



THE
PICTURE
 OF
ENGLAND,
Containing a Series of Views with Descriptive Information.



Chichester Cathedral.

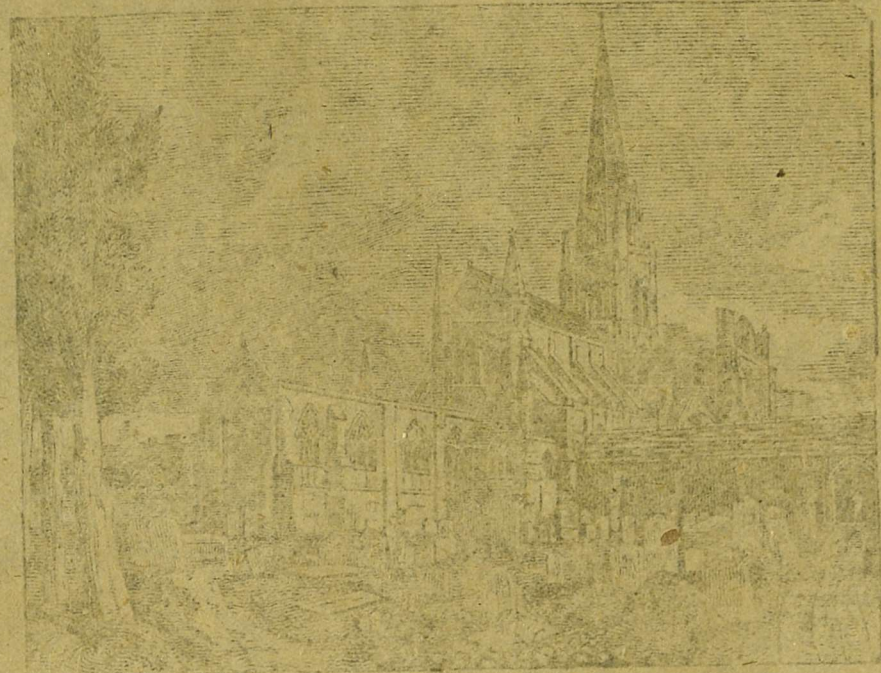
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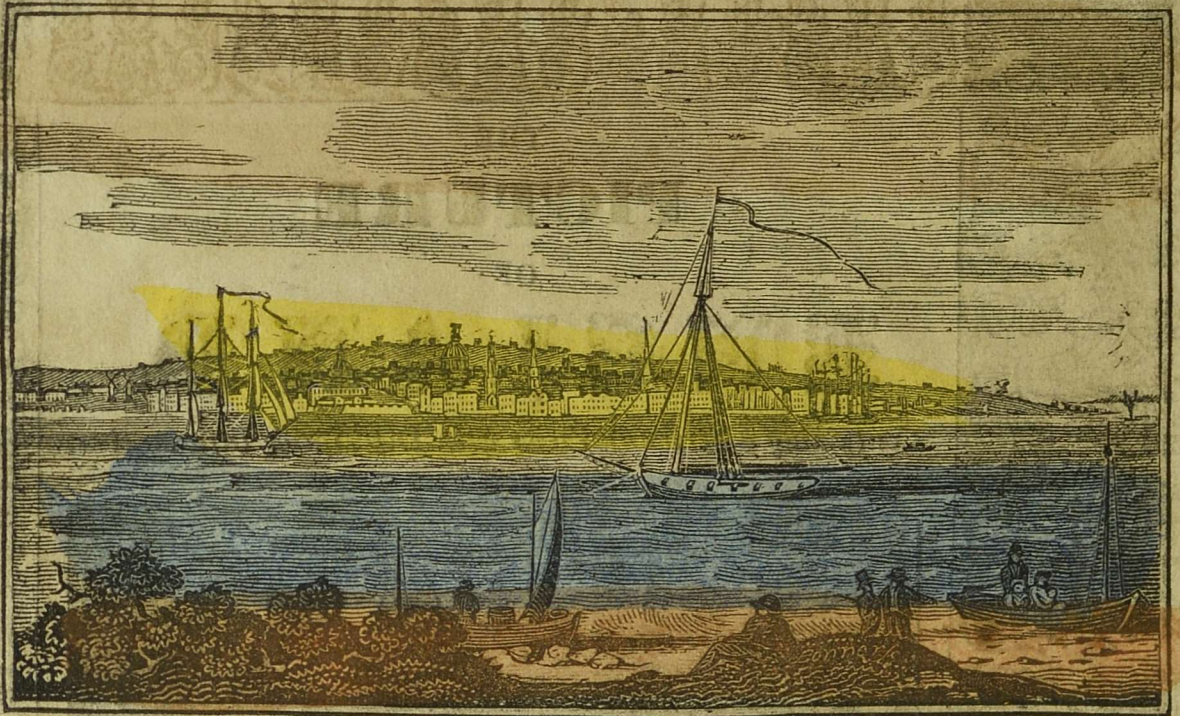


