

there stands a bust of Sir William Molesworth, on the other of Charles Butler. The latter seconded Thackeray when he was proposed by the Rev. W. Harness as a member of the Athenæum on February 12th, 1840. Thackeray was elected to this Club in 1851 under the rule which provides for the introduction of "persons of distinguished eminence in science, literature, or public services."

No. 13,
Young Street,
Kensington
see page 18

In 1846 Thackeray took a house at 13 (now 16), Young Street, Kensington, where he established a home for his daughters. "Vanity Fair," "Pendennis," and "Esmond" were written there. "Vanity Fair" made its appearance in yellow covers, being brought out in monthly parts by Messrs. Bradbury & Evans. The first number was issued in January 1847, the last in July 1848.

When passing his house in Young Street with Mr. J. T. Fields, the American publisher, Thackeray exclaimed, "Go down on your knees, you rogue, for here 'Vanity Fair' was penned, and I will go down with you, for I have a high opinion of that little production myself."

Mr. Michael
Angelo Titmarsh
as he appeared
at Willis's Rooms
see page 21

The first number of "Pendennis" appeared in November 1848, but the author's severe illness at the end of 1849 interrupted its publication, which was not concluded until 1850. "Pendennis" was followed by "Esmond" in 1852. Whilst residing in Young Street Thackeray delivered his famous lectures on the English humorists at Willis's Rooms. On page 21 an admirable caricature by John Leech is reproduced from *The Month* representing Mr. Michael Angelo Titmarsh as he appeared in these rooms in his celebrated character of Mr. Thackeray:

Mr. Thackeray, of *Vanity Fair*, announced a simple course of lectures on a purely literary subject; and for the reason that Mr. Thackeray, living entirely by his pen, was still recognised as a fine gentleman by all—and they were many—who knew him in private, so accordingly his room was filled by an audience as brilliant and fashionable, as intelligent and judicious—in fact, after the lecturer, the agreeable sight of the excellent set of people who gathered about him with such thoughtful attention was really an attraction.

Château de
Brequerecque,
Boulogne-
sur-Mer
see page 20

No. 36,
Onslow Square,
Brompton
see page 19

On October 30th, 1852, Thackeray set sail for the United States, where he remained until the spring of 1853. He lectured in various towns—New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Charleston, and Richmond amongst others. Upon his return to Europe he made a very short stay in London, and then proceeded to Switzerland, where the story of "The Newcomes" was, according to his own statement, "revealed to him somehow." Much of the novel was written abroad while its author was travelling in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, or staying at the Château de Brequerecque at Boulogne, where he is said to have evolved the noble figure of Colonel Newcome. The Château de Brequerecque lies pleasantly nestled in trees and shrubberies on the outskirts of the town, and is surrounded by a high wall screening it from public gaze. "The Newcomes" was completed at No. 36, Onslow Square, where Thackeray moved from Young Street in 1857. "The result of my father's furnishings," wrote Mrs. Richmond Ritchie of this residence, "was a pleasant, homely sort of home, with green curtains and carpets, looking out upon the elm trees of Onslow Square. We lived for seven years at No. 36, and it was there he wrote the 'Lectures on the George's,