

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1881.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

(Office, Spring-gardens.—Hours 9 to 4; Saturdays, 9 to 2.)

The Metropolitan Board of Works was constituted by the Metropolitan Management Act of 1855. Under this and subsequent Acts it has carried out several special works, such as the Main Drainage of London, the construction of the Victoria, Albert, and Chelsea Embankments on the Thames, the formation of Queen Victoria-street, Northumberland-avenue, &c. It has opened up or widened other thoroughfares, such as Garrick-street, Southwark-street, Burdett-road, Holborn (Middle-row), Park-lane, Shore-ditch, Great Eastern-street, Harrow-road, the improved thoroughfare from Hart-street, Bloomsbury, to Shoreditch, &c.; formed Finsbury and Southwark Parks; and preserved open spaces, such as Hampstead-heath, Blackheath, Shepherds-bush, Clapham-common, &c. Among the works now proceeding are the widening of Coventry-street, Tooley-street, &c., making a new street from Piccadilly to Hart-street, Bloomsbury, and the clearance of sites for Artisans' Dwellings. It has purchased the tolls of all the Bridges that cross the Thames in the Metropolitan area. Its principal general duties comprise the control over the formation of streets and the line of buildings therein, the testing of gas and of gas-meters, the maintenance of the Fire Brigade (a force of upwards of 400), the maintenance of the Main Drainage System, and of parks and commons. It is the "Metropolitan Authority" under the Water, Tramways, Petroleum, Artisans' Dwellings, Contagious Diseases (Animals), Slaughter-houses, Explosive Substances, and other Acts. It raises money (in Metropolitan Consolidated Stock) not only for its own works, but for advances to the Managers of the Metropolitan Asylums District, the School Board for London, the Vestries, the District Boards, the Metropolitan Boards of Guardians, and other corporations within the Metropolis. Members of the Board are elected by the respective Vestries and District Boards in the Metropolis. The Corporation of the City of London elects three members.

CHAIRMAN:

Lieut.-Col. Sir James M. Mc'Garel Hogg, Bart., K.C.B., M.P. ... £2000

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

St. Giles District—Adams, B. H., 51, Bedford-square, W.C.  
 St. George, Hanover-sq.—Brewer, W., M.D., 21, George-st., Hanover-sq., W.  
 St. Marylebone—Carr, Charles, 70, Hamilton-terrace, St. John's-wood, N.W.  
 Poplar District—Cook, E. R., Woodford, Essex, E.  
 Chelsea—Cox, Robert, 29, Cheyne-walk, Chelsea, S.W.  
 St. Luke, Middlesex—F. Ingoldy, 11, Finsbury-square.  
 St. Martin-in-the-Fields—Dalton, W. H., 30, Coleherne-road, S.W.  
 St. Marylebone—Edwards, George, Canterbury Villa, 119, Maida Vale, W.  
 St. James, Westminster—Elam, T. H., Frisleigh, Isleworth-on-Thames.  
 Islington—Elt, C. H., 41, Gibson-square, Islington, N.  
 St. Matthew, Bethnal Green—Ewin, A., Norlington House, Leytonstone.  
 St. George-in-the-East—Fairclough, T. M., Bramley-hill, Croydon.  
 St. Leonard, Shoreditch—Fell, W. H., 19, Clapton-common, E.  
 City of London—Figgins, Alderman J., 35, Russell-square, W.C.  
 Lambeth—Fowler, F. H., The Lodge, Brixton-oval, S.W.  
 Kensington—Freeman, R., 25, Earl's-terrace, Kensington, W.  
 St. Pancras—Furniss, R., 22, Grove-terrace, Highgate-road, N.W.  
 Holborn District—Hall, J. O., 1, Brunswick-row, Queen's-square, W.C.  
 St. Saviour's District—Harris, C., 15, Fenchurch-street, E.C.  
 Woolwich—Jackson, W. P., Thomas-street, Woolwich.  
 Strand District—Jones, J., 338, Strand, W.C.  
 Fulham District—Lammin, W. H., 18, Buckingham-street, Adelphi, W.C.  
 Bermondsey—Legg, Cyrus, Rochfort Tower, South Norwood, S.E.  
 St. George, Hanover-sq.—Leslie, J., Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi-terrace, W.C.  
 Plumstead with Lewisham—Lloyd, J. R., The Shrubbery, Belmont-hill, Lee, S.E.

