

CHARLOTTE STREET

Charlotte Street, running parallel with Tottenham Court Road (from which it can be reached by Howland Street), is notable for the splendid modern theatre, known as **The Scala**, which occupies the site of the famous old Prince of Wales Royal Playhouse, associated with glories of the Bancroft management and Tom Robertson's comedies. This famous theatrical era (extending over fifteen years) came to an end January 29th, 1880, the last performance given being Robertson's "Ours." Mrs. Bancroft has placed on record her feelings on the occasion: "I left the little stage for ever, rushed up to my dressing-room, and cried bitterly." The Bancrofts disposed of their lease of the theatre to Mr. Edgar Bruce. The interior of the Scala is remarkable as being one of the most beautiful in the Metropolis; the portico of the old building is to be seen in Tottenham Street. This playhouse was erected in 1780 by Francis Pasqualis and originally called the King's Concert Rooms. It was subsequently known as the Queen's, the Royalty, the Regency, the Royal Fitzroy, and the Dusthole, and in its final stage was leased by the Salvation Army. The building was demolished in 1904. A remarkable collection of play-bills showing the story of the theatre from its earliest days can be seen at the Highgate Library. The Scala distinguished itself as the pioneer house in London devoted to that wonderful process of animated photography in natural colours known as "Kinemacolor." The performances of the famous Roman Marionettes a few years ago provided another interesting chapter in the history of the theatre, and subsequently there were fashionable seasons of Italian, Spanish, and Irish Companies. But in 1926 the Scala settled down to earn a new and unique reputation as a national home for amateur theatricals. Special encouragement is given to well established and good class amateur operatic and dramatic societies, and this policy is proving one of the most popular tried at the theatre.

No. 76 Charlotte Street displays a tablet denoting the house wherein John Constable, the artist, died, March 31st, 1837. In 1747 there died in Tottenham Court a remarkable character, Peg Fryer, an actress of the time of Charles II, who after many years' retirement reappeared on the stage in the reign of George I.

Hampstead Road. This is a continuation outwards of Tottenham Court Road. Here, at No. 263 (at the corner of Mornington Crescent), George Cruikshank lived for many years, dying at this house on February 1st, 1878. The house was afterwards occupied by Clarkson Stanfield. At No. 225, Hampstead Road, late Mornington Place, Alfred Tennyson (afterwards Lord Tennyson), the late Poet Laureate, resided for many years. In this thoroughfare stands St. James's Church, whose graveyard (now a public garden) contains the remains of the artists, George Morland and John Hoppner, and Lord George Gordon, the fanatic leader in the No Popery Riots of 1780. On one side of the Church is the Main Building of the London Temperance Hospital, and

HAMPSTEAD ROAD

on the other the Out-Patient Department erected in 1927, over which the Insull Memorial Wing is being erected. The Hospital was founded in 1873 for the medical and surgical treatment of the sick, without recourse to the ordinary administration of alcohol. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, is the Patron. Its work has increased and during 1930, 1,304 In-Patients were admitted, and 64,290 visits were made to the Out-Patient Department. The cost of administration during 1930 was £26,030. Owing to the increased demands upon its services, an Extension is being built upon the Out-Patients' Department, including Private Wards for Paying Patients,



J. Dixon-Scott,
Photo.

Tottenham Court Road,
showing Maples.

Nurses' Accommodation, Pathological, Electrical, Massage and Sunlight Treatment Departments, which were before in cramped surroundings. Adjoining is the St. Pancras Female Orphanage.

The St. Pancras School for Mothers, at the corner of Hampstead Road and Amphyll Square, was the first institution of its kind established in this country. It was opened in June, 1907, at Chalton Street, Somers Town. There are now over 3,000 similar institutions.

At the north-west end of Hampstead Road is Mornington Crescent, so-called after the Earl of Mornington, brother of the Duke of Wellington, and afterwards Marquis of Wellesley. It dates from about 1781. In Mornington Place (out of Mornington