

ST BENEDICT'S, FORT AUGUSTUS.

The New Abbot's Career.

In succession to Abbot Joseph Macdonald, now Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh, the Very Reverend Frederick William Wulstan Knowles has been unanimously elected by his brethren of St Benedict's Abbey, Fort-Augustus.

The Abbot-elect, who is at present in America, holding the office of Prior of St Gregory's, Portsmouth, Rhodo Island, first came to the Abbey at the age of fourteen, as an "alumnus." His great abilities were soon noted, and he took numberless school certificates. Five years later, on 4th October 1900, he entered the novitiate, and took his simple vows in 1902. In 1906 he was solemnly professed. Prior to his ordination he studied in Rome for a time, and was ordained priest on 4th October 1908. In 1918 he held a naval chaplaincy at Invergordon, where he built a wooden church for the use of the sailors. In 1923 he was appointed sub-prior of Fort-Augustus. He also held for some time the office of parish priest, in which capacity he was much beloved by all. His un-sparing devotion in helping the poor was especially marked. He carried on this work until November 1924, when he was nominated Prior of the first American Benedictine monastery established by the English Province, at Washington, and held this office until, two years later, he was transferred, again, as Prior, to St Gregory's Priory, Portsmouth, Rhode Island, in each case having been chosen to consolidate the foundation of a new religious house.

The Abbot-elect is expected home from America by the end of the present month, when he will be solemnly blessed and admitted to his high office by Dr Bennett, Bishop of Aberdeen.