

The Pugin Society

e~newsletter

Issue 24

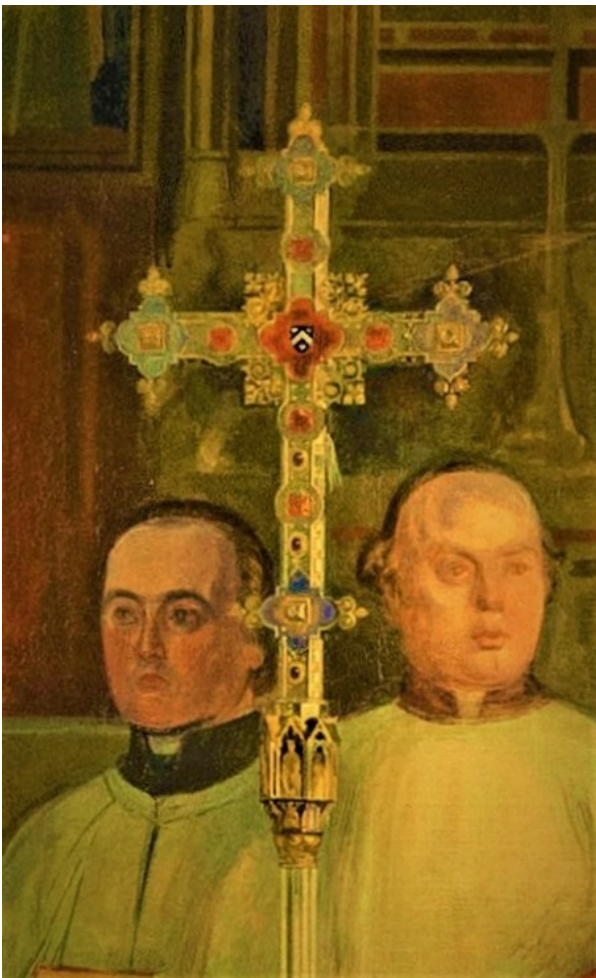
Summer 2023

Follow-up Note on the Westminster Metropolitan Cross

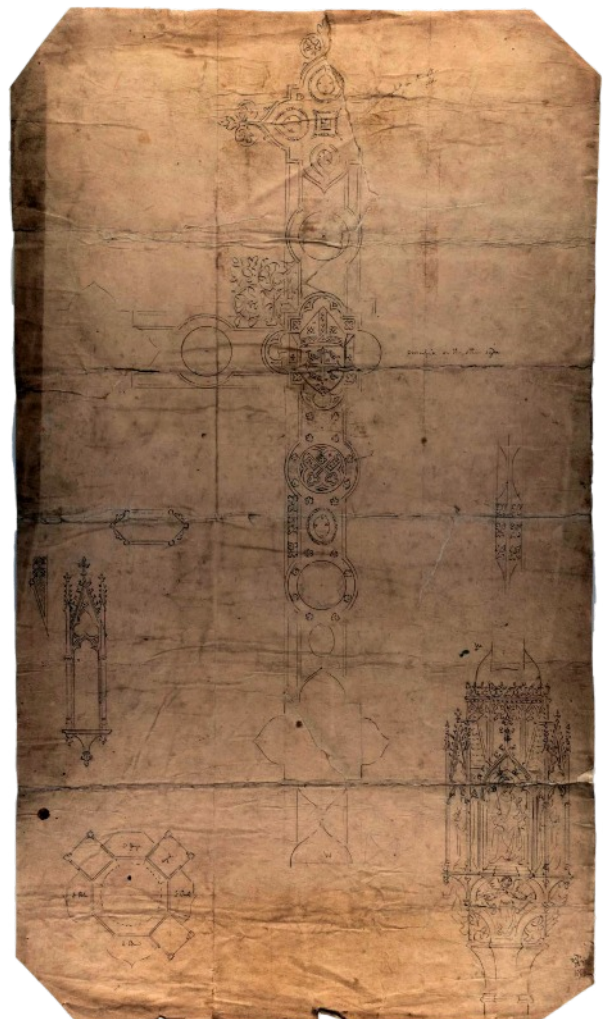
Further to my contribution in issue 19 (January/February 2002) of the e-newsletter where I mentioned that AWN Pugin's Westminster Metropolitan Cross was now kept in the private chapel at Archbishop's House, Westminster.

