

Newman's Sincerity.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.

I see by your last issue that a writer of a series of articles on "John Henry Newman" in the Manitoba College Journal charges that illustrious convert to Catholicism, as Kingsley did before him, with *insincerity*. It appears that the writer makes this assertion in the light of a *full* knowledge of Newman's life. He is even familiar with every page of the *Apologia*, which Rev. Dr. Whyte, a Protestant Divine, declares to be "as conclusive and unanswerable as it is incomparable as a piece of English literature." I would, therefore, Mr. Editor, crave the indulgence of your pages to commend in all charity to the writer in the Manitoba College Journal the following excerpt from a letter written by Newman in March 1845 to his sister Mrs. Mozley. It has a force, apart from the words, from the conditions under which it was written. Sacrifice proves sincerity and only the criminal are false to flesh and blood. The excerpt is as follows :—

"As to my convictions, I can but say what I have told you already, that I cannot at all make out *why* I should determine on moving, except as thinking I should offend God by not doing so. I cannot make out what I am *at* except on this supposition. At my time of life men love ease. I love ease myself. I am giving up a maintenance involving no duties, and adequate to all my wants. What in the world am I doing this for (I ask *myself* this), except that I think that I am called to do so? I am making a large income by my sermons. I am, to say the very least, risking this; the chance that my sermons will have no further sale at all. I have a good name with many; I am deliberately sacrificing it. I have a bad name with more. I am fulfilling all their worst wishes, and giving them their most coveted triumph. I am distressing all I love, unsettling all I have instructed or aided. I am going to those whom I do not know, and of whom I expect very little. I am making myself an outcast, and that at my age. Oh, what can it be but a stern necessity which causes this?"

Yours very truly,

D. D. S.