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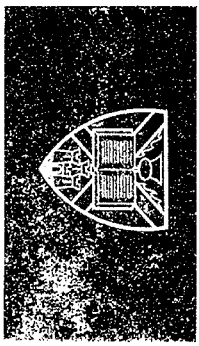

Lo. III. 576

Brief Journal of Tour
to Ulster - Sept.
1824

[By James Glassford Esq.
Advocate.

See his printed volume, "Notes of
Three Tours in Ireland in 1824
& 1826," first printed in 1831 for
private circulation, & reissued in
1832 with a new title-page Bristol

1824 – Left Dublin 1st Septr
To Mr. Foster's Rathcare

2nd September – Visited with Mr. Lewis and accompanied by Mr. Foster the Protestant School at Rathcrane (Mr. Foster's) the schools at Collon, Lord Oriel's – and the schools and nunnery at Drogheda – attended by the English and R. Catholic curates and Presbyterian Minister respectively – See Memoranda in the Inspection book – The instruction of the Cath. population seems very imperfect, both in extent & kind – At Collon few comparatively of that population attend the schools – (more in proportion at Mr. Foster's than elsewhere –) and the quality of instruction at the Drogheda schools (Catholic) apparently very inferior – A small proportion of the R. C. children of Drogheda attend the schools, with exception of

the Sunday school at the chapel (where considerable numbers are said to attend.)

The R. C. Primate of Armagh Dr Curtis, was absent on visitation. Note - No particular instruction at D insisted on in the Cath. schools (there) except the Catechism - that is, no other considered indispensable - And it is always first taught by question & answer that is committed to memory & learned by rote, before the scholar is taught to read - He is often not taught to read at all - No particular age said (by the Curates) to be necessary before Confirmation. Children admitted if found instructed to the satisfaction of the Priest & Ordinary. R. C. Curates complained that about 20 of their scholars had lately been carried from them or left them and have since attended a private charity school in Droghida taught by Miss F. under superintendence of ladies of the Droghida

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In July 1823, some Protestant boys (said to be Presbyt.) were taken or allowed to go to Cath. chapel with the R. C. children - Said to be with consent of their parents, but would require explanation - Belonged to the 79th Regt. (Highland)

3d Sept. - Visited schools at Dunleer & Drumcar - Countess de Salis at the former on the best establishment. M. de Clintochis at the latter -

3d Sept. 1824 Drumcar

Examined on oath Jas McByrne schoolmaster of Mr McLintocks school - Has been 3 years teacher there. School connected with Kildare Soc. He has received a gratuity yearly. Not trained there. Scriptures always read in the school in both versions - Ly Eliz. McL. supplied the Douay testament to the Catholic children from her own funds, previously to the school being denounced about 7 weeks ago. - Scriptures were explained to the Prot. children after school hours or in a different room. A catholic child was never present - is certain of this - knows all the children which are Cath. & which Prot. Often allowed the Prot. children to read in the Douay testament. Lady E. M. never explained to Cath. children or talked to them on religious doctrines in the school. She instructed the Sunday school children - which was a different

school. Several Cath. children went to the Sunday school - perhaps from 10 to 20 - Attended at Mr. M.'s house - Clothing was given in the day school by Ly E. to children who deserved it. Mr Rogers the Cath. priest was in the habit of visiting the school during the 3 years. The master was absent at time when Mr Rogers came to the school. Is said to have torn or taken away testaments - Mr Crawford has the charge of the school in his absence. Clara Crawford

Archdeacon French stated that he could not and would not be induced by any consideration to superintend or promote Schools where the reading of the Scriptures was excluded

Dunkeer 3d Sept.
Interview with Dr. Curtis - the Cath. Archbishop of Armagh - Long exposition of grounds of objection to the Protestant schools of his diocese, particularly the Mc Kintochers - Allowed that he would object to every school where the Prot. scriptures were read, even by Catholic teacher, and when Douay version was read if by Prot. teacher - That the Bishops when last convened at Magnooth agreed in the conclusion that the Bible was not to be authorized to be read in school - and not to be authorized to be read by the people out of the church, if without help and direction -
Books recommended by Dr. Curtis as Catholic expositions of Christian doctrine - being helps and expositions approved by the church of Rome
Dr. Rutter's Life of Christ and view of all his doctrines
Chalonen's Morality of the Scriptures
Chalonen's Meditations for every day in the year
Fleury's History of the old and new

Testaments.

The Rheims & Douay Bible was published originally with long and contrariant Notes & commentaries. Dr. Chaloner abridged and selected these - and his notes and comments approved of by the church and not objectionable - (Quære & compare)

Glydefarm - 3d Sept.
Examined 2 boys and a girl who attended Mr Chichester Fortescue's school here and were said by the Cath. priests to have been proselytized - The girl's father was protestant - though her mother Catholic & she joined the church long before coming to this school - and without any pretence of proselytism -
The boys afforded a most remarkable instance of early judgment and of intelligence altogether unusual at their age - with a remarkable facility &

and correctness of expression - the eldest (Mr Donald) 17 years - the other only 11 - They had joined the Pro church more than 3 years ago - Declared on examination that no means had been used by Mr or Mrs Fortescue or the teacher - and that it was from the conversation of a companion in one case and in the other from having lived with a protestant schoolmaster when a child, joined, in both cases with reading the scriptures, and hearing the sermons & prayers in the church that they became convinced of the error of popery - that they had applied ~~for~~ to the priest for information - who had given them what they thought hourd answers, but which did not satisfy their minds and seemed to them not to correspond with the scripture. These boys were separately examined and stood the examination without any

wavering or hesitation - and both gave proofs of uncommon steadfastness of mind as well as penetration. Mr Donald is bound apprentice to Mr. Fortescue's gardener - the other (Henretty) is an orphan, & is now supported by Mr Fortescue at the house of one of his tenants or cottars -

The boy Henretty said that he had once received a tract from Mrs Fortescue but it was some time after he had changed & joined the church -

Same day & place - Examined Mr. Hely Cath. priest of Louth parish Objection to this school & others is that the Scripture are read in the Prot. version - and would object to Douay version equally if taught by prot. He has long disliked this school - though only denounced it lately. Did not give a reason for the delay. Was educated at Antwerp -

He will not again, or any longer tolerate the reading of the Scriptures. His reason for this is that such is the law and rule of his Church.

Same day & place. Examined Mr Mathesonth Cath. Cure of this parish (Louth). His objections to the school and the books used are to the same effect. Considers that the two-boys (above mentioned) were proselytised by means of this school, and particularly by the means of the church curate Mr. But did not profess a distinct knowledge of this. Knew or believed that the boy Elsewhere had got a little book from Mr. Fortescue professing to explain the errors of the church

of Rome. Did not ask him when he got it & whether it was before he left the Cath. church or after.

He would tolerate a school where the Douay testament should be taught by a Cath. master.

Same day

Visited and had conversations with Mr McClintock & by Gly. M. and Mr. Chichester Fortescue at Drumcar and Glydefarm. The impression & opinion of both these gentlemen that they will, owing to the interference of the Cath. priesthood be obliged to follow whatever method they consider best for their Protestant tenants & people, without any compromise or consideration as to the others.

Dundalk - 4 Sept. 1824.
Had interviews at Mr. Thackery, the rector's, with Dr. McCann the parish priest and his curate, with Mr. Davidson the Presbyterian minister and
Visited the school on Graiman Smith's foundation superintended by the clergyman - a Catholic poor school a female Charter school (excellent specimen of Church of Ire foundation, & well superintended -

Had interviews also at Dundalk with Dr. Campbell of Fairhill - who has 11 schools under his superintendance (free) - partly undained out of an estate demised to them - and in

some instances assisted by Kildare Street. The children chiefly Catholic - Priests have not hitherto interfered with them and not apprehended by Dr. C.

(It is evident that in this and other cases where the priests have not intermeddled, it is to be accounted for partly on prudential views, and partly because they are not in these cases apprehensive of attempts at proselytism from the zeal of the teacher or their superintendants - If the teacher is a Cath.c they are of course less apprehensive

Stated by Rev. D. Davidson that the increase of Presbyterians was chiefly owing to new Settlers (at Dundalk) That he conceived the number of Pr. Cath.s was also increasing. Proportion of Pr. Cath.s at D. he conceived to the Protestants as 9 to 1.

Roman Cath. schools, very when inferior as might be expected by the Protestant, and teachers particularly deficient in education & appearance.

Presbyterian schools deficient for same reason in their houses and outward appearance of their teachers - but not in the qualifications or attainments of the latter.

Stated by Mr Thackery, Dundalk, that the majority of the Charter house children throughout Ireland are Catholic - and that they usually continue in after life members of the Prot. church. (It was the object & profest purpose of the institution to bring over Cath.s or at least to train & encourage protestants) The children of Cath. parents educated at Dundalk for last 8 years have been (as stated by the schoolmaster) 49 out of 156. - They sometimes relapse - when they marry protestants, it is usually the consequence.

Newry - Same day 4th Sept.

