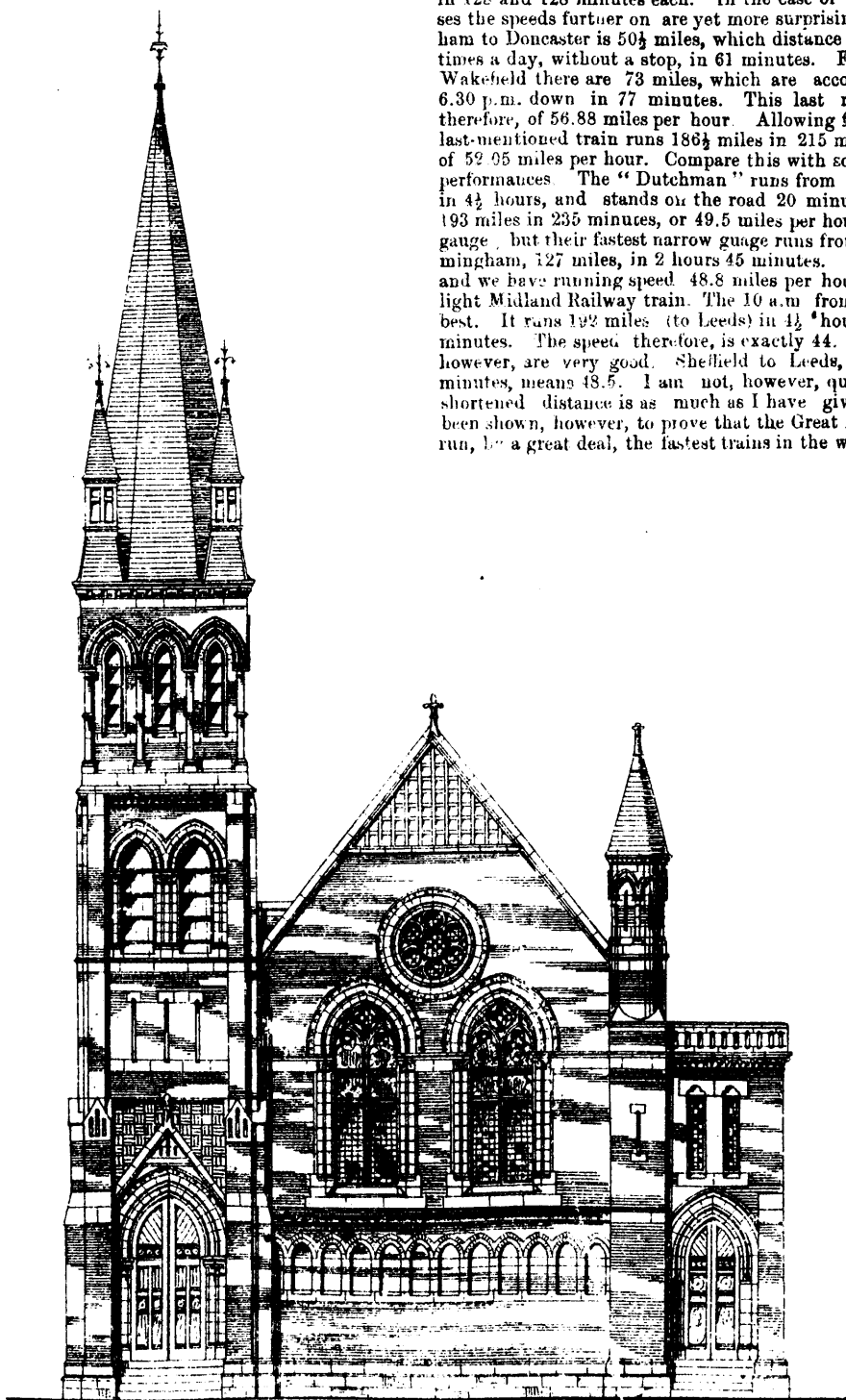


A correspondent of the *English Mechanic* writes as follows: "A great stride seems to have been made, at the commencement of this half year, by our railway companies, in the matter of speed, notably by the Midland and Great Northern. Some of the results attained by the latter are wonderful. The "Scotchman" will be quite in the shade shortly. There are not less than eight trains daily, running from Kings-cross to Grantham, 105½ miles, without a stop, and without picking up water, in 123 and 128 minutes each. In the case of the Leeds expresses the speeds further on are yet more surprising. From Grantham to Doncaster is 50½ miles, which distance is covered several times a day, without a stop, in 61 minutes. From Grantham to Wakefield there are 73 miles, which are accomplished by the 6.30 p.m. down in 77 minutes. This last run is at a speed, therefore, of 56.88 miles per hour. Allowing for stoppages, this last-mentioned train runs 186½ miles in 215 minutes, at a speed of 52.05 miles per hour. Compare this with some other favorite performances. The "Dutchman" runs from London to Exeter in 4½ hours, and stands on the road 20 minutes, thus running 193 miles in 235 minutes, or 49.5 miles per hour. That is broad gauge, but their fastest narrow gauge runs from London to Birmingham, 127 miles, in 2 hours 45 minutes. Deduct 6 minutes and we have running speed 48.8 miles per hour. Let us take a light Midland Railway train. The 10 a.m. from London in their best. It runs 192 miles (to Leeds) in 4½ hours, and stands 14 minutes. The speed, therefore, is exactly 44. Some of the runs, however, are very good. Sheffield to Leeds, 39½ miles in 49 minutes, means 48.5. I am not, however, quite sure that the shortened distance is as much as I have given. Enough has been shown, however, to prove that the Great Northern Railway run, is a great deal, the fastest trains in the world."



DESIGN FOR A CHURCH. FRONT ELEVATION.