

vernment Board sought power to acquire fifty-five acres of land on the banks of the Thames at Mortlake, and there to treat the sewage by precipitation, the sludge being disposed of to the neighbouring market-gardeners or conveyed down the river in barges to some waste land at Woolwich, to

picture such as is not seen on the Seine near Paris, or on the Tagus near Lisbon, though the Thames here can boast no romantic beauty on its level banks, which bristle with osier-beds on either side.

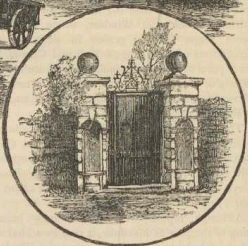
Mortlake, however, enjoys one element of popu-



OLD SUMMER-HOUSE AT MORTLAKE.

obtain which also compulsory powers were sought. If the scheme were carried out, Mortlake would become a depôt of the sewage of no less than twenty-one parishes, with a population of 120,000 and its inhabitants are not very anxious for the honour.

The walk from the west end of Mortlake to Kew, through green meadows and shady lanes, is pleasant in the summer. We keep the river in view all the way on our right hand, and across it we see the dark cedars and evergreens of Grove Park, Chiswick, to which we introduced our readers when they started with us on our present pilgrimage.\* In the foreground, the skiffs, the sailing-yachts, and the steam-launches, present a



OLD GATEWAY, CROMWELL HOUSE, MORTLAKE.

larity, which seems likely to last as long as the annual boat-race between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge shall continue to be rowed on London waters. Here is the winning-post, just opposite to the "Ship" inn, which stands about a quarter of a mile above the church.

It would seem that this is the most appropriate place for a few remarks about this "Water Derby," this "Battle of the Rival Blues."

\* See Vol. I., p. 7.