Had interview with Mr Campbell the vicar of Newry - (which is extradiocesan, Newry being a lay impropriation in Lord Kilmorey who has right to the tithes & possesses many of powers & privileges of a bishop) - Personally on good terms with Dr. Kelly the Cath. B. No interference or ground of collision. There is no Parish school (under Il. 8)

Same day & place - Had interview with Dr. Kelly the Cath. Bist. of Dromore & his Curate - Long tirade from both on danger from the Prot. schools in every quarter. When Sunday school first established 40 years ago he withdrew all his flocks - Not more than about 30 Cath. children as he stated at the Pro. schools - Stated their opinion that reading the Scriptures in the schools, or to the children though without comment or note is a means & attempt to proselytize

and a sufficient ground to remove them. — Would not allow the reading of the whole Scripture, that is without selection, to the flock at any time, whether in school or out, at whatever age — Muscle regulated & authorized by the Priest — The old Testament particularly unsafe —

Complained much of the books distributed or allowed — by masters or by private persons — particularly of "the history of Andrew Dunn" — Clem. to see it —

Newry Sept. 5.

Visited the Catholic poor School and heard the children examined on the Catechism — Bishop Kelly repeated his complaints of the influence & attempts of the Protestant schools & patrons — And his decided objection against the use of the Scriptures in schools for any purpose

Same plan & date

Visited the Sunday school for poor children — Superintended by the Ladies & Gentlemen of Newry — Children formed into classes in usual way & taught to read — Scriptures in authorized Prot. version always read — School open to all children Pro. Engl. and Scotch and Catholics — A considerable number of Catholic children attend from time to time

Both in Dundalk and Newry, the proportion of Cath. is thought to be very large. According to Mr. Thackery's statement, it is at Dundalk as 9 to 1

Cotton looms have been very recently introduced in Drogheda - for employment to the female poor - the looms furnished by charitable subscription - to be repaid in a certain time from produce of labour

Newry 8th Sept.

Waited on by Mr. Trevor Corry - who is establishing several schools in neighbourhood of Newry - on plan of Kildare Street - and supplies their books. Will probably apply for aid from the Soc: but is at present building school houses at his own charge -

Also by Revd. Mr. Mitchell, presbyterian minister of Newry - who superintends the Lancastrian school -
Visited that school with him - & found it in very good state - the teacher intelligent & seemingly well qualified -
Mr. Mitchell expects that the Cath. priests will interfere still farther & more decidedly in withdrawing their children - from all schools when the Scriptures are read - in any shape - Conceives that this will be done throughout Dr. O'Kelly's diocese.
He considers that the Sunday school

Have been of very great advantage through the North of Ireland - from his observation & experience of them both here & at Derry when he before resided - Gives the children not only instruction but notions of order - brings them to Church - also under the notice of the upper class -

Same day - Visited the R. C. poor day school -
The R. C. Mechanicks School, so called from being supported by subscription from the Mechanicks - Attended by - Murphy P.P. Some of the children at this school considerable proficients but system of books & lesson tables & cards, as in other R. C. schools already visited, are very inferior & imperfect - particularly England's and Murphy's Tabular lessons - full of inaccuracies and bad spelling

Same day - Went to Grinan School 2 miles from Newry on Rosstrevor road - newly established by Mr. Thomson and Mr. Wallace two neighbouring gentlemen - Schoolmaster from home - We had been informed that the Kildare rule was not observed by the omission of reading the Scripture - but a very intelligent boy found at the school satisfied me that the Testament was read every day by those boys & girls who were farthest advanced - 15 at least out of the usual number present
N.B. The school very lately established

On way to Banbridge visited the School house at Derrycraw one of Mr. H. Trevor Corry's two schools - Children dispersed for the day but examined the master - a Catholic. Mr. T. Corry met me there - His aim is to have a teacher so qualified & house of such construction and neatness as to be fit for all classes. Would send his own children along with the peasants

if his house was not too distant.
(Resides at Cheney)

Note Crowban Schools - much recommended by R. C. Priest Murphy

Note - Several of the R. C. Teachers met with in this District have received their education at or near Ballygawley in Tyrone. Two of the best appearance at Newry & were taught there

Banbridge - 7th Sept.

Sent for Revd Mr. I. Davis and received some interesting information from him. The schools of Seafield parish generally (in which Banbridge is situated) are open to both classes and attended by them without reluctance or jealousy - Children of R. Cath. Engl. Church & Scotch attend both the public schools & that of a private teacher with the knowledge of the Cath. priest McGuinness or Mr. Long who has not interfered - but rather encouraged their attendance -

Visited the Lancasterian Kildare School & Withers private school (attended by Mr. Davis)

Afterwards the parish school 11/2 from Banbridge, aided by Socty for discouraging vice & taught by clerk of parish. Catholics indiscriminately with others read the Bible, old & new Test. - with prior

of the priests

Weaving lines carried to great extent in Bambrig & country round for 5 or 6 miles - The cottars & labourers have loom in their houses - bring the webs to market at Bambr. where bought up by merchants & sent to the towns & fairs - or exported.

Many Cath. but not so numerous as in other towns between & Dublin -

Mr. Davis has known of no proselytism or attempt at proselyt. in Bambr. & Seafield parish - and believes that none of the children who attend the schools, leave the Cath. Chapel in consequence - He has been here since 1814 -

It is the object of the Committee of the Lancasterian School at Bambridge, as reported by Mr. Davis, to encourage 1. the union of all classes of inhabitants in the school and 2. the condition of paying something for the attendance - Where the more wealthy inhabitants sent their children to the school at the price intended for the poor, of 1/1d. they have given notice that they would be required to pay at a higher rate - which has always been complied with & the school not injured. On the same principle when the school is full, and new applications are made, they give the preference, tho' not prior in application to the poorer child & receive him gratis, before the higher -

Same day – Hillsborough –
Sent for Mr Hill church
Curate, in absence of Archdeacon
Alexander – And visited with
him the parish school, on
Lancastrian plan – connected
with Kildare Street –
Seems very well taught by
Forde & his wife. Patronized
& protected by Ld. Downshire –
who has done much in estab-
lishing endowing & superintend-
ing schools on his estates – visits
them personally – States his re-
marks on the school books
gives supply of books – allows
an acre of land rent free whereon
a school wanted & connects them
with Kild. Soc. of which he is
now the President since resignation
of D. of Leinster –

Mr. Hill has been only a
short time here – (come from
Nutmeath) But concur

fully in opinion as to the present
quiet & toleration of the Catholic priests
and the excellent rules & manage-
ment of the schools in this parish –
But he does not conceive that
the R. C. are cordial in their
cooperation, but that they forbear
at present. The priest does not
reside in Hillsborough – and no pro-
selytism is known or attempted
The people are occupied & industrious
and the feeling of irritation has
not been excited or kept alive –

8th Sept. Hillsborough –
Visited the school at Annahilt, on
Ld. Downshire estate, about 2 miles
from Hillsbor. – Same spirit of tole-
ration & unanimity in conduct of this
as of other schools seems the Intent.
Lord D. has encouraged & assisted
numerous schools in his estate
giving ground & often a sum in aid
of the building – Proceeded

to Lisburne - and with Mr Lewis visited the Free School there - and afterwards the Quakers fine school on Prospect Hill - called the Ulster Provincial School admirably arranged & conducted for the health comfort instruction and moral discipline of the children - See notes - Considerable bequest have lately made them, and possess some lands - admit 45 in all costs for board clothing & education of each child about £21-11. per annum - Proceeded to Belfast -

Belfast 9th Septr - 24

Waited on by two Inspectors of London Hibernian Society O'Connor and Fraser explained nature of that Society Regulations - and districts where their schools might be seen

Conversation of an interesting mind with the Cath. Priest of the Parish - Crolly - Favourable to the plan of education generally - But objects as others to the Sunday schools - established a more extended Sunday school at the Chapel about 1822 - formerly catechized children only at Chapel - Now large attendance about 1200 children - (qu) Was at first one of Committee of Poor School - but in consequence of the Committee & subscribers not agreeing to the use of the Douay bible, or to the Cath. children being sent to Chapel he objected to their proceeding & would not give his support - He was left out of the Committee immediately after - He has himself and at his own expense printed and distributed 4000 copies of the Douay testaments - (qu) - and a farther edition is to be given. The R. Cath. Bishop of the Diocese (Dour. & Connor) is ~~[illegible]~~ paralytic and dropsical -

Visited & accompanied by Mr Smyth Gerald of Belfast the Lancasterian free schools in Frederick Street and Brown Street - both large and interesting establishments - also

the schools attached to the Poor House and Benevolent Society (Day school) -

Memor. According to Mr Smyth's statement the regium donum to Sudeh church in ~~179~~ 1801 is shared by all denominations of Presbyterians among other those of ~~[illegible]~~ the Arian [Socinian] - Dr Brown present min: receives the highest rate -
(N.B. This confirmed afterwards by other authorities at Belfast)

One of the difficulties met with in the Irish schools is the inducement from poverty of the parents to take away their children before they are instructed - as soon as they can be employed in any work. This applies at least to the day schools.
A similar difficulty in conducting the Lancasterian plan - the children who would be useful as Monitors being taken away frequently on the same account, at the time when they are beginning to be useful to the master.

One important feature & very useful principle of the L. Hibernian Society's plan is that the schoolmaster receives his pay from them in proportion to his work & success - when the proficiency is not reported to be according to the scale laid down in their Regulations his allowance is so far curtailed or withdrawn in proportion to the number of children who are actually advanced in their teaching. This is accomplished by a perpetual system of inspection conducted through the whole year and the inspectors changed and transferred to different districts.

