

restoration of the Bourbons this school was fully restored, and has ever since remained sacred to theological studies. Its importance in that respect, to the insulated church it recruited and sustained in the worst of times, can hardly be exaggerated.

In this College the young Maginn spent seven laborious years. Of the faculty at that time very little is known, except that they were frequently changed. The first class of students was small, but several of them were afterwards distinguished. Dr. O'Higgins, subsequently Bishop of Ardagh, was among the Professors; Archdeacon Hamilton of Dublin, Dean Gaffney of Maynooth, Dr. Kirby, and Dr. Maginn were students. As a scholar, Dr. Maginn was remarkable for ardor and application, frequently sitting up all night to conquer a difficulty.* The usual theological treatises he mastered easily, but his curiosity would seem to have led him both in classics and history far beyond the prescribed range of acquirement. In the years 1823, '24 and '25, he received successively from the hands of Monseigneur Louis Hyacinth de Quelen, Archbishop of Paris, tonsure and minor orders; but his health failed him in the last named year, and he was not immediately ordained Priest. From the same cause he declined the earnest invitation of the Bishop of Meaux, to accept a benefice in his diocese.†

* Letter of the Rev. J. McDevitt, of Culdaff.

† Letter of the Rev. J. McLaughlin, of Derry.