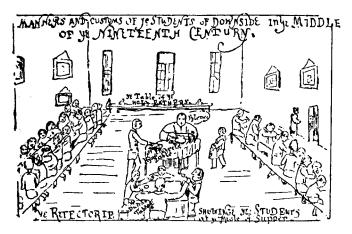
being done by the Benedictines in England. One of these good works is the erection of the new monastic buildings at Downside; and my fervent hope and prayer is, that when the time arrives for the consecration of the Church, a gathering of Abbots and brethren may be brought together, which may rival, but it cannot outstrip, the splendid scene of Monte Cassino.



Few of our readers, we think, will fail to recognize with pleasure the following extract from "Mr. Pips' hys diary," reproduced with a facsimile etching on a reduced scale, from the famous and well-thumbed Debating Book of thirty years ago. To the author and artist it will bring back many a pleasant recollection. Who that has once been at Downside but has perused the original, and will welcome it again? And to those of the new generation, this and the succeeding extracts (which we propose also to reproduce with their characteristic etchings) will give some idea of "Old Downside" and the manners and customs of the olden time.

## SUPPLEMENT TO MR. PIPS' HYS DIARY.

Manners and Customs of Y<sup>E</sup> Gentlemen of Downside in Y<sup>E</sup> middle of Y<sup>E</sup> Nineteenth Century.

Ur betimes to go to ye Station of Paddington on my way to Bath, whence to ye College of S' Gregorye ye Great at Downside, where I was invited to spend some days. Did meet at ye station with M' Wagstaffe, who was to accompany me. Arrived safe at Bath, and thence did start for Downside by M' John his coach. Many

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hills on ye road, but did not marvel much, as ye College is situate on Mendip. Besides, Mr Wagstaffe did note that many folk, especially schoolboys, do find hills on their way to College. Did pass through a village called Radstock, where coal-pits do abound.

It was nigh four of ye clocke when we reached an Inne called ye King hys Arms, where ye coach did change horses, and we did alight to walk to ye College. Did meet at ye College gates many of ye Holy Fathers clothed in ye habit of St Benedict his order. Did marvel much what was ye colour of ye habit, some being black and some green, some partly black and partly green. also much variety in ye head-dresses. Some wore on their heads hattes, like ordinary folk, some did wear cappes like to ye secular clergy, some did wear a portion of their habit which is called ye hood, and some did wear nothing. Did salute ye Holy Fathers, and after a merry shaking of ye hand did walk up to ye porch of ye College. Ye house did seem very antient, but was comfortable withal. When we entered we did betake ourselves to ve parlour, and did dine, after which did sit by ye fire and hold much conversation about ye Pope hys aggression, my Lord John hys letter, and other matters of much interest. Did not go out in ye evening, weather forbidding. Did think it raining, but was told it was ye mist of ye Mendip. Did hear oftentimes a ringing of a large bell, which was to mark ye times of diverse duties. At seven of ye clock did hear a ringing, and then much tramping as of horses, and a sound which methought was thunder. Understood was ye students of ye College going to ye meal of supper. Did admire how so few little boys should cause so much noise. Did peep in through ye door, and did see ye students eating with much appetite. On ye tables were many bowls like unto basins for sugar; each student had one such bowl. Some bowls did contain cold milk, some hot milk, some tea, some coffee, and some a liquid which did much resemble mud with water. Was told they Some boys did have butter, some did eat egges; called it cocoa. but did think that those who took bread and milk alone were ve most happy looking. Did oftentimes hear ye Prefect call with a loud voice, "Silence!" and did sometimes see a boy leave hys place and stand against ye wall: did suppose for not obeying ye order of silence. Was much alarmed at a great bang, like unto a stroke of a mallet, upon ye table, and then did see all ye boys jump up with great speediness, and some were almost falling, which did cause mirth unto ye others. Did again hear "Silence!" and with

a deep voice grace was said. Then, much running to and fro till all did leave ye room in order. Did then return to ye parlour, where was tea. Then some more conversation with some of ye Holy Fathers, and so to bed.

(To be continued.)

## THE ST. GREGORY'S SOCIETY MEDAL.

At the General Meeting of the St. Gregory's Society, held in the month of July last year, it was decided that a medal should be struck to be awarded by the Society, and a Committee was appointed to select a design and submit it to a Meeting of the Council to be held subsequently.

That no decided action has yet been taken is due to various causes, but what has been done towards this object it may be as well here to recapitulate; and it may not be one of the least uses of such a publication as the "Downside Review" that it affords a medium for thoroughly ventilating a proposition of such importance, and for laying before members of the Society who may not be enabled to be present at the meetings all that may be said for and against the various schemes suggested, and thus enabling them to arrive at a well-considered conclusion.

In the course of the previous year the two gentlemen deputed to make a report on the subject made inquiries in various directions, not only in England, but in Rome, as to designs and as to the best persons to whom to entrust the work. And it may here be mentioned that the Committee were left absolutely without definite instructions to guide them. No suggestions for the design had been set before them, nor was there any limitation as to cost. Negotiations with artists in Rome having from various causes failed, the Committee met at the well-known engravers and diesinkers, Messrs. Wyon, of London, and thinking themselves hardly justified in recommending to the Council an expenditure of such magnitude as the cutting of new dies would entail, selected from the stock in hand of these gentlemen, two designs -the one representing a head of Minerva, the other a figure of Diana hunting-which they decided to submit to the Council, the first as a prize for classics, the other for athletic sports. The

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