

Goffin's school in the May of last year. This was not all,—he himself was for ever disqualified from teaching, or earning payments under the Science and Art Department. Whatever the charges were that were made against Mr. Goffin, he met them with an unqualified denial, and in his protest to Lord George Hamilton, the head of the Education Department, he says: "I declare in the most solemn manner, without the least hesitation, equivocation, or mental reservation of any kind, that I never had in my life any such information as I am charged with, and I challenge any of your officials to produce the least particle of direct evidence in support of the charge." He at the same time accuses Colonel Donnelly of serious misconduct in the investigation of his case, such as calling one boy who did not give him such an answer as he wished to be given an "incorrigible liar," another "an infernal young scamp," and the class as a whole was characterized as "a set of wretched, miserable boys, who are systematically taught to lie." The Colonel did not deny using such language, but justified it by the nature of the evidence elicited. Mr. Goffin's Board took the matter up and instituted a searching inquiry of their own, the result of which was that they held the accused altogether blameless and determined to retain him in his position.

The *Schoolmaster*, the organ of the elementary teachers in England, took the matter up next and urged a combined effort on the part of the teachers of the country to have a fair and open trial for Goffin before a select committee of the House of Commons. The case came before the teachers at their Conference held at Nottingham in Easter Week of this year, and the resolutions then agreed upon tended in the same direction as the suggestions of the *Schoolmaster*. Very strong feelings of sympathy were felt and

expressed for Mr. Goffin on account of his having been condemned without an opportunity of defending himself. The Conference, however, was very careful not to commit itself to any expression of opinion as to his guilt or innocence, though he protested the latter earnestly before them. A "Goffin Defence Fund" was started, and contributions flowed in from various local Associations throughout the country. The members of these Associations also exerted their influence with the local members to have the case properly put before the House of Commons. During all this time the general body of teachers were kept in almost total ignorance of the specific charges made against Mr. Goffin, and of the evidence the South Kensington authorities possessed to substantiate them. We have, therefore, to rely upon what he himself tells us previous to the report of the Select Committee. As early as 1865 he says he was accused of having the *same set* of questions in Chemistry as those used at the examination; this he denies, but admits that he had the *same questions*, though not the *same set*. "In 1865," he writes, "the students had ten questions to answer out of twenty-four, and of these twenty-four they found no less than ten of their old friends of former years, two or three in a very slightly modified garb, but most of them identical even in words. . . . The questions themselves are to be found in Buckmaster's 'Elements of Chemistry,' second edition, 1863. This book was read by the class, and the questions found at the end were answered, a few at a time, in my weekly examinations, and hence had not only been seen, but *answered*, by the students." An important witness against him was a Constable Ledger, a former pupil teacher, and Assistant Master under him, who testified to Colonel Donnelly that "immediately before *every* succeeding examination the class was in-