

IRISH UNIVERSITY QUESTION.

Important Letter from the Archbishop of Dublin to the Freeman's Journal.

Archbishop of a House Dublin 27th December, 1895.

DEAR SIR.—In The New Ireland Review for the coming month I find a curiously perverted and misleading statement of the Catholic claim in the matter of University Education in Ireland.

The statement is as follows— "In the words of the Archbishop of Dublin equality is at once the high water mark and the low water mark of the Catholic demand."

Then, some few pages further on in the article, it is stated that should be put upon my words, the following exposition in detail is added—

"Why might not there be a fourth Queen's College (Athletic in constitution) created to-morrow? The grant of £12,000 a year, if given to Stephen's Green as it is given to Cork, and Galway, and Belfast, would settle this question for a period so long that we who now discuss the question would, in the interval, be forgotten."

Obvious though the writer of the article makes it that he is sadly ill-informed as to some of the best known facts that underlie our University question, statements such as those that I have quoted may easily do harm just now.

"Equality" surely is a word of very definite signification. As applied to the statement of the Catholic claim in the matter of University Education in Ireland, it implies two things, equality as to endowment, and equality as to University status.

Upon both points, the subservient programme enunciated in the article in The New Ireland Review fails.

As for equality in endowment, our claim is of the simplest kind. There are at present in Ireland four State-endowed University Colleges—Trinity College, Dublin, and the three Queen's Colleges of Belfast, Cork, and Galway. Each of these four Colleges embodies a system of education that has been authoritatively condemned by the supreme authority in the Catholic Church as "intrinsically dangerous to faith and morals."

Therefore, to regard those Colleges as furnishing in any sense an adequate or suitable provision for the University education of Catholics.

Why should the rest of our fellow countrymen have four University Colleges provided for them,—four Colleges eminently suited to all their requirements,—while there is not even one College, suited to our requirements, provided for us? That is the essence of our case.

Then comes the further point. On the one side, we find Trinity College, with its endowment, apparently, of £80,000 or £40,000 a year, and, in addition to Trinity College, the three Queen's Colleges, maintained at a cost to the public of about £30,000 a year,—totting up, in all, to about £30,000 or £70,000 a year, expended upon the maintenance in Ireland of a number of University Colleges, all of them constructed on a system utterly out of joint with Catholic principle.

Can it be seriously suggested in the face of all this, that justice can be done by the chess-playing expedient recommended in this article? Can it be seriously suggested that the question can be "settled," for a generation, or even for a day by giving to us, the Catholics of Ireland, one College endowed, not—as arithmetic would seem to require,—with £60,000 or £70,000 a year, or even with £80,000 or £40,000 a year, to put it on a footing of unassailable equality with Trinity College, but with a sum to be fixed at one-third of the amount devoted to the maintenance of the three Colleges of the Queen's College system?

To my mind, it is nothing short of an outrage upon Catholic feeling that a suggestion so preposterous should be put forward in a periodical laying any claim to be regarded as an exponent of reasonable views upon Irish policy.

So much for equality as to endowment. Next comes the question of equality as to University status.

What is the present University status of Trinity College? That College is, for all practical purposes, both a College and a University, complete in itself. It is unfettered in the arrangement of all its courses of study. It appoints its own professors to teach its students, and its own examiners to examine them. It awards its own prizes, and confers its own degrees.

If the Catholics of Ireland are to be put off with a College made subject to all the requirements of a mixed University Senate or other body outside its own academic organisation, no matter how well endowed that College may be, how can Trinity College be allowed to retain its present privileged status? If, in such a case, it is allowed to retain that status, can it ever cease to be what it still unquestionably is, an entrenched stronghold of the last remnants of the old Protestant ascendancy in Ireland?

It may be asked, do I then claim that Trinity College should be placed upon a step down from the position in which it now stands, and to be obliged to submit its students to examination by the examiners of a mixed University? Certainly not. It should, indeed, I think, by this time be fairly well known that my personal feeling, to which I have often given expression, inclines towards the settlement of our University question—so far as the action of the State is concerned—by the establishment of the National University, comprising within it, on equal terms, Trinity College and any other University College or Colleges in Ireland that may be really worthy of the name.

