

NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH,
KINGSCOURT, CO. CAVAN.

(COMMUNICATED.)

THIS church, was consecrated some months ago. Although not entirely completed, it is open for divine service. The building was erected by Messrs. Kelly, of Granard, from the plans of Mr. William Hague, F.R.I.A.I., of Dublin. It consists of nave, aisles, transepts, chancel, sacristy, side chapels, and tower. The entire length from principal entrance at west end to apse is about 100 ft.; width of nave, 27 ft., and aisles 10 ft. each; the height of eave looks to be about 30 ft., and from wall-plate to ridge, 20 ft.; the length of nave rafter might be estimated at 23 ft., which would be a very close approximation.

The style is partly Gothic. The walls are

built of hammered sandstone from a neighbouring quarry, with chiselled limestone dressings carted from the vicinity of Carrickmacross and worked on the ground. The tracery of the windows (with the exception of the radii of the wheel-window in principal gable) is wrought from the same material, the latter being sandstone. The tower is built only as far as the base of spire, which, when added to the work, will render the whole construction a unique and handsome edifice. It stands on a charming elevation to the west of the town, and within a few yards of the old chapel. One is compelled to admire the exact proportions of this building, and the lovers of a well-designed structure cannot help being pleased with the whole conception.

Entering the church by the principal door, we find the organ-gallery over head; and passing through glazed doors of pitch-pine, we are not disappointed with its internal appearance. The walls of the nave are supported by Gothic arches of sandstone 2 ft. thick, springing from polished Aberdeen granite columns about 1 ft. 4 in. in diameter, with Bath stone caps and limestone bases. The front wall of the organ gallery is also arched and supported by columns of Middleton marble, which, as well as the polished granite, was supplied by Messrs. Sibthorpe, of Dublin. A handsome sandstone arch surmounts the gallery rail, which is also pitch-pine, panelled, &c. The ceiling, which is inclined with the roof, is formed into panels of pitch-pine, showing diagonal V joints, and suitably moulded between the principals, every alternate one of which is trussed with circular ribs, springing from corbels and forming a Gothic arch. The termination of the nave is marked by a principal, extra trussed, trefoil fashion, and supported by light shafts of Caen stone. The ceiling of the apse is also panelled, having circular mouldings to mark the hips; and the ceilings of the transepts are panelled and moulded in a similar manner. The sacristy, side chapels, &c., are, I need scarcely say, in keeping with the remainder. The entire cost of the building cannot be less than £6,000; the estimate of Messrs. Kelly amounted, I have heard, to close upon £3,000 for workmanship

and the supply of part of the materials; all stones, including marble columns, lime, &c., were supplied by the committee, and everything needed was carted to the ground gratuitously by the parishioners, who deserve all praise for their efforts in forwarding the work. The lead lights for the windows are glazed with cathedral glass of three shades, and manufactured on the ground by Mr. Farron, of Marlborough-street, Dublin.

Mr. Hague, although but a young man, has several buildings under his supervision; and I believe it was his design that was accepted over those of other competitors for the bishop's residence at Mullingar. I also understand that he is the architect of the new college at Cavan, of which his father is the builder.

Although considerable credit is no doubt due to the Messrs. Kelly for their attention and perseverance in carrying out the ideas of Mr. Hague, still I must notice a few defects in the workmanship which I wonder he would let pass. Here and there one meets with evident traces of haste or carelessness. Some of the springing stones of the arches are not true to the curve, and the south transept gable "batters" so much as to be noticeable; to sight it with the gable of the south porch will prove this beyond doubt, and even without sighting it in this manner, the vertical joints of the slates will expose the fault, which is no trivial one. I think the eave gutters have also too much projection.

The principal approach to the church from the town will require considerable remodeling, as it is lined with unsightly cabins, the floors of which, on one side, are 4 ft. under the centre of the street, without any attempt at the formation of a footway by the doors. Here and there on the other side the sense of smell is offended by the odour of the manure heap, which seems to be a pet with many of our people.

JEAN DE VEY.

I failed to establish an identity for Jean De Vey. I am now assuming that it is a "nom de plume" but the identity was probably known to William Hague.