

✓ *Bedford - Cont.*

In 1653 Bunyan joined the congregation of Bedford's St. John's Church, whose pastor was the dissenter John Gifford. The old rectory, which still stands beside the church, was undoubtedly the building he had in mind as the House of the Interpreter in *Pilgrim's Progress*, since Gifford was the original of the interpreter. After attending here for a while Bunyan followed in Gifford's footsteps by going out to preach in the neighboring villages.

In Bunyan's day sanitation was practically nonexistent, even in a town as important as Bedford. An open gulley, running down the middle of the street, was a common receptacle for refuse of all kinds. As the unsavory odors reached Bunyan through his jail window, he dreamed of the fresh air of the fields and the country roads he knew so well, and wrote of the Valley of the Shadow of Death "full of great stinks and loathsome smells."

(Bunyan Meeting is open all year, Tues.-Fri., 10-12 and 2-4:30. Nominal charge.)

BODMIN MOOR (Cornwall): 25 mi. W of Plymouth

Probably the most famous literary pilgrimage in Cornwall is to Jamaica Inn, the gaunt gray-stone inn on the lonely road across Bodmin Moor, which Daphne du Maurier has immortalized in her novel of the same name. Just as in the book, the place is charged with atmosphere. Also nearby is Frenchman's Creek, a hidden inlet of the Helford River, where she set another historical romance. The actual creek lies about half a mile west of Helford village, on the river's south bank.

BRIGHTON (Sussex)

In his long narrative poem *Don Juan*, Byron wrote "Shut up—not the King, but the Pavilion/Or else 'twill cost us another million." The Royal Pavilion is still Brighton's chief tourist

attraction. Byron was invited to the Prince's birthday celebration here in 1808, perhaps because the latter was intrigued by the many rumors of the poet's romantic exploits and wild lifestyle. At the time the Prince himself was resented for the manner in which he poured large sums from the country's treasury into the garish palace, where his mistresses resided with him.

During the early part of the nineteenth century Brighton Camp was the most popular military post on the southern coast. The officers often gave military parades and reviews, and Brighton became a mecca for young girls who fancied themselves walking along the Promenade on the arm of a handsome young officer. Lydia, in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, had fantasies of visiting the camp, a mirage of tents crowded with festive young people, and at one point imagined herself flirting with six officers at a time.

Thackeray spent much time here in the 1840's and stayed at the Old Ship Hotel in the town center while writing *Vanity Fair*, which has a number of settings in the town. George and Amelia spent their honeymoon here, and several of the officers waited in Brighton to be called over to the Continent in the battle against Napoleon. Lord Steyne is thought to have been modeled in part after the Prince of Wales's friend Lord Hertford, and the salvationist Lady Southdown after the mother of Lord Huntington, who founded a Nonconformist church in North Street. Thackeray wrote many articles on Brighton for *Punch*, and at one point described it as gay and gaudy, like a harlequin's jacket. Both Thackeray and Dickens were guests at literary parties held in the private salon of novelist Horace Smith at 21 Sillwood Place, and they both gave lectures at the Town Hall. Dickens stayed at the Bedford Hotel while writing most of *Bleak House* and *Dombey and Son*, and, in fact, made the elder Mr. Dombey a guest there in the novel.

Arnold Bennett gave a graphic description of Brighton during the late Victorian era in his novel *Hilda Lessways*. The characters from the *The Old Wives' Tale* and other novels of the Five Towns viewed Brighton as a town of wealth and luxury which contrasted strongly with such northern "pleasure cities" as Blackpool and Llandudno.

CAMBRIDGE (Cambridgeshire): 50 mi. N of London

Cambridge University: Literary associations abound in this university city. Many of the pioneers of English literature, among them Milton, Spenser, and Ben Jonson, were trained at the beautiful colleges here on the River Cam. The more modern Wordsworth wrote almost all of his great poetry as a young revolutionary Cambridge graduate of St. John's, and Byron's memorial to his dog—Boatswain's monument, at Newstead Abbey—is the result of a whim he had while at Trinity College. His alma mater's library has the statue of Byron that was absolutely refused by the authorities at Westminster Abbey.

Almost the first sight in Cambridge is cathedral-like King's College Chapel, whose beautiful pinnacles are visible long before you reach the city center. The chapel itself dominates the King's Parade. Inside, twenty-four magnificent sixteenth-century stained-glass windows stretch in tiers almost from the floor to the ceiling. When sunshine streams through the windows, shafts of many colors dance about the room, and as the organ fills the chapel with music you realize how the grandeur of the building inspired the sonnets of William Wordsworth.

Across the quadrangle is an open archway which leads to the River Cam and the smooth, sloping lawns of the Backs, so called because the rear elevation of several of the colleges face the river. With their tree-lined riverside walks, the Backs form one of the great attractions of Cambridge. Here are some beautiful views of the colleges from the river. One of the best is from the Bridge of Sighs, linking the two courts of St. John's College. At this point the water laps the walls of the college library, whose displays include some early examples of William Caxton's printing.

Through a castellated gateway is the spacious Great Court of Trinity College with its canopied fountain. Among its famous scholars are Tennyson, Bacon, and Wordsworth. Across the river and set a little apart from the other colleges is Magdalene, whose library contains books and manuscripts given by the diarist Samuel Pepys on his death in 1703. The collection

includes the original six-volume manuscript of the famous diary, laid open so that visitors can see the shorthand that so long baffled decipherers.

Farther on, past King's College, are Corpus Christi and St. Catherine's, facing each other close to the junction of King's Parade and Trumpington Street. On the fourteenth-century Old Court at Corpus Christi is a plaque indicating the windows of the room where the Elizabethan playwright Christopher Marlowe lived when he was an undergraduate here.

(Colleges are open to the public most days during daylight hours.)

CANTERBURY (Kent): 50 mi. E of London

Modern pilgrims to Canterbury enter the city by the same West Gate that Chaucer and his entourage used over eight hundred years ago when they came here from London to pay respects to Archbishop Thomas à Becket, who was murdered in the Cathedral by four knights in 1170, the year the building was completed.

Though almost nothing in the Cathedral is now arranged as it was in the twelfth century, Becket's footsteps can be traced along the arcaded wall of the cloisters and into the Cathedral through the northwest door. Legend has it that the monks with him barred the door, knowing that the knights were coming, but Becket insisted the bars be removed. Soon the knights burst in, an argument ensued, and Becket threw one man to the floor. But the others drew their swords and Becket was dead after three slashes. A simple memorial sculpture has been placed on the wall just above the spot where he is said to have fallen. You can envision him coming through the doorway just to the right as he did immediately before his death in 1170, and more recently during the premiere performance of T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*.

Becket's body was first buried in the Cathedral crypt and later moved to an elaborate shrine behind Trinity Chapel. It is said that the shrine encasing the tomb was covered with great plates of gold encrusted with diamonds, rubies, emeralds,

and other jewels. For three centuries, countless pilgrims came to venerate St. Thomas and to seek the miraculous cures which purportedly occurred at the site. Some of them are pictured in the beautiful, glowing, stained-glass "miracle windows" encircling the shrine area. In 1538, however, King Henry VIII ordered the shrine destroyed, Becket's bones scattered, and all trace of the saint erased. By this act Henry was said to have enriched his own treasury with twenty-six cartloads of gold and jewels.

Charles Dickens was a frequent visitor to Canterbury, especially during the last years of his life, when he lived at nearby Gad's Hill. Much of *David Copperfield* is set here, and the core of this picturesque city has changed little since that time. In the novel he describes how the old houses and gateways and "the still nooks, where the ivied growth of centuries crept over gabled ends and ruined walls" had a softening effect on his spirit. Dickens often stayed at the Fountains Hotel in St. Margaret's Street, the County Inn where Mr. Dick slept when visiting David Copperfield. The "little inn" where Mr. Micawber stayed is thought to be the Sun Hotel in Sun Street. Dr. Strong's School, where David was sent by his aunt, is, of course, the King's School within the Cathedral grounds. Dr. Strong's residence was probably the corner building, No. 1, on Lady Wootton's Green, while the charming old house at 71 St. Dunstan's Street is thought to have been Mr. Wickfield's residence. Among great writers who attended here were Christopher Marlowe and Somerset Maugham. In fact, this is the school in Maugham's *Of Human Bondage*.

CHALFONT ST. GILES (Buckinghamshire): on A413, 2 mi. N of A40

In July, 1665, while plague was raging through London, the blind poet Milton, his wife, and daughter left their home in the Bunhill Fields section to retreat to the remote village of Chalfont, where his former Latin pupil and reader Thomas Ellwood, later imprisoned as a practicing Quaker, had found

him a "Pretty Box." This is the little red-brick house now referred to as Milton's Cottage.

During his short time there he was able to complete a long-delayed work. He had laid aside *Paradise Lost* twenty years earlier to throw all his energies into the Parliamentary cause. Then in 1660 came the Restoration. All the work he had done for the Commonwealth was gone; two of his books, *Eikonoclastes* and the *Defense of the English People*, were ordered to be called in and burned by the common hangman; and for a while he was forced to hide.

