

given in the *Album Benedictinum* lately issued. In point of antiquity, the English Congregation, erected in 1800, the Cassinese in 1415, and the Swiss, in 1602, alone precede it.

In 1807 the seventy-eighth abbot of Metten, D. Celestine Stoeckl, died of a broken heart, after witnessing the suppression of his house, and the dispersion of his monks, and the sale of their lands and library, which had taken place four years previously. About twenty years after his death one of the old monks of Metten, D. Romanus Raith, and a monk of Andech, D. Ildephonus Nebauer, boldly resumed their religious habit, and through the generous assistance of Louis I., King of Bavaria, were enabled to recover possession of the Abbey buildings of Metten, and, in 1830, entered on their work of restoration.

(*To be continued.*)

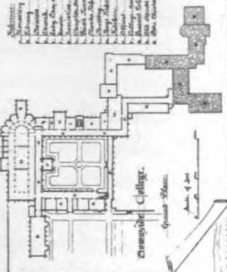
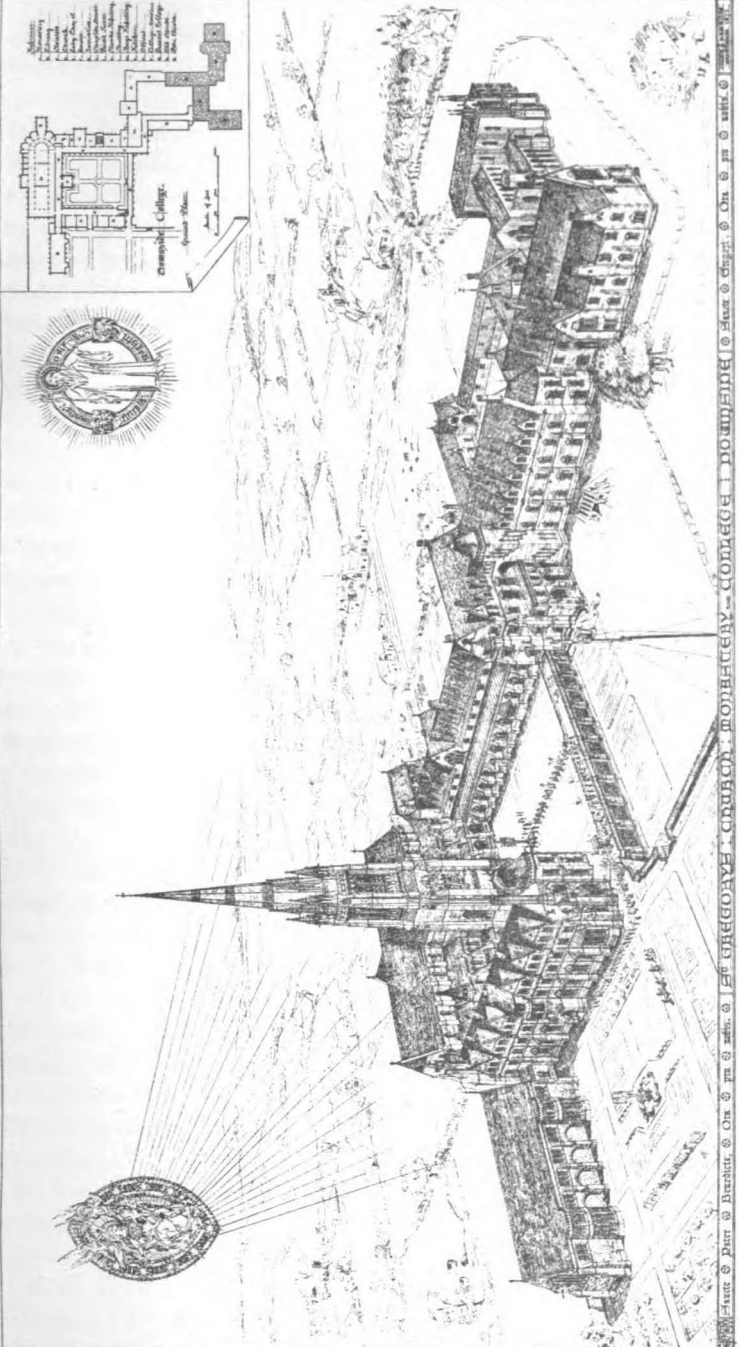
ST. GREGORY'S CHURCH, MONASTERY, AND COLLEGE, DOWNSIDE.

