

*Studio-Talk*

GARDEN IN WHITEHALL

PLANNED BY C. HARRISON TOWNSEND, F.R.I.B.A.

The illustration we give on this page of a garden planned by Mr. Harrison Townsend within three minutes' walk of Charing Cross, with its incessant turmoil and traffic, will come as a surprise to most people not conversant with the locality, which, notwithstanding the presence in the immediate vicinity of huge blocks of buildings, can still boast of being one of the pleasantest spots in London's central districts. The garden belongs to Mr. Lockett Agnew (of the well-known firm in Bond Street), who lately took No. 6, Whitehall Gardens as a residence. Originally it was a bare and arid expanse of grass running from the house to the Embankment, and though, as the lawns of the Temple Gardens, still nearer the City proper, show, grass will, when carefully tended, thrive in inner London if the situation is an open one, Mr. Townsend judged it expedient in this case to treat a considerable portion of the area as a town garden, and while reducing the quantity of grass, to surround the flower beds with walks paved with flagstones irregularly laid. The old tree shown in the illustration was allowed to remain as a relic of long past days, for it was probably

growing there when King Charles I. met his doom almost within a stone's throw of this garden.

The International Society's "Fair Women" Exhibition at the Grafton Gallery has rivalled its two predecessors in importance, whilst perhaps embracing the title "Fair" a little less loosely than formerly, and less as a mere appellation of courtesy. It succeeded in this, however, without tending at all towards prettiness, than which nothing could be more fatal in an exhibition of the kind. Old and modern painters are ranged together, and it is a good plan, the varieties in periods and types in themselves affording much that is of interest to the world at large. And this specialisation of subject in an exhibition also results in the recognition of painters whose gifts time has sometimes unjustly overlooked. In this exhibition the art of Daniel Gardener and T. G. Hurlstone are instances. Among pleasant features of these exhibitions are the revivals of phases of art to which the sentiment of yesterday clings, and also the lively contrasts between convention and rebellion. A little while ago who would ever have thought of honour