Wandsworth District—Meaden, G. P., High-street, Clapham, S.W.  
 Mile End Old Town—Moore, T., 144, Mile End-road, E.  
 Whitechapel District—Murro, D., 138, Mile End-road, E.  
 Limehouse District—Nathan, W., Sunny Lodge, Hendon, Middlesex.  
 St. George the Martyr, Southwark—Pocock, A., Southwark Bridge-rd.  
 Islington—Reddish, J., 9, Highbury New Park, N.  
 Greenwich—Richardson, G. B., 10, Stainton-place, Shooter's Hill-road, S.E.  
 Paddington—Mr. H. P. Roche.  
 Camberwell—Rogers, E. Dresser, Hanover-park, Peckham, S.E.  
 Hackney District—Runtz, J., Lordship-road, Stoke Newington, N.  
 City of London—Saunders, J. E., Deputy, 9, Finsbury Circus, E.C.  
 St. Mary, Newington—Selway, W. K., 19, Manor-road, Walworth, S.E.  
 Hampstead—Stone, S., The Hollies, Haverstock-terrace, N.W.  
 City of London—Taylor, H. L., Deputy, 10, Queen-street, Cheapside, E.C.  
 Lambeth—Taylor, R., Deputy, 1, Gothic Villas, Church-road, Brixton, S.W.  
 Clerkenwell—Thompson, E. J., 25, Highbury-crescent, N.  
 Rotherhithe with St. Olave District—Tolhurst, J., Glenbrook, Beckenham.  
 St. Leonard, Shoreditch—Turner T., 56, New Gloucester-street, Hoxton.  
 St. Pancras—Watkins, J., 110, Gloucester-road, Regent's-park, N.W.  
 Westminster District—White, T. J., 14, Parliament-street, S.W.  
 Engineer, Sir Joseph Wm. Bazalgette, C.B. ... £2200  
 Superintending Architect, George Vulliamy, Esq. ... 1750  
 Solicitor, Reginald Ward, Esq. ... 1200  
 Clerk of the Board, J. E. Wakefield, Esq. ... 1000  
 Accountant, Arthur Gunn, Esq. ... 1000  
 Chief of Fire Brigade, Captain E. M. Shaw, C.B. ... 1150

The Act of last Session, 43 and 44, c. 25, empowers the Metropolitan Board of Works to expend money and borrow to a large amount for Metropolitan purposes. The Board may up to Dec. 31, 1881, expend £10,000 on the Fire Brigade, and £30,000 on parks, commons, and open spaces. From Jan. 31 to Dec. 31 next the Board may expend £3,766,579 5s. 11d. Among the amounts which may be expended are £42,028 3s. 5d. under the Street Improvements Act, 1872; £25,000 for parks, commons, and open spaces; £25,000 for the Thames Embankments and other places, including the Northumberland-avenue; £7000 on the obelisk on the Victoria Embankment; £112,551 2s. 6d. on the toll bridges; and £1,500,000 under the Improvement Act of 1877, and £500,000 for artisans' and labourers' dwellings, besides other sums set forth in the schedule annexed to the Act, in addition to advances to public bodies. The borrowing powers amount to £485,372 2s. 10d., and for loans to other bodies £368,100, making £853,472 2s. 10d. The Board may issue "Metropolitan Bills" and make arrangements with banks as to the issue of the same securities. There are twenty-seven sections in the Act, and two schedules to carry the Act into execution.

AMOUNT OF CONSOLIDATED STOCK.  
 (Rate of Interest, £3 10s. per Cent per Annum, payable Quarterly.)