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View of the Mersey from Liverpool

Liverpool, scarcely mentioned in English history before the time of Charles I., has now become one of the most important towns in Great Britain. It is most advantageously situated as a sea-port on the eastern bank of the estuary of the river Mersey, which terminates in the Irish Sea not far north of Liverpool. The derivation of the name is uncertain, though it is obvious that it must have been originally applied to the pool, or broad water on which the town is situated, and which is supposed to have been frequented by some kind of water-fowl, styled the lever, or liver; but this is mere conjecture. This town has risen to its present height of prosperity and importance entirely through the influence of commerce; and in wealth, population, and foreign trade, it is inferior to no place in the kingdom, except London. Camden states that a castle was erected here in 1076, by Roger de Poitiers, one of the followers of William the conqueror; but others, with more probability, attribute the foundation of the fortress to king John, who visited this place, and noticed its local advantages, when he embarked hence on one of his expeditions to Ireland. In 1659, the fortifications were dismantled, and the building remained in a state of dilapidation and decay till 1721, when the ruins were removed to make way for the erection of St. George's Church, which occupies a part of its site. Besides the castle, there was another fortress, called the Tower of Liverpool, which in the reign of Edward III. belonged to Sir Thomas Latham, who gave it as part of the marriage portion of his daughter and heiress, to her husband Sir John Stanley. Some of the public buildings at present existing at Liverpool, connected with trade and commerce, are on a scale of greater magnificence than even those of London.

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View of Manchester.

Manchester, in many respects, is by far the most important provincial town in the British empire. Whittaker, in his elaborate History of Manchester, has, with great probability, contended, that the ancient Britons had a settlement on the site of this town, before the invasion of this country by the Romans. It is, however, a fact, that Julius Agricola, the Roman governor of Britain, A.D. 79, having carried his victorious arms as far north as the banks of the Clyde, erected various fortresses to secure his conquests, one of which in this place, called by the Britons *Mancenion*, was called *Mancunium* by the Romans; and from various notices remaining of this military station, in conjunction with local researches, it appears to have occupied a spot called Castle Field. The Saxons, or Angles, taking possession of this country, called this place *Manceaster*, whence its present name, Manchester. The population of Manchester has increased more rapidly than that of any other provincial town; for, about half a century ago, Manchester, Liverpool, and Birmingham, were computed to contain each about 5000 inhabitants. In 1831, Liverpool contained 165,175, and Birmingham 146,986. Manchester contained, in 1708, about 8000; in 1757, nearly 20,000; in 1801, 84,020; in 1811, 98,573; in 1821, 133,788; in 1831, 270,961; and, in 1841, 390,573. Manchester owes its prosperity and importance to the extensive prosecution of manufactures, and particularly of the cotton manufacture. About four-fifths of the entire amount of the cotton trade of this kingdom centres in Lancashire; and it has been estimated, that in that county the capital invested in the buildings and machinery, exclusively appropriated to the cotton manufacture, amounts to more than eight millions of pounds.

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View of Windsor Castle.

Windsor, a handsome town in Berkshire, beautifully situated on the River Thames, 22 miles from London, is pre-eminent for a seat of royalty in its magnificent castle. This grand and truly royal edifice is justly celebrated as the most stately and splendid palace in England. William, duke of Normandy, styled the "Conqueror," having gained the throne of England, took great pleasure in the situation of Windsor, gave some lands in Essex to the abbey of Westminster in exchange for Windsor, and built here a hunting-seat. It subsequently became the seat of extensive honour. William kept the festival of Whitsuntide here in 1071: and the following year a synod was held at Windsor, in which the province of York was made subject to Canterbury. Henry I. rebuilt and

considerably enlarged this house, and thus laid the foundation for this vast edifice, attaching to it St. George's Chapel. In the tenth year of his reign he kept his Whitsuntide therein, attended by the chief nobility and prelates in the kingdom. Here, in 1122, he celebrated his marriage with his second queen, Adelais of Lorraine. A parliament was held in this fortress under Henry II., in 1170, at which William the Lion, king of Scotland, and his brother David, attended as feudal barons of the realm. When Richard I. went upon his romantic expedition to the Holy Land, he put the government of the kingdom into the hands of the bishops of Durham and Ely, the latter of whom resided in the tower of London, and the former at Windsor, regarding it as the second strongest place.

