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THE great fire in Pittsburgh, by which a huge "department store," one hundred and twenty feet high, and covering half an acre of ground, was destroyed, with its contents, although it was built wholly of protected iron and concrete, gives one more proof of the correctness of the opinion which we have many times expressed, that no system of construction known to science or history can resist a conflagration fed by such vast accumulations of inflammable goods and fixtures as are brought together in the great retail dry-goods stores of all our cities. The Boston Inspector of Buildings, who is a fire-engineer of great experience, has often said that he could not sleep nights, during the period of holiday shopping, for thinking of the fearful tragedy that would inevitably follow the breaking-out of a fire in one of these immense establishments, some of which, according to actual count, are visited by thirty-five thousand shoppers during the short business day. From the interior of these great stores it is difficult for a stranger, in full daylight, with undisturbed mind, and unimpeded vision, to find his way to the street; through smoke, and in the excitement of a panic, it would be impossible; and, practically, only the few persons who happened to be near the doors or windows could hope to escape. The remedy for this is, of course, to compel the subdivision of retail stores by brick walls, so as to confine a fire in any section within manageable limits; but the owners and lessees of the large establishments resist such restrictions, and the fire-engineers and insurance-men have never been able to induce legislatures to adopt the measures necessary for the public safety.

THE sad accident in Paris, by which more than a hundred persons lost their lives, furnishes an illustration of the carelessness which is engendered by unfamiliarity with danger. The Charity Bazaar, which is an annual affair in Paris, was held in a structure supposed to represent a street in old Paris, and formed, apparently, out of laths and canvas, put together in the most flimsy scene-painter's fashion. The affair took fire, in some way not yet satisfactorily explained, and in a few minutes the roof fell in upon the corpses of a large part of the persons who were in the building when the first alarm was given. An American, accustomed to conflagrations, would probably have noticed at once the inflammable character of the structure, and would have entered it with caution, but the French, who hardly know what it is to have a building burned, appear to have felt themselves perfectly secure. M. Lepine, the official head of the Paris police, should, naturally, have given the bazaar building a critical inspection, and

it is said that he did so, and was impressed with its dangerous construction, but that, as the bazaar is under aristocratic and clerical patronage, he was afraid that the "reactionaries" would accuse him of political persecution if he interfered with them by requiring greater precautions to be taken against fire. If M. Lepine really gave this heartless explanation of his neglect of duty, which we doubt, his dreams ought to be haunted to his dying day by the shrieks of the women and children who suffered mortal agony through his fault. One does not look for much consideration for others from the Socialist-Radical element which is powerful in Parisian municipal matters; but a system under which inquiry is made into the political views of citizens before deciding what measures shall be taken for their police protection is not likely to win friends among decent people.

THE warning which has so often been given in regard to the rapid diminution of the supply of pine timber in this country is repeated, with more emphasis than ever, in a report made by the Chief of the Forestry Division of the Department of Agriculture to the Secretary of Agriculture, who has communicated it to the Senate. In this report, it is pointed out that, at the present rate of consumption the supply of white pine, spruce and hemlock timber in the United States will last only about five years. The supply of white pine, the most valuable of all coniferous timbers, has been vanishing with great rapidity. Fifteen years ago, white pine was commonly used in New York and the West for floor-beams and studding, as well as for flooring and siding boards, and for all kinds of exterior and interior finish; and in New England, although spruce had replaced it for framing, it was still the ordinary material for siding and finish, and was preferred for floors. Now, a builder in any of our great cities would look with astonishment at a specification requiring him to use for floor-beams a material so precious as white pine, instead of the yellow pine and spruce, or possibly poplar, which have everywhere replaced it; white-pine floors are practically no longer known, spruce and Southern pine having taken their place everywhere; white-pine clapboards or siding are still specified by some architects, in deference to the traditions of the profession, but are, in the actual execution of the work, generally represented by rift-sawn spruce; and, for interior and exterior finish, whitewood or poplar is rapidly superseding the pine which was once thought indispensable for such work. Now, however, just as we had begun to accustom ourselves to utilizing inferior woods in place of the incomparable white pine, we learn that the inferior woods are themselves vanishing, so that, before another decade has gone by, we shall be obliged to find a substitute for them, as we have already substituted them for better material. There has been a current notion among architects that Canada possessed spruce forests which were virtually illimitable, and that, so long as we were satisfied with spruce, we could have all we wanted of it; but Professor Fernow says that this is an error, and that the Canadian supply will not do much to delay the inevitable timber famine of the near future.

ONE obvious inference to be drawn from this report is that, as coniferous timber is an absolute necessity for many purposes, whatever its price may be, this price will be much higher a few years hence than it is now. Undoubtedly, a good deal can be, and will be, imported from the carefully-guarded forests of Norway and North Germany; but the cutting of timber from these forests is restricted, and the supply from this source would be very inadequate to our wants. If we cannot import enough lumber for our requirements, we shall be compelled to raise it ourselves; and the sooner the people who own territory suitable for growing white pine realize this fact, the better off they will be. Many of them, particularly those in our older States, who have inherited vast tracts of sandy land, admirable for white pine, but of little value for anything else, live at a distance, and are neither willing nor able to carry on the forestry operations which would assure fortunes to their children and grandchildren, and in these cases the State might perhaps, with propriety take the land, under some sort of Waste Land Act, and, after retaining it for twenty or thirty years, or long enough to reimburse itself for its outlay, with interest, restore it to its owners; but

it would be still better to put the matter into the hands of towns or private corporations, which could acquire actual ownership of the land to be improved; and the profits of an operation consisting in buying land at twenty-five cents an acre, or so and, in thirty years, selling off annually, and perpetually, thirty or forty thousand feet of pine lumber per acre, at twenty dollars per thousand feet, for a beginning, increasing to fifty dollars as the quality of the lumber improves by the natural development of the forest, ought to be sufficient to tempt investment.

THE Chief of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor, Mr. Horace G. Wadlin, has issued a bulletin, giving an account of strikes and lockouts in Massachusetts during seven and one-half years, from January, 1887, to July, 1894. During this time, which includes about an equal number of prosperous and unprosperous years for general business, there were in the State one thousand and fifty strikes. Twenty-four hundred and fifty-three establishments were involved in these strikes, which resulted in closing them for an aggregate period of about twenty-one thousand days, and in depriving the persons employed in them of more than four and one-half million dollars, which they would have earned if they had kept at work; while the proprietors of the establishment lost a little less than two million of dollars through inability to make and sell goods. The losses of the persons deprived of employment were made up to the extent of about five hundred and seventy-three thousand dollars, or a little over twelve per cent, by contributions from the labor organizations; those of the employers were borne by themselves alone. About one-half of the strikes occurred in the four cities of Boston, Lynn, Fall River and Haverhill. Two hundred and forty-two of them were in shoe-manufactories; one hundred and forty-three in cotton-factories, and one hundred and thirty-one in the building trades. Five hundred and ninety-two strikes were ordered by labor organizations; and in about half the cases the strikes were wholly or partially successful.

THE periodical discussion of a new Presidential mansion at Washington is going on, just as it does after the inauguration of every new President, and a small knot of Senators is said to have had plans made for the building, to the displeasure of people outside the Senatorial knot, who do not like to see matters of such great public interest so disposed of. Although the White House is hardly large enough for the official business that is now carried on in it, we are inclined to think that most people would rather see the President a little incommoded, or, perhaps, provided with office-room elsewhere, than have half a million dollars or more of public money spent at this time upon a new building, and we are quite sure that President McKinley agrees with them. One cardinal virtue of our system has always been the unassuming character of the Executive, so far as externals are concerned, but another is its independence of the Legislative branch, and both these traditions would receive a shock from the idea that the Senate, unasked, proposed to present the President with a new palace. When there is really need of it, and the Treasury is filled with the fruits of years of national prosperity, the President has only to ask, to find the people ready to furnish him with a building adequate, not only to the needs of Executive business, but to the display of such dignity as befits the mansion of the American Chief Magistrate; but they are not likely to lend themselves to the carrying out of ready-made schemes, privately concocted, if not in furtherance of private interests.

COLONEL WARING is, as he should be, a man of ideas, and one of his latest ones is that a great deal of unnecessary waste goes on in New York, owing to the practice of throwing all kinds of rubbish indiscriminately into the sea, or burning it as garbage. It is said that a certain contractor, before Colonel Waring's time, made a fortune every year by monopolizing the privilege of picking over the garbage, before it was put on the dumping-scows, and preparations are now being made for having the city do its own picking over, by having the dry refuse, or what the Street-Cleaning Department calls "paper," dumped on an endless belt, which moves slowly between two rows of men, who pick out the bottles, corks, tin cans and other things that can be utilized. How much profit there will be in this operation remains to be seen, but, as Colonel Waring says, if every family of ten people should

waste five cents' worth of utilizable matter per day, and the city could save it, the proceeds would amount to nearly four million dollars a year, or enough to pay the expenses of the Street-Cleaning Department, and the cost of sprinkling the streets in addition.

