

“ 1708.

“The year above this house erected ;
The town was burned the year before—
People therein may be directed,
God has judgments yet in store ;
And that they do not Him provoke
To give to them a second stroke.
*The builder also doth desire,
At expiration of his lease,
The landlord living at that time,
May think upon the builder's case.*”

In the 93 years that elapsed from 1707 to the Union, the Irish Parliament did not deal with the builder's case. In the Imperial Parliament it received only the partial solution I have referred to in 1868 ; whilst during all that time the simple and complete solution of the question was part of the ancient law of Scotch towns. There cannot I think be a more perfect illustration than this single fact affords of the value of the investigation of the differences between the laws of England, Ireland, and Scotland, which Mr. Pim suggested to our Society this time twelve months, and which at a later period of the year was carried out by the committee of the Cobden Club in obtaining the essays on Local Government and Local Taxation.

VI.—*Proceedings of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland.*

TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION.—SECOND MEETING.

[Tuesday, 15th December, 1874.]

The Society met at the Leinster Lecture Hall, 35, Molesworth-street,

Jonathan Pim, Esq., V.P., in the chair.

Miss Isabella M. S. Tod (of Belfast) read a paper on “The Principles on which Plans for the Curative Treatment of Habitual Drunkards should be based.”

Mr. David Ross, Barrister-at-Law, read a paper entitled : “Suggestive Practical Checks on Excessive Drinking and Habitual Drunkenness.”

The ballot having been examined, the Hon. G. N. Fitzgibbon, Right Hon John Bright, M.P., Patrick Martin, Esq., M.P., John M'Evoy, Esq., Joseph Lalor, Esq., M.D., Robert Ferguson, Esq., Q.C., W. D. Henderson, Esq., William Fowler, Esq., and W. T. Thornton, Esq., C.B., were elected Members of the Society.

THIRD MEETING.

[Tuesday, 19th January, 1875.]

The Society met at the Leinster Lecture Hall, 34, Molesworth-street,

J. W. Murland, Esq., V.P., in the chair.

Joseph T. Pim, Esq. read a paper on "Municipal Government and Taxation."

The ballot having been examined, Edward Gibson, Esq., Q.C., M.P., A. Bruce Hawkins, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, R. Romney Kane, Esq., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law, Henry J. MacFarlane, Esq., J.P., James Price, Esq., Robert Goodbody, Esq., and James A. Rynd, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, were elected Members of the Society.

FOURTH MEETING.

[Tuesday, 16th February, 1875.]

The Society met at the Leinster Lecture Hall, 35, Molesworth-street,

Alderman Campbell, Esq., V.P., in the chair.

John Norwood, Esq., LL.D., read a paper entitled: "Suggested Improvements in Private Bill Legislation."

The Meeting having been made a Special Meeting, the following resolution, recommended by the Council, was adopted: "In addition to the Vice-Presidents who are Members of the Council, it shall be lawful for the Council to elect Members who reside more than twenty miles from Dublin, as Vice-Presidents, without seats on the Council. Ex Presidents shall be *ex-officio* members of the Council."

The ballot having been examined, the Right Hon. the Lord Waveney, Sir Thomas M'Clure, Bart., John L. Blood, Esq., Robert O'Brien Furlong, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Robert Ponclue, Esq., George V. Patton, Esq., LL.D., Barrister-at-Law, were elected Members of the Society.

FIFTH MEETING.

[Tuesday, 20th April, 1875.]

The Society met at the Leinster Lecture Hall, 35, Molesworth-street,

Jonathan Pim, Esq., V.P., in the chair.

Dr. Hancock read a paper entitled: "Mr. MacNeel Caird's Essay on Local Government and Taxation in Scotland, considered with reference to the Suggestions it affords upon the following questions common in the two countries: (1) Road Authorities in Scotland and Ireland; (2) Scotch and Irish Local Courts; (3) Union Rating; (4) The Scotch Law for securing Improvements in Town Holdings."

The ballot having been examined, Professor Cameron, M.D., and James Scott, Esq. were elected Members of the Society.