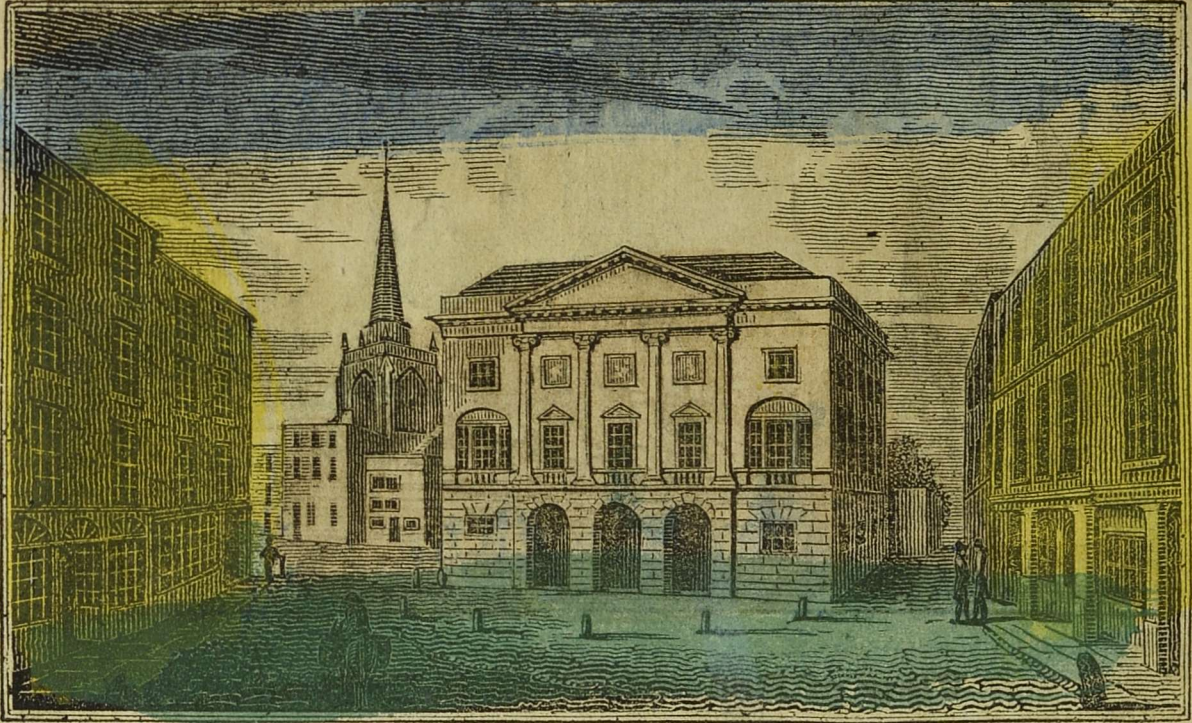
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View of Redcliffe Church, Bristol.

Bristol, for its population, trade, and wealth, is regarded as the metropolis of the West of England. It is a city and county in itself, but locally situated in the hundred of Barton Regis, and extending into Somersetshire, to which last county, although improperly, it is generally held to belong. Like ancient Rome, it is seated on seven hills, or elevations, which diversify the surface of a low but beautiful vale, about eight miles from the mouth of the river Avon, in the Bristol Channel, and at its confluence with the Frome. The entire city and suburbs extend over a surface of 1500 acres, and occupy a circumference of 7 miles, and are continually increasing. The quay and harbour of Bristol may be deemed objects not only of great local but national interest. The former is an uninterrupted wharf of hewn stone, upwards of a mile in length, extending along the inner shores of the Frome and Avon, from St. Giles's to Bristol. A mile below the city, on the banks of the Avon, is the celebrated Hotwell, the waters of which are reckoned so salutary in consumptive, scorbutic, and inflammatory disorders. Bristol, until eclipsed by Liverpool, was the principal port on the western coast of England. Its leading branch of foreign commerce is with the West Indies, which it supplies with every sort of article necessary to the black and white population; and receives back vast quantities of rum, cotton, sugar, and other West India produce in return. Sugar is the most important article, the refining of which is one of the chief manufacturing processes of this city. The customs' revenue of Bristol exceeds a million annually.