THE examination for the Rotch Travelling-scholarship has resulted in the success of Mr. Henry B. Pennell, who for some years was a valued draughtsman in our own Drawing-office, and who, since that time, has given equal satisfaction to his employers, Messrs. Peabody & Stearns. An unusually small number of aspirants presented themselves for examination this year, and this fact occasioned a very interesting, and possibly fruitful, discussion at the last meeting of the Boston Society of Architects, where it was sought to discover whether the conditions of the gift, the severity of the examinations, or the persistency of the oversight of the trustees had deterred more draughtsmen from undergoing the trial this year. The conclusion seemed to be that there was a feeling among the draughtsmen that, when a man of proved ability was known to be an aspirant, it was waste of time to enter the lists against him. Fatalism of this kind—particularly in view of the results of very recent examinations—seems rather out of place in Boston.

MR. DEBS, the "general" who directed, three years ago, the assaults of an army of a hundred thousand men or so upon the life, liberty and happiness of the citizens of the United States, is said to have changed his mind in regard to the utility of violence as a means of bettering the condition of the laboring-man. The reason that he gives for retreating from his position is that the other people are too strong. This means, of course, that his own side is too weak; but he hopes to strengthen it in another way, by training the workmen to labor together, associating their means and their effort so as ultimately to "dispense with capitalists altogether"; and he proposes to begin a vigorous promulgation among workmen of the principles of coöperation.

THIS is the first evidence that we have had for a long time that any labor-leader or agitator believed his own doctrines, and every thoughtful person will think better of Mr. Debs for it. The people who roar in season and out of season, year after year, the same old objurgations against "Capital," "Concentrated Wealth," the "Money Power," and the rest of the familiar scarecrows, without ever changing their note, or appearing to learn anything, are, in general, simply trying to excite and deceive ignorant people, for their private benefit; but a man who, after preaching in this way for a time, has the courage to acknowledge that he has thought of a better plan, which can be carried out without crime, shows that he is at least in part sincere. In regard to Mr. Debs's scheme itself, it need hardly be said that the attempt on the part of workmen to earn a living by coöperative effort is generally the best lesson that they can have in regard to the use of capitalists in society, but the practice in coöperation, even if it is not materially successful, is of inestimable benefit to the workmen themselves, and to the community in which they live. So long as Mr. Debs will confine his efforts to propaganda of this kind, instead of trying to excite ignorant people to kill and rob every one who has saved a little money, he will deserve well of his fellow-citizens, and, from what we know of his energy, we may hope, now that we have reason to believe in his honesty, that he may exert an important influence for good.

THE *Revue Industrielle* describes a new phonograph, which is said to render sounds so forcibly as to make them audible throughout a large theatre. The cylinder for receiving the impressions is covered with celluloid, which, before using, is superficially softened. The tracing-point is of sapphire, and the vibrations of the receiving membrane are reproduced by this in the soft celluloid by a clear and sharp groove. After the celluloid has hardened, the cylinder is ready for reproducing the sounds it has registered, and this is done by placing it in another instrument and applying to the cylinder a sapphire point, which moves a lever connected with a mica membrane. The sound caused by the vibrations of the membrane is reinforced, as usual, by a trumpet-shaped casing, and is said to be very clear, and to reproduce perfectly the quality of the original.

A "GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT."



Church of St. Sauveur, Dinan, France.

DURING the last year or so the feeling, which for a long time has been in the air, that if architects in this country really had the will they could easily find the way to obliterate the greater evils of the competition system, has been crystallizing into shape, and it is only natural in so large a country as ours that the crystallization has taken on different forms in different parts of the country.

The first body to take definite action, we believe, was the Boston Society of Architects, who took the ground that the first essential was to really begin to do something other than merely talk, repine and vituperate, both in private and in public; that the trouble was too many-sided and too complicated to be dealt with in a single operation; that a merely local compact would have an unnecessary air of trade-unionism and would handicap Boston architects when brought into competition with architects from other cities, who would be as untrammelled in their action then as they are now, and that, therefore, it was necessary to formulate in the simplest terms an agreement which should in the largest degree palliate the most crying of the evils, in the manner most likely to be acceptable to the largest body of practitioners in all parts of the country.

Taking the ground that in the case of limited competitions it was comparatively easy for the small number of competitors to agree between themselves, and with the promoters of the competition, what terms could be accepted as mutually satisfactory, the Society determined only that all competitors in a limited competition should be "adequately paid" for the service rendered in presenting competitive designs, and then turned to the consideration of public competitions and formulated the simple and comprehensive agreement which will be found below.

THE BOSTON COMPETITION AGREEMENT.

THE undersigned architects agree not to enter any competitions, except such as arranged on one of the following plans:

First.—Competitions limited to a definite number of invited architects, each of whom is adequately paid for his services.

Second.—Open competitions in which a professional adviser is employed to draw up the conditions of competition and assist in the award, and in which at least one-half of one per cent of the proposed cost of the work is divided among not less than five competitors—none of whom shall receive less than one hundred dollars in any case—and in which the promoters of the competition agree to place the work, if carried out, in the hands of the architect selected under the terms of the competition at the usual rate of compensation.

This agreement shall take effect when seventy-five per cent of the practising members of each of the following Chapters of the American Institute of Architects—Boston, Illinois, New York and Philadelphia—have signed.

As here stated, this agreement was to become operative and binding on the signatories, on being signed by seventy-five per cent of the practising members of Boston, Illinois, New York and Philadelphia

Chapters, A. I. A. More than the required number of Boston names were at once secured, but, as the negotiation with other cities had to be carried on by correspondence, it was found impossible to induce similar action by any of the other Chapters. We doubt even if the document was ever formally brought before the other Chapters, so lukewarm an interest was shown in the matter by the individual architects upon whose coöperation the Boston men most surely counted. The reasons assigned for the unwillingness to attempt to promote the undertaking were of various kinds, but it is not necessary to rehearse them here.

Apparently, however, an example only was needed to cause the architects of Chicago and New York to emulate and endeavor to better the Boston movement.

In Chicago a very elaborate scheme was reported in detail, the essential features being that it concerned only those architects who actually signed the agreement; that it came into play only in the case of work to be carried out within the State of Illinois; that it became operative and binding on the signatories only when fifty members of the Illinois Chapter had signed, and was to be abrogated by expressed limitation on January 1, 1898. The other distinguishing feature of this agreement, which seems to have been devised mainly for application in cases of limited competition, is that what the Boston men content themselves with defining as "adequate payment," the Chicago men define absolutely through a stated tabulation, which provides a sliding scale of percentage charges, which vary according to the number of the invited competitors, the percentages being based on the Institute schedule of "charges for preliminary sketches."

It does not appear that this Chicago "Competition Code," as it was called, secured enough signatures—even if it secured any—to become operative.

In New York, the movement developed in two directions. The Society of Beaux-Arts Architects prepared a series of "Recommendations," which were practically merely advisory and recommendatory in their essence. The two points in which they differ from any of the others are: first, that in certain cases of importance the decision should rest with a "jury of award" of three, consisting of the promoters' professional adviser, an architect nominated by the competing architects themselves, and a third member selected by these two. The second point is the statement that the promoters of the competition should have, in certain cases, the right to have the service of a consulting architect "without additional charge to them."

The second New York movement is the most singular, as well as the most interesting of all, since, whatever may be its good qualities or its weaknesses, it is the only movement which has actually accomplished anything and is now in full and binding operation. Looked at from an ungenerous point-of-view, it can be made to take the air of an attempt to form a species of close corporation, and in view of the various anti-trust laws that are now being placed on our statute books, we would not care to say that the action taken by the signatories of this agreement could not be wrested into a violation of these new and unfamiliar statutes, which are supposed to prevent any group of men taking combined action which shall be in "restraint of trade." Looked at from the proper point-of-view, however, it has the signal merit of having accomplished something, and proved that the profession is, at length, willing to take a certain risk in upholding rights which it has long asserted were its due. Something has, at length, been accomplished, and that is a real advance and an important one.

THE NEW YORK COMPETITION AGREEMENT.

THE undersigned architects being constantly invited by those not conversant with architectural practice to participate in competitions upon conditions with which it is impossible to comply, announce that they have mutually agreed that they will enter into competition upon the following terms only:

That in any case the undersigned shall be paid at least a sufficient sum to reimburse them for their cash outlay in preparing their competition drawings.

That in case of limited competition the number of competitors shall be definitely named and that the number shall not be increased without the consent of all competitors.

That it shall be definitely understood that the ordinary fees as published by the American Institute of Architects shall be paid as compensation for his professional services to the successful competitor.

That in work of any serious importance a professional adviser or advisers shall be appointed to act with the party instituting the competition in the preparation of a proper programme, which shall be definite in its specifications of requirements, and explicit in its statement of the drawings required, and their character, and of the various rules which shall govern the competition.

