

Greenock Corporation Order Confirmation Act, 1923.
 North Berwick Burgh Extension Order Confirmation Act, 1923.
 Hawkshead Mission Chapel Charity Scheme Confirmation Act, 1923.
 Lucas's Hospital Charity Scheme Confirmation Act, 1923.
 Tancred's Charities Scheme Confirmation Act, 1923.
 Provisional Order (Marriages) Confirmation Act, 1923.
 Bank of England Act, 1923.
 Great Western Railway (Swansea Harbour Vesting) Act, 1923.
 Newhaven and Seaford Sea Defences Act, 1923.
 Hoylake and West Kirby Gas and Water Act, 1923.
 Caledonian Railway Act, 1923.
 Mersey Docks and Harbour Board Act, 1923.
 South Elmsall and District Gas Act, 1923.
 Oakham Gas and Electricity Act, 1923.
 River Wear Watch Act, 1923.
 Rawmarsh Urban District Council Act, 1923.
 London and North Eastern Railway Act, 1923.
 Caledonian Insurance Company's Act, 1923.
 Great Western Railway (Additional Powers) Act, 1923.
 Maidstone Corporation Act, 1923.
 Stalybridge, Hyde, Mossley and Dukinfield Tramways and Electricity Board Act, 1923.
 Tees Valley Water Act, 1923.
 Port of London (Dock Charges) Act, 1923.

Whitehall, 18th July, 1923.

The following Address was presented to The KING on Tuesday, the 17th instant, on the occasion of the re-opening of Westminster Hall:—

His Majesty's Office of Works.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY.

The restoration of this noble and unique roof, which has extended over a period of eight years, constitutes another landmark in the life of Westminster Hall, so intimately associated with the history of this country for more than 8 centuries.

The present roof was erected by King Richard II. in the years 1394-1399. It is unsurpassed as an example of mediæval carpentry, and is the finest open timber framed roof in the world. Repairs were undertaken in 1663, in 1747-8, and again in 1821 and 1850. The present scheme of preservation has aimed at retaining as much as possible of the original timber, and this has been accomplished by the insertion of a braced steel frame practically invisible from the floor of the Hall. Slightly less than 10 per cent. of new oak has been used for the essential repairs of decayed beams and posts. We feel confident that we have been successful in giving the roof a long new lease of life, while completely preserving its character.

Your Majesties were pleased to visit the Hall during the progress of the work, when the methods employed and the difficulties encountered were fully explained.

The restoration work has been designed and carried out by Sir Frank Baines, the Director of Works of Your Majesty's Office of Works, after the scheme had been examined and recom-

mended by the Ancient Monuments Board for England.

The gracious visit of Your Majesties on this occasion is a welcome token of the interest you have been pleased to take in the work, and at the same time adds one more notable event to the history of this Hall.

To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

It is with the utmost pleasure that the Queen and I have come here to-day to celebrate the re-opening of Westminster Hall on the completion of the restoration of its noble world-famed roof, erected five centuries ago.

Westminster Hall appeals in a special manner to the mind and imagination of the whole English-speaking race. For centuries it has witnessed the growth of the Constitution, and has been, as it were, a link between the Crown and the People. In far-off days it was the great hall of the King's Palace, and more recently the seat of the highest Law Courts of the Kingdom. So during the eight years that it was closed we seemed temporarily to have lost a priceless treasure of our national life.

The Queen and I were greatly interested some months ago to see the repairs in progress, and thus were able to realise how the serious dangers and defects had been made good with the least possible interference with either the design or material of the original roof.

In common with all lovers of ancient and historic buildings, I wish to express my warm thanks and congratulations to the Ancient Monuments Board, the Director of Works and his Staff, and to all the workmen engaged upon the restoration, for their skill and untiring, devoted labours, which have co-operated towards so successful an achievement. Much of their work is hidden from the public eye: nevertheless to them be the credit for having given, I sincerely trust, centuries of new life to this masterpiece of British Architecture.

Buckingham Palace,

19th July, 1923.

The KING has been graciously pleased to appoint Ralph Endersby Harwood, Esq., C.V.O., C.B.E., to be Deputy Treasurer to His Majesty. The appointment to date 13th April, 1923.

White Lodge,

Richmond Park,

19th July, 1923.

The Duchess of York has been pleased to appoint Lady Katharine Meade to be Lady-in-Waiting to Her Royal Highness.

Lord Chamberlain's Office,
Buckingham Palace, S.W.

20th July, 1923.

The KING has been graciously pleased to appoint the Reverend Bertram Fitzgerald Simpson, M.A., to be a Chaplain to His Majesty, in the room of the Reverend John Harcourt Berry, M.A., deceased.