The December 7, 2022, issue of *Country Life* magazine contained a very interesting article, 'A very big thing' by Peter Howell about Archbishop's House. This included an image of the apse of the private chapel (Fig. 7 on page 181) showing the cross standing on the left. It shows the 'back' of the cross with the Corpus Christi as it would appear when carried immediately before the Metropolitan Archbishop of Westminster.

Nick Beveridge



Detail of the painting of the First Provincial Synod of Westminster showing the front of the cross (St Mary's College, Oscott)

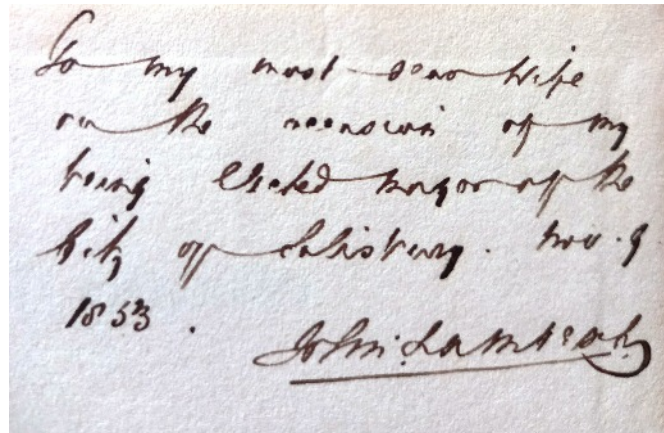


Pugin's design for the metropolitan Cross (Private Collection)

A REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE

My late husband, Michael, was never one to miss an opportunity to visit a second-hand or antiquarian bookshop. Since he was an artist and etcher, books connected with art were always a priority. In one bookshop we explored he was drawn to a book entitled *Lights and Shadows of Artist Life and Character*. It was written by James Smith ('author of *Wilton and its Associations*, etc') and published in 1853. The book was attractively bound, if a little the worse for wear, in blue embossed cloth, with a decorative spine, on which the title had been abbreviated to *Artist Life and Character*.

A faint pencil inscription inside noted that it had been bought for 10p at a church fete in 1978, but a far more exciting inscription, at least to me, in ink stated: 'To my most dear wife on the occasion of my being elected Mayor of the City of Salisbury. Nov. 9 1853. John Lambert'. It was a great achievement for the Catholic Lambert to become Mayor of Salisbury, only three years after the re-establishment of the Catholic Hierarchy in England, against which there had been a strong reaction, and one can sense his pride.



I was amazed to discover this inscription, quite by chance. John Lambert, later Sir John Lambert KCB, born in 1815, was one of the group of friends, mostly but not all Catholic, that the young Pugin made when he was living in Salisbury from the autumn of 1835 to September 1837, when he too became a Catholic. Lambert subsequently commissioned Pugin to build the church of St Osmund's in Salisbury (1848) and was the main funder. Lambert and Pugin remained in touch until the latter's death in 1852 – Pugin refers to him as 'my most estimatable [*sic*] friend J. Lambert'.¹ Lambert was particularly interested in and very knowledgeable about Gregorian chant and music of the middle ages, a passion shared with Pugin, who was anxious to revive plainchant at St Augustine's, but who found the necessary skills difficult to implement, without specialist help, such as Lambert's.

Lambert appears to have acted as an executor for Pugin, and an important letter of 1853 from him to Jane Pugin, helping to settle various matters after Pugin's death, survives. This is in connection with the tabernacle and font, designed by Pugin and sculpted by George Myers, for the Mediaeval Court at the 1851 Great Exhibition, and throws light upon the final destination of these artefacts and details payments.² Lambert later commissioned the main lights of the splendid south window in the Pugin Chantry in St Augustine's, depicting the story of St Augustine and his coming to England, and showing Pugin and his three wives.