Belfast 10th Sept.

Dr. Hanna of Scotch church explained situation of that body & funds from which assisted. Composed of Synod of Ulster old settlement of Scotch estable church in Jas. 1st — Seceders — i.e. from Ulster ~~Pres~~ synod — Presbytery of Antrim — ~~Scotch~~ — Originally had tithes but having resisted O. Cromwell were deprived of these. Afdwd Charles 2d bestowed some aid ~~which~~ in lieu of the tithes — which aid was continued — The fund afforded about £32. to each minister — In 1801 additional fund was granted — given in somewhat different rates — Synod of Ulster and Presbytery of Antrim receive the same rate — There are 3 rates — £100 — £75. & £50 — The Seceders get a lower rate than S. of Ulster & Antr. Prob. — Synod of Munster are chiefly descendants of settlers in O. Cromwell's time — independents & other congregations — Have congregations in Dublin at Cork, Waterford, Limerick, Bandon & other places.

Same day

Interviews with Professors of Belfast Institution — and long explanation from them of the course of education — history & funds of the Institn.

Incorporated in 1808 — Teaching began in 1814 — Presbyteries of North of Ireland take the certificates of Belfast Coll. to admit them to Theological studies. Now held equivalent to a degree from Scotch colleges which was formerly required — Synod of Ulster formerly satisfied with one session of Scotch college — now two full sessn. of Belfast Inst. required. Associate synod (Dissenters) formerly required 2 sess. Now requires 4 of the Institn. — Competition of the Scotch Colleges w. Institution — open to both. — Fee to College classes is 2 guineas for each. Classes are Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Logic and Belles Lettres, Moral Philos. and Metaphysics, Mathematics (2 classes) and Nat. Philosophy — Attends on these entitles with general certificate for theology classes. & makes the under graduate course (Hebrew excepted.) The Institution consists of 2 parts — Schools and College. Those who mean to go thro' the regular course (done chiefly but not entirely with view to ministry) are examined on admission, as to their qualifications — Open to others without examination.

certain number of schools reside & board
Popular lectures given on various
subjects besides what mentioned - So that
there 3 objects - 1. Series of Schools
comprehending 6 - English - Writing -
Arithmetic Geography & Mathematics -
classical school Latin & Greek - French,
and Italian - Drawing & Spanish - 318
in schools according to late muster = of
all religions - go to their different places
of worship - and to their different catechu-
tical lectures - have some boys ~~educat~~
at school educating with view to
Maynooth & Cath. priesthood - Presby-
terians the largest number
The 2d object or branch is the College
the departments as above explained -
3d object (being part rather of the
College) is popular classes - viz.
Mechanics - (fee 5/- Chemistry - Botany -
Anatomy - [Political Oeconomy is
intended by Dr. Young] Natural Philos.
was taught by Dr. King - now gone to
Marischal Coll. Aberdeen - Belles Lettres
Elocution which is well attended -
Theology is separate department
after qualified by classical study in Coll.
Plan adopted was to allow different
bodies [religious] to chuse their own

teachers. Accordingly there are two
professors - Dr. Hanna appointed by synod
of Ulster - theology & church history - (2
sessions make a course -) Dr. Edgar
appointed by the Presbyterian synod of Ireland
[the title of the Seceders or synod of Seceders]
Have had communication with synod of
Munster - The Presbytery of Antrim have
no lecturer in theology - their students
recognize that of Ulster synod -
Instit. has students from almost all
classes of Dissenters - also those of Church
of Eng. Applications are frequently
made to them for teachers from different
parts of Ireland - Number in College
classes from 130 to 150. -
Public grant was given of £1500 -
in 1814 - 1815 - & 1816 - to the general
purposes of the Seminary - At commencement
a liberal subscription was raised - about
£16,000

N. M. Crolly P.P. objected chiefly to the Sunday school superintended by the committee of the Brown Street school. — (Brown Street school is a branch under the Sunday school Benevolent Society) and to the local Sunday schools organized by them. —

His statement farther as to the Poor School was that children of Cath. men not allowed to go to chapel. — But document exhibited by Mr Smyth the curate this day shows that on application made by the Priest on the only occasion which appears from the Steward's books of that school, leave was granted to various children — and generally to all whose parents applied for it to attend the Cath. chapel. — It is to be observed that in this chief school, the children enter in infancy — that they lodge & are fed & clothed — and that some are orphans or whose relations not known or do not visit them. —

Same day. —

Waited on by large Deputation from Managers of the Belfast Institution — and conversation at length on state of its management — & funds & communications between Govt & the Managers in 1816 & 1817 — Urged strongly the importance of an early Report on the Institution — the funds of which are said to be entirely exhausted — and managers prevented from applying to public while there is any hope of support from parliaments. — Ed. Ins. hund. stated to be important from its purposes & the number educated in it for the Presbyterian ministry — There are 360 ministers in the synod of Ulster, the Seceders Synod, & the Presbytery of Antrim — (of whom nearly 200 in Ulster — altogether there are above 400 Congregations under their charge in these bounds.

The plan of a seminary for these purposes not new. Philosophy was taught at an early period at Killaleagh — (eg. for students training to the Presbyterian church.) and at near Newtonards

The gentleman of this deputation of Managers Dr Thomson, Sir Thos. Bettson, Mr Barnard, and others, concurred in stating

that the occasion, or time at least of the cessation of the Government allowance was (not that which has been spoken of, when one or two individuals belonging to the institution but not Professors were present at a dinner where the memory of Manhal Roy was drunk as a toast the most obnoxious one given) but that, previous to this, a verbal communication was made to the Managers from Govt that some alteration in the management of the Institution would be required. The circumstance of the obnoxious toast is stated to have been satisfactorily explained - and that some months after, (the dinner had taken place in March 1816.) in June 1816, the grant of £1500 was again voted by Mr Fitzgerald with encomiums on the Institution - afterwards, and on separate grounds as understood Mr Peel proposed as conditions of future grants, (in 1817) certain proportions chiefly 3 - that Govt should appoint a number of visitors not fewer than those appointed by the managers and who should be empowered to vote by proxy whereas the others could only vote in person - that the right of veto on any appointment of a Professor or teacher should be competent to Govt, as had been offered by the Managers - and that a Faculty should be constituted for the governance of the Professors - The two last stipulations were agreed to by the Managers the first, that of the visitors was rejected as incompatible with the foundation and rights of property - as it would throw the entire management of the Institution at once into the hands of the Ministers - A faculty condition was implied in the proposal of Mr Peel - that the College and department should not be yet formed - on the ground that Govt did not approve (in hoc statu) of altering the nature & plan of the instruction of the Presbyterian clergymen by withdrawing them from the Scotch College where they had hitherto been taught To this also the Managers did not accede - on the ground that it was an important object and feature of the establishment, to supersede

Scotch education. That the Presbyty of Ulster had approved of and acquiesced in the plan. That it had been acted upon for 3 years since the commencement of the college - and was known to Govt. when they had granted the yearly sums - and that the proprietors and managers were pledged to the public and the subscribers on this fundamental part of the system.

Stated to be one of the advantages of the Institution, that it produces a set and succession of Schoolmasters for the country in general of a superior order - that many young men are educated with this view at the Institution - that they receive certificates from the Professors whose classes they have attended - that some go thro' an entire course - and that when leave it to engage as schoolteachers, they receive a general certificate of their qualifications for the duty - that many

do accordingly engage in that situation - or as tutors in private families.

The average of those attending philosophical classes in the college stated at above 200 -

At examinations of the students a powerful check is provided by the appointment from the presbyterian synods of 16 of their own body to assist and superintend the examinations.

Sir H. Bethun stated it strongly as his own opinion and that of the whole surrounding resident proprietors of lands that the Institution was considered by them as of the greatest utility - and that it was their anxious wish & hope that the Govt. would grant it protection & aid so as to encourage its utility & connect it with the state. Stated also, that this is a critical period - as the funds of the Institution are at the lowest ebb - which will compel the managers to apply to the public at large, if the aid of parliament is not afforded - & will then disjoin them so far from the desireable connexion with the state -

[illegible] not improbable that advantageous good terms might be obtained from the President & Wardens of the Institution

The fullest attendance of students is stated to be from 1st Nov. to 1st May or March, which would be a favourable time for examination of the establishment.

Stated that among the students at Trinity College Dublin those from the Belfast Institution have shown a marked superiority.
(Stated to enquire at T.C.D.)

The largest salary hitherto given from the public grant, as the salary to any professor was £150. some at £50. & interest [illegible] amount

A sum of £10,000 stated to be requisite for completing buildings so as to afford the suitable accommodations, & lecture rooms said to be much wanted - as well as houses for the teachers & professors

Antrim 11th Septemb -

Interviews with Mr Kennedy Curate of parish - Mr Carley, and Mr McGill Presbyterian ministers - Concur in stating the good terms subsisting among the different religious denominations - No interference by the Cath. Priest - Schools attended by Cath. children in common with Engl. and Presbyt. where Testament read - and Prot. Catech. taught - Only interference which appears to have taken place applies to the Sunday school at Shanes Castle or March (near which Priest resides) from which the Cath. children were all withdrawn about two years ago - according to report of Mr Carley -

Some of Roman Cath. at Antrim take benefit of the Society for distributing Scriptures - and seem even presented at a Bible Soc.

