

family of mixed faith, tends to broaden the outlook of a sincere thinker. It is true, George received a Catholic education only in his very early days ; but the atmosphere of doubt and religious reasoning which such antecedents imply, is surely one of deep intellectual and moral value. Certainly in George's later life dogmatism was the very last fault of which anyone could have accused him ; more often his friends felt inclined to complain, with half humorous regret, of his severe impartiality, his judicial attitude, his readiness to allow every possible point that could be made against his own side or his own interests. He always saw so clearly everything which might be urged against his personal view of any subject that he seemed (only seemed) sometimes lacking in steady faith and sound partisanship, to those among us whose habit it is rather to choose a side in life, and battle for it sturdily, if somewhat blindly, with all the weapons we know how to handle. To such, George's attitude was at times well-nigh *too* all-sided ; one half longed for a little touch of human injustice.

Soft and gently Celtic in his external characteristics, yet strong at core with Aberdonian grit and solidity, George Macdonell grew up in his native