This Terrible Fire having in part Burnt & Stripped the Plaister from off the Walls of the Ancient St Martins Church over against the South Sea House which was One of the Churches not burnt by the Great Fire in 1666 — the Naked Walls Show how hard our Ancestors was put to it to find Materials for large Edifices Especiall for a Church built in So conspicuous part of the City — the Wall was wholey composed of Portions or Lumps of Chalk, Flints, & Sand Stone, incorporated in Mortar & then Plaistered over — for Portland Stone was not known at that Time but Sand Stone might be had from the Quarries not far from Bagdon & Chalk & Flints but this Stone will not stand the weather unless cover'd over with Mortar

What is remarkable of Mrs Thompson's House No. 4: that it stood out braved Two Great Fires that Happened on Each Side of it — the Great Fire of London to the South of it & the White Lyon Tavern to the North of it that was burnt down a few years ago — I have often & often looked at it with wonder to see a little Plaistered House projecting from the rest — stand secure in the Rage of Two Such Fires — but now being attacked on both Sides, at Once, was at last obliged to yield to its Fate