

ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE EAST LONDON SYNAGOGUE.

THE East London Synagogue, of which an illustration is annexed, is in course of erection on a plot of ground extending from Stepney Green to Rectory Square. It will be built along the Rectory Square frontage, and will have at one end of it a house for the minister, and at the other end a similar house, the upper portion of which will be used for a beadle's residence, and the lower portion for a committee-room, robing-room, retiring-rooms, &c. The entrances to both houses will be from Rectory Square only, while the Synagogue will be entered both from Rectory Square and along a private footway from Stepney Green.

The Synagogue itself will occupy a parallelogram about 50 feet wide and 70 feet long, and will resemble a galleried church, having shallow side galleries over the aisles, and a deep western gallery over the entrance-hall, and from this will rise two staircases in the angles giving access to the galleries. It will have a flat panelled ceiling of stained wood supported by a nave arcade three bays in length.

The ground-floor or body of the Synagogue will be occupied entirely by male, and the galleries by female worshippers. The large entrance-hall is required for the purpose of the meeting of the occupants of the ground-floor and galleries after the performance of the service.

In order to avoid any obstruction to the view from any part of the building, the four columns which carry the nave arcade will be of cast iron. The fronts of the side galleries will be carried by wrought-iron lattice girders, spanning from column to column, and which at the same time will form the gallery railing or balustrade.

The internal walls are to be faced with red bricks below, lined with cement dados, with buff bricks above, and banded with black and white brick string courses.

The ark, or recessed chamber for containing the scrolls of the law, will occupy a raised platform at the east end of the building. It will be constructed of stone, with inlay panels of coloured marble, the front of the recess being closed by ornamental sliding doors of oak and walnut.

The reading-desk will be at the west end of the ground-floor, and will be constructed of wood raised on a platform, and surrounded by a balustrade and handrail.

Sittings will be provided on the ground-floor for 360 male congregants and 24 officials—viz., ministers, wardens, choristers, &c.—and in the galleries for 220 female congregants, making a total of 604 sittings.

The heating of the Synagogue will be effected by hot water pipes placed in channels beneath the floor, and the lighting will be by means of four large sunburners. The latter, together with a carefully-considered system of fresh air inlets, will provide for the ventilation of the building.

The style of the building is an adaptation of Byzantine work to modern requirements; but the exterior, being situated in an unimportant street, will be of the plainest possible character.

The amount of the contract for the Synagogue and houses (exclusive of the lighting and heating arrangements and the cost of the seats) is 6,397*l.* The contractor is Mr. THOMAS ENNOR, 242 Commercial Road, E. The buildings have been designed by, and are being carried out under the superintendence of Messrs. DAVIS & EMANUEL, architects, 2 Finsbury Circus, City.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL, NEW CROSS.

THESE buildings comprise in the basement a large school-room, five class-rooms or vestries, a tea-parlour, and the requisite offices for the children.

On the ground-floor entering from the New Cross Road is the chapel, approached by large porch and inner lobbies, and comprising with gallery round three sides of the building sitting accommodation for 1,010 persons. There is a large chancel recess for communion lined with MINTON'S encaustic tiles, and reredos formed in same, also large ministers' vestry and organ chamber.

The front façade is in Suffolk bricks and Bath stone dressings, the seating and fittings throughout are in pitch pine.

The contract was let to Mr. HAMMER, of Greenwich, for 4,500*l.*, who carried out the whole of the works in a satisfactory manner from the designs and under the superintendence of Mr. ALEX. LAUDER, architect, of Barnstable. The Rev. Mr. JOHNSTONE, of Wood Green, acted as the clerk of the works.

CAEWERN, NEATH.

THIS house is being built on a commanding site near the town of Neath. The planning of the offices was governed to some extent by the requirements of the site. The materials are local Pennant stone of a grey-brown tint for walling, with Combe Down stone dressings. The main quoins and some bands, however, are of red Forest of Dean stone, which adds a good deal of warmth to the tone. The roofs are covered with grey Whitland slates, with red cresting from Cooper. The walls on south and west aspects are built hollow, the inner lining being of brick.

The staircase hall is open to the ceiling, with a gallery running round two sides. The drawing-room has rather an unusual amount

of window surface, as it was desirable to take advantage of the fine scenery on all sides.

The architect is Mr. J. BACON FOWLER, of Swansea and Brecon. Mr. THOMAS, of Neath, is the contractor, and Mr. HANCOCK clerk of the works.

ART IN BIRMINGHAM.

