

ST. VINCENT'S (R.C.) CHURCH,  
CORK.

THIS church, the erection of which, from designs by the late Sir John Benson, was commenced so long ago as 1851, has remained in an unfinished state up till the present. After the death of Rev. Michael O'Sullivan, the work was continued by his successor, the present Bishop of Elphin. The church was opened for public worship on the 20th July, 1856. The idea of Sir John Benson was to build a tower and spire at the termination of the nave; funds, however, were not then forthcoming, and the idea was afterwards abandoned as ill-suited to the position of the church. At a meeting held on the 12th of May, 1867, a new plan was proposed for the completion of the church. The old buttresses were to be removed, the western wall of the nave taken down, the nave prolonged another bay, a tower to be built at the end of the north aisle, and the nave completed by a facade, so that the church would be prolonged to the Presbytery. To carry out this plan at least £7,000 would have been required.. As the contributions so generously subscribed in 1867 and the following years did not suffice; to build even the Presbytery, but had to be supplemented to the extent of over £1,000, by the Very Rev. D. O'Sullivan from a private source, this plan for the completion of the church has never been attempted; and has now been altogether abandoned. The idea was suggested lately of building a facade in front of the buttresses, and Mr. Samuel Hynes was asked to furnish a plan accordingly. This gentleman has presented, plans which are likely to satisfy all requirements. These comprise a commodious porch, additional room in the organ gallery, a bell turret, and a connection between the church and presbytery, all of which will harmonise with the architectural style of the church; Ample room also is left for a tower, if a future generation should be disposed to build it. A contract has been entered into with Messrs. E. and P. O'Flynn for the execution of these plans, the work has already been commenced, and it is hoped that the facade will be completed this year, and the turrets next year. The cost will be about £2,000, or £2,300, including all expenses. Of this sum there is already in hands about £1,000.

[Taken from *Irish Builder*, Vol. XXVI, 1884, p.159]