Beyond his connections with Pugin, Lambert was also a distinguished and respected public servant and privy councillor, in addition to being, at least initially, a solicitor in his home city of Salisbury. He always promoted the interests of Salisbury, where he was finally buried, at St Osmund's, in 1892, even though latterly he had lived in London, fondly naming his London residence Milford House, after the one-time family dwelling, Milford Hall, in Salisbury. □

Catriona Blaker

Notes

¹ *The Collected Letters of A.W.N. Pugin*, volume 5, 1851 to 1852, p.316, edited by Margaret Belcher, Oxford University Press, 2015.

² Source of letter not known, but copy given to the author by Fr Anthony Symondson SJ.

Pugin's Illustrations of Newman's *Lives of the English Saints*

by James M. Thunder*

Two major pieces of Pugin literature state, in summary fashion, that Pugin illustrated John Henry Newman's *Live of the English Saints*.¹ The late Professor Margaret Belcher, however, provided a great deal of detail on this subject in the second volume of her *The Collected Letters of A.W.N. Pugin*, published in 2003.²

This essay republishes, for the first time since 1914, all eleven of Pugin's illustrations³ and does so for the first time ever in a single document.⁴

The period in question is mid-1842 through the end of 1844.⁵ During this time, Pugin was, among other things, doing his typical traveling (Scotland, Ireland and the Continent),⁶ worked on his home in Ramsgate,⁷ and on a number of churches, including three cathedrals.⁸ And he published *An Apology for the Revival of Christian Architecture in England* (1843) and *Glossary of Ecclesiastical Ornament and Costume* (1844).⁹ For his part during this time, Newman (1801-1890) was in the throes of converting to Catholicism and had relocated from Oxford to Littlemore, a few miles away, in February 1842.¹⁰ Among other things, he was busy drafting *The Development of Christine Doctrine* (1845).

With respect to Newman's *Lives of the English Saints*, the first thing to notice is that any and all illustrations were by Pugin, no one else. Second, Newman himself may not have written any of the *Lives*.¹¹ He edited the first two numbers: St Stephen Harding and St Richard.¹² The introduction to the 1900 edition, the first comprehensive edition, stated that the work is described as Newman's because he initiated the effort.¹³

Here is how the work came about: Newman's thoughts on the subject started at least as early as April 4, 1841, when he wrote to his friend, J.W. Bowden, about *English* saints, the "National Church," and the desirability of someone writing a biography of St Anselm (1033/34-1109).¹⁴ In the summer of 1842, Newman had a conversation with publisher James Toovey about "publishing the *Lives of the* [English] *Saints*... thinking it would be useful, as employing the minds of persons who were in danger of running wild, and bringing them from doctrine to history, from speculation to fact; again, as giving them an interest in the English soil and English church, and keeping them from seeking sympathy in Rome as she is..."¹⁵ On April 3, 1843, almost precisely two years since Newman had first written Bowden on the subject, he wrote Bowden again, stating that he intended the work "to be historical and devotional, but not controversial."¹⁶

As of May 18, 1843, "Many men are setting to work [researching and writing biographies]."¹⁷ There were 30 such men. A few months later, in early fall of 1843, Newman published a prospectus describing the anticipated *Lives*.¹⁸ He envisioned a monthly publication written by various authors, each writing independently of the others.¹⁹ He identified 300 saints!²⁰

At some point in 1843, Newman asked J.R. Bloxam, previously a curate to Newman, to find out from Pugin what Pugin wanted to do about illustrations for Saints Stephen and Richard.²¹ Pugin initially declined the work.²²