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Chelmsford Town Hall and Church.

Chelmsford, lying near the centre of the county of Essex, is the most frequented for public business; for which reason the county assizes and the quarter sessions are held here, as well as the election for members of parliament. Near the centre of the town, therefore, is the shire-hall, an elegant structure; and the corn-exchange, apartments for the courts of assize and sessions, an assembly room, and other convenient offices, are within the walls of this building. Essex was the country occupied by the Trinobantes, in the time of Julius Cæsar, and whose chief, or king, Cunobeline, was the first who stamped the British coin after the manner of the Romans. Christianity is believed to have been introduced here at an early period; but it appears to have perished before, or with the conquest of the Saxons. They, to distinguish it from the countries of the South and West Saxons, called this part East Deaxa, and East Dexscire, which the Normans changed into Exsessassa. Essex is a large maritime county, about 60 miles long from east to west, and about 48 miles from north to south. Its estimated area is about 1533 square miles, or 980,480 acres: its population, in 1845, 318,609.

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View of Glasgow Cathedral.

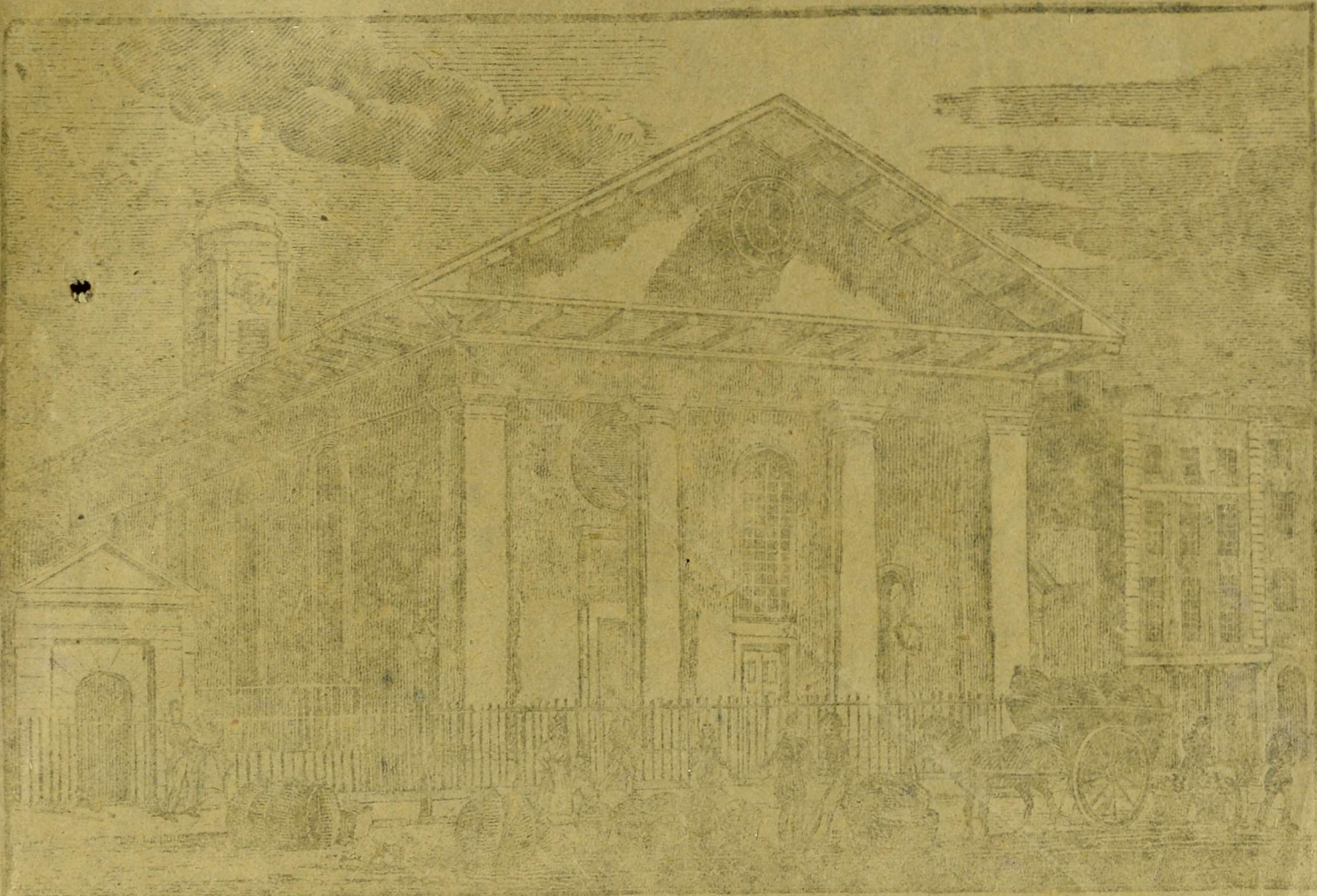
Glasgow is one of the most ancient cities of Scotland; and, until recently, having been exceeded by Manchester, it was, after London, the most populous in Great Britain; and still forms one of its most important and wealthy districts. Glasgow is situated in Lanarkshire, on the north bank of the Clyde, 43 miles from Edinburgh. Its general appearance is clean