

CONCLUSION.

I have openly laid before the public, my views on education. Having but one object before me, and no personal ambition to gratify, I have invariably and assiduously labored to propose such a system as would, if properly carried through, operate for the good of all. National, religious, sectarian and other absurd and injurious distinctions, have been denounced, and I have, I hope, suggested means of soothing down prejudice, restoring confidence, diffusing elementary and practical knowledge, and securing to all classes, whatever may be their origin, their religious creed or their politics, a full and complete guarantee, for their rights and privileges. Knowledge being the universal right, the universal duty, and the universal interest of man and government, what other but a system of education calculated to maintain inviolate that right, ensure the discharge of that duty, and work in the interest of man and government, can ever be attempted with any chance of success, to be set in operation, on this side of the Atlantic?

The government, the clergy and the people should, in my opinion, share alike in the direction and responsibility of the system; my reasons for entertaining such views, I have given. Impressed with the belief that in this community, such should be the basis and the leading principle of an educational scheme, I have endeavored to maintain that position, and I have proposed a system which appears to me to be conducive to that important result.

Divines, politicians, and ultras of any and whatever school, will have no reasonable ground of complaint. The dogma cannot be interfered with, religious, moral, and practical education will spread; teachers are prohibited from meddling with politics, under pain of dismissal; even the superior departments of the system, will equally stand free from political contamination; national distinctions are sought to be effaced, and the teachers are to be visited with the loss of their situations, if they either encourage, or do not discourage them. The Superintendent and Inspectors will be liable to impeachment, if ever they follow a different line of conduct.

The Superintendent and Inspectors are to be appointed during good behaviour, they will therefore be enabled to pursue a straight forward course; uninfluenced either by the frowns of the government, or the clamour of the people, they will acknowledge no authority but that of the law and their consciences. Should any of them render themselves amenable to the laws, they will be traduced before a tribunal so composed as not only to ensure its impartiality, but place it beyond the shadow of suspicion.

An attentive perusal of the preceding letters will suffice to convince any one, that a perfect equilibrium can be maintained in all the departments of the system, if the suggestions which have been made are at all attended to.

The means of carrying into effect, what has been proposed, are palpably practicable. There must be a permanent school fund, and a direct tax which it has been proved, will bear much more lightly on the population than an indirect