

nized as princes of the Holy Roman Empire. But during the time of the Crusades St. Gall, like other towns, grew richer through the increase of trade, and became less dependent on the local abbot. There were quarrels and struggles. Finally the French Revolution put an end to the monastery as an institution. The Abbey was suppressed in 1805, and now there is only the tradition of its grandeur. It had its faults; but in its best days it was one of the most helpful centres of civilization in all Europe.

For the sake of what the ancient Abbey was, let us go down the hill to that church standing on its site.

3. Luxurious interior of the Monastery Church, St. Gall

Whether we share the faith of a people or not, there is always something impressive about the buildings they raise for their worship. Perhaps we to-day would not naturally express ourselves through such florid ornament as this, but it was quite in keeping with the German-Swiss taste of the eighteenth century; and when we think of the sturdy old monks who worked so hard here long ago for the love of God and the love of their fellow-men, we feel that it is a sacred place.

The Romanesque or "round-arched Gothic" style in which this church is built was a favorite form of church architecture all through Central Europe in the Middle Ages. We ourselves are likely to have a taste for the more aspiring, poetic forms of the pointed Gothic architec-

ture, like that of favorite French and English cathedrals, but there is a good deal to say for the simple, dignified solidity of these less subtle lines of arch and column. The abbots of St. Gall, in their day, trained many a bright boy into an architect and master-builder. For centuries and centuries theirs were the only schools in which an ambitious lad could get any help on the fascinating problems of building. The monks were the only ones who understood mathematics and who had access to the treatises of the old Roman authorities on stone construction; besides, they used to visit and correspond with brethren at a distance, and so keep informed about new ideas. It was about the time when Gilian, the travelling preacher, came over here from Ireland, that the Greek church-builders over around Constantinople studied out the way to support a dome-shaped roof like the one we see here. The problem had never been solved in ancient Rome. The Roman's nearest approach to it was what we see in the Pantheon,—the capping of a cylindric wall with a rounding cover. How to make a square support a circle—that was for centuries too hard a question. Then along came some man who thought of doing just what we see here. Stout, solid piers, firmly braced to bear a heavy weight without spreading, were used as starting-points for wall-sections like those at the right and left of the chancel-arch here in this church; the sections, you see, are fan-shaped and at the same time curved; they rise and at the same time draw in towards each other so as finally to join each other, their upper edges forming a contin-

uous circle. And there you have it. The circular dome has a place to rest, and yet the supports below are not monotonous cylindric walls. It is a commonplace thing in modern building, but the time was once when it was a great discovery.

St. Gall is the chief town of a canton of the same name, and the Catholic Church is strong here. The cantons vary as to the relative preponderance of Catholics and Protestants. The canton of Zurich, lying forty miles directly west of here, is distinctly Protestant. Its chief city has been a stronghold of Protestantism since the great movement of the sixteenth century; it is, besides, a famous centre of university life and a place of growing commercial importance. We will make Zurich our next objective point.

Look at the general map again, and you will find our next position given near the number 4, almost directly south of our first position. Again the V shows in what direction we are to look; it is nearly north. In order to see as much as possible from one spot, we are to climb to the roof of a hotel (the Bellevue) in the heart of the town. See; the map shows that just the outlet of the lake of Zurich will be in sight—most of its bed will be behind us.

4. Zurich, the Metropolis of Switzerland

A beautiful town, is it not? Over ninety thousand people call this their home, and thousands of university students from all nations look back here with affectionate memory.