The simple cottage on a remote lane was no doubt a retreat for the then blind, disappointed poet. Since he no longer had any active part in the country's political movements, he was able to set himself back twenty years and devote all his energies to finishing *Paradise Lost*. Soon after his return to London he began work on *Paradise Regained*. Thomas Ellwood, who gave him constant encouragement on the two epic poems, and, in fact, suggested that he write a sequel to *Paradise Lost*, is buried only two miles away.

The two-room cottage, built near the end of the sixteenth century, had a succession of owners until the Milton Cottage Trust was formed in 1887. The kitchen houses relics common in Buckingham during the seventeenth century. On display is a valuable collection of various tools for lacemaking, then the chief occupation of the county's women, and, in addition, pictures of Chalfont from Milton's time to the present.

The second room was Milton's study, where he sat by the fireplace for long periods of time, dictating *Paradise Lost* to his wife and daughter. Above the mantel is the agreement of sale for that work, which made Milton and, in turn, the cottage famous. It went for a mere ten pounds. The study now has become a library lined with first editions of Milton's works in many languages. There are even copies of *Comus* in Japanese and *Paradise Regained* in Portuguese. Also represented on the shelves are Milton's Quaker contemporaries in the neighborhood, William Penn and Thomas Ellwood, who, along with many others of their persuasion, were imprisoned for their beliefs during the time he was here at the cottage.

As almost any writer's memorial, the cottage displays a piece

written while he was pacing up and down what is now Shanter Walk, and visitors are able to see the field in which Burns saw the wounded hare which inspired the poem of that name.

(Ellisland Farm is open free all year.)

ELSTOW (Bedfordshire): 5 mi. S of Bedford

Elstow, where John Bunyan conceived *Pilgrim's Progress*, his allegorical account of the development of a Christian soul, remains much as it was in his day. In the fine old church is his baptismal font and the pulpit from which he preached the sermon on Sabbath breaking which so haunted his mind.

The church overlooks the village green, where Bunyan was playing tipcat when he suddenly beheld a vision which put him "into an exceeding maze," while a voice from heaven threatened him with hellfire if he did not mend his ways. This vision altered the course of his life. The immediate result was a long period of struggle to renounce the pleasures he enjoyed, among them bell ringing and dancing on the village green.

The village green and the half-timbered Moot Hall were the center of the yearly Elstow Fair, on which Bunyan based his colorful description of "Vanity Fair." The wicket gate through which Christian passed as he set forth on his pilgrimage was suggested by the gate leading to the church, and from across the wide field beyond came Evangelist to direct him on his way.

As a traveling tinker, Bunyan knew every nook and cranny of the district, and the characters in his book were based upon the people he used to meet on his journeys through the Bedfordshire lanes. In his day the roads were so bad that often he found himself plodding through thick mire, as he depicted it a "Slough of Despond on a gloomy day." Not far from Elstow lies Stevington, where water emerges from the Holy Well. Here, in his mind's eye, Bunyan saw Christian's burden fall from his shoulders and roll down the slope into the well.

It was when Bunyan was called to mend pots and pans at the Earl of Ailesbury's mansion on Ampthill Heights that he

first glimpsed beautiful rooms, fine furniture, and rich carpets. Probably the view from the window, over the fields to the distant hills, was the inspiration for his Delectable Mountains. (Lidlington Hill, near Ampthill, is reputed to be Hill Difficulty.)

The actual House Beautiful of *Pilgrim's Progress* was nearby Houghton House, the Countess of Pembroke's home, built by Inigo Jones. It is now in ruins, but its staircase has been incorporated into the Swan Hotel in Bedford. (See also Bedford entry.) (P. 25)

EXMOOR (Devon): the area N of Exeter

Readers of Richard Blackmore's *Lorna Doone* have long flocked to the wild and beautiful scenery of Exmoor, where that vivid romance is set. These North Devon and Somerset moors, with their deep-wooded combes and rugged, heathery uplands, have hardly changed since Blackmore wrote about them a hundred years ago. His story centers around the valley of the Badgworthy Water, Hoccombe Combe, and the villages of Oare and Brendon, all of which lie inland beyond a fringe of farms on the rugged coast of the Bristol Channel. Blakemore based the novel on a collection of Doone legends concerning a band of outlaws who descended on Exmoor about 1620, taking possession of several derelict dwellings. They terrorized the neighborhood, raiding, robbing, abducting women, and murdering—until, after a particularly vile murder, probably at Exford, they were driven from their lair around 1690.

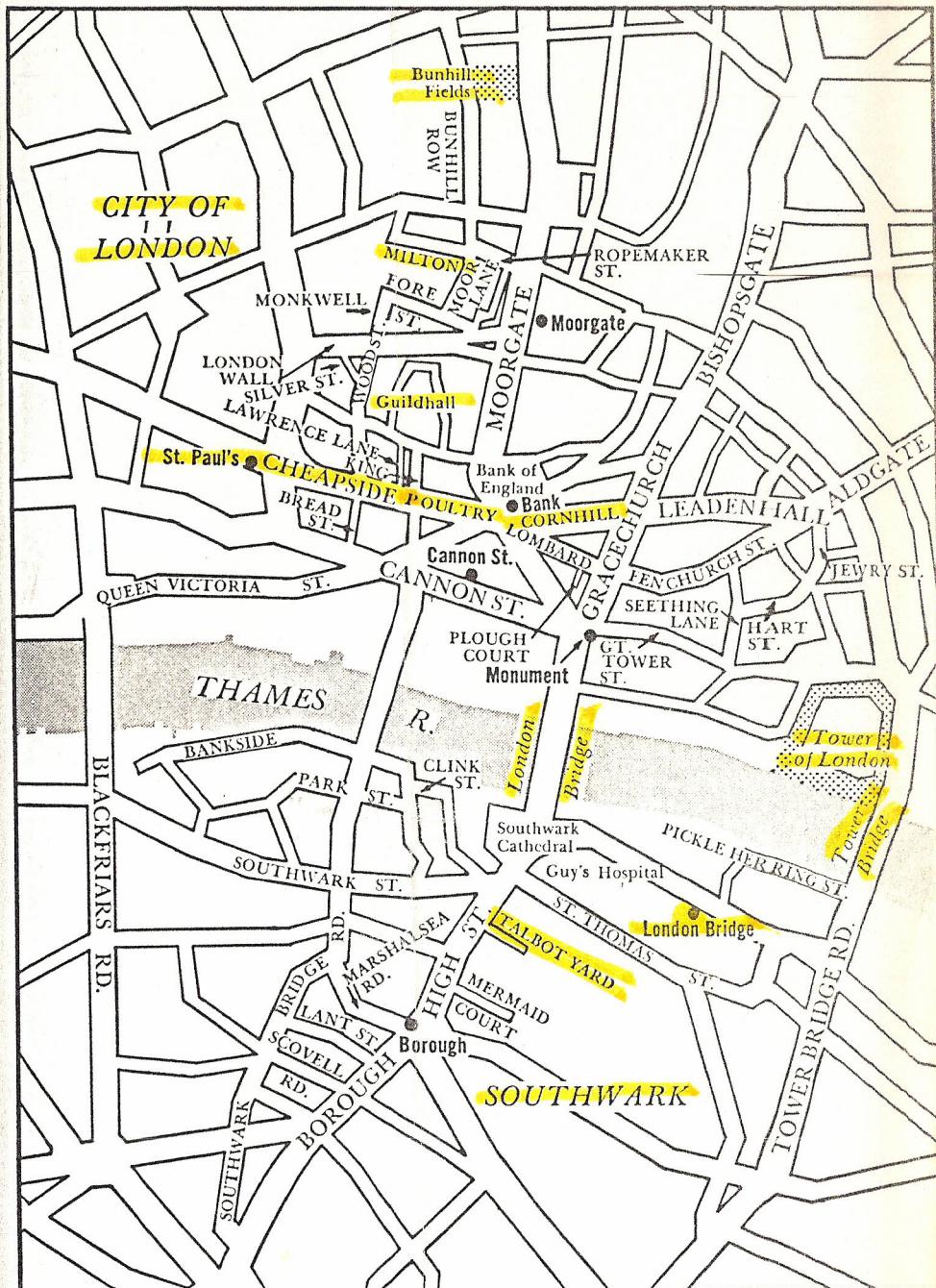
The valley named Hoccombe on the map, at the western end of Badgworthy, is probably where the Doones lived. Blackmore made Oare Church the scene of John Ridd and Lorna Doone's wedding, and it was from the north window that Carver Doone shot Lorna. Nearby is Oare Manor, a gabled house, for many years the home of the Snowe family, who figure so prominently in the tale. Lorna Doone Farm, at Malmstead, stands beside Badgworthy Water with a packhorse bridge and ford.

Just around the corner at 35 Cornhill is a plaque and portrait of Thomas Gray, who was born here in 1716. "The Curfew tolls the knell of parting day," the beginning line of his "Elegy in a Country Churchyard," is inscribed on the tablet. Nearby in the Church of St. Michael is Gray's silver-headed cane. Across the street at No. 32 is the Cornhill Insurance Company, whose intricately carved doors have a panel showing a meeting of the Brontë sisters, Charlotte and Anne, with William Makepeace Thackeray. The encounter took place in 1847, the year that *Wuthering Heights* and *Jane Eyre* were published. To the north, just up a little on King Street, is the entrance to Lawrence Lane. Over an archway there is a carved head of Sam Weller of Dickens' *Pickwick Papers*. Dickens often credited him with an extensive and peculiar knowledge of London.

