

My only reason for noticing the Doctor's letter is that he mentions me by name several times, and even goes so far as to cast doubts on my truthfulness in regard to at least one point. He refers to newspaper statements and to street gossip, as the sources from which he obtained his version of what took place some months back, when certain Kingston students applied to enter Trinity Medical School. He accepted the information so gathered, as quite reliable, hence all his subsequent random vapourings; and this has led, not only the Doctor himself, but also a good many other well-meaning people, entirely astray as to the actual facts.

It is useless to repeat the whole story now, as it is sufficiently well-known. Yet, it appears necessary to tell the Doctor again, that the telegram from the students, was our very first intimation of trouble in the Kingston School; and this gave us to understand *most clearly* that the dissatisfied students had *left the school "not to return"* to it. This telegram made no allusion to fees, and only asked a very few most reasonable queries. It was answered briefly, and the reply likewise, had no reference to fees. In *twenty-four hours*, at furthest, after the students' telegram came, we got, through the daily papers, full information regarding the matter. We thus ascertained that, to a certain extent, the telegraphic message had misled us, as the students had *not left*, and there even appeared to be every probability that a satisfactory settlement would shortly be brought about.

Having got this fresh information, which was to us most welcome, I wrote my first letter to Dr. Lavell, and, of course, in the reference made in it to the students, spoke of their *leaving with an "if"*; in short, with the telegram *only* in our hands we believed they *had gone*, while, with the further information, we found they *had not*, and *so wrote*.

It seems impossible to believe that in regard to so small a matter, and one so

easily explained, Dr. Lavell would have permitted himself to seek to asperse the veracity of a very old friend. However, *chacun à son gout*.

The very day Dr. Lavell was first written to, I also wrote to a Kingston student, who had asked some questions about the telegram, to the effect, that it would not have been answered at all, but for the belief that the students had actually left; that, as they had not, and as everything was being nicely settled in the school to which he belonged, his questions needed no reply. I expressed my regret at not having been present at the Kingston School's annual dinner, and hoped it would have many such, and closed by wishing that, on its reopening after the Christmas holidays, it might be more prosperous than ever.

This was the end of the official correspondence, consisting in all, of one telegram, in answer to a few civil questions, and a letter written some twenty-four hours later, of congratulation, at the satisfactory prospect of a speedy and peaceable ending of the difficulties.

Shortly afterwards I received Dr. Lavell's second letter, containing the specific questions he refers to, and thought it unnecessary to answer them formally. First, and this of itself was to my mind a sufficient reason, because, by the time the questions reached me, the difficulties to which they had reference were, I believed, practically at an end. I also felt that the giving Dr. Lavell in my reply, as I did, the exact facts of the case so far as we were concerned, in a second letter, couched in the most friendly language I could use, was likely, if pleasing him had been possible, to be far more satisfactory than were categorical replies to three or four questions, some of which were based on absolutely false statements, gathered from unauthorized and unreliable sources.

To show further and as fully as could be, my feelings in the whole matter, I sent Dr. Lavell a copy of most of the letter I had written to the Kingston student, above