	£	s.	d.
Up to Dec. 31, 1878	13,095,725	16	11
Created since	2,150,000	0	0
	15,245,725	16	11
Redeemed	11,400	0	0
	15,234,325	16	11
APPLICATION OF THE MONEY RAISED BY SUCH STOCK.			
Total amount raised up to 31st December 1878 (including £202 14s. 8d. in respect of allowances for brokerage 1876 and 1877, brought in on both sides of the Account)	12,374,472	8	6
Received since (the final instalment of the Loan of 1875 is receivable in 1880)	2,320,452	7	0
	14,694,924	15	6
	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	12,105,007	5	4
Loans Advanced:			
To Managers of Metropolitan Asylums District	50,000	0	0
To Vestries and District Boards	198,600	0	0
To Guardians for Poor Law Purposes	96,500	0	0
To other Bodies	73,000	0	0
	418,100	0	0
Transfers in respect of Improvements:			
To Fire Brigade Capital Account, Stations, &c.	21,988	0	1
To Main Drainage and Main Sewers Account	62,870	6	7
To Victoria Embankment	15,478	0	6
To Albert Embankment	37	2	2
To Wapping and other Improvements	57,381	17	6
To Northumberland Avenue	277	7	6
To Sun-street Improvement	10,000	0	0
To Street Improvements under Act of 1877	655,555	8	11
To Metropolitan Toll Bridges	562,420	16	7
To Dwelling-house Improvement Fund	300,000	0	0
	1,685,956	19	10
Deduct unexpended Balances:			
Queen Victoria-street	14,150	9	10
Southwark-street	218	13	8
Hampstead-heath	1,393	5	1
Chelsea Embankment	25,466	15	10
	41,229	4	5
	1,644,727	15	5
Balance in hand, Dec. 31, 1879	14,167,835	0	9
	527,989	14	9
	14,694,924	15	6

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

The treasurer's account, published in abstract, gives the valuation of England and Wales for county rates at Lady Day, 1879, at £114,994,217, an increase of £2,200,000 upon the previous year. The valuation for police rates, £74,541,997, an increase of rather less than one million. The amount raised by county rates was £914,025, the average amount of the rate being 1 15-16d. in the pound; this amount was less by £207,279 than the preceding year. Police rates were about the same each year—namely, £567,355, the amount of the rate being 1 13-16d. in the pound. The total of local and imperial taxation was £2,046,818, which was £234,405 below the previous year. The expenditure upon the police was £1,060,293; upon prosecutions and conveyance of prisoners, £130,090; upon prisons, £120,114; lunatic asylums, £331,997; salaries of county officials, £269,998; loans repaid with interest, £397,261; and all other expenses came to £364,591; the total expenditure being £2,694,344, or £174,955 below that of 1878. The loans outstanding against the county authorities at the close of the year amounted to £2,963,014.

THE METROPOLITAN GAS SUPPLY.

Towards the close of the Session 1880, an instructive Report was issued, containing the accounts of the gas companies of the metropolis for the previous year. The total capital and borrowed money of the companies is no less than £12,681,818, divided as follows:—Chartered, £9,096,771; Commercial £690,000; Phoenix, 1,208,000; South Metropolitan, £826,688; London, £860,359; making a total of £12,681,818. The accounts of the South Metropolitan Company include a half-year's independent working of the late Surrey Consumers' Company, January to June, 1879. The total income of the Chartered Company was £2,577,335; of the Commercial, £300,460; of the London, £312,000; of the Phoenix, £380,994; and of the South Metropolitan, £355,970, giving a total income of all the companies, from all sources, of £3,926,769. All the companies showed an increase in their income as compared with 1878—the Chartered, £159,587; the Commercial, £16,731; the London, £30,836; the Phoenix, £15,468; and the South Metropolitan, £25,640; or a total increase of £247,261. The gross profit of the Chartered showed an increase over 1878 of £55,800, the Commercial an increase of £2489, and the South Metropolitan an increase of £5155. The gross profit of the Chartered Company was £787,495, of the Commercial £83,348, of the London £73,111, of the Phoenix £111,707, and of the South Metropolitan £107,414, giving a total gross profit of £1,163,077. The Chartered Company realised on capital and borrowed money a gross profit of £8 13s. 2d. per cent, and on gas rental a gross profit of £38 14s. 3d. per cent; the Commercial, £12 1s. 7d. per cent and £35 15s. 1d. per cent; the London, £8 9s. 11d. per cent and £30 18s. 11d. per cent; the Phoenix, £9 4s. 11d. per cent and £37 16s. 1d. per cent; and the South Metropolitan, £12 19s. 10d. per cent and £40 16s. 4d. per cent, giving an average of £9 3s. 5d. per cent on the capital and borrowed money of all the companies, and of £37 19s. 8d. per cent on the gas rental.

