

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1866.

FREE AND OTHER EXHIBITIONS.

THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER.—Containing the House of Lords, the House of Commons, the Poets' Hall, the Great Central Hall, the corridors, historical paintings in fresco, rich carvings in wood and stone; St. Stephen's Hall, and the twelve statues of distinguished statesmen, lawyers, and patriots; Westminster Hall, and the large stained-glass windows. By free tickets, which admit any number of persons, obtainable at the Lord Chamberlain's Office, under the Victoria Tower, every Saturday, from 10 to 4. Admission to hear the debates can only be obtained by a member's order.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—From 9 to 6 every day in summer, and from 11 to 2.30 in winter—except Sundays, Good Friday, Christmas Day, and general Fasts. No charge for admission to the nave, transept, and cloisters. To view the choir and chapels, 6d. each person is charged. Choir services every day, including Sundays, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Enter at Poets' Corner.

WESTMINSTER HALL.—Free during the whole day, or any hour at which Parliament or the Law Courts are sitting. The largest room in England unsupported by pillars; there is a magnificent painted-glass window, &c.

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY. 29, Great George-street, Westminster.—Original likenesses, busts, and statuettes of historical characters, &c. Wednesdays and Saturdays, from 12 to 4, between Michaelmas and Easter. From Easter till Michaelmas it is open till 5 o'clock. Free, without tickets.

WESTMINSTER FREE LIBRARY, NEWS, AND READING ROOMS, Smith-street (near the Abbey).—All the daily journals and numerous first-class periodicals taken in.

MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, Jermyn-street, Regent-street.—Every day, except Friday, from 10 to 4. Penny lectures every Monday evening, at 8.

BARRY'S GRAND HISTORICAL CARTOONS, at the Society of Arts, 19, John-street, Adelphi.—In the vestibule or entrance-hall there is a portrait of Mr. Shipley, the founder of the Society.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY, including the Turner Collection, &c., Charing-cross.—On Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, free.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM AND THE PICTURE GALLERIES.—The Patent Museum adjoining, containing portraits and memorials of inventors, model of the first steam-boat, &c. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays, free. The students' days are Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, when the public are admitted on payment of 6d. each person. The hours on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays are from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, from 10 till 5.

BATTERSEA PARK.—The ornamental gardens, boating on the grand serpentine lake, cricket, archery, gymnastics, and other manly sports.

BROMPTON CEMETERY.—This beautiful city of the dead is, according to Loudon—an eminent authority in such matters—the most appropriately planted and laid out of all the existing garden burial grounds.

THE FLAXMAN GALLERY AND LIBRARY, at University College, Gower-street.

DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY.—Every day, except Sunday, from 10 to 5, free.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, the Great Hall, the New Library, the Gardens, and Fountain.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—In the centre lie the mortal remains of Lord Nelson and Lord Collingwood, also those of the great Wellington. Choral service, 9.45 a.m. and 3.15 p.m. The body of the Cathedral is open to the public free. The following fees are charged for admission to the principal parts:—Whispering gallery and two outside galleries, 6d.; ball, 1s. 6d.; library, staircase, bell, and model-room, 6d.; clock, 2d.; vault, 6d. In all, 3s. 2d. Special Sunday evening services, at 7 p.m. Morning prayers daily at a.m., and afternoon at 4.

THE GUILDHALL.—Shakspeare's autograph in the City Library, the council chamber, the aldermen's room, the chamberlain's office, pictures, by Hogarth, and the statues of Wellington, Nelson, Chatham, Pitt, &c., free. The apartments may be seen by applying to the hallkeeper.

CHELSEA HOSPITAL.—The great hall and chapel in which are preserved the French eagles and colours of Napoleon, captured at Waterloo and other great battles, the Wellington car, the pensioners' gardens, and the musical performances on the parade by the Duke of York's band. The chapel may be seen for a trifling fee to the pensioner in charge of it, any day, except during Divine service on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The great hall may be seen at any time when not in use. The public are admitted to the grounds of the hospital from 10 till dusk, except during Divine service on Sunday morning.