In late 1843, Anglican Father and Oxford Professor E. B. Pusey saw some pre-publication proofs of the first *Life*, that of St Stephen Harding, by J.D. Dalgairns who lived in community with Newman at Littlemore. Pusey's objections to these proofs caused Newman great anxiety. Newman had wanted the *Lives* to present facts with total detachment but realized that "miracles, or monkery [monasticism], or popery"²³ would unavoidably seep in. Newman consulted James Hope, a young barrister and William Gladstone, then a Member of Parliament (and future Prime Minister), both of whom shared Pusey's concerns.²⁴

By December, Newman decided to withdraw from the project but desired that individual biographies, many of them in process, would be published one at a time and that enough of them would eventually constitute a series.²⁵ As soon as the first, on St Stephen, came into print, it was clear that the project of publishing lives of English saints was incompatible with Anglicanism.²⁶ After the second biography (of St Richard²⁷) was published, Newman gave public notice in January 1844²⁸ that he was withdrawing as editor. He declared that only those biographies completed or nearly completed would be subsequently published.²⁹

There is a flurry of correspondence – 28 letters identified and summarized by Belcher -- between Pugin, Newman, Toovey, and the new editor Frederick Oakeley (then minister at Margaret Chapel, the predecessor of All Saints, Margaret Street, and the author of the draft life of St Augustine of Canterbury) from the last half of January through November, 1844, some of which may have crossed in the mail. The subjects included employing Pugin to illustrate individual lives as well as the design of a “Wrapper,” or frontispiece, that is, a title-page illustration that would be used for every number in the series, Pugin’s fees, the colors of the illustrations, the status of the work of the engraver, Orlando Jewitt, and comments on Pugin’s illustrations. For example, Toovey wrote Newman on February 9 that Pugin had supplied a “beautiful” design for St Augustine.³⁰

Additional correspondence includes the following: On March 1, 1844, Pugin wrote Newman, stating that Toovey had asked for an illustration of St Richard but that Newman, in some previous unidentified correspondence, had asked for an illustration of the *family* of St Richard. Pugin asked Newman if Newman wanted four illustrations or a single illustration showing all of the saints.³¹ In response, on March 6, Newman wrote Toovey insisting that the design regarding St Richard was for Newman himself and that Newman has written Pugin “that he is to attend to me, and not to any one else.”³² It appears that, although Newman had given up editor responsibilities in general, he maintained them with respect to Pugin’s illustrations, and not just for the one for St Richard.

On March 8, Pugin wrote Newman that he was pleased Newman was happy with his illustration for St Richard, and explained some of the details.³³ As of March 20, the life of St Stephen had sold 600 copies.³⁴ Newman continued to be involved. He informed Toovey on April 27 that he liked Pugin’s illustration for St Richard and required Toovey to send him the next two illustrations. In reply, Toovey wrote Newman on May 7 stating that he had seen Pugin on “Saturday last” (May 4?), expecting a design for the Hermit Saints, enclosing for Newman’s “approval” the one Pugin gave him for St Wulstan. Newman thanked Toovey on May 8 for Pugin’s beautiful design of St Wulstan. On May 16, Toovey sent him the second illustration, one for the Hermit Saints. On November 1, Newman wrote Toovey about an illustration that could be used for St German and a second one, unidentified, he deemed “one of Pugin’s best.”

The series, published in 1844 and 1845, consisted of 33 biographies.³⁵ Pugin created and published eleven illustrations³⁶ for biographies of 14 saints³⁷ by 13 different authors.³⁸ Pugin made his last design, for St Edmund, on May 1, 1845.³⁹ Although Pugin’s name neither appears in the online versions of the 1844-1845 issues this author has inspected nor in the 1900 edition, Belcher found Pugin’s monogram in six of the eleven illustrations.⁴⁰

Below are Pugin’s eleven illustrations. They are not necessarily presented in the order in which they were published except that the St Stephen and the Family of St Richard illustrations were first and second, respectively, and St Edmund was last.



