

is unjust to ask any man to contribute to the teaching of another man's religion. I ask, is it just to ask any man to contribute to the teaching of another man's irreligion. Is it only the irreligious conscience that is to be respected in this matter? Compulsory non-education, I contend, is just as great a violation of conscience, just as great an infraction of religious liberty, just as high-handed and tyrannous religious inequality as compulsory education would be. I protest as strongly against the one as I would against the other, and on the same grounds of religious liberty."

We are told that "the Bishop was throughout his episcopate, a consistent and earnest advocate of temperance societies, with a strong preference for the church of England Temperance Society. What he advocated in public, he practised in private. He often would not touch wine in any form until his day's work was done; and if he took anything it was a little claret and water. He was at variance with many of the advocates of temperance, not about their objects, but about the legislative measures which they proposed for attaining their objects. In a speech on the Permissive Bill or "Local Option" as it is sometimes called Magee made the following striking statement.

"If I must take my choice whether England should be free or sober, I declare, strange as such a declaration may sound coming from one of my profession, that I should say it would be better that England should be free, than that England should be *compulsorily* sober. I would distinctly prefer freedom to sobriety; because with freedom we might in the end attain sobriety; but in the other alternative we should eventually lose both freedom and sobriety." "These words," we are told "involved the Bishop (he was then Bishop of Peterborough) in much controversy. The words "England free or England sober" were torn from their context and quoted with approbation or censure by both the opponents and advocates of the Permissive Bill; and with equal unfairness by both. Rightly understood (and it seems hard to express his meaning more clearly or to guard it more carefully) these words commend themselves to every Englishman. Quoted by fragments, and twisted to suit the purposes of reckless partisans, they were made to contradict their original purpose and meaning."

The associations that gather around Magee's death are peculiarly