

TWO DISTINGUISHED PHILOSOPHERS—BERKLEY AND HUTCHESON.

In one special department of mental prowess, two Irishmen of this age were honourably conspicuous. I have already mentioned the name of Berkley, who is well known both by opinions he did and did not hold; the other name, worthy to be occupied with Berkley's, is that of Francis Hutcheson, to whom we owe the doctrine of a "moral sense," and whom Sir James Mackintosh calls "the father of the modern school of speculative philosophy in Scotland." "The two Irish philosophers of the 18th century," says Sir James in his "Dissertation on the Progress of Ethical Philosophy," "were masters of the finest philosophical style since Cicero," "while they surpassed even Cicero," in his opinion, "in the charm of simplicity." Our best Irish writers are the most nervous, condensed, and simple in style. Their eloquence is the eloquence of thought; their utterance has the directness of the artillerist's aim, and they move and master us by thinking of the depths to which they dive, more than to the clamor which vulgar minds would make if they happened to bring up such gems and pearls as they knew so well where to seek amid the "dark, unfathomed caves of ocean."

IRISH LITERATURE OF OUR OWN TIMES.—LITERARY ANALYSIS.

Of the era in our literature which, beginning under the Regency, has prolonged its influences to our own time, an era especially fruitful in associated and individual achievement, in politics, in science, in archæology, and in *belles lettres*, the names of Canning, Plunkett, O'Connell, and Shiel; of Dr. Young, Dr. Brinkley, Richard Kirwan, Sir William Hamilton, Sir Robert Kane, and Lord Ross; of Petrie, O'Donovan, and O'Curry; of Miss Edgeworth and Lady Morgan; of Gerald Griffin, John Bannin, and Sheridan Knowles; above all, in his own department, as a lyric poet, the bright particular name of Thomas Moore, right worthily represent Ireland's place in the literature of the Empire. Analysed by subjects, that place must be held to be, in *Speculative Philosophy*, the equal of Scotland and England during the 18th century; in *Political Philosophy*, we claim, on behalf of Edmund Burke, a first place; in *History*, our writers, Leland, Miller, and Moore, do not rank high—certainly not above second class, as compared with Hume, Lingard, Mackintosh, and Macaulay; in *Belles Lettres*, we claim equality for Swift, Steele, Goldsmith, Sterne, and some of our recent writers, with their most famous British contemporaries; in *Comedy*, we claim a first place for Farquhar, O'Keefe, and above all, Brinsley Sheridan; in *Tragedy*, but a second; in *Lyric Poetry*, a first; and in *Oratory*, since we can produce the words of ten great masters within half a century, we might claim what is called at Oxford a *double-first*.

FRUITS AND ADVANTAGES OF A NATIONAL LITERARY RIVALRY.

It is impossible, I think, to deny, and I am sure no right-minded English, Irish, or Scotchman will deny that that mental relation has been one of mutual benefits, and a fair barter of mental wealth. The English and Scotch may, and no doubt do, possess certain powers or qualities in a greater degree than the Irish; but, on the other hand, the Irish mind is not without its special resources and idiosyncrasies. It is the union of these qualities in their comprehensive variety, which has made what we commonly call English literature so wonderfully rich in all its departments. I for one cannot regret, in view of the present state of the world, dear as is the old Gaelic tongue, and all its fond traditions, that all Ireland at last speaks one language, and inherits one common repository of ideas with all England and all Scotland. There ought to be and there can be no unkind rivalries in intellectual strife between the land of Addison and Steele, of Burke and Johnson, of Walter Scott and Maria Edgeworth, of Erskine and Curran. It was well said some years ago in the House of Commons by Mr. Shiel, that Irish and British soldiers had fought side by side throughout the world; that side by side they had filled the same graves; that their blood had sunk together in the same soil, and their spirits had soared together to Heaven. Of the intellectual and civil history of both countries for generations, the same truth may be told. In every walk of literature—in every work of reform—in every effort to improve the language we speak, to enlarge the boundaries of useful knowledge, to ameliorate the securities of penal legislation, men of Irish and British birth have walked hand in hand, and wrought side by side. *Quis separabit?* The future will not separate them to the prejudice of either, but while it recognizes and respects their individuality, it will equally bless their union and the fruits of that union hereafter.

