

speak, while the latter knew practically everything that could be known about the great Sir Christopher Wren and his City Churches.

It is impossible to give any adequate report of Major Rigg's lecture in the space at our disposal, and we can only touch upon a few of the points which he placed before us in connection with the life of one of our greatest Englishmen. Information was given as to Wren's parentage, of his singular opportunities as a child, and how he developed those. At the age of eighteen he was a Bachelor of Arts of Oxford, at twenty a Master of Arts, and at twenty-one he was made a Fellow of All Souls', Oxford. Soon after he met his lifelong friend, John Evelyn, the diarist, to whom he was particularly indebted in connection with many Royal favours. Then the lecturer gave an account of Wren's connection with the foundation of the Royal Society. At the age of twenty-four Wren was made Professor of Geometry, and at twenty-five, Civilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford and Doctor of Civil Law. In 1661 he made his model of the moon, which brought him to the notice of Charles II. In the next year, after refusing a very important appointment at Tangier, he was appointed Surveyor-General of the King's Works.

Next Major Rigg spoke of various of Wren's plans for the re-building of London, which were described as two or three hundred years ahead of his time; emphasis was laid on the extraordinary versatility he displayed. No two of the churches, and other buildings which owe their origin to his genius, are alike; partly also his success was due to a wonderful power to gather about him men who were masters in their particular arts and crafts. Major Rigg then gave a wonderful series of word-pictures on the building of St. Paul's, of which it had been said that the masons built the dome but Wren hung it in the air.

Major Rigg then touched upon Wren's later days, and we seemed to live in sad but beautiful memories, to walk as it were in a garden of these "Roses in December" of the great Sir Christopher Wren, of whom it is said "in a corrupt age all tests leave him spotless. His very integrity is attested by the vehemence of the attacks made upon him." In a difficult time he stood as the foremost among philosophers.

Major Rigg then spoke of the destruction now threatening the City Churches, spoke of how, when London had to be rebuilt after the Great Fire, all foundations of the buildings were destroyed except those of the City Churches, so that it was only by measurements from their foundations that the former location of other buildings could be ascertained. The Wren Churches were reared above their original foundations, and if no worshippers were to enter these churches from one year's end to another, it was good that they should stand there (where the men of London are striving and toiling year by year) like grand monuments pointing ever to heaven.

The vote of thanks was proposed by the Rev. J. J. Teague, Vicar of St. Stephen, Coleman Street,

well known as the novelist writing under the name of Morice Gerard. Miss Forbès, M.R.B.N.A., in the name of the nurses, thanked Mr. Graham Bennet for having honoured the Association by taking the Chair.

CONCERT.

"A perfectly heavenly two hours" was the verdict of a group of nurses as they bade us good-bye on the afternoon of Saturday, March 24th. Mr. Zacharewitsche with his violin held us spell-bound. Words are simply inadequate altogether when we try to describe the feast of music which he, and that most gifted pianist, Miss Dorothy Cooper, gave us. We were thrilled with selections from Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven, Rimsky Korsakoff, Hauser, and not the least of our enjoyment was in their rendering of "Imagination," a composition of Mr. Zacharewitsche's own, which seemed to lift us into some other world with its soft, lovely trills and cadences. Later Miss Cooper played us solos by Poldini and Liszt, which were indeed a delight to us. Miss Kathleen Dawne sang several songs in her fine contralto, and we heard members of the audience agree that her rendering of "Annie Laurie" was the most beautiful they had ever heard. Last, but not least, we have to thank Mr. Harold Horton for his recitations. We had been told that his "Lyrics" (several of them his own composition) were exquisite, and it is only some such word that can describe his rendering of them. Later in the programme he gave us "Henry V and Kate," and we felt that Mr. Horton was leading us to fresh discoveries in the genius of that greatest figure in English literature, William Shakespeare.

THE RAMBLERS' CLUB.

It has been arranged that the Ramblers' Club will, on Wednesday, April 11th, lunch at the Cheshire Cheese, and afterwards visit one or more of the old City Churches. The Cheshire Cheese is famous as the haunt of many illustrious Englishmen—Dr. Johnson, Sir Joshua Reynolds, David Garrick, Charles Dickens, Oliver Goldsmith, and others have there, many a time, eaten beefsteak pie and drunk good English ale; there has been almost no alteration in the arrangements at the old restaurant since their time. We shall see Dr. Johnson's chair where it stood of old, and finger the first copy of his dictionary, explore the cellars which were at one time part of a monastery, in the fourteenth century, and see many other things that link up bygone days with the present. Members who wish to join the expedition should write to the Secretary for further particulars.

GENERAL COUNCIL.

The time is drawing near when the nominations for the General Council of the Association have to be made, and Members should forward to the Secretary the names of any Members whom they wish to have placed upon the balloting lists.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

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