In the opinion of the undersigned it is very desirable that the professional adviser or advisers should be practising architects; and the undersigned suggest that the best result can be gained by first appointing the architects to compete, and by inviting them to meet with the party instituting the competition, for the purpose of consultation with regard to the preparation of the programme of competition, and to nominate the professional adviser or advisers.

It shall be the duty of the professional adviser or advisers to examine all drawings submitted by the competitors, and to place out of competition any competitor who has not submitted his designs at the date fixed for their reception, or who presents details or models which are not called for, or whose drawings do not conform exactly in number and character with the requirements of the programme, and that if placed out of competition, his plans shall receive no further consideration by the party instituting the competition.

Inasmuch as the object of a competition is to adopt the general motif of a design to be further elaborated, and to select an architect for the work rather than to secure plans perfectly studied in all of their details, the undersigned will enter upon no competition unless it shall be agreed that an award shall be made and that an architect shall be appointed on the consideration of the relative merits of the several schemes as shown by the drawings submitted, and that no demand shall be made for additional drawings or for a new competition.

The undersigned are of the opinion that all designs should be signed by their authors, and also that it is desirable that each competitor who has qualified by having his designs accepted by the professional adviser or advisers as complying with the terms of the competition, shall have an opportunity to personally explain his design to the party instituting the competition, in the presence of the professional adviser or advisers.

This has been signed by the following, up to this date:

GEO. B. POST,	GEO. KEISTER,
MCKIM, MEAD & WHITE,	ROSSITER & WRIGHT,
BRUCE PRICE,	CARRERE & HASTINGS,
HENRY RUTGERS MARSHALL,	BERG & CLARK,
R. H. ROBERTSON,	RENWICK, ASPINWALL & OWEN,
H. J. HARDENBERGH,	JAS. BROWN LORD,
R. W. GIBSON,	CHARLES C. HAIGHT,
BABB, COOK & WILLARD,	CLINTON & RUSSELL,
EDW. H. KENDALL,	R. H. HUNT.

On analysis, it will be found that this New York agreement, which is essentially similar to the well-known "gentlemen's agreement" of sundry railroad presidents, has some of the earmarks of hasty and ill-considered action, and in some degree suggests a certain amount of disingenuousness—that is, it has an air of putting in the second plane ostensibly the matters which the originators of the agreement would really have preferred to put in the foreground.

It will be noted at once that the agreement is without term or condition, and hence that any signer can, without warning, withdraw his signature at any moment, and by such action not only become again as much of a free lance as he may have been previously, but in a considerable degree imperil the life of the undertaking which, of course, depends absolutely on the continued observance of mutual good faith.

Next, it will be observed that the agreement consists of clauses mandatory and clauses merely recommendatory, and it is our belief that some of the latter are felt to be of more importance than some of the former class. It will be noted that the mandatory clauses deal solely with the matter of limited competition, and the whole New York agreement may be considered merely a development of that portion of the Boston agreement which it was held in that city undesirable to formulate with detailed precision. In a general way, the essence of its mandatory provisions will be found to be incorporated in all the other tentative forms of agreement and they are in no great degree any better than any of the others. They have, however, the great advantage that they are not emasculated by the enfeebling conditions which were incorporated in some of the others. The signers of the New York agreement have not limited themselves to an experimental period, nor have they confined themselves to work to be erected within a given territory. They have deliberately debarred themselves from taking part in any competition held anywhere at any time by anybody, unless the terms of competition are arranged in full conformity with the conditions here laid down. Imagine the joy in the camp of the Ishmaelites when they perceive that promoters of competitions on their part cannot be brought to accept the conditions which this [now] small group of men have formulated!

Just here is found the strength and the weakness of the matter, and here, too, is to be found its germinal idea. On looking over the ground it was perceived that in cases of limited competition for important work the list of the invited competitors was always found to include one or more of a comparatively small number of architects. It was, then, easy to foresee that if these few men could be brought to agree to formulate a certain set of conditions and then keep faith with one another, one of two things must happen: either the greater portion of important limited competitions must henceforward be conducted on proper lines, or the signers of the agreement would discover that the promoters of competitions held them at a cheaper valuation than they held themselves. How long this compact would remain in existence after such a possible, but improbable, discovery can easily be guessed; but it need not require the existence of such a state of things to bring the agreement to an end. Self-interest is as determining a factor of action with architects as with other men. It is obviously possible, under very varying contingencies, that any one of these signatories may find at any time that in a given case he is the only one of his fellowship who has been invited to compete, and that the other competitors are so much his inferiors in force and ability that he is practically sure of winning an important job (possibly through a private pull), if only he will at once withdraw from this compact. Another danger lies in the fact that competitions for important public buildings are usually conducted under conditions prescribed by vote of a public body which the actual building-committee is wholly powerless to modify. It may happen then, as it has happened before in other places, that all public buildings must fall into the hands of the rank and file of the profession and not into the hands of the leaders—calling for the moment these signatories the leaders. It is questionable how far the public will relish such an outcome as this, and it is remotely possible that it may, because of such combined action in restraint of trade, be brought into such an attitude of hostility to these professional leaders as actually to

diminish the amount of private work that would otherwise naturally fall to their hands. This is a very remote chance, of course, and we merely state some of the difficulties and dangers of the situation in order to point out how absolutely the success of the undertaking depends on the observance of the most perfect mutual good faith. The best antidote for the dangers we have pointed out lies in the immediate expansion of this list of professional leaders by the affixing of many more signatures to the agreement. The document is on file with the Secretary of the New York Chapter and is open to any one who chooses to sign it.

It is in one of the recommendatory clauses of this agreement that we fancy we perceive the most weighty reason why this particular group of men have taken this particular action. They state that it is their "opinion" that designs should always be submitted to judgment with full proof of authorship, and that each competitor should be allowed to appear before the committee and personally plead his cause. This last recommendation surprises us and in a measure appears undignified and unprofessional. It introduces a competition in personalities—in manner, clothes, rhetoric, *savoir vivre*, etc. It seems to suggest that the plausible patter of the bag-man should outweigh the cloistral proof of artistic and scientific attainment. There may be men amongst these very signers who, by nature, are so diffident in the presence of their fellow-men that their appearance in person in defense of their design would be a prejudice rather than an aid to their chance of success.

These men, presumptively, have a feeling that, in view of their age, reputation and experience, it is a wrong to themselves that they should be subjected, on equal terms with less-known men, to the perils of anonymity. The feeling is understandable, and its entertainment is right, proper and praiseworthy, but we are very strongly of the belief that this is not the right way to go about the securing to the fortunate possessors of the estimable qualities of age, experience and reputation the fruits that properly belong to them.

In the case of a competition solely between signers of this agreement, there is no reason whatever why, if the expert adviser be willing, the drawings should not be submitted duly authenticated: it is one of the conditions of a limited competition which may, at any time, be properly adopted by mutual agreement. But where the competition lies between signers and non-signers, be the non-signers either young and unknown men or practitioners coming from another community, and consequently of comparatively unknown age, experience and reputation, the competition at once becomes unfair through the avowal of authorship, and the known men at once acquire an advantage that greatly outweighs the disadvantages which they allege is thrust upon them by anonymity.

If age, experience and reputation are of real worth and value, either to their possessors or to the community, they have a distinct money-value in excess of the money-value of youth, inexperience and reputation *in posse*, and, if so, the fortunate possessors of these qualifications owe it to themselves to collect this money-value in full and not to "bear the market," as they now do. It is so in every other walk of life, whether professional or commercial, and it is cowardly for architects, alone of all men, to be unwilling to put the matter to the test and maintain, as they have always asserted, that the more important work should fall to the share of those who, on the face of things, and because of their age, experience and reputation are most likely to carry it out successfully. When these men, or any others, will agree to charge money-value for their age, experience and reputation—as builders do, as doctors do, as lawyers, clergymen and experts of all kinds do, then they will have taken a step to relieve,—the only step which ever can relieve—the associated professional bodies from the taint of alleged trade-unionism. Then it will be right and proper to insist that competitive drawings shall be sent to the expert adviser fully authenticated, on the understanding that in case the award falls to one of the signers of this agreement, he will require payment for his service at a stated advance over the schedule of *minimum* charges recommended by the American Institute of Architects. It was for the very purpose of enabling age, experience and reputation to collect in money of the country its excess of value over service of other kinds that the word "*minimum*" was, some years ago, introduced into the caption of the Institute's schedule, but, thus far, no one has dared to take effective advantage of it.

In one other particular the agreement seems to indicate that it was drawn with haste and without due weighing of the actual meaning of words, or without due consideration of their probable effect on the other high contracting parties, the promoters. Declaration is made that, even if the other demands are conceded, no designs will be submitted "unless it shall be agreed that an award shall be made and that an architect shall be appointed." This assertion seems to be vague and almost meaningless, and whatever meaning it may be intended to have is couched in needlessly repellent terms. As stated, without condition or explanation of what is meant by "award" and "appointment," it may be held by the promoters to be a declaration that, however unsatisfactorily to them the competition may result, whether the result shows that no one of the competitors understood or could cope with the problem, no matter whether it was proved that the desired structure could not be built for the money procurable, an award and an appointment must be made. Suppose the professional adviser, one absolutely acceptable to the competitors, declares that it would be wholly improper to make an award and appointment. What happens then? What is to happen in case of a mere change of

ownership, the new owners intending to carry out absolutely the intentions of the original owners, except in the matter of procuring an architect? Of what value are award and appointment then? Or, in case of merely deferred execution, after how many years do award and appointment lose their protective virtue? The clause is loosely worded and needs explanation.

