026, leaving a balance of about £296. The assets were stated at £1800 value of stock in the Three per cents.; and the value of library and collection £3500, making a total of £5300. The number of members is about 560.

The Society consists of five classes of members: Resident, Non-resident, Honorary, Foreign, and Corresponding. Members, whose usual place of abode is in Great Britain or Ireland, are considered to be resident; those whose usual abode is not in Great Britain or Ireland, but who are British subjects, are denominated non-resident. The class of foreign members must not consist of more than fifty, and no person is eligible as such who is a British subject, or whose usual place of residence is in any part of the British dominions in Europe; and any person not residing within the British isles, who may be considered likely to communicate valuable information to the Society, is eligible for election as a corresponding member. The Literary Society of Bombay, and the United Literary Societies of Madras, are now incorporated with the Society; the former under the denomination of the Bombay Branch Society, and the latter as the Madras Auxiliary of the Royal Asiatic Society. Resident or non-resident members must be proposed by three members; and foreign members by five or more, the certificate being read at three general meetings of the Society. The admission fee for a resident member is five guineas, with an annual subscription of three guineas; or, upon election, he may compound, in lieu of annual subscriptions, by the payment of thirty guineas. Non-resident members pay an annual subscription of two guineas, or a composition in lieu thereof, of twenty guineas. The meetings are held on the first and third Saturdays in every month, from No-

vember to June, with the exception of May, when the only meeting is the anniversary, which is held on the second Saturday. The Council consists of twenty-five resident members, including the officers; who are elected by ballot on the second Saturday in May. The following are those for the present year:—

President—the Right Hon. C. W. W. Wynn, M.P.  
 Director—Professor Wilson. Vice-Presidents—the Earl of Munster, Sir Gore Ouseley, Bart., Sir G. T. Staunton, Bart., and Sir Alexander Johnston. Treasurer—Charles Elliott, Esq. Honorary Secretary—Richard Clarke, Esq. Librarian—John Shakespear, Esq. Council—Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, Sir Ralph Rice, Colonel Barnewall, Professor Royle, Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone, Sir Joseph O'Halloran, General Briggs, Colonel Sykes, Col. Galloway, Messrs. J. Ewing, J. Forbes, C. A. Tulke, J. Guillemard, S. Ball, and H. S. Graeme.

The Museum of the Royal Asiatic Society contains a selection of very rare and choice Oriental specimens, illustrative of the arts, arms, economy, and antiquities of the Eastern world; although for want of proper accommodation many cases of curiosities lay unopened, and the Society are constantly refusing presents which would add to their stores. In the meeting-room is contained the Library, rich in Oriental, Persian, Chinese, and Sangs-crit MSS., and works; and a large portion of the space is occupied with cases containing a variety of curious specimens. Amongst these is the Burmese Lacquer Manufacture in every stage of the process; a Hindu Astronomical Instrument, called Junter Raje, which with one observation shows the sun's altitude, the hour, and the situation of the planets; a variety of models of Mah-rattan Agricultural Instruments; a series of Porcelain Images illustrative of the different Ceylonese trades and professions; thirteen portraits of the Kings of Delhi; a variety of Sangs-crit MSS., all illuminated and embellished in the richest style, with several richly illustrated copies of the Khoran. Over the cases are models of a singular series, illustrative of Hindu manners, amongst which is the Dirzee or Tailor, Bheestre or Water-carrier, Yogi or Religious Mendicant, Butler, Umbrella-bearer, Beggar-woman, &c., all in different characteristic attitudes. In

the room is also a large full-length portrait of the unfortunate Prince of Oude, who is at present in this country in the assertion of his rights. Here are also busts in marble of H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., the first Director, and Major-General Sir H. Worsley, who recently presented the Society with £1100.

The ante-room to the former contains a large model of the Rath, or Car of Jagganatha, presented by Colonel Gilbert; and in a large glass-case is a singular object, the figure of a Dirzee, or Indian Tailor, modelled in clay, from T. H. Baber, Esq.; as also a case of a Mummy, from Thebes, presented by Sir John Malcolm. A striking specimen is a model of the Pagoda and Convent of Priests at Canton, which was assigned for the residence of Lords Macartney and Amherst, with their suites, when on the embassy to China, and which is one of the largest in that empire. The size of this splendid model, which was presented by Sir George Staunton, in 1834, is 6 feet 8 inches by 3 feet 7 inches, on a supposed scale of four feet to one inch. There are two small rooms at the upper part of the building containing small collections of Minerals, Natural History, remnants of Sculpture, Talismans, Horns, &c.; and amongst other relics is the skull of Muchata, a Thug Chief, who was executed at Saugur, in Central India, in July, 1833, which was presented by Dr. Sprey. An Armoury occupies the stairs and galleries, with a large collection of warlike instruments from Bengal, Assam, Malabar, Malay, and New Zealand.

The Library and Museum are open daily to members and visitors, upon their written orders, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, in each week, from eleven till four. These are easily obtainable at the rooms of the Society in Grafton-street, Bond-street.

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### GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE first association formed for the examination of the structure and the contents of the earth was the Mineralogical Society, which was instituted in 1799. This went on in a quiet and unostentatious manner, more as a friendly association for scientific enquiry, until the

growing importance of geology induced some of its members to take a wider range of operations. The Geological Society, growing from the above, first meeting as a club at the houses of the different members, was established on a broad scale on November 13th, 1807, having for its objects "the making geologists acquainted with each other, stimulating their zeal, inducing them to adopt one nomenclature, facilitating the communication of new facts, and contributing to the advancement of geological science, more particularly as connected with the mineral history of the British Isles." The few individuals who were its founders met in consequence of a desire of communicating to each other the result of their observations, and examining how far the opinions maintained by the writers on geology were in conformity with the facts presented by nature. Their earliest effort at this was in the distribution of a series of enquiries, which were calculated to excite a greater degree of attention to this important study than it had before received in this country, and to serve as a guide to the geological traveller, by pointing out some of the various objects which it was his province to examine. The early meetings were held on the first Friday of every month, from November to June, when the members used to dine together at five o'clock, the business of the meetings commencing at seven o'clock, and terminating precisely at nine. These dinners were, however, not long required for the purpose of drawing the members together; for in the year 1811, when the first volume of the Society's Transactions was published, it had attained a high station in the world, and a continued rapidly-increasing number of members. A great progress had now been made in the formation of a library and a collection at the Society's house, at 3, Lincoln's Inn-fields; the first donor to the former, in 1808, being Sir Humphrey Davy, and to the latter, Sir Joseph Banks, that warm and earnest friend and patron of science. This first volume, which contained eighteen practical communications of interest, was, in 1814, followed by another, and shortly afterwards the Society removed to a more spacious house at 20, Bedford-street, Covent-garden, where it remained until it attained royal patronage and a charter in 1826. It afterwards received the additional mark of distinction of obtaining public

apartments at Somerset House, where its meetings have been held since 1828, and where its museum and library are contained. The last volume of the first series of its Transactions was published in 1819, and was continued by a new series in 1824, which have since been published at irregular intervals, the last, or first part of the fifth volume, having been issued in the course of the present year.

The meetings of the Society are held every Wednesday se'nnight, at half-past eight o'clock in the evening, from the first Wednesday in November to the first in June, with the exception of February, when the anniversary meeting is held on the 16th. These meetings are very well attended, as might be expected from the great number of members; for, at the end of the last year, the number of ordinary Fellows was 742; of honorary members, elected prior to the charter, since which none such have been admitted, 37; and of foreign members, 49; in addition to which are three personages of royal blood—namely, the King of the Belgians, the Archduke John of Austria, and the Hereditary Prince of Denmark. The certificates of recommendation for Fellows must be signed by at least three, and they remain suspended in the meeting-room for three evenings, including those of the proposal and ballot. The admission-fee paid by a Fellow who resides for sixty days in the year within twenty miles of London, is six guineas, and the annual payment is three guineas; non-resident members, or those who do not come within these conditions, are only liable to the admission fee of ten guineas. Foreign members must be proposed by the council, and are elected in a similar manner to the preceding.

The library of the Society is very rich in geological works, and, along with the museum, is open to members daily. The latter occupies two rooms, the principal one being devoted to the English collection, which is then arranged again according to the English, Irish, or Scotch. These are each individually arranged:—1. Rocks belonging to their different ranges of formation; and 2. Organic remains, in relation to the order of their natural history. The second room, devoted to foreign specimens, is arranged topographically, in the first instance according to the dif-

ferent localities of country, and then in the same order as the last. The funded property of the Society, derived from the compositions of the Fellows, is nearly £4000, which, however, does not accumulate from any other resource, as the principal portion of the annual income is expended in increasing the museum. Although in many departments the collection of many private individuals is much richer, yet, taking the whole as a collection, it is perhaps as unique and varied as any other collection in the world. A Woollaston medal, arising from the interest of a sum of £1000 three per cents., given by the late Dr. Woollaston in 1828, or money to that amount, is given annually for the best essay, or the most elaborate geological research. That of the past year was given to Professor Ehrenberg, of Berlin, through the hands of Chevalier Bunsen, an *attaché* of the Prussian embassy.

The meetings of the Geological Society are perhaps the most popularly interesting to their attendants of any in town, and each member having the opportunity of admitting two visitors, the capacious meeting-room is generally well filled. The principal interest of these meetings is however derived from the discussions which arise after the papers are read, and which sometimes does not assume a very scientific character. Geology is not generally popular with the public, and has not as yet sufficient claims to make it so, the opinions of its advocates being split into party theories, and the papers that are read before the Society giving rise to discussion neither the most rational nor acceptable. What is wanted in the reason is made up for in the jocularities of the discussions, and sallies of wit usurp the place of the grave deliberations of science; what is wanted in argument made up from deductions from close investigation, is met with in the sophistry of the forum or debating-room. Sometimes it is to be lamented that these discussions take a different character, being directed against the fundamentals of revealed religion, and have a tendency to subvert those doctrines which are the basis of our modern civilization. From these circumstances the Society takes especial care that their proceedings shall not be reported: the attendance of every person from whom these might emanate to the public being carefully excluded from the meetings. Their

own reports indeed appear carefully worded, and supplied by their own secretaries, in the *Literary Gazette* and the *Athenæum*, but in these accounts all allusion to their discussions is avoided. In these respects the Geological Society does not court the freedom of public discussion, which, through the medium of the press, is allowed by every other Society in the metropolis.

The following were the Officers and Council elected at the last anniversary, on the 15th February:—

President—Rev. W. Buckland, D.D. Vice-Presidents—Mr. Greenhough, Mr. Horner, Mr. Lyell, and Rev. Professor Sedgwick. Secretaries—Mr. Darwin and Mr. W. J. Hamilton. Foreign Secretary—Mr. De la Beche. Treasurer—Mr. John Taylor. Council—Dr. Daubeny, Dr. Litton, Sir P. G. Egerton, M.P., Professor Grant, M.D., Rev. Professor Henslow, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Hutton, M.P., Sir Charles Lemon, M.P., Professor Miller, Mr. Murchison, Professor Richard Owen, Sir Woodbine Parish, Mr. George Rennie, Rev. Professor Whewell. The Curator is Mr. Lonsdale.

After the usual reports on the state of the Society and its finances had been delivered, Professor Whewell, the President, who retired from that office, read his obituary of deceased members, including Sir Abraham Hume, Mr. Winch, Rev. Dr. Carey, Mr. Bevan, Count Munster, Count Montlosier, Baron Schlosheim, and Professor Desmarest.

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### ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

THIS Society was established at a numerous meeting of the members of the Raleigh Travellers' Club, and other gentlemen distinguished for discovery, held at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street, on Monday, the 24th May, 1830; John Barrow, Esq. in the chair. It was there submitted that, among the numerous literary and scientific Societies established in the British metropolis, one was still wanting to complete the circle of scientific institutions, whose sole object should be the promotion and diffusion of that most important and entertaining part of knowledge, Geography. The objects of such a Society were then defined in the following resolutions:—

1. To collect, register, and digest, and to print for the use of the Members, and the public at large, in a cheap form and at certain intervals, such new, interesting, and useful facts and discoveries as the Society may have in its possession, and may, from time to time, acquire.

2. To accumulate gradually a Library of the best books on Geography—a selection of the best Voyages and Travels—a complete collection of Maps and Charts, from the earliest period of rude geographical delineations to the most improved of the present time; as well as all such documents and materials as may convey the best information to persons intending to visit foreign countries; it being of the greatest utility to a traveller to be aware, previously to his setting out, of what has been already done, and what is still wanting, in the countries he may intend to visit.

3. To procure specimens of such instruments as experience has shown to be most useful, and best adapted to the compendious stock of a traveller, by consulting which, he may make himself familiar with their use.

4. To prepare brief instructions for such as are setting out on their travels; pointing out the parts most desirable to be visited; the best and most practicable means of proceeding thither; the researches most essential to make; phenomena to be observed; the subjects of natural history most desirable to be procured; and to obtain such information as may tend to the extension of our geographical knowledge. And it is hoped that the Society may ultimately be enabled, from its funds, to render pecuniary assistance to such travellers as may require it, in order to facilitate the attainment of some particular object of research.

5. To correspond with similar societies that may be established in different parts of the world; with foreign individuals engaged in geographical pursuits, and with the most intelligent British residents in the various remote settlements of the empire.

6. To open a communication with all those philosophical and literary societies with which Geography is connected; for as all are fellow-labourers in the different departments of the same vineyard, their united efforts cannot fail mutually to assist each other.

A provisional Committee having been appointed, a very numerous meeting was held on Friday, 16th July, 1830, at the rooms of the Horticultural Society, in Regent-street. The chair was again taken by Mr. (now Sir John) Barrow, when resolutions were come to, by which the Society was fully organized. The chairman read an address on the objects of future operations, and stated the gratifying fact, that the Provisional Committee had,

within so short a space of time, enrolled considerably more than four hundred names. From this great and increasing number, and still more from the general character of the subscribers, it was fair to conclude that a favourable opinion had been thus early formed of the utility likely to result from the labours of such a Society. His late Majesty having given his patronage, the Society prefixed the title of Royal to its name, and Lord Goderich was appointed the first President. At a meeting of the Council held on Saturday, 4th November, in the same year, a letter was read, addressed by the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel, Secretary of State for the Home Department, to Mr. Barrow, then one of the Vice-Presidents, intimating that his Majesty had directed that an annual payment of fifty guineas, should be made from the privy purse to the Society, to constitute a yearly Royal Premium, for the encouragement of Geographical Science and Discovery. At a subsequent meeting of the Council on 15th January, 1831, it was announced that the first premium should be given to the author of the best Memoir, accompanied by sufficient plans and views, which shall describe in detail any important and unpublished discovery made by the candidate in any branch of Geography. The Premium for that year was awarded to Mr. Richard Lander, for his discoveries in the interior of Africa, and for the memoir and map relating to them communicated by him to the Society. That of 1832, was awarded to Mr. John Biscoe; 1833, to Captain Sir John Ross, R. N.; 1834, Lieutenant Alexander Burnes, Hon. E. I. C. S.; 1835, Capt. George Back, R. N.; 1836, Captain Robert Fitzroy, R. N.; and 1837, to Lieut.-Col. Chesney, R. A. The Royal Premium having been continued by her present Majesty, was this year adjudged by the Council to be devoted to the purchase of two medals, to be denominated the Founders' Medal, and the Royal Medal: the former being awarded to Dr. Rüppell, for his researches in the interior of Abyssinia; and the latter to Mr. Simpson, for his enterprise in Arctic discovery.

The society consists of Ordinary, Corresponding, and Foreign members, the number of which is not to exceed fifty. A Council is chosen annually from the Ordinary members, which consists of a President, four Vice-Presi-

dents, a Treasurer, two Secretaries, twenty-one Ordinary Councillors, and two Trustees, who are supernumerary Councillors. Every person desirous of becoming an Ordinary member must be proposed by two or more members, which certificate is read at one meeting, and the candidate is balloted for at the next. The admission fee is £3; and the annual contribution, which becomes due on the 1st of November, is £2; the composition on entrance is £20, and at any subsequent period £20. The anniversary meeting is held on the second Monday in May; special general meetings may be at any time called by the Council, or, if for proposing any new regulations, by six Ordinary members on their requisition; and the ordinary general meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays in every month, or oftener if such be judged expedient by the Council. At ordinary meetings nothing relating to the regulations or management can be brought forward; but the minute-book of the Council is placed on the table at each meeting, and extracts therefrom may be read on the request of any member.

The Library of the Society, although extensive, is not such as its wants require; but on the attainment of superior accommodation, this, with the collection of instruments, will excite a greater degree of attention from the Council. One important branch of its operations is that of aiding by grants of money any favourable effort of geographical enterprise, in which the society is likewise freely supported by the Government. Every quarter of the globe bears testimony to the efficiency of these exertions; and amongst the latest were the journeys of Sir James Alexander in Southern Africa; Lieutenants Gray and Lushington in their expedition to penetrate Australia from the Swan River, and those now in progress under the immediate directions of the society; of Mr. Schomburgk in the interior of British Guiana; Mr. Ainsworth and Mr. Rassam, in conjunction with the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, into Kurdistan; and a minor one by a native of Dongola, to explore the course and sources of the Bahr-el-Abiad, or western branch of the River Nile. The Society publishes a journal of its transactions at intervals, which embraces a large fund of geographical information, and as a branch of the perio-

dical literature of the country ranks high.\* At the close of each sessional year a very able report is appended from Captain Washington, on the progress of British and Foreign geographical research; and at the two last anniversary meetings a very lucid and able address was read by the President just retired, W. R. Hamilton, Esq., a gentleman of great geographical, geological, and antiquarian knowledge. In connexion with the Society may be named, as an auxiliary association, the Bombay Geographical Society, which has received such encouragement in India, as to proceed to the publication of its own transactions; and the Egyptian Society at Cairo. A very extensive correspondence is carried on with foreign societies, and particularly the Geographical Society of Paris, which goes hand in hand with this in the encouragement of geographical enterprise, whilst the *Depôts de la Guerre et Marine* of the same city are frequent contributors to its stores. The Government of this country also exhibit their interest in its progress, by making the Society the official medium for making known the newest results of discovery.

The meetings of the Royal Geographical Society, which are decidedly the most popularly interesting of any in town, are open to visitors introduced by friends, although admission is not refused to any respectable strangers who enter their names in a book for that purpose. The evening meetings will continue to be held at 21, Regent-street, though the Society have now removed to the upper part of a commodious house in Pall-mall, over the shop of Messrs. Rivingtons, the booksellers: the chair is taken at nine o'clock, or within a few minutes afterwards, and the business is generally continued till half-past ten o'clock. The papers having been read, a conversation generally ensues upon them at the option of the President; and the visitor has here an opportunity of seeing and hearing many of those eminent individuals whose industry in geographical discovery have conferred so much honour upon their country's enterprise. The meetings have hitherto worked well;

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\* The price is two shillings and sixpence.

but it remains to be proved if they will continue such interest, in the appointment of a pure geologist to the chair of physical geography.

At the last anniversary, held on the 27th of May, the following members were elected as the Officers and Council:—

President—G. B. Greenhough, Esq. F.R.S. Vice-Presidents—Sir John Barrow, Bart., F.R.S.; Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone; F. Baily, Esq.; and W. R. Hamilton, Esq. Secretary—Captain Washington, R.N. Foreign Secretary—Rev. G. C. Renouard, B. D. Treasurer—John Biddulph, Esq. Council—Lord Prudhoe, Lord Colchester, Sir Charles Vaughan, Sir J. C. Hobhouse, Major-General Sir A. Dickson, Colonels Jackson, Fox, Leake, and Chesney, Sir Woodbine Parish, Capt. Beaufort and Sir George Back, John Backhouse, Esq., J. B. Frazer, Esq., B. Frere, Esq., W. J. Hamilton, Esq., G. Long, Esq., J. Meek, Esq., J. Morier, Esq., and R. I. Murchison, Esq.

The annual report stated that 63 new members had been elected, and 13 vacancies had occurred in the past year; and that the society then consisted of 651 members, besides 60 Foreign, Honorary, and Corresponding members; and that the state of the finances continued satisfactory, as the expenditure of £1682 had been met by a corresponding increase in subscriptions, leaving the whole capital of £4800 untouched in the funds.

The President of the society is elected every two years. The three earlier Presidents were the Earl of Ripon, Sir John Barrow, W. R. Hamilton, Esq., F.R.S.

