

THE UNIVERSITY OF KING'S COLLEGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW:

SIR:—An article appeared in the October issue of the EDUCATIONAL REVIEW, which is so manifestly unfair to King's College, that I feel in duty bound to answer it.

There are two ways of viewing the article referred to and signed "Educationist." First, it might be deemed the work of an enemy who wished to injure King's College in the minds of your readers, or on the other hand it might be considered as the misjudged and badly directed javelin of a friend, meant as a prod to urge on the supporters of the College to greater effort. The latter view seems on the whole the fairer method of consideration, though our prodding friend might have used either a private letter to the Board suggesting his remedy for glaring abuses and defects, or he might have chosen the English Church papers to speak to the people really affected and not have rushed into the secular press to speak so approvingly of our Bishops and clergy.

"Educationist" implies that King's College is, to a great degree, a sectarian institution, but he does not tell the public that there are no religious tests for professors or students, save for the president and the professors of divinity. King's College is open to all, and at the present time has two professors and one lecturer, who are not members of the Church of England, and many of the students belong to other communions.

The method of compiling statistics, which state only a partial truth, may be the work of a true friend, but we fail to understand what King's is to gain by such considerate treatment. "Educationist," unless he is a very young brother and lacking in experience, must know that crises come in the affairs of all institutions which are of a respectable age. It may be true that a school or college has flourished for thirty years without any crisis — so have many insurance companies — but sooner or later circumstances alter and new conditions arise, which put the various institutions to the test, and many are forced to retrench, while others pass out of existence. Numbers and size, wealth and popularity are not always signs of ability, nor evidences of worth.

Storms have beaten on King's for one hundred and twenty years and once or twice the ship has laboured heavily, but now with sails set and flags flying she is steering for her haven. While King's College may not have as many sons as some of her

younger sisters, yet in 1910, she had forty-two; in 1911, forty-nine; in 1912, sixty-five. One cannot stop to correct "Educationist's" figures, for he is a friend, who wishes to show his interest, and we must protect him.

The friends of King's College are attempting to raise \$125,000 in five years; barely two have passed, and already those who believe in her ideals have become responsible for about \$60,000 to maintain "this ancient and picturesque seat of learning."

"Educationist," if a member of the Board of Governors, might lend his strength of mind and lungs, at the proper time and place, to help remedy the defects, of which he seems to have had some special revelation, and so aid in the salvation of this "discounted relic of the past."

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury falls a victim to the lash of "Educationist's" pleasing sarcasm. The reasons why the Board of Governors keep His Grace as the patron of our university may be thus briefly stated:

First, we are not unmindful of our past with England's splendid contribution of men and money to the cause of higher education, nor do we forget the part played by the Church of England in the history of Canada.

Second, we want to preserve as close a relationship as possible with the whole Empire, and through the Archbishop we have a living link with the mother heart. Imperial Federation does not seem an impossibility, for we are still parts of a greater whole, where blood and breed, King and flag, British freedom and British ideals prevail.

We are thankful to have as patron of the University of King's College, England's first Archbishop.

"Educationist" has a special method of showing his friendly feeling for the clergy, and the Bishops and deans fall victims before his gifted pen. The printed list of the Board of Governors of King's College contains the names of thirty-six persons, of these two are Bishops, seventeen are clergy and seventeen are laymen. If we take the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors, the group of men selected to carry on the business of the College and University between the meetings of the whole Board, we find, of the thirteen composing this committee, five are men in orders and eight are laymen. One can scarcely conceive that such a Board would be dominated by priestcraft, when the proportion of clergy to laymen is as five to eight.

Of course there is a great deal of truth in