Meeting held here this day 11th Septr and joined in the Subscription

Mr McGill, the presbyterian minister (Ulster Synod) has known several instances of Roman Cath. joining his congregation and who have continued in communion with them - In cases of marriage, they concur in stating that the woman has commonly adopted the religion of the man -

The children in the Free School (Erasmus Smith foundation) are taught catechism on particular days according to their several churches - the Ch. of England the Presbyterian (Mr McGill's and the Presbyterian (Mr Carlys - said to be Arian or new light.) He Mr C. uses two catechisms in examining his children at the school - one a historical catechism strictly - the other Mains catech. (qu.)

No the Cath. catechism taught at the Free School

Remarkable instance of bag in Mr McGill's congregation: committing whole

N. Testament - and Book of Psalms to memory & examined upon it by other visitors & remarks assigned for it. Same boy now committing to memory the whole Bible. - [illegible]

13th September - visited the Moravian Establishment at Gracehill - Ballymena. The education department consisting of two academies & boarding houses for young gentlemen, and ladies - and of two day schools for boys & girls of the lower class - all in excellent arrangement - under the direction of Rev. Wm. Essex head master & governor. ~~and~~ a Governess under his direction for the young ladies boarding school and numerous teachers and assistants - The Lancasterian methods not adopted. The young gentlemen prepared for College or military academy or mercantile profession - the young ladies taught all ~~[illegible]~~ branches of female education - music included - dancing excepted. - Two young ladies sisters (one of them a child) of the name of Doran from Dublin have been sent by their mother with a view to be educated in the Protestant faith - she herself though married to a Catholic having continued Protestant - her husband and she did not live together and he is dead - The eldest of the girls shows a decided predilection to the Cath. religion ~~by~~ preferring not to join the school in going to the Gracehill chapel or to read the Scriptures in the Prot. version - No compulsion is used towards her in these respects. She is allowed to remain at home on Sunday (no Cath. chapel is in the place) and is not required to eat meat on lent days - or taught the church catechism - She is 14 years of age - has not been taught to read before she came to this school some weeks ago - nor to write.

From the statements both of Mr Essex and Miss Brunswick, no jealousy prevails among the Catholics

respecting their children who are sent to the day schools - nor any apprehension of proselytism being attempted

The P.P. who resides near Athoghile has not visited the schools at Gracehill - or applied to Mr Ipex for the purpose of making a report -

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Same day - Visited the Lancasterian free school of Ballimena consisting of poorest class - many being children of paupers - The greatest number Presbyterians the next in order Rom. Catholics. The priest visits the school in common with the clergymen of all the other persuasions - and shows according to the master's report

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equal desire for giving instruction to those of his church -

Ballymoney - 13th Sept. - Same day - Sent for Mr Park, Presbyterian minister to enquire if he had completed his return which he will transmit in a few days. Showed a copy of them - and appeared full a satisfactory. - Explained that the Presbyterians were the predominant class - Is on a very friendly footing with the church of England clergyman - No resident Priest - Mr Park has been eight years resident at Ballymoney no collision has taken place between the Prot. & Cath. population - and no irritation is shown - the school in the parish where all the children are Presbyterians and the teacher is a Catholic - Same thing happens in other instances & a similar effect. No efforts have been made to proselytize. The H. Eth. clergy are as attentive to the education of the Prot. children in their protestant catechisms as to their own children in the Cath. catechism. The teachers are chiefly Presbyterian

the population being chiefly such. The children have he has reason to believe been withdrawn from Sunday schools.

Two circumstances have in his opinion been very favourable to education in the north of Ireland as felt in this district. 1. The operations of the Kildare Street Society. 2. The Belfast academical institution. Approves much of the principles and rules of the Kildare Street Soc^ty. These are no L. Hibernian Soc. schools in the parish. He thinks there has been a decided improvement in the description of school books of late and in the system of education. M. P., congregation extends over 5 to 6 miles, he pays annual parochial visits to every family and examines them individually as to their instruction in religion.

Coleraine 14th Sept. L

Sent for M. Shillito the Curate of Killowen. M. Whitebody Presbyterian minister. and M. Quin the Parish Priest. Various statements and complaints made by them respectively as to the interference of others in the schools. Particularly by M. Shillito of the P. P. and by the latter of M. Shillito and of M. Harvey the rector of Coleraine [Killowen & Coleraine adjoin on the east Quest of Bann.]

Visited the Parish school of Killowen. the Lancasterian school founded by M. Kyle. the Irish Company's schools (London Society). Mrs Ewing's school established by M. Harvey and the Rio-Cath. school established by M. Quin the P. P. the two latter schools directly founded on a principle of opposition to the

[turn 2 leaves]

Cath. and established church respectively. The P.P. Quin and his Curate O'Kane when particularly questioned did not directly object to any but the parish school under Mr. Shillito and the School taught by Mr. Irving under Mr. Harvey — It is probable that some conflicting statements may be made from this quarter as to the conduct and proceedings of these schools —

The Schoolmasters of Mr. Kyle's Lancasterian School, and of the R. Cath. School were examined on oath today on the points stated in the Memorandum book, as there noted. The teacher of Mr. Shillito's school being very recently appointed could give no information on the subject in question and on that account was not sworn

Mr. Whiteside stated that there is a school within Coleraine parish at Tullam, where with exception of our R. Cath. and two Ch. of England, the whole pupils are Presbyterian — and which school is taught by a Catholic — and taught to the satisfaction of the Protestant parents and of Mr. Whiteside the Presbyt.n minister — The Scriptures are read — and the respective catechisms taught.

The P. Priest of Killowan (Quin) does not object to the Douay testament being read in his school. There are 8 copies of it in that school but the Schoolmaster did not report them or bring them to me when exhibiting his books — only accidentally noticed —

Enquired for Mr. Beresford — agent for one of the London Corporations [of the Fishmongers] at Coleraine — but he was from home.

15th Sept. –

Visited at Nuotin Rimondaly, with Mr. Olphert the rector, the free school (parish) under his superintendance – Master of school appears uncommonly intelligent & acute – evidently of a superior class – educated in the place. No religious animosity or variance at present existing in this village, or district according to the report of the rector and schoolmaster. The different persons of any denomination send their children to school indiscriminately. Prot. to Cath. schools and Cath. to Prot. schools – [N. B. Two causes contribute to the end in such cases. 1. The care & discretion or cool temperament of the individuals in the several ministries. 2. The indifference to religious tuition – which avoids the question altogether – and of course disarms the jealousy, even if the feeling should be alive on one side.

Various small pay schools subsist in the same village, one of which I visited – All are said to be actuated by the same forbearance – One Sunday school [if not more] taught by an individual, a lady, whose scholars are about 25 in number. –

Sunday – Called at Walworth House, residence of Mr. Sampson agent for one of the London Companies [Drapers believed to be] – but he was absent. –

Called, on road to Derry, at the village of Muff, where the Grocers' Co. of London are carrying on considerable improvements. Having already since estate full back into their hands in 1821, from the lessee, built a handsome Sessions House for the Magistracy, nearly completed a Curate's house. (to encourage residence) and contributed to a school house on Erasmus Smith's foundation – also project a large school house

for 100 boys on improved system and contemplates, (of which a prospectus is in forwardness) an agricultural school encouraged by the North West Society — Visited along with Mr. ~~Warden~~ Warner the agent for the L. Groeis Co. the farm and buildings at Groeis Hall a fine situation near Muff. when the experimental school and farm is intended & which from the variety of ground & other advantages seems well calculated for the end — examined the elevation & design of the school — and the accounts of census & other particulars — N. B. The proportions of the population on the Company estates in Derry as taken in 1819, afford this ratio — nearly — 1880 Presbyt.n 1200 R. Cath and 550 Ch. of England

Looked at one of the small schools on Groeis Co. estate at Muff placed on the foundation of Graine Smith. Few children (24) and ragged and ill ordered —

The schools on this estate are assured by the agent, Mr. Warner to be on a low scale — Proposed to be amended — but their funds have been of late absorbed by other demands and purposes —

Derry — Same day —

Sent for Curate Mr. Galway (the Bishop's curate). He has not yet transmitted the returns — but they are nearly ready. about 40 schools in his part of the parish — The Dean will return for the whole parish of Templemore — contains about 130 Schools.

No religious animosity, so far as known to Mr. Galway — has been curate only for a short time — Children of different persuasions attend schools promiscuously — Presbyterian and R. Cath. both numerous

Derry - Same day -

Was accompanied by the Bishop & Dean of Derry in visiting the Diocesan and Foundation Schools - small school under Mr Knox's partonage - and Meeting house school (Mr Hays) - Afterwards visited with Mr Hay, the R. C. School in Fabian Street. -

Intervieus also with the R. C. titular Bishop of Derry - who referred to his Curates - having been himself absent and unacquainted as he said with present state of the schools - His Curates complained generally of the books used in the private schools (boarding schools) and the Diocesan - and of the Scripture being read with explanations both in the latter & Erasmus Smith foundation school -

Derry - 17th Sept.

Visited, with Mr Lewis, the small pay school kept by Daly, R. Cath. in Fountain Street - Both ~~Sheri~~ this and the other Cath. school (i.e. taught by Cath. masters) are most objectionable from the close and nearly pestilential air of the rooms - being garrets in the teacher's house - small and not ventilated.