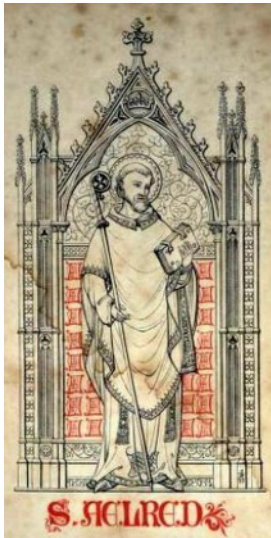
The frontispiece to *The Family of St Richard the Saxon* (1844) (Saints Richard, King; Willibald, Bishop; Walburga, Virgin, Abbess; Winibald, Abbot). Authored by Thomas Meyrich



The frontispiece⁴¹ for the entire series, adapted for particular biographies. This one preceded the biography of St German



Hermit Saints (1844). Saints Gundlous (authored by Newman), Helier (unknown), Herbert (John Barrow), Edelwald (maybe partly Newman), Bettelin (partly Newman), Neot (J.A. Froude), Bartholomew (Thomas Mozley)



St Aelred, Abbot of Rievaulx (1845). Authored by Dalgairns



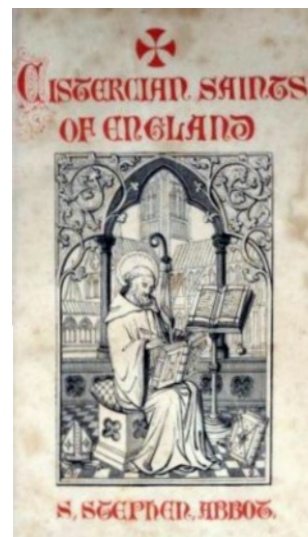
St Augustine of Canterbury, Apostle to the English (1844). Authored by Oakeley



St German, Bishop of Auxerre (1844). Authored by John Walker



St Gilbert, Prior of Sempringham (1844). Authored by Dalgairns



St Stephen Harding, Abbot, Founder of the Cistercians. The frontispiece to *The Cistercian Saints of England* (1844) with an “Advertisement” dated January 1844 by Newman. Authored by Dalgairns.⁴² A draft of this illustration appears as Plate IV, in Belcher, between pages 208-209. It had previously been published in a periodical in 1985. Belcher, p. 158, n.3



“Ecce Sacerdos Magnus”
St Wilfrid, Bishop of York (1844). Authored by F.W. (“Father Wilfrid”) Faber



St Wulstan, Bishop of Worcester (1844). Authored by J.W. Church



St Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury (1845). Authored by Mark Pattison