But I recognize with all reserve that the carrying out of any such policy would involve a notable lowering of the present status of Trinity College, and, except in so far as the advocacy of that policy may be forced on us by a refusal to do us justice upon any other line, I have no thought of pressing a claim for anything of the kind.

What I say upon this second branch of the case is this. If Trinity College, in deference to the wishes of its friends, is to be maintained in its present University status, if it is not to be subjected to the necessity—to which every College in Oxford and Cambridge is subject—of submitting its students to examinations other than those conducted by the authorities of the College itself, and if those authorities are to continue to enjoy their present happy academic freedom in the arrangement of the various studies of the place, then, undoubtedly the University College that is to satisfy the requirements of the Catholics of Ireland ought not to be placed on any lower level in these respects. We are not, I trust, to be told that a level of academic status which it would be a humiliation to Trinity College to have to stand upon, is, nevertheless, a level of academic status good enough for us.

Often as I have said it before, let me repeat once again, that in all this matter, whether as regards endowment or as regards University status, there are but two ways of reaching equality, levelling up and levelling down.

Surely it is not an extravagant claim to put forward on behalf of the Catholics of Ireland, that whether it is to be reached by levelling up or levelling down, equality in an absolutely essential element in any scheme of policy that can for a moment be regarded as in any sense effecting a settlement of our Irish University question? In so far as we have a claim to anything, we have a claim to this.

I remain, dear Sir, Faithfully yours, WILLIAM J. WALSH, Archbishop of Dublin.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

A Successful Year.

Although business institutions throughout Canada experienced harder times and greater scarcity of ready money during 1895 than in any year since the existing depression set in, the life insurance companies are not at all behind former years in the item of new business written. The Provincial Government of St. Thomas, made a distinct gain over 1894, having written new insurance in 1895 amounting to \$2,407,000.00, and closed the year with \$13,070,000.00 insurance in force. The claims paid amounted to \$94,650 and as usual The P. I. experienced a very low death rate, only eight assessments being required during the year, and the claims reported. This means that a Policy holder aged 20 paid only \$9.00 per \$1,000 for his insurance last year. At 30 the cost was \$9.80, at 40 \$11.72 and at 60 only \$18.60.

The Reserve and Emergency Funds have been largely increased and the worthy Canadian Company is growing larger and stronger as it grows older. A Home Institution like The P. I., which furnishes reliable protection at the lowest rates consistent with security, should receive the liberal patronage of the Canadian people. It commences the year 1896 under the most circumstances, and considering its low rates, past record and present standing, we are not surprised that agents look upon it as the easiest company in the Dominion to represent, successful to the insurance public, and the Toronto agent also sent us now business to Head Office amounting to a quarter million dollars in 1895.

Mr. Mallon Appreciated.

The High School Board at its last meeting for the year 1895, held Jan. 7th inst., passed the following resolution: Moved by E. F. Clarke, seconded by Wm. Roof, that this board desires to place on record its high appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Jas. W. Mallon, LL.B., its Honorary Secretary for the past year, for the uniform kindness and courtesy he has always shown towards his fellow members, and we express the hope that the board which he has the honor to represent may see its way to board.

Mr. Mallon is the representative of the Separate Schools on the High School Board.

HAD LA GRIPPE.—Mr. A. Nickerson, Farmer, Sutton, writes: "Last winter I had La Grippe and it left me with a severe pain in the small of my back and hip that used to catch me whenever I tried to climb a fence. This lasted for about a month when I bought a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil and used it both internally and externally, morning and evening, for three days, at the expiration of which time I was completely cured."

THE LATE MR. T. A. HEFFERNAN

Sketch of a Good Man's Career—The Funeral—A Party With the Family.

In our last issue we announced the illness of Mr. Thomas A. Heffernan, collector of Customs at Guelph, and it is with sincere regret we now record his death on Tuesday the 7th.

Belonging to one of the oldest families in Guelph, in past days one of her leading merchants, a leading figure in her municipal and political life, he had been brought into contact more or less with every section of the community. The widow and family have the sincere sympathy of the neighborhood.