Here on the Poultry, as the section of the street between Cornhill and Cheapside is named, were some of the most famous taverns frequented by literary figures of the pre-Restoration period. A number of noted eighteenth-century booksellers were located here also, and among their successful works was Boswell's biography of Johnson. Just at the point where the Poultry meets Queen Victoria Street is the Midland Bank, with a plaque indicating that it is the site of Thomas Hood's birthplace. Its inscription reads, "I remember, I remember, the house where I was born."

At the Bank of England, opposite the Mansion House, two famous writers of children's literature were once clerks: Kenneth Grahame, author of *The Wind in the Willows*, and A. A. Milne, who wrote *Toad of Toad Hall*, a dramatization of Grahame's book, and *Winnie-the-Pooh*. The bank is mentioned in the introduction to *The Wind in the Willows*: "Reading these lovely visions of childhood, you might have wondered that he could be so mixed up in anything so unlovely as a bank; and it may be presumed at the bank an equal surprise was felt that such a responsible official could be mixed up with such beauty." A block behind the Bank of England, to the east at Moorgate, is a memorial to rural poet Robert Bloomfield on the wall of Kent House.

In this area is Guildhall, seat of government for the City of London. Part of the fifteenth-century building still survives,



and the crypt and magnificent Tudor library are open to the public. Here are manuscripts of a number of famous English authors, including the first, second, and fourth folios of Shakespeare's plays. The library's stained-glass windows contain pictures of Milton and Wynkyn de Worde, and busts of Chaucer and Tennyson are on the library steps.

Coming back through King Street to where Poultry meets Cheapside, Bird in Hand Court opens on the south side. At the back of this court, at No. 76, Keats wrote his first volume of poems. Just at the corner of Cheapside and Wood streets stood the famous Mermaid Tavern, often frequented by Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, Christopher Marlowe, and John Donne. Keats, writing his sonnet on Chapman's Homer, asked:

Souls of poets have dead and gone,
What Elysium have ye known,
Happy field or mossy cavern
Choicer than the Mermaid Tavern?

Across the way in Bread Street both John Donne and Milton were born. The alleged birthplaces are marked by plaques.

By going north for a few blocks on Wood Street, where the Cavalier poet Robert Herrick was born, you come to Silver Street on the west; at the corner of Silver and Monkwell streets was Mountjoy House, where Shakespeare lived during the years he wrote many of his best plays. While he stayed here, between 1598 and 1604, he wrote *Henry V*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *As You Like It*, *All's Well that Ends Well*, *Julius Caesar*, *Hamlet*, *Measure for Measure*, *Othello*, *Macbeth*, and *King Lear*. Proof of Shakespeare's residence was unearthed by an American scholar, William Wallace, while he was going through dusty documents at the English Record Office in 1909.

Continuing north on Wood Street through London Wall to Fore Street, you come to the Church of St. Giles Cripplegate, where Milton is buried. His statue, which once stood in the front, is now at the Cripplegate Institute, but his grave is marked by a stone on the floor near the altar, and there is a simple bust near the south wall. Daniel Defoe was born in the parish of the church in 1659. Where Fore Street meets Moor-

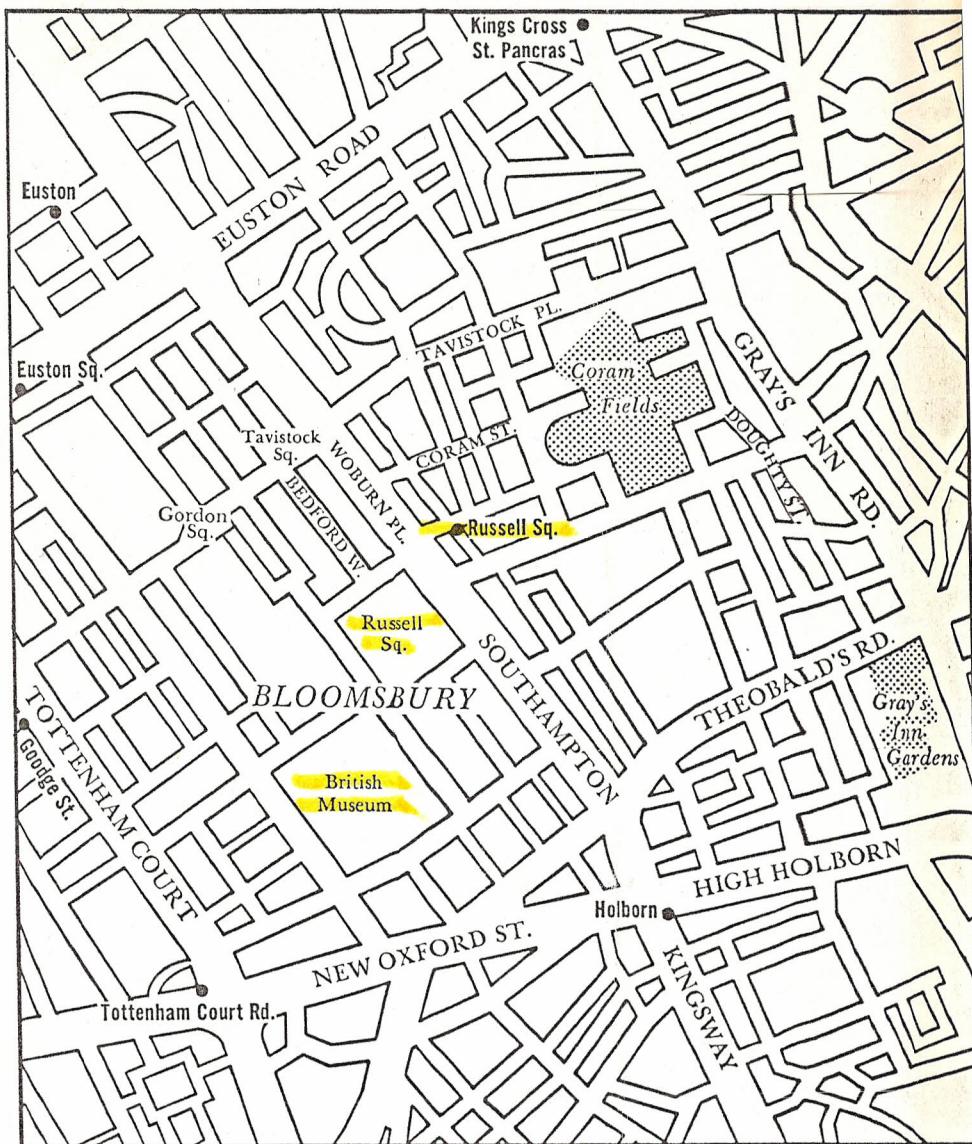
gate stands the Moorgate Public House, with a plaque stating that John Keats was born in the Swan and Hoop, which formerly stood there.

Branching north off Fore Street is Moor Lane, which takes you to Milton Street. This, the Grub Street of Pope's obloquy, was the home of impoverished writers during the eighteenth century. Dr. Johnson spoke of it as the street inhabited by writers "of small histories, dictionaries, and temporary poems."

Just across from Milton Street is Ropemaker Street, formerly Ropemaker Alley, where Daniel Defoe died while hiding from some unknown danger. The west end of Ropemaker Street leads into Moor Lane, which in turns leads into Bunhill Row. It was at No. 125 on this street that Milton died. Here, before the outbreak of the Great Plague, he wrote *Paradise Lost* and lived with his young second wife, who acted as companion and amanuensis for the blind poet. After the publication of that great work, visitors from all over came to wander around Bunhill Fields, always hoping to encounter the frail blind man who often sat on his front steps or meandered around the streets. In the adjacent Nonconformist cemetery of Bunhill Fields, John Bunyan, Daniel Defoe, Isaac Watts, and William Blake lie. "Nonconformist" generally meant those who did not conform to the Church of England or constitutional authority. About one hundred feet or so in on the left is the tomb of John Bunyan, and to the right of that is a dark obelisk, marking the grave of Daniel Defoe. Mystical poet William Blake's small, blackened slab is also nearby. His body was one not accepted at Westminster Abbey.

BRITISH MUSEUM AREA

There is no end to literary associations at the British Museum. You could spend days in the first floor Manuscript Salon and in King's Library, lifting the dark cloths off the display cases and peering in to read the well-preserved papers. There are ancient manuscripts of Beowulf and Chaucer, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, *Piers Plowman*, one of the earliest Book of



● Underground Station

Hours, first folios of Shakespeare; scores of more recent holograph manuscripts, among them Eliot's *The Mill on the Floss*, Hardy's *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*, Pepys's *Diary*, and scores more noted holograph letters by famous authors. You can stand here to read John Donne's letter from prison, Charles Lamb's description of his dinner with Wordsworth, or Charles Darwin's defense of his *The Origin of Species*. Then, of course, near the entrance is the Rosetta Stone, key to translating Egyptian hieroglyphics. In the Duveen Gallery are the Elgin Marbles, which inspired John Keats to write his famous "Ode to a Grecian Urn."