WE had hoped to have received and been able to present to our readers, to accompany the view of the college buildings, the first of a series of articles in which it is proposed to give some account and history of the progress of the various additions which have, during the last sixty years, been made to the original house which formed, in 1814, the monastery and college of St. Gregory's. But although the preliminary article is nearly ready, it has been found impossible to complete it in time for the first number of the *Review*.¹ We are now obliged immediately to go to press, in order that our first issue may be ready by the 13th of July—the day of the annual meeting at Downside.

Under these circumstances our readers will perhaps pardon the crude sketch which, with the limited information at present at our disposal, we are reluctantly obliged to substitute.

Much interesting information concerning the migration of the community and school from the hospitable shelter of Acton Burnell has been already given in the memoir of the late Dr. Brown. On arrival they found the small house, a portion of which is seen to the extreme right of our view. It was, no

¹ Since this article has been in type the contribution referred to has reached us, and, though too late for this issue, will appear in our next. —ED.



- Monastery
- Church
- Refectory
- Library
- Scriptorium
- Workshop
- Stable
- Well
- Gate
- Wall
- Moat
- Gravel
- Grass
- Wood
- Water
- Fire
- Light
- Sound
- Smell
- Taste
- Touch
- Thought
- Feeling
- Will
- Power
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Love
- Peace
- Justice
- Mercy
- Kindness
- Patience
- Self-control
- Kindness
- Peace
- Patience
- Self-control

Front of the Monastery of St. Gregory's Church, Douville, Normandy. The illustration is a detailed woodcut showing the exterior of the church and its surrounding walls. The church has a large, ornate facade with a central tower and a spire. The walls are high and have several windows. The surrounding area is a flat, open landscape. The text at the bottom of the image reads: 'Front of the Monastery of St. Gregory's Church, Douville, Normandy.'

Photo-Lithographed & Printed by James Almon, 55, Queen's Square, W. C.

doubt, a comfortable, old-fashioned house, with its panelled oak parlours, and wonderfully solid oak staircases and floors. In those times it looked out, as it does now, on the beautiful park and grounds that are so well known to us. The shrubberies, the avenue of magnificent elms, the gardens, and the fine old trees scattered about, were almost as we see them to-day. For many years—indeed up to the time of the latest addition to the buildings—the old house formed the monastery proper. There were the guest-parlour, the calefactory, the kitchens and pantries adjoining the refectory, the Prior's rooms, the sacristy, the novitiate, and the other parts of the monastery. There was the "old clock on the stairs," and on the roof was the large bell which, until the completion of the second tower, called in early morning the monks to matins, the boys to their studies, tolled the Angelus, marked the other portions of the day's duties, and closed the day at Compline.

About the year 1823, we believe, the buildings of the new monastery and college were completed. These extended as far as the long, triple lancet-headed window that we see to the right of the small belfry. They were not, perhaps, of a very pretentious or admirable style, nor destined from their construction to last long. Still they answered their purpose, and fulfil even now satisfactorily the other purposes to which they have been adapted. Boys of the generation which ended or existed in 1855 will remember the old study-room, the old class-rooms (scenes also of "tucks,"), the Palace, with its *yellow* whitewash, the small and stuffy library of the twelve first, the PREFECT'S ROOM,—ah! what emotions will not the name of that dismal apartment conjure up in the minds of those who "all hope abandoned when they entered there!" the well-worn steps leading up the tower to the lower and upper dormitories; Paradise Row, the abode of the select, and for many years of one now gone from amongst us—of one of admirable life; the playroom and its blazing fire, the for many years most primitive wash-house.