BOOK CATALOGUES.

"Book Catalogues are to men of letters what the compass and the light-house are to the mariner, the railroad to the merchant, the telegraph wires to the editor, the digested index to the lawyer, the pharmacopœia and the dispensatory to the physician, the sign-post to the traveller, the screw and the lever to the mechanic."

II. Papers on Legal Education.

1. ENGLISH LAW SOCIETY EXAMINATIONS.

The Judges' Orders under which the Examinations of this Society have hitherto been conducted, have been consolidated into a single Order, which comes into operation in the present month.

Whereas by an order made by us, The Right Honourable Sir Alexander James Edmund Cockburn, Baronet, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench; The Right Honourable Sir John Romilly, Master of the Rolls; The Right Honourable Sir William Erle, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas; and The Right Honourable Sir Frederick Pollock, Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, on the 26th day of July 1861, in pursuance of the Act passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the 23rd and 24th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intitled "An Act to amend the Laws relating to Attornies, Solicitors, Proctors, and Certificated Conveyancers," certain Regulations were made touching the Examinations under the said Act or some of them:

And Whereas, by another Order made by us on the 26th day of November 1861, in furtherance of the first-mentioned Order, certain persons were appointed Examiners until the 1st day of December 1862, for the purpose of examining persons who should apply to be examined pursuant to the said Act and the said first-mentioned Order; and certain other Regulations were made touching the Examinations under the said Act:

And whereas, by another Order made by us on the 6th day of June 1862, certain other directions were given touching the said Examinations:

And whereas, it is advisable to consolidate the said several Orders into one Order, and to make alterations therein:

Now We, Sir Alexander James Edmund Cockburn, Baronet, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench; Sir John Romilly, Knight, Master of the Rolls; Sir William Erle, Knight, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas; and Sir Frederick Pollock, Knight, Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer; in pursuance and exercise of the powers conferred on us by the said Act, do hereby revoke and make void, from and after the date of this Order, the said Orders of the 26th day of July 1861, the 26th day of November 1861, and the 6th day of June 1862, and the several Regulations thereby respectively made, except so far as relates to persons who have already passed Examinations, or an Examination, under or in pursuance of the said Act or the said Orders, or any of them; and except so far as relates to the Books that have been already selected before the date of this Order, in pursuance of the said Order of the 26th of July 1861, for the Intermediate Examinations in the year 1863; and except so far as relates to any penalty, disqualification, or postponement imposed or prescribed by the said Order of the 26th day of July 1861, on the failure of any person to pass before the date of this Order the Intermediate Examination required by the said Order of the 26th July, 1861, within the time or times prescribed by the same Order; and except as to the Notices that have been already given by persons desiring to pass the Preliminary or the Intermediate Examinations, under the said Orders of the 26th day of July 1861, or the 26th day of November 1861, respectively (all which Notices so given may, so far as the case shall be applicable be applied to and take effect with regard to the Examinations to be had under this order); and except as to all such acts, permissions, examinations, privileges, advantages, disqualifications, matters and things which have been already done, or have taken effect, or have been regulated or affected by the said three Orders, or any of them.

And in further pursuance of the said Act, We do hereby order as follows:—

As to Preliminary Examinations in General Knowledge.

I. In order to carry into effect the 5th Section of the said Act, We do hereby order and direct as follows:—

From and after the date of this Order, every person who, at or before the time of producing to the Registrar of Attorneys his Articles of Clerkship, in pursuance of the 7th Section of the Attorneys Act, 23 & 24 Vict. c. 127, shall produce or shall have produced, to the Registrar of Attorneys, a Certificate that he had, before entering into such Articles, passed the first Public Examination before Moderators at Oxford, or the previous Examination at Cambridge, or the Examination in Arts for the Second Year at Durham, or the Matriculation Examination at the Universities of Dublin or London, and had been placed in the first division of such Matriculation Examination, shall be entitled to the benefit of the 5th Section of the Attorneys Act, 23 & 24 Vict. c. 127.

II. And in order to carry into effect the enactment in the 8th Section of the said Act, We do hereby further order and direct as follows:—

1. Every person bound by Articles of Clerkship, entered into after