Many famous writers have lived in the tall gray town houses on Russell Square, just behind the museum. Ralph Waldo Emerson stayed at No. 63 when he came to London in 1833. Writer Mary Russell Mitford lived at No. 56 and often had William Wordsworth and Walter Savage Landor as her guests. T. S. Eliot used No. 24 as his London address for many years when he was an editor for the publishing firm of Faber and Faber, which had its offices there. Thackeray even set part of *Vanity Fair* on this square. The Osbornes lived at No. 96 and the Sedleys at No. 62.

Much has been written on the lives of the famous Bloomsbury group, which was centered around Gordon Square at the turn of the century. Recent biographies of Lytton Strachey and Virginia Woolf describe in detail the everyday lives of the brilliant and artistic men and women who lived here. Virginia Stephen Woolf and Vanessa Stephen Bell, daughters of Sir Leslie Stephen, were longtime members of the group, as were editor and historian Leonard Woolf, husband of Virginia, and Clive Bell, art and literary critic, husband of Vanessa.

No. 46 Gordon Square was where the Bloomsbury circle first became acquainted. When their father, Leslie Stephen, died, Virginia, Vanessa, and their two brothers, Thoby and Adrian, leased the house and moved here from their parents' rather inhibiting home in Kensington. Here the intellectual associations began, with Thoby Stephen bringing home his Cambridge friends. Soon Leonard Woolf, Clive Bell, Lytton Strachey, Maynard Keynes, and others began meeting to talk into the morning hours. Even after Vanessa and Virginia married and moved to

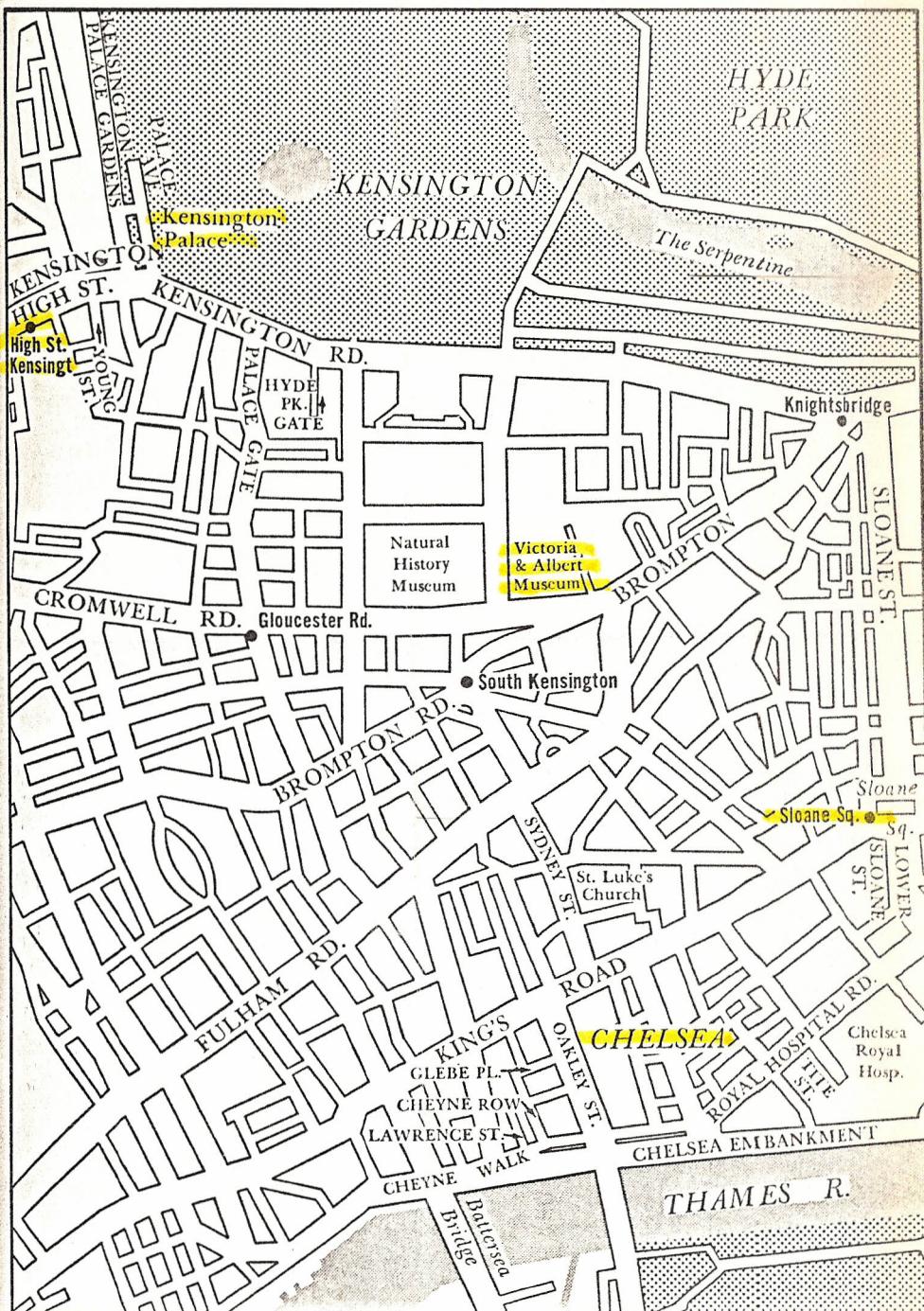
other nearby houses, No. 46 remained the center of activity for the group. John Maynard Keynes and his wife, the dancer Lydia Lopokova, lived there after them. Then for a while artist Duncan Grant lived with the Bells at No. 37 and at No. 50 which was also at times the residence of Adrian Stephen and his wife.

A block north through Bedford West is **Tavistock Square**, where Charles Dickens lived for ten years at **Tavistock House**, which stood on the square's northeast corner, and wrote *Hard Times*, *Little Dorrit*, and *A Tale of Two Cities*. In his back garden he erected a small theater and staged productions, often playing a leading part himself. Years later Virginia and Leonard Woolf settled at No. 52 and set up the Hogarth Press in their basement. Here they printed the first editions of T. S. Eliot's *Waste Land*. Both the Dickens and Woolf houses were bombed out during the war, and the Tavistock Hotel has been built on the site of the Woolf residence. Across Woburn Place on Coram Street, one block south of Tavistock Place, Thackeray lived in poverty at No. 13. Richard Le Gallienne, poet and critic of the aesthetic movement, lived at No. 49.

CHELSEA

Sloane Square Station is a good place to begin a walking tour of Chelsea's literary spots. Just to the right on the square is the Royal Court Theatre, famous for having produced many plays of George Bernard Shaw, Somerset Maugham, and John Galsworthy earlier in the century.

Lower Sloane Street across the square leads down to Royal Hospital Road, where the Royal Hospital for disabled veterans is located. Though Nell Gwyn supposedly encouraged her lover Charles II to found the hospital, diarist John Evelyn was more important in its establishment. Dr. John Arbuthnot, satirical writer and friend of Swift and Pope, and the one to whom Pope's famous poem "Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot" is addressed, was chief physician here. Thomas Hardy often came here to see the military museum and talk to the old soldiers in order to get



● Underground Station

poems of Sir Walter Scott. Novelist Charles Kingsley was curate here for a time, and Charles Dickens married Catherine Hogarth here in 1836. No. 36 was once the home of Bertrand Russell.

FLEET STREET and DR. JOHNSON

Fleet Street has long been called "the Street of Scribblers" for its associations with printing and journalism. A good place to begin a walk of this area is the point where Fleet Street and Middle Temple Lane meet. At No. 1 is Child's Bank, which has been there since its founding in 1674 and has had such well-known clients as Defoe and Dryden. The original building was the Tellson's Bank of *A Tale of Two Cities*, and was, according to Dickens, "very small, very dark, very ugly, very inconvenient," and "the triumphant perfection of inconvenience." Just across the street stood the famous Cock Tavern, where Samuel Pepys came to meet and charm women, and which headwaiter Alfred Tennyson later celebrated in his poetry. Dickens often frequented its successor, the Cock Tavern at No. 17. In his chosen corner, in what is now called the Dickens Room, the plate he used is still preserved. The Devil Tavern, a well-known haunt for eighteenth-century poets, was also on this block. Here Ben Jonson helped form the Apollo Club, one of England's first literary groups. And just a few doors down on the east side of Fleet Street, at No. 37, was the Mitre Tavern, now Hoare's Bank, where Samuel Johnson and Oliver Goldsmith used to meet.

Falcon Court, the next street to the right after Inner Temple Lane, is the site of Wynkyn de Worde's sixteenth-century printing shop, The Falcon. *Gorboduc*, England's first tragedy, was printed here. A bit farther down, at No. 39 was The Mitre bookstore, where Milton's *Paradise Regained* and *Samson Agonistes* were first sold in 1671. A few years later the Blue Anchor, another store close by, began selling Milton's poems.

Just off Fleet Street in Wine Office Court is the Cheshire Cheese, the renowned restaurant where Dr. Johnson, Boswell, Goldsmith, and the rest of the Johnson circle met regularly.

