

16th ult. The style is Early English. In the western gable, which is surmounted by a buttressed belfry, there is a large triplet window. The structure is of the following dimensions:—From outside to outside 50 feet in front, 70 feet in length, and 80 feet high to the top of the belfry. One roof spans the entire width, which is of Queen-post construction. It has cost a little more than 1,000*l.* (ground exclusive), and is competent to accommodate 500 persons. We do not pretend to explain how such things are done.—It is proposed by the superintendent of streets and buildings at Edinburgh (Mr. Blyth) to widen the north bridge of that city, by adding in all upwards of 5 feet in breadth to the foot pavements, taking away the present heavy balustrades, and substituting a light railing, covered outside with sheet zinc or iron, to the height of 4½ feet, the rail above being ornamental as well as light; the whole to be secured at intervals by stays. The ugly dead walls at each end he also proposes to replace with the centre balustrades.

NEW WELSH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

On the 13th ult., the first stone of the new Educational Institution at Llandovery was laid by the Lord Bishop of St. David's, the object of which is to enable the sons of the middle classes of Wales to enter into honourable competition with their hitherto more favoured brethren on the eastern side of the Severn.

The building, as we understand, will be in the Gothic style, of a collegiate character, irregular in outline. The walls will be of a light grey stone of the locality, with Bath stone dressings. The plan comprises a large examination-hall with open timber roof, four class-rooms, cloak-room, dining-hall, committee-room, library, teachers'-room, dormitories for about thirty boarders, sick-wards, bath-rooms, lavatories, kitchens and other offices, and a commodious residence for the warden and his family. The works are to be completed in twelve months. Messrs. Fuller and Gingell are the architects. After the ceremony, about eighty of the supporters of the institution dined together, the Venerable Archdeacon Williams acting as the chairman.

The efforts now making in Wales to raise the intellectual character of the people can scarcely fail to produce an advantageous result, and must be regarded by all with interest.

Books.

Church and Chapel Architecture, from the earliest period to the present time; with an account of the Hebrew Church. By ANDREW TRIMEN, Architect. London: Longman and Co., 1849.

THE most novel portion of the volume named above is an account of the Hebrew Church, commencing with the Temple of Solomon, and ending with the new synagogue in Margaret-street, Cavendish-square; and the most useful part of it is a collection of one thousand mouldings, collected from mediæval structures in twenty-seven counties in England. "These are arranged in their proper chronological order, and, as far as possible, in a regular

series in each order." It is to be regretted that no scale is given with these. Mr. Trimen has collected much useful information.

Modern Tombs, or Gleanings from the Public Cemeteries. Measured, drawn, and etched, by ARTHUR W. HAKEWILL, Architect. London: Longman and Co.

There is an endeavour on the part of Mr. A. Hakewill to draw the attention of the public to the very erroneous system so generally pursued in England, of employing the mere mason and mechanic to design tombs, instead of calling in the sculptor and architect. The present part (one of four), contains fifteen plates, and the whole, when finished, will exhibit fifty designs. The first etching in the book, is a representation of a large monument recently put up in the West London Cemetery, at Brompton, at a cost of 400*l.*, in memory of John Jackson, the celebrated pugilist. It is about 12 feet high, surmounted by a crouching lion, and displays two upright figures of athletes, one at each end, in full relief. Mr. Butler was the sculptor. We shall have an opportunity to speak of the work more at length on the appearance of another part, and in the meanwhile recommend it for purchase.

The Fine Arts Almanac, or Artists' Remembrancer for 1850. London: Rowney and Co.

This work is edited by Mr. R. W. Buss, and contains a large amount of valuable information and agreeable reading. The constitution of the various art exhibitions, the names of officers and the regulations of art societies and schools, &c., &c., are set forth very fully: some valuable information is given on the subject of costume; and the notes of the twelve months, which occupy 80 pages of small type, comprise memoirs of numerous artists and art-lovers, written in a pleasant style. Mistakes have, of course, crept in: thus, Sir C. Bell's death is placed under two dates—29th April and 29th November—with a notice of him in each case; but these it is difficult to avoid in stating a large number of facts, and Mr. Buss is entitled to great praise for the able manner in which he has executed his task.

Miscellaneous.

STUDENTS' SOIREE, MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF DESIGN.—An idea, originating with the students, and continued with the countenance of the council and the masters, was successfully and happily carried out at the Manchester School of Design on Wednesday week. The school was temporarily converted into a saloon, and among the guests invited by the students to their "soirée" were the principal, Mr. Hammersley, and his colleagues, Mr. Kidd and Mr. Dodd, besides various members of the council, students from Nottingham, and others. The walls were adorned with the fruits of many a day's labour in the "saloon" itself. The senior student, Dr. Charles Bell, being called to the chair, addressed the meeting, and while pointing attention to what had been already done, expressed a hope that Manchester would show in the course of the opening year that it was about to become as distinguished for design as it had been for manufacture. Mr. Hammersley, in responding to a complimentary vote, gave his students some good wholesome advice, not the less worthy some of it of serious adoption, that it was given in good-humoured banter, about the irreverence of standing with covered heads in presence of the works of Phidias and other great masters, with a familiar nod for Jupiter, a sort of shake of the hand for Apollo, and a strut with tucked coat tails, and other liberties of irreverence, amongst the *dei minores*. Tokens such as these betrayed a downright incapacity to appreciate art, and were quite inconsistent with that earnestness of spirit which a worthy student ought to manifest. Mr. Kidd was duly honoured with a respectful vote. Mr. Brook, in proposing "The architectural, geometric, and perspective classes," with thanks to Mr. Dodd, drew attention to the fact that many of the architectural drawings were executed by workmen, who laid down their tools and took up the pencil after a hard day's work.