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### ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

THIS Society was established on the 8th February, 1820, holding its first meetings in the rooms of the Geological Society, Bedford-street, Covent-garden. It was remarked as strange, that whilst other branches of science were carefully cultivated, and astronomy had made such extensive progress and attracted so large a portion of attention, that no society should exist peculiarly devoted to its cultivation. Owing to the great perfection which the

construction of optical instruments had obtained in England, and the taste for scientific research universally prevalent, there had arisen in various parts of the kingdom a vast number of public and private observatories, in which the celestial phenomena were watched by men whose leisure and peculiar talents adapted them for such pursuits. Considerable collections of valuable observations had thus been made, by far the greater portion of which, however, owing to the expense and difficulty of publication, and various other causes, would inevitably perish, or at least remain buried in obscurity, unless collected and brought together by the establishment of a common centre of communication and classification to which they might be respectively imparted. This great desideratum was attempted by this Society, which, founded on the model of other scientific Institutions, had for its objects the formation of a collection or deposit of manuscript observations, to which the industrious observer might consign the result of his labours with the certainty of their finding a place among the materials of knowledge so amassed, exactly proportioned to their intrinsic value. Another object was the diffusion of a spirit of enquiry in practical astronomy, and a general knowledge of the mode of performing and computing Astronomical and Geodætical observations, and the use of instruments, especially such as were likely to be found in the hands of travellers, nautical men, and others, who may be placed in interesting situations in remote parts of the world. The plans so developed obtained an early and a very large share of patronage from the most celebrated mathematicians and astronomers: the Duke of Somerset being appointed the first President; Sir W. Herschell and the late Astronomer Royal two of the Vice-Presidents; Dr. Pearson the Treasurer; with Messrs. Babbage, Baily, and the present Sir James Herschell as the three Secretaries. The first meeting was held on the 8th February, 1819; and they have still continued to be held on the second Friday in every month, at eight o'clock in the evening, the former day being the anniversary for the election of officers.

The Society went on increasing in influence and prosperity until, in the year 1831, it received a charter, addressed to Sir James South, the then President. The

by-laws were arranged at a special general meeting held in the same year, by which members and associates, previously elected, were secured their privileges. The terms of subscription were fixed at two guineas for the admission fee, and an annual subscription of two guineas. The terms of composition, for members not residing within fifty miles from London, is eight guineas, but within that distance is twenty guineas. Each Member must be recommended for election by three or more Fellows, as must also Associates, who pay no subscription. The Society obtained their present occupancy of their rooms in Somerset House, in 1835, which are very commodious for the purpose. Ever since its formation in 1823, the Society has given away Gold and Silver Medals, for the best essays or investigations; and amongst those who have been thus honoured are the first mathematicians and astronomers of the day. The first who received the Gold Medal was Charles Babbage, Esq., for his engine for computing and printing the Mathematical Tables; and amongst other illustrious names is that of Miss Caroline Herschell, for her reduction of various nebulæ discovered by her father.

The present office bearers of the Society are:—Sir John Herschell, Bart., President. Vice-Presidents—Francis Baily, Esq., A. De Morgan, Esq., Davies Gilbert, Esq., F.R.S., and the Hon. J. Wrottesley, M.A. Treasurer—John Lee, Esq., L.L.D. Secretaries—Thomas Galloway, Esq. and Lieut. Raper, R.N. Foreign Secretary—Capt. W. H. Smith. Members of Council—G. Biddle Airy, Esq., M.A., Astronomer Royal; George Bishop, Esq., Lieut. Denison, Rev. Robert Main, Richard W. Rothman, Esq., Edward Biddle, Esq., W. Simms, Esq., and Lieut. W. S. Stratford, R.N.

The number of members present at the meetings rarely exceeds twenty, who are, however, all drawn together from a pure love of science, as there is little of a practical or popular nature in the discussions. The Transactions of the Society, which are published at intervals, according to their importance, have raised the Society and the Astronomical science of this country to a very high rank. It has a small but choice collection of instruments, and a select and valuable library; amongst the former, being the only original new standard measure of the country,

the duplicate of which was destroyed by the late conflagration of the two Houses of Parliament. In the invested property of the Society may be stated the advowson of a living in Buckinghamshire, presented to the Society by Dr. Lee, of Hartwell House, for a long time the Treasurer. Amongst the members is the name of Mrs. Somerville, the authoress of the *Architecture of the Heavens*, a tribute as creditable to her, as it is to the Society who thus recognise her fame and her deserts.

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### STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

THIS Society, which, for the recent period of its formation, has made very great progress in stability and utility, emanated from a suggestion thrown out by Mr. Babbage at the Oxford Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Its objects are purely the collection of statistical facts on all branches of enquiry, and their arrangement in forms in which they are likely to prove useful in their application, carefully avoiding all allusion to matters of pure political, theological, or moral nature. The first meeting was held in London in 1833, when the Marquis of Lansdowne was elected President, who was succeeded by Sir Charles Lemon, on whose retirement from office Earl Fitzwilliam was elected.

The number of Fellows is unlimited, as is that of Corresponding members residing out of the kingdom; but foreigners of distinction may be admitted as foreign members, so that there be not more than fifty at any time. Every Fellow pays a yearly subscription of two guineas, or may at any time compound for future payments by paying at once the sum of twenty guineas, but no payments are made by members of the other classes. The President is elected annually, the same person not being eligible for more than two years in succession, the Vice-Presidents being named by the former from the council for the time being. The ordinary meetings are held during the session on the third Monday in every month, from November to June inclusive, at eight o'clock in the evening, and the anniversary meeting is held on

the 15th of March. The privileges of Fellows consist in attendance at the ordinary meetings, and the use of a library, which is very rich on all those subjects which come under notice in the extensive ramifications of the Society, and which has been acquired by gifts or donation.

The President, Council, and officers elected at the last anniversary were the following:—President—Earl Fitzwilliam. Vice-Presidents—Right Hon. Sturges Bourne, Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, Lord Sandon, M.P., and James Heywood, Esq., F.R.S. Treasurer—H. Hallam, Esq., F.R.S. Honorary Secretaries—Dr. Clendinning, C. H. Maclean, and R. W. Rawson, Esqrs. Assistant-Secretary—W. R. Deverell, Esq. Council—Sir J. P. Boileau, Bart., Dr. Bowring, Rev. E. W. Edgell, T. R. Edmonds, Esq., F. H. Goldsmid, Esq., W. Greig, Esq., Dr. J. P. Kay, C. Knight, Esq., the Marquis of Lansdowne, Sir Charles Lemon, Dr. Lister, H. Merivale, Esq., the Bishop of Norwich, W. S. O'Brien, Esq., M.P.; G. R. Porter, Esq., F.R.S.; C. W. Puller, Esq., E. Romilly, Esq., Colonel Sykes, T. Tooke, Esq., F.R.S.; Major A. M. Tulloch, Dr. Urquhart, and G. W. Wood, Esq., M.P. The report of the Council then read stated the number of members at 418, and the income of the past year £884; leaving a balance in hand of £90, and the amount of money invested in the funds £867, which exceeds by £37 the amount of forty compositions paid since the commencement of the Society.

The meetings of the Statistical Society are generally well attended, and the proceedings are frequently of an interesting and important character. The papers which are read give rise to practical discussions, from which may be elicited various important facts, drawn as they are from the observations of members of so many varied professions and pursuits from all parts of the country. Documents of national enquiry from the various Boards are sometimes submitted officially from the Government, and between it and the Society a friendly and advantageous connexion exists, the President of the Board of Trade, with many of the other officers of that department, being in the list of members. The operations of the Society are very much abbreviated by the sub-division

of its labours into committees on different subjects of enquiry, of which those on vital statistics and education are two of the most important. Amongst the subjects which have latterly attracted the attention of the former, the most important is that of the Census, the return of the decennial period, which will be in 1841, and which afforded a considerable degree of interest in its discussion. That on education has published some very elaborate reports on its state in Westminster, presenting a very pitiable condition of the great mass of children with regard to the means in existence for their intellectual information. All reference to political or other polemical controversy is however carefully avoided, not only in these papers, but in the discussions to which they give rise. The transactions of the society are now published in a quarterly journal, which, besides the papers read before it, contains a rich mass of statistical information. The meetings cannot fail to interest the enquiring stranger, who may be admitted by any member, and every urbanity and attention is shown to such by the Assistant Secretary. The rooms of the Society are at present at 4, St. Martin's-place; but more capacious premises are much required for the increasing importance of the society's operations, and the accommodation of the Sub-Committees, which are now numerously ramified.

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#### **METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.**

THE branch of science which this society embraces, naturally separates itself from all other departments of natural investigation. Meteorology is essentially dependant for its successful progress upon the extensive and simultaneous observations of individuals in all parts of the kingdom, and indeed all over the world; and to encourage the tabulation of such observations, and extend the number of stations where such may be made, is the principal object of this society. A Meteorological Society was established about ten years since, of which Dr. Birkbeck was appointed the President, but which not meeting with adequate support, was for some time discontinued. It was revived, however, in 1836, principally through the

exertions of Mr. W. H. White, the present efficient Secretary, aided by Dr. Birkbeck, and the co-operation of many of the original members. The society first held its meetings in one of the committee-rooms at the London Mechanics' Institution, in Southampton-buildings, Holborn, and the depository for its instruments was at the house of the Registrar, Mr. R. C. Woods, in Hatton-garden. On account of that gentleman undertaking an appointment under Major Jervis, in his great Indian survey, the Society removed to very appropriate rooms, at 25, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn, where the standard instruments are now kept, with a regular register of meteorological phenomena. Its correspondence is very extensive; and the society has recently published the first part of its transactions, embodying several memoirs and contributions of considerable interest. A regular journal of its observations is also published in the *Gardeners' Gazette*, which is additionally interesting from the comparison made between actual observations, and the speculations of meteorological prophets.

At the anniversary meeting on the 12th of March, the following were elected the officers and Council:—President—The Right Hon. Lord Robert Grosvenor, M. P. Vice-Presidents—Captain Sir John Ross, R. N., C. B., F. R. S., &c.; Dr. M'Intyre, F. L. S., M. B. S., &c. Treasurer—Dr. Lee, F. R. S. Secretaries—Dr. Mitchell, F. G. S., &c.; W. H. White, Esq. Foreign Secretary—John Reynolds, Esq. Registrar—R. C. Woods, Esq. Other Members of the Council—C. H. Adams, Esq.; H. M. Bailey, Esq., M. R. C. S.; Geo. Birkbeck, M. D., F. G. S., &c.; E. W. Brayley, Esq., F. G. S., F. S. S., &c.; William Bateman Byng, Esq. F. R. A. S., &c.; John Green, Esq.; Sir John F. W. Herschell, K. H., F. R. S., &c.; the Right Hon. Sir Robert Wilmot Horton, F. R. S., &c.; Samuel Luck Kent, Esq., F. G. S., &c.; John Stuart, Esq.; Richard Taylor, Esq., F. L. S., &c.; James Geo. Tatem, Esq.

There are about 100 members, and the terms of subscription are one guinea annually. Each candidate must be proposed by two or more members, and is balloted for after being suspended in the meeting-room for one month. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday in every

month, from November to June, at eight o'clock in the evening; and the anniversary meeting on the day of the ordinary meeting in March.

The communications read at the ordinary meetings, consisting of detailed series of observations or notices of particular celestial phenomena, often give rise to interesting discussions. The noble President manifests his interest in meteorological science by frequently taking the chair; and the society presents the greatest facility, perhaps, of any for receiving original communications on the varied and important subjects which its objects embrace. Such communications may be addressed to W. H. White, Esq., the Honorary Secretary, who will give every facility for the introduction of strangers to the meetings.

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#### URANIAN SOCIETY.

A SOCIETY, under the above title, for the popular and practical cultivation of astronomy, is now in progress of formation. It is intended for the free and familiar discussion of subjects of astronomical interest and the reading of papers of popular interest, thus filling up a chasm between the popular lectures on the science delivered in Lent, and the Royal Astronomical Society, whose communications are on the most abstract parts of the science. The provisional meetings of the society are held at the rooms of the Meteorological Society in Bartlett's-buildings. Mr. W. H. Cavalier is the Secretary, who will give any information respecting its progress.

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#### LONDON ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.

THE proceedings of this association are as yet but provisional, being formed in the early part of the last year for the purpose of assisting the electrician in his interesting pursuits. Hitherto he has often wasted his energies in treading beaten ground, and after undergoing the tedious and expensive process of a series of experiments, he has in many instances found that the same results had been previously obtained. This inconvenience is now in

a great measure obviated by the frequent meetings of the society, and the publication of the transactions, a copy of which is presented to each member. The society consists of resident members, paying for the first year £2. 2s., and of non-resident members, whose subscription is £1. 1s., these commencing on the 16th of May, being the anniversary of its formation. The meetings are on the first and third Tuesday of every month, in the theatre of the Royal Gallery of Practical Science, Adelaide-street, West Strand, at seven o'clock in the evening, for the purpose of conversation; and at eight o'clock a chairman is elected by the members then present, and the regular business of the evening immediately commences.

The Committee, as at present constituted, is provisional, Mr. E. W. Brayley, jun. F. G. S., being Secretary, and Mr. John P. Gassiot, Treasurer. They for the present elect all the members, and any gentleman wishing to join the society, must send his name and address to the Secretary, stating whether he is personally known to any member. The Committee also appoint Sub-Committees, to which any member of the society is eligible, for the purpose of examining or testing the experiments which may have been submitted to the society. Visitors are introduced by orders of members.

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### **INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**

ABOUT the year 1760 a new era in all the arts and sciences commenced in this country, for everything which contributed to the comfort, beauty, and prosperity of a nation, moved forward in improvement so rapidly and so obviously, as to mark that period with particular distinction. Manufactures were extended on a new plan by the enterprise, capital, and, above all, by the science of the men of deep knowledge and persevering industry engaged in them. It was seen that it would be better for establishments to be placed in new situations, adapted to the obtaining raw materials, and the labour of patient and retired industry, than to endure the vexations to which they were exposed in corporate and privileged towns: this produced a new demand, not thought of until that

period, in this country—*internal navigation*. To make communications from factory to factory, and from warehouses to harbours, as well as to carry raw materials to and from such establishments became absolutely necessary; and hence arose those works not of pompous and useless magnificence but of real utility, which have been carried on to such an extent and magnitude. The ancient harbours of this country may be said ever to have been an example in the history of mankind. The sea-ports were such as nature had formed, and but little better, notwithstanding jetties and piers of defence, which had been made and altered without knowledge or judgment, at municipal expense. This general situation of things gave rise to a new profession and order of men, called “Civil Engineers.” In almost all other nations of Europe this was a profession encouraged or instituted by the governments; but in this country there was no public establishment except common schools, for rudimental knowledge necessary to all arts, naval, military, or mechanical. Civil Engineers are, therefore, a self-created body with respect to their profession; and they owe their present state, not to power or influence, but to the best of all protection, “the encouragement of a great and powerful nation,”—a nation that has advanced its influence by the honourable means of the steady industry of its manufactures, and the superior knowledge of its inhabitants in Mechanics, Natural Philosophy, Practical Chemistry, and other useful exertions of the mind.

From the earliest notices of the profession, it appears that the first professors entertained that jealousy of each other, which is but too common amongst the cultivators of the liberal arts. It was about this time that engineers often met casually in the avenues of the two houses of parliament and the courts of justice, where they were called upon to give evidence as to projected plans, or to explain to juries things peculiar to their profession in trials at law. In these instances each maintained the eligibility of his own projects with pertinacity, and frequently without regard to judgment or discretion. It was then proposed to Mr. Smeaton, who was in the height of his reputation and fame, “that such a state of the profession, then crude and in its infancy, was highly improper, and

that it would be well if some sort of meeting in an occasional way were to be held, where they might shake hands together and be personally known to one another;" thus to soften the asperity of their minds, by reciprocal communication of ideas, and by that means promote the true ends of public business. Mr. Smeaton readily comprehended the propriety of such an association, the first meeting of which took place in March, 1771; and in the space of twenty years the members had increased to sixty-five, of whom however not more than fifteen were real engineers employed in public works or private undertakings of magnitude; the others being amateurs, or ingenious workmen and artificers connected with and employed in works of engineering. This association denominated itself the Society of Civil Engineers, and a register was kept of the names and number of members who argued, conversed, and suggested new ideas to each other; and in this way they proceeded with unanimity for some years, until it ceased to exist as a Society in May, 1792, by mutual consent of the principal members, some untoward circumstances in the behaviour of one gentleman to Mr. Smeaton occasioning the disunion. It was soon afterwards thought advisable to renew the Society upon a more respectable and permanent basis, and Mr. Smeaton had consented to become a member; but he unfortunately died on the 28th October, 1792, whilst the first meeting of the renovated Society was held in April, 1793. The title was the same as its predecessor, and the Society consisted of three classes:—1. Ordinary Members, to consist of real Engineers, actually employed as such in private and public service; 2. Honorary Members, to consist of men of Science and gentlemen of rank and fortune who might for knowledge have been real Engineers, had it not been their good fortune to have it in their power to employ others in this profession; and 3. Honorary Members, consisting of various artists, whose professional employments are necessary or extremely useful, as well as connected with Civil Engineering. The Society thus organized held its meeting every alternate Friday, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, Strand, during the sessions of Parliament; and amongst the second class at its early sittings were the names of Sir Joseph Banks, Sir G. A.

Schuckburgh Evelyn, General Bentham, the Earl of Moreton, Right Hon. Charles Greville, and other distinguished names. One of their earliest labours was the publication of the reports of Mr. Smeaton, which were obtained on very liberal terms from Sir Joseph Banks, by whom they were purchased from the executors; and this useful result of their labours still holds its place high in the estimation of the profession. It does not appear, however, that the principles of the Society could secure its permanent stability, for the above is the only printed record left of its Transactions. It merged into a club, called the Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers, which still continues to hold monthly meetings at the Freemasons' Tavern, in Great Queen-street.

The club last mentioned carrying on its operations on a very exclusive scale, several young men who were following the profession of Civil Engineers, voluntarily associated together for the purpose of mutual improvement, from which the present Institution of Civil Engineers took its rise. The first six who associated were, Messrs. William Maudsley, H. R. Palmer, Joshua Field, James Jones, Charles Collinge, and William Ashwill; the last five of whom are now living, and are active members of the Society. Their first meeting was held on the 2nd January, 1817, and they continued their meetings until the 23rd January, 1820, when Mr. Telford, who was then a Smeatonian, and at the head of his fame, was requested to favour their infant exertions with his patronage. Having accorded with their solicitation, he was installed President on the 21st March, 1820; and under these new auspices the Society went on increasing until 1828, when it received a charter of incorporation, in the name of Thomas Telford, Esq., of Abingdon-street, Westminster. The charter empowers them to hold a hall, and any messuages, lands, and hereditaments, the yearly value of which shall not exceed one thousand pounds. The meetings of the Institution, which were formerly held at a house in Cannon-row, Westminster, have been recently removed before the commencement of the present session, to a more commodious house in Great George-street, Westminster.

The Institution consists of four classes, viz. : Members, Graduates, Associates, and Honorary Members. Members

are persons of more than twenty-five years of age, who have been engaged in the practice of a Civil Engineer for five consecutive years; Graduates, are those who are pursuing a course of study or employment in order to qualify themselves for the profession; Associates, such as are not Civil Engineers by profession, but whose pursuits constitute branches of Engineering, or qualify them to concur with Civil Engineers in the advancement of professional knowledge; and Honorary Members, are persons eminent for science and experience in pursuits connected with the profession of a Civil Engineer, but who are not engaged in the practice of that profession in Great Britain or Ireland. Certificates of recommendation must be signed by at least one member, testifying to a personal knowledge of the candidate, and two or more other Members, Graduates, or Associates, and the proposal being read, the name is ballotted for at the second subsequent ordinary meeting. Members, Graduates, and Associates, living within ten miles of the General Post Office, are considered Residents, and those beyond those limits as Non-residents. Each Resident Member pays four guineas, and each Non-resident Member, three guineas; Resident Graduates, two guineas and a half, and Non-resident, two guineas; and each Resident Associate three guineas, and Non-resident two guineas and a half annually. Every Member and Associate pays an admission fee of three guineas, but Graduates pay no admission fee until transferred to the class of Members. Members, Graduates, or Associates, resident in the United Kingdom, may compound for their annual subscriptions by the payment of twenty-five guineas; but if residing abroad, by the payment of ten guineas. In the case of any Member who has long distinguished himself by talent in his professional career, but who from ill health, advanced age, or other causes, does not continue a lucrative practice, the Council, if they find good reason for the remission of the annual subscription, may do so, or they may enrol such as a life subscriber. The by-laws require that the President shall be a person eminent as a Civil Engineer.