Johnson's portrait dominates the head table. A room on the second floor was frequented by the Rhymers Club of the 1890's—Arthur Symons, Ernest Dowson, W. B. Yeats, and others. No. 6 Wine Office Court was the home of Oliver Goldsmith while he was writing *The Vicar of Wakefield*. It is said that Goldsmith discussed the progress of the novel many times as they sat there at the Cheshire Cheese, and that on its completion Johnson whisked it off to a bookseller and sold it for sixty guineas, just in time to keep Goldsmith from being arrested for not paying his rent.

Johnson's House stands farther on through the winding court-yard in Gough Square. Here the great lexicographer lived from 1748 to 1758, compiling his famous dictionary in the garret. His biographer, Boswell, who did not know him while he lived here, ascertained that the room was "fitted up like a counting house," with clerks writing assiduously as they leaned over the long table strewn with papers. Although Johnson employed six clerks (five of whom were Scotsmen), they apparently did not help with the research. He often toiled here for over twenty-four hours at a time without relief during the ten-year period that the project went on. During the last few years he lost two of the clerks to illness and had to take over their work also. There were four editions of the dictionary in his lifetime. With revisions it remained the standard English dictionary for about a hundred years, before the *Oxford Dictionary* took its place.

The garret is now bare and clean, with beams protruding from carefully whitewashed walls. Visitors must imagine the busy scene here over two hundred years ago. Joshua Reynolds once described a visit to this room, which Johnson also considered his library. Besides Johnson's books, covered with a thick layer of dust, was a crazy old card table, and an even older elbow chair with only three legs.

There are no original furnishings in the house. After Dr. Johnson left, it was occupied by tenants until its restoration in 1911. Throughout, however, are many valuable oil paintings which reveal much of Johnson's world. In the dining room and parlor hang portraits of those close to the author, among them actor David Garrick, whom he considered a master of the stage;

his companion and biographer, James Boswell; and dramatist Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Also here is the famous oil of Dr. Johnson reading Goldsmith's *The Vicar of Wakefield*. Scattered among the other paintings which line the walls of the room from the first to the third floor are innumerable likenesses of Johnson and copies of the famous Joshua Reynolds portrait.

On the landing is Goodman's sketch of Lichfield, Dr. Johnson's birthplace. The handboard you are given upon entering has a comprehensive account of his life in that town before he came to London at age twenty-eight. In the library, possibly once Dr. Johnson's bedroom, is Catherine Read's painting of Elizabeth Carter, the bluestocking whom Johnson so admired for her intellectual accomplishments.

Until Johnson came to Gough Square he had led a wretched existence. His poem "London," an imitation of Juvenal's satire on Rome, had made his talent evident to the booksellers who commissioned him to do the dictionary. It was then that he came to Gough Square to lead a life of hard work with a bit of personal tragedy. While he was working on his colossal task his devoted wife, Tetty, died, leaving him lonely and heartsick. Several times he was carried off to debtors' prison until he was rescued by Samuel Richardson, the novelist and printer.

It was from this house that he wrote to Lord Chesterfield, who had snubbed him years before and, now that Johnson was famous, was anxious to be his patron. Johnson replied, "The notice which you have been pleased to take of my labors, had it been early, had been kind; but it has been delayed till I am indifferent, and cannot enjoy it; till I am solitary, and cannot impart it; till I am known, and do not want it."

(Johnson's House is open all year daily except Sun. and bank holidays, May-Sept. 10:30-5; Apr.-Oct. 10:30-4:30; nominal charge.)

Back through Wine Office Court and across Fleet Street is St. Bride's Church, novelist Samuel Richardson's burial place. Rebuilt by Wren after the Great Fire, and then destroyed by the Blitz in World War II, the church has been restored very closely to Wren's original drawings. During excavations for rebuilding the church the skeleton buried before the altar of

St. Catherine was identified almost positively as that of Wynkyn de Worde.

St. Bride's has long been a journalist's church. In fact, the Press Association and Reuters were responsible for its renovation after World War II. The basement has, in addition to the crypts, a photographic exhibit of the church's restoration and an illustrated narrative of the growth of the publishing industry since the Middle Ages. Richardson's coffin is in a crypt discovered during the postwar restoration, along with those of his two wives and a few relatives. Behind the pipes at one end are the remains of a sixth-century church, the apse of its ninth-century successor, and remains of a twelfth-century Norman church. Shadows of John Milton still lurk in the churchyard. On this site one of his houses stood; here he brought his first bride and educated his two fatherless nephews before moving to Aldersgate Street.

GRAY'S INN and CHANCERY

Dickens House and Museum on Doughty Street is one of the most comprehensive, and certainly one of the most popular, literary museums in England. The Dickens Fellowship, devoted entirely to the study of Dickens and his works, has it as its headquarters here—appropriately so, since it is also very important as an author's house. Dickens came here early in his career and wrote the three major novels which put him well on the road to success. In addition to the study, where he created such immortal characters as Fagin, Bill Sikes, and the Artful Dodger, there are a number of rooms filled with personal relics, sections from original manuscripts, first editions, and important letters.

The first-floor dining room was the scene of many parties for the literary and artistic celebrities of Dickens' time. Here his first great literary friend, W. Harrison Ainsworth, introduced him to his first publisher, John Macone, and to his first illustrator, the famous George Cruikshank. Standing ominously near the front window amid other period furniture is the grandfather

Gray's Inn Road and High Holborn is the picturesque **Staple Inn**, formerly an **Inn of Chancery**, where **Samuel Johnson** lived before moving to his house on **Gough Square**. From the courtyard of these half-timbered sixteenth-century buildings you can peer up to the apartments above. Dr. Johnson wrote *Rasselas*, completed in two weeks to pay his mother's burial expenses, while living here at No. 2. **Wordsworth** lived here for a while too, and the inn also appears in Dickens' *Bleak House* and *Edwin Drood*.

Chancery Lane, with all of its Dickens associations, is just a block west of **Staple Inn**. Down the lane on the east is **Cursitor Street**, which leads to **Took's Court**. In the nineteenth century there was a sponging house, a kind of halfway house for debtors, on this site. **Rawdon Crawley** of Thackeray's *Vanity Fair* and **Mr. Snogsby** of Dickens' *Bleak House* were contained here, as was dramatist **Richard Brinsley Sheridan**, who spent the last year of his life here.

Another block down toward **Fleet Street** is the **Public Record Office**, a depository for legal records. Here are letters of **Sir Walter Scott**, **James Boswell**, **Ben Jonson**, **John Milton**, **Francis Bacon**, and **Edmund Spenser**, a manuscript of **Shelley's**, and signatures on documents by such notables as **Shakespeare** and **Bunyan**.

Back up Chancery Lane is a gate which leads over through **New Square** to **Lincoln's Inn Fields**. This **broad square**, laid out by **Inigo Jones** in 1618, is supposed to be the same size as the base of a Great Pyramid. **Milton** once lived in a house here, as did **Dante Gabriel Rossetti**, **Alfred Tennyson**, **Charles Dickens**, and his Mr. **Tulkinghorn** of *Bleak House*. Here, in the **oldest library in London**—founded by the **Benchers' of Lincoln's Inn**—**Oliver Goldsmith**, **Benjamin Disraeli**, **Oliver Cromwell**, **Sir Thomas More**, and **John Donne**, among others, have studied. According to **Samuel Pepys's** diary, **Lincoln's Inn Fields** was also the place to come and watch the fashions. After church he and his wife would go "to observe the fashions of the ladies because of my wife making some clothes." The elegant gardens still remain even though the ladies of fashion have long since disappeared. **Old Square** dates back to 1524. The fine Tudor gatehouse of the inn was built a few years earlier, when poet

and dramatist Ben Jonson worked as a bricklayer on its construction.

