

which cases, if he rebuild the parsonage-house, he makes it larger and more expensive than is consistent with the mere value of the living. This may appear improper, from burthening so poor an incumbency with the charge of keeping up a house disproportionate to so poor a living; but as few curates would take such a description of preferment unless otherwise assisted in fortune and income, it cannot properly be said that such a house is a burthen, since such a living requires naturally such an augmentation.

Slate should be used for roof-covering, as the cheapest and lightest for general use; plain tiles form a good covering, but their small size and great thickness, requiring them to be laid to a pitch or inclination much steeper than slating to be equally effective in keeping out wet, the rafters not only require to be longer than if they were laid to a lower pitch, but on that account require to be stronger, as well as from the very great extra weight of the tiles. Plain-tiling is very near as dear as slating, and when the quantity is taken into account, which is of necessity extra beyond that of slating laid at a sufficient pitch, such tiling costs more than good slating, and there is nearly about the same extra cost for the timber-work under plain-tiling, both from extra scantling and length.

If circumstances should necessarily necessitate the house to be placed with a northern aspect, some of the rooms should still open to the south, as should, if possible, the principal staircase, so that the house may have some supply of warm rays to counteract the effect of cold.

Great care should be taken, that in addition to cheerfulness of aspect, the house should not be open to eastern winds, and walls kept damp by south-western rains.

The nursery should be over the kitchen, so that the noise which children may make, do not to disturb the persons in the other living-rooms, and for the almost constant firing of such apartments, to keep the south-western walling as dry as possible, and to receive a constant warmth by being over the kitchen.

As in general apartments of plain quadrilateral forms, squares or parallelograms are not only most useful, and are best suited for the disposal of furniture, but are also cheapest to build; houses, consequently, for the incumbents of all ill-endowed livings, will in general, in order to suit their contracted means, and to obtain the greatest accommodation for a given outlay, be of plain quadrilateral forms, so as to be economically subdivided into the various apartments without loss of space.

As a parsonage-house is attached to the soil, and is expected to endure though all other houses in the neighbourhood fall to ruin, it should, for plan, convenience, and economy, be a model from which the other inhabitants of the parish may copy with advantage.

Such parts of the pavings as do not, for keeping down the damp, require to be laid hollow upon cross walls, may be made of tiles, either red, white, or of both those colours intermixed in mosaic, square tiles laid diagonally with two colours.

It is desirable that only a small frontage shall be presented to the east and south-west, and bay-windows are proper in such fronts, and on the northern side, since they catch the southern sun.

There is no impropriety in a water-closet or a bath on the ground story being approached from a dressing-room, since this arrangement will afford great privacy, but it would be a greater advantage if such water-closet or bath have also another access by means of a lobby, but no water-closet for general access should be approachable by any other apartment.

We recommend that all the offices except the stabling, washhouse, brewhouse, fruit-room, and farm-buildings, shall be combined under one roof, otherwise even a large house will lose its importance; on this account also, we dislike the principal living-apartments to be contained within one regular fabric, while the kitchen-offices are placed in a mean irregular wing, which being not picturesque, seems patched upon the main fabric only to destroy its uniformity, and make it appear ugly.

In the larger class of houses, if any thing in the nature of a tower or turret be introduced, we advise it to be placed centrally with regard to the plan, so as to form a symmetrical crowning mass; we are no lovers of the one-sided

nondescript bell-less campaniles, which bad and corrupt taste have lately brought into use in pretended Italian designs for dwelling-houses; we should neither like ourselves to pay the wasteful expenditure to which these additions (generally useless) lead, nor should we be willing to incur the repute of producing lofty objects which spoil the aspect of a building, from destroying its central effect, its uniformity, and its pyramidal picturesqueness; we think St. Paul's, the Parthenon, and Henry the Seventh's Chapel, would have alike been spoiled by irregularity; we believe that no perfect building which is irregular, exists; and we believe further, that the irregularities of existing buildings have arisen purely from accident, or from an unwholesomeness of mind in their designers.

As it is by no means a beauty for the principal entrance to a house to be under the stairs, from the confined altitude at coming in to the house, which produces a disagreeable impression, this should very rarely be given into, though sometimes a plan, in other respects excellent, may seem to sanction this inferiority.

In all designs, care should be taken to avoid the bad taste and wasteful expenditure of masking and concealment; no false gables which shew a thin edge when viewed sidewise, should on any account be allowed, no blank windows which diminish the thickness of the walls, and admit damp; besides incurring extra expense should be tolerated, but all decorations should spring out of the actual construction and arrangement of the building.

A larder should face the north; or, if its aspect differ from that quarter, it should rather turn towards the east than the west, cold winds being more favourable than warm western rains for the preservation of viands. In the construction of the gables, it will in general be best to let the slating cover the brickwork or masonry, instead of carrying up the masonry or brickwork higher than the slating. This mode is economical, since it saves the expense of stone coping, while if the rafters are laid horizontally, their ends may be brought out and shaped ornamentally without any casing upon them. If gables be carried above the covering, not only will there be the extra expense of additional walling and coping, but also that of lead flushings, without which there is no certainty of preventing the wet from penetrating between the roof and the gable.

