

Irish Correspondence.

Editor Carmelite Review:

OUR colleges and schools are about closing for the summer vacation. Terenure college closed on June 21st and the Carmelite Academy will soon follow suit. This latter school deserves more than a passing notice. It has been in existence for over forty years and has done a great deal for the cause of education. Hundreds of its pupils have entered ecclesiastical and commercial professions. In all their callings they have distinguished themselves and been a credit to their *Alma Mater*. Let me mention one, viz., Dr. Dillon, who, perhaps, is one of the greatest linguists in Europe. He was born in Dublin, in 1854, where he commenced and continued his studies in the Carmelite Academy until he went abroad. He first entered the University of Paris, where he attended the lectures of St. Rene, Tailliander, Miller and others. He likewise assisted at the lectures of Renan in Hebrew and Carthaginian Inscriptions and matters purely scientific. After this he went to Innsbruck, where he studied philosophy and Oriental languages. His professors at that university were the Jesuit Fathers Hurter, Grisar and Wenig. The latter taught him Arabic and Samaritan, Brickell Greek and Gulg Sanscrit. Dr. Dillon afterwards went to Leipzig to study philology under the famous Curtius, Roman Antiquities under Prof. Lange, Zend under Huebschmann, Sanscrit under Brockhaus, Modern Persian under Fleischer, under Wundt for Anthropology and under Leskien for the ancient Slavic and Servian languages. Before leaving Innsbruck, Dr. Dillon passed the *Staats-Examen* in Hebrew, and received a government certificate which certified that he had passed with the highest honors.

After leaving Leipzig he went to Tuebingen, where he studied the Vedas in Sanscrit under Professor Roth, the Scan-

danavian Eddas under Von Keller, Firdousi, in modern Persian, under Socin and the Koran. In the University of Louvain he studied the same subjects, also the Zende Avesta, and the doctrines and practices of the Zoroastrian religion under Monsignor de Harlez, the famous Oriental scholar of that seat of learning.

After having studied there for some time he passed a public examination, both oral and written, in Sanscrit, Zend, ancient and modern Persian, Pepleri and Oriental history, and having defended a dissertation in the Zend or ancient Bactrian language, or as it is now called ancient Median, the degree of doctor of philosophy was conferred on him by the faculty of Louvain.

In 1878 he went to the University of St. Petersburg to study Russian, and after a time he stood an examination in Oriental languages for the degree of magister and obtained it. Not satisfied with this, he went to the University of Khorkoff, and entered the philosophical faculty, passed an examination in Russian and received the degree of Magister of Philosophy. He was then appointed a professor in Oriental languages and comparative philology in the University of Khorkoff. He next stood for the degree of doctor of Oriental languages and defended a dissertation in Russian, on the nature and place occupied by ancient Armenian language in the family of Aryan languages. He received the degree and the golden badge, which carried with it the rank of a Russian noble.

In 1887 he was unanimously elected a member of the Armenian academy of sciences, which has its headquarters at Venice, an honor of which no other non-Armenian had attained. He is now professor of Oriental languages in the University of Khorkoff, having refused a chair in several universities.

His writings in most European languages are very numerous and upon almost all literary subjects. Though far away from dear old Dublin, his native place, he is passionately fond of the old land. He is a devout and fervent Catholic and a strict member of the Carmelite Confraternity, and is deeply attached to his former teachers of the Carmelite Academy, to which he is a credit.

A. E. FARRINGTON, O. C. C.,

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