Notes

- ¹ R. Hill, *God's Architect and the Building of Romantic Britain*, pp. 302, 349 (2007) (hereafter "Hill"); David Meara, "The Catholic Context," in P. Atterbury, ed., *A.W.N. Pugin - Master of the Gothic Revival*, p. 54 (1995).
- ² M. Belcher, *The Collected Letters of A.W.N. Pugin*, vol. 2 (1843-1845), pp. 157-60 (2003) (hereafter "Belcher").
- ³ Professor Belcher noted that the 16-volume Sabine Baring-Gould, *The Lives of the Saints*, republished all of Pugin's illustrations in the 1897-1898 and 1914 editions but not in the original 1872 edition. Belcher, *A.W.N. Pugin: An Annotated Critical Bibliography*, p. 151 (1987). Baring-Gould's work is not restricted to English saints and has hundreds of illustrations. It is organized by date of feast day. This author found Pugin's drawings, in black-and-white, for St Aelred (facing p. 176), the Hermit Saints (facing p. 216) and St Wulstan (facing p. 296) in the 1914 ed., Vol. 1, <https://archive.org/details/livesofsaintswit01bariuoft/page/216/mode/2up> (This author has not looked for more of the eleven illustrations in Baring-Gould's work.) Baring-Gould acknowledged Pugin as the creator of the three illustrations, both in the List of Illustrations, p. xxxvi, and on the pages in which the images appeared, but Baring-Gould did not provide the source of these images, namely, Newman's *Lives of the English Saints*.
- ⁴ Professor Belcher included one illustration, in black-and-white, and attributed it to Pugin, in *A.W.N. Pugin: An Annotated Critical Bibliography*, p. 147 (1987).
- ⁵ Acknowledging that some lives were published in 1845 and Pugin's last design was submitted on May 1, 1845.
- ⁶ Hill, pp. 273, 288-90.
- ⁷ Hill, pp. 291-94.
- ⁸ Hill, pp. 269-70 (Killarney), pp. 303, 309 (Nottingham, Newcastle).
- ⁹ See generally Alexandra Wedgwood, "Chronology," in P. Atterbury and C. Wainwright, *Pugin: A Gothic Passion*, pp. xi-xiii (1994); Hill, p. 286.
- ¹⁰ Ian Ker, *John Henry Newman: A Biography*, p. 246 (1988) (hereafter "Ker").
- ¹¹ The standard line is that he did no writing. Wollastan states, however, that Newman wrote the following: the life of St Gundleus (a/k/a Gwynllyn), the prose portion of the life of St Bettelin (a/k/a Bertelin), and possibly part of St Edelwald. *Lives of the English Saints – Written by Various Hands at the Suggestion of John Henry Newman with an Introduction by Arthur Wollastan Hutton* (1900 ed., vol. 6) (hereafter "1900 ed., vol. 6"), Appendix II, p. 410, [#414 - The lives of the English saints, written by various ... v.6. - Full View | HathiTrust Digital Library](#)
- ¹² Belcher, p. 158, n. 6, first paragraph.
- ¹³ *Lives of the English Saints – Written by Various Hands at the Suggestion of John Henry Newman with an Introduction by Arthur Wollastan Hutton*, vol. 1, p. vii (1900 ed.) (hereafter "1900 ed., vol. 1"), [#16 - The lives of the English saints, written by various ... v.1. - Full View | HathiTrust Digital Library](#)
- ¹⁴ 1900 ed., vol. 1, p. ix (quoting the letter). Newman reaffirmed his view in a letter of April 6. *Id.*, p. x.
- ¹⁵ Letter of May 18, 1843, to J. Keble (chair of poetry at Oxford until 1841, Anglican priest at All Saints, Hursley). Ker, pp. 275-76, n.41; 1900 ed., vol. 1, pp. ix-x.
- ¹⁶ Ker, p. 281.
- ¹⁷ Letter of May 18, 1843. Ker, p. 275; 1900 ed., vol. 1, p. x.
- ¹⁸ 1900 ed., vol. 1, pp. xi-xiv (reprinting Prospectus in full); *Apologia Pro Vita Sua*, Note D (first published 1864) (A. Dwight Culler, ed. 1956), pp. 296-98.
- ¹⁹ 1900 ed., vol. 1, p. xiii.
- ²⁰ 1900 ed., vol. 1, p. xviii. See Newman's "Calendar of English Saints" and "Chronological Arrangement," in his *Apologia Pro Vita Sua*, Note D (first published 1864) (A. Dwight Culler, ed. 1956), pp. 298-314) and republished in 1900 ed., App. I, pp. 383-97.
- ²¹ Christabel Jane Powell, *The Liturgical Vision of Augustus Welby Northmore Pugin*, Durham thesis, Durham University, p. 277, n. 984 (letter in Magdalene College archives) (2002), <http://etheses.dur.ac.uk/3761> (published as Christabel Powell, *Augustus Welby Pugin, Designer of the British Houses of Parliament: The Victorian Quest for a Liturgical Architecture* (2006). Powell does not provide a more specific date, presumably because there is not one. This author has not found any such letter in Volumes IX (May 1842-October 1843) or X (Nov. 1, 1843, to Oct. 6, 1845) of *Letters and Diaries of John Henry Newman* (both volumes 2006). Also, there is no mention of this letter by Belcher.
- ²² Belcher, p. 158, n. 4 (citing Pugin's letter to the *Tablet* of Jan. 21, 1846).
- ²³ Ker, p. 281.
- ²⁴ Ker, p. 281-82.
- ²⁵ Ker, p. 281-82.
- ²⁶ Belcher, p. 160, n.6, twelfth paragraph (quoting and citing Newman's *Apologia Pro Vita Sua*); 1900 ed., vol. 1, p. xv (quoting, without attribution, Newman's *Apologia Pro Vita Sua* (first published 1864) (A. Dwight Culler, ed. 1956), pp. 203-04).
- ²⁷ 1900 ed., p. xv, n. 2. Newman wrote a 4-page "Advertisement" for the Life of St Richard dated Feb. 21, 1844. 1900 ed., vol. 2, pp. 3-6.
- ²⁸ Apparently this is referring to the "Advertisement" (or Notice) dated "January 1844" appearing on the first page of the *Life of St Stephen*.
- ²⁹ 1900 ed., pp. xv-xvi.
- ³⁰ Belcher, p. 158, n. 6, sixth paragraph.

