

men, and especially the Romanizing clergy, are determined to get the youth of the country wholly into their own hands, and in seeking this they seem prepared to cripple or ruin the Board Schools. The designate Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Temple, is the champion of this movement, and Nonconformists, whose rights are in jeopardy, are rallying their forces in opposition. They are supported by a considerable number of Evangelical Churchmen, and if Methodists, Baptists, Congregationalists and Presbyterians hold together, they may be able to check the growth of a reactionary ecclesiasticism which threatens to drag the nation back into mediæval sacramentarianism and superstition.*

The swarms of barefooted boys who ran after the stage on one trip through the Trossachs and cried monotonously as they gasped for breath, "Drop-a-penny, drop-a-penny," captured him by their pertinacity, especially one who had seized a simple flower by the roadside and offered it for sale. In his travels, as at home, children always attracted him. One wee lass, four years old, on the streets of Edinburgh, to whom he gave a gratuity, drew him after her quite a distance by a winding way into an alley where she expended her small fortune in a bull's-eye.

*This was written in 1896. Were Dr. MacVicar a permanent resident in England in the present year of grace, there can be little doubt that he would be in the front rank of Passive Resisters, and would take no rest till he had done all in his power to secure the repeal of the Education Act, in default of paying the rates for which so many thousands have been suffering the seizure of their household effects and (strangest survival of an era which British subjects might have thought themselves to have long outlived!) going behind prison bars for conscience's sake.