THE gradual uprising of the Liverpool Cathedral, upon what has been known for years past under the name of Quarry Hill, Mount Zion, St. James' Mount, St. James' Walk, or The Mount, has made it worth while to give an account of the previous history of the site.

Anyone taking his stand two hundred years ago upon the Cheshire side of the Mersey, and looking across the river at the town of Liverpool, must have been struck with the beauty of its situation, just as Camden was in 1586, for in his Britannia he said that Liverpool was a town more famous for its beauty and populousness than for its antiquity. The site of the old town of Liverpool was unique—a triangular piece of land with its apex pointing southwards, its base being joined to the rest of the land, along the western side the river Mersey and along the eastern side the Pool. At the apex stood the Castle, at the base the Chapel of St. Nicholas and the Tower; behind all these there arose, in gradual slopes, a series of sandstone ridges gorse and heather clad, the highest being Everton, 241 ft. high.

For years these hills remained unbuilt upon; about 1700 a commencement to fill in the old Pool took place and in 1704 the Parish Church of St. Peter was built. Once the town got across the Pool, building upon the hills in the background went on rapidly, until all were built over except St. James' Mount. Why was this hill alone spared? From time immemorial there had been a quarry, the property of the Corporation, and it was from this quarry that the stone was obtained for erecting the growing Public Buildings, namely the Town Hall and St. Thomas', St.

Owing to the death of the author, this paper was not printed after it was read thirty years ago. We are glad to include it in this volume as a valuable record dealing with a part of Liverpool which has been much altered in recent years.
Paul's, and St. John's churches. Duke Street, the road leading to it, is an old road and was probably called "The way to the Quarry," its new name being probably given to it somewhere about 1745 in honour of William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, who became a popular individual after the victory at the battle of Culloden. The quarry is now St. James' Cemetery, and rubbish got out of it was tipped on St. James' Mount.

There were two entrances into the quarry, a cartway at the south end, represented in later times by the coach road, and another by a subterranean tunnel commencing at the junction of Duke St., Rodney St., and the north end of St. James' Road. This tunnel had two eyes to admit light and air, and on each side over the entrance was the figure of a lion, carved in stone. This entrance is now filled in, but the tunnel may be seen from the cemetery. Almost over this tunnel is the present very beautiful Grecian Doric Chapel for the Cemetery, designed by Mr. Foster: formerly the site was occupied by a windmill.

In the year 1767, the winter was a very severe one, the price of bread was high, and the poor suffered very much. As earth and rubbish were piled on the hillside of the quarry, the then mayor, Mr. Thomas Johnson, with a desire to relieve the suffering of the poor, and a wish to see the hill more sightly, persuaded the Corporation at their expense to undertake the levelling of the hill and the laying of it out. A terrace was formed along the extent of the front with a green slope, behind the terrace was a pleasure ground and plantation, and the northern portion behind the terrace was let on lease for the building of houses. One portion of the ground was thrown up into an artificial mound, commanding a fine view. It is upon the part occupied by the dwelling houses that the Cathedral is built.

At the southern end was another windmill, which stood until 1800, and there was also at one time an Observatory on the Mount.

Public Walks were not new to the town, for on January 1st, 1748, it was ordered "that two public walks be made, one at the South end, the other at the North end, and that Mr. Mayor, the Bailiffs, and such others of the Council as he shall desire to attend him be empowered to treat with any persons for the purchase of two pieces of ground for such purpose and to report the same
ST. JAMES' CEMETERY, LIVERPOOL, FROM THE TUNNEL.

(Photographed by Priestley & Sons, 1896)
to the Council." Five years later, on August 8th, 1753, it was ordered "that the Public Walk leading from Duke St. towards Quarry Hill be repaired and gravelled, and a foot walk be made from thence up to the said hill, under the direction of Mr. Alderman Trafford, Mr. Pole, and Mr. Bailiffe Cunliffe."

The Southern Ladies' Walk extended along the southern side of Duke St., from York St. to Colquitt St.; the last remaining tree, which stood nearly opposite York St., was blown down in January 1852.

In subsequent years the following orders were made:

1761. Sept. 9. "Ordered that a piece of land or ground, part of the Wast of this Corporation be given to his Majesty, his heirs and successors, to build Magazines on, under the like conditions the land for the fortification is given." The piece of land mentioned was at the top of Duke St., near the north end of St. James' Walk.

1762. "Ordered that the Walk, Cop, or Road, at the top of Quarry Hill be repaired under the inspection and direction of Thomas Johnson Esquire, a gentleman of this Council." This shows that there was a kind of walk there before 1767.