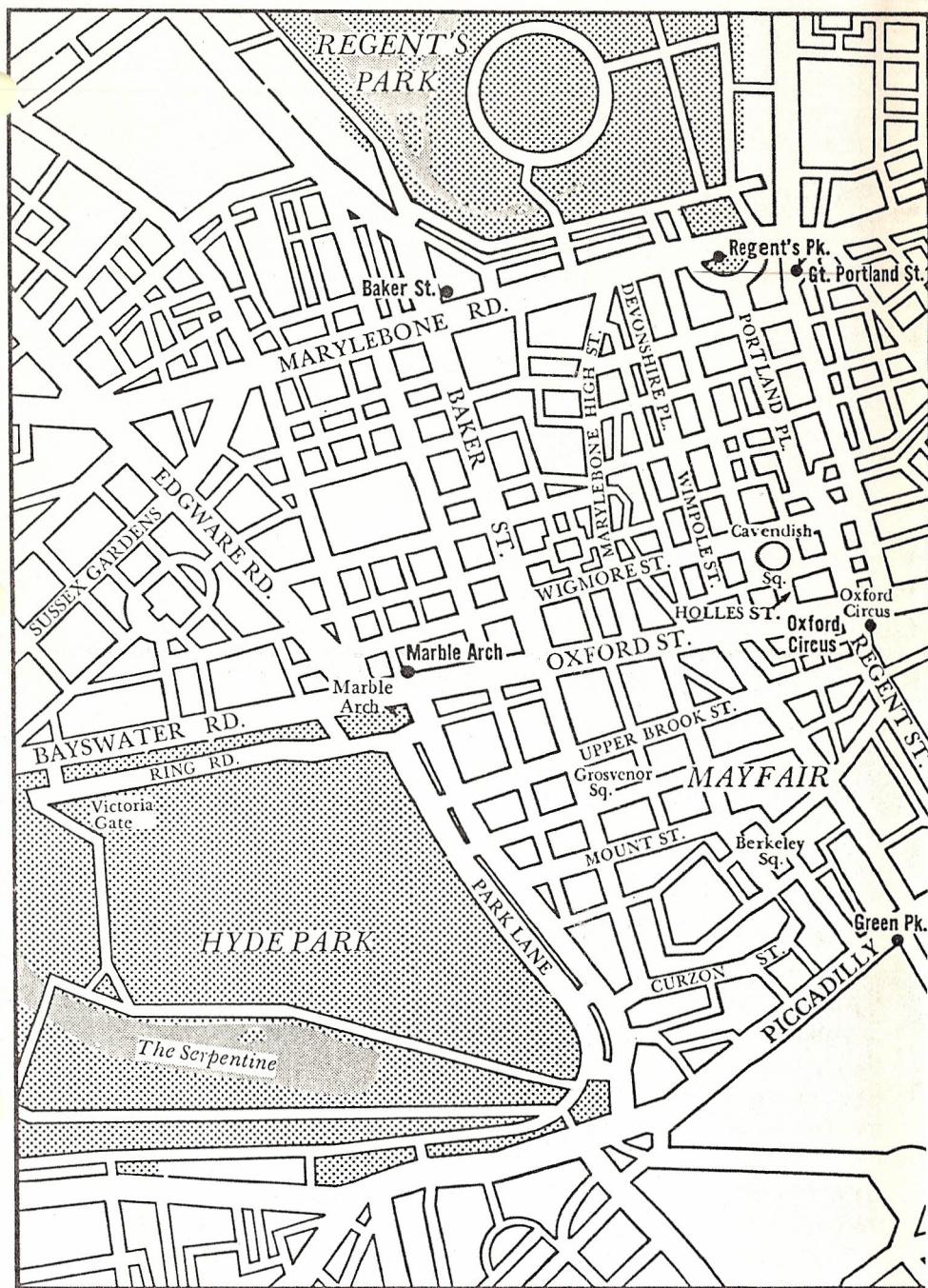
From Lincoln's Inn you can cross Kingsway to reach Great Queen Street and the Old Curiosity Shop, a great depository for literary trinkets and prints.

HYDE PARK and MAYFAIR

The Ring Road angles around the northern end of Hyde Park from the Serpentine to Marble Arch. Diarist John Evelyn, who complained that he had to pay a fee for driving his carriage through the park in 1657, mentioned the carriage races which went on here. Samuel Pepys, who was very proud of his stylish carriage, boasted of bringing his wife here to ride among the fashionable. The Ring was a promenade for displaying clothes and carriages by day and dueling by night. There are dueling scenes here in Thackeray's *Henry Esmond* and in Richard Brinsley Sheridan's plays. East of Ring Road near Marble Arch is the Speaker's Corner, which is liveliest on Sunday afternoons.

From Marble Arch, four blocks south along Park Lane, Upper Brook Street leads into Grosvenor Square. Here is a statue of F. D. Roosevelt as part of a memorial to the Four Freedoms, one of them the freedom of expression. To a house that stood here, Dr. Samuel Johnson came repeatedly, to wait long hours, to ask Lord Chesterfield's backing for his projected dictionary. Dickens' friend, novelist Edward Bulwer-Lytton, lived at No. 12; and William Beckford, author of the famous Gothic novel *Vathek*, lived at No. 22.

Berkeley Square, which can be reached by going through the southeast corner of Grosvenor Square down to Mount Street and then turning left, is the Gaunt Square which figures so prominently in Thackeray's *Vanity Fair*. Becky Sharp's house is on Curzon Street, which comes in at the southwest corner of the square. She lived at No. 22, and Disraeli kept No. 19 as his London house.



● Underground Station

SOUTH OF KENSINGTON GARDENS

Two blocks east of Kensington High Street Station is Young Street, where novelist William Makepeace Thackeray lived at No. 16 and wrote *Vanity Fair* and *Henry Esmond*. Two blocks north, on Kensington Palace Gardens, is **Kensington Palace**, once a royal residence but now a city museum. Many literary notables visited here in their time: novelist Horace Walpole; essayist, poet, and government official Joseph Addison; dramatist and government official William Congreve; and satirist and behind-the-scenes politician Jonathan Swift.

Back south on Palace Avenue and after turning east on Kensington Road along the gardens, you come to a little street called **Hyde Park Gate** on the south. Down this street, past a modern apartment development, sculptor Joseph Epstein made his home at No. 18. He cast the magnificent bronze busts of Joseph Conrad, Bernard Shaw, and W. B. Yeats, and the monument on Oscar Wilde's grave in Paris. At No. 22 writer Virginia Woolf was born. She lived here until her parents died and the four Stephen children took a house in Bloomsbury (see "British Museum Area").

The **Victoria and Albert Museum**, full of literary treasures, is only a few blocks away. The green dining room here was decorated by the artisan-writer William Morris and other members of the Pre-Raphaelite group. On display is a painting by Rossetti of his wife, with a poem dedicated to her right within the picture. Room 74 on the second floor, titled "The Art of the Book," has exhibits ranging from early illuminated manuscripts to present-day printing. Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* is one of many manuscripts here.

REGENTS PARK

One block west of Oxford Circus Underground is Holles Street, where Byron was born at No. 24 on January 22, 1788.

The Barretts' Wimpole Street is a few blocks to the north, and can be reached by going through the northwest corner of Cavendish Square to Wigmore Street, which leads directly into Wimpole on the right. At a house on the site of the present No. 50 the gifted poet Elizabeth Barrett lived with her tyrannical father, and it was from here that she eloped with Robert Browning. Farther up at No. 67 is the house from which Arthur Henry Hallam of Tennyson's *In Memoriam* left, never to return.

Wimpole Street then leads into Devonshire Place. At No. 2 Arthur Conan Doyle, a medical doctor as well as a weaver of mystery tales, had his office. Gothic novelist William Beckford lived at No. 4; and Monk Lewis, one of the earlier horror novelists, lived at No. 9.

Just north, at the intersection of Marylebone Road and Marylebone High Street, a few feet to the left as you come up from Devonshire Place, is a yellow office building which stands on the site of a house Charles Dickens lived in from 1839 to 1851. On the porch is a handsome bas-relief showing characters from some of the novels he wrote here—*The Old Curiosity Shop*, *Barnaby Rudge*, *Martin Chuzzlewit*, and *David Copperfield*. Next door is the St. Marylebone Parish Church, where the Brownings were secretly wed and the Dombneys of Dickens' *Dombey and Son* were married and their son, Paul, christened and buried.

Four blocks west is 221B Baker Street, the legendary address of Sherlock Holmes. From here sprang case after case in Arthur Conan Doyle's novels. The Marylebone Library a few yards away has an extensive collection of Sherlock Holmes material. In the Local History Room and the Archives Department on the first floor are copies of the *Baker Street Journal*, *Sherlock Holmes Journal*, books, biographies, posters, an enormous scrapbook of photographs, and a complete run of the *Strand Magazine* from 1915 to 1930.

ST. PAUL'S and NORTH

No church has as many monuments as St. Paul's. The Duke of Wellington is mounted on a horse thirty feet above the floor in the north choir aisle. Just in front of the aisle is a statue of Samuel Johnson, celebrated because the date of his death on its base is erroneous. The funeral took place on January 13, 1785, rather than on December 20, 1784. On the south side is a statue of John Donne, once dean of the cathedral. His was the only statue to survive the Great Fire of 1666.

In the crypt are the graves of George Cruikshank, the caricaturist who illustrated Dickens' books; Joshua Reynolds, famous portrait painter and close friend of Dr. Johnson, who also wrote on art and was an integral part of the eighteenth-century literary circle; poet Walter de la Mare and essayist Max Beerbohm, both of whom died in 1956.

At the end of the crypt is a tablet listing all of those notable persons who were buried in the old St. Paul's. Among them were Chaucer's friend and patron John of Gaunt, poets Philip Sidney and John Donne. In the adjoining St. Faith's Chapel is a memorial to William Blake with lines from his "Auguries of Innocence."

Almost near the end of the tomb of the Duke of Wellington are sculptures of Lawrence of Arabia and social novelist Charles Reade. Last is the famous Rodin bust of William Ernest Henley, inscribed with his famous lines, "I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."

St. Paul's and the street which encircles it were the hub of the early publishing industry. Printers first set up press in the courtyard during the early 1600's and stored their valuable manuscripts and books in the St. Faith's Chapel to protect them from the Great Fire. They were, unfortunately, completely destroyed along with the building, and it wasn't until 1710 that the publishers returned. Many of them survived until the Blitz during World War II.

Many first editions of Shakespeare were sold by publishers here. Near the cathedral's main entrance was the shop where

Dr. Johnson sold Goldsmith's novel, *The Vicar of Wakefield*, and thus saved the novelist from debtors' prison. The shop of J. Johnson was noted for publishing Cowper's long poem *The Task*, Blake's *The French Revolution*, and a number of Wordsworth's poems. Here Blake met the American revolutionist Tom Paine and social philosopher William Godwin. At one point a group of booksellers met here and decided to hire Dr. Johnson to write his great literary work, *Lives of the English Poets*. There are still a number of booksellers in the area, but their shops are all new, having been rebuilt after the war.

