

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

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St. Paul's Cathedral by W. C. E. Newbolt & Herbert Railton

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W. C. E. NEWBOLT & HERBERT RAILTON

**ST. PAUL'S
CATHEDRAL**

English series 1916

St. Paul's Cathedral

By

W. C. E. Newbolt
The Rev. W. C. E.
Newbolt, M.A.

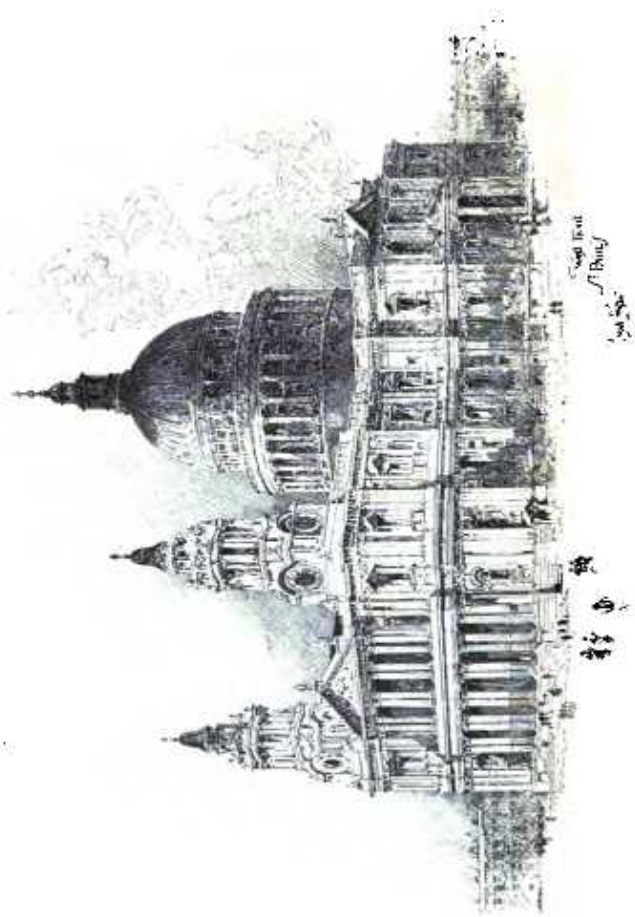
Canon of St. Paul's

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Herbert Railton

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St. Paul's
Cathedral



St. Paul's Cathedral

IF there is one architectural object which more than another has succeeded in giving a character to the City of London, it is the dome of St. Paul's. We associate it with London in pictures; "within sight of the dome of St. Paul's" almost ranks with "within sound of Bow Bells," as delimiting Cockneydom. And as the visitor walks down the splendid Victoria Embankment, or threads his way eastward through the intricacies of the Strand and Fleet Street, it towers before him, now apparently on the Surrey side of the river, now straight in front of him, now bursting up

St. Paul's Cathedral

behind unsuspected corners. Certainly, Sir Christopher Wren accurately caught the spirit of London, the genius of its streets, and the *ethos* of its traffic when he set the cross on top of the dome, as majestic as a cupola, and as graceful as a spire.

And yet when the stranger has climbed the broad flight of steps, so curiously set askew to the grand ascent of Ludgate Hill, as he pushes open the little swing door and finds himself inside a somewhat dark and dingy building, with circular windows innocent of tracery, flat pilasters, transverse beams of stone, with the general feeling of squareness and flatness, relieved as Ruskin contemptuously says, with strings of Ribston pippins carved in stone, and innumerable cherubim, straight, as it were, from the tombstones of a graveyard—as he gazes with eyes still full of impressions derived from Westminster Abbey, and the Gothic queens of beauty which adorn our land—he is disappointed, he must own it; he almost



