

Pisa, and lastly at Genoa. At Ravenna he became intimate with the Countess Guiccioli, a married lady; and when he removed to Pisa, in 1822, she followed him. There he continued to occupy himself with literature and poetry, sustained for a time by the companionship of Shelley, one of the few men whom he entirely respected and with whom he was quite confidential. Besides his contributions in the *Liberal*, a periodical established at this time in conjunction with Leigh Hunt and Shelley, he completed the later cantos of *Don Juan*, with *Werner*, a tragedy, and the *Deformed Transformed*, a fragment. These are the last of Byron's poetical efforts. In 1823, troubled perhaps by the consciousness that his life had too long been unworthy of him, he conceived the idea of throwing himself into the struggle for the independence of Greece. In January, 1824, he arrived at Missolonghi, was received with the greatest enthusiasm, and immediately took into his pay a body of 500 Suliotes. The disorderly temper of these troops, and the difficulties of his situation, together with the malarious air of Missolonghi, began to affect his health. On the 9th April, 1824, while riding out in the rain, he caught a fever, which ten days later ended fatally. Thus, in his thirty-seventh year died prematurely a man whose natural force and genius were perhaps superior to those of any Englishman of his time, and, largely undisciplined as they were, and wasted by an irregular life, they acquired for him a name second, in the opinion of continental Europe at least, to that of no other Englishman of his time. The body of Byron was taken to England and interred in Hucknall-Torkard church, Notts.

Byron, HENRY JAMES, an English dramatist and actor, born in 1834; died in 1884. He wrote an immense number of pieces, including a great many farces, burlesques, and extravaganzas, besides comedies or domestic dramas, such as *Cyril's Success*; *Dearer than Life*; *Blow for Blow*; *Uncle Dick's Darling*; *the Prompter's Box*; *Partners for Life*; and *Our Boys*, the last having an extraordinary success.

Byron, JOHN, an English admiral, grandfather of the poet Lord Byron, was born in 1723. Embarking as midshipman in one of the ships of Lord Anson, which was wrecked on the Pacific coast (1741), north of the Straits of Magellan, he published a narrative of his adventures amongst the Indians

which is extremely interesting. In 1758 he commanded three ships of the line and distinguished himself in the war against France. In June, 1764, he set out in a frigate to circumnavigate the globe, returning to England in May, 1766. From 1769 to 1775 he was governor of Newfoundland. He was made vice-admiral of the white in 1779, and died in 1786.

Byssus (his'us), a name given to the hair or threadlike substance (called also *beard*), with which the different kinds of sea-mussels fasten themselves to the rocks. The *Pinna nobilis*, particularly, is distinguished by the length and the silky fineness of its beard, from which cloths, gloves, and stockings are still manufactured (mainly as curiosities) in Sicily and Calahria.

Byttneriaceæ (bit-ner-i-a'se-æ), natural order of plants allied to the mallows. Almost all the species contain a fatty oil in their seeds, and have a fibrous hast. The typical genus is *Byttneria*, from which the order is named, but by far the most important is *Theobroma* to which the tree yielding cocoa (cacao) belongs.

Byzantine (bi-zan'tin, hiz'a-n-tin), ART, a style which arose in Southeastern Europe after Constantinople



Byzantine Architecture.—Ancient Cathedral, Athens

the Great had made Byzantium the capital of the Roman Empire (330 A.D.) and ornamented that city, which was called after him, with all the treasures of Grecian art. (See *Byzantine Empire*). One of the chief influences of Byzantine art was Christianity, and to a certain extent Byzantine art may be re-