THE SCHOOL BOARD FOR LONDON.

The following is the composition of the Board elected 1880, with the divisions represented, the new members being distinguished by an asterisk against their names:—

- \*Angus, Rev. Dr. J., Marylebone
- \*Belcher, Rev. B., Westminster
- \*Berkeley, Captain H., Chelsea
- \*Bonnewell, W. H., City of London
- Buxton, E. N., Tower Hamlets
- Buxton, S. C., Westminster
- \*Charrington, S. C., Tower Hamlets
- \*Corry, E. C., Southwark
- Coxhead, Rev. J., Marylebone
- \*Diggle, Rev. J. R., Marylebone
- Fenwick-Miller, Mrs. F., Hackney
- Freeman, R., Chelsea
- Gladstone, Dr. J. H., Chelsea
- Gover, H. S., Greenwich
- Gover, W. S., City of London
- \*Hawkins, A., Southwark
- Heller, T. E., Lambeth
- \*Hill, Miss R. D., City of London
- \*Jones, J. J., Hackney
- \*Jones, E., Hackney
- Lucraft, B., Finsbury
- Mills, A., M.P., Marylebone
- \*Morse, Rev. T., Greenwich
- \*Muller, Miss, Lambeth
- Murphy, Rev. G. M., Lambeth
- Pearce, W., Tower Hamlets
- \*Pearson, Rev. H. D., Hackney
- Potter, G., Westminster
- \*Prendergast, Lieut.-Col., Tower Hamlets
- Reed, Sir C., Hackney
- \*Richardson, Miss M. E., Southwark
- Richardson, G. B., Greenwich
- \*Roberts, T. L., Finsbury
- Rogers, Rev. J., Finsbury
- \*Ross, J., Westminster
- Saunders, J. E., Greenwich
- Scrutton, T., Tower Hamlets
- \*Simcox, Miss E. J., Westminster
- Spicer, H., City of London
- Stanley, Hon. E. L., Marylebone
- Stiff, J., Lambeth
- Surr, Mrs. E., Finsbury
- Taylor, Miss H., Southwark
- \*Wainwright, Rev. Dr., Finsbury
- Watson, J., Marylebone
- \*Webster, Mrs. J. A., Chelsea
- Westlake, Mrs. A., Marylebone
- \*White, C., Lambeth
- Wilks, M., Finsbury
- Wylie, A., Lambeth

Out of the total of 50 members 22 had not seats on the late board, while the number of new members in 1876 and also in 1873 was 25.

From the School Board Report, issued for the half year ending March, 1880, we learn that the anticipated difficulty of carrying out the Act has not been at all equal to what was expected. In 1870 the number of children on the registers of elementary schools in England and Wales was 1,693,000; in 1874 it had risen to 2,497,000; and in 1879 to 3,710,000, showing an increase of 119 per cent. in nine years. The number of children in actual attendance in 1870 was 1,152,000; in 1874 it was 1,673,000; in 1879 it was 2,595,000, an increase of 125 per cent. The next point was the amount of accommodation. In 1870 there were 1,817,000 places; in 1874 there were 2,572,000; in 1879 there were 4,142,000, an increase of 121 per cent. The grant in 1870 was at the rate of 9s. 11d. per child; in 1874 it was 12s. 5d.; in 1879 it was 16s. 5d., an increase of 56 per cent. The percentage of population on the school registers was 7.7 in 1870, 10.6 in 1874, 14.7 in 1879. These figures were almost startling. The outlay on school buildings by School Boards and voluntary bodies has been £20,000,000 in the nine years, of which the School Boards had spent over £13,000,000. The total cost of elementary education in schools under inspection in England and Wales had never been given. In 1870 it was £1,527,000, or an average of £1 8s. 5d. per scholar; in 1874 it was £2,620,000, the average being £1 11s. 2d.; in 1879 it was £4,775,000, the average being £1 16s. 5d. The money in 1879 was made up of £136,000 from endowments, £754,000 from voluntary contributions, £636,000 from the rates, £1,372,000 in school fees, £49,000 from miscellaneous sources, and £1,878,000 from imperial funds; total, £4,755,000. In addition the cost of administration had been £987,000, so that voluntary subscriptions exceeded the contributions from the rates, and school fees exceeded both. In 1870 the average amount of school fees paid by each scholar was 8s. 4d.; in 1874, 9s. 8d.; and in 1879, 10s. 5d. The population under the Boards numbered about 13,000,000. The total expenditure of the Boards last year was £3,700,000, of which only £243,000 went for administration. The percentage of average attendance in 1870 was 88.1. In 1874 it had fallen to 67.2, but last year it had risen to 69.9; and that average was considerably less than it would have been if it were not for the half-timers, who caused a depreciation of at least 10 per cent. The proportion of scholars examined in the fourth standard and upwards in 1870 was 19 per cent; in 1874, 18.1 per cent; and in 1879, 22.1 per cent. The numbers examined were, in 1870, 102,630; and in 1879, 888,680. There are 77 blind children taught in 29 different schools; and there are also 162 deaf mutes under instruction on what is termed the "Dual System"—that is, sign and lip teaching, and there are many more children waiting for school accommodation. The rise in the number of certificated teachers had been from 12,647 in 1870 to 29,766 in 1879. Assistant teachers had increased from 1262 to 6616, and pupil teachers from 14,300 to 33,195.

