

Rome could not have seen its construction, but he may have seen drawings prepared for it, or for another similar church (22).

Once Cassar had set the example on the Conventual Church at Valletta, the most important and influential church of its time in Malta, it was easy for others to follow. First there came the church of St. George in Qormi, begun in 1584, and then a host of others followed, so that this type of facade became the accepted type on the island right up to the reconstruction of the last large church built during the residence of the Knights of St. John, the Church of St. Publius at Floriana.

It will be seen that the Maltese tradition for twin towers is the result of a combination of the traditional influence from nearby Sicily and the impetus of the designs prepared by Bramante for the great central church of Christendom at Rome.

(22) The architect of S. Michele is not known.

THE MALTA DIRECTORY AND TRADE INDEX 1956

In his Foreword to this important reference work the Hon. President of the Malta Chamber of Commerce says that it "not only serves to introduce and display the products of our industries and the range of our market, but includes a great deal of general reference-information in readily accessible form" and "promises to provide an annual survey covering many important aspects of Maltese affairs".

The Malta Publicity Services Ltd. deserve a word of praise for the neat production of the *Malta Directory and Trade Index*, printed in Great Britain by W. S. Cowell Ltd. Its contents, forming a reliable corpus of condensed information concerning Malta past and present, go a long way towards presenting Malta to the business world. At the same time they provide rich material for the future historian of Maltese Trade and Industry.

Melita Historica is mainly concerned with the latter aspect of this useful publication. Section One, which is subdivided into three Parts — I *General*, II *Industry and Commerce*, and III *Tourist Supplement*, contains a number of well-written and reliable articles ranging from *Education in Malta* and *Maltese Commerce and Economy* to *Labour Legislation*, the *History of Banking in Malta* and *Maltese Cooking and its Origin*.

Melita Historica welcomes the appearance of the *Malta Directory and Trade Index* and warmly recommends it to its readers. It is hoped, however, that the next edition will contain at least fewer mistakes in Maltese spelling.

THE EDITOR.