North of St. Paul's, over Newgate and through King Edward Street, is Little Britain Street, formerly Duck Lane, which during the eighteenth century was noted for printers and booksellers. Diarist Samuel Pepys records coming here to buy books and flirt with a bookseller's wife. England's first newspaper, the *Daily Courant*, was published here in 1702, as were the *Spectator* papers.

Little Britain Street leads north into Charterhouse Street and Charterhouse Square to the east. On the north side of the square are the Charterhouse buildings, in the seventeenth century a school for poor boys. Former students included essayist Joseph Addison, lyric poet Richard Lovelace, and William Makepeace Thackeray. It was also a place of refuge for old men. Thackeray's Colonel Newcome came here to school as a boy and returned to die an old man.

At the southwest corner of Charterhouse Square, St. John Street runs north from Charterhouse Street. Here is St. John's Gatehouse, erected in 1504, where Samuel Johnson worked when the building was the editorial and printing office of the *Gentlemen's Magazine*. His old pupil David Garrick is said to have given his first London performance before Johnson's working partners and friends. The gatehouse is all that is left of the old Priory of St. John, founded in about 1130 and suppressed by Elizabeth.

Going south again to the southwest corner of Charterhouse Square, Hayne Street leads to Long Lane and Kinghorn Street. This ancient narrow passage runs into Bartholomew Close, where John Milton, who had been very active in the Puritan government, hid in fear of vengeance for months during the

early part of the Restoration. This street winds back up into Little Britain Street again.

SOHO

Piccadilly Circus is a good place to begin a tour of Soho. From there you can head north over Sherwood Street, across Brewer Street, and into **Golden Square**. The Viscount Bolingbroke, to whom Alexander Pope dedicated his *Essay on Man*, lived about where No. 21 now stands. Jonathan Swift wrote of dining with him here. Also, Matthew Bramble of Tobias Smollett's novel *Humphrey Clinker* lodged here with his entourage while in London. Thackeray's Henry Esmond visited General Webb at No. 22, and Ralph Nickleby of Dickens' *Nicholas Nickleby* lived at No. 6.

On **Poland Street**, about six blocks north, Shelley lived at No. 15 and from here took off with his neighbor Harriet Westbrook. William Blake lodged at No. 28 from 1785 to 1791, and wrote his most famous works here. Up around the corner at **173 Oxford Street** is the chemist's shop where Thomas De Quincey, author of *Confessions of an English Opium-Eater*, bought his first opium.

Soho Square lies about eight blocks east of the chemist's shop. On the south side of this quaint little square, at 61 Greek Street, is the house where the starving orphan Thomas De Quincey landed one winter afternoon after wandering from his boarding school in Wales, and became friendly with some of the forlorn residents of this then seedy neighborhood. Becky Sharp, of Thackeray's *Vanity Fair*, also lived here before her marriage. On Frith Street, one block west, Hazlitt died at No. 6 and Mozart lived at No. 5.

Three blocks north from the meeting of Greek Street and Shaftesbury Avenue is Dickens' Manette Street to the east. Manette and Lucie, Darnay and Sydney Carton all lived here. Just across Shaftesbury Avenue at Gerrard Street is the house where Dryden lived and died, and the Turk's Head Tavern,

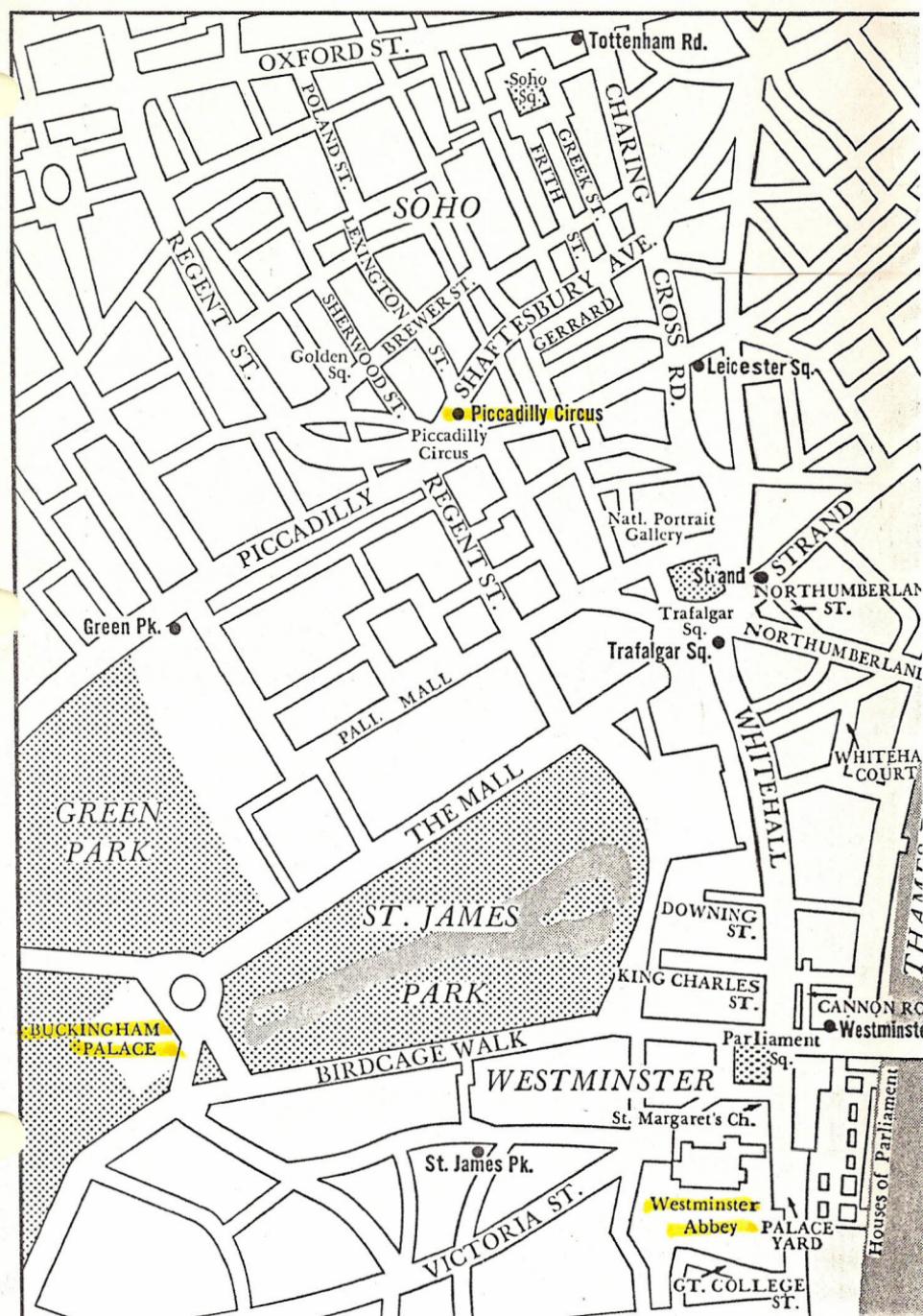
where Joshua Reynolds and Samuel Johnson founded their famous club.

SOUTHWARK

Just south of London Bridge is Southwark, or St. Saviour's, Cathedral associated with several famous writers. The tower of this church was built by Chaucer's patron, John of Gaunt. Dramatists John Fletcher and Philip Massinger are buried here, along with Edmund Shakespeare, actor and brother of William, and Lawrence Fletcher, one of the co-owners of the Globe and Blackfriars theaters. A number of Elizabethan dramatists wrote and acted out their plays within the church. Shakespeare probably came here to watch his brother Edmund perform with the Southwark players. The Harvard Chapel was built as a memorial to Robert Harvard, founder of Harvard University, who was born above his father's Bankside butcher shop in 1607. There are memorial windows to Chaucer and Bunyan, who preached at a chapel near here, and to Goldsmith, who set up offices as a doctor in Bankside. The cathedral houses the well-preserved tomb of Shakespeare's friend, 14th-century poet John of Gaunt.

Across from the cathedral, St. Thomas Street leads to Guy's Hospital, where John Keats was a medical student in the early 1800's. Between here and the Borough Underground, on Borough High Street, all the old inns were located. On the corner of a little alley called White House Yard, the White Hart Inn of Shakespeare's *Henry IV* and Dickens' *Pickwick Papers* stood. Nearby is the seventeenth-century George Inn, featured in Dickens' *Little Dorrit*. Farther down on this same side is another little alley, Talbot Yard; the Old Tabard Inn on the corner there is on the approximate site of the Tabard Inn, from where the pilgrims of Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* left.

Just beyond Mermaid Court on the same side of the street was the Old Marshalsea Prison, where Thomas Malory, Ben Jonson, and John Donne were imprisoned for a while. In 1758 the prison was moved down about four blocks to Scovell Road.



