

sorts of risk, was 1s. 8d. per £100. The average charge of proprietary companies was 97 cents per 1,000 francs; in mutual companies the average charge was 60 cents only. In England the average premium is computed at 4s. per £100.

Mr. Pym who was killed by the recent accident on the Great Northern Railway was insured in the *East* for £10,000.

BIOGRAPHY.

SIR CHARLES BARRY.

(From the *Athenæum*.)

"The English architect, whose reputation has been most widely spread in this country, and who, of all English architects, has had the largest share of public patronage in his own generation, has just passed from amongst us, at a greater age than most people would have imagined him to have attained. He was born in 1795, and in this month of May, had completed the 65th year of his age. The sad event occurred at his residence Clapham Common, without any warning to his family by previous illness. The fatal cause appears to have been disease of the heart and lungs. Sir Charles had been enjoying his usual health; at the Academy dinner every one noticed his happy, joyous spirits; he had even visited the Crystal Palace in the course of the day on which he died, accompanied by Lady Barry. On retiring for the night, he complained of fatigue, as was natural under the circumstances. Shortly afterwards, a slight cough and difficulty of breathing manifested themselves, and with such awful rapidity did fatal symptoms supervene, that in a quarter of an hour after anything of a serious character was apprehended, Sir Charles had passed from among us. He died shortly before midnight, in the 65th year of his age. Sir Charles was born on the 23rd of May, 1795, and the place of his birth is believed to be a house in Bridge Street, Westminster, which still remains, and is nearly opposite to the Clock Tower of the New Palace. His parents were in moderately easy circumstances, and for many years his father carried on the business of a stationer and Government contractor in Bridge Street. At a very early age the taste for drawing and design, so conspicuous in after-life, manifested itself, and as a boy he had no greater pleasure than to shut himself up in his own room, and work with charcoal or pencil on cartoons often of life size, and connected with the stories of heathen mythology. When approaching manhood he was articled to Messrs. Middleton and Bailey, of Lambeth, whose business was principally that of surveyors and valuers. He went abroad in 1817, and stayed away from England three years and four months. During this time he visited Italy, Greece, Egypt, Constantinople, Jerusalem, and Syria, returning home by the way of France. His own means not permitting so protracted a stay, he secured the opportunity of prolonging his studies, by concluding an engagement with a rich countryman, Mr. Bailie, to the effect that the latter should defray all expenses, and should in return possess all sketches made by his *protege*. Consequently most of the best drawings and sketches made at this period are not in the possession of his family. An attempt of the traveller to reach Palmyra was defeated by an attack of the Arabs, in which Barry nearly lost his life from a thrust of a lance, inflicted by one of the sons of the Desert, which, though aimed at his body, was fortunately received by his haick. After his return to England he married Sarah, the daughter of Mr. S. Rowsell,—in 1823, and commenced his professional career. Without friends in influential quarters, and with nothing

but his own consciousness of power to encourage him to proceed, the first path of the young architect was a thorny one, and many serious difficulties, only stopping short of want, had to be encountered. Night and day he toiled to conquer Fortune, and whenever a competition for designs offered a chance of honorable success, he did his best to be foremost in the race. After experiencing much of the sickening effects of hope deferred, his efforts were at length rewarded, and among his earliest successes in competition may be named, St. Peter's Church, Manchester; a church at Stand, near Manchester; and St. Peter's Church, Brighton. To those followed the Institute of Fine Arts, Manchester; the Travellers and Reform Club House, London; King Edward's School, and other important buildings. In 1836, the great work, upon which the reputation of Charles Barry will chiefly rest, was intrusted to his hands. His own preferences and tastes would have led him to adopt the Italian style of architecture for the New Palace of Westminster; but as the instructions to the competitors limited the choice of styles to Gothic or Elizabethan, he chose the former as the most suitable for such a building. From the moment he commenced his arduous undertaking, until the day of his death, a period extending over more than twenty-four years, this work occupied his thoughts night and day. In 1852, Mr. Barry received the honor of knighthood at the hands of Her Majesty, on the occasion of the first entry to the New Palace by the Queen through the Victoria Tower.

As we have said above, the work with which Sir Charles Barry's name is most associated in the public mind is obviously the Houses of Parliament; and the judgment which posterity will pass upon that building will be leavened with a juster consideration of the state of Gothic Art in England at the time the design was made than it now gives to that point; and also with a knowledge that the architect could hardly be expected to work *con amore* into the Gothic style when he had applied himself chiefly to the Revived Italian.

