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**WESTMINSTER ABBEY
ON THE VERGE OF BANKRUPTCY**

WESTMINSTER ABBEY can no longer pay its way, and is "on the verge of bankruptcy." That is the purport of an appeal which has been issued by the Dean on behalf of this great national monument.

The appeal states that the means placed at the disposal of the Dean and Chapter no longer suffice for the maintenance of the building. "The most historic and most beloved sacred building in the Empire is in danger of entering upon a phase of steady structural deterioration."

The sum of money which more than fifty years ago was fixed for the maintenance of the fabric and for the services of the Abbey has become utterly inadequate for those purposes. "The immense rise in the cost of materials and in the wages of the staff, together with the greatly increased standard of efficiency demanded in the last half-century from every branch of service to Church and nation, have

£250,000 WANTED.

The sum of £250,000 is asked for. Of this, £100,000 is required for structural repairs in the immediate future. The remaining sum of £150,000 would constitute a fund by which the whole Abbey and its buildings would be kept in a condition of efficiency and repair. The trustees of the fund are:—

The Governor of the Bank of England.

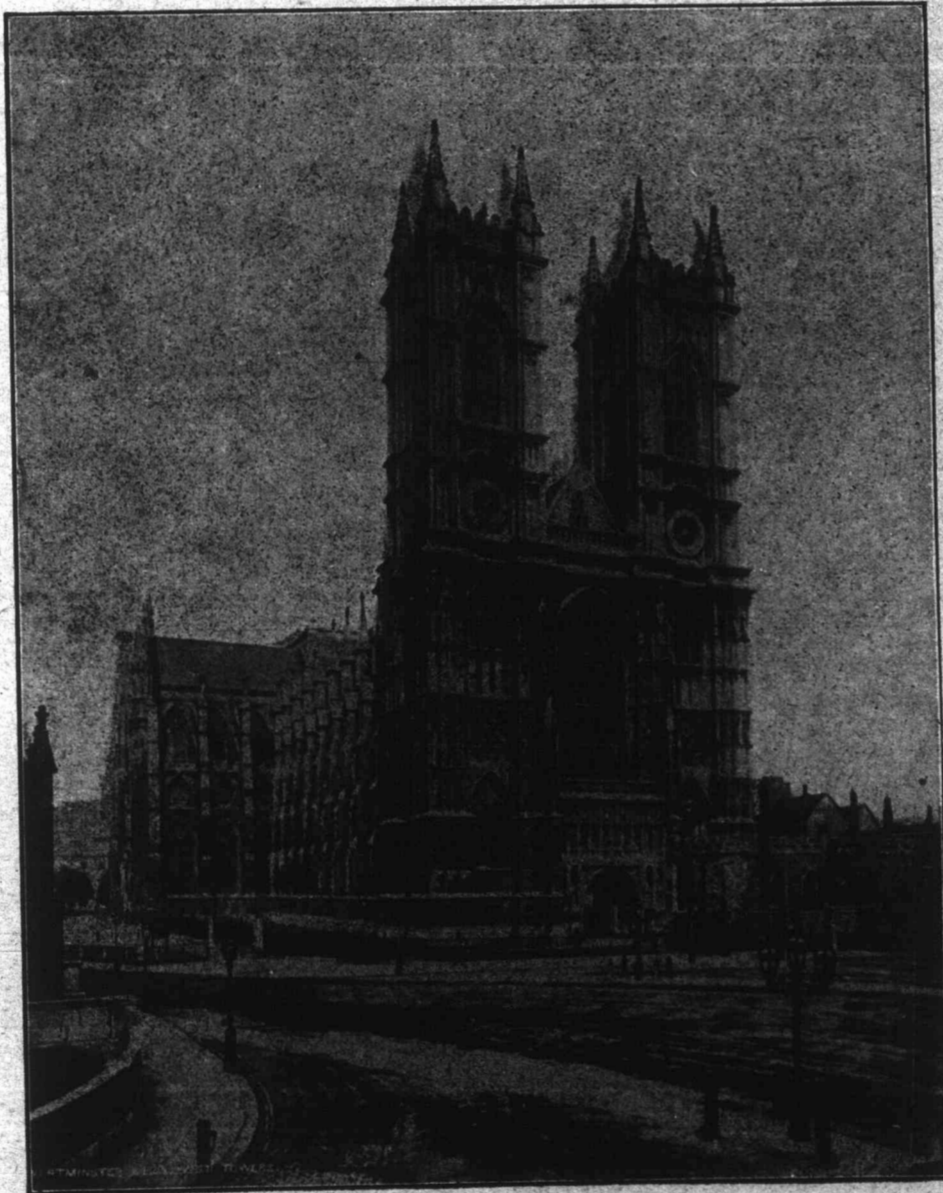
Lord Salisbury.
Sir Robert Hudson.

The King has made a donation of £1,000, and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have given £10,000.

Contributions should be sent to the Dean, at the Deanery, Westminster Abbey, S.W.

It is stated that so far a tenth of the required sum has been raised.

Every Englishman loves this microcosm of his national history, this marvellous epitome of the evolution



brought us to the verge of bankruptcy. It has even been necessary, while fabric repairs have unavoidably been postponed, to divert to the absolutely essential duty of keeping up the services and worship of the Abbey the inadequate sum of money which had been ear-marked for keeping the fabric in repair.

"We are no longer able to pay our way."

There is urgent need for:—

1. The repair of the two great western towers.
2. The reparation of the external stonework of Henry VII's Chapel.
3. The renovation of a large portion of the parapet running round the roof.
4. The repair of the clerestories and flying buttresses.

There is besides a continual large outlay required by the maintenance in proper repair of the much-delayed cloisters and the ancient dwellings.

of his race. Historically speaking, it stands alone in the world. Every King of England, from William the Norman to George V., has been crowned here; many of those sovereigns sleep beneath its noble roof, along with an incalculable number of the men and women who have made the British race what it is. Macaulay was guilty of no hyperbole when he called it a "great temple of silence and reconciliation," for there death has "drawn together all the far-stretched greatness, all the pride, cruelty and ambition of man, and covered it over with those two narrow words, *hic jacet*." But the Abbey is a monument of the living, as well as of the great dead, and it is for the living to resolve that decay shall go no further. The sum that is needed is large, but the Empire is great and rich, and it is impossible to suppose that so compelling an appeal will need to be repeated.

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