

them in the Chapel yonder. To the youth of our own communion, who form the great majority of our pupils, we are able to speak in no doubtful terms: to remind them of their privileges and their duties as admitted members of Christ's Church; to induce them in Confirmation to acknowledge their obligation to fulfil the vows of their Baptism, to urge them to seek in the Holy Communion the strength that they need to carry them through the battle of life. And, Sir, it has been my happiness, in more than one instance, to see God's grace visibly poured out upon the use of the means which He has appointed and to find the minds of boys at the most critical period of their lives turned to far more serious thoughts of their Christian responsibilities than they had ever seemed to entertain before. And with regard to all our pupils, without anything like proselytism, while we carefully abstain from trying to interfere with the dogmatic convictions of those who are not members of our Church, we may yet appeal to the highest authority of all to enforce our exhortations to duty and morality—the highest authority, and I believe the only one that will never fail us. Doubtless there are lower motives to what is right which we may and must urge upon our boys. I may tell them that falsehood is mean and cowardly and ungentlemanly: I may tell them that overbearing, oppressive, or selfish behaviour, will lose them the love of their fellows, and that to lose that is a sure way to spoil the happiness of a man's life: I may tell them that to act as if they were not bound by moral restraints is the way to bring themselves to ruin of body and soul alike. But, Sir, these motives will not serve them *always*. The rule of human honour will break down under exceptional circumstances: the rules of human prudence will be forgotten under the stress of extraordinary temptation. If I am to teach them to be *always* true, it must be by pointing them to Him who is—the Truth: if I am to teach them to try to be *always* unselfish, it must be by speaking to them of Him who is Love: if I am to teach them to be *always* pure—in thought, in word, in deed—it must be by reminding them that they belong to Him whose nature is the very rule of purity. And Sir, I believe that it is because our boys have been taught thus in time past that I am able to say to-day, that while we cannot flatter ourselves that we are free from faults, there is no body of boys or men of whom that could be said, while we are conscious that there is much among us which needs improvement, and where is the society of which you must not say the same, yet we have among us a general tone for which we may be most thankful: that our boys have among them a real spirit of manly independence, without a trace of insubordination: a spirit of obedience to law without any mixture of servility: that above all I can in nine hundred and ninety-nine cases out of one thousand, accept without question any statement which any of them may make, and that we may feel that we have a number of boys of whom we may well be proud, and who are at least not inferior in character and in bearing to any other similar body on this Continent.

It remains, Sir, that I should express my sense of obligation to those whose help I have had during the past year: to the Sub-Rector and other Masters of the School for the diligent and zealous way in which they have worked with me my best thanks are due. A few more words must be said as to what I owe to the authorities of the Senior Department. I have to thank them for much in addition to the help that they have given in the teaching and examination of the School. Every one who is acquainted with the working of this College knows that the two Departments are placed in positions which may very easily become antagonistic: that it requires a great deal of mutual forbearance to prevent their becoming so. I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing my sense that a good understanding has been preserved between us, mainly by the kindly feeling exhibited by the Principal and Professors of the College. And while I gratefully acknowledge my obligation to all, I cannot help expressing more particu-