

Glastonbury Abbey Excavations, 1933

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THE work of uncovering the walls of the dormitory some 70 feet further than the work was carried last season has led to some interesting results. The end of this range has now been reached and the south wall which limits the great dormitory is revealed. Beyond this wall the rere-dorter foundations are coming into sight, and the large open sewer which passed through it is fairly perfect in places. It is 4 feet in width and has high sloping sides made of stone slabs. Water was evidently brought down from 'Chalice Well' (as it is now called) to flush this drain, as it is still partly silted-up, owing to the stream having been diverted when the building was destroyed. The water now finds its way into the pond to the south of the dorter. Only a small portion of the rere-dorter has been uncovered so far, but the railings between the Abbey grounds and the orchard have already been set back to allow of further excavation in the coming season. Enough, however, has been done to show that this sanitary block is of some extent, and its arrangement of drains is practical and somewhat unusual.

It is the wish of the Directors to complete the work on this range of buildings, and to publish a plan when the whole of this part of the monastery has been excavated. It is, therefore, sincerely hoped that funds will be forthcoming sufficient for the purpose during next season.