1763. March 2. (William Gregson, Mayor.) "Ordered that Mr. Mayor and Bailiffs, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Manesty be appointed a Committee to go to Mr. Alderman Gildart, and talk with him about the purchasing of the Rope-walk at the top of Duke St., or such part thereof as is not sold, and report the price he asks for the same to the Council to make it into a publick Walk, if it shall be thought proper to buy it. . . . And it is also Ordered that an Estimate of finishing the Walk at the Quarry Hill be laid before this Council next Council day, and that £20 be laid out thereon in the mean time."

This public walk seems to have been finished during the mayoralty of Thomas Johnson in 1766, and named Mount Zion, for on December 7th, 1768, it was "Ordered that John Bridge have liberty to enclose and take in a piece of ground to the south and eastwards of his house on the Zion walk on Quarry Hill Waste according to the plan now produced and to take down the present Powder Magazine and Watch house, and rebuild the same in some other convenient place as shall be fixed by the

\[This would be the 14 gun battery, on the west side of St. Nicholas' Church.\]
Mayor and the Committee of Views with the consent and appro­ 
bation of his Majesty’s Board of Ordnance, and to convert the 
said land into a Bowling Green, but not to be suffered to build 
any houses, or other buildings, except an Alcove on the said 
Green.” The magazine was removed to the slope of Brownlow 
Hill, where it remained until the construction of the Magazines 
at Liscard.

1771. June 5. (John Sparling, Mayor.) “Ordered that 
John Callender be allowed the sum of £20 a year, to look after 
and take care of the North and South Public Walks, finding all 
trees, gravel, labourers’ tools and all other things relative thereto 
for such yearly sum to the satisfaction of Mr. Mayor and Baliffs 
for the time being, and during the pleasure of the Council.”

1777. June 4. (William Crosbie, Mayor.) “Ordered that 
Mr. Mayor, and the beforementioned gentlemen do purchase at 
a fair price a Windmill and Premises on Quarry Hill from Mr. 
Drinkwater, to prevent its being purchased by others who are 
about buying it, and might convert it into some use that might 
detriment the Public Walk.”

The “ premises ” mentioned consisted of a coffee house or tavern 
called the St. James’ Coffee House; it was of considerable repute, 
and was kept by a Mr. John Bridge. It formed a portion of the 
row of houses, and the garden of the tavern was later thrown 
into the Mount Gardens.

Picton says the title Mount Zion became lost because of this 
tavern, and that after St. James’ Church was built in 1774 and 
the road called St. James’ Road, the hill came to be known as 
St. James’ Walk. The notion of Mount Zion being the site of a 
public house, also did not fit in with the ideas of a clergyman, a 

dwit of his day, who composed the following :

“ The Mayor and Council in a dreaming fit, 
To slight the Scriptures, and to show their wit, 
The name of Zion, sacred seat of Heaven 
To this unhallowed common walk have given. 
Fond of impiety, behold a shrine 
They’ve dedicated to the god of Wine, 
And, to excite our admiration more 
See “ Bottled Beer ” recorded o’er the door 
But thou, who answerest the poor man’s prayer, 
Protect the innocent, and guard the fair, 
And if thou canst forgive, forgive the Mayor ! ”
This killed forever the name Mount Zion, but to this day the Hill is called "The Mount" much oftener than St. James' Walk.

1821. June 6. (Thomas Leyland, Mayor.) The Mayor having stated in the Council, that much idleness prevailed on a Sunday evening at St. James' Walk, it was resolved "that with a view to preventing the same, a Lodge be built at each end of the walk, to be inhabited by the gardeners." There is no doubt that St. James' Walk was a great acquisition to the town, and it is still the oldest of the Liverpool parks. It can truly be called the grandparent of Sefton Park, and the great grandparent of Calderstones.

Kaye, in *The Stranger in Liverpool*, 1st edition, 1807, calls St. James' Mount "Mount Pleasant," or "St. James' Walk." It is evident that the name Mount Pleasant is a mistake, for in the 4th edition he calls it "The Walk," "The Mount," or "St. James' Walk," and states that it is situated "at the top of Duke St., inclining to the right." "The gravelled terrace which is 400 yards long, and kept in excellent condition, is artificial ground, raised considerably above the level of the streets below, and owing to the elevated situation of that part of the town affords an extensive and interesting prospect. Behind the terrace is a shrubbery with gravelled walks, kept in good preservation. It is a favourite resort for people in the middle rank of life, and is open every day, except Sunday. The buildings opposite the entrance are now private dwellings, but formerly occupied as a tavern. The whole belongs to the Corporation, and is supported at its expense for the accommodation of the public." In 1900, the Bishop of Liverpool proposed the erection of a cathedral, and six different sites were considered. As a result of a public meeting at the Town Hall, on June 17th, 1901, the site on St. James' Mount was decided upon. In 1903, the portion with the houses upon it was bought for £11,300, and on July 19th, 1904, the foundation stone was laid by King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra.