

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 M^R. PIPS' HYS DIARY.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF Y^E GENTLEMEN OF DOWNSIDE IN Y^E
MIDDLE OF Y^E NINETEENTH CENTURY.

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

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

a deep voice grace was said. Then, much running to and fro till all did leave y^e room in order. Did then return to y^e parlour, where was tea. Then some more conversation with some of y^e 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 die-sinkers, 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