³¹ Belcher, p. 172 (full text).

³² Belcher, p. 159, n. 6, seventh paragraph.

³³ Belcher, p. 175 (full text).

³⁴ Belcher, p. 159, n.6, eighth paragraph.

³⁵ 1900 ed., vol. 1, p. xviii.

³⁶ Powell, p. 227; Belcher, p. 158, n. 1, first paragraph, p. 160, n. 6, twelfth paragraph.

³⁷ The illustration for the “Family of St Richard” depicts four saints.

³⁸ No attribution to an author was made at the time of the original publications in 1844 and 1845. Biographies of the authors and the identification of the lives they wrote is supplied in 1900 ed., vol. 6, Appendix II, pp. 402-15. The sources for these attributions are also described therein, *id.* p. 398. Belcher says Pugin’s illustrations were for 11 (different?) authors, without identifying them. Belcher, p. 160, n.6, twelfth paragraph. This author counts 12, and the 13th would be Newman. Powell, in her Durham University thesis, stated pp. 277, 295, that this work allowed Pugin in 1844 to visit with Newman and his Littlemore community and other friends.

³⁹ Belcher, p. 160, n. 6, tenth paragraph.

⁴⁰ Belcher, p. 158, n. 4.

⁴¹ The borders read “mansueti haereditabunt terram et delectabuntur in multitudine pacis” (Psalm 37:11) (“the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.”) This author has been unable to determine whether these words were inspired by Pugin or Newman. In any event, Newman used them in the final words of his “Biglietto Speech” decades later on May 12, 1879, when he was made a Cardinal.

⁴² As noted above, the authorship is provided in 1900 ed., Vol 6, Appendix II, pp. 402-15.

*James M. Thunder

The author, a great-great grandson of Pugin and a resident of Charlottesville, Virginia, has recently retired from the practice of law. He has authored over 250 publications including several essays on Pugin, some of which have appeared in this Society’s *True Principles* and *Present State*. He is co-author of a book of 49 richly illustrated biographies, *United States Attorneys for the District of Columbia, 1801-2023*, which will appear in 2023. He is currently writing on the visit Lafayette made 200 years ago to Thomas Jefferson, Monticello, the University of Virginia, and Charlottesville for ten days in 1824 as part of Lafayette’s national tour of the United States.

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The Pugin Society e-newsletter

The e-newsletter is edited and typeset by James Brazier, a long-time member of the Society. James kindly offered to take on the editorship of the e-newsletter earlier this year following the resignation of Dr John Elliott and this edition is James’ first for our Society. James has had much experience of editing publications for a number of organisations over the last thirty years. He has used Serif PagePlus desktop-publishing software for nearly twenty years but claims “that he is still discovering how to use much of it.” James lives in Thanet, which partly explains his long-held interest in matters relating to Pugin and Pugin’s architectural works.

**All material for future editions and comments on the current edition, should be sent to:
jasbrazier@talktalk.net.**

The next edition of the e-newsletter will be published in November or December 2023