The Council of the Institution consists of the President, the four Vice-presidents, and twelve other Members of

the Council; the following being elected at the last anniversary on January 15th, 1839:—

President—James Walker, F.R.S., L. and E. Vice-Presidents—Wm. Cubitt, F.R.S., Bryan Donkin, F.R.S., Joshua Field, F.R.S., and H. R. Palmer, F.R.S. Council—F. Bramah, J. K. Brunel, F.R.S., James Howell, Joseph Locke, G. Lowe, F.R.S., J. Macneill, F.R.A.S., W. A. Provis, Major Robe, R.E., James Simpson, and Robert Stephenson, Esqrs. Treasurer—W. A. Hankey. Auditors—W. Freeman and Charles Manby. Secretary—Thos. Webster, M.A. Collector—Mr. G. C. Gibbon.

The Library, which is very valuable, is open to all Members, Graduates, and Associates daily, from nine A. M. to nine P. M.; and visitors are permitted to inspect this and the collection on the introduction of the former. The Library is principally confined to works on Mechanics and Civil Engineering, in which department it is very rich. The progress of the collection has hitherto been retarded by the want of proper space; but now that the Institution is possessed of sufficient accommodation, more energy will be devoted to this department. There is, however, in the rooms a very valuable though not extensive collection of Models, Instruments, and Specimens, as well as Drawings, Plans, and Prints. The ordinary general meetings are held on every Tuesday during the session, at eight o'clock in the evening, from the second Tuesday in January till the last in May, with the exception of the third and fourth Tuesday in January, and Whit and Easter-Tuesdays; the anniversary meeting being held on the third Tuesday in January. At these meetings, papers on practical subjects connected with Engineering are read, and time is allowed for after discussion, which often partakes of an interesting character.

In addition to very liberal donations of books and specimens, the late Mr. Telford, the first President, gave the Institution the liberal donation of £2000. Part of the interest of this sum is devoted to Medals on original essays and enquiries, called the Telford Medals, given in silver and bronze. The Society also present other Medals and Premiums, pursuant to an advertised list. In the last year there was expended for Telford Premiums,

£168 7s., the total receipts being £1620, and leaving a balance in hand of £305. The Institution also possesses £335 in the 3 per cent. consols, available for general purposes, and the lease of the house in Cannon-row. The present number of Members, Graduates, and Associates exceeds 500; and the first part of a third volume of the Transactions has just been published.

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### ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

THIS Society was founded in the year 1835, for the general advancement of Civil Architecture; for promoting and facilitating the acquirement of the knowledge of the various arts and sciences connected therewith; for the formation of a Library and Museum; for establishing a correspondence with learned men in foreign countries; for the purpose of inquiry and information upon the subject of the said art; and for establishing an uniformity and respectability of practice in the profession. The first meetings were held in King-street, Covent-garden; and at its formation the Earl de Grey, a nobleman ardently attached to architectural and scientific pursuits, was appointed President. A charter was granted on the 11th January, 1838, by his late Majesty, in the name of Earl de Grey, Civil Architecture being therein styled "an art, esteemed and encouraged in all enlightened nations, as tending greatly to promote the domestic convenience of citizens, and the public improvement and embellishment of towns and cities." Thus honoured by royal patronage, the Society has progressed in the importance and efficiency of its proceedings; and at Michaelmas, 1837, took possession of the premises which it now occupies, at 16, Grosvenor-street, Bond-street.

The Institute of British Architects consists of three classes of members—Fellows, Associates, and Honorary Fellows. The Fellows are architects who have been engaged as Principals for at least seven successive years in the practice of Civil Architecture; the Associates are persons engaged in the study of Civil Architecture, or in practice less than seven years, and who have attained the

age of twenty-one years. The Honorary Fellows consist of noblemen, who contribute a sum at one time of not less than twenty-five guineas, and of gentlemen unconnected with any branch of building as a trade or business, who shall contribute a like sum. Persons eminent for their works or scientific acquirements, not being British architects, and resident either abroad or in the United Kingdom, who may be duly elected on that account, are eligible to be associated to the Institute under the designation of Honorary Members, without any contribution. The officers of the Institute consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, and two Secretaries, who, with seven other members, form a Council for the direction and management of its affairs. All persons desirous of being admitted Fellows, Associates, or Honorary Fellows, must be recommended by at least three Fellows, the certificate being hung up at two meetings, and balloted for on the third. The contributions of a Fellow are five guineas for admission and three guineas annually, or he may at his entrance compound for his contributions by the payment of thirty guineas, or, at any time after the first year, by a payment of twenty-five guineas. Associates pay three guineas for the first year and two guineas for every subsequent year, and this class cannot compound their annual subscription. The sessions of the Institute commence annually on the first Monday in December, and ordinary meetings are held on every alternate Monday (Christmas, Passion, and Easter weeks excepted) until July inclusive; but it is in the power of the Council to protract the sessions, if necessary. The annual general meeting is held on the first Monday in May, to receive and deliberate upon the report of the Council, and to elect the officers for the ensuing year.

At the last anniversary meeting, on Monday, May 6th, the standing order with respect to the election of President (who, by the by-laws, is not re-eligible after two years' service) was suspended, and Earl de Grey was re-appointed President.—Mr. G. Basevi, Mr. Edward Blore, and Mr. Decimus Burton, were appointed Vice-Presidents; Mr. Charles Fowler, and Mr. Ambrose Poynter, Honorary Secretaries; and Mr. T. L. Donaldson, Honorary Secretary for Foreign Correspondence. The

Ordinary Members of the Council were Messrs. T. Belamy, T. Chawner, T. Cundy, B. Ferrey, D. Mocatta, A. Salvin, J. Shaw; Treasurer and Banker, Sir W. B. Farquhar; Honorary Solicitor, Mr. W. L. Donaldson; and Auditors, Mr. G. Bailey, Fellow, and Mr. J. W. Wild, Associate. The Report announced the receipts from Fellows, including arrears, £232 2s.; from Associates, £127 1s.; from Students, £4 4s.; from four Honorary Fellows, viz. the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Aberdeen, Sir Robert Peel, and R. H. Vivian, Esq., M.P., contributions of £26 5s. each, which, with dividends on stock of £33 16s. 10d., sale of Transactions, £64 12s., and other resources, made a total of £749 6s. The total disbursements were £603 7s., and the balance in hand, £145 18s. 9d. The assets were stated at £1300, in the three per cent. consols, and the sum invested for the travelling fund; (a favourite object with the Institute, the interest of which is to be devoted to the support of a travelling student, but which does not make much progress, £66 4s.) There are on the list 152 Contributing Members; fifty-two Honorary Members; and eight Students; a class for the latter having been formed during the past year.

The meetings of the Institute are generally well attended, and Earl de Grey often presides. This nobleman takes every opportunity of manifesting his anxiety for its welfare, and during the last year gave two *soirées* to the members at his mansion in St. James's-square. At the last meeting of the session, his lordship presented Mr. Donaldson, the late Secretary, and to whom the Society is mainly indebted for its establishment as well as its prosperity, with a magnificent silver candelabra, exceeding in value 100 guineas, raised by a subscription from the members, as a testimony of the efficiency of his services. The Library is very rich and valuable, and contains many unique donations from the late Sir John Soane, who also presented the Society with the sum of £700. The Institute offers prizes for the best essays or restorations, one of which is a Soane medallion, after that liberal contributor. The Museum contains an interesting and increasing collection of models and designs, which is open daily to Fellows and their friends. In pursuance of

an original plan of the Institute, there have latterly been delivered courses of Lectures on different branches of science connected with architecture, which have attracted considerable attention from the profession. The correspondence of the Institute is extensive, and a valuable list of queries, issued soon after its establishment, have been translated into the Italian and German languages, and re-published in the United States.

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### ROYAL INSTITUTION.

THIS Institution is well known throughout the country, as closely identified with the progress of science, and particularly of chemistry, for the last quarter of a century. The investigations and immense philosophical discoveries of Sir Humphry Davy, and the close and accurate experimental researches of his successor, Dr. Faraday, have conferred upon it a high name as a school of science, independent of which the services of other men of talent and learning have efficiently maintained its character. It was established in 1799, "for diffusing the knowledge and facilitating the general introduction of useful mechanical inventions and improvements; and for teaching, by courses of philosophical lectures and experiments, the application of science to the common purposes of life," principally through the exertions of Count Rumford, an able practical philosopher of that day. A charter of incorporation was granted by George the Third, addressed to the Earls of Winchilsea, Morton, Egremont, and Besborough; Sir Joseph Banks; Thomas Pelham; Benjamin, Count of Rumford of the Holy Roman Empire; Sir John Coxe Hipplesey, Bart.; Richard Clark, Esq., Chamberlain of the City of London; and Richard Sullivan, Esq.; constituting them one body politic, known by the name of "the Proprietors of the Royal Institution of Great Britain." The earlier proceedings of the Institution were of too exclusive a character to cement its prosperity, and in 1810 it was found necessary to apply for an Act for enlarging the powers granted by the charter, and for extending and more effectually promoting the objects thereof. The increased scale of expenditure having far

exceeded the funds of the Institution, the managers had found it necessary to lay a state of their concerns before a general meeting of the proprietors, at which it was unanimously determined "That the national objects to which the Royal Institution is now applied, should not be abandoned on account of any sacrifice of property which may be required on their part; but, with a view to attract the interest of scientific and public characters in its favour, and to induce them to form an active co-operation for its support, that measures should be taken to form on its basis a public, national, and permanent establishment." The name of the body was then altered to "The Members of the Royal Institution of Great Britain;" and upon this act the by-laws were formed by which its operations are now conducted.

The Institution is governed by a President, fifteen Managers, fifteen Visitors, one Treasurer, and one Secretary. Members are elected by ballot; and being proposed by four Members at least, at one monthly meeting, are ballotted for at the next. The sum of five guineas is paid on entrance as an admission fee, and five guineas as an annual subscription, or a payment of fifty guineas entitles them to the privileges of a member for life. Every member must also pay, on his admission, a sum not less than five guineas in addition to his contribution or composition, to be applied to the maintenance either of the Library, the mineralogical collection, the mechanical collection, or model-room. All members have a right of admission to all public parts of the institution, or to send any specimens of minerals or other substances, likely to be useful to the arts or manufactures, to be examined, and if necessary, analyzed and reported upon, and their probable applications stated. British subjects of the blood royal, foreigners of elevated rank, or distinguished for scientific or literary attainments, may be elected Honorary Members, who shall have the same privileges as other members, but are not entitled to vote, nor eligible to any of the offices of the Institution. The annual meeting of the members is held on the first of May, and general monthly meetings are held at the house of the Institution on the first Monday in each month, from February to December inclusive, at two o'clock, P. M., precisely.

At the last anniversary meeting the following were elected as the officers and managers;—President—the Duke of Somerset. Treasurer—W. R. Hamilton, Esq., F.R.S. Secretary—E. R. Daniell, Esq., F.R.S. Managers—Rev. John Barlow, Dr. Bostock, the Earl of Burlington, B. Bond Cabbell, F. R. S., Right Hon. Sir Robert Gordon, E. Halswell, Esq., M.A., W. V. Hellyer, Esq., Dr. Charles Holland, G. Long, Esq., G. Moore, Esq., F.R.S., Sir Woodbine Parish, F. R. S., Charles Pilgrim, Esq., W. Pole, Esq., F. R. S., Lord Prudhoe; G. W. Young, Esq. Visitors—R. V. Barnewell, Esq., J. F. Daniell, Esq., F. R. S., J. W. Farrer, Esq., Dr. A. B. Granville, Rev. E. Hawkins, Dr. Henderson, W. Mathews, Esq., R. I. Murchison, Esq., Dr. Roget, Right Hon. Sir George Rose, E. J. Rudge, Esq., F.S.A., W. W. Salmon, Esq., R. H. Jolly, Esq., S. Ware, Esq., and Sir Giffin Wilson, F. R. S.

The report delivered on May 1st, gave a favourable account of the progress of the Institution. During the past year forty-five admission fees of five guineas each were received, being eight more than the number in the preceding year, thus increasing the source of income by £42. An increase also was observed in the number of members, who pay annually a sum of five guineas, and who then amounted to 272, being an excess of fifty-three over the previous year's account, with a corresponding increase of income. The greatest increase in favour of the Institution was, however, under the head of subscribers to the lectures, which, instead of £219. 9s. as per last year's account, produced £431., a circumstance which, taken conjointly with the larger admission of members, clearly evinces the increasing interest excited by the Royal Institution. The following statement was also given of the property of the Institution: house and buildings, £14,980; furniture, £200; Library, £8095; mechanical apparatus, £787; mineral collection, £400; and laboratory apparatus, £400. The funded property of the establishment was in three per cent. consols, £1473. 13s.; ditto, Fullerian Professorship of Chemistry, £3333. 6s. 8d.; Fullerian Professorship of Physiology, £3333. 6s. 8d.; Mr. Fuller's accumulating fund, £3463. 2s. 5d.; ditto, accumulating fund of the Royal Institution, £530 19s. 3d.;

Actonian investment, £1070 19s. ; and Laboratory fund, £1731 6s. ; making a total of £14,936 13s. The institution had laid out within the last eighteen months the sum of £1025 7s. for internal alterations to the house, both solid and ornamental ; while private subscribers had defrayed the further sum of £1853 13s. for its exterior substantial improvement as well as embellishment. The Acton endowment is for the purpose of bestowing a prize or prizes as an encouragement to science and the diffusion of useful knowledge.

The Chemical Lectures delivered in the Laboratory alternately by Messrs. Brande and Faraday, have conferred upon the Royal Institution a high degree of reputation as the first school for this science in the metropolis. Two courses of lectures are annually delivered ; the first session commencing in October, and the second in January, at nine o'clock in the morning of Tuesday, and Thursday, each course extending to upwards of fifty. Periodical lectures, which are duly announced, of a more popular character, are also delivered in the commodious theatre by eminent professors. Dr. Faraday is Director of the Laboratory, and Fullerian Professor of Chemistry ; and Dr. Grant the Fullerian Professor of Physiology. The weekly evening meetings are held during the months from January to June inclusive, at the discretion of the Committee, the object of which is to collect and assemble together scientific and literary members, and in this they prove eminently successful. The Lectures delivered are of a very popular class, and generally well attended ; and in the reading-rooms are deposited choice or rare specimens of art, taste, and vertu.

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### LONDON INSTITUTION.

THIS Institution, designed to be for the City what the Royal Institution is for the West-end of London, was formed in 1806. The principal objects of this Institution were the acquisition of an extensive library, consisting of books in all languages, both ancient and modern ; the establishment of rooms for newspapers and other periodical works ; and the general diffusion of science, lite-

ration, and the arts, by means of lectures and experiments. To accomplish these purposes, nearly 1000 gentlemen and merchants subscribed 75 guineas each, for the supply of the requisite funds, and selected a committee to prepare laws for the government of the Institution. On January 21st, 1807, the London Institution was made a Corporation by Royal Charter, which was addressed to Sir Francis Baring, Bart., and several of the aldermen and merchants of London. By the Charter it was required that the sum of £20,000 should be invested in the funds, as a provision for the permanency and stability of the Institution, which for some time proved adequate to its purposes. The Institution originally occupied the house in the Old Jewry, built by Sir Robert Clayton, but afterwards removed to another in King's-Arms-yard, Coleman-street, from whence it was removed to the elegant stone building, in Moorfields, which it at present occupies, and which was erected for the purpose, the first stone being laid on November 4th, 1815, by the Lord Mayor (S. Birch, Esq.), attended by a numerous body of the proprietors. Soon after its completion, it became necessary to apply to Parliament for an act for providing an increase of the annual income; and an annual payment was fixed, not exceeding two guineas for each share. By this means a sum more adequate for carrying on the purposes of the Institution was obtained, and although the original price of the shares has been much depreciated, the objects of the Institution are carried on with the spirit contemplated by its founders.

The Proprietors, together with two classes of Subscribers and Honorary Members, have a right of admission to the Library, from ten o'clock in the morning until ten at night; and to the lectures, reading-rooms, and all other public parts of the house of the Institution, at all hours, from ten o'clock in the morning until ten at night; but on Saturday the doors of the Institution close at three o'clock. The Proprietors also have each a transferable ticket to the news-room, pamphlet-room, and library; and no person, except a Proprietor or Subscriber, is admitted without producing such ticket, and entering his name in a book kept for that purpose. The Honorary Members are composed of persons of distinguished

rank or qualifications, whether native or foreigners, who must be elected at a meeting of the managers. The sums placed in the public funds as a provision for the permanency and stability of the Institution are fixed by the by-laws as not less than £35,000 three per cent. annuities; and the rents, revenues, and annual income of the Institution is applied to current and incidental expenses, and the purchase of journals and publications for the use of the reading room.

The Library of the London Institution, on which considerable care has been bestowed, ranks one of the first in London in value and extent. The first volume of a classified catalogue has recently been published, and the librarians are now engaged in the completion of a second. The reading-rooms present very great facility for study and research, and are very much visited. In the report of the managers, printed in April, 1837, it was announced that Sir Thomas Baring, the President, had placed the sum of one hundred guineas at the disposal of the library committee, to be expended in such books as they might select to be added to the library in his name. It was stated further, that the committee was most anxious, by a careful enquiry, to give every effect to this valuable donation; and that the managers promised themselves much gratification in communicating the result to the proprietors at the next meeting. It was therefore decided, after deliberate consideration, that with the sanction of the president, his gift would be most honourably and completely commemorated by expending it upon a copy of the original edition of the splendid *Description de l'Égypte*, published under the authority and at the expense of the French Government, from the memoirs and collections of the Savans, who attended the expedition to the East at the end of the last century. An account has recently been published of that intricate and extraordinary work, exhibiting a complete analysis of its peculiar arrangement, and of the great variety of subjects contained in it.

Several courses of Lectures on Literature or Science are delivered annually in the commodious theatre, which is capable of accommodating 750 persons, and to which the public are admitted. *Conversazioni* are also given occasionally during the season, at the discretion of the

Managers ; and in the Library are exhibited specimens of rarity and taste contributed by the Members. The anniversary meeting is held on the last Thursday in April, when the chair is taken at twelve o'clock precisely. Sir Thomas Baring is President, and Mr. Tite, F.R.S. the Honorary Secretary.

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### **RUSSELL INSTITUTION.**

THIS flourishing Institution is held in capacious premises at Great Coram-street, Russell-square. A large increase of houses erected to the north of Bloomsbury-square, had been rapidly occupied by respectable and wealthy inhabitants, and it was thought that a Subscription Assembly House would at once be a desirable place of local amusement and profitable speculation to the builder. Immediately after its completion, it was accidentally burnt down, but it was soon rebuilt as it now appears. For one or two seasons, the great room was occupied for concerts and dancing, and some of the smaller apartments for billiards and cards. Fortunately the northern extremity of London was either too cold or too prudent to encourage such amusements, and the premises having remained thus for some time, were converted into a temple of science. Taking a hint from the Royal and London Institutions, which were then very popular, the proprietors thought it expedient to offer their building for a similar establishment. A meeting of the neighbouring inhabitants was summoned in 1808, to raise 12,500 guineas, by 500 shares at 25 guineas each, to purchase the premises, provide books, furniture, &c., which plan was approved, and the Institution was then regularly organized. The cost of the premises was 5000 guineas, and they are now held of the Duke of Bedford, under the original lease for 99 years, at an annual ground rent of £10. Of the sum originally subscribed, 4500 guineas were appropriated to fit up the rooms and provide a stock of books ; and from that time to the present, an annual sum of £250 to £300 has been expended for books and periodicals. At the formation of the Institution, Nathaniel Highmore, LL.D., was appointed to the office of

Librarian; he was succeeded by Mr. G. Flack, on whose resignation in 1825, Mr. Edw. Wedlake Brayley, F.A.S., was appointed to the joint offices of Secretary and Librarian, offices which he still holds, reflecting honour upon himself as well as the Institution. The first Committee was chosen by ballot at a special meeting of the proprietors held on the 20th April, 1808, when the late Sir Samuel Romilly, and seven other Managers, were elected. The first Trustees were Sir Samuel Romilly, William Dickinson, Esq., M.P., and Mr. Serjeant Lens.