Sir Charles Barry was elected a Royal Academician in 1842; he was also a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, a Fellow of the Royal Society, a Member of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851, a Member of many Foreign Academies; including those of Rome, Belgium, Russia, Denmark and Sweden. He has left a widow, two daughters, and five sons, two of the latter of whom are following their father's profession.

It had been intended that the funeral should have taken place at Norwood Cemetery, in as private a manner as possible; but in consequence of a general wish on the part of the artistic and other friends of the late architect, conveyed to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, by Professor Cockerell, R. A., the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the mortal remains of the deceased are to be deposited in Westminster Abbey.

The *Times* gives the following description of his funeral:—Three times within the last six months has the sacred quiet of our great cathedral been broken by the solemnity of State funerals, and in the deaths of Robert Stephenson, Lord Macaulay, and now of Sir Charles Barry, the country may be said to have lost its foremost men in science, in literature, and in art. The last tribute of public respect and admiration which was paid yesterday, then, was not more than was due to the merits of the architect, nor less than was expected by the profession of which he was the head and ornament. Westminster was both his native place and the scene of the most prominent and most enduring monuments of his genius. The

venerable Abbey itself is almost overshadowed by the regal structure which confronts it, and also beneath the shadow of the great monument which now towers so high above all London rest the remains of Barry in the nave of the old Abbey, at the foot of the coffin of Robert Stephenson, and side by side with that of Stephenson's great competitor, Telford. The arrangements yesterday inside the Abbey were better than on the recent occasions of the burial of Stephenson or Lord Macaulay. Though the nave was much more full than during the first named solemnity, there was apparently less crowding, while the effect was not marred by a number of spectators in bright dresses, as none were admitted near the grave who were not in mourning. All, too, were early in their allotted stations, and the appearance of the hushed, sombre assemblage round the narrow open grave, was mournful and impressive in the extreme. All the gentlemen who were to take part in the procession, and who numbered between 400 and 500 representatives of the great societies of arts and science in England, assembled in places adjoining the cloisters, and there awaited the arrival of the funeral cortege. The hearse reached Dean's-yard a few minutes before one o'clock, and the coffin was borne through the old cloisters to the side entrance of the nave, where the Dean and Chapter, headed by the choir, were waiting. The procession was then formed, and to Purcell's solemn anthem, "I am the resurrection and the life," moved slowly up the nave. First came the High Bailiff of Westminster, then the headsmen, vergers, and choir, followed by the Dean and Chapter, and the coffin. There were eight pall-bearers—Sir Charles Eastlake, President of the Royal Academy; the Chief Commissioner of Works, the Right Hon. W. Cowper, M. P.; Mr. G. P. Bidder, President of the Institute of Civil Engineers; Lieutenant-General Sir E. Cust; the President of the Architectural Museum, Mr. A. J. Belford; the Dean of St. Paul's; the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Mr. C. R. Cockerell; and Mr. Tite, F.R.S., M.P. Immediately following the body, the five sons of the deceased walked as chief mourners, with the Dean of Chichester and other private friends of the late Sir Charles. To these succeeded a procession of immense length, which took nearly a quarter of an hour to file slowly into the Abbey, and for the members of which there was scarcely sufficient accommodation either in the choir or in the nave. There were representatives of the House of Commons, of the Royal Academy, the members and associates of the Civil Engineers, of the Society of British Architects and other public bodies.

As many as could be accommodated in the choir having taken their seats, the solemn service proceeded by the choir chanting with melancholy impressiveness Handel's "I know that my Redeemer liveth," and the mournful cadences of Purcell's 90th Psalm. The Dean then read the lesson, after which the choir again sang, "When the ear heard," &c. The procession was then reformed, and moved slowly to the side of the grave amid the most solemn silence.

At the edge of this the coffin was deposited, while the choir chanted in a subdued tone Croft's touching anthem, "Man that is born of woman has but a short time to live," and "In the midst of life we are in death." The coffin was then slowly lowered to its last resting place, amid the unrestrained emotion of the mourners and friends. The Dean then proceeded with the rest of the service which was listened to with the most profound silence, broken only by the sharp harsh rattle of the earth as it was strewed on the coffin. The choir then chanted "I heard a voice from Heaven," and still more impressively the anthem