PROPOSED WORKS.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders, by 14th inst., for the erection of carriage sheds, at various points on the South-Eastern Railway; by 20th, for the erection of schools at Durham Down, near Bristol; by 31st, for the works or buildings for stations to be erected on the Great Northern Railway; by same date, for the execution of the whole or any portion of the stations, warehouses, gate lodges, locomotive buildings, &c., on same line, between King's-cross and Peterborough; by 11th, for the erection of St. Luke's parsonage-house, Leeds; by a date not specified, for the erection of two coal stacks on the Tyne; by 7th, for the several works required for the enlargement of the Wesleyan Chapel, at Pontefract; and by 9th, for the mason and brickwork, metal girders, &c., in the erection of coal depôts in the central station at Leeds.

COMPETITIONS.—Advertisements have been issued for plans, &c., by 14th February, for a new workhouse for the Wortley Poor-law Union, to accommodate 150 inmates, as advertised,—no payment for plans not approved and adopted by the guardians; also by 19th inst., for alterations and additions at Stapleton Asylum, for the corporation poor, Bristol: no specific details, conditions, or terms.

IMPROVEMENTS IN EARTHENWARE PIPES, &c.—A patent has been granted to Mr. B. A. Burton, of Holland-street, Southwark, for improvements in the manufacture of pipes, tiles, bricks, stairs, copings, and other articles required for building purposes. The process hitherto adopted in the manufacture of pipes from plastic materials consists of forcing the clay through a die, so as to form the pipe, and afterwards baking the pipe in an oven. In addition to this process, Mr. Burton proposes, after the pipes have been formed, and whilst in a plastic state, to subject them to a certain amount of pressure, by passing them between rollers, whereby it is said that pipes, after they have undergone this process of compression, are not only stronger, and consequently more durable, but also more regular in their structure, and smoother; so that they will offer less resistance to the passage of fluids, and will also be less liable to the accumulation of deposit. The clay having been forced through the die in the form of a pipe, slips over a mandrill, attached to the centre part of the die; the lower end of the mandrill being made to project a little beyond the centre line of four rollers, all moving in the same direction, and with the same surface velocity, so that the clay pipe is drawn between the rollers, and over the end of the mandrill, whereby the particles of matter become compressed or consolidated to such an extent, we are told, that, when baked, they have been found, by repeated experiments, to be upwards of 75 per cent. stronger than pipes manufactured in the ordinary way. In the case of a stairs tread, the rollers forming the front and top of the step may be engraved so as to form an ornamental step. The inventor states, that by the application of the eccentric, or convolute rollers, a great variety of articles applicable to building purposes may be moulded and compressed as above described. In addition to the above, the specification describes a mode of making bends for pipes; also a variety of machines for cutting socket or rebate and screw joints upon the ends of pipes.

COPYISM, BRISTOL.—I have always felt grateful to you for perseverance in denouncing mere copyism in art, and I trust you will therefore allow me to make a few slight additions to your recent notice of a new church in Bristol. 1. The windows, with one single exception, have been obtained from "Brandon's Analysis," and this one exception is a window obtainable everywhere. 2. The gable crosses have been procured from the same source. 3. The gable knees ditto. 4. The parapet of tower ditto. 5. The font ditto. 6. The tracery of screen ditto. I am not quite certain about the south doorway, and the sedilia, &c. Truly, Sir, matters have come to a pretty pass when, in a city once the second in rank in England, a city famed for its commerce, its wealth and its arts, and, above all, for its architecture, a church formed from the above recipe should have been erected under the auspices of a society which has constituted itself the arbiter of the ecclesiastical architecture of the "far west." B.

* The chairman warmed into eloquence when he spoke of this country. He reminded the meeting that George the Fourth, in passing through Wales, was so struck by its scenery, as to exclaim, "By Jove, this land was well worth fighting for." It was well worth fighting for; so thought the Saxon and Norman of old; but never yet did the former set foot as conqueror in this valley. He believed that had Beowulf or Havelock selected this district their inspiration would have been kindled, and their imaginative spirits would have been able to soar to a higher and purer atmosphere than those which they found elsewhere. We have here more to show in the present, more to point to in the past, than the Troasens can boast. We have, 75 miles from here, amid the region through which the tributaries to the Towy flow, through rugged courses—the caves of Twm Sheen Catty—replete with the wildest scenery which imagination can conceive of, or the pencil of painter ever depicted. We have in another spot Castell Cerrig Cewnia, a fragmental fort that has towered prominently above the vale which, far below, it overlooks, from time unknown. We know its not much by name in history, for history speaks more of the unexplored and the fallen than of that which stands unshaken amidst all the changes and convulsions by which nations are overthrown, or cities and lordly castles become dismantled and unattended. He believed that thereby would come, with the aid of such institutions as they had that day laid the foundation stone of, when these scenes would find a chronicler, and when Llandovery and its neighbourhood would become as familiar to the travelled Englishman or foreigner as the land on which the genius of Scott has conferred immortality.