THREE MEDITERRANEAN GARDENS.¹—III.

III. GRANADA.



General View of the Generalife.

NO one who had been for a month among the dry and dusty plains of Castile, the promise of gardens, running fountains, and green foliage in Andalusia seemed enticing, but improbable. Nor when we descended from the train at Joen, after a fifteen hours' dry and tiresome run from Toledo, among the eternal brown stubble of the summer's scanty crops, did there seem to be any sign of the beauties in store. A seventy-mile ride in the diligence was yet necessary on the following day before Granada could be reached. If the high road through the *Sierra de Pengalajar* is distinguished for nothing more than its incredible dustiness, the diligence, at least, is something to be remembered, a fine lumbering, old-fashioned affair, drawn by seven animals of various kinds — principally horses and mules — with a postilion on the leader, a grand driver on the box and an energetic whipper-up on the front step. The body of the vehicle accommodated a good many passengers, but when the public square of Granada was reached in the evening, amid a fusillade of cracking whips, bells jingling, and blowing horns, the crowd of voyagers that descended from the cavernous depths of the hood was beyond enumeration. The diligence, however, was in keeping with Granada, a crowded old place, sleepy and yet vivacious, with its crooked white streets, chattering market and cool cathedral. A town where the resolute-faced bull-fighters at the hotel insisted on dressing in the corridors and where every gamin in the streets is a born guide.

Granada lies at the foot of a steep spur of the Sierras on which at a considerable height above the town were built the Alhambra and the Generalife. If the keynote of the Amalfi work was the use of



The First Court.

the *pergola*, that of Granada is the use of water in vigorous, cold and abundant streams. The minute you enter the Alhambra gates the musical tinkle of running water greets your ear and you find it everywhere you go. The water-supply is obtained from the rivers

Genil and Darro; it is drawn off in canals from near their sources and is formed from melting snows. As it approaches the town, it passes through the Generalife, crosses the gorge on an aqueduct, and deposits itself in large cisterns within the Alhambra walls. An incessant procession of boys and water-carrying donkeys distributes it among the streets of the town, at a cent a glass, and the shrill cry "*Agua! qui quiere agua!*" is repeated hundreds of times hourly.

Leaving for the present the enticing precincts of the Alhambra, we follow up a road through vineyards and cypresses which leads to the Generalife, which is plainly visible at a higher elevation. The Generalife, the "garden of the architect," which dates from 1320, now belongs to the Marquis of Campotejar, of the Grimaldi Gentili family, better known as Pallavicini, of Genoa.

It is a villa of waters; the canal of the Darro empties here its full virgin stream, which boils through the court under evergreen arches and spraying fountains on its way to the city. It consists of a series of courts and terraces with pavilions connected by arcades. Entering the first court through a pavilion-like structure with dazzling whitewashed walls, one perceives at the opposite end a similar but more graceful structure, connected with this by an arcade. Through the centre, in a brick canal, rushes the mountain torrent under the drooping spray of dozens of water-jets which arch above the stream. The entire court is one solid mass of roses and brilliant flowers, not confined in beds but crowding and overflowing in one luxuriant mass. Half-way along the gallery, which is made of solid, low, square piers and Moorish-like arches, there is another small pavilion.



The Inner Court, looking South.

At a lower level is a terrace with concrete seats topped with glazed tiles, and laid out in symmetrical flower-beds. Under the first court and giving on this terrace is an orangery. This first court is 162 feet by 48. The pavilion at the end has delicate Moorish arches and fret-work, and at the top there is a loggia and towers. Passing through this and up some steps, one arrives at the second court, which is parallel with the first and separated from it by a low range of buildings. If possible, this is even more beautiful than the first, though somewhat smaller — about 50 feet by 90 feet. The water is led into a rectangular canal, all along the edges of which are more of the spraying jets which fill the air with their music. This is the court of the cypresses, and the tall one to the left in the photograph has the romantic interest of being the trysting place of Zoraya, the ill-fated Sultana, and her lover, the Abencerrage.

A two-storied loggia closes up the northern end of this court, while at the southern end a flight of steps leads to the terraces managed above on the acclivity of the mountain side. These are five in number, laid out in mazes and parterres, with plenty of water everywhere. They are connected at each end by long and shady flights of tiled steps cooled by a current of water under the masonry, the gurgle of which greets us through the perforated risers. The side walls of the stairs are made of concrete, and in place of a hand-rail, inverted roofing-tile serves as a channel for a rivulet of water, and below are the great water-tanks which were once drunk dry by a regiment of thirsty troops. At the top is a tall belvedere, with a stately row of plaster columns crowned by busts of by-gone worthies.

¹Continued from No. 1114, page 36.

So beautiful is the garden itself that one can scarcely bear to turn his eyes away to gaze on the marvellous western view. Looking down across the rose-clad levels of the Generalife, the Alhambra appears, its ruined walls and towers nestling among the thick foliage which clothes the hillside. Lower and farther still, is the gorge of the Darro, and beyond, the royal city—a sea of red roofs and white walls and towers. Farther yet is the *vega*, stretching away, threaded with glistening rivers to the serrated mountains of the north where no great imagination is needed to behold the gorgeous camp of Ferdinand and his Catholic army, which once invaded these lovely valleys.

In Seville there is another garden, that of the Alcazar, which though not in the same class with the Generalife, has yet an interest as an example of Spanish cinque-cento work. Concrete is quite generally used for walls and seats. The walks are paved with glazed tiles, alternating with plain, and there are rococo archways and gates. The gardens are royal in extent and design. Orange-clad walls divide the plots; while there is a labyrinth and the air is balmy with perfume. Certain hidden fountains are concealed in the walks to sprinkle the unwary passer who presses the ready valves. These gardens were laid out by Charles V, and his eagles and coats-of-arms are still cut out of box and myrtle. Here, too, is a beautiful kiosk with fine old Moorish tile-work. The grade of the garden is practically level and differs in this respect, as well as in its size from the others considered in these articles.

A good deal might be said about the Spanish *patio*, or court-yard. A great deal more is made of this feature than in Italy, where a paved area open to the sky is all that is attempted. The Spaniard floors his *patio* with marble, half-covers it with an awning, arranges his little fountain in the middle and then brings out his easy-chairs and rugs and has an open-air living-room of the ideal kind, not a stiff *salon*, or a too-public French *terrasse*, but a really homelike place in which the "patent rocker" and the sewing-machine have become firmly installed. The peeps into these court-yards, through



Garden of the Alcazar, Seville.

the half-open archways in the heavy walls are one of the pleasantest features of a Spanish trip and give one a delightful glimpse of the best side of the hospitable Spanish nature. Every true Spaniard, of whatever class, considers himself a *caballero*, a gentleman, and an old and well-born Christian one, *Cristiano viejo y rancio*, and therefore, your equal, a fact which explains the astonishing size of the escutcheons which often appear even on the meanest cottages. These characteristics appear even in railway travelling, where no Spaniard

will partake of any lunch or fruit he may have with him, without first offering it to all his fellow-passengers.

This closes the series of sketches of the gardens of the Mediterranean. It is an attempt to call attention in these days of interest in garden work to the smaller and more picturesque works, and especially to the use of concrete. This has the advantage of being easily worked into effective forms, of giving a strong contrast to the foliage, and of ageing to a soft tone, or being kept dazzlingly white, as is desired. The tiles, whether glazed for covering seats and fountains, or plain for pavements, or semicircular for irrigating, are easily to be had, and while the orange blossoms, perhaps, are not easily obtainable in our climate, there are plenty of bright colored flowers and glossy shrubs, so that the festive air of the South could be assured without difficulty. The objection to the adoption of this style of work here would probably be that it is unnatural and unclimatic, and therefore wrong, but it would seem as if there were plenty of country seats and seaside houses which are in need of just such a touch of gayety as a little trellised walk or enclosed garden would give. The luxuriant effect of such a mass of brilliant flowers as crowds the first court of the Generalife can scarcely be appreciated by us who are accustomed to scattering our flower-beds about lawns on all sides of our houses. The enclosed garden, which finds so little favor among American landscape designers, who prefer the open naturalistic treatment of grounds even in large towns, develops a tremendous effectiveness when treated as at Granada or Taormina, while it is at the same time likely to be less expensive than the Italian sunken garden which is coming more or less into vogue.

WALTER HARRINGTON KILHAM.

EXTENSIVE CEMETERY. — The most extensive cemetery in the world is that at Rome, in which over 6,000,000 human beings have been interred. — *N. Y. Evening Post*.

CEYLON'S VAST RUINS.