It was at the new site that Charles Dickens' father was imprisoned as a debtor. At that time Dickens lodged in Lant Street, just a block south of the Borough Underground. That period in his life appears in several of his major novels. David Copperfield's father had been imprisoned as a debtor and David came to visit him often when he lived on Lant Street. He also visited the Micawbers, who were at King's Bench Prison just south of Lant Street. (Tobias Smollett was also confined there for a time for libeling an admiral.)

David Copperfield described his stay there: "a back attic was found for me at the house of an insolvent court agent who lived in Lant Street . . . a bed and bedding were sent over for me [from the Marshalsea] and made up on the floor. . . . The Crown Revenues are seldom collected in this happy valley; the rents are dubious, and the water is very frequently shut off." "There is," he continued, "an air of repose about Lant Street, which sheds a gentle melancholy on the soul . . . if a man wanted to abstract himself from the world . . . he should by all means go to Lant Street."

Marshalsea Road, west of Borough High Street, leads into the area where Shakespeare and his players performed. From Marshalsea, Southwark Bridge Road leads into Park Street on the west, going toward the river. About halfway down Park Street on the west side is a brewery with a polished gold plaque on the front, saying that the building is on the site of Shakespeare's Globe. However, current speculation suggests that the theater actually may have been closer to the river. During Shakespeare's time there was also a bearbaiting garden right across the street.

Dr. Samuel Johnson often came to Park Street to visit his friends the Thrales. Joshua Reynolds, Oliver Goldsmith, and David Garrick frequented the house also. Up on the river, about a block to the east on Bankside, is the Anchor Inn, visited by Johnson and his friends. Its precursor was a gathering place for Elizabethan theatergoers. Clink Street on the east was the site of Clink Prison, considered the lowliest place to be incarcerated in London. From its name comes the expression "in the clink." This street continues on back to Southwark Cathedral.

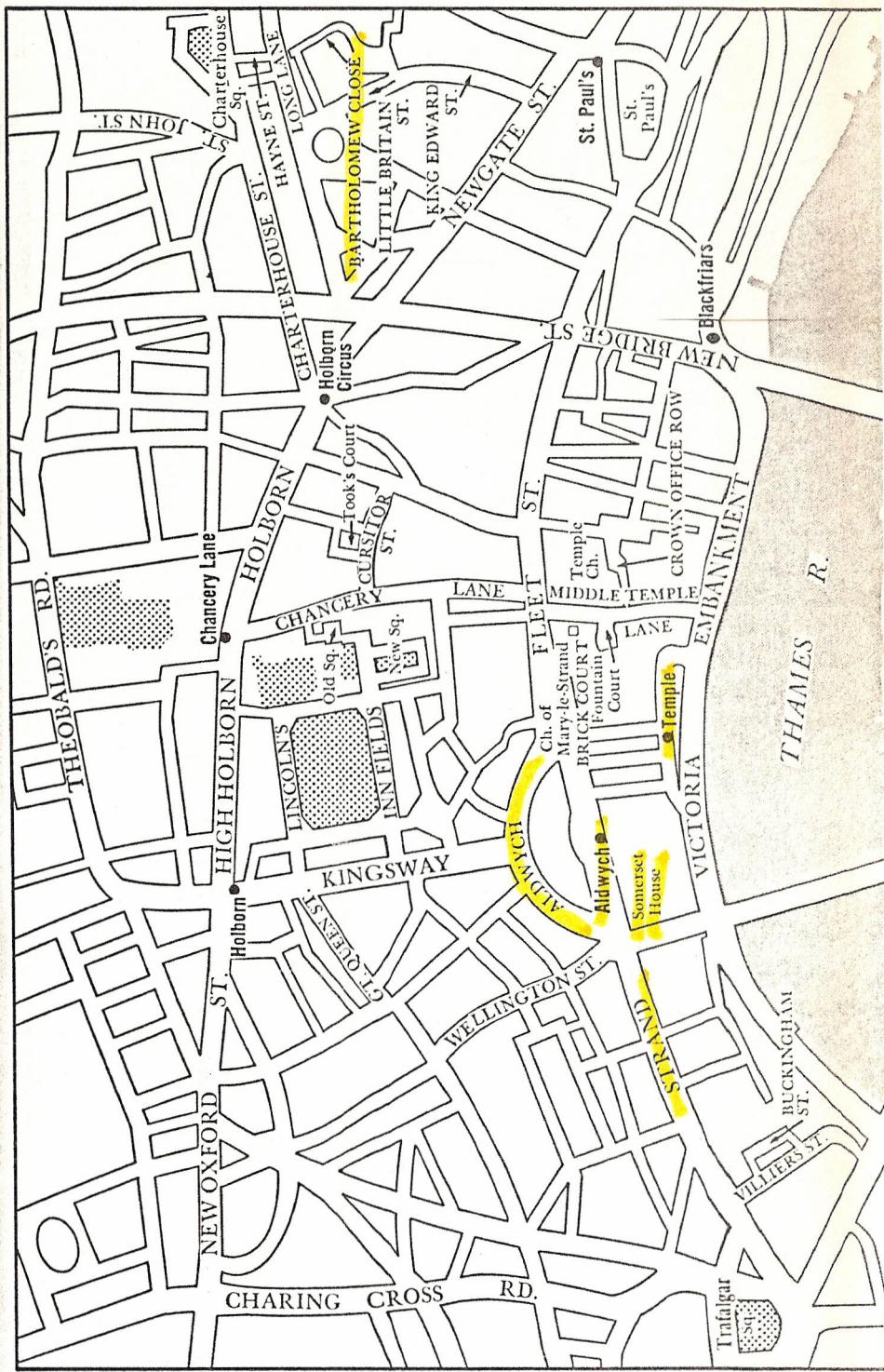
THE STRAND and TEMPLE AREAS

Several blocks east of Trafalgar Square on the river is Charing Cross Station and its network of railways. This station covers the Old Hungerford Stairs, where Dickens worked at Warren's Blacking Factory while his father was imprisoned as a debtor in Marshalsea Prison. The house he lived in here and the shoe-blacking factory are featured in *David Copperfield* as Murdstone and Grinby's "down in Blackfriars."

Just past Villiers Street, the first street to the east back up on the Strand, is Buckingham Street, where Samuel Pepys once lived at the existing No. 12. Across the way at No. 15 Charles Dickens lived briefly and had Betsey Trotwood take rooms for *David Copperfield*. Between 1609 and 1737 a huge shopping center called the New Exchange was built in this area alongside the Strand. Samuel Pepys wrote of shopping here, and many scenes from the plays of Dryden and Wycherley were laid in the shops.

No. 142 Strand was once the home of Chapman's Publishing Company, where literary persons sometimes lodged in the nineteenth century. Among them were American poet and essayist Ralph Waldo Emerson and novelist George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans), who met her lifelong companion, George Lewes, here. Chapman and Hall, the publishers who put out most of Dickens' novels, were at No. 186. Dickens was said to have come here to read aloud a copy of a short story which he had placed anonymously in *Old Monthly Magazine*. Thus began his long relationship with them.

Aldwych, the crescent forming an arc between the law courts and Wellington Streets, is the hub of the legitimate theater district. Right across the way on the Strand stands Somerset House, which registers documents having to do with births, deaths, and marriages. You can walk inside to look at the wills of Shakespeare, Milton, and Dr. Johnson. The building itself, built in the 1600's, housed the Royal Academy and Royal Society until the mid-nineteenth century, when they



moved to Burlington House. On this site was once another Somerset House, a seventeenth-century royal palace where plays and masques by dramatists Francis Beaumont, Thomas Dekker, and Ben Jonson were often performed—complete with sets by Inigo Jones.

Across the Strand toward the Aldwych arc is the Church of St. Mary-le-Strand, the left of two islands. Though not Wren's, the steeple is considered one of the most noteworthy in London. A bit of trivia: Dickens' parents were married here. The neighboring island is occupied by St. Clement Dane's Church, where Dr. Johnson worshiped.

Across from the entrance to Middle Temple Lane here is the Temple Bar, straddling the Strand. This was the old gateway to the city of London, which went east from here. Almost on this spot Daniel Defoe was detained in a pillory for writing *The Shortest Way with the Dissenters*, a document ironically advocating the exile or execution of all Dissenters, including himself. As the story goes, London citizens realized how the authorities had been taken in by a joke and they decorated the pillory with flowers.

The drum-shaped Round Temple Church on the right, built in 1185 by the crusading Order of the Knights Templars in commemoration of the Temple Solomon in Jerusalem, has been romanticized since its completion during the reign of Henry II. If the church is open, you can see those cross-legged effigies of which Hazlitt once wrote. Oliver Goldsmith is buried here in the north side of the churchyard, just above the choir loft. And the tomb of another lesser-known writer, John Selden, a seventeenth-century historian and jurist, is located behind a slab of glass just to the left of the south-door entrance.

A little to the east of Temple Church is St. Dunstan's-in-the-West, an eighteenth-century structure restored in the 1830's and again after World War II. Among the list of vicars at the front entrance to the parish is poet John Donne, who served here between 1624 and 1631. There is also a small sculpture of Donne on the left of the church porch, and on the opposite side a corresponding facsimile of Charles Lamb, who supposedly wept when the church was being stripped of its embellishments to prepare for the restoration in 1831, for he feared that it would