Mr. Heffernan was an honored member of St. Patrick's Society. He was a member of the Church of Our Lady of Westmount, Ireland, and came to London early in the thirties. About a couple of years or so afterwards he was married to Miss Clonmanning, of that place, and in 1857 Mr. Thos. A. Heffernan was born. The family removed to Galt, and came to Guelph in 1859. Mr. Heffernan was the principal acting magistrate of his day, and a leading merchant. The family consisted of Thomas the senior, the other brothers being Joseph, William and Samuel, and the two girls, now Mrs. John R. Mason and Mrs. F. O. Flannery.

In 1856 Thomas and Joseph purchased their good goods business of Rust & Sandilands on Lower Wyndham Street, and the deceased with his brothers, carried on this business until 1879, when he was appointed Collector of Customs.

He was married August, 1868, to Agnes McDillery, oldest daughter of the late Edward McDillery, Toronto, and sister of Mr. J. E. McDillery, manager of the Guelph and Ontario Investment and Savings Society. Mrs. Heffernan's other sisters are Mrs. G. Mrs. Carroll, and Miss McDillery. Guelph. Mr. Heffernan's own family consists of the bereaved widow, and only son Thomas, grocer and fruiter, Market Square, and five daughters—Mary, Agnes, Rose, Nellie and Victoria.

The funeral took place from his late residence, Cedar Brook. It was largely attended. The City Council attended in a body. The remains were taken to the Church of Our Lady, when solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated. Rev. Father Kenny, S.J. The musical service was performed by a full choir. The large edifice was crowded to pay the last tribute of respect to a well known, highly valued and esteemed citizen. Father O'Loano conducted the services at the grave.

The pall bearers were: Col. Higginbotham, Jas. O. Keleher, J. Hallot, B. Kloepper, J. B. Powell, A. McQuillen, John Goldie, T. J. Day.

The chief mourners were: His son, Thos. P. Heffernan; his brothers, Jos. Heffernan, W. S. Heffernan, S. A. Heffernan, his brothers-in-law, J. E. McDillery, Ed. Carroll, J. R. Mason, Toronto, F. C. Flannery, Toronto, W. Galt; Frank Carroll; Frank Leo, Toronto; W. P. Leo, Toronto; Jos. Heffernan, jr., Austin Carroll, Vincent McDillery, Wm. Heffernan, jr.; Edw. F. Heffernan, Toronto; John Harris, James Mays, D. Coffey, County Crown Attorney Peterson, Mayor Lamproy, Dr. Herod, Jas. Goldie, Geo. Sleeman, J. J. Hazelton, M. Sweetman, John Costello, E. H. Huaton.

We are accustomed to oppose reason and faith to each other, or we ought rather to say that the one perfects the other, and that they are two pillars, one of which could not without the other sustain life.

Poverty and subjection do bar us from many virtues by the impossibility of giving way to them. An ancient and this is true from the domination of others, are corrupted and oppressed by ourselves.

"The world is ever as we take it. And life, dear child, is what we make it." This was the sentiment of an old lady to her grandchild. And many a Mabel has found it to be true, and she has taken care of her health. She keeps on hand a supply of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, and uses it when troubled with those wasting diseases, weakness, "dragging-down" sensations and functional irregularities that so many women endure.

"Favorite Prescription" contains no alcohol to inebriate; no syrup or sugar to derange digestion. As prescribed in its remedial results as in its composition. As a powerful, invigorating tonic, it imparts strength to the whole system, particularly to the womb and its appendages. For feeble women generally, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is unequalled as an appetizing cordial and restorative tonic. A Book of 168 pages, on "Woman and Her Diseases," their Nature, and How to Cure them, is sent free to any one who sends in a stamped envelope, or receipt of ten cents in stamps for postage. This book is profusely illustrated with wood-cuts and colored plates, and also with a great number of reproduced photographs of those cured by the use of "Favorite Prescription," and without having to go through the ordeal of consulting a doctor. Full names and addresses are given so you can correspond and get the name of the nearest dealer in self-selves. Address, WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Buffalo, N. Y.

Mrs. J. C. Colburn, of Box 150, writes: "I have used Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and it has done more for me than all the other remedies I have used. I had been sick for a long time with uterine troubles, and was so weak that I could not get around on my feet. I had been told that I should try 'Favorite Prescription,' and I bought a bottle. I had hardly got around at all when I had used it for a few days. I feel much better now, and I think it will benefit others."

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