Amount of Salaries of Head and Assistant Teachers.

Number of Departments.	Fixed Salary.		Share of Grant.		Total.
	No. of Teachers.	Amount.	No. of Teachers.	Amount.	
		£ s.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Head Masters ...	274	44,720 0	252	19,847 15 2	64,467 15 2
Head Mistresses ...	500	53,672 0	465	25,286 6 9	78,958 6 0
Assistant Masters ...	897	78,458 0	507	19,195 13 5	97,653 13 5
Assistant Mistresses ...	1458	100,635 10	1163	24,174 7 2	124,809 17 2
Total ...	3129	277,385 10	2687	88,504 1 9	365,889 11 9

CIVIL LIST PENSIONS.

The grant of a Civil List Pension of larger amount than usual may call attention to this class of pensions and their limitations. They are granted under the Civil List Act of 1 Vict., c. 2, whereby it is provided that there shall be paid quarterly out of the Consolidated Fund, such pensions, at the rate of £1200 a year for each year of her Majesty's reign as may be granted by her Majesty, chargeable on the Civil List revenues. But the statute enacts that such pensions "shall be granted to such persons only as have just claims on the Royal beneficence, or who, by their personal services to the Crown, by the performance of duties to the public, or by their useful discoveries in science and attainments in literature and the arts, have

merited the gracious consideration of their Sovereign and the gratitude of their country." Forty-three years have seen the list of these pensioners very much thinned by death. The finance accounts for 1879 showed that the total amount of the pensions then payable was but £22,108, and the accounts for 1880 show that there was not a net increase of £1200 in the year, the total being still only £22,467.

The additions to the List last year were as follows:—  
Mrs. Sarah Vargas, £25, in consideration of the long and meritorious services of her late husband, Mr. Peter Vargas, superintendent of the Parliamentary messengers under the Secretary to the Treasury.

Miss Sarah Sophia Vargas, £25; Miss Clara Vargas, £25; Miss Louisa Emily Vargas, £25; Miss Rosa Vargas, £25; Miss Henrietta Vargas, £25, in consideration of the long and meritorious services of their father, the late Mr. Peter Vargas, superintendent of the Parliamentary messengers under the Secretary to the Treasury.

Miss Mary Ann Sydney Turner, £75, in consideration of the services rendered by her father, the late Very Rev. Sydney Turner, as inspector of reformatories and industrial schools.

Miss Millicent Flora Louisa MacLeay, £100, in consideration of the services rendered to art by her father, the late Mr. Kenneth MacLeay, a life visitor of the Royal Scottish Academy.

Mr. Richard Henry Hengist Horne, £50, in addition to the pension of £50, granted in 1874, in recognition of his contributions to literature.

Mrs. Marian Hepworth Dixon, £100, in consideration of the literary services of her late husband, Mr. William Hepworth Dixon.

Mr. Walter Hood Fitch, £100, in recognition of his long and valuable services towards the advancement of botanical science.

Mr. William Thomas Best, £100, in consideration of his services to music.