A class of annual subscribers of three guineas was admitted, who were free to all the privileges of the Library and News-room. As the dividends arising from the funded property and the annual subscription of strangers was not found sufficient to carry on the contingent expenses of the establishment, a proposal was made and adopted, that each proprietor should pay an annual subscription of one guinea. This was successful in giving stability and prosperity to the Institution; whilst similar ones, by neglecting it, have either become dismembered, or involved themselves in pecuniary difficulties. The whole management of the Institution is vested in a Committee, consisting of a Chairman, seven Managers, and sixteen other Proprietors. The Chairman and Managers are elected for five years, four of the members being elected at the annual general meeting, in place of four who go out yearly in rotation, who are ineligible for one year after. Annual subscribers of three guineas each are, by a resolution of the Committee made in 1833, entitled to a free admission to the lectures; but no subscriber is admitted unless proposed by a Proprietor and approved of by the Committee. The subscription of ladies to the Library is two guineas annually; and any resident member of the family of a Proprietor is admissible as an annual subscriber, on the payment of one guinea yearly.

The Library, of which a copious catalogue was printed in January, 1835, and since received many additions, obtained by purchase as well as donation, contains upwards of 13,000 volumes. In the reading-room is the splendid picture by Haydon, of "Xenophon and the Ten Thousand Greeks first seeing the Sea from Mount Thèches," during the masterly retreat which forms so distinguished a feature

in Grecian story, This picture was presented to the Institution by its Patron, the Duke of Bedford, who won it in a raffle in 1836, in which it had been valued at 800 guineas.\* His Grace has also been a valuable donor to the Library, and contributed to a very valuable collection of statues and busts. The Theatre or Lecture-room is very commodious, and two or three courses of Lectures are annually delivered during the session by professors of acknowledged talent.

The Patron of the Institution is the Duke of Bedford; the President, Lord John Russell; the Vice-Presidents, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Camden, the Earl of Devon, Lord Holland, Lord Southampton, Lord Abinger, Sir Stephen Gaselee, and H. T. Hope, Esq., M.P. The Managers for 1839 are Mr. Serjeant Storcks, John Britton, Esq., F.S.A., Henry Farrar, Esq., Robert Hunter, Esq., F.R.S., T. James, Esq., J. Lewis, Esq., Dr. Roget, and B. P. Witts, Esq.

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#### ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

THE objects of this Society, as recited in the charter, are the advancement of literature by the publication of inedited remains of ancient literature, and of such works as may be of great intrinsic value, but not of that popular character which usually claims the attention of publishers;—by the promotion of discoveries in literature;—by endeavouring to fix the standard as far as is practicable, and to preserve the purity of the English language, by the critical improvement of English lexicography;—by the reading at public meetings of interesting papers on History, Philosophy, Poetry, Philology, and the Arts, and the publication of such of those papers as shall be approved of;—by the assigning of honorary rewards to works of great literary merit, and to important discoveries in literature;—and by establishing a correspondence with learned men in foreign

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\* The number of shares was eighty, at ten guineas each. His late Majesty, the Duchess of Kent, the Princess Victoria, the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Durham, Lord Francis Egerton, and Goethe the poet, were amongst the shareholders. The Duke of Bedford had three shares. The size of the picture is 11 feet 6 inches in length, and 9 feet 6 inches in height.

countries, for the purpose of literary enquiry and information. The plans proposed for carrying the above into effect are—to promote, by assistance from its funds, or otherwise, the publication or translation of valuable manuscripts discovered in any public or private collection;—to promote the publication of works of great intrinsic value, but not of so popular a character as to induce the risk of individual expense;—to adjudge honorary rewards to persons who shall have rendered any eminent service to literature, or produced any work highly distinguished for learning or genius;—to establish correspondence with learned men in foreign countries, for the purpose of literary enquiry and information;—and to elect, as Honorary Associates, persons eminent for the pursuit of literature, and from these to elect Associates upon the Royal foundation, and upon the foundation of the Society, as circumstances may admit.

The anniversary meeting of the Society is held on the last Thursday in April, when the report of the Council on the state of the Society is read, and the Council and Officers are elected. The ordinary meetings are held on Thursday afternoons at four o'clock, in the first and third week of every calendar month (except during the weeks of Easter and Whitsuntide), from the month of November to June, both inclusive. Members of the Royal Family, upon signifying their wish to become members, are admitted without ballot, by entering their names in the book of signatures. Peers of the Realm, Lords of Parliament, or Privy Councillors, may be proposed to become members, and the election put to the vote on the same day, there being present five members at the least. The names of candidates duly proposed are suspended in the usual meeting-room of the Society during three ordinary meetings at least. The subscription of every member elected subsequently to 27th April, 1826, is three guineas annually, and an admission fee of five guineas; or in lieu of annual payments, a composition is accepted at the rate of ten years' purchase, for that or any higher subscription. His late Majesty George IV., having, in the year 1820, been pleased to express himself in the most favourable terms, with his generous patronage of literary objects, assigned to ten Associates the annual sum

of one hundred guineas each, payable out of the Privy Purse; and also two Gold Medals annually, each of the value of fifty guineas, to be adjudged for literary works of eminent merit, and important discoveries in literature. The Associates were then appointed of two classes; the first class composed of Royal Associates and Associates of the Society, who were persons of eminent learning, and authors of some distinguished work in literature. This class was to be chosen out of the Honorary Associates, who were possessed of certain privileges; and although, after the decease of George IV., the pecuniary assistance was not continued, the same distinctions are still kept up. The nomination and election of Honorary Members of the Society is precisely the same as that of Honorary Associates.

At the last anniversary meeting, the Earl of Ripon was re-elected President; the Dukes of Rutland, Newcastle, and Sutherland, the Earl of Clare, Lord Bexley, Sir Gore Ouseley, Bart., H. Hallam, W. M. Leake, and L. H. Petit, Esqrs., and Rev. Dr. Spry, Vice-presidents; W. Tooke, Esq., Treasurer; Sir John Doratt, Librarian; Rev. Rich. Cattermole, Secretary; and W. R. Hamilton, Esq., Foreign Secretary. The following were also elected as members of the Council:—the Earls of Munster and Durham, the Bishop of Winchester, Lords Carrington and Colborne, Rev. Henry Clissold, Hudson Gurney, H. Holland, W. Jerdan, and John Morice, Esqrs., and Rev. George Tomlinson. The Auditors' report announced the receipts of the previous year as £809 9s. 8d., and the expenditure, including the sum of £200 paid to Mr. Drummond on account of the loan advanced towards the building fund, as £806, leaving a trifling balance in hand. The Society has no funded property, but it is encumbered with a heavy debt, incurred for the building fund. Her Majesty is an annual donor of one hundred guineas; and the Royal Associates, although not rewarded by Royal bounty through the means of the Society, are placed on the pension fund. The present names in this class are the Rev. John Jamieson, D.D., James Millingen, Esq., Sir William Ouseley, LL.D., Rev. Archdeacon Todd, and Sharon Turner, Esq.

On the occasion of the anniversary meeting, an address

is read by the noble President, in reference to the principal objects which have attracted the attention of the literary world in the previous year. At the last anniversary, this was principally occupied by developing the plans of a *Biographia Britannica Literaria*, arranged in chronological order, and forming an entire Literary History of the United Kingdom, beginning with the commencement of the Anglo-Saxon period. The numerous materials which exist, though hitherto little used, for the literary biography of the period, extending particularly from the beginning of the seventh century to the middle of the eleventh, and including the great luminaries of the English church in its infancy, the profound scholars of the age of Bede and Alcuin, and the literary and scientific contemporaries of King Alfred and Dunstan, will probably occupy two volumes, and commence the series. The second section, the Anglo-Norman period, extending from the Conquest to the close of the twelfth century, the most brilliant literary portion of the middle ages, will probably occupy two more; and thus the work will proceed downwards, to the modern literary History of England. An essay, introductory to the first section, is now in process of publication, and will shortly appear. For this purpose the Council have established a publication fund, entirely distinct from the ordinary receipts and expenditure of the Society, to which upwards of £600 was very soon contributed, from the liberal subscription of some of its leading members. The house of the Society is situate at 4, St. Martin's-lane.

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#### CAMDEN SOCIETY.

DURING the last year an Association, bearing the above name, was formed for the publication of early historical and literary remains; or, in other words, for the printing of inedited MSS., and the reprinting of such documents, letters, ancient poems, &c., as are little known, yet are valuable materials for the civil, ecclesiastical, or literary history of the United Kingdom, although such undertakings would not be commercially profitable to a publisher. The works are not to be printed in the usual costly biographical style, but "in the most convenient

form, and at the least possible expense, that is consistent with the production of useful volumes." To secure a wide extension of this excellent design, the annual subscription is limited to £1, and each subscriber is entitled to one copy of every work printed. The number of subscribers is also limited to 1000, which was nearly filled up at the anniversary meeting on May 2nd, the anniversary of Camden's birth.

The Society consists of a President, who is Lord Francis Egerton, a Council and Auditors, with Corresponding Secretaries in the principal cities and towns of this kingdom, as well as in Paris and Vienna. In the list of members are the Duke of Sussex, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and the Presidents of the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries; the leading Fellows of these societies, and patrons and professors of literature and art throughout the kingdom generally. Members are invited to contribute or recommend works for publication, the management of which is entrusted to the Council, who appoint competent editors of the respective works. As the officers of the society receive no salaries, and the expenses are kept as low as possible, the number of works to be issued annually will be considerable.

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#### **ORIENTAL TRANSLATION FUND.**

THIS important branch of the proceedings of the Royal Asiatic Society originated in 1828, principally from the exertions of the Earl of Munster and Sir Gore Ouseley. It commenced with a Committee of that Society, established for the purpose of selecting and superintending the translation and printing of Oriental works, the object of which was to publish, free of expense to the authors, translations of the whole or parts of works in the Oriental languages, accompanied occasionally by the original texts, and such illustrations as may be considered necessary, which are generally printed in English, but in very peculiar cases in Latin or French. Every individual or institution subscribing ten guineas or upwards to the fund, is entitled to one fine paper copy of every work translated

and printed by the Committee; and those subscribing five guineas, to common paper copies of the same. The total annual sum raised for this purpose exceeds £1000, which enables the society to carry on its operations on a very liberal scale, and they are always engaged in printing to the full amount of the works at their disposal. The list of books published by the Committee now comprises fifty-three works, most of which it is probable could never have been presented to the public but for the institution of this fund.

The members of the fund, until the last few years, held a general anniversary meeting. It is managed by a Committee, the chairman of which is Sir Gore Ouseley, Bart.; and the Deputy Chairmen are the Earl of Munster; Right Hon. C. W. W. Wynn, M. P.; Sir Edward Hyde East, Bart.; Sir Alexander Johnstone, Knight; and Sir G. T. Staunton, Bart., M. P.; and the members of the Committee comprise eighty-four names, including the most eminent Orientalists of the day. The most recent of its publications are two valuable Sanscrit works, with Latin translations; one translated by Dr. Stenzler, and entitled the 'Kumara Sambhava,' being an ancient Sanscrit poem, attributed to Kalidasa, who flourished a century before the Christian era; the other entitled the 'Rig Veda Sanhita,' a collection of sacred hymns from the Vedas, translated and edited by the late Dr. Rosen. Among the works in the course of printing by the fund may be mentioned the 'Vishnu Purana,' translated by the Director of the Asiatic Society; and the History of Mohammedan Dynasties in Spain, translated from the Arabic of Ahmed Ibin Muhammad Al-Makari. This last comprises a narrative of events during a period of nine centuries, or from the invasion of Spain in 710 of our era, to the final expulsion of the Moriscoes in 1610; and contains an ample detail of the manners, customs, and literature of the Western Arabs. A work is now translating from the library of Her Majesty, and with her request, being a History of Tippoo Saib.

The works published by the Fund are sold to non-subscribers at a commensurate price with that of publication. Its correspondence is very extensive, and there are branch Oriental Translation Committees at Calcutta,

Madras, and Bombay: all of which carry on an active co-operation, as well as another branch society at Rome. The present Secretary is the Rev. James Reynolds, B. A.; and the business of the Fund, and the meetings of the Committee, are carried on at the house of the Royal Asiatic Society, in Grafton-street, Bond-street.

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## MUSEUMS.

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### BRITISH MUSEUM.

THIS great national establishment is situated in Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, in a building formerly called Montague House, being the residence of the former Dukes of that name. To give even a brief abstract of its valuable contents would occupy the greater portion of this work, and we are hence obliged to restrict ourselves merely to a notice of the regulations for admission to the different departments, premising that a syllabus, published for one shilling at the Museum, is the most competent guide that may be put into a stranger's hand.

#### 1. *General Admission.*

The Museum is open for public and general inspection, from ten to seven o'clock, from May till September; and from ten to four o'clock during the other part of the year, on the Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in every week, except the first week in January, May, and September, on Christmas-day, Good Friday, and Ash-Wednesday, and all special fast and thanksgiving-days, by proclamation. It is also open on the three first days in Easter and Whitsun-weeks.

Persons who visit the Museum must inscribe their names and places of abode, in a book kept for that purpose. No children apparently under ten years of age are admitted; and no money must be given to the attendants or servants.

#### 2. *Directions respecting the Reading Room.*

This important department of the Museum is made very available for the purpose of study and research, and presents very great facilities for admission. The urbanity and great knowledge of the sub-librarian, Mr. Keate, who presides in the room, is generally appreciated, and of great aid to students. The entrance to the reading-room is from Montagu-place, Russell-square.

The reading-room of the Museum is open every day, ex-

cepting Sundays, Ash-Wednesday, Good-Friday, Christmas-day, and the first week in January, May, and September. The hours are from nine till seven, from 1st of May to August 31st; and nine till four, during the remainder of the year.

Persons desirous of admission are to send in their applications in writing (specifying their Christian and surnames, rank or profession, and place of abode) to the principal Librarian, who will lay the same before the next general meeting of the trustees. As it might be dangerous, in so populous a district as London, to admit perfect strangers, it is expected that every person who applies should produce a recommendation from a trustee, or an officer of the house. Applications defective in this respect will not be attended to.

In all cases which require such dispatch as that time cannot be allowed for making an application to the trustees, the principal librarian, or in his absence the senior sub-librarian in residence, is empowered to grant a temporary leave till the next general meeting or committee.

Permission will in general be granted for six months; and at the expiration of this term, fresh application is to be made for a renewal.

No reader (except in particular cases at the discretion of the principal librarian) will be entitled to more than two volumes at one time; but they may be changed as often as they require.

Readers will be allowed to take one or more extracts from any printed work or manuscript; but no whole, or greater part of a manuscript, is to be transcribed, without particular leave from the trustees. The transcribers are not to lay the paper on which they write on any part of the book or manuscript they are using; nor are any tracings allowed without particular permission of the trustees.

No person is, under any pretence whatever, to write on any part of a printed book or manuscript belonging to the Museum; but if any one should observe a defect in such book or manuscript, he is requested to signify the same to the officer in waiting, who will make proper use of the information.

### 3. *Regulations respecting the Admission of Students into the Gallery of Antiquities.*

Students desirous to be admitted, are to send their applications in writing to the principal librarian, or in his absence, to the senior librarian in residence. These officers will lay the same before the next general meeting of the trustees; or, in case of applications being made when an early meeting is not at hand, the principal librarian, or in his absence, the under-librarian, is empowered to grant temporary leave. Students

who apply for admission, are to specify their description and places of abode; and it is expected that every one who applies do produce a recommendation from a trustee or an officer of the Museum, or from one of the Professors in the Royal Academy.

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EAST INDIA COMPANY'S MUSEUM.

THIS valuable collection is attached to the East India House in Leadenhall-street, and is open to visitors on Tuesday and Thursday, by orders from any Director of the Company, and on Saturday, from ten o'clock till four, without any restriction. It is principally devoted to curiosities or articles of vertu from the East, including many of the trophies which graced the arms of the troops of the Honourable Company. One room is appropriated to the reception of specimens of Natural History, including birds and beasts, from Hindostan, China, Java, &c.; but, however creditable, it sinks into insignificance beside the corresponding treasures of the British Museum. In the other apartments are some objects of very high interest, amongst the most prominent of which are some Babylonish bricks with inscriptions, which have yet defied all the powers of the learned; but the hope is not lost that a key may be found to the deciphering of these remarkable tablets, which must have been printed when the brick was in the soft state. Could a key be found to these 'sermons in stone' of 4000 years ago, it might open to us stores of knowledge regarding a people who lived and executed great undertakings, such as the hanging gardens of Babylon, before even antiquity began. In the same apartment is a whole host of Hindoo idols, effigies on wood or black marble, which bespeak very sensibly the mental thralldom of that remarkable people. There are also Korans of the Mahomedans, and Sheesters of the Brahmins, with a library of Indian, Arabic, and Chinese MSS., which are in every sense of the word sealed volumes to all but a very small portion of mankind. A considerable portion of the curiosities consists of trophies taken at the siege of Seringapatam, in the foremost of which we have the book of dreams of Tippoo Saib, one of the most active of Eastern princes, who, in the midst

of his hostility to Britain, boasted that if every native born Indian would fight as determined as he did, he would not in the course of six months leave an Englishman alive in India. This remarkable man was, however, the victim of superstition, and regularly entered his dreams in this book. Here is also a curious musical instrument, invented for the diversion of the Sultan, on the principle of an organ, which is built so as to resemble a tiger killing and devouring a British officer, the sound of the music being intended to imitate his dying cries. The handkerchief used by Tippoo, which had been blessed at Mecca, and inscribed with verses from the Koran, is also exhibited; but beyond the inscriptions and the associations connected with it, is not more striking in appearance than an ordinary roll of red silk. Daggers, swords, and match-locks, used by Indian heroes and Persian warriors, are exhibited in great numbers, with a variety of implements used in the households of these people, and illustrative of their domestic economy and habits of social life. The Chinese have their due share of representation, and there are four beautiful paintings, representing the seasons, giving no mean idea of Eastern art. A Chinese compass is also shown, with the needle vibrating in the centre of a curiously-carved, light-coloured wood, on which are numerous figures. The printing materials of this unique people are also shewn, the letters being carved upon a thin piece of wood, and the impression thrown off. The form is then useless, unless a second edition is requisite, when they have the advantage of Europeans in their universal mode of stereotyping. Some models of Chinese villas, exquisitely carved in ivory, are very prominent sources of attraction. There is a very large aerolite or stone of meteoric iron, found embedded some depth below the surface in India; and a piece of wood is exhibited, which is perforated to the extent of four or five inches by the long horn of some giant fish, which had broken in the efforts of the animal to disengage itself. The block of wood in question was taken a few years since from the East India Company's ship Farquharson, upon her return from a voyage to China, and the sword-fish at the moment of collision must have been careering in the deep with almost the strong flight of a cannon-ball.

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## UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION.

THIS Institution was established on the 4th of March, 1831, and until the last anniversary was called the United Service Museum, when the present name was adopted as more expressive of its objects. It was instituted as a central repository for objects of professional art, science, and natural history, and for books and documents relating to those studies, or of general information. The members consist of officers of the army or navy and yeomanry, Lords-Lieutenants of counties, civil functionaries who are or have been attached to the naval and military departments, and navy and army agents. The officers of the Institution are a Director, which is efficiently filled by Commander Henry Downes, R.N.; an Assistant-Director, who is Mr. L. H. J. Tonna; and a Collector and Accountant. Twenty-five members, including the Director, constitute a board of management, eight of whom go out annually by rotation. The annual payment is ten shillings, or the payment of the sum of six pounds constitutes a member for life. Ever since its establishment the Institution has been prosperous, which is to be ascribed alike to the moderate rate of the subscription, and the zeal and activity of the conductors. By the liberality of the Government, who presented the ground upon which the Museum stands, the Council were enabled to erect a structure suitable at the time to the wants of the institution, and the rooms were soon filled with stores from every part of the world; but, from the increase of this liberality, the rooms have now become too crowded for the advantageous display of the articles, and many are locked up from the view of the visitors. This, with the advantage of a well-furnished Library, has maintained a large number of members, which at the last anniversary, on the 4th of March, was 4222.

