Athena is victorious and turns to her chariot which Nike drives. In the frieze of the entablature, the metopes were filled with sculptures in high-relief, representing subjects from the Attic mythology, among which the battle of the Athenians with the Centaurs. Along the top of the external wall of the cella ran a frieze sculptured with a representation of the Panathenaic procession, in very low relief. A large number of the slabs of this frieze, and a considerable number of other fragments, including some of the most important, though mutilated, statues from the pediments, were purchased by the English nation in 1816, and deposited in the British Museum. The worst of the injuries which the Parthenon has suffered from war and pillage, was inflicted in the siege of Athens by the Venetians in 1687, when a bomb exploded in the very centre of the Parthenon, and threw down much of both the side walls. Its ruins are still, however, in sufficient preservation to give a good idea of the construction of all its principal parts. Near the windows are some drawings of the Parthenon, as it appeared before its destruction.

In the Rotunda

deserve particular notice No. 3. A marble bust of Jupiter; — No. 5. A beautiful Caryatide, from the Acropolis; — No. 6. Pallas, a colossal marble bust, from the Villa Albani; — Irene, the goddess of Peace, one of the Horae; — Plutus, the god of wealth.