

other for those going—situated centrally between the two archways, and against the central pier, would be proper, at each end, in order to lead directly to the foot-paths (which are on either side of and against the line of piers), and thus be inside the course of the goods trucks, where they described their semi-circular transit from the one archway into the other.

To maintain communication between the persons operating at the two ends of the tunnel, a telegraphic apparatus, with a brief code of signals, would be expedient and satisfactory.

Such is a brief outline of a simple mode by which I conceive the Thames Tunnel might be rendered available for goods traffic, without waiting for the time when the shafts, 200 feet in diameter, to contain the spiral inclined planes for carriages, should be constructed. By whatever mode such result could be attained, there cannot be two opinions as to the influence which it would exert on the surrounding property on both sides of the river.

JAMES WYLSON.

#### GOSSIP FROM WINDSOR.

"FYTTE THE SECOND."

It must not be inferred from the title of the previous paper from the royal borough, that we are without hope of improvement: our readers will be as much interested in hearing of the progress making in adding to the comfort and convenience of the royal residence as they might be in hearing of the destruction rendered necessary in carrying out the necessary alterations; and having rambled with us round the castle and terrace, they will perhaps now take a run through the cloisters and into St. George's Chapel. Considering how poor the rev. gentlemen are who have the care of the chapel, and the small revenue placed at their disposal for the maintenance of themselves and the keeping in good order the costly buildings under their charge, we are not surprised to observe that "charity" has stepped in and set them an example which we trust will be followed out without delay: the beautiful stone screen enclosing the first cloister having become decayed, the families of two late military knights, Colonel Campbell and Major Wathen, have combined together and have restored two of the compartments into which it is divided, contrasting favourably with a very ugly and mean-looking window which has been recently opened into the dean's residence close by: within the chapel itself a great deal has been done within the last few years in embellishments and improvements: both colour and gilding have been called in, in aid of these very praiseworthy objects: a new stained glass window has been erected at the east-end of the south aisle, and the whole of the windows on the south side are now being filled in, in the same manner, and when completed will add very much to the adornment of this celebrated place of worship.

Returning into the town we were much pleased to hear that it is in contemplation to repair and beautify the Town Hall. Mr. Hardwick has been applied to for advice on the subject.

The great work of thoroughly draining the town is now in course of execution, and generally seems to be well executed; but there is one matter that ought, for the credit of the other contractors who sent in their tenders for the work, to be inquired into. It will be recollected (they were published in *THE BUILDER*) that the tenders varied from 3,850*l.* to upwards of 7,000*l.*, and the specification expressly stated that the lower portion of the main sewer must be built either with Staffordshire or Tamworth bricks or others of equal quality, and that all the bricks must be of the very best description. Now, it is well known that Staffordshire bricks are of the colour and nearly the hardness of cast-iron: no such bricks have been seen about the neighbourhood since the works began; and if the bricks which have been used are of the best description, why it is time we went to school again, for at present we must confess that we are utterly out in our judgment: indeed a very old friend suggests that we know nothing about it, or we should have seen that they are expressly made to take

good hold of the cement! All we can say is, that the item of Staffordshire bricks alone made a difference in one estimate of nearly 1,000*l.*: let us add that the writer does not find fault with the contractor, Mr. Dethick, who is proceeding rapidly and perseveringly with a very difficult job; obstacles, both natural and artificial, having to be surmounted at every step.

Visitors to Windsor must have observed two buildings, very much resembling tobacco boxes, at the entrance to the Long Walk: one has already disappeared, and the other, together with the massive fence and pillars adjoining, is now in course of removal: the materials are to be used in the erection of some new lodges which have just been commenced at the ends of the long bridges mentioned in the former paper.

#### PALL-MALL AND IMPROVED THOROUGHFARES.

I AM glad to see you keep the attention of the authorities to the expediency of extending the line of Pall-mall westwards, and hail, as a most valuable suggestion, the recommendation contained in your last number, that it should be continued across the north-west angle of Buckingham Palace gardens into Belgrave-square—I presume through Chapel-street.

My object in addressing you is to point out the vast importance of the still further extension of this great arterial avenue across Sloane-street into the Fulham-road, at or about the angle which it makes near the eastern corner of Pelham-crescent.

The Knightsbridge-road has become inadequate to convey the great stream of traffic which pours to and fro between the City and the populous and daily increasing districts of Brompton, Chelsea, and Fulham. Moreover, it is a great and cruel waste of time and labour, both human and equine, to force all passengers between these points to take the roundabout, angular, and hilly route from Waterloo-place up to Piccadilly, and down again from Hyde-park-corner to the lower southern localities, when a nearly straight, level, broad, and magnificent thoroughfare, saving near one-third of the distance, might be so easily constructed along the line I speak of, by continuing Pall-mall to Pelham-crescent. But if this be ever done (and some time or other it will be found absolutely necessary), not a day should be lost in setting about it, as the now or lately open ground across which the road must be formed west of Sloane-street, is being rapidly built up into a maze of short and intricate streets, places, crescents, squares, &c., which will soon completely block up all passage through it, and render the opening of any thorough communication as difficult and expensive as the formation of new and necessary avenues through the denser parts of the metropolis, from similar neglect in early times, has notoriously become. At present the execution of such a valuable outlet to the western traffic of London might be easily accomplished at little cost, under a proper Act for the purpose.