In conformity with the practice of other Societies, evening meetings are now held on the first and third Mondays of April, May, and June, at nine o'clock, when donations are announced, and papers read. Lectures are delivered each Tuesday during the three preceding months at three o'clock, also open to members and their friends. Amongst other advantages which Government confer on

the institution, is that of conveying contributions from abroad free of expense in their transports.

The Museum consists of three suites of chambers, the Library occupying the left wing of the ground floor only. That on the right is called the Model-room, and contains many beautiful models and sections of ships of the line, gun-boats, rudders, and other implements of naval architecture. The late Navy Board contributed largely to this department; and the Royal Geographical Society have also contributed several presents.

On the left hand of the first floor is the "Natural History Chamber," containing an extensive and valuable collection, particularly of insects and reptiles. The animals are in a good state of preservation, and are chiefly from tropical regions. The Mineralogical Cabinet is very valuable, and contains many thousand species.

The Armoury Chamber, which stands on the right hand, is remarkable for containing many relics which associate us with the great and perilous events in the history of this and other countries. Here "Cromwell's sword," which he wore when he was twice repulsed at the siege of Drogheda, its blade shattered by two bullets, bearing ample testimony to the Protector's courage, lies in the same case, and points its harmless edge towards Napoleon's razor and shaving-brush from the field of Waterloo! In one corner stands in grim solitude the naked claymore of the daring clansman from the field of Culloden, and in another a stand of arms of the time of George the Second, whose authority he had braved. Armour of many nations and ages are blended together, from the simple cordage-wove cassock and club of the rude savage, to the breast-plate, helmet, and lance, of the steel-clad warrior of chivalrous times. Here, too, reposes a piece of England's wooden walls, being part of the timbers of the Albion, 74, with a Turkish shot imbedded in it at the battle of Navarino—a trophy of its strength. Napoleon's fusil, found in Petropskypalace, Moscow, recalls to our mind the disastrous flight of 'La Grande Armée;' and stands of arms from the time of James the Second to that of George the Third, shew the progress of improvement in weapons of warfare since that time.

The room above the Armoury consists principally of articles of dress and domestic use, and these chiefly from lady contributors. There is also a collection of Roman and Grecian vases and coins, and general antiquities.

The attendants at the Museum are very communicative, but it is to be regretted that there is no descriptive

catalogue of the general collection, as many beautiful inventions and interesting objects may thus escape the notice of visitors. The general collection is as unique and interesting as any in the metropolis, and although not strictly open to the public, every facility is given for the admission of strangers.

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LONDON MISSIONARY MUSEUM.

THE London Missionary Society, having connected with it their indefatigable agents scattered over the most distant regions of the earth, embraced the favourable opportunity for collecting materials for the formation of a Museum, particularly as illustrating the religious worship of the natives among whom they are stationed. The collection, which was first exhibited at Jewry-street, and subsequently at Austin Friars, was removed to the present capacious premises in Bloomfield-street, Bishopsgate, in 1835. The arrangement of the numerous specimens is, at present, very imperfect; no catalogue is published; and the stuffed animals are going fast to decay. Improvements are, however, being made in this latter department, by the re-arrangement of the specimens, and clearing away the remains of quadrupeds and birds which have become offensive to the eye. It is proposed to discontinue the collection in Natural History, as being foreign to the purposes of the Society; but it is to be hoped that the missionaries will not be the less attentive in forwarding, when opportunities occur, such specimens as may be acceptable and duly appreciated by the many institutions of the metropolis devoted exclusively to natural science.\*

Amongst the most interesting departments in this collection may be enumerated the following:—

1. A collection of the household gods of Pomare, late king of Otaheite, presented by himself, after he had embraced Christianity, "in order," as he said, "that the people of Europe might know Tahiti's foolish gods." These consist of rude carvings of wood, and figures grotesquely dressed with feathers

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\* The Trustees of the British Museum would, we have no doubt, in that spirit of liberality which they display towards other kindred societies, exchange duplicates of idols, images, and other curiosities, illustrative of religious worship, for specimens suitable for that establishment.

and pieces of cloth, which one would believe to form part of the furniture of a nursery, rather than the objects of worship of a king.

2. A case containing an extensive collection of Hindoo, Chinese, and Burmese idols.

3. An idol from the South Seas, remarkable for its length, which is twelve feet.

4. Portraits of native chiefs of the South Sea Islands, and elsewhere, who have embraced Christianity and adopted European customs.

5. A curious article of dress from the Sandwich Islands, used by the nearest relative on the occurrence of death, consisting of a stiff pyramidal envelope, which is put like an extinguisher over the body, and bearing a close resemblance to the cumbersome cover of our "Jack in the Green," on May-days, being fantastically covered with leaves and other articles.

In articles of industry and warfare may be noted some very beautifully carved paddles, clubs, &c., from the Society Islands, which the natives execute with a stone as a cutting instrument; a case of curious Chinese pictures, composed of different pieces of cloth; specimens of cloth manufactured in Madagascar; and various specimens of needle-work after the European fashion, by the Polynesian Islanders. In natural history may be named a cabinet, containing some good specimens of corals, rocks, and shells, which may be interesting to the Geologist; but the animals, as before mentioned, are, with very few exceptions, a disgrace to the collection.

Admission may be had every day, by subscribers, or tickets obtained from a Director.

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#### SAULL'S GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

Mr. W. D. SAULL, of Aldersgate-street, who is a cultivator in various departments of scientific research, more particularly that of Geology, has been for the last ten years collecting materials for, and has now established an extensive museum in that science, which he generously throws open for public inspection; and a considerable part of the late Mr. Sowerby's valuable collection having come into his hands, this may vie with any private Museum of a similar nature in the kingdom. The Thursday of each week is the day appointed for the exhibition, when Mr. S. attends his visitors at eleven o'clock, and

explains, in a familiar manner, the nature of his collection. He introduces the subject by some remarks on the nature of geological research—its use in the discovery and working of minerals, and of that the most important to our comforts, coal—its importance to the agriculturist, in making him acquainted with the nature of soils, and the effects the formations on which they rest have upon their production—in laying secure foundations to our houses, and the digging of wells, and probability of finding water. In all these he shows that, even in a pecuniary point of view, Geology may be advantageous to the mere speculator; but its study raises us above mere mercenary considerations, in showing us that no animated being came into existence until preparation had been made for its reception; thus proving the great laws, founded on the purest benevolence, which regulate the universe. The following is the arrangement which Mr. Saull follows in his demonstrations:—

Commencing with the primitive class of rocks in which no animal remains are found, he passes upward through the greenstone, greenstone slate, and clay slate; then to the old red sandstone, mountain limestone, and the coal formation; magnesian limestone; new red sandstone, in which the rock salt is found; lias and lias shale; inferior oolite; and onwards through gault, chalk, plastic clay, and the upper fresh water formation.

Of the collection of fossil remains most worthy of notice, either for rarity or beauty, may be mentioned the following:—

A very rich and extensive collection from the coal measures, consisting of ferns, reeds, and other fossils common to the coal formation, some of which are of gigantic dimensions.

A valuable apiocrinite, or pear-shaped encrinite, with a good collection of ammonites.

The largest known collection of the bones of iguanadon, from the Isle of Wight, consisting of humeri, numerous vertebræ and ribs of this stupendous animal, whose claw alone must have measured seven inches.

An extensive and valuable collection of bones of the mastodon, from Big-bone Lick, U. S., including gigantic tusks; a scapula, which must have measured, when perfect, five feet long by three feet wide; with vertebræ fourteen inches in diameter.

**BOWERBANK'S GEOLOGICAL COLLECTION.**

Mr. BOWERBANK, an ardent geological cultivator, possesses, at his house in Critchell-place, Hoxton, a most rare and unique collection of shells, fossil fruit, &c. These are perhaps the largest in the world; and are inspected on Monday evenings, by permission of the liberal proprietor, who sets apart that period for the purpose. No Geologist or student of nature can derive a higher treat than from the inspection of these varied collections.

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**SOANEAN MUSEUM.**

THE late Sir John Soane was not only well known for his taste in the erection of public buildings, but for his collection of rare and antique specimens particularly connected with his art. These at his death he left to the public, along with his house in Lincoln's Inn Fields, which he munificently endowed with the sum of £30,000, an Act of Parliament having sanctioned its disposal in the present form. The Museum occupies a suite of four rooms, enriched with a choice collection of Roman and Grecian specimens of architecture, Etruscan vases, and Egyptian antiquities; amongst the latter, being the gem of the collection, the alabaster sarcophagus brought by the late Mr. Belzoni from the ruins of Thebes. The rooms are ornamented with paintings by Canaletti, and many of the originals of Hogarth, and with designs by Sir John Soane himself. The Museum is one of the most unique and interesting collections of any in London, and is open to the public every Thursday and Friday, from ten till five, in the months of April, May, and June; and on Tuesdays for Trustees and their friends. Persons wishing for admission must apply a day or two previously, and tickets are forwarded to their address.

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**EXHIBITIONS OF PRACTICAL SCIENCE.**

THE origin of these may be attributed principally to the exertions and patronage of Dr. Birkbeck, in the first establishment of the National Repository, at the Royal

Mews, Charing-cross, where was contained a very interesting and extensive collection of superior specimens in the arts, fabrics, and processes in operation. When Government required that building, previously to the erection of the National Gallery, this establishment was merged in the Museum of National Manufactures, which held its exhibition in the premises, 28, Leicester-square, formerly containing the collection of the late celebrated John Hunter, and now the Museum of the Zoological Society. During the suspension of the Natural Repository, a new Institution was formed under the title of the

SOCIETY FOR THE ILLUSTRATION OF PRACTICAL  
SCIENCE,

Which was incorporated by Royal charter in October, 1834. The entrances are in Adelaide-street, and the Lowther Arcade, West Strand. The gallery contains upwards of six hundred specimens of fabrics, works of art, and scientific illustrations: the Society receiving for exhibition, models, specimens of new inventions, and works of general interest relating to Science or the Fine Arts, whether intended for sale or otherwise. The public display of such productions must tend to the amusement and instruction of every visitor, and cannot fail to encourage the exertions of individuals whose talents, from a want of such encouragement, are too frequently lost both to the possessor and the nation. Amongst the scientific illustrations are the Steam-gun, the Oxy-hydrogen Microscope, Electrical and Magnetical illustrations, Telegraphs, Model Steam-engines, with the practice of several Arts; and occasional Lectures on popular scientific subjects. The rooms are open at ten daily; admission, one shilling; and catalogue, containing a lucid account of the objects exhibited, one shilling. Annual subscribers pay one pound.

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POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

THIS establishment, held in a capacious building at 309, Regent-street, also incorporated by Royal charter, was a secession from the latter, and opened to the public on Monday, 6th August, 1838; and was established for the

advancement of practical science in connexion with Agriculture, the Arts, Mines, and Manufactures. Its contents are of the same nature as the former: the gallery contains upwards of five hundred specimens; and several manufactures and arts are shown in their processes. The illustrations are on a very superior scale, the most prominent being the voltaic light; the method of blowing-up sunken vessels; Mr. Gurney's light-house light; a diving-bell and diver; large reservoirs; and models of ship-building and launching. Beneath the Hall of Manufactures is a very extensive and complete Laboratory, under the direction of Mr. Cooper, particularly adapted for private experimentalists and patentees, who may require assistance on any subject of chemical enquiry. The admission is one shilling. Annual subscribers pay one guinea for perpetual admission.

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GALLERY OF NATURAL MAGIC, AT THE COLOSSEUM.

THIS exhibition is devoted to superior illustrations of those departments of practical science which, in the hands of the philosopher, seem to work as magic. It contains a superior Achromatic Telescope; two of the largest Concave Mirrors in Europe, so pointed with regard to the sun that the focus of each covers the same spot; whilst the heat is so intense that no known substance can stand it; a Camera Obscura; illustrations of Photogenic Drawing; two Microscopes; the largest Electrical Apparatus in the world, exposing an electric surface of upwards of eighty square feet. The exhibition is altogether of an imposing character, and is shown at intervals during the day. Admission, one shilling; and catalogue, descriptive of the apparatus, sixpence.

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**LIBRARIES.**

SION COLLEGE LIBRARY.

THIS College is situated in London-wall, on the site of a nunnery, which having fallen to decay, was purchased by William Elsynge, citizen and mercer, and converted into a college or hospital, called from his name Elsynge Spital. In 1340 he changed it into an Augustine priory, which was afterwards granted to Sir John Williams,

master of the Jewel Office, by Henry the Eighth, and who, with Sir Rowland Hayward, inhabited it till its destruction by fire. In 1623, Dr. Thomas White having bequeathed £3000 towards purchasing and building a college and alms-house on the ancient site, his executors erected the present college. It is held by two charters of incorporation, dated July 3rd, 6 Car. I.; and June 20th, 16 Car. II. By these authorities a President, two Deans, and four Assistants, with all the Rectors and Vicars, Lecturers and Curates, of the city and suburbs, were constituted a corporation, and an alms-house was established for ten men and women. These were endowed by Dr. White, with a rent-charge of £120 per annum, besides £40 per annum for the common charges of the college; and in addition to the founder's benevolence, the college holds a farm in Hertfordshire, left by a person of the name of Brewer, in 1634. The Bishop of London is the Visitor.

The Library, which is for the benefit of the London clergy more particularly, is second only in value to that of the British Museum, and contains upwards of 30,000 volumes. It held, in conjunction with the British Museum and other establishments, the privilege of a copy of every work published in the kingdom; but this is done away with by a recent Act of Parliament, and the college now receives a compensation in lieu thereof, which enables them to be discriminate in the choice of books. The collection of works on biblical literature is very valuable, and contains the best Library of Divinity in the country; but in all the solid departments of literature it is also very rich. Persons may be introduced to study on the recommendation of any incumbent in London; and the Library is open every day throughout the year, from ten to four, with the exception of a vacation from August 1st to September 23rd. The President for this year is the Rev. Mr. Johnston; and the Librarian and Secretary is the Rev. Robert Watts, A.M., the incumbent of the neighbouring church of St. Alphage. The Library contains several portraits, and a curious piece of antique plate, having on one side an image of the Deity, and on the other, a representation of the decollation of John the Baptist.

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## REDCROSS-STREET LIBRARY.

THIS Library was founded for the use of Protestant Dissenting ministers by Dr. Williams, an eminent Presbyterian divine, who was born about 1643. He died, after an active, memorable, and useful life, in 1716, leaving his Library, now increased by the purchase of Dr. Bates's collection, and by many other purchases and donations, for public use; directing also, that his trustees, to whom he left a considerable sum of money for the purpose, should purchase or build a proper house for its reception. This building was opened in 1729, in Redcross-street, where the collection is preserved with particular care and neatness. The great room contains several glazed cases, in which are the works of Grævius and Gronovius, Rymer's "Fœdera," the early editions of Milton's works, with the first edition of his "Paradise Lost," and many other curiosities. The total number of books in the Library is upwards of 18,000; and any person procuring a written order from one of the Trustees may have access to it between ten and three every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, except during the Christmas and Whitsun weeks, and the month of August.

## CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY.

THIS was a secession, in the year 1831, from the Library in Redcross-street, which was until then the only public building devoted to literature, or set apart for the transaction of general business, applicable for the use of the whole, or any particular portion, of the Non-Conformist community. The design of appropriating a suitable edifice in the metropolis for the special, but by no means exclusive, accommodation of a body so important and influential as the Congregational Pædo-Baptists, has been realized by the possession of leasehold premises in Bloomfield-street, Finsbury-circus. Nearly the whole expenditure was defrayed by liberal contributions from a few individuals resident in London, and various parts of the country, and which soon amounted to a sum of upwards of £2000. A spacious apartment, originally intended for a music-hall, is now set apart for the Library,

and contains upwards of 6000 volumes, principally devoted to theology and church history. A fund of £2000 has been raised by donations, and invested in Government securities, the interest of which is applied exclusively to the maintenance and support of the Library. Donors of five guineas and upwards are enrolled in the permanent list of benefactors; those of ten guineas have the privilege of access to the Library during their lives; and those of twenty guineas have also the right of introducing two persons. The income is very limited; and the number of subscribers to whom the Library is indebted for its support does not exceed forty.

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ARCHBISHOP TENNISON'S LIBRARY.

By the exertions of a Committee appointed by the vestry of St. Martin's parish, on Thursday, the 24th of December, 1835, to examine into and report upon affairs relative to the Library and Free School built and endowed by Archbishop Tennison, this Library will soon be made available to the public. The title by which the ground for the erection of the Library was held for the vestry, shows that the Library was for the use of the public:—"Dr. Thomas Tennison having considered that, in the City and Liberty of Westminster, there are great numbers of ministers and other studious persons; as also that there is not in the said precinct any one shop of a stationer fully furnished with books of various learning, nor any noted Librarie except that of St. James (which belongs to His Majesty, and *is not easy of access*), that of Sir Robert Cotton's (which consisteth chiefly of books relating to the antiquities of England), and the Library of the Dean and Chapter of St. Peter's Church, Westminster," &c. The Library contains between five and six thousand volumes upon all subjects, but principally on theology, and amongst them are many valuable manuscripts. With the exception of a few books given by the late Granville Sharpe, Esq., in 1803, no addition whatever has been made during the last sixty years. A Committee has been formed for adding to the present Library by means of subscriptions and donations of modern, scientific, historical, and biographical literature. It is also in-

tended to open the reading-rooms with periodical publications, and all these additional advantages are to be secured to the public for a subscription of five shillings per annum. The Library is deposited in a new building near the church.

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### THE FINE ARTS.

AN examination of the exhibition of works of art will furnish the visiter with ample means to appreciate the individual and aggregate merits of English artists. Besides the public exhibitions, some artists have galleries of their own, and in these will be found some of the most meritorious works of the age. The best productions of the modern sculptors are to be found in the cathedral of St. Paul, and in Westminster Abbey; while the true talents of the architects can only be appreciated by a personal examination of the buildings which they have erected.

### THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

SINCE the days of Charles the First, England has ever been rich in works of ancient art. It would appear, however, that the intense political interest excited by the stirring events of the last half century, has incapacitated successive ministers for a fosterage of the fine arts. Until the year 1824, there was no national collection of ancient pictures, but a nucleus of such was formed by the purchase of the greater portion of the pictures belonging to the late Mr. Angerstein, and for which £40,000 were granted by the government. For some years these treasures were immured within the residence of the late proprietor, No. 100, Pall-Mall, but were at length removed, together with numerous additions, to the new structure, Trafalgar-square, which was opened to the public in April, 1838. The collection, augmented by the bequests of Sir G. Beaumont, the Rev. Holwell Carr, Lord Farnborough, and others, contains about 150 pictures. It is open on the first four days of the week from ten to six, and all persons are admitted gratis. Artists are allowed to

have admission on the other two days of the week, by tickets, which may be obtained from the keeper of the gallery. Catalogues are published, price one shilling.

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#### ROYAL ACADEMY.

THE exhibitions of this incorporation are now removed from Somerset-house, to the new building in Trafalgar-square. No works are admitted which have been publicly exhibited before, and no copies of any kind, excepting paintings in enamel, and impressions from medals; so that a visiter to this exhibition may form a just estimate of the present state of the arts in Great Britain. The exhibition is opened on the first Monday in May, and continues so every day from ten o'clock to seven, for six weeks or more, at the discretion of the Council. The price of admission is one shilling, and the catalogue one shilling. The produce of the exhibition, which generally averages about £6000, has of late years proved fully sufficient to support the expenses of the establishment; but at its commencement it was assisted by royal bounty to the amount of £5000.

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#### BRITISH INSTITUTION.

THIS institution, which holds its exhibitions in Pall-Mall, was established in 1805, on a plan formed by Sir Thomas Bernard, for the purpose of encouraging British Artists, and affording them opportunities of exhibiting historical subjects to a greater advantage than in the rooms of the Royal Academy, where the multitude of paintings, particularly of portraits, prevented them from being viewed with the attention which they deserved. The gallery, purchased for its use, was erected by Alderman Boydell, for the exhibition of paintings for his edition of Shakspeare, and it is well suited for its present purpose. It is patronized by the first characters in the country, and supported by voluntary subscriptions, and by the produce of the exhibitions. The admission is one shilling, and the catalogue one shilling.

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## SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

THIS was another secession from the Royal Academy, instituted May 21st, 1823, for the annual exhibition and sale of the works of living artists in the various branches of painting, sculpture, architecture, and engraving. The gallery, which was completed in 1824, consists of a suite of six rooms, which are the most extensive in London for the exhibition of works of art, having 700 feet of wall illuminated by sky-lights. The exhibition, held in Suffolk-street, is open during the months of April, May, June, and July. The charge for admission is one shilling, and the catalogue one shilling.

