

Ravenna, the stone altar is an exact copy of a wooden altar; it is a square table with four legs, quite plain, and on it is carved a facsimile of a rich cloth almost wholly enveloping it. St Wilfrid (634-709) built an altar whose slab was supported by columns: "altare subnixum columnis loco congruo collocavit." And this appears to be the form of the few Norman



F. E.

Grantham Crypt

altars which have come down to us; e.g., of the fine Romanesque altar at St Germer, and of that of Forehampton, Gloucester. At Daglingworth, Gloucester,¹ is an altar whose slab rests on the cushion of a Norman shaft of the twelfth century.

Between the legs of a table altar, whether of wood or stone, a reliquary was sometimes placed; e.g., in that of Grantham crypt (5).

¹ Illustrated in *La Messe*, i. 89 bis.