IN an article on Mr. H. W. Cave's book, "*Ruined Cities of Ceylon*," the *London Standard* says:

"These ruins have been smitten in bygone ages by the fury of conquerors; they have suffered yet more severely from the hand of Time. Trees have taken root on walls and roofs, and have wrenched them asunder; the rank forest vegetation has buried ornamental carvings and sculptured figures. Yet, what remains is wonderful, and what would reward excavation may easily be inferred. The ruins belong to very varied dates, some going back to well before the Christian era, others to three or four centuries after it, while one very beautiful and extensive group belongs mainly, if not wholly, to a comparatively late period in Singhalese prosperity, the middle of the twelfth century.

"Their connection with Buddhism is very close; the most conspicuous remains at the present time being commonly temples, monasteries, and dagabas—huge, domelike structures, which in magnitude are no unworthy rivals of the Pyramids of Egypt. One of the most remarkable of the groups of ruins is Mihintale, the mountain city. A rocky mass rises abruptly from the plain to a height of 1,000 feet. The slopes are now covered with dense forest from the base almost to the top, except on the space where a gigantic stairway of granite slabs leads up to the summit. This might well be taken for a part of the natural hill; in reality it is a huge ruined edifice, the remnant of a dagaba, in the construction of which millions of bricks have been employed.

"Near it are other dagabas of great size, and, besides these, rock-cut chambers and many other remains of the ancient monastery. The city is associated with sacred memories in the history of Ceylon. Here it was that the nation, in the third century before Christ, adopted Buddhism. Gotama himself is said to have visited the island, the inhabitants of which were then snake-worshippers, and to have converted the King. On a second visit he left his footprint on the rock as he rose into the air from the summit of Adam's Peak. But this sign is appropriated, as is well known, by the followers of different creeds to divers personages. The Mohammedans attribute it to Adam; the Portuguese Christians were divided in opinion as to whether it had been left by St. Thomas or by the Eunuch of Candace, Queen of the Ethiopians. Indeed, some critics go so far as to doubt whether Buddha ever visited Ceylon at all, whatever may be the origin of the footprint!

"Be this as it may, it was not till the third century that the new faith obtained any permanent hold upon the island. The conversion came about in a curious way, which indicates how causes apparently remote may indirectly lead to important consequences. One would hardly have expected that the Greek invasion of India would have won Ceylon to the worship of Buddha. Yet so it was. In India the Magadhan State at the time of Gotama's death was comparatively unimportant, but it received support from the invaders, and thus rapidly developed in power and extent. The Singhalese were of the same race, for they were not aboriginal in the island. The ruler of Magadhan about three centuries before the Christian era was an earnest Buddhist, and sent his son, Mahinda, as a missionary to Ceylon. He was welcomed by the King, who long before embraced the new creed and celebrated his conversion by the erection of a monastery on the spot. The identical place of meeting between the King and the Prince is said to be marked by the Ambustele Dagaba, one of the best preserved of the ruins, in which the ashes of Mahinda, who ended his days on the spot, were afterwards enshrined.

"From the summit of Mihintale the traveller looks down, at a distance of about eight miles, upon the ruins of another sacred city, Anuradhapura. The road now passes through the forest; once it was lined with buildings of various kinds. In the middle of the city is a garden twenty square miles in extent, which the royal convert dedicated to sacred purposes, besides erecting splendid memorial buildings. Its most precious possession was the sacred Bo Tree. This was an offshoot from the original Indian tree under which Gotama attained perfection. The fact of its origin is probably true, though the story of its translation to Ceylon is incrustured with legends. The enclosure surrounding the sacred grove—for its offshoots are abundant—still remains, as well as the tree itself. As the date of its arrival is known—B. C. 288—this, though it may not be the oldest tree in the world, is the earliest of any the exact age of which is known.

"Some of the ruins in this city are extraordinary; the Brazen Palace rested on 1,600 monolithic columns of granite. It has gone, but they still remain, though worn by age, and injured by 'a whole series of heretic invaders.' The sculptures also in Anuradhapura are extraordinary for their number and beauty, and the stone baths or tanks, which are unusually abundant and well preserved, are among its most interesting relics, for some of them may be coeval with the baths of Caracalla or Diocletian at Rome.

"But the most astounding object is the Abhayagiriya Dagaba, which is the greatest monument of its kind in the world. According to native annals which Mr. Cave appears to think trustworthy, it was once 405 feet in height, and, as it is, the base covers about eight acres. Not the least wonder of Anuradhapura is the huge tank in the neighborhood. It was constructed about the middle of the fifth century of our era, by erecting a vast wall a dozen miles in length

and damming back the stream, so as to form a sheet of water forty miles in circumference. But the work was on too vast a scale, the dam was not sufficiently strong, and ultimately gave way, so that the forest now grows over a large part of the bed.

"Another notable city is Sigiri. This, however, is more interesting as a *tour de force* than for the beauty of its buildings. A fortress has been erected on the summit of a precipitous rock. The story of its origin is a grim one, and goes back to the latter part of the fifth century of our era. It is a tale of cruelty and revenge within the walls of a palace, which ended with the murder, in a very barbarous way, of a king by his son-in-law, who had usurped the throne. But the deed of blood made its author unpopular, so he determined to build himself a fortress, where he should be safe from his enemies. By cunningly constructed spiral galleries, access was obtained to the summit of this great isolated rock, on which a stronghold was erected. The hope was vain. Retribution came; the land was invaded; the murderer was defeated, and slew himself on the field of battle.

"But there is one more city among those described by Mr. Cave which is exceptionally interesting, from the long period which its history covers, and its connection with a time more recent than those more distinctly religious in their origin. This is Polonnaruwa, the mediæval capital of Ceylon. It was a place of importance at a very early period, and frequently a royal residence. It grew in opulence and splendor, but in process of time it fell on less peaceful days. The coasts of Ceylon were for long harassed by the Malabars, who were to it what the Danes at one time became to England. They also gradually penetrated inland, and at last, in the year 1023 of our era, captured and sacked Polonnaruwa. But after about fifty years, it was recovered from the invaders, and remained the capital of the native kings all through the twelfth century. This was the age of its greatest glory, and to this epoch most of its more important ruins belong.

"The monarch to whom its splendor was due was Prakrama Bahu, the first of that title, who erected a number of magnificent buildings—temples, monasteries, hospitals, schools, and a palace, besides a fort and a wall of circumvallation. According to Sir Emerson Tennent, the dimensions of this inclosure were thirty miles by four. Besides this, Prakrama enlarged the already huge tank, and his queen built the enormous dagaba which still remains.

"In Mr. Cave's illustrations we can judge of the magnificence of the ruins. He brings us face to face with a vanished civilization. The Singhalese in some things were probably behind the nations of Western Europe, but in the grandeur and splendor of their architectural designs they were not a whit inferior to their contemporaries on this continent, while the arts flourished there at an age when they were almost trampled out in Europe beneath the feet of the barbarian invaders. The later glory of Polonnaruwa, at any rate, must have surpassed that of any early mediæval city. It is satisfactory to learn from Mr. Cave's interesting book that these marvellous ruins are not neglected by the British authorities, but that some efforts are being made to arrest decay and investigate their buried wonders."

BOOKS AND PAPERS

BY special request of the editor of the well-known German professional encyclopædia, the "*Handbuch der Architektur*," and its continuation, the "*Fortschritte der Architektur*," Mr. William Paul Gerhard has written a book¹ of 227 pages on "*Plumbing Appliances in American Buildings*," which is published as one of the treatises composing the series. The author modestly describes it as a work for the information of German architects and sanitary engineers only, but it is so comprehensive, and so modern, and so admirably illustrated—with nearly five hundred plates and wood-cuts—that American architects who can read German should not fail to possess themselves of it. In fact, as the book deals with familiar American appliances, it is likely to be quite as useful, in practice, to American readers as to the Germans, who would, in many cases, find only a scientific interest in the descriptions of apparatus unknown to German manufacturers. To either of them, however, the explanations of the general principles of drainage and trap-ventilation, the avoidance of by-passes, and the proper methods of making joints, stated, as they are, with the clearness and precision for which all Mr. Gerhard's writing is remarkable, will be of the greatest value.

SOCIETIES

DETROIT ARCHITECTURAL SKETCH-CLUB.

THE semi-annual election of officers occurred on the 26th of April and the following members were elected: *Secretary*, Alexander Blumberg, *vice*, Edward A. Schilling; *Directors*, Gus O'Dell and John Gillard, *vice*, Alex. Blumberg and M. S. Willcox.

¹"*Entwässerungs-Anlagen amerikanischer Gebäude*": Von Wm. Paul Gerhard. (No. 10 of the Supplementary Series of the "*Handbuch der Architektur*.") Published by Arnold Bergstrasser, Stuttgart, 1897. Price, 15 marks and expenses.

During the winter the Club have had a class in clay-modelling, Saturday afternoons, under a very competent instructor, and the members have made fair progress. A number of instructive talks have been given on pen-and-ink rendering, sanitary plumbing, electrical construction, building superintendence and also on the history of ornament.

