

intention to the movement of the body, his knowledge must include every work necessary to complete his idea, and he calls them into action in the same manner as an artist selects the various colours on his palette to form an harmonious picture. The architect is no longer a leader of a band of independent artistic workmen, each having his individual skill and taste upon which he can rely without any particular instruction or direction from the architect, who has now to prepare every detail, to work out every problem of construction, and to take into consideration every accessory, before giving his instruction; and even then he has to keep a sharp oversight of the whole, in order to see that his instructions are accurately followed. Many and fallacious are the opinions of the public as to what an architect is. Some imagine him to be an ideal personation of artistic ability, whose word or sketch is sufficient to create "a thing of beauty" which shall be a "joy for ever"; whilst others look upon him simply as a mechanical individual who is required to provide so much brains in consideration of so much per-centage. These errors are not to be wondered at, seeing that so undecided an opinion is held on this subject by the profession itself. It cannot be expected that the public will ever place the architect in that position which he has a right to claim until his duties, responsibilities, and privileges are more clearly defined; and if architects themselves cannot agree, the public will suit its varying fancies, and architects will be tossed from pillar to post, the abused of all, and trusted of none. A sober unprejudiced consideration of the duties of an architect will readily supply sufficient material to form a fair opinion upon the subject. In general terms, the architect may be described as the artistic and constructive adviser of his client, and the less he has to do with the business transactions (as a party to them) between his client and those employed to execute the work, the better for his position, for the only way in which he should be associated with any contract or agreement is in the position of an independent adviser. This will free him from any supposed bias in favour of the employer, and remove any possibility of a doubt as to his acting with perfect impartiality between both parties. A general impression prevails that the architect is the agent of his client, bound to stand by his interests whether just or not; but nothing can be more prejudicial, as by accepting such a principle he lays himself open to suspicion, and unless he is a very keen man of business, he becomes fair game for every unprincipled workman to dupe, on the ground that it is business to look after his client's interest, and the workman's to do all he can to over-reach it. Such is the result of this vicious principle, and nothing but a rigid stand on the honour of the profession could remove the impression. The employer or the originator of any work in which an architect's skill is required does not seek the aid of an architect in the same way in which an aggrieved person seeks that of an attorney, but, having explained to him the general character of the work he wishes carried out, he then asks his advice as to the best means of obtaining the execution of his wishes. From this it is evident that the first duty of the architect is to ascertain with great care and definiteness the views of his client; many of them may be mistaken, but the mistake will generally be found to arise from a want of technical knowledge, and this may be set right. But every attention must be paid to the object which the promotor has in view, and it will be necessary that the architect should divest himself of every preconceived idea, and ascertain by patient investigation and tentative suggestions upon what his client's views are based. Much labour may be saved, and many misunderstandings prevented, by a careful attention to these points. In short, the architect must not forget that it is his duty to give the best effect he can to his client's views. Possibly they may not at first commend themselves to his taste, but no architect has any right to insist upon his client adopting his own theories in matters of taste, and if it is found impossible for both to agree, it would be far more discreet, and show a nobler spirit, for the architect to suggest that his client should seek the assistance of some one more likely to comply with his wishes, than to force upon the client a work which will always be a source of vexation and annoyance. This is a hard doctrine, especially to a young architect anxious to do his best, and make his mark while he wishes to retain his client, but I command the practice to all who wish to maintain the standard of the profession. It is also the duty of the architect to keep in mind that he is a member of an honourable profession, and he is bound to do everything in his power to raise a high standard of honour in all his transactions, by refusing to take any part in actions, whether suggested by clients or others, that would be derogatory to the dignity of the profession. The temptation is often very strong, and the worldly advantage, or fear of offending one whose interests you are anxious to secure, are great inducements to yield; but, apart from higher motives, the

sense of honour towards our fellow-members should be sufficient to prevent our engaging in any undertaking which we should not like others to know. I regret very much that it should be necessary to urge such warnings as these, but it is to be feared that the race for wealth which has caused so much moral dishonesty among many classes of society, has also given rise to actions on the part of members of our profession which are not likely to bring credit upon those who have engaged in them. The next duty of the architect, after clearly ascertaining the wishes of his client, is to bring his own knowledge and experience to bear upon the subject in order that he may advise as to the best means of carrying out the work. And here his ability and character find their greatest development. It will be necessary for him to bring every faculty which he possesses to bear upon his work, and at no point is any weakness or ignorance of his duties more likely to be evident, for not only will he be compelled to show that he has grasped the wishes and intentions of his client, but he must also be able to suggest the best means to be adopted in executing every part of the work; and lastly, he must have a sound judgment as to the probable cost of the whole, in order that his client may decide before he has too far as to the advisability of proceeding or modifying his ideas. The latter requirement is the great bugbear of the young architect, who is always, sanguine that he can get the work done much cheaper than any one else, and is fearful of naming too high an amount lest his client should abandon his intention; but a diligent study of this duty will well repay the labour and save many a dispute afterwards, for it is undoubtedly one of the duties of an architect to give his client a reliable estimate of the cost of works that he is asked to design, and any attempt to delegate this duty to the surveyor is an injury to the position of the architect. This does not, however, imply that he should be either a quantity surveyor or a valuer; their duties are quite distinct, and are in no way interfered with by this duty of the architect. Having completed these preliminary duties, his next duty is to prepare such instructions and details as will enable those employed to execute the works. The particulars of this part of the work of an architect are too well known to require any description; nor need I stay to refer to the duties of the surveyor in preparing the quantities; but we next come to the duties of the architect in superintending the execution of the works, and I would refer to these particularly, because great laxity and want of carefulness is often shown here; and it is to be feared that it generally arises from a want of practical knowledge on the part of the architect, and this arises from the imperfect education on practical subjects which the present system of pupillage gives rise to; and it does not relieve the architect from his duty because he has a clerk of the works who attends to such matters. But it is not only the architect's duty to prepare his design, but also to know how the design is to be executed in every particular. It is, I believe, a general impression among clerks of works that it is their business to make any alterations that may be necessary to enable the architect's design to be executed; but no more mischievous theory could exist, as it implies that the design and the construction are quite distinct matters, and that it is not necessary for the design of any work to be dependent on its construction. I cannot but refer here to the great advantages which are afforded to the young architect by the classes of the Association, and especially the class of construction, in which the detailed work of every trade is described, and I have been astonished, in looking through the papers of last session, at the amount of really useful information that has been collected; in fact, it has struck me that, notwithstanding our already over-crowded literature, we are sadly in want of an architect's technical handbook. This completes the duties of the architect, for since the introduction of the separate profession of measuring and quantity surveyors, the measuring-up and adjustment of the accounts, as well as the preparation of quantities, falls into their hands, and we may hope that the rapid rate at which the profession is increasing will result in a more uniform and satisfactory method of measuring builders' work; for it is a great drawback to the system, which is otherwise so desirable, that the various ways in which works are measured up will often make a difference of 10 or 15 per cent. in the builder's account. Much more might be said upon this, but it is not within our province. Before I leave this portion of our subject I take the opportunity of directing attention to the other branches of the Association, and of pointing out the manner in which they are intended to assist the student in obtaining that knowledge which is necessary to prepare him for the practice of his profession. I have already referred to the Class of Construction, which has for its object the study of the science of building, with especial reference to a knowledge of the details of the various trades; and in addition to this a class has recently been formed