and neat, with few mean houses or dirty alleys. Glasgow owes its origin to St. Mungo, or Kentigern, who founded here a bishopric in the year 560, and died the following year. His tomb is still to be seen in the ground, at the east end of the cathedral. For five hundred years after this period, Glasgow seems to have made little or no progress; but, in 1115, David I., while Prince of Cumberland, refounded the see, and having, in 1124, succeeded his brother, Alexander I., as king of Scotland, he promoted his preceptor and chaplain, John Achais, to the bishopric, who founded, and built part of the Cathedral, or High Church, which was solemnly consecrated on the 9th of February, 1133, in presence of the king, who endowed it with the lands of Patrick. After this, the place seems gradually to have risen into importance, for in 1180, we find Joceline, who had succeeded to the bishopric, procured a charter from William, surnamed the Lion, erecting the town into a royal burgh, with the privilege of holding a fair eight days annually. In 1450, William Turnbull, a Roman Catholic bishop of Glasgow, laid the foundation of the Glasgow University, by establishing a teacher of theology, and three professors of philosophy: this institution is now considered one of the grandest ornaments in Glasgow; and it has contributed greatly towards the advancement of the town. Fish, particularly salmon, was long the staple of its trade; in return for which was imported, chiefly from France, brandy and wines. Glasgow, however, continued long to hold an inferior place among the towns of Scotland, and rated only the eleventh among royal burghs, so late as the reign of queen Mary. It was not, until after the Union, that Glasgow began to appreciate her situation.

