

The effrontery of all this was equalled only by its folly. The common-sense conclusion was at last reached that, if the law could not close the Home, it should be allowed to go on. Pity this modicum of wisdom had not been sooner possessed. It is a usual piece of courtesy of people who know what the claims of courtesy are to apply to the authorities of an Institution before severely and publicly attacking it, but this did not suit the views of the parties instigating and active in this case.

The people of St. Patrick's preferred charges against the Hospital, but that was above board. Clergymen and laymen came forward over their names, or in person, to prefer those charges. There was manliness in this, though they entirely failed to establish their charges. But the attackers of the Home kept under cover. It has been hard to my mind to excuse the exceeding impudence of this attack,—so entirely without title, without truth and without excuse.

No government, nor city, nor Saving's bank aid is afforded this Home, so that, if the law of the land be not violated, none have title to inquire into its affairs but the members of the Society itself.

This may be the place to say that there is no attempt nor desire to conceal anything, nor anything whatever to conceal either in the Matron's management or in the general management of this Home. Attention is invited to the number of letters now on this table which reveal the character of its management. There is no claim of perfection set up; there have been failures of temper and spirit, mistakes of judgment and action, amidst discouragements and persecutions, but we know of no neglected points nor neglected duties, nor of wrong doings of any kind whatsoever, in connection with this Home. It has been a straight forward and honest work throughout.

For myself, I own to sense of humiliation to have to notice the attack at all. Contempt best befits it, were it not that the records of the Home should note it, and, if at all, then fully; but it seems scarcely worthy of serious discussion.

Applause was not expected in the undertaking and carrying-on of this work. There was only the hope of restoring to their homes