The Club will soon start out in their out-door sketching in water-color and it is hoped to be as successful as last year.

ALEXANDER BLUMBERG, *Secretary*.

T-SQUARE CLUB'S ANNUAL ELECTION.

AT the annual meeting of the T-Square Club, held Wednesday evening, May 5, 1897, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: *President*, David Knickerbacker Boyd; *Vice-President*, Edgar V. Seeler; *Secretary*, George B. Page; *Treasurer*, Horace H. Burrell.

These officers together with the following, also elected, comprise the *Executive Committee*, Walter Cope, Louis C. Hickman and Chas. Z. Klauder.

House Committee: Adin B. Lacey, *Chairman*, Chas. E. Oelschlager and Percy Ash.

In the regular monthly competition, entitled "Farmstead," First Mention was awarded Lloyd Titus.

CHAS. E. OELSCHLAGER, *Secretary*.

ACROPOLIS CLUB.

ON Friday evening, April 30th, a very interesting illustrated lecture on Water-color Rendering was given at 1473 Broadway, New York, by Mr. Hughson Hawley before a large and appreciative audience.

At the close of the lecture, Mr. Hawley presented to the Club the charming sketch which he had made for the occasion.

The subject of the sketch was a bit from an old French town. During the course of the evening the lecturer showed in a practical way the method he had adopted in making it; he also analyzed some of his professional work which he had sent to the Club for that purpose.

The Club Atelier is now in full working order, the Life Class is also well started and meets on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

C. H. ACTON BOND, *Secretary*.



[Contributors of drawings are requested to send also plans and a full and adequate description of the buildings, including a statement of cost.]

ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL, HARTFORD, CONN. THE LATE PATRICK C. KEELY, ARCHITECT.

[Gelatine Print, issued with the International and Imperial Editions only.]

PLAN OF THE GARDEN OF THE GENERALIFE, GRANADA, SPAIN, AN *Envoi* of the ROTCH TRAVELLING-SCHOLAR: MEASURED AND DRAWN BY MR. W. H. KILHAM.

SEE article on "Mediterranean Gardens" elsewhere in this issue.

INNER COURT OF THE GENERALIFE.

ONE OF THE UPPER TERRACES IN THE SAME GARDEN.

THE GARDENS OF THE ALCAZAR, SEVILLE, SPAIN.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, CARTMEL, ENG.

CARTMEL at the present time is a scattered village or township, in the farming district in the extreme north of Lancashire. Lying in the hollow of the hills which surround it on all sides, the village and its solitary, but fine, old parish church seem to sleep together in undisturbed serenity. The quaint old cottages cluster together in the ample shadows of the venerable old pile, and the distant peep from the higher level of the hills presents a striking picture, so disproportionate appears the structure in its fine masses to the few farmhouses at its base.

The church was built and dedicated by W. Marchel, Earl of Pembroke, in the year 1183, connected with some monastery and under the care of a prior; but, as the drawing shows, it has undergone wonderful transformation. The signal peculiarity outside is the double tower, the upper one being built diagonally in plan over the other, supported below on arches, springing from piers or columns at the junction of nave, choir and transept.

There are four columns and five arches to the nave, and along these there must be a considerable thrust from the tower superstructure and, doubtless, this explains the extremely bold and massive buttresses shown in the west end. A feature in these buttresses is the way they are shouldered out from the top. Strength is suggested in the very outline, a contrast to so many puny, broken-backed apologies for so-called buttresses met nowadays, used where

there is no call for them, but under the presumption that they are a characteristic adjunct to any Gothic design.

In the interior of the church there is a great deal to study and admire, work of varying dates and styles, and altogether, St. Mary's Church is well deserving a visit from any Gothic student when in the vicinity of Liverpool, from which it is about fifty miles distant.

DETAILS OF THE SAME.

[The following named illustrations may be found by reference to our advertising pages.]

NEW PREMISES, GOLD ST., NORTHAMPTON, ENG. MR. S. J. NEWMAN, ARCHITECT.

A COMPETITIVE DESIGN FOR THE CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY AT AUBURN, N. Y. MR. OTTO J. GETTE, ARCHITECT, NEW YORK, N. Y.

[Additional Illustrations in the International Edition.]

"THE GLORIFICATION OF JOAN OF ARC": A FIRE-ETCHING BY MR. J. W. FOSDICK.

[Gelatine Print.]

THIS large composition, the various figures whereof are executed at rather more than life-size, has been shown at several of the exhibitions in different cities during the past season and has excited interest amongst architects wherever it has been shown. Those who are familiar with the results obtained by one artist or another during the last fifty years, in burning wood by the aid of heated irons—"poker pictures" as they were called—knew what delicate yet rich effect could be obtained by simple means, but they little realized how much farther such work could be carried and how much stronger and richer effects could be obtained by an artist who substituted for the heated poker the platinum-tipped naphtha blow-pipe. In this subject some of the strong drawing lines and some of the heavy shadows are burned to a depth of fully three-eighths of an inch, the result being obtained with greater certainty and vastly greater celerity than could ever be the case under the old method, which was taken up by its practitioners more as an amusement than with the purpose of making sale of the product. The naphtha blow-pipe makes fire-etching an artistic commercial product and so warrants a man in devoting himself to becoming an expert in the art of producing these unchangeable monochromatic decorations.

In the present instance gilding was used with a lavish hand—to the injury of the best effect, as it seemed to us. At any rate, its use has had one unfortunate result since, owing to reflected lights, some portions of the gilding have photographed darker than others and so has falsified the real effects.

THE GARDEN FRONT: STAFFORD HOUSE, ST. JAMES'S, LONDON, ENG. SIR CHARLES BARRY, ARCHITECT.

GARDEN HOUSE, FOTA, NEAR CORK, IRELAND. MR. ARTHUR HILL, ARCHITECT.

ENTRANCE GATE, FOTA, IRELAND.



[The editors cannot pay attention to demands of correspondents who forget to give their names and addresses as guaranty of good faith; nor do they hold themselves responsible for opinions expressed by their correspondents.]

THE PASSAIC COUNTY COURT-HOUSE COMPETITION.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT:—

Dear Sirs,—Believing that your readers may be interested in the competition for the Passaic County Court-house, to be built in Paterson, N. J., we beg to submit the following facts:

A suit has been commenced in the United States Circuit Court for the District of New Jersey, against the Board of Freeholders of the County of Passaic in behalf of Bruce Price, one of the twelve architects competing for the Court-house at Paterson, and whose plans, although entirely within the rules of the competition and approved by the consulting architect, were rejected in favor of those of architects not included within those entitled under the instructions.

The complaint sets forth the proceedings of the Commissioners, Messrs. Wurts, Inglis and Worthen; their consultation of Professor Ware as adviser; their invitation to all architects to submit designs and the provision for the selection by Professor Ware of the best

among them, not less than twelve in number; that Mr. Price submitted a design in accordance with the requirements of the circular; that upwards of fifty designs were so submitted and that Professor Ware selected that of Mr. Price among the twelve deemed best. That the Commissioners, instead of awarding the contract to an architect entitled under the competition, selected some one else and rejected those preferred by Professor Ware. The complaint then refers to the proceedings of the Commissioners in detail and claims damages.

The summons is returnable the first Monday of June, 1897. The counsel representing the architects, of whom Messrs. Arnold W. Brunner, Grenville T. Snelling and H. T. Stephens are the Executive Committee, are Mr. John S. Davenport, Judge M. S. Isaacs and Mr. Julius J. Frank. It is hoped that the suit will settle, in favor of the architects, important questions affecting and underlying relations of architects to public bodies inviting competition.