These were the bounds, within doors at least. But "*nous avons changé tout cela,*" and the first step towards the era of advanced ideas was made when the beautiful block of buildings erected from the designs of Messrs. Hansom (both old Downside boys) was opened about the year 1856. Our space will not permit us to dwell upon the admirable arrangements of the new buildings, of the light and airy study and class-rooms, the elegant exhibition-room known as the "Palace," the boys' rooms, and the

many conveniences for study and comfort which had been arranged within them. They formed the second era, and for twenty years or more were undisturbed by visions, practically entertained at least, of future extension.

Then came the third period—that which is to mark indeed the completion of the priory, church, and college of St. Gregory's. For the moment we have not the means at our disposal to describe in detail the magnificent pile of buildings which is now almost finished and for the greater part occupied. We refer our readers to the view and plan which we have been enabled to place before them. Some idea of the magnitude of the work may be gathered from a reference to the plan, which is on the scale of 500 feet to the inch. Those who have of late years visited Downside will have been delighted and surprised at the revival in England of such an example of monastic architecture. They will have passed through the groined and panelled corridors and cloisters with their windows filled with stained glass—the gift in many cases of former students. They will have visited the noble refectory, with its carved and panelled walls and ceilings; the dormitories, the libraries, and calefactory, and other parts of the monastery; they will have seen the beautiful little temporary chapel and the arrangements for the completion of the monastic church—that church which, it is scarcely too much to say, will—with its groined stone roof, its internal arrangements, its chapter-houses, its many chapels, the costly gifts of private individuals, and, without, its lofty spire—be second in grandeur and beauty to no other modern edifice of its kind in England.

In our view the church forms obviously the centre of the new block of buildings. Around the spacious quadrangle are, on the right hand, the new quarters for the boys, facing these the monastery, and facing the church the beautiful Petre Cloister. This is not the place to speak of what has been undertaken and done at Downside by Mr. Petre. But the history of Downside, which is the purpose of our review, will be incomplete without such a record; and at no distant date we hope in these pages to bear grateful testimony to so much that has been accomplished by him. The extreme left of our view is occupied by the new monastic library. In front are well-laid-out gardens, some few of the fine old trees which the ruthless hand of the builder has not destroyed, and paths leading to what is known as the “Sea of Peter.” The sea, or see, of Peter, or Petre—for we do not know which is correct—is a most admirably constructed bathing-pond, the gift also of Mr.

Petre, of very large dimensions, in depth from about three to six feet, and floored and lined with tiles. Close by are a graceful and comfortably constructed pavilion and dressing-boxes, and altogether the arrangements are perfect of their kind.

It is scarcely necessary to add that the whole of these beautiful buildings are from the designs of Messrs. Hansom and Dunn, of Newcastle and London. Beside Edward Hansom the writer sat for many years in that older portion of the buildings designed by the father of the one who is to-day become the distinguished architect and the designer of our subject, and of many other graceful buildings in England.

We have little more to add, except to regret that we have been obliged to substitute this crude sketch for a more reliable article. The latter we hope to give in succeeding numbers, with some account of the buildings and other designs which have been from time to time suggested, considering them in detail both from the exterior and interior, and continuing to present to our readers views of the different portions on a reduced scale similar to that which we have in this number the pleasure of bringing before them.

THE FOURTEENTH CENTENARY OF ST. BENEDICT AT MONTE CASSINO.

THE present age seems to be the age of centenaries. Great personages who have passed away a hundred or several hundred years ago, are brought forward, their memory is renewed, and in some sort of way they are made once more to live amongst us. Shakespeare, O'Connell, Sir Walter Scott, Robert Burns, Camoens, and others have thus been *fêted*, and their friends or followers have rejoiced at an occasion of showing their love and loyalty to the objects of their admiration. We have the authority of the "Saturday Review," not usually very sympathetic in our regard, that if anyone ever deserved such a tribute, it was the great Patriarch of the Monks of the West, the founder of the grand Benedictine Order, which has one of its homes in our own Monastic College of Downside. St. Benedict was born in the year of our Lord 480, and thus the fourteenth centenary of his birth occurs in our present year, 1880. The thought of celebrating his festival this year