Civis.

Another correspondent states, with respect to the desired elongation of Pall-mall, that having "demolished the house at the corner of St. James's-street, and the six houses in Cleveland-row, and the one facing the Green-park," we should find that Lord Killemer's house, so far from ranging with the north side of Pall-mall, as represented in the ground plan submitted to Parliament, would stretch about half across the opening, and thus greatly interfere with the realisation of the sylvan vision of "Quondam."—W.

#### ARCHITECTURAL AND RAILWAY MATTERS IN IRELAND.

A NEW Roman Catholic church is about being erected at Rathmines, in the county of Dublin, the foundation stone of which was consecrated a short time since. The old church is being inclosed by the new building, and when the latter is sufficiently advanced, the former will be removed and re-erected at Harold's Cross. The designs have been furnished by Mr. Patrick Byrne, architect. The style is Grecian. In the centre of front elevation is a hexastyle Corinthian portico (with pediment and attic), which extends 67 ft. 8 in.,

and is in height 35 feet to top of column: the entablature is 8 ft. 9 in. high, and the attic parapet 24 ft. 6 in.; total height from ground line to top of attic, 72 feet: acroteria, with statues, to be on centre and angles of pediment. The portico will have niches, with semicircular heads, and architraves in the intercolumnae; also French rustics. Wing walls at either side of portico to have antae of a plain character. A door in the centre of portico will be 20 feet high and 9 feet wide. The plan of building is a Greek cross, the length 145 feet, width 45 feet: transepts are of same dimensions. The walls in the interior are to be decorated with Corinthian pilasters, 35 ft. high, at intervals with ornamental entablature, having niches in the intercolumnae, and surmounted by a semicircular ceiling panelled and ornamented; height, to springing of arch of niches, 23 feet. At the intersection of the transepts will be a dome 50 feet in diameter, the height to springing of arch being 71 feet; height to top of dome, 95 ft. 3 in., and a light 15 feet in diameter to be set therein. The interior will be panelled, to correspond with ceiling: the transepts etc. to have Dioclesian windows, 27 feet wide, and 13 feet high; the altar to be inclosed in a space 50 feet square, immediately under dome. Transepts to be entered by two doors in each end. Interior to be grey coat plastered, with all the mouldings and decorations of plaster of Paris; the inner pilasters to be of granite to a height of about 6 feet. The front portico is also to be of granite stone, which is being supplied by Mr. Patrick O'Lagan, of Ballynockin quarry. The cost is estimated at about 15,000*l.*, funds for which are being collected by subscription.

Her Majesty's Board of Ordnance purpose erecting chapel schools at the barracks of the following stations; viz.—Cork, Clonmel, Killeeney, Limerick, and Belfast. The plan of the proposed buildings is rectangular. The inside dimensions are 80 feet long by 40 feet wide; walls, 2 feet 3 inches thick. In the centre of front elevation is a lancet-headed door, 4 feet 3 inches wide, and 9 feet high, with label mouldings, and ascending by three steps; over this is a window: at the apex of the gable rises a bell cot, 10 feet 6 inches high, surmounted by a cross; at the angles parallel with the face of the wall are single buttresses, 2 feet wide. In the end elevation is a window divided into three openings, with lancet heads and label mouldings, the centre opening rising above the others: height from ground line to ridge of roof, 39 feet 6 inches; to level of eave-course, 19 feet 6 inches. The side elevation is perforated with nine windows on each side, with buttresses at distances of 25 feet 6 inches. The roof to be of iron; principal rafters of wrought rolled T iron, 4 inches by 1½ inch; the upper part 3 inches by ½ inch, drilled and counter sunk for screws, to secure boarding; the struts ½ inch thick; shoes, sockets, king heads, eave-gutter, ½ inch thick, and twelve plates, 9 inches by 6½ inches thick, closely perforated, to be of cast iron: tie-bars to be 1½ inch wrought round iron. The struts to be 5 inches wide, and chamfered on the arrises, resting on a shoe bolted to the wall-plate. The walls of superstructure to be of random ashlar masonry; external faces hammer-dressed, and pointed with cement: quoins, buttresses, plinth, string-course, dressings to windows and doors, and labels, to be of chiseled stone. The probable cost of each building is estimated at about 2,000*l.*

Father Mathew's Church at Cork was opened last month. The interior is not yet quite finished. The walls at each side are pierced by seven tall pointed windows: the glass is dulled. There are three windows at south or entrance end: the one immediately over the principal gate is of larger dimensions than the others. The window in the altar end is 30 feet in height. The body of the church is divided into nave and aisles by two rows of light pillars, with pointed arches supporting the open framed roof. The sanctuary is separated from the body by a light Gothic screen, not quite finished. Mr. W. Atkins is the architect.

A new church is about being erected at Oughterard, and a new school-house for the Irish Church Mission Society is in progress of erection.

The Poor-Law Commissioners are about erecting a new union workhouse at Thomas-