Intervieus with Mr Daly, Inspector from Kildare street Soc. at present on his progress through north -

Raphoe - Same day visited the Parish school of Raphoe - partly on a private foundation - A small day school kept by a R. Cath. teacher Sheridan, conducted on a very liberal and open plan - And the School on royal foundation (of Cha. 1. or Cha. 2.) taught by Mr Irwan. The funds of this school arise from lands in the County of Donegal, and are now under management of Board of Education - but in a peculiar situation. The Master is lessee under the Board - pays £500 rent to them receives back £350 of Salary, is accountable for the balance of £150. Quere - what surplus there may be to produce from the lands above the rent of £500 - About 12 scholars, boarders. -

Raphoe. 18th Septr.

Visited the Rt Bishops school in the domaine - for females - 50 girls clothed fed and educated at the Bishops expense, & under his immediate direction. School house and eating room built by him -

Strabane - same day -

Visited the parish school - partly supportedly a private endowment for 24 boys and girls - to be educated and clothed - superintended by Mr Hamilton rector. Also the ~~[illegible]~~ female free school in same place - school dismissed - supported by subscription - under superintendence also of Mr Hamilton.

Also sent for teacher of the Hibernian school in the neighbourhood and examined him - See Note book - Mr Daly the inspector from Kildare Street with which Soc. as well as the Hibernian it has connexion, objected at his late visitation both to this school and to the female free school, that the rule of the Society as to the reading of Scripture (the manner of doing so and using it as a class book) had not been attended to -

Interview with Mr Stewart Hamilton the rector of Strabane and his curate Mr Molesdon - No interference with the schools under their direction from the Priest - but the Kildare Street inspector objected to the reading of the scripture as practised and approved of by the rector - Hibernian Society inspector Mr O'Connor also lately visited the last school - and approved of the classification - as entered on the rule book.

Mr Hamilton takes great interest in schools of his parish & large contributions from him & neighbouring resident gentlemen have been made for founding & supporting them. Conceive that Md Rt Cath

clergy are hostile to the use of the scriptures in school but have not directly interfered with the day schools — H. M. H. will not dispense in the schools under his patronage with the free & unlimited reading of the Scriptures & distribution of them at his pleasure to the children and to adults. Understood from the Kildare Place inspector that the Testaments were not to be taken out of school (according to the Society's plan) but only to be given out for the hour of reading and then replaced — Mr. H. allows his children to carry them home & will give up the connexion with Kildare Place, rather than forego full use of his discretion in this respect. — [Opinions & statements correspond precisely to those of Archd. French Lumber]

Mr. Holston, Curate, expressed the same sentiments — but testified directly at the same time to the good understanding between the different clergy. Estabt? — Presbyt? — and R. Cathl. — stating that the P. Priest had born distinct testimony to the mode of conducting the schools under Mr. H., charge including the reading of Scriptures — and done so in the school and in presence of the children. —

The sentiments of the parents generally, including all the R. C. to the management of the Hibernian school ~~was~~ were expressed with equal effect on occasion of a circular sent round by that Society — (See Note Book.)

Mem. Dr. Nash of Newton Stewart mentioned by Mr. Holston as much interested in the subject of education and versed in the practical parts of it. Had not time to visit him —

Nal. It was allowed both by the male & female teacher of Mr. Hamilton's schools at Strabane that to a certain extent, explanation of the scriptures in school was practised - to the extent at least of illustrating the meaning of words and in the female school by Mrs Greer on the marginal references to other texts and the various readings from Hebrew or Greek text

Mr. Daly the Inspector from Kildare Street Soc.ty mentioned that he had in some instances found very improper books (of the very worst description) in the Bookseller's shops in villages of north, which had they said, been supplied from Belfast - when they ordered a Barton, or supply of small books to be forwarded - and this

from the most respectable Belfast shops.

A jealousy of the Hibernian Society's plan has been entertained by the people in some places - from the large attachment of time given to the lessons in Scripture (committing them to memory) - supposed to prevent children progress in other branches -

That Society is considered as having been of essential service by many of the clergy in Tyrone - among others Mr S. Hamilton's Curate at Strabane Mr. Stack - Omagh - Mr. of the neighbouring parish of and others. Their schools are in estimation among the people - and are well attended. Their system for paying teachers makes them use every effort for advancing the scholars - and for securing their attendance.

Omagh - 19th Sept. (Sunday)

Visited the Sunday school at the church, for girls - and do in School house for boys. Superintended by Mr Stack Mr Carvald. A few Cath. children among the boys - none among the girls. but Church of E. and Presbyterians without distinction in both.

Visited the Jail same day. No Sunday school there. but a day school. Taught by Mr Farlan who lives at the jail. He teaches the Debtors and Convicts separately (including in the latter those criminals committed for trial) two hours each daily. Some instances where taught reading from the first elements. In most cases the prisoners (criminals) had obtained some instruction in Schools. but stopt short. or afterwards neglected it.

The great majority in jail are Catholics.

Note. A new jail on improved panoramic plan, is now building in which the present very imperfect classification will be greatly amended. One great evil at present is that part of the jail without separation from the rest is occupied by lunatic prisoners committed by the magistrates - to the great disturbance of the jail and limitation of the space.

Visited same day the Omagh Infirmary established in 1816 - Found a considerable proportion here as well as in the jail who could not read, particularly among the R. Cath. and the majority of those in the Infirmary who were not possessed even those who could read, of a Bible or

Testaments - The only Bible was one brought by a female who was reading it to her husband one of the invalids. -

In the jail several both debtors and convicts had Bibles or Testaments - when they apply, the Governor furnishes a testament. There is a Kildare lending library in the Jail - which is used by those who are able and desire it.

Sent for Rev. C. Prent. His assistant, Mr Boyle (in his absence) stated that he considered the system of teaching in the endowed schools (Hibernian & Kildare) to be very objectionable - by teaching to repeat scripture and having explanations given. - But that as to Kildare Society, the plan had been explained by the late Inspector Mr Daly, much more favourably than was before understood. - Stated that if the R. Catholic children learn to convert scripture to memory, it is contrary to the order of their pastor. - Has told his people so - and warned them of these schools. - Mr B. allowed that using the scripture as book in school in any form or manner, is objectionable - and contrary to their order and rule. -

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The girls are in most of the common schools much better clothed & cleaner than the boys for obvious reasons. At the Sunday schools the children are in general clean & tolerably well clothed. The superintendence of the higher orders, and particularly of the females, engaged in the actual and exclusive teaching of the girls has evidently a powerful influence in this respect. The same thing is to a certain degree observable in all schools, whether Sunday or Day, which are frequently visited by the resident gentry -

One great difference between the Prot. and R. Cath. Schools as to supply of books when the Scriptures are used is the much cheaper rate at which the Pro. version and the Douay can be obtained. This reason for using the Prot. version in a Cath. school was given by the R. Cath. teacher in Fountain Street Derry. He could procure a Prot. Testament for 6/- & a Douay. Do. cost him 2/8. and ill printed.

[This evidently arises from the great Societies and their superiour funds]

Omagh 20th September

Visited the Parish School supported partly by the clergy (viz. £4 from Dean of Cork the rector.) This is a classical school to a limited extent but very ill appointed in space and furnishing.

Visited also the new School, opened at the church as a day school. Now considered as the parish school on account of the gratuitous teaching. The old parish school is a pay school. [Query as to the principle of the parish schools originally]

Visited also the Jail day school for adults (being the inmates of the jail. Debtors and Convicts.) Some old men commenced in reading and some in writing. A few of those now in jail capable of, and employed in teaching the others. N.B. The present teacher, M. Farland

seems well qualified, and is very active in the duties of the situation. Also intelligent and sagacious in the conduct of his different schools so as to avoid offence and irritation without abandoning the object. He does more in giving religious instruction than most others but is less objected to by the Priests.

As to the prospect of uniting the two classes by a system of toleration and forbearance which is in itself so desirable and which in some instances so completely succeeds, it is to be remembered also that whatever rule is adopted, must be intended for the majority of cases. The instance of judicious forbearance

which have been met with, even in Ulster, have been rather the exceptions.

Visited also, same day 20th Sept. the L. Hibernian School at Creenagh (East from Omagh on old road) — This school as well as many others visited in Ulster is very objectionable from the confined space and the total want of ventilation or any current of air. Ugh. atmosphere stifling — and the children not only more exposed to contagion if any infectious disease attached one of them, but also exposed to disease of the chest and lungs without infection. This state of many of the private schools ought to be represented strongly to the Societies when the particular schools are in connexion with them.

Monaghan 21 Sept. 1824.

In absence of the rector and Curate, saw Mr. Blakely the Presbyterian minister and ~~the~~ visited the Parish School - the Hibernian School - Mr Jackson's private Schools, founded and entirely supported by him, apparently on an excellent and liberal principle - also a day school, taught by a R. C. master - and the adult School of the jail.

Saw Edmonds one of the Inspectors from the London Hibernian Society - and another inspector also here from the Society making occasional and periodical visits to the Schools. Edmonds reports that since his last (quarterly) inspection, the schools which he has visited have rather decreased in their number - which he considers to have been caused by the opposition of the priests - he cannot otherwise account for it - no alteration has taken place in the plan of teaching so far as he knows.

His report does not apply to the parish & neighbourhood, where the Hib. schools appear to be rather increasing.

