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AMONG THE BOOKS

Books and Writers

Realism Gets Aleister Crowley in Trouble

It is said that the abbey described in the last section of Aleister Crowley's "Drug Fiend," lately published by E. P. Dutton & Co., is patterned after a real place which is known as "College of the Holy Spirit," and is situated in Cefalu, Sicily. When the book was published in England, just before its appearance in this country, one of the London dailies started a campaign against the author and made such allegations as to the manner of living of Crowley and his friends at Cefalu that the Italian press took it up and the Italian police were asked to investigate. They did so, and reported that they found nothing out of the way in the life of the people of the "College of the Holy Spirit." The fascisti have not disturbed them, and Aleister Crowley is still living there.