

appearance in these materials. The remarks made in the beginning as to the course followed by the Greeks in the development of their styles will have to be taken to heart, and the silent advice given out by their example followed out by those who have to do with our architecture of to-day and in the future.

DISCUSSION.

MR. G. A. MANSFIELD, a visitor, in opening the discussion, said that he had listened with great pleasure to the interesting paper, and concurred with the author in most of the remarks made. There was no doubt that in this colony the treatment of bricks as a constructive and ornamental material had not received the attention it deserved, and the same remark applied equally to wrought and cast iron. The difficulties that architects had to encounter in the design and execution of their work were much greater than those with which engineers had to contend. In the matter of time alone, the exigencies under which the architect worked were often a considerable difficulty. This was mainly the fault of the conditions under which we lived, the haste that characterized all our doings. The value of money lying idle, the value of the site which also represented money, all these conditions meant haste, and this hurry did not give the architect an opportunity of doing justice to himself. On the question of design few outside the profession knew to what an extent the architect was under the control of those who employed him, and almost every one in the community

thought himself qualified to criticise. The works dealt with by engineers were, as a whole, of a larger and more difficult character than architectural work, and the general lay mind was not quite so ready to give directions or pass opinions concerning them. With regard to the smoke difficulty he (the speaker) was sorry to say that some very good specimens of brickwork elevations, erected within the last few years, were already beginning to show signs of considerable injury from smoke. This, he thought, was a difficulty inseparable from all large cities, and remedy appeared to be very distant.

Mr. Horbury Hunt, a visitor, said he admired the straightforward manner in which the author had exposed certain abuses. He (the speaker) maintained that brickwork was the most desirable front we could possibly have in this climate. We had clays from which bricks were being manufactured equal to those found in other parts of the world. As an example the white bricks in the Newcastle Cathedral made by the Gore Hill Brick Company might be cited. A feature in brickwork which required careful consideration was colour. An attempt was being made to introduce a variety of colours in brick, but he (the speaker) considered that it would be far preferable if they were kept more in monotone.

Mr. G. Fischer said that the statements contained in the author's paper were quite in accord with his (the speaker's) ideas. He considered that our architects could do more in the way of leaving ironwork bare in our buildings instead of covering it with plaster, &c., as if they were ashamed of its presence. He could endorse the remarks made by the previous speaker regarding the bricks in the Newcastle Cathedral, which were of exceptionally fine quality.

The President (Mr. R. Pollock) said that the author's ideas with regard to the non-covering of iron work had been carried out by shipbuilders for some years past, and nearly all the large steamships of the present day were left in their naked beauty, not being cased even in the saloons.