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View of Chester.

Chester is a city of great antiquity, whose history affords many striking illustrations of the annals of England. It is situated on a rocky eminence on the river Dee. Chester appears manifestly to have been a Roman camp, from the form in which the buildings are disposed; consisting of four principal streets, running from a common centre to the cardinal points of the compass, each being terminated by an archway of a gate, called East-gate, North-gate, Water-gate, and Bridge-gate. These streets have been excavated from a stratum of rock, and, in consequence, are sunken several feet below the natural surface, a circumstance which has produced a singular construction of the houses. On the level of the street are low shops and warehouses, and above them, a gallery on each side, reaching from street to street, open in front and ballustraded. These galleries, called rows, appear exceedingly curious to strangers, as they seem to be formed through the first floors of the houses, pillars only being left to support the superstructure, which consists of the higher stories. The principal streets are intersected by various others, which cross them at right angles, stairs being formed to descend from the room where these intersections take place. Antiquarians are most interested in the ancient walls of Chester: they were formerly defended by strong towers, one of which only remains, called the Phoenix tower. They extend nearly two miles round the city; and, being broad enough for several persons to walk abreast, they form the principal promenade of the inhabitants, and some of the views from them are remarkably extensive and delightful, especially those which embrace the river Dee.



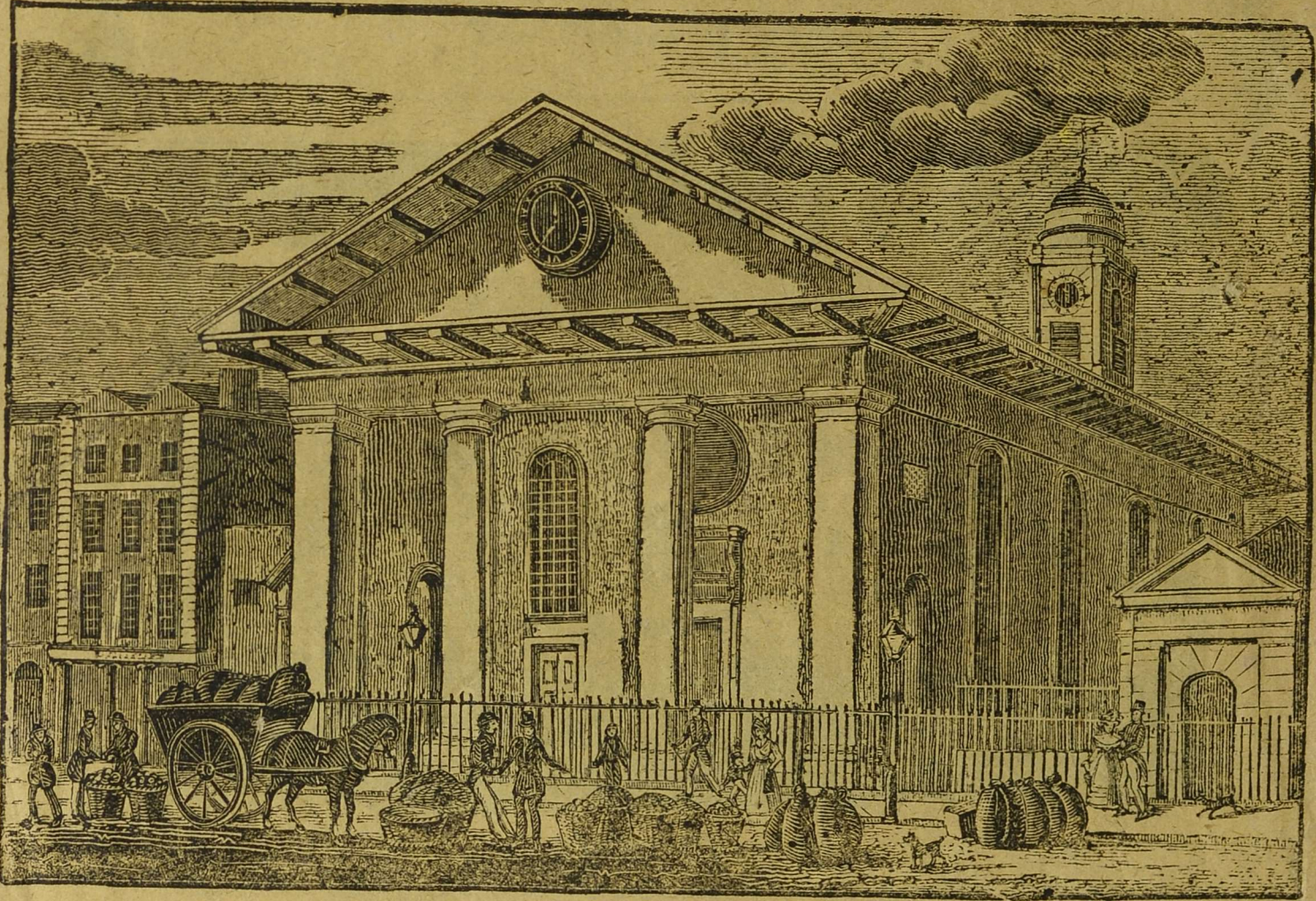
St. Paul's Church, Covent Garden Market.

London, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, was bounded by enclosures and fields, which now form some of the most populous parts of the British metropolis. This was the case in no part more remarkably than in the Strand and neighbourhood of Covent Garden. This estate was granted in 1552, to John, earl of Bedford, by Edward VI. With this noble present was included a field called the Seven Acres, upon which the Seven Acres, upon which, afterwards, a street was built, and thence denominated, as at present, Long Acre. St. Paul's Church, Covent Garden, was erected in the year 1633, as a chapel-of-ease to St. Martin's in the field, at the expense of Francis, earl of Bedford, for the convenience of his tenants; and in 1718, the parson of Covent Garden was separated from St. Martin's, and constituted into an independent parish; which was confirmed after the restoration of Charles II. in 1660, by the application of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, when the patronage was vested in the earl of Bedford. This church is remarkable for its plan; not it was projected by Inigo Jones, the most celebrated architect of that age. He being consulted, among others, respecting the erection of this place of worship, and the noble earl remarking on Jones' asked what sort of structure he wished, "that a plain-looking building—a barn would do," conceived that his noble employer desired him to consult simplicity, and took the hint so as to make it an airy and majestic. Jones promised his lordship—"You shall have the most magnificent barn in England." Covent Garden Market is famous as the greatest vegetable and herd market in the metropolis.

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