

London Streets and Associations

(Concluded from page 117.)

Bunhill Fields.

It has within its borders this spot forever sacred in the history of our race—the little graveyard of Bunhill Fields. There is not an acre of English earth more precious than this, where we can look across the graves of four of England's almost matchless men. John Bunyan, Isaac Watts, Daniel Defoe and William Blake. One gave us the greatest English story that will never die; one gave us a hymn sung by our race in its trials and tribulations; one gave us a book beloved by every English-speaking boy, and one gave us what is almost a national anthem—namely "Jerusalem."



ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL. WREN'S GLORY.

"The City's finest ornament, its loftiest and noblest landmark."

Arundel Street was built on the site of the mansion of the Earls of Arundel from where it takes its name. Old Parr who is said to have lived from 1483-1635, probably much exaggerated his age, when he was brought to London by the Earl of Arundel from his Shropshire home. He died in the Earl's house in the Strand a few months later. A tablet commemorating Old Parr can be found in the Temple churchyard, though now no reliance is placed on the inscription.

Following the Fire of London, Doctor Wren's plans to

rebuild the city were never adopted. The re-building was done in haste with no single idea behind it and very little official control. Streets were rebuilt on existing form and by the middle of the eighteenth century, the city was again a labyrinth of winding lanes with nests of courts and alleys without light and with little air.

The principle of least effort will easily be seen to operate generally. Bennett for Benedict, and Austin for Augustine. Lombard—we trace the evolution of Lumber. Old Bailey, Old Jewry, Pottery and Mincing Lane will clearly be thought of in association with what each actually suggests.

Many of the small Courts and short alleys have names which have given much thought to investigators, and for many of these the writers of books have not been able to give a satisfactory account of origin after much painstaking search. Abchurch Lane, adjacent to St. Marys, Abchurch or Upchurch. From its rising ground. St. Mary's at Hill is a similar circumstance, and Adam's Court, Old Broad Street, gets its name from the former owner of the property who was Sir Thomas Adams, the then Lord Mayor in 1645. Aldermanbury—the site of the old Great Hall of the Aldermen. This was the first meeting-place of civic Fathers, Amen Corner closed with a gate into a great house so rightly called Amen Lane, and certainly ending in a full stop! Artillery Street, Lane, Passage, here the bowers found a market for their bows, and the Fletchers for their cloth-head shafts. The sign of Artillery to signify bows and arrows, although now it means guns, may be noticed outside the Passage.

Many of the streets that were beyond the walls of London before the sixteenth century still follow their old course—and retain their early names:—

Strand.

The word Strand denotes verge of river and according to writings the Strand in 1052 was actually the bank of the Thames. A famous maypole was erected in the Strand in the sixteenth century and it was destroyed by the Puritans in 1644. But there is a lengthy account of its reinstatement in 1661 when it did take four hours and there was a musical accompaniment. It was said to have been put up at the instance of John Clarges, then blacksmith, in rejoicing at the marriage of his daughter Ann to the Duke of Albemarle.

In 1713 it was found to have become decayed in the ground and removed, and another was erected which had two gilt balls and a vane on the summit. Sir Isaac Newton then living near Leicester Fields, bought it from the parishioners and had it carried from the Strand to Wanstead, Essex, where it was erected in the Park for the support of a telescope—125 feet in length, as a present to Mr. Newton's friend—the Rev. Mr. Pound.

Holborn.

Meaning the brook or bourn in a hollow. There was a time when a clear river taking its rise in the springs of Ken Wood—which we all know now in Highgate—flowed down through Kentish Town and where from time to time it was given to flooding its banks; past further places known as Oldbourne or Hilbourne on the present site of Holborn.

Fleet Street.

This, too, derived its name from the River Fleet and in the days of Good Queen Bess it was a busy shop-lined thoroughfare, when the Strand was only a grassy highroad leading from the City to the village of Charing.

At a later date it became the centre of law and still has a strong element of law within it—it was not until 1802 that the *Morning Advertiser* set up its offices in Fleet Street, and it became known as "the street of ink."

No thoroughfare in London can boast of so many famous

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