Kew Gardens.—The old and new museums, palm-house, and twenty-five conservatories. Daily at 1 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. Free.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—Covers eight acres. Every day except holidays, from 9 till 3, free.

BRITISH MUSEUM, Great Russell-street.—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from May to August, from 10 to 6; March, April, September, and October, from 10 to 5; November, December, January, and February, from 10 to 4. Free. The Museum is closed for three weeks during the year: the first week in January, May, and September. Tickets to the reading-rooms may be had on application, with a certificate from two householders in London.

COAL EXCHANGE MUSEUM.—First Monday in each month, from 12 till 4, free.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL.—The Painted Hall is open every day, free, after the hour of noon, and before that hour on payment of 4d. On all public holidays the Painted Hall is open free, at the usual hour, for the whole of the day.

HAMPTON COURT PALACE.—The state apartments are open gratis every day except Friday, from 10 till 6. On Sundays after 2.

INDIA MUSEUM, Whitehall-yard.—Open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 10 to 4 o'clock.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE, opposite the Bank of England.—In the space opposite the west front is an equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington: in the centre a marble statue of Queen Victoria. Free.

THE ROYAL MINT, near the Tower.—Open to parties of more than six, from 11 till 3, by previous application to the Master.

TOWER OF LONDON.—Daily at 10.30 till 4. Tickets to be obtained at the entrance-gate. Admission to the armoury, 6d.; Crown jewels, 6d.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, St. Martin's-le-Grand.—By special order.

UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION, Whitehall.—By member's order, between the hours of 11 and 5 in summer, and 11 and 4 in winter.

WINDSOR CASTLE.—The state apartments are open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, from 10 till 4. Tickets of Mitchell, Bond-street.

WOOLWICH ARSENAL DOCKYARD, &c.—Admission free to the Royal Arsenal on Tuesdays, by letter from the Under Secretary for War. Admission free to the dockyard every day from 9 to 11 and from 1.15 to 3 p.m. in winter; and

from 9 to 11 and from 1.30 to 5 p.m. in summer. Foreigners must obtain an order from the Admiralty, through their respective Ambassadors, to view the dockyard, and from the Ordnance Office to view the Arsenal and repository.

ROYAL GARDENS, Hampton Court.

BOYANIC GARDENS, Chelsea.—Tickets at Apothecaries' Hall.

FOUNDLING HOSPITAL, Guilford-street, Russell-square.—In the chapel an altar-piece by West, and the organ presented to the institution by Handel, upon which he frequently performed his Oratorio of "The Messiah;" in the committee-room, several valuable paintings by Hogarth and other eminent artists.

CROSBY HALL, Bishopsgate-street.—This relic of a poetic and picturesque age is open to the public every day. Free.

PASSPORT REGULATIONS.

APPLICATIONS for Foreign Office passports must be made in writing, and enclosed in a cover, addressed to "Her Majesty's Secretary of State, Foreign Office, London," or to an Agent at one of the specified outports, with the word "Passport" conspicuously written on the cover.

The charge on the issue of a passport, whatever number of persons may be named in it, is two shillings, which sum includes sixpence stamp duty.

Foreign Office Passports are granted only to British-born subjects, or to citizens of the Ionian States, or to such Foreigners as have become naturalised either by Act of Parliament or by a certificate of naturalisation granted by the Secretary of State for the Home Department. When the party is a "naturalised British subject," he will be so designated in his passport; and if his certificate of naturalisation be dated subsequently to the 24th of August, 1850, his passport will be marked as good for one year only; but this regulation will not preclude any person whom it affects from obtaining, at any future period, on his producing his old passport, a fresh passport for a further limited period of one year, without being required to pay a fresh charge.

Passports are issued at the Foreign Office, between the hours of eleven and four on the day following that on which the application for the passport has been received at the Foreign Office.

OFFICES FOR PASSPORT VISAS.