## EXHIBITION OF WATER COLOUR DRAWINGS.

THE painters in this style also made a secession from the Royal Academy in 1804. It was formerly held at the Egyptian-hall, from whence it removed to Pall-mall East, in a house built expressly for the purpose. It generally opens in May. Admission, one shilling; catalogues, sixpence.

## NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THIS institution, similar in plans to the preceding, is held in Bond-street. The admission is one shilling.

## DULWICH GALLERY.

AT Dulwich, which is a hamlet of Camberwell, about five miles from town, is a college founded by Edward Alleyne, Esq., a player of great celebrity, and contemporary of Shakspeare. The principal object of curiosity is the Picture Gallery, which was erected in 1813, under the direction of the late Sir J. Soane. It contains a fine collection of pictures which were left by Sir Francis Bourgeois, an eminent historical painter, and intended to form the foundation of a National Gallery. The public are allowed to view this gallery every day, except Fridays and Sundays. The hours of admission, from April to November, are from ten to five; and from November to

April, from eleven to three. Tickets of admission may be procured, gratis, from the principal print-sellers in London.

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#### HAMPTON COURT GALLERY.

AT this royal palace, about thirteen miles from town, are many paintings of interest, particularly in the state apartments and King's staircase. The principal object of attraction is, however, the Cartoon Gallery, built by Sir Christopher Wren, and so called from containing the Cartoons of Raphael. These esteemed works of art were executed for Leo the Tenth, about 1510. They represent, 1. The Miraculous Draught of Fishes; 2. The Charge to Peter; 3. Peter and John healing the Lame at the Gate of the Temple; 4. The Death of Ananias; 5. Elymas the Sorcerer struck with Blindness; 6. The Sacrifice to Paul and Barnabas by the People of Lystra; and 7. Paul Preaching at Athens.

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#### MISS LINWOOD'S GALLERY.—*Leicester-square.*

THIS is an interesting display of ingenuity and taste, consisting of copies in needle-work of some of the best English and Foreign pictures, exhibited in elegant apartments, comprising a gallery 100 feet long, a grotto of the same length, and a room appropriated to sacred subjects. Admission, one shilling; catalogues, sixpence; and open all day.

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#### PANTHEON ROOMS.—*Oxford-street.*

THIS bazaar, along with the advantages of a mart for fancy goods, unites exhibition-rooms for the display of works of art. There is a good collection of pictures, ancient and modern, placed here for sale.

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#### BRIDGEWATER GALLERY.—*Cleveland-row.*

THIS, which was formerly called the Stafford Gallery, is an unrivalled collection of pictures, bequeathed to the late Duke of Sutherland, which he allowed the public to view once a week from twelve to five, during the months

of May and June. Persons wishing to have tickets of admission must be known to the Duke, or to Lord Francis Egerton, or have a recommendation from some one who is. Artists may obtain admission by a recommendation from any member of the Royal Academy.

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MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER'S GALLERY,  
*Upper Grosvenor-street,*

CONTAINS a grand collection of pictures, both ancient and modern. It was originally commenced by the purchase of Mr. Agar's pictures for 30,000 guineas, and has since received very considerable additions. The noble proprietor permits strangers to visit it, under certain regulations, during May and June.

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MR. HOPE'S GALLERY, *Duchess-street, Portland-place,*

CONTAINS a valuable collection of pictures, vases, and statues. The furniture and decorations of the apartments, principally designed by Mr. Hope himself, are very elegant. They may be viewed by tickets during the season.

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The next most celebrated collections which may be seen, under certain restrictions, are those at *Northumberland-house*; *the Duke of Devonshire's, Piccadilly*; *Lord Ashburton's, Piccadilly*; *the Earl of Ashburnham's, Dover-street*; *Mr. J. Harman's, Finsbury-square*; *G. Hibbert, Esq., Portland-place*; *Mr. W. Fawkes's, Grosvenor-place*; and *Sir Robert Peel's, Privy-gardens*.

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The Societies for cultivating the Fine Arts, by the friendly intercourse of artists and patrons are—the *Graphic Society*, which meets at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street, at eight o'clock, on the second Wednesday of the month from January to June; the *Artists and Amateurs' Society*, which meets on the first Wednesday in each month from November to April, at the Freemason's Tavern; and the *Artists' Converzazione*, meeting also at the Freemason's Tavern, on the first Saturday from November to April. At these meetings the choicest and most novel productions of art are exhibited, and an excel-

lent opportunity is afforded for promoting intercourse between the cultivators and patrons. Introductions may be obtained through the medium of most print-sellers.

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#### THE COLOSSEUM.

THIS building in the Regent's Park, derives its name from its colossal size, and was erected in 1827-8, for the purpose of exhibiting Mr. Horner's Panorama of London. This latter surpasses in extent and accuracy every thing of the kind hitherto attempted; and some idea of its size may be formed when it is stated, that it occupies 40,000 square feet, or nearly an acre of canvas. The various objects are depicted as seen from the top of St. Paul's, where Mr. Horner made the original sketches in 1821, when the ball and cross of the cathedral were being replaced. The original ball, and a model of the cross, are shown in the building. In the centre of the building is a curious contrivance, by means of which visitors are raised at once to a level with the panorama, and saved the trouble of ascending the staircase.

The admission to the panorama, ball, and saloon for works of art, is one shilling; and to the conservatories, fountains, Swiss cottage, and marine grotto, one shilling.

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#### DIORAMA.

THE Diorama, which had long been an object of wonder and delight at Paris, was first opened in the Regent's Park, on September 29th, 1823. It differs from the panorama in this respect, that instead of a circular view of the objects represented, it exhibits the whole picture at once in perspective; and it is decidedly superior, both to the panorama and the cosmorama, in the fidelity with which the objects are depicted, and in the completeness of the illusion. Such is the effect produced by the disposition of the building, and the various modifications of light and shade, that the optical deception is complete; and it is difficult for the spectator to persuade himself that he is only contemplating a work of art. Two views are exhibited, which are changed twice a year. Admittance, two shillings, and description gratis.

## PANORAMA.

THE Panorama, at the eastern corner of Leicester-square, is the property of Mr. Burford, where a series of unrivalled productions, from the pencil of that distinguished painter, afford a truly gratifying treat to the curious in topographical delineations. There are generally exhibited two views of celebrated places, the admission to each of which is one shilling.

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## COSMORAMA.

THIS exhibition, at 209, Regent-street, presents delineations of the celebrated remains of antiquity, and of the most remarkable cities and edifices in every part of the globe. The subjects are changed every two or three months. Admission, one shilling; descriptive catalogue, sixpence.

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## TYPORAMA.

THIS exhibition, at Regent-street, contains a very faithful model of the Undercliff in the Isle of Wight, and picturesque scenes in Switzerland. They are executed by Mr. Ibbetson, who is most successful as a geological modeller, and show what may be done in this application of art to science. Admission, one shilling.

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## MR. SASS'S ACADEMY FOR DRAWING AND PAINTING.

THOUGH this academy cannot be reckoned amongst the exhibitions of the metropolis, the excellence of its design entitles it to a notice amongst the institutions connected with the arts. It is held at 6, Charlotte-street, Bloomsbury, and possesses a good collection of casts from the antique, drawings, paintings, and other requisites for advancing the progress of the student in the knowledge of the human figure, and the various branches of the fine arts.

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## THE LIFE ACADEMY.

This Society was first established in consequence of the time required to obtain permission to study at the Royal Academy. It is held at the premises belonging to Mr. Shade, in Soho-square.

## EXHIBITION OF GLASS PAINTING.

Mr. BACKLER, of Newman-street, has a good collection of this description of art, which may be seen any day.

## TRANSPARENCIES, AND IMITATIONS OF GROUND GLASS.

Mr. BACON, of Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, is a very successful artist in this interesting branch of ornamental art, and his studio deserves a visit, from the number of interesting pictures which it contains. One, representing, allegorically and historically, the progress of Christianity in Britain, is a very interesting work of art; and Mr. Bacon, who is well versed in antiquity, gives a very lucid account of the subject. In his familiar lecture on this painting, he assumes, with a great deal of probability, the antiquity of Protestantism over Popery in Great Britain, and his illustrations of the armorial bearings of several British sees, tell strongly in favour of his views. Amongst his other scenes are two beautiful views of Tintern Abbey, Abbotsford Castle, and several landscapes.

## MADAME TUSSAUD'S COLLECTION OF WAX-WORK.

THE proprietress of this exhibition, held in the Bazaar, Baker-street, Portman-square, was a spectator of some of the most striking scenes in the French Revolution. Her talents in this art are unique, and the exhibition is very amusing and well got up, consisting of groups and full-length figures of the most noted persons of the age, dressed as in life, and excellent likenesses. The latter are indeed the most faithful to nature. Two groups may be particularly noticed—the Coronation of her present Majesty and the Napoleon group. The admission to the

large room is one shilling; and a small one is set apart to models of the heads of the principal actors who were decollated in that bloody revolution. Here is also the identical shirt of Henry IV. of France, in which he was stabbed by the hands of the assassin, still retaining its bloody appearance with the marks of the dagger. The admission to this room is sixpence. Catalogue to the whole, one shilling.

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#### DUBOURG'S MECHANICAL MUSEUM.

THIS exhibition, in Windmill-street, is in many respects similar to the above; but there is a mechanical arrangement by which motion is imparted to many of the figures.\* Admission, one shilling.

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#### GRACE DARLING EXHIBITION,

Is an interesting moving panorama of the melancholy event of the Forfarshire Steamer, and is seen at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly. Admittance, sixpence.

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#### WATERLOO MODEL.

THIS exhibition is also shown at the Egyptian Hall. It is an exquisite piece of workmanship, modelled by Lieut. Siborn, representing the various positions of the rival armies on the eventful field of Waterloo. Every figure is cast in solid silver, and the model is well described, by four men who fought in the field. Admittance, one shilling.

WATERLOO MODEL, at the Cosmorama Rooms, Regent-street, is an imitation of the above; but not equal to it in merit or accuracy of execution. Admittance, one shilling.

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#### FLORENTINE ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.

AN exhibition under this title, at 27, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, merits attention. The figures, consisting of a full-length Adonis and Venus, besides many

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\* The well-known original Museum of Mrs. Salmon, in Fleet-street, the parent of this art in London, is now seen, with many additions, at High Holborn, near Museum-street, for one penny.

physiological and pathological illustrations, are exquisitely modelled in wax,\* in exact and surprising imitation of nature, and were the last works of the celebrated Signor Serantoné of Florence, the friend and dissector of the renowned Mascagni. The parts are finely wrought out in detail, and convey a most refined idea of the exquisite structure of the human frame. The figures are exhibited by a female to ladies, from five to seven, every evening. Admittance one shilling, to each suite of rooms.

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#### THE LIVING TALKING CANARY.

THIS surprising phenomenon in natural history, shown at the Cosmorama Rooms, speaks a few words with great distinctness. Admittance, one shilling.

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#### THE INDUSTRIOUS FLEAS,

AT the same rooms, are another curious instance of what perseverance and labour can accomplish even in what might be considered as utterly intractable.

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#### MEDICAL PORTRAITS.

THE best, and most valuable collection of medical portraits, is in the possession of Mr. W. H. Diamond, F.S.A., 10, King-street, Soho, which he obligingly shows to strangers interested in the subject. The main bulk was formed by the late Dr. Roy of Amsterdam, physician to the King of Holland, who died at an advanced age. There is a good collection in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, formed by the late Mr. Wadd, and described in his "*Nugæ Chirurgicæ.*" Dr. Merryman, of Kensington, has also a very select collection; and Mr. Squibb, of Orchard, a large collection, though not very select.

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\* Mrs. Were, of Kennington New Road, whose wax flowers excite so much attention at the exhibitions of the Royal Society of Horticulture at the Egyptian Hall, is a most successful cultivator in this branch of art.

**BOWYER'S ILLUMINATED BIBLE.**

THIS biblical curiosity is in the possession of Mrs. Parkes, of Golden-square. It is in forty-five large folio volumes, illustrated by upwards of seven thousand engravings, and is decidedly the largest Bible in the world. It may be inspected any day, by tickets, which may be obtained previously from Mrs. Parkes.

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**ROYAL OBSERVATORY.**

THE Royal Observatory at Greenwich, is a great object of interest to the scientific world; but access can only be obtained by an order from the President of the Royal Society, or by particular permission from the Astronomer Royal. It is a very conspicuous object in Greenwich Park, commonly known as Flamsteed House, which occupies the site of an ancient castle erected by Humphrey Duke of Gloucester. During the reign of Charles the Second, the naval and commercial interests of the kingdom received more attention from the government than they had previously done, the monarch particularly encouraging every improvement in nautical science that tended to benefit the maritime concerns of the nation. That great desideratum, the determination of the longitude at sea, occupied much attention at this time, and many schemes were contrived for its accomplishment. The subject was referred to the opinion of men of science, and more particularly to Mr. Flamsteed, a clergyman, who was afterwards appointed one of the Commissioners of Longitude, when a reward of £20,000 was offered by the government for an easy solution of the problem. He soon saw the necessity of a Nautical Observatory, which he communicated to the king, who at once determined upon its adoption; and upon the recommendation of Sir Jonas Moore, a principal officer of the Board of Ordnance, his Majesty appointed Mr. Flamsteed his first Astronomer Royal. The first thing to be done was the selection of a suitable spot on which to establish the Observatory, and in this he received the assistance of Sir Christopher Wren, who recommended the site of Greenwich Castle, which was pulled down for the purpose. In the seventy-fourth

year of his age this celebrated man died, on 31st December, 1719, and was buried at the parish of Burslow, in Surrey, of which he possessed the living. Dr. Edmund Halley was appointed his successor, who was succeeded by Dr. James Bradley in 1742. The next appointed was Mr. Bliss, who survived but two years; when he was succeeded by Dr. Nevil Maskelyne, a first-rate astronomer and mathematician of his day, who died on 9th February, 1811; when Mr. Pond was appointed his successor, who held the situation till 1836; and on his resignation it was given to Professor Airy of Cambridge, the present Astronomer Royal.

The Library contains an extensive and choice selection of philosophical works. There are several rooms appropriated to the following purposes:—1. The mural quadrant and the zenith sector of Dr. Bradley. 2. The new transit instrument, as well as the two former ones, viz. that used by Dr. Bradley and Dr. Maskelyne, as well as the one used by Dr. Halley, and kept as astronomical curiosities. 3. The new zenith micrometer of twenty-five feet focal length. 4. The western dome, containing an old equatoreal by Jonathan Sussere, now kept as a curiosity. 5. The eastern dome, containing Sir G. Schuckburgh's equatoreal. 6. Ramage's twenty-five feet reflecting telescope, constructed upon the same principle as Sir W. Herschell's forty feet telescope at Slough, near Windsor. 7. The room called the advanced building, where telescopes are kept for observing eclipses, occultations, &c. &c.

Other observatories in the vicinity of the metropolis are those of Sir James South, at Kensington; Sir J. Herschell, at Slough, near Windsor; Captain Smyth, at Bedford; and Dr. Lee, of Hartwell House, Buckinghamshire, of which Mr. Epps, late Assistant-secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society, is the astronomical observer. These may be inspected on application to the proprietors.

Popular Lectures on Astronomy have for many years past been delivered in the London theatres during the season of Lent. Mr. Adams, Master of the Latymer Free School at Edmonton, lectures at the Haymarket Theatre; and Mr. James Howell, a younger aspirant for astronomical honours, at her Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket. The illustrations of each are very extensive and superior, and their services may be engaged at provincial Institutions.

### **ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.**

THE project of this Institution was formed by Dr. Thomas Linacre, physician to Henry VIII., and patronized by Cardinal Wolsey, at whose desire the king granted a charter, September 23rd, 1518, incorporating several persons of the medical profession into a body, community, and perpetual college. The charter provides that no man, though a graduate in physic, might without licence under the same college seal, practise physic in or within seven miles of London, under the penalty of paying £5 for every month they practised; with power to administer oaths, fine and imprison offenders, and search the Apothecaries' shops, to examine drugs and see if their compositions are properly made. Their first College was in Knight Rider-street, at a house the gift of Dr. Linacre; they hence removed to a house built for them by Dr. Harvey, at Amen-corner, which he endowed with his whole inheritance in his life-time; but this being burnt at the great fire of 1666, a new one was erected at the expense of the Fellows, in Warwick-lane, with a noble library, principally formed from the splendid donations of the Marquis of Dorchester and Sir Theodore Mayence. Their last removal was to the present splendid edifice in Pall-mall East. The number of Fellows was anciently thirty, till King Charles II., who renewed their charter in 1663, increased it to forty; and James II., who gave them a new charter, allowed the number of Fellows to be enlarged so as not to exceed fourscore, reserving to himself and his successors the power of placing and displacing any of them for the future. Since that time they have not been limited to any number. Sir Henry Hall is the President; and Conversations are given occasionally during the season.

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### **ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.**

THE College of Surgeons is situate on the south side of Lincoln's Inn-fields, and has been lately rebuilt by that eminent architect Mr. Barry, at a cost of upwards of £70,000. The exterior is a noble building of the Ionic order, and the interior is grand, spacious, and appro-

priate. The museum is an extensive building, of an oblong form, with galleries surrounding it; and is the depository of the valuable collection of the late John Hunter, purchased by the Government from the executors of that great man for £20,000. To adopt the language of Sir Everard Home,—“In this collection we find an attempt to expose to view the gradations of nature from its most simple state in which life is found to exist, up to the most perfect and complex of the animal creation,—man himself.” It contains preparations of every part of the human body in a sound and natural state; as well as a great number of deviations from the natural form and usual structure of the several parts. A portion of it is allotted to morbid preparations, and there are few of the diseases to which man is liable of which examples are not to be found.

There is also a rare and extensive collection of objects of Natural History, which, through the medium of comparative anatomy, greatly contribute to physiological illustration, and likewise a very considerable number of fossil and vegetable productions. The whole collection amounts to upwards of 20,000 specimens and preparations. They are displayed in the gallery, except such parts as consist of specimens too large for preservation in spirits, or are better preserved or seen in a dried state, and these are on the floor of the Museum. There is, however, only a partially printed catalogue of the Hunterian collection. The Museum also contains many valuable contributions made by Sir Joseph Banks; 500 specimens of natural and diseased structure presented by Sir William Blizard; and specimens in Natural History, and contributions to the Library, by Sir E. Home. Amongst the many curiosities is the *preserved wife* of the celebrated Van Butchell, in a long square mahogany box with glass over the face, which may be removed at pleasure; an *Inca* of Peru, in a remarkable attitude; some heads of savages; the skeletons of O'Brien, the Irish Giant, and of a remarkably small female dwarf; with the skeleton of Chuny the elephant, that was shot at Exeter-change.

The Library is only accessible to the members of the college, except by special tickets; the Museum is, however, open to members on Mondays, Wednesdays, and

Fridays, from twelve till four, except the gallery, which is not open after two o'clock. It may also be inspected by any person having an order from a member,—and which, as most of the general practitioners in the metropolis belong to the college, is very easy to be obtained. For those who have not such a facility, however, there is a liberal regulation, by which it is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the months of May and June, by merely leaving the name and address of the applicant previously. What is called the Hunterian oration is delivered on the 14th of February in each year, to which the attendance of members of the college alone is permitted, without a ticket from a member of the Council. These lectures embrace the most scientific notices of the progress of physiological discovery during the year, but chiefly consist of an eulogium on the late John Hunter.

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#### COMPANY OF APOTHECARIES.

THIS company, partly a scientific and partly a commercial body, was originally incorporated with the Grocers by James the First in 1606, when all medicines and drugs sold in London were under their jurisdiction. They have since gained various privileges by Act of Parliament; and no person is now allowed to practise as an apothecary in any part of England or Wales, without having first obtained a certificate of his qualification from the Court of Examiners belonging to this company. Their physic gardens have been already adverted to; and their extensive Laboratory in Water-lane, Blackfriars, may be inspected by permission of any member of the Court. The Professor of Botany is Dr. Lindley; Superintending Chemical Operator, Mr. Brande, F.R.S.; and Chemical Operator, Mr. Hennell, F.R.S.