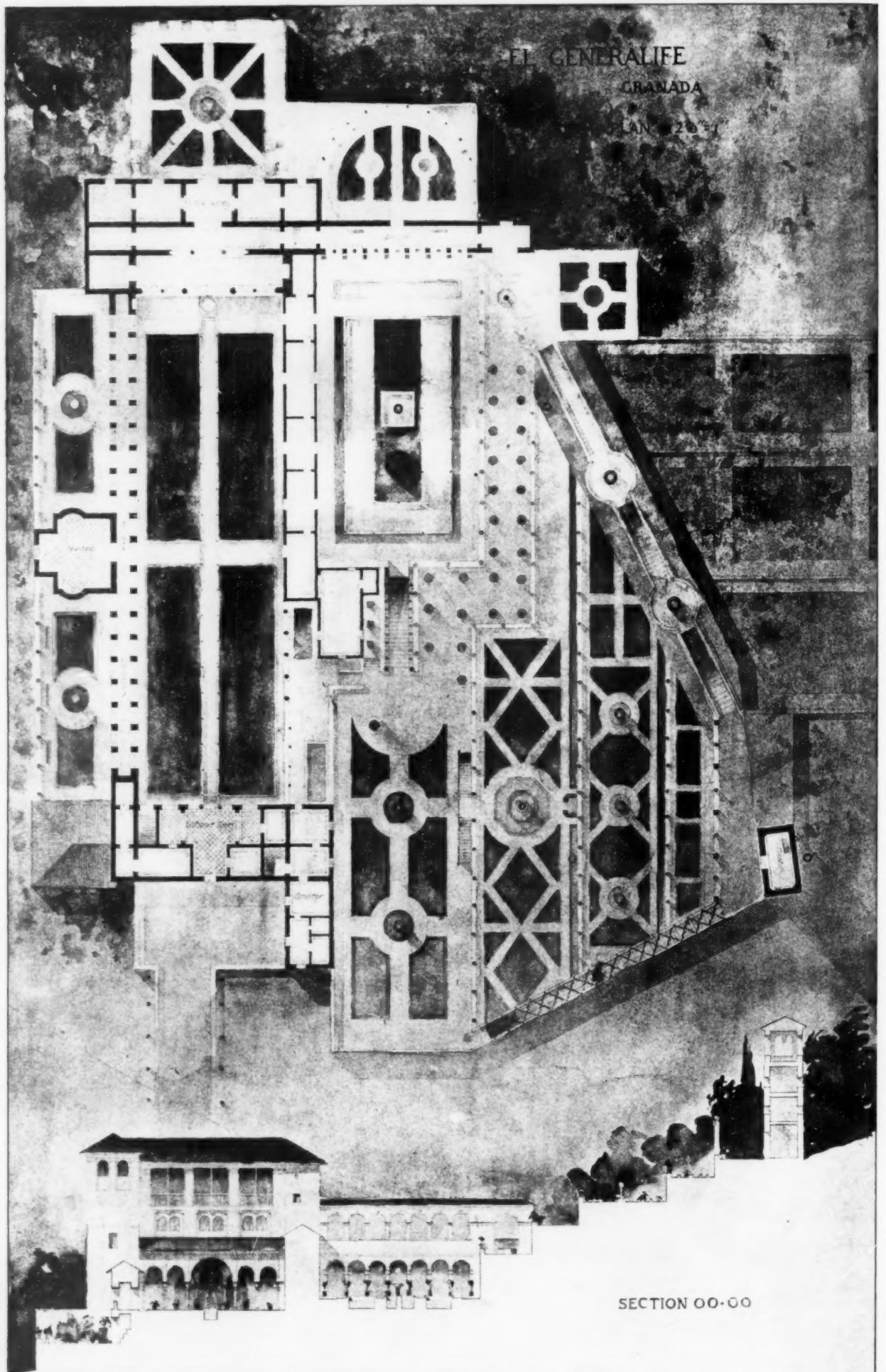
Respectfully,
ARNOLD W. BRUNNER,
G. T. SNELLING,
H. T. STEPHENS.



CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL.—It is hoped that the elaborate restorations of Canterbury Cathedral will be completed before the meeting there of the Pan-Anglican bishops in July. The careful system of treatment to which the crypt has been subjected has revealed frescos and paintings on the vaulting which had been hidden for a very long time. Not only have the French texts inscribed by the Huguenots in the early days of their worship in the crypt been left untouched, but the text over the bay facing the Black Prince's Chantry (at present used by the descendants of the Huguenot refugees) remains as an evidence of their recent occupation of the south aisle. At places there were remains of as many as twenty coats of whitewash on the vaulting and stone work, but the whole of these have been removed. For centuries past, the crypt has been open to wind and rain, but the whole of the window openings have now been glazed, and gas illumination introduced. The lowering of the floor to its original level and the covering of the entire area with concrete has proved an immense improvement to this interesting substructure, bringing into view the bases of the columns and restoring the original proportions. The brickwork filling the arches leading to the apse of the chapel of St. Gabriel is to remain for the present. It has probably been there since about the year 1400, and obstructs the view of some very fine and probably some of the earliest Norman frescos in the world. A most interesting discovery, made in the course of the excavation of the floor of the crypt, was that of a stone coffin of the date of the twelfth century, almost precisely similar to that of Stephen Langton in the Warrior's Chapel. The preservation of the cloisters has also been taken in hand. The zinc roofing was found, on examination, to be leaky everywhere; the supporting timbers, too, had mouldered into touchwood in many places, and the vaulting was defective. The timbers, etc., have now been made good, and an entirely new lead roof constructed. Work in the Chapter-house is also well in hand. The structural safety of the roof and ceiling has been secured, and the latter will be redecorated in its original handsome design.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

APROPOS OF TOMBS.—Conquerors rarely stay long in their tombs. That of Alexander was early untenanted; Caesar never had one; being buried in the Forum, no urn bringing down his ashes to posterity. Mahmoud of Ghuzni found no enduring sepulchre upon his fortress rock. Whether Attila sleeps yet under the river flood, turned out of its bed to give him entombment, is a question admitting of no historic certification. Even the pyramid could not hold its occupant, nor preserve the memory of the big wars which made his ambition virtue. They are all transitory tenants of their mortuary habitations, some holding a longer lease than others, but all finally evicted. Grant's imposing and massive temple of memory promises to enshrine his relics for long ages. Unscarred it may be under the drums and trappings of many conquests, but when he has been buried as long as Sesostris or Hezekiah, who cast a bank against Jerusalem, or Sennacherib, whose sons "smote him between the altar stones," it may be that the traveller from the antipodes will seek the relics and their resting-place in vain. But he will find the river, the sparkle of creation's dawn upon its wave, though it flows through reeds and ruins, and that will be worth coming a long way to see.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

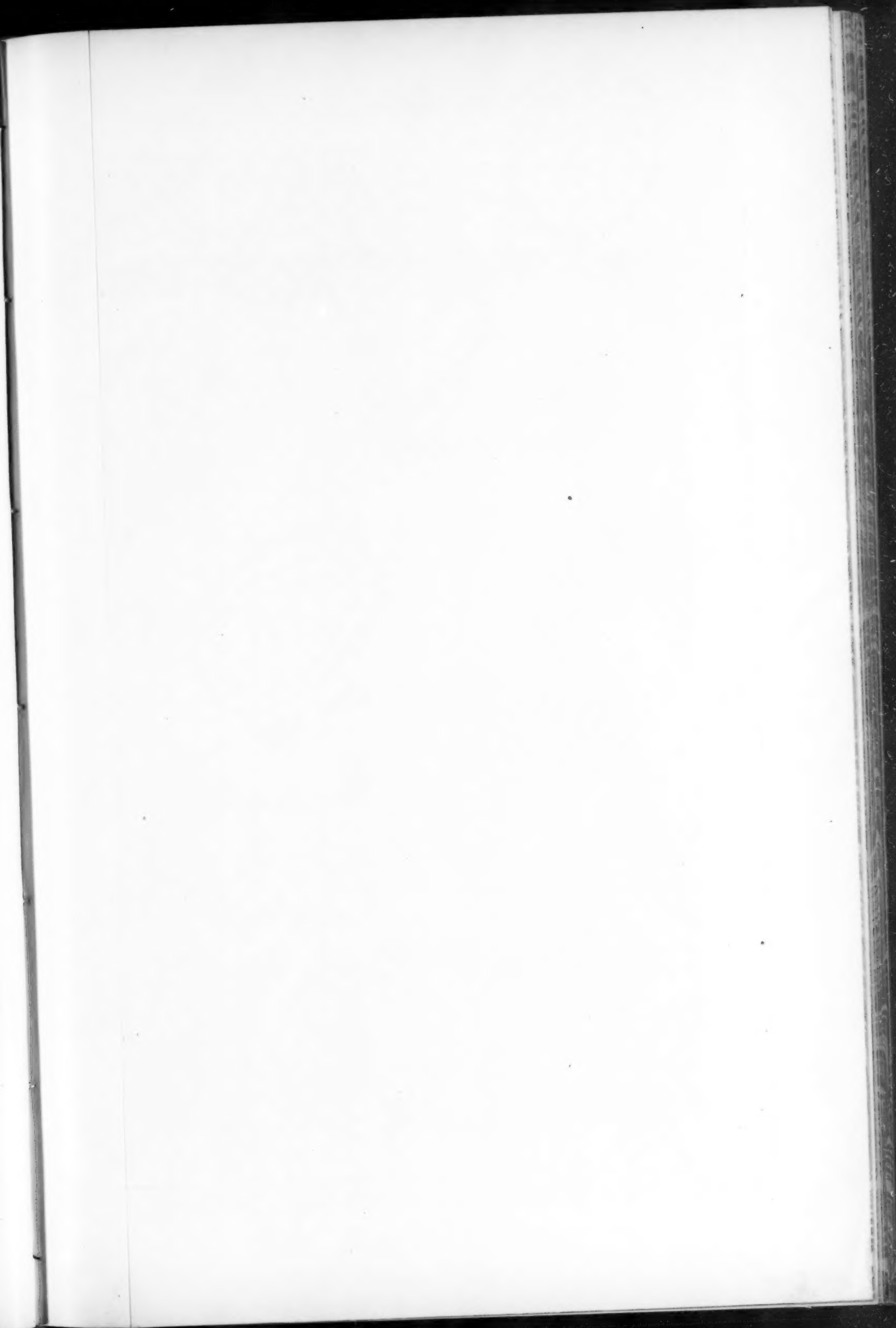
A NEW ILLUMINANT.—Another conquest of light is M. Charles Henry's sulphate of zinc. M. Henry is a French savant of the school of higher studies, who has revealed the power of sulphate of zinc to absorb sunlight and give it back in the dark. *Poudre de riz* made with this mineral gives a soft luminosity to a fair young face. A lady cyclist, dusted all over with this powder, is in herself a lamp on a pitchdark night. The luminous pigment is not liable to be spoiled by damp, by carbolic acid, or by any weak acid. It resists rain if united to some strongly adhesive body. There is a house in the Rue de Longchamps where a windowless set of rooms is lighted with it. The lady of the house receives there her friends at "five o'clocks." The apartments seem bathed in moonlight, the curtains are as if studded with glow-worms, the ceiling scintillates. The furniture looks as if rubbed with phosphorus. The play of this light on colored objects gives one the impression of Aladdin's underground palace. Often they take the rich, glowing tones of the topaz, ruby and emerald. This powder does not lose its brilliancy if used in starch or size. A black dress trimmed with lace made luminous by it is more than bewitching.—*London Daily News.*

