

time, and this added largely to the pleasure of the visit.—Faithfully yours, JOHN SLATER.

Special Election to Fellowship.

At the meeting of the Council on the 5th inst. the following gentleman was elected to the Fellowship under the proviso to By-law 9, viz.:

ARTHUR SOUTHCOMBE PARKER [A.], *President of the Devon and Exeter Architectural Society*; of 20, George Street, Plymouth.

M. Choisy's Researches.

From PROFESSOR AITCHISON, R.A.—

Our learned and illustrious Corresponding Member, Monsieur Choisy, has just published "The Art of Building amongst the Egyptians," and has shown us how the Egyptians took advantage of the original settlement of their walls in sun-dried bricks to develop a scheme for the stability of all their walls, for these curved lines of wall appear to have been carried out when the facing was of stone, as may be seen at Philæ and Karnak. The crude brick walls were apparently used as staircases for the workmen, and were for this purpose left in steps. One of the great discoveries is that the machine which was taken for the centering of an arch was really a machine for raising stones, not exceeding a ton and a half in weight, to their position, and to this machine M. Choisy has given the name of "the oscillating elevator," a rough account of which is found in Herodotus.

Where the stone walls themselves were insufficient for getting the stones up, separate staircases were built in crude bricks to supply their place, and the ruins of these may still be seen against the Pylon at Karnak. The methods employed for moving stones of enormous weight, such as form colossi and the obelisks, are also shown, and the whole treatise is as interesting as the "Arabian Nights," if the supernatural parts are left out. M. Choisy told me he was going to present one of these books to the Institute. I cannot help thinking that the Institute has been rather niggard to M. Choisy's incomparable discoveries when we consider that his treatises have formed text-books for the whole civilised world. I was once going over the Baths of Caracalla with the celebrated Italian architect, Signor Beltrami, and another Italian gentleman, who began to give us an account of how the vaults had been formed, when Signor Beltrami said, "When we have got Choisy's 'Art of Building amongst the Romans,' it is needless to go over the methods which he has so admirably described."

Rights as to Sewage.

In the present number are published some Addenda and Corrigenda to Mr. Algernon Barker's

valuable Papers on "Rights as to Sewage" which appeared in the JOURNAL two years ago. In sending them Mr. Barker writes: "I hope I may be excused for any defects in previous issues, considering the great difficulty of the subject and the fact that mine was pioneer work in many respects. My task was to give a string of opinions on difficulties which to my knowledge are always arising, but which (luckily for the parties) are kept out of the Courts. The resultant defects were some inaccuracy now corrected, some lengthiness due to a desire for completeness and to the necessity of giving reasons on points not decided by cases, and also some dryness owing to the incorporation of references necessary to the use of these lectures as a *vade mecum*. Decisions subsequent to my lecture on 'Rights as to Sewage,' and also, I must own, mistakes on my own part, have made these addenda absolutely necessary to the usefulness of the lectures, and I think that, though both lengthy and dry, the addenda are at least accurate. I may refer to addendum (2) and to remarks at the end of these addenda." A series of Papers by Mr. Barker on "Duties as to Drains" appeared in the volume of the JOURNAL for 1902.

The late Henry William Brewer [H.A.].

Mr. H. W. Brewer, the gifted architectural artist who passed away on the 7th inst. at the age of sixty-seven, had been an Hon. Associate of the Institute since 1897. He was the son of the late Professor J. Sherrin Brewer, the historian, and was born at Oxford, and educated at Norwich and King's College, London. His art studies were directed by G. C. Stansfeld and William Warren, and he first exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1862. Architects are familiar with his work chiefly through the pages of *The Builder*, which among architectural journals seems to have enjoyed a monopoly of his talents for the past twenty-five years. Describing his work *The Builder* of the 10th inst. says:—

Mr. Brewer's early contributions to our pages were simply illustrative; chiefly drawings of mediæval buildings in Germany, generally selected as rather out of the beaten track of architectural illustration. These he drew on the wood in a most masterly manner (the system of photographing on to the wood had not then come into use); they were noteworthy for the sense of composition and the breadth of light and shade effect which characterised them. . . . These impressions in our old volumes afford fine examples of what could be done with the aid of wood-engraving. . . .

It was almost simultaneously with the introduction in our illustrative pages of lithography that Mr. Brewer seemed to perceive that there was a wider field for an architectural artist in black and white than the mere representation, in however powerful and artistic a manner, of existing monuments. Thenceforth, for our pages at least, he took up one or other of two new lines of illustration; one, the invention of architectural scenes purely with a view to picturesque effect; the other, the restoration in drawing . . . of monuments of the past which had dis-