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#### MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

THE limits of this work will not permit of more than a notice of the Societies for medical discussion. They are the following:—

The *London Medical Society*, meeting at Bolt-court, Fleet-street, which is composed of physicians, surgeons, apothecaries, and other persons, versed in the sciences

connected with medicine. The first meeting was held in Crane-court,\* Fleet-street, on the 7th of January, 1773, when an address was delivered on the state of medical knowledge by Dr. Lettsom. The meetings were removed to the house at present occupied by the Society, which was presented to them by Dr. Lettsom, in 1778. The Library consists of 30,000 volumes, of which 10,000 were presented by Dr. Sims. The meetings for the session commence on the first Monday in October, and continue till April, on every Monday, with the exception of an occasional recess.

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The *Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society*, at 53, Berners-street, was founded in 1805, and has an extensive Library, ranking amongst its members some of the most eminent of the medical faculty in the metropolis. Its meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays in the month, from November to June, at half-past eight o'clock in the evening.

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The *Westminster Medical Society* is one for practical discussion, holding its meetings at the Hunterian theatre in Great Windmill-street, on Saturday evenings, at eight o'clock, during the session, which commences the first Saturday in November. The entrance fee is a guinea, with a trifling annual subscription recently made.

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The *Physical Society*, and the *Student's Physical Society* at Guy's Hospital, have held their meetings for more than a century. There is no subscription; and the meetings are held on alternate Saturday evenings in the theatre.

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The *Hunterian Society* holds meetings at Bloomfield-street, Finsbury, on the first and third Wednesday of each month, from November till June; and the *Harveian Society*, at 17, Edward-street, Portman-square, on the first and third Mondays in the same months, at eight o'clock.

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\* The house in Crane-court, now occupied by the Scottish Corporation, is where the Royal Society was formerly held. Dr. Johnson resided for many years and compiled his laborious dictionary at the house now occupied by Messrs. Palmer and Clayton as a printing-office.

The *Phrenological Society*, at 75, at Newman-street, is of a more popular character. Its meetings are held on the first and third Mondays from November to June, when some interesting practical remarks are made on skulls exhibited to notice, or when papers are read which elicit a discussion. Dr. Elliotson is President, and the terms of subscription are, one guinea entrance and one guinea annually. The Society has an extensive collection of casts.\*

The *Medico-Botanical Society* is one of very great value, and holds its meetings at 32, Sackville-street. It was established in 1821, for the purpose of promoting, by means of experiments and lectures, the sciences of medical botany, pharmaceutic chemistry, and materia medica, but does not meet with the adequate support which its objects require. The meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings in each month from November to June, with the exception of Easter and Whitsun weeks, and are easily accessible to strangers. Earl Stanhope is President, and Messrs. Judd and Sanders are Secretaries. There are Professors who deliver occasional lectures during the session, viz. Dr. G. G. Sigmond, on *Materia Medica*; Mr. Everett, on Chemistry; Mr. C. Johnson, on Botany; Mr. Iliff, on Toxicology, &c. The Society possesses a small but valuable library, and a good herbarium and collection of drugs, &c.

*Museums.*—The different Hospitals of Guy, St. Thomas, St. Bartholomew, &c., and the other medical schools of the metropolis, are each in possession of good museums, of specimens of anatomical and physiological structure, which may be viewed by application to the respective officers.

#### ROYAL SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

THESE gardens, pleasantly situated and commodiously arranged at Walworth, form a place of great attraction

\* Persons interested in the study will find in the establishment of Mr. De Ville, modeller, Strand, an extensive collection, comprising subjects of every nation and every character.

during the season. They were founded by Mr. Cross, whose collection at Exeter-change was very popular, from whence it was removed to the Royal-mews at Charing-cross; but before it was settled in its former location, it was well known as the itinerant menagerie of Mr. Polito. The Royal-mews being pulled down to form the site of the National Gallery, Mr. Cross was compelled to remove his collection, which he transferred to the present occupation. No one who witnesses the collection but must give credit to the liberal proprietor for having, single-handed, so successfully entered into competition with the liberal resources of the Zoological Society. An enumeration of the various animals is unnecessary, as it is contained in a descriptive catalogue published at the gardens. The collection is not so extensive as that in the Regent's-park; but some of the animals, and particularly the carnivora, are in much finer condition, attributable to the more judicious management. The gardens are likewise a complete arbo-retum, containing upwards of 200 varieties of the most choice and hardy forest-trees of this and other countries, all of which are clearly labelled. The panoramic views introduced on the borders of the capacious lake have been much admired, and form great objects of attraction during the season. The spirited proprietor is ably supported by Mr. Warwick and Mr. Tyler, in carrying out his views; and Mr. J. E. Gray, of the British Museum, is Honorary Zoologist of the establishment. There is a long list of nobility as the patrons; and annual admissions to the gardens may be obtained for one guinea. The admission is one shilling, and catalogue sixpence.

#### **KENT ZOOLOGICAL & BOTANICAL GARDENS**

THE increasing taste for the species of intellectual gratification afforded by these branches of science, shows itself in associating them with objects of public amusement. Although not yet in active operation, the principles upon which this establishment are designed, cannot fail to attract for it a large share of public support. The spot selected for its locality occupies a space of about seventeen acres, situated within a quarter of a mile westward of the town of Gravesend, on the east side of the new town of Rosherville, between Gravesend and North-

fleet, and contiguous to the Clifton baths. The gardens are very picturesque and romantic, presenting hill and dale in great variety, and thus affording a good opportunity for the distribution of animals and plants in miniature representation of those which they affect in a state of nature. The boundary consists of varied stratified chalk cliffs from fifty to ninety feet high, on the summit of which is a splendid esplanade, commanding extensive and beautiful views of the winding Thames, and its surrounding scenery. It is intended to dispose the animals in the situations most consistent with their natural habits, the eagles and other mountainous birds being chained to ledges of the cliff, while other creatures have their dens excavated in it. The soil around Gravesend and Northfleet, with the vicinity, has long been noted for yielding many rare indigenous species of British plants, and is a favourite place of resort for botanical professors and their students; therefore presenting a favourable opportunity for encouraging botanical research. The nurserymen are Messrs. Witley and Osborne, who are well known for their taste in garden display.\*

#### ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS.

MR. George Loddige, of Hackney, has devoted the leisure of an active life to the obtaining a collection of humming-birds, in which his extensive foreign correspondence has given him great facilities. The collection includes about 1600 specimens, which are arranged in groups according to the structure and colour of the prominent feathers. They may be inspected on application to the proprietor.

Mr. Leadbeter, ornithologist, of No. 19, Brewer-street, Golden-square, has a good private museum, particularly rich in pheasants, humming-birds, and rare foreign varieties, amongst which are the types of many described by Temminck, Lucien Buonaparte, and other authors.

Mr. Gould, of Broad-street, Golden-square, has a collection of rare Australian birds. Mr. Greville, of the

\* The chalk cliffs in this vicinity afford ample opportunities of research to the geologist, and the collectors and dealers supply specimens for cabinets at a moderate rate.

corner of Newcastle-street, Strand, is also an ardent ornithologist and naturalist, and possesses a good collection.

Mr. Yarrell, of Rider-street, St. James's, possesses the most unique and valuable cabinet of fishes in London, used by him in the illustration of his valuable work on *British Fishes*.

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**THE ECCALEOBION; OR MACHINE FOR ARTIFICIAL HATCHING, 121, PALL-MALL.**

SEVERAL circumstances concur to render this exhibition attractive and popular in an eminent degree: its novelty—its extraordinary character, and the highly interesting phenomena which accompany the mysterious development of life in animal beings, present to the eye of the observer such a combination of the novel and the marvellous, as to excite delight in all classes, whether scientific or illiterate. The exhibition is altogether unique; and the interest is further increased by its being the only modern successful attempt that has been made by which this has been accomplished, on such a scale as can make it worth notice, in an economical point of view. The most popular feature is of course the hatching of the young birds, which through the glass doors of the machine may be observed breaking the shell and liberating themselves; but to the naturalist and the man of science the interest is still further increased by a series of specimens, whereby the nascent bird is exhibited in every stage of the mysterious process of the organization of a living animal—from the first microscopic speck of existence until its eruption, a beautiful and perfect being. Admission, one shilling; catalogue, one shilling.

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**LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC, AND MECHANIC INSTITUTIONS.**

THE number of these in London and its environs is considerable. They furnish the advantages of reading-rooms, and libraries of circulation well-stored with modern literature; with lectures on almost every department of literature, art, and science; classes for instruction; museums for specimens; and cabinets of apparatus.

The LONDON MECHANICS' INSTITUTION, established by the exertions of Dr. Birkbeck, on December 2nd, 1823, gave a new impetus to the progress of science and development of intellectual knowledge throughout the country. The average number of members is 1140, and the income £1300. The subscription is £1 4s. yearly, or 6s. quarterly, and 2s. 6d. for entrance. Lectures are delivered every Wednesday and Friday evenings at the theatre, Southampton-buildings, Holborn, to which non-subscribers are admitted on payment of 1s. Library 6000 volumes.

WESTERN LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, Leicester-square, established 1825. Subscription two guineas annually. Average number of members 500, and annual income about £1100. Lectures every Thursday evening. Library 7000 volumes.

CITY OF LONDON LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, Aldersgate-street, established 1825. Subscription two guineas. Average number of members 1100. Library contains 7000 volumes; and lectures every Tuesday evening.

MARYLEBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, 17, Edward-street, Portman-square. Subscription two guineas. Average number of members 470, and income £250. Library contains 4000 volumes; and lectures delivered every Monday evening.

Other Institutions are the Islington Literary and Scientific Society, held opposite the church, which is in a very flourishing state; St. Pancras Institution, at Colosseum-house, in the New-road; Eastern Institution, Hackney-road; Eastern Athenæum, Stepney-green; Southwark Literary and Scientific Society, Bridge-house-place, Borough; Westminster Institution, Little Smith-street; and the Metropolitan Institution, Bishopsgate-street. Similar Societies also exist at Poplar, Barnet, Woolwich, Greenwich, Chertsey, Brentford, &c., which prosper more or less according to local circumstances of patronage.

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#### LITERARY FUND SOCIETY.

THIS Society, whose amiable relief has gladdened the heart of many an author in his toilsome career, celebrated its fiftieth year or jubilee, in the present summer. It is well known for its timely and benevolent aid towards literary persons in distress; and in addition to a funded property of £26,000, possesses an annual income of about £2000. It is only necessary for the individual claiming relief to be of good character, and his case properly certified by competent persons, when aid is granted

in proportion to his merits. Since its establishment there have been relieved a total of 892 applicants: of which 524 were males; 113 females; 195 widows and families; and 60 foreigners. In the classification of applicants there are writers on religious and moral subjects, 144; science and art, 95; fiction, 248; historical, 88; professional, 75; classical, 39; statistical, 31; and miscellaneous, 172. The Duke of Somerset is President, and the office of the Society is at No. 4, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

### PUBLIC NURSERIES.

THE public Nurseries near London are of a very high order, and generally superintended by men of intelligence and skill. Besides being remarkable for general collections of plants, many of them are distinguished for excelling in some particular department, which are specified in the accompanying list.\*

Messrs. LODDIGES' NURSERY, at *Hackney*, is distinguished above any others perhaps in the world. Their Palm-houses are objects of great attraction: and so capacious, that in the centre of the building the visiter may easily fancy himself in the recesses of a tropical forest. Their show of Camellias is also very splendid during the season. The houses have an extent of a mile and a half of walks!

Messrs. ROLLISON, of *Tooting Nursery*, have perhaps the best nursery collection of Orchidaceous Plants in the kingdom.

Mr. GROOM'S FLORISTS' NURSERY, *Walworth*, is a very old and well-conducted establishment, particularly famous for Tulips, of which he has about 250,000 bulbs. These are open to the public as an exhibition, during the flowering season; and the charge of admission is one shilling.

Mr. CHANDLER'S NURSERY, at *Vauxhall*, is famous for Camellias; and their exhibition in the flowering season, which extends from March to June, is a great source of attraction to florists.

*Battersea*.—Mr. N. Gaines; Heartsease, general plants.

*Bethnal-green* and *Cambridge-heath, Hackney*.—Messrs. F. and A. Smith; Dahlias.

*Blackheath*.—Mr. Hally; Chorizemas, New Holland Plants, general collection.

\* For an account in detail of these Gardens the reader is referred to the "Gardeners' Guide to London," price one shilling, by the Author of this work.

*Berkhampstead, Great.*—Messrs. Lane and Son; principally Roses, for which they are the most successful competitors at the London Exhibitions.

*Brixton.*—Mr. Dixon; an extensive grower of Auriculas, and Florists' flowers generally.

*Brompton.*—Mr. Ramsey; general collection.

*Camberwell.*—Messrs. Buchanan and Oldroyd; very successful and tasteful Landscape Gardeners, in which they have had great experience. General collection.

*Camden-town.*—Mr. T. Ansell; Dahlias, general collection.

*Chelsea.*—Messrs. Dennis and Co.; collection.

———— Mr. Catcleugh; Geraniums, a most successful grower.

*Cheshunt.*—Messrs. Paul and Son; Roses.

*Clapham.*—Mr. J. Fairbairn.

*Clapton.*—Messrs. Lowe and Co.; New Holland Plants.

*Ealing.*—Messrs. Mountjoy and Son; Heartsease and Geraniums.

*Eaton-square.*—Mr. Rogers; general collection and cut-flowers.

*Hammersmith.*—Messrs. Colley and Hill; ditto.

*Hornsey-road.*—Messrs. Back and Smith.

*Islington.*—Messrs. Pamplin and Son; Dahlias.

*Kensington.*—Mr. R. Forrest; forest and fruit trees.

*Kingsland.*—Mr. W. Alexander (*Lamb Farm*); Ranunculuses and florists' flowers.

*New-cross.*—Messrs. Cormack and Co.; general collection.

*Paddington.*—Messrs. Hogg; Pinks and Picotees.

*Richmond.*—Mr. Steele; Camellias. The house adjoining the Nursery is that in which Thomson wrote his "Seasons."

*Slough.*—Messrs. Thomas and Edward Brown; pleasantly situated on the Bath Road, within five minutes' walk of the Great Western Railway station. A general collection of Greenhouse and Hardy plants, shrubs, fruit and forest trees; and an extensive collection of Tulips, Dahlias, Ranunculuses, and Heartsease, are cultivated.

*Woolwich.*—Mr. N. Norman; Dahlias.

THE PANTHEON CONSERVATORY, in *Oxford-street*, under the care of Mr. Rutherford, contains a fine collection of exotic plants. An aviary and fountain have a good effect.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET is well supplied with flowers during the season. The Conservatories of Messrs. Bunney, of *Kingsland*; and Messrs. Cormack, of *New-Cross*, are objects of attraction.

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## PRIVATE CONSERVATORIES AND GARDENS.

SEVERAL of these in the neighbourhood of London are, by the liberality of their proprietors, easily accessible to strangers. Worton Lodge, near Isleworth, belonging George Glenny, Esq., is rich in general collections. This present season the great object of attraction has been a fine plant of *Doryanthes excelsa*. The grounds are open to persons on Sunday and Monday, by producing their cards. The gardeners are Mr. Vernon and Mr. Plummeridge. Mrs. Lawrence has recently taken Ealing Park, which will be an object to visiters, her grounds being under the management of Mr. Butcher; and Mrs. Marryatt's gardens at Wimbledon, under the care of Mr. Redding, are easily accessible. Amongst others, may be mentioned the gardens of the Rev. Theodore Williams, at Hendon; G. Ridge, Esq., at Morden, gardener Mr. Upright; the Hon. Baron Dimsdale's, at Camfield-place, Herts., which has a very good orchidaceous house, under the judicious and able care of Mr. Dunsford; William Harrison, Esq., at Cheshunt, gardener Mr. Pratt, &c. The gardens of the Duke of Northumberland, at Sion House,\* with those of many of the nobility in the neighbourhood of London, may occasionally be inspected as matters of favour.

The principal *Tulip growers* in the vicinity of London, and who feel pleasure in exhibiting their collections to amateurs of similar taste during the flowering season, are, Mr. Goldham, of Islington, and Mr. Hayward, of South Lambeth, who are leading members of the Billingsgate Friendly Society of Florists; Mr. Glenny, Worton-lodge, Isleworth; Mr. Saunders, surgeon, at Clapham; Mr. Bowler, Albany-road, Camberwell; Mr. Percival, Holloway; Mr. Edis, of Islington; Mr. Clark, Coburg-road, Albany-road; Mr. Wakeling, Walworth; and the unrivalled collection of the late Mr. Lawrence, of Hampton.

\* The Duke of Northumberland is the most successful breeder of monkeys in the kingdom. In his grounds at Sion House, he has netted in a part containing trees, with houses well warmed and ventilated, where these animals are not obstructed, and where they successfully breed.

FINIS.



SYNOPSIS OF THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES OF LONDON, WITH THE DAYS OF MEETING FOR 1839—40.

Containing, also, Lists of Scientific Soirées; Public and Private Museums, Libraries, and Exhibitions; Occasional Meetings, Lectures, Anniversaries, &c.

No. of Societies	No. of Members	FEES			Income, not including Contributions for Donations, 1838.	Funded Property.	Times of Meeting.	CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR SEASON 1839—40. Those marked * are Anniversaries.											
		Of Admission	Annual	Compensation for Donations.				November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.				
1663	ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, <i>Adolph, Duke of Saxe, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	10g.	..	..	Thursday... 4 past 8	14, 21, 30*	5, 12, 19	9, 16, 23, 30	6, 13, 20, 27	5, 12, 19, 26	2, 9, 30	7, 14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18				
1717	ANTIQUE SOCIETY, <i>Earl Arden, Dir.</i>	..	10l.	4l.	40l.	1652l.	Thursday... 8	14, 21, 30*	5, 12, 19	9, 16, 23, 30	6, 13, 20, 27	5, 12, 19, 26	2, 9, 23, 30	7, 14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18				
1786	ANNALS OF THE ANTIQUE SOCIETY, <i>Earl Arden, Dir.</i>	..	6d.	3s.	30l.	5721l.	Tuesday... 8	5, 19	3, 17	21	4, 18	5, 17	7, 21	1, 5, 19	2, 16				
1804	HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Arden, Dir.</i>	..	1g.	1g.	40g.	..	Tuesday... 3	3, (2 P.M.)	3, (2 P.M.)	21, (2 P.M.)	4, 18, (2 P.M.)	3, 17	7, 21	1, 5, 19	2, 16				
1837	ROYAL SOCIETY OF HORTICULTURE, <i>Earl Arden, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	2g.	20g.	..	Tuesday... 4	12, 26	10, 24	14, 28	11, 25	10, 24	14, 28	12, 26	9, 23				
1821	ROYAL SOCIETY OF HORTICULTURE, <i>Earl Arden, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	2g.	20g.	..	Wednesday... 9	13, 27	11	8, 22*	12, 26	11, 25	10, 24	14, 28	12, 26				
1823	ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	3911	5s.	3s.	30l.	14,094l.	Thursday... 3	12, 26	10, 24	14, 28	13, 27	10, 24	7, 21	2, 23*	9, 23				
1833	ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	1g.	10g.	..	Monday... 8	4	6, 22*	3	6, 22*	3	4	6, 22*	3, 10				
1754	SOCIETY OF ARTS, <i>Adolph, Duke of Saxe, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	2g.	10g.	..	Wednesday... 8	6, 13, 20, 27	4, 11, 18	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	5, 12, 19, 26	4, 11, 18, 25	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	6, 13, 20, 27	3, 10				
1830	ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	711	3s.	2s.	20s.	1682l.	Monday... 9	11, 25	9	6, 20	10, 24	9, 23	13, 27	11, 18, 25	8, 22				
1834	BRITISH ARCHITECTS, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	3g.	3g.	30g.	749l.	Monday... 8	..	2, 16	6, 20	3, 17	2, 16	6, 20	4, 18, 25	8, 22				
1820	ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	2g.	20g.	..	Tuesday... 8	5	3	..	..	..	..	..	..				
1823	ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	2g.	20g.	..	Friday... 8	6	13	10	8*	13	10	8	12				
1833	STATISTICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	2g.	20g.	..	Monday... 8	2	2, 16	7, 21	4, 18	1, 15	7, 21	4, 18	9*				
1837	NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	2g.	20g.	..	Tuesday... 8	18	16	20	17	15, 16	20	18	15				
1830	ROYAL INSTITUTION, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	2g.	2g.	20g.	..	Thursday... 7	28	26	30	27	26	30	28	25				
1839	URANIAN SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	1g.	1g.	10g.	..	Monday... 8	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
1806	LONDON INSTITUTION, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	Wednesday... 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
1838	ELECTRICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	1g.	1g.	10g.	..	Tuesday... 8	5, 19	3, 17	..	..	..	..	..	..				
1823	ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	1g.	1g.	10g.	..	Thursday... 4	14, 28	9, 23	13, 27	12, 26	9, 24*	14, 28	11, 25					
1806	METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	1g.	1g.	10g.	..	Tuesday... 8	12	10	14	11	10	14	9					
1817	CIVIL ENGINEERS, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	3g.	3g.	30g.	..	Wednesday... 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
1832	METROPOLITAN SOCIETY OF FLORENTINE ARCHITECTS, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	1g.	1g.	10g.	..	Tuesday... 8	14, 21*	4, 18, 25	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	3, 17	7, 21	5, 12, 26						
1836	BOTANICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	1g.	1g.	10g.	..	Friday... 8	1, 15, 27*	4, 18	11, 15, 29	12, 16, 26	11, 25	8, 22	6, 20					
1835	ROYAL MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	1g.	1g.	10g.	..	Tuesday... 8	6, 20	10	14, 28	11, 25	10, 24	7, 21	5, 19					
1723	LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	Monday... 8	4, 11, 18, 25	2, 9, 16	6, 13, 20, 27	3, 10, 17, 24	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	6, 13, 20, 27	4, 11, 18					
1740	PHYSICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	10s.	6d.	10s.	..	Saturday... 8	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	7, 14, 21	11, 18, 25	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	7, 14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18, 25	2, 9, 16					
1723	WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	Wednesday... 8	6, 20	4, 18	1, 15	5, 19	4, 18	1, 15	5, 19					
1740	HAYMARKET LECTURE, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	Monday... 8	4, 18	2, 16	6, 20, 30*	3, 17	2, 16	6, 20	4, 18					
1723	ARTISTS AND AMATEURS, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	Wednesday... 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
1717	MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	5s.	10s.	6d.	..	Saturday... 8	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	7, 14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18, 25	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	7, 14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18	2, 9, 16, 23, 30					
1831	UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION, <i>Earl Derby, Dir.</i>	..	..	..	..	..	Monday... 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					

NOTE.—The Months included in the above CALENDAR are considered the Season; but the following Societies meet during the intervening Months, viz.: the Horticultural, the Metropolitan Society of Florists, and the Electrical, on the first and third Tuesdays throughout; the Zoological and Scientific, on the second and fourth Tuesdays; and the Monthly Meeting of the same on the first Thursday throughout; the Entomological on the first Monday; and the Botanical on the first Friday throughout the year; the Urnanian Architects continue their meetings on the first and third Mondays of July; the anniversary of the Numismatic, on the 23rd of July; the London Medical commences on the first Monday of October, and the Physical on the first Saturday.