THE Spring Water-Colour Exhibition of the Birmingham Royal Society of Artists, which opened on Saturday last, is the largest of the series, containing upwards of 900 drawings and oil sketches, including many which have already passed the ordeal of criticism at the Royal Academy and other exhibitions. Among those may be mentioned G. K. Johnson's garden scene, "Gathering rose leaves;" a large sea piece by E. Duncan, "St. Abb's Head;" "Marmion's Defiance," by Sir John Gilbert; "On dangerous ground," by H. B. Roberts; a couple of sketches by the late David Roberts; "A Bedouin Arab," by John Lewis; a small but vivid oil study by John Brett, "The Giant's Playground, Scilly Isles;" "The interior of St. Beauvais," by Louis Haghe; "A Halt in the Desert," by Carl Haag; "Dunstanborough Castle," by A. W. Hunt; "The last of the Homeward Bound," by Briton Rivière; a "Barley Field," by C. J. Lewis; the "Roman Campagna," by Harry Johnson; English landscapes, by Hine, J. Collier, and Frupp; a figure subject, "Firewood," by W. Small; and "A Dilemma," by Hubert Herkomer. Other works of interest, chiefly water-colours, are by H. Moore, H. Dawson, C. S. Lidderdale, J. Houston, Elijah Walton, James Webb, Frederick Taylor, J. D. Linton, J. Steeple, J. D. Watson, A. W. Bayes, C. R. Aston, R. S. Chattock, O. Brierley, R. Beavis, E. Bale, Hugh Carter, J. J. Jenkins, Paul Naftel, H. O'Neil, J. C. Reed, P. M. Feeney, and G. Wolfe. Most of the local artists show a decided advance on their previous performances, but the elder ones are but poorly represented, or do not exhibit at all. Mr. Pratt, Mr. Howard Harris, and Mr. Eden are conspicuous in figure subjects. Mr. Allen Everitt in architectural drawings, Mr. S. H. Baker, Mr. E. Taylor, Mr. Munns, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Radclyffe, and Mr. A. R. Carpenter in landscape, Mr. Starkey and Miss Westwood in fruit and flower pieces, and Miss Myra Bunce in still life. There was a large attendance at the private view, and many of the principal works found purchasers before the close of the day.

EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS IN NOTTINGHAM.

THE sum of 10,000*l.* was offered in the early part of last year by some anonymous donor to the Town Council of Nottingham towards the erection and endowment of buildings for the extension of University teaching. After much consideration, the Public Buildings Committee of the Corporation proposed that the best course to adopt would be to erect a special group of educational buildings which could comprise—(1.) The University Extension Buildings. (2.) The Free Library. (3.) The Natural History Museum. The Horse Fair Close, which belongs to the Corporation, and is used but three or four days in a year, was assigned as the site. It is most convenient for the purpose. In order to aid the Council the Borough Engineer, Mr. M. Ogle Tarbotton, was instructed to examine any buildings of a similar character which might exist, and to prepare a report and estimate on the project. Mr. Tarbotton says that he is not acquainted with buildings in this country which provide under one roof for all the objects intended to be grouped together. Free libraries, museums, and schools of art, where they exist, are usually separate. It was not difficult to obtain an example of a free library, as they are found in many towns. For the technical and allied buildings, he studied those in connection with the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, with Owens College, and with the South Kensington Museum, and the report contains some useful information on their arrangements.

What Mr. Tarbotton now proposes is to divide the buildings into three sections as above, but to so group them that in practice they may be isolated or combined. The range of buildings would consist generally of two floors, and with a basement as extensive as the slope of the ground will admit. There would be separate entrances to the sections. The University class-rooms, laboratories, and theatres would be arranged in the centre, with the Museums and Free Library on either side. Mr. Tarbotton has appended a view of the building to his report, but he says distinctly that it is to be considered as only indicative or suggestive. The cost of erecting the buildings "in a substantial and proper manner, of brick and stone, and having plain architecture, yet sufficient accentuation of style," he estimates at 40,000*l.*

The report of the Committee was adopted at a meeting of the Corporation on Monday last. The Committee are in consequence authorised to obtain designs for the building by public competition, to expend a sum not exceeding 300 guineas in two premiums, and are empowered to secure the services of competent and impartial judges to determine the persons to whom such premiums should be awarded.

ALL HALLOWS CHURCH.

THE Chancellor of the Diocese of London, Dr. Tristram, had an application before him at the Consistory Court, on Monday, by the rector and churchwardens of the parish of Allhallows, Upper Thames Street, for a faculty or licence to remove the vestibule of the church, with the view to widen the street near the Cannon Street Station. The Rev. Mr. Stock, the rector, and the vestry clerk, gave evidence in support of the application. The church was partly destroyed by the Great Fire, and by the removal of the portion indicated on a plan considerable public improvements would be effected. The Commissioners of Sewers had offered a sum of 4,000*l.*, and that amount would be sufficient, it was thought, to make the required alterations. The Chancellor said he would grant a faculty for the alterations, and speak to the Bishop of London on the other subject. He believed there was an Act of Parliament to effect the contemplated improvements. The rector and vestry clerk pointed out the public benefit that would accrue by widening Thames Street near the railway station.