America	..	14, St. George's-place, Albert-gate	..	11 to 3
Austria	..	7, Chandos-street, Cavendish-square	..	12 " 2
Baden	..	1, Riches-court, Lime-street	..	10 " 3
Bavaria	..	3, Hill-street, Berkeley-square	..	12 " 4
Belgium	..	53, Gracechurch-street	..	12 " 4
Brazil	..	9, Cavendish-square	..	11 " 2
Denmark	..	6, Warneford-court	..	10 " 4
Greece	..	17, Gracechurch-street	..	12 " 3
Hanover	..	4, Hobart-place, Eaton-square	..	10 " 3
Hanseatic Towns	..	12, Austinfriars	..	11 " 3
Holland	..	20, Lowndes-square, Knightsbridge	..	12 " 4
Mexico	..	7, Broad-street-buildings, City	..	12 " 4
Oldenburg	..	3, Stratford-place	..	12 " 3
Peru	..	15, Portland-place	..	11 " 2
Portugal	..	12, Gloster-place	..	11 " 4
Prussia	..	106, Fenchurch-street	..	10 " 6
Russia	..	32, Great Winchester-street, Old Broad-street	..	11 " 3
Sardinia	..	31, Old Jewry	..	12 " 3
Saxony	..	3, Hobart-place, Eaton-square	..	12 " 3
Spain	..	17, Hereford-street, Park-lane	..	11 " 3
Sweden and Norway	..	49, Grosvenor-place	..	9 " 1
Switzerland	..	21, Old Broad-street	..	10 " 4
Turkey	..	1, Bryanston-square	..	10 " 12
Wurtemberg	..	106, Fenchurch-street	..	11 " 3

FOREIGN MONEY.

		Average Value in English Currency.		
France and Belgium	Sous ..	0 0 0	Prussia .. Thaler ..	0 2 11½
	Franc ..	0 0 9	Hamburg ..	Friedrick d'or 0 16 9
	Louis, or Napoleon ..	0 15 10		Sweidrittel .. 0 2 3
Spain	Hard Dollar ..	0 4 2		Ducat .. 0 9 6
	Doubleon ..	3 5 0	America ..	Friedrick d'or 0 16 9
Portugal	Crusada Nova ..	0 2 3		Dollar .. 0 4 2
	Half Ioe ..	1 15 6		Half Eagle .. 1 0 6
Holland	Stuyver ..	0 0 1		Eagle .. 2 1 0
	Guilder or Flo. ..	0 1 8		Doubleon .. 3 3 0
Austria	Florin ..	0 1 6	East Indies	Common Rupee 0 1 10
	Ducat ..	0 9 6		Ditto Mohur .. 1 9 0
	Sovereign ..	1 7 6	Russia ..	Sil. Roub. about 0 3 1
				Half Imperial .. 0 16 3

THE LIGHTHOUSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The light on land, or lighthouses which are at the highest elevation, with the distances they command in clear weather, are given in the following table, compiled from the general return published by the Admiralty:—

	Year when erected.	Height of Lantern above high water.	Distances at which the lights are seen.
Lizard	.. 1751	.. 224	.. 20
Needles	.. 1786	.. 469	.. 27
Beachy Head	.. 1828	.. 285	.. 22
South Foreland	.. 1793	.. 372	.. 25
Cromer	.. 1719	.. 274	.. 22
Flamborough Head	.. 1806	.. 214	.. 19
Inchkeith	.. 1804	.. 129	.. 18
Isle of May	.. 1816	.. 240	.. 21
Dunnet Head	.. 1831	.. 346	.. 23
Sumburgh Head	.. 1821	.. 380	.. 22
Cape Wrath	.. 1828	.. 400	.. 25
Barra Head	.. 1833	.. 680	.. 32
Kintyre	.. 1787	.. 297	.. 22
Mull of Galloway	.. 1830	.. 325	.. 23
Calf of Man	.. 1818	.. 375	.. 22
St. Bee's Head	.. 1718	.. 383	.. 23
Lundy Island	.. 1820	.. 540	.. 30
Cape Clear	.. 1817	.. 455	.. 27
Clare Island	.. 1806	.. 349	.. 27
Skellig's Rock	.. 1826	.. 372	.. 25