It is one of the offences of curved gables of the so-named "Elizabethan" architecture, that they cannot be covered by the roofing, as may those of pure pointed architecture, which, being constructed on the principles of true taste, has every part of its ornament emanating from its necessary and philosophical structure.

Houses which are regular may, nevertheless, have their four sides different, and become the more interesting on that account.

If the roof be made to project far over any gable, it should be on the south-west side, in order that the upper part of the walls which, in that aspect, are much subjected to the influence of the weather, may be protected from the rains.

In general, for the diffusion of heat, the fire-place is best placed on one of the longest sides of a room, and best lighted also on one of the longest sides; and though not very often so arranged, there is a convenience in the windows being opposite the fire-places, for then the whole family circle, sitting round the fire, may be enabled to read with the light directly on their books.

By placing the aspect of a house south-east, two fronts may receive the meridian sun, without receiving the south-west rain, while the south-west side may contain the kitchen and nursery, with their drying chimneys.

The kitchen-court should in general, when no local circumstances interfere, be placed on the west side of a house, so as to leave all the other sides free from encumbrance, and open to general view.

ST. MARK'S, GLOUCESTER.—The cost of this church, described in full last week, including interior fittings, gas, and fences, but exclusive of architect's charges, was 3,076*l*. We are anxious in all cases, where we give the size, materials, and arrangement of buildings, to add their actual cost, such relative data being necessarily valuable.

ART IN VENICE.

ALTHOUGH the attendance at this year's scientific congress will be very scanty, worthy preparations have been made by private individuals. The installation of the marble statue of Marco Polo (the forerunner of Columbus) is first to be adverted to. It has been executed by Luigi Fontari—and represents the adventurous traveller with a rudder in his hand, his head covered with a Chinese cap. Mr. Fontari is an artist, very much appreciated of late, and his Laocoon (an interpretation different from the antique one), his lotus-gathering Nymph, David and Goliath, deserve the highest praise. The statue of Marco Polo has been made by order of the Common Council of Venice.—M. Zandamenighi also excels in sculpture-art; he is one of the Canova school.

Fresco painting has made grand progress here of late, amongst which the vault of the Church of Sta. Maria Formosa, painted by Paulett, deserves the first place. Schiavoni and Lorenzi are praised for the depicting of luxuriant feminine beauty, and the all-known antiquary, Mr. Sanguirico, has always some of their specimens at hand. Lastly, the French Government, whose art-patronage is incontestable, have commissioned the painter, Mr. Serrus, to execute a copy (full size) of the Ascension of the Virgin, by Titian. This work, completed after years' labour, will grace the art-exhibition, to take place at the present congress.—The King of Prussia has commissioned Mr. Gerhart, from Erfurt, to make (*in situ*) sketches of the finest scenery and buildings of Venice. Forty water-colour sketches have been thus obtained, mostly of a novel character, and will be reproduced at Munich by eminent artists in oil.

An order lately received by Mr. Kreutz (author of the work on the Cathedral of St. Mark), from the Emperor of Russia, deserves separate notice. As H. M. intends to erect structures in Russia after Venetian patterns, he has commissioned Mr. K. to execute elevations and plans of *five* of the most splendid Venetian palaces of the modern school. Mr. Kreutz has added to this about 100 working drawings of ornamental and architectural detail, which will make this collection most available for its purpose. Those chosen are the two palaces of Rezzonigo and Pezaro, built by Longhara, the Palace Giurmani, by Sanmichele, and the Palazzo Corner and Grassi.

THE STATE OF ARCHITECTURE IN IRELAND.

In our last number we stated that the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland had presented an address to the Lord-Lieutenant, and we gave a portion of his Excellency's reply. The following is that portion of the address to which our extract from the answer applied;—

"It cannot be necessary to suggest to your Excellency, that, amongst all enlightened nations, and particularly in England, the profession of architecture has, at all periods, received that encouragement and protection which, from the influence it exercises over the moral and social interests of mankind, it so justly merits, and its progress has, in consequence, kept pace with the advancement of art and science; but it is disheartening to reflect, that, in this country, the science of architecture has not found congenial encouragement, and whilst the efforts of its instructed professors have been successfully directed to its development, legitimate competition (that which can alone elicit genius and excellence) has been denied to Irishmen, and the talent which should have found due appreciation in the country that produced and fostered it, has been compelled to seek for its reward in other lands.

May we hope that your Excellency will be pleased to accept our welcome to Ireland, and our assurance of that perfect sincerity with which it is offered."

The matter is one of considerable interest. The *Leinster Express* has a leading article upon it, from which we make the following extracts:—

"To the uninitiated, the language of the address may possibly appear to require explanation; but in those who are cognizant of the mode in which the claims of this distinguished body have been slighted and overlooked, and the honours and emoluments for which they should, at least, have been afforded the oppor-