**SCIENTIFIC SOIREEs, OCCASIONAL MEETINGS, LECTURES, ANNIVERSARIES.**  
 ROYAL SOCIETY—The President for the time being gives a series of Lectures to the Members of that body during the Session.  
 ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, Pall Mall East—Occasional Soirées, open to Members and their friends.  
 UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION—Lectures are delivered each Tuesday, in the month of April, May, and June, to ladies and gentlemen introduced by Members.  
 HAYMARKET LECTURE, at the Royal College of Surgeons, 14th February.  
 THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, established 1838, holds two meetings annually, one in London, in Cavendish-square, in December; the other, a migratory meeting and show, will be held at Cambridge in June, 1840.  
 THE GREEK LECTURES are delivered every day during Term at the City of London School, Milk-street. Admission free.  
 SOCIETIES TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LINKS SOCIETY, occasionally by the Bishop of Norwich. Mr. Lambert, in Botany, generally every Saturday, at his house in Grosvenor-street.  
 ASTRONOMICAL LECTURES, during Lent—Mr. Howell, at the Indian Opera House; and Mr. Adams, Haymarket Theatre.  
 MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY—Lectures on various subjects every Saturday evening, at Eight.  
 LONDON MECHANICS' INSTITUTION—Lectures, Wednesdays and Fridays. Admission to non-subscribers, 1s.  
**SCIENTIFIC AND GENERAL MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES, AND EXHIBITIONS.**  
 BATHON MUSEUM—Open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and the whole of Easter and Whitsun week, from Ten till Four; and May to September, from Ten till Seven. Closed the first week in January, May, and September; and on Christmas-day, Good Friday, Ash Wednesday, and on Fast or Thanksgiving days. Reading-room open every day from Nine till Seven, from May to August; and Nine till Four the rest of the year. Holidays excepted.  
 EAST INDIA COMPANY'S MUSEUM—Open every Monday and Tuesday from Eleven till Three. Admission by order of a Director. On Saturday free to the public from Ten till Three.  
 ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S MUSEUM—Open every Tuesday from Twelve till Four.  
 GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S MUSEUM—Open every day from Eleven till Five to Members, or to visitors by their orders.

LONDON MISSIONARY MUSEUM, Bloomsfield-street, Bishopsgate—Open daily from Ten till Four. Admission free, by an order from a Director.  
 NATIONAL GALLERY OF PRACTICAL SCIENCE, Adelaide-street, Strand—Open daily from Ten till Six. Admission 1s.  
 POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, Regent-street and Cavendish-square—Open daily from Ten to Six. Admission 1s.  
 ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS' MUSEUM—Open every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from Twelve till Four to Members, or visitors by their orders—Hunterian Lectures, 14th February.  
 ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY'S MUSEUM—Open every Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday, from Eleven till Four.  
 SIR JAMES SPAN'S MUSEUM, Lincoln's Inn-fields—Open every Thursday and Friday from Ten till Five in the month of April, May, and June; and Tuesdays for Trustees and Friends. The card of the party applying must be left previously.  
 SOCIETY OF ARTS, Museum—Open every day but Wednesday, from Ten till Two. Admission free.  
 UNITED SERVICE MUSEUM, Great Scotland Yard—Open daily from Ten till Four. Admission gratis, by an order from a member.  
 ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S MENAGERIE, Regent's Park—Admission 1s. by an order.  
 ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE, Museum, Leicester-square. Admission 1s.  
 KEN BOTANICAL GARDENS—Open to the public throughout the year, except Sundays, from Ten till Six in Summer, and dusk in Winter.  
 GARDENS OF Kew Palace—Open every Thursday and Sunday, from Twelve o'clock. Gardens open every day from Nine till Six.  
 SHOWS OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, at Chiswick, three times every Summer, in the month of May, June, and July, which are duly announced.  
 THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF HORTICULTURE—Shows at Stafford-house, Chiswick, during the same months.  
 ROYAL BOTANICAL SOCIETY, Regent's Park, Gardens and Occasional Soirées.  
 ROTUNDA, at Waterloo—Exhibitions of arms and models of warfare. Open daily. Admission free.  
 LINKS SOCIETY'S MUSEUM—Containing the original Herbarium of Linnaeus and Sir J. Smith. Open on Wednesdays and Fridays, from Twelve to Four. Introduction personally by a Fellow.  
 INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS—Collection of models, instruments, &c. Introduction by a Member.  
 THE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S COLLECTION OF FOREIGN BIRDS—Ornamental Waters, St. James's Park.

KENT ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS—Roehampton, Gravesend.  
 THAMES TUNNEL, Rotherhithe—Open from Ten to Four. Admission 1s.  
 NATIONAL GALLERY, Trafalgar-square—Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and the whole of Easter and Whitsun weeks, except Saturday, from Ten till Six. Closed for six weeks from the end of the second week in September, and on Christmas-day and Good Friday.  
 BELSHAM GALLERY, Open free, every day except Friday and Sunday, from Ten to Four. Tickets to be had gratis from the principal print-sellers.  
 HAYMARKET COURT PALACE AND GALLERY—Open to the public on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.  
 ROYAL OBSERVATORY—Greenwich. Admission by order from the President of the Royal Society.  
**PRIVATE EXHIBITIONS AND CURIOSITIES.**  
 SABELL'S GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM, Aldersgate-street—Open to the public every Thursday, at Eleven o'clock.  
 MR. SMITH, of Lotbourn, Collection of Anglo-Roman Antiquities—Open by permission to those interested in them.  
 MR. BOBERGANK, of Cribbell-place, New North-road; Geological Collection, principally Crustacea, and Fossil Fruit—Open on Monday Evenings, to fellow cultivators.  
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 MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES connected with the City of London, at the Guildhall Library.  
**LIBRARIES.**  
 SMOX COLLEGE, London Walk, for the London Clergy—Open daily from Ten to Four. Strangers admitted by order, from a London incumbent.  
 DR. WILLIAMS'S LIBRARY, Red Cross-street. Open daily from Ten to Four. Strangers admitted by order from a Fellow.  
 CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, Bloomsfield-street, Bishopsgate—Open to subscribers, and under certain restrictions to strangers.  
 DR. TENISON'S LIBRARY, and ST. MARTIN'S LIBRARY, St. Martin's-place—First free; last 5s. per annum.  
 THE LIBRARIES OF THE VARIOUS SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES, are accessible on the introduction of a Member.

Faint, illegible text on aged paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is arranged in several paragraphs and is mostly obscured by the paper's texture and discoloration.

# THE INTELLECTUAL GUIDE

## Advertiser.

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30	1 1 3	1 4 8	2 3 7	30	2 7 7
40	1 6 10	1 11 10	2 17 11	40	3 2 2
50	1 15 1	2 4 5	4 1 7	50	4 9 0
60	3 1 8	3 18 11	6 4 4	60	6 15 8

## ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY OF LONDON.

## PROSPECTUS.

1. The Plan now submitted to the Public is for the establishment, within the confines of London, of an Institution with extensive Botanic Gardens, Library, Museum, Studio, Hot-houses, Conservatories, &c.

2. The Ground selected for the Gardens is admirably adapted for the purpose, both as regards its form and situation, being the space included in the INNER CIRCLE of the REGENT'S PARK. It contains eighteen acres, which will be appropriated for the reception of the plants indigenous to the several divisions of the globe. The Ground will be disposed in imitation of the Gardens of different countries, and the architectural ornaments will also be in unison with the peculiar features of the respective regions.

3. Conservatories, which are so essential in this country, will be erected upon a scale commensurate with this undertaking. Extensive Lawns, Terraces, and Promenades, interspersed with Parterres, Fountains, Statues, Vases, and other works of art, will be introduced.

4. There will be an ornamental piece of water for the growth of Aquatic, and Artificial Rocks for the disposition of Alpine Plants.

5. A collection of Plants will be arranged according to each of the two great systems of classification—the Artificial and the Natural.

6. An important appendage contemplated, is the formation of a Medico-Botanical Garden.

7. A new and valuable feature of the present project, will be a collection of all the Plants applicable to the Arts and Manufactures, of whatever country they may be natives, with a view to extend the cultivation of those which may prove most useful. By this means many products which are now obtained with great labour and expense, may be supplied in our own climate.

8. A well selected Botanic Library and Museum will be attached to the Institution; and also a Studio, which will be set apart for those who may be desirous of copying the productions of Nature; and able Professors of Botany and Drawing will be appointed to give Instructions and Lectures during a considerable portion of the year.

9. Public Botanical Exhibitions, which may lead to the improvement of the Science, will be encouraged, and every facility will be given to professional Florists and Nurserymen to obtain specimens of Rare and Valuable Plants, and to display those of their own growth.

10. Thus, for the study of their respective pursuits, ample opportunities will be afforded to the Botanist, the Medical Student, the Artist, the Gardener, the Manufacturer, and to all those who wish to apply the study of Botanical productions to the improvement and embellishment of their respective departments in the Arts and Sciences.

11. The CONSTITUTION of this Society is founded upon laws similar to those which regulate other scientific bodies; its Government consisting of a President and Council, with a Society of Fellows and Members, which is intended to be incorporated by Royal Charter.

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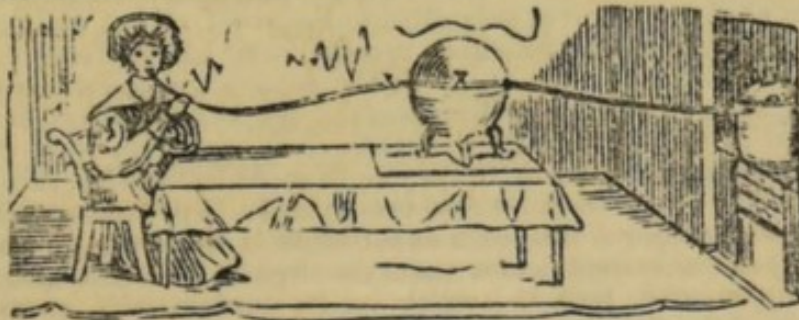
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Reverend Sir,—I shall be greatly obliged by your forwarding to me, at the earliest convenience, a bottle of "Gregorian Paste," and state in what manner I can make a remittance for the same. I beg to speak of the astonishing efficacy of the paste in four cases in this town, the persons applying it having experienced almost momentary ease, and who are now enabled to masticate on the affected teeth with every palpable sensation of their being replaced by new ones.—I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

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P.S.—You are welcome to make any use you think proper of any part of the above statement.—W. B.



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**MOORE'S NEW VENTILATING WATER-PROOF FABRICS.**—A novel exhibition lately took place at the Fire Station, Jeffrey's-square, before many scientific, and other eminent gentlemen, among whom were Dr. URE, Mr. PETTIGREW, Mr. YARDLEY, Secretary of the Police, Lieutenant GOODLAD, R.N., General ALEXANDER WILSON, of the Imperial Russian Service, &c., for the purpose of testing the merits of the above invention. Several pieces of Woollen Cloth from Messrs. MOORE, 34, King William-street, London-bridge, were exposed to the force of water from a fire engine, with a fall of upwards of twenty feet, and for a considerable time, without having the slightest tendency to absorption; what rendered the exhibition the more extraordinary, was the fact, that the fabric appeared to be perfectly porous, the smoke of a cigar having been blown through previously to the engine playing upon it.

The clothes prepared by this method are equally beautiful in their external appearance with the unprepared fabric, whether of woollen or other material, is perfectly PEROUS, and totally FREE from ODOUR during every condition. It possesses all the meritorious qualities of the Mackintosh, but avoids its unsightliness, and allows the heat and imperceptible perspiration of the body to pass off without obstruction, which the latter from the nature of the material cannot.

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[Extract from the *Court Gazette*, June 22, 1839.]

*Property of Repelling Wet.*—The water-proofing of cloth, and indeed fabrics of almost every description, without destroying its porous quality, is an invention of considerable importance, and forms a new era in the water-proofing process. We have been favoured with specimens upon which some curious experiments were tried. First, woollens, of various descriptions and degrees of fineness, were submitted to the proof of hot and cold water, both of which were poured off again, and the fabric left perfectly dry; next, a light crape allowed the water to lie on the surface a considerable time, and on its being allowed to run off, there was not the slightest dampness. The curious part of the business is, that both cloth and crape were extremely porous, and on being held close to the mouth could be breathed through with the same facility as the same articles unprepared. But the most extraordinary of all was prepared lace, such as ladies' veils are made of, and which, though fully as transparent, and without the slightest difference in appearance from the unprepared, held the water on its surface without its coming through any of the thousand holes which are formed by the netting, and from which the water run as freely as from any animal's back: such is the disposition of the article, be it of what make it may, after it is prepared the water would require to be forced through. In a medical point of view, and in the facility with which it can be applied to every description of clothing, nothing can be more desirable than this invention, which must supersede entirely all preparations which close up the ventilating qualities of the article, and render the wearing of such so oppressive and intolerable in hot weather. It would seem to be analogous to the non-transmission of flame through the wire of the Davy Lamp. The experiments are shown at MOORE'S Clothing Establishment, King William-street, London-bridge, and it is worth any person's notice to call and devote a few minutes to their inspection.

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1 15 0	2 0 0	2 5 0	2 11 6	3 1 0	3 15 0

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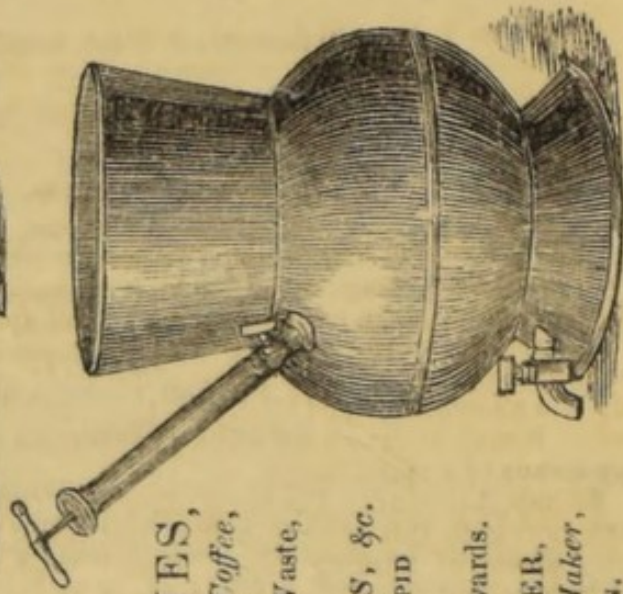
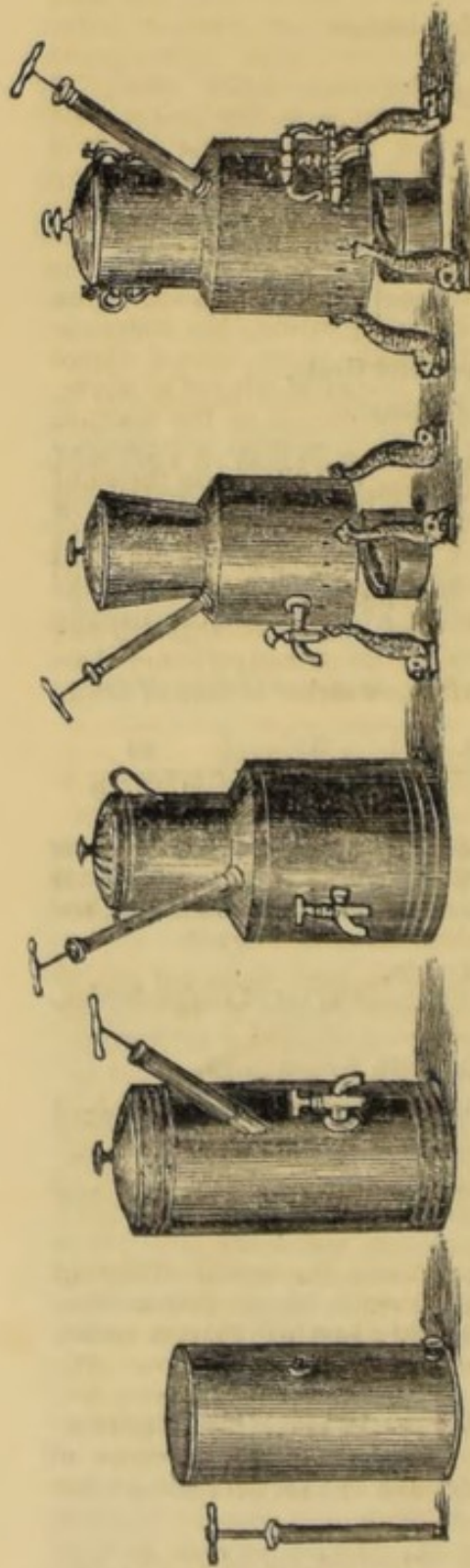
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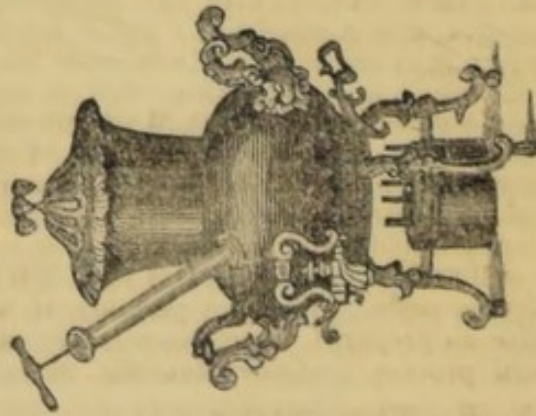
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