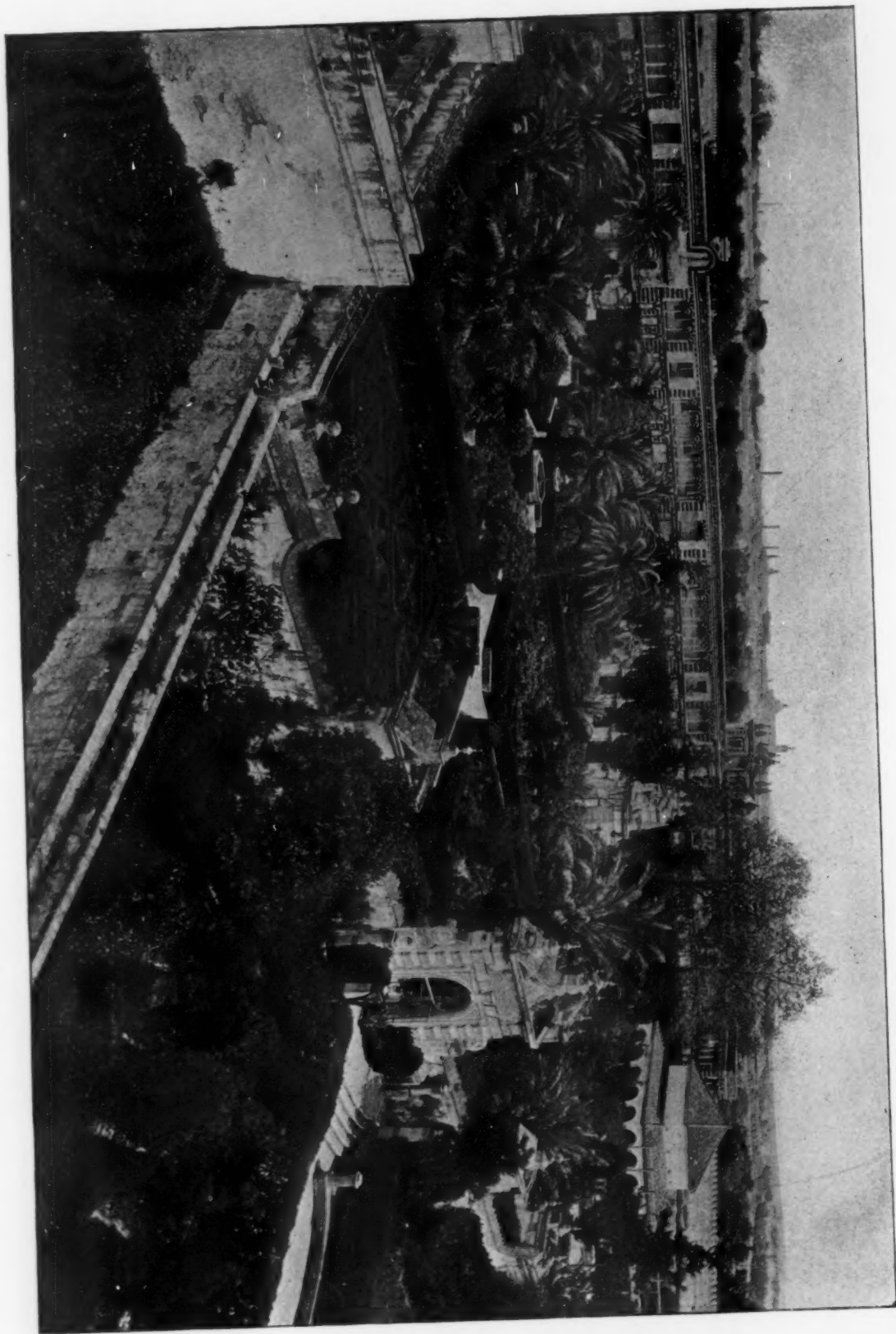


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MEDITERRANEAN GARDENS. III: THE GARDENS OF THE ALCAZAR, SEVILLE, SPAIN.



MEDITERRANEAN GARDENS III: ONE OF THE UPPER TERRACES, GARDEN OF THE GENERALIFE, GRANADA, SPAIN.



MEDITERRANEAN GARDENS III: INNER COURT OF THE GENERALIFE.

St Mary's Priory Church:
Cartmel: Lancashire: Eng:
from sketches and details taken
in the year 1877 by E. Eldon Deane:

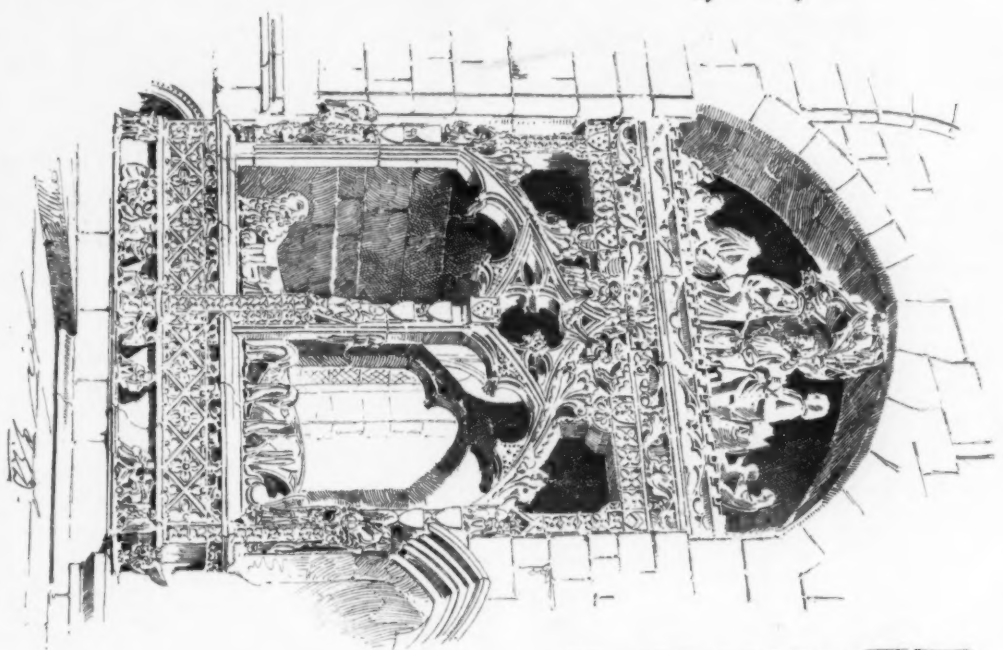




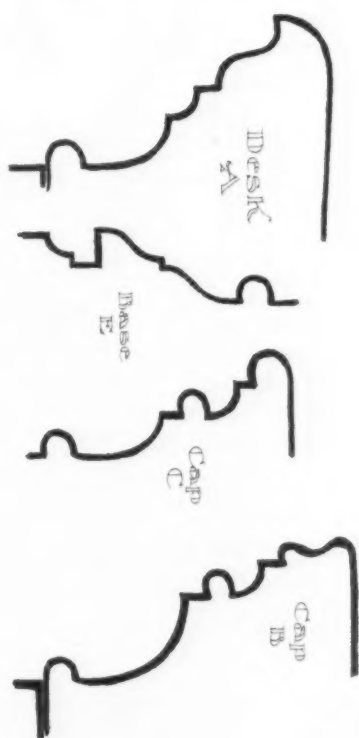
E. E. Ward

ELLIOTT & FRYSON CO., BOSTON

St Mary's Church: Carlisle: Lancashire: Engd.
Sketches by E. Eldon Pearce



Choir of St Mary's & Lady Chantry
South side of Choir



Stalls in Choir
Scale 1 1/2 inches to 1 foot