There is no readers employed in the district inspected by Edmonds.

Note. The Cath. clergy are particularly jealous of the Hibernian schools, in consequence of their free use of the Scripture - and their teachers understanding that explanation is to a certain degree not forbidden to them.

The Kild. Strict Society on the other hand is in some degree obnoxious to the Prot. clergy, who wish to introduce a more free use of the Scripture in these respects.

Monaghan. A Mendicity Society has been established here for 7 or 8 years - and attended with success - The children of the paupers uniformly attend

the free school – This is made a condition of their parents receiving the relief – at least they so understand it.

There are four Hibernian schools in this parish. Their cheapness is a great inducement to the poor. The country people sometimes assist in the building of school house – Considerable sums have been given for these purposes from the Lord Lieutenants fund – and farther aid is expected from that quarter for some new schools –

Large subscriptions are also raised in the town of Monaghan for these purposes.

The proportion of Protestant children who attend schools, including Presbyterians is greater than Cath. compared with the population – The Cath. are estimated at fully one half of the population of parish.

When intermarriages take place it has been commonly found that the children receive no education or little – from the disputes between the parents. If the mother is a Ch. C. the child commonly goes to mass.

There are no Catholic children in the parish school – Connection with the Association for discounting will prevent it – being understood to be an exclusive system – as the teacher must be a Protest. of church of &c and their books anticatholic.

No attempts at proselytism are believed to have been made in this parish and no changes of religion known of late. The children are very equally divided in the several schools.

(These particulars on information of Rev. Mr. Blackly)

N. The diocesan school at Monaghan, a union for 3 dioceses is at present kept in private house Mr. Mooney's – A school house is building on a large scale. Mr. Mooney not found at home. At present only about a dozen pupils.

22nd September

Visited schools at Clones - the Parish school - Mrs Thopen female school - Catholic day school ~~&~~ & Irvines day school - See Notes.

Same day - visited the Hibernian free school at Lisnaskea - This School has declined -
Note - A large School has been lately erected in the neighbourhood by M. Balfour (now E. of Learnis estate) and M. Foster - On a liberal scale. buildings to cost £500 - land given free & a sum for part of endowment - Placed under Kildare Street Society. master trained there - a female department is to be provided. and schoolmistress is to be received for training at Kildare model. - Intended to number from 200 to 300 children.
These particulars learnt from M. Balfour's agent, M. Greirson, or

Grayson who happened to be at Lisnaskea - The school hours were over - & it was too late in the evening to view the buildings.
N. M. Grayson resides in Dublin
Another school is proposed to be built in the interior on the same estate - to cost £100 - on the same plan of connexion with K.S.
Same day - Called on the road to Enniskillen, at the Hibernian School at Killorover - newly erected - But school house was shut up - and the master had gone home with the children - This is the practise in this and probably other schools on that establishment -

Besides the Schools at Clones now subsisting, M. Taylor the curate there stated that some time ago a Hibernian school on a large scale was taught by a R. Cath. master - average 130 scholars. But about 3 years ago the parents withdrew nearly the whole of the children - This was thro' intervention of the priest who it is believed had received orders to that effect from his superior - Not the priest now in the parish. The school was in consequen

broke up - and is discontinued
M. T. thinks that the Hib.^n Soc. Schools are rather declining in this district. -
He conceives also that many of the R. C. children are not receiving education anywhere
A Kildare Street school is about to be erected in the parish at Gordinsbury
M. T. has built one adjoining to his own residence and connected it with Kild. Street. - Some jealousy still continues as to the system of this Soc^y arising he thinks from their ~~syst~~ plan and regulations not being fully understood. Consider it an advantage from that Society that the schools are provided with books, slates and other requisites which otherwise are very inadequately supplied in private day schools and Hibern. schools.
There are 3 divisions of Clones parish & 3 churches. -
The Catholic day & Sunday school were only opened in March or April last
N B - This R. C. school adjoining chapel at Clones is specimen of the

very worst appointed school. No stair to school - scramble up a broken wall, from its height above road - Room not ventilated - No benches or seats or tables - only walls & floor - No books or slates or requisites

Enniskillen. 23^d Sept^r.
In absence of M. Robinson the rector, saw his curate for this district of parish - and M. Stevenson Presb. min. and M. Whittaker Chaplain to jail &.
Concurred generally in statement that the schools at Enniskillen & district around are on a low scale, that the Parish school taught now by a very old man, and the Hibernian day school, have greatly declined - That there is a want of sufficient establishments, particularly

in the country parish - from want of funds more than of inclination on the part of the people - that many of the R.C. children are not receiving education in any shape -
M. Johnston stated that the R.C. have been considerably increasing in numbers - improvident marriages and in case of intermarriages the children are commonly educated R.C. - M. Whittaker has paid considerable attention to the schools generally & visits some of them regularly - he considers that the Liberty schools in this district are not very well conducted - that the teachers are not very capable - and that the Society's Inspectors have not been very particular or minute in their examinations [a strong example of which I found accidentally in the course of visiting them this day]
He stated that the Prot. peasantry in the country have in several instances associated to set a small school on foot by subscriptions - & giving the

use of their houses to teachers - and knows an instance in which they have carried on a Sunday school entirely among themselves - teaching in turn - The people in general are anxious to procure education - but in this part of the parish there are not many resident gentry to assist or direct. M. Robinson (the rector) intends to establish a school near his residence and has applied to the ~~Kild. Stud Soc~~ Lord Lieut. for aid from that fund - £6. was contributed from the peasantry in neighbourhood towards this school - and £10. was rated on the parish by a vestry - Application has also been made to the Kild. Stud Soc. for assistance to a school in the country which is hardly supported at present by subscriptions from the peasantry
More of the Catholics now emigrate than formerly - but chiefly Presbyterian
The Curate mentioned instances where the parish priest having cured persons by use of specifics (which were considered miraculous cures) has enjoined the persons (being Prot.) to join the Cath. church and which they

have complied with. [He is supposed to have a specific for epilepsy]

Mr. Stevenson, Presbyt: min^r is of same opinion as to encroach of R. Cath. His own Congregations only about 80 families — He does not interfere with his people by recommending one school in preference to another leaving it to themselves. Teaches the children in their Catechism (those of his own meeting house)

Concurs in thinking the scale of teaching to be low in this district.

There are no schools exclusively Catholic — but many of the day schools are taught by R. C. masters. None of the schools in the town are connected with any of the Societies — except Sunday Schools with the S. School Soc^y —

Same day visited the Ennis Miller parish school (as formerly held to be) — Day school in Castle Lane, male & female by Armstrong & his wife. (a very well conducted small school) Brogdens (R. C.) day school — and Ennis Mr. Jail, School for the prisoners —

The jail built about 10 years ago. Not well constructed — does not admit of easy inspection by Govr. The classification imperfect. School department is good — but work is not provided — and what is done is indiscriminate among the different prisoners — Two lunatics were in jail committed by magistrates — No solitary place for confinement —

Note — I have not yet met with any school taught by R. Cath. where the girls are instructed in sewing or other work. —

A marked difference between this part of Fermanagh & most of northern districts of Ulster. People well clothed, rude & violent — More superstition according to report of the clergy — Several instances of persons going round inoculating with the natural small pox — tale taken up by magistrates — Credit given to print for miraculous cures.

Le

A pitty riot on the Street of Ennis Millen this afternoon – in which the one of the Police was committed by the other Constables as the aggressor –

One great feature of Catholic schools is the miserable stock of books – children bring whatever they can find. Another feature is the good & regular attendance – in these schools which are taught gratis – This however is chiefly in the case of very young children. Sometimes 90 or 95 are found in a school consisting of 100 – or ~~110~~ 110. – Another feature is the bad accomodation of school rooms, want of ventilation – General case of the poor schools – whatever be their denomination but more remarkable where supported by R. C. funds

Irish character: cannot be ~~ob~~ caricatured – they go beyond genius of satirical dist –

Ennis Millen 24th Sept. 1824 –

Visited Portora house and said Rev. Dr. O Bierne –
He stated the peculiar difficulty in establishing schools for the poor on the estate of the Foundation which is now vested in the Board of Education – They are now in fact the landlords or equivalent to them. No leases on the estate (which are worth in all or calculated at £3000 per ann. –) and lands are very much subdivided so that the occupants cannot afford any contribution – Dr. O. Bierne concurs that schools dispersed over the property on the Kild. Street plan would be useful but cannot afford the proportion in aid of this or to build houses. In one case raised £2. for the peasants – but no more could be obtained. and in 3 or 4 schools teaching as they best can on the Kild. St. plan, they are at a

very great disadvantage, from want of accomodation. ~~Rather~~ He has applied to the Society - but tho' they are very liberal, and have offered abundant aid for building he advantage cannot be taken of it from want of funds to cooperate according to their regulation.

[Dr. O. B. is probably doubtful how far, in his circumstances & connexion with the Board of Edwn. he ought to apply to them or take any other means. But it is evident that owing to the situation of his estate, there is a great need of means - and an evident call for exertion somewhere. The Board are the landlords - the Master of the school is the Incumbent - and the poor ... estate are uneducated & helpless. Q. What are the actual rents of the estate - Who draws them & to what ends are they applied? &c.]

The original object of a free school, totally superseded and education more defeated than if no endowment had existed.

Dr. O. Biern conceives that the Hibernian Society ~~are~~ is calculated to do much good - and has done much. He agrees that the best system is when their exertions & the aid of Kild. Street can both be applied. One to establish & furnish & the other to carry on the schools - This is evident.

He states that the Hib. Soc. have an advantage by being not native but foreign - and on that account less suspected and less obnoxious to resistance from party feeling - [This opinion seems peculiar - tho' plausible - only one ground of opposition in this view instead of two, from the Pr. Cath. clergy & their people]

He also states that the great rise & heat of party in this district has been the growth of a few years lately - He agrees that

the schools and general state of education in this part of Fermanagh are on a low scale. & that much ignorance & superstition, and great ~~ap~~ apathy as to education and knowledge prevail among the people

Same day - Visited the Kildare Street School ~~bu~~ established by Mr Balfour and Major Leslie, near Lisnaskea on large scale - See Memor. book - Kild. Street regulations seem to be strictly observed

Cavan 25th. Sept. Sat. 3.

The schools, as far as could be ascertained are here on a low scale chiefly private Cath. schools. The chief one by Mr Caffray but was holiday - (fair day at Cavan). -

Visited the jail and examined the adult school establishment there for the prisoners - very well conducted and taught by Turner who has allowance from County. Books supplied R. - Prisoners almost entirely R. Cath. attendance on the different wards large and said to be regular. Read the Testament. Ten Convicts, out of 11 lately sent off, were taught in the jail to read & some to write - No interference from the R. C. priests -

Mr. Spaight the Curate was absent. Two Presbyt. ministers formerly in Cavan but have left it. They superintended a school connected with their congregation, but it is now given up -

Had Conversation with Dr. Farnham He stated that there is great want of schools in the parish and district - The

R. Cath. clergy adverse to schools where Scriptures read.
D. F. is erecting schools on his own estates - on a large scale - now building 4 school houses - Dimensions of houses 40 feet by 17 or 18 to include residence for the teachers to cost £400 each - ~~Three~~ Three more intended - ~~[illegible]~~.

N. The Foundation School at Cavan (Prov. M. Moore) has declined - Not more now than one or two pupils besides his family -

Kells 26 Sept.

Interview with Archdeacon De Lacy - R. Cath. priests do not interfere with schools in Kells - satisfied that no attempt to proselytize - Point in the Country parts of the Archdeacy parishes M. Tisdell's school was some time ago reduced nearly broken up by interference of a priest Branigan - R. C. children are beginning to return again to that school.
M. Napper of Oldcastle proposes a large establishment on his estate.

Navan 27th Sept.

Visited some of the private schools at Navan - chiefly taught by R. Cath. No considerable school by Prot. teacher in the town.
P. P. stated it as the opinion of Dr. Plunkett

the titular Bishop, and the principle on which he would act that the Catholic children ought not to attend a School where the Scriptures were read
See Mem. book

Same day returned to Dublin -

Memorand of Route

through some parts of
Leinster - Munster

Sept. & October
1824

Left Dublin 29th Sept.
30th Ovoka - Visited some of the Schools in the parish of Rathdrum with Mr. Currie, among others a small endowed school at Ballinacor - 3 miles from Ovoka. Endowed by late Mr. Kemmiss seems much neglected - and without superintendence. Taught by a R. Cath. See Returns by clergyman - and enquire farther as to the amount

and investment of the fund - & application of them -. And the same with respect to the small endowed school of Carysford also in the parish of Rathdrum - as to which see likewise the returns of the Clergyman - See note 2d Oct.

The Priest of Rathdrum is old & inefficient - He did not visit the schools - and in some instances his curate desired the schoolmasters to go to the priest - with information in answer to the queries -

Visited some hedge schools on the road. In one, two children only attended this day -

1 October - Visited day schools at Newbridge (Castle Mr. Adam) ~~[illegible]~~ male and females - on Kild. Place establishment

the school for boys below is cold - damp floors and no fund for providing fire. These schools communicate with the R. C. chapel forming part of the building - and the boys schoolroom has folding door into chapel and is used as part of the chapel on Sundays. Said by the master to have been built by aid of Lord Lieut.ts fund - but quere if not by grant from Kildare Street? the school continues in connexion with the Society.

Visited also Lady Wicklow's school at Kilbride - for 50 girls - educated entirely at her ladyship's expense - seems an excellent & well conducted establishment in all respects - [The books used were shown to Mr Doyle the P.P. and not objected to by him - among others, Prof. Tortamits and Mrs Trimmers Abridgements

Visited also the Arklow male and female schools - on the Kildare Pl. establishment - Connected also with the Erasmus Smith's fund - These schools likewise appear well arranged & conducted in all respects agreeable to the rules

Same day visited the Protestant Charter house at Arklow - See Notes at end of Memorn Book of this date - This house is at present used chiefly for the reception of children of the Charter schools, who are in want of medical aid - and sea bathing - They are at the same time receiving the usual education of female charter schools - The mistress was not at home. The Whiness was educated in Kevin Street - seems well qualified The appearance of the girls (at present 30 in number) was favourable in respect to cleanliness and order - It is to be noticed that some of the young women sent to this house have been in service (apprenticed out from the charter schools) and obliged from state of health to leave their situations - taken back on application to the agent in Dublin & sent here for their health - [This appears an objectionable system - to bring the young women who have been in employment, among the younger children -]

The situation in which the Arklow school had been formerly held (in the country, upon a farm held at a low rent from the E. of Carysford) was given up about 12 years ago by the Trustees - This house in Arklow was taken on lease by the person Mrs Collen) who had been placed in the former, and the trustees, on that account as stabilly her sister, agreed to place her so far on the establishment again as to assist her in the rent, and give her the usual allowance per head for the invalid children sent to her care -

The house is inconvenient - ill situated in the street of Arklow - & has not sufficient accomodation -

N. B. No Hibernian schools in this neighbourhood

2nd Oct.

Visited the Carysfort endowed school (said to be endowed as free school by Qu. Anne but qu. as to date) at Shi-anna in Rathdrum parish. Accom-panied by Revd. Mr. Currie.

Lands stated to produce present rent of about £100. notice given to pend tenants to quit, which they conceded.

The School house is a poor hut of rough stone, thatched roof, without accommodation or any proper requisite. No supply of books. Master receives £20 from agent of Education Board under whose management it is now. Formerly under master (Revd. Mr. Bayley) who was tacksman and had usher in the school.

This institution and the manage-ment of it requires to be investigated. Funds must have accumulated. Application is said to have been made to Lord Lewis for a grant to build house which would evidently be a misapplication of public fund.]

School appears to have been free, even under the present master down to 1821 when he began to charge fees with concur-rence of Mr. Cochrane agent for the Board. Now a considerable proportion of the ~~sho~~ scholars pay. [The people of the hamlet represented this to be a hardship and though they allowed that small fees had been paid for a longer time than stated by the master, averred that at an earlier period it was held to be a free school.]

3d October. Again visited Rathdrum. (Sunday) Found a large Sunday school under direction of the Revd. Mr. Currie. Curate of Rathdrum. Present 115 boys, 92 girls. divided into classes & taught by ladies & others of the place. Seemed very well conducted and some of the children far advanced. Held in the ~~[illegible]~~ Hall a large building.

F. Hansel.

This school meets from 9 to 1/4 before 12. At the same hour found in another part of the Hall, where the R. C. chapel is held, a few Cath. girls about 10 or 12, with an eldergirl attending & reading the Catechism. Returned afterwards at 2 o'clock and found the R. C. children at their usual catechising lesson. Mr Crooke the R. C. curate prevented. number of children 38 boys 36 girls - they had assistants, being elder boys & Sweeny the teacher, & reading the catechism to them - not explaining it - nor allowing the children to repeat it - but reading over questions and answers both to the children in most cases - This appears the common plan of teaching the Catech. Found that the largest proportion of the children at this chapel school could not read and do not attend any other school. Most of them of the poorest class - dirty and in rags

Examined the R. C. curate, Mr

Crooke, as to the nature of the returns made and his enquiries into the school, and found that the Prent Cavanagh is old & infirm - confined to his house - That he has two curates, Crooke and Collen - that the latter was from home when the returns were made - that Crooke visited some of the schools only - viz. ayending to his account those at Shianna - two at Anghrim - and Clara chapel school - and did not visit the others - in particular did not visit that taught by Sweeny R. C. in Rathdrum but that he desired the teacher to go to father Cavanagh and make their own reports to him - That he did not report the Sunday school taught by Mr Coyrie, or the chapel S. catechetical school. That he did not take any means to find out or ascertain what schools existed in the parish but only returned those which he happened to know of previously - He did not return private schools - He considers a school which has few scholars to be a private school and one which has a greater number to be a public one

4th October -

Visited Nolan's (R. C.) day school at Gorey - Also the Parish school Gorey kept in the Market House in connexion with Society for Discounty &c. According to his state there are large Sunday schools at this place well attended both Prot. and Cath. Between 300 & 400 children attend the latter for catechism. This confirmed by statement of the elder Catholic children in his school who stated also that the priest collects the children at the altar on Sunday evening after prayer and reads to them & instructs them in the catechism -

Visited same day, the parish school of Clough on the road to Ferns under direction of the clergyman Mr Moore - and occasionally regulated by the Bishop - The system of Bell is followed and the Central school books are used - Some of the R. C. children have been & withdrawn

within these last 4 months - by direction of the priest.

A small female school transferred from an outhouse or office in the neighbourhood, was opened in the parish school this day. Allowed that is, to sit in one end of the room - Mr Moore is desirous of enlarging the female school and having a separate room for them. (Mr Moore was from home) -

A school is conducted in the neighbourhood of Gorey (opposite direction and which I could not accomplish inspecting,) on the united plans of the Kildare Street and the Hibernian Society -

Newton Barry - October 5.

Visited, with Mr Stevens the Curate, and Mr Walsh the priest, Nolan's day school. R.C. another of those airless & dark receptacles where the air is exhausted and loaded with hot vapour - He stated that he had 2 boys who paid £1.1. per quarter for Bookkeeping &c. On enquiry, they proved to be his own sons.

Also the School on Erasmus Smith's foundation assisted by Dr. Farnham - Boys & girls ought to be separately classed. as there are 2 rooms - & a female teacher to instruct girls in work - 1 Cath. only here a child.

Also the Chapel school taught in the chapel by the Cath. master: Priest stated that he wished to establish a school & build a house. But quere as to fund &c. N.B. - The Engl. Curate, though his opinion as to Scriptural education seem decided, and the Priest who directly objects in principle to any use of the Scripture in school, are personally on a good footing. and accompanied me together to the several schools. Priest would withdraw the children if schools of their own were provided for the reception of their children.

[The Priest Mr Walsh described the Convent school at Clonegal as a small establishment of 4 Sisters - who also teach some children during day mostly young children. reading and working - I had not time to go to Clonegal -

He Mr Walsh, also stated that he had not made a return of the Sunday schools belonging to the Chapel - He stated some circumstances of Mr. Stephens reported interference with the Cath. children in the school - which Mr. S. expressly denied - allowed that he had made a remark to the schoolmaster on the language of the Donay Testament but not in presence of the scholars.]

6th October. Ferns

A very neat and well ordered female school established by the ladies of the Bishops family. - Taught to work as well as reading &c. The superintendent a young female appeared well qualified & instructed. - Books &c. from the Society for disc. vice.

The Bishop of F. does not allow any but the Church Catech. to be taught in the schools under his immediate direction - but strictly prohibits it to be taught till the R.C. children have been dismissed from the school house.

N.B. The observation as to his advantage of marking the absents on the roll not the presents - Easier - & not liable to abuse.

Same day. Visited the Parish School at Enniscorthy - supported at least in part by Mr Radcliff the clergyman - and the Chapel School at the same place. The latter a large & well appointed school for boys & girls generally, with male & female teachers - and conducted on the Lancasterian plan. The boys school is well conducted and the discipline appears good - These schools (at the Market Place and Chapel respectively) are conducted on an excluding principle so far that in the Chapel School, the R.C. books & catechism & Presentation Lessons are used - in the other the Bible & Testaments. There is no mixture of the diff. religions in these - Both schools are taught free. The Pro. chiefly by aid from Lt. Pordonnet trustees & The Cath. by subscription - to the amount of about £150 yearly for the Cath. inhabitants of Enniscorthy.

Was accompanied by Mr. Radcliff the clergyman - Dr. Keating the R.C. Bishop of Ferns was from home to whom I sent my card

[Bishop of Ferns observed justly that in marking the roll of attendance, usually done by pricking down those who attend, an error may arise when there is an interest in having a full attendance, by afterwards adding to the number - But that in pricking down the absentees which cannot be erased, there is more safety]

Wexford 7th October

Visited, with the rector & his curate (Mr. Strong & Mr Newland) the Diocesan school, Mr Brehan - partly supported by Bishop of Ferns and his clergy, & partly by other grants - The master gives scriptural instruction - one of his ushers is a Rm. Catho and he has 2 R.C. pupils - Had formerly moan till the R.C. Lancasterian school was opened. N. B. Mr. Brehan's wife is a Roman Catholic - He teaches the church catechism but not to the R.C. present. Prayers are read morning & evening & 2 chapters from Bible.

Appearance of the scholars & their assistant teachers is respectable. & the establishment appears respectable. though the school room & eating room require repairs -

Visited also the parochial full school under superintendence of the rector & clergy & committee of subscribers - an excellent house - with respectable male & female teachers and seems regularly & well conducted - but the system is in its nature exclusively protestant - though open to all who will conform to the system - Explanation of the Scripture forms a prominent part of the instruction - The children are annually examined on scripture for premiums given by the Soc. for discounts viz.

Visited same day 2 small R.C. day schools - both on the worst plan for accomodation - want of books & other requisites. Found Tom Jones in one which continued in the school & read tho' the curate had some weeks ago observed upon & interdicted it. A political pamphlet & other objectionable works in the same school - See Notes -

Wexford 8th October –

Visited the Re-Cath. Lancastrian school – large and well appointed establishment – 2 rooms – for boys Nunnery School at Chapel – on same plan & establishment of funds for females – taught by sisters of the Presentation – Well arranged and well conducted schools – exclusively Catholic – –

Also the Cath. College a large house & establishment for classical education – preparatory to Maynooth and Dublin Colleges [Bud on enquiring how many had gone to Dublin (Trinity) college the master stated that one only had gone and he was a Protestant]

The Bishop (Dr. Keating) is considered the head and has the controul & the College can dismiss the masters &c – The resident masters are Mr Murphy head – Mr Symmons – chief

[illegible] and assistants under him. No course of philosophy, logic or moral, is taught, & no theology – but preparation in all other respects for Maynooth – The scholars partly resident ~~on the foundation~~ as pensioners, partly day scholars, indiscriminately classed, appear well grounded – one class, examined on Tacitus, showed very sufficient instruction and full acquaintance with the author – translated easily and correctly – Long cross examination acquitted themselves well [The Scottish pronunciation of the i is given – Lin some cases of the a]

The house is not in very good repair as to finishing – it was built by Dr. Myan and chiefly at his cost. It is entirely supported by the pensions (fees of scholars) They have, according to the wishes of the parents, in addition to usual course, masters in drawing, dancing, music and modern languages – A number of intelligent well dressed & well looking youths

The dormitories are superintended by the master, head usher and assistants. [N. B. The largest, a long gallery was adorned with emblematical figures and mottoes and the master Symnot stated that the room had been lent to the subscribers for a dinner which was given to Councillor O'Connell when at Wexford. The emblems (such as a thousand welcomes and other scrolls) were still suspended on the walls and in view of the scholars. It is to be observed that the dinner was given in time of vacation. That none of the scholars were present & the usher stated that it would not otherwise have been lent.]

There is a library commenced in a room of the College - not open, as master stated to the pupils - which appeared to contain chiefly theological works - but said to be intended for mis Manners

Among the books used in classes is "Cobbett's English Grammar". This was stated voluntarily by Mr Symnot - not having been observed in the room. [M. S. appears candid - as well as shrewd & able]

The scholars in the large room were ranged along the walls on benches & with tables - leaving a large open space in the center ob=long for superintendence and walks of master & usher.

N. B. Mr. Symnot the usher who seems a man of talent and good scholar, was educated in the Protestant (diocesan) school.

Visited also same day a small day school taught by Mrs Winter a Prot.t for girls - a very respectable small establishment - a few Th. C. children attend, notwithstanding the scriptural instruction given - including the old testament. The children attend a Methodist Sunday school - They also attend the Sunday school examinations of the establishment

church - The school was neat & orderly - her brother is a lieutenant in the revenue service -

Visited also a small evening school for girls, for writing & arithmetic - taught by Reilly. respectably children few in number - He keeps a day school also in the same place, a miserable garrett entered by a steep & dangerous trap stair - with little light or air - His day school consisting of about 60 - The scholars are equally Prot. and Rc Cath. & he teaches both Catechisms. I have had no interference or objection made -

It appears from a printed report of the Wexford Lancaster on School that a considerable number of Protestant subscribers contributed last year to these schools -

New Ross - 9th October -

Saturday - The schools dismissed - Visited the school house & establishment of the N. Rc endowed school - which has fallen into disrepair & apparent disrepute from diminution of numbers. An ancient endowment by the Corporation but neglected by the Trustees - Four scholars free on the endowment to be taught Greek & Latin. The rest are chiefly day scholars - formerly at 8 gs. now 6 gs. yearly -

The present master states that he has ~~had~~ expended a large sum on the house & premises — and that he received a loan of £275 from Government — to be replaced by him & his successors at rate of 10 per cent yearly till repaid. Part of the house is at present in a ruinous & very dangerous state. The trustees appear to be unfavourable to this master Mr Surridge & have withdrawn from him those boys over whom they have individually a controul. He states (and in this is confirmed by Mr. ~~Carr~~ Carr, one of the managers of the Vild. Place school in the town & formerly master of this endowed school that a piece of ground which belonged to the school and was always reputed such, was taken possession of by the agent for Lord Anglesea and has been retained by the proprietors of that estate [this was in the time of a former Lord &c.]

The state of this endowed school requires to be investigated.
Mr. Surridge has testimonies from various men of eminence in the E. & Irish Church — was recommended by the present B.P. of Ferns when Prov. of Trin. Coll. — Some of his pupils have according to his statement received great distinction at Trin. Coll. — four of the 60 fellowships having been carried by them

Same day visited the School rooms and examined the Master and Mistress of the large