Mr. Samuel Carter Hall, £150, in recognition of his literary services.  
Dr. Henry Dunbar, £80, in consideration of his services to classical literature.

Miss Georgina Jackson, £40, in consideration of her philological researches.  
Lady Goss, £70, in consideration of the services rendered to music by her husband, the late Sir John Goss.

Mrs. Anne Jane Sampson and Miss Julia Goss, £60 (jointly) in similar consideration of the services of their father, the late Sir John Goss.

Mrs. Broun, £75, in consideration of the services rendered to science by her husband, the late Mr. J. A. Brown, F.R.S.

Lady Fothergill-Cooke, £50, in consideration of the services of her husband, the late Sir W. Fothergill-Cooke, in connection with the introduction of the telegraphic system into this country.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

A good harvest is plainly an addition to the wealth of the country, whether evenly distributed or otherwise. This wealth is of the kind which is rather an addition to revenue than to capital. Abundant crops at once improve the circumstances of the farmer who sows and reaps them; the landowner is also put in a better position, for rent depends upon the average yield of land, and a good year raises the average. The consumer should, of course, be benefited, for the cheapness and abundance of food leave them more to spend on the secondary necessities and luxuries of life. Trade and profits are thereby increased, and wages tend to rise in all industries.

In the twelve months ending Aug. 31, 1880, the import of wheat into the United Kingdom reached 59,815,691 cwt., equal to 13,803,621 qrs., and when we add to this the import of wheat flour, which amounted to 10,431,726 cwt., or 2,980,493 qrs., we find that we received from abroad no fewer than 70,747,417 cwt., or 16,784,114 qrs. of wheat and wheat flour. In the twelvemonth ending Aug. 31, 1878, the amount was 62,255,125 cwt., or 14,808,968 qrs., and in the twelvemonth ending Aug. 31, 1879, it was 60,849,823 cwt., or 14,543,607 qrs. Our other imports of corn in the twelvemonth ending Aug. 31, 1880, comprised 31,870,896 cwt., or 7,436,542 qrs., of Indian corn or maize; 12,882,665 cwt., or 3,467,147 qrs. of barley; the very large quantity of 15,622,912 cwt., or 5,681,059 qrs. of oats; 2,027,772 cwt., or 445,061 qrs. of peas; and 2,754,518 cwt., or 645,721 qrs. of beans. The grand totals are as follows:—In 1877-8, the twelvemonth's import thus classed under the title of "corn," amounted to 134,430,348 cwt., or 33,858,689 qrs.; in 1878-9 it was 124,806,538 cwt., or 31,510,900 qrs.; and in 1879-80 it reached 134,881,180 cwt., or 34,456,644 qrs.

The American wheat crop of 1880 was estimated to yield 450,000,000 bushels, and the home consumption 250,000,000 bushels, thus leaving an available surplus for exportation of 200,000,000 bushels, which is much above the average of previous years. The value of the exports of American bread and breadstuffs during each of the last two years has exceeded in value the exports of any other commodity, and it is of interest to know that there was in 1879 an increase in the value of breadstuffs of 28,577,687 dollars over that of 1878, an increase of 15.72 per cent. The splendid harvests enabled the American farmers to send us in 1878 and 1879 150,000,000 bushels of wheat and flour. The actual exports of breadstuffs from the United States for the calendar year 1879 amounted to 177,908,553 bushels—that is, 147,265,648 bushels of wheat, against 134,319,966 bushels for the year 1878.

The following table shows the several crop products of the United States for the calendar year 1879:—

Crop.	Acres.	Yield.	Product.
Corn ...	53,085,401	26.9	Bushels 1,514,899,000
Cotton ...	12,516,000	191 lb.	Bales 5,020,389
Barley ...	1,730,000	23.9	Bushels 40,000,000
Buckwheat ...	640,200	20.9	" 13,438,000
Oats ...	12,683,500	28.7	" 365,000,000
Potatoes ...	1,836,820	98.9	" 181,369,340
Rye ...	1,550,000	15.9	" 23,616,000
Tobacco ...	493,167	723	Lb. 384,059,659
Wheat ...	32,800,000	13	Bushels 448,755,000

The total value of the above crops was 1,904,480,659 dollars, an increase in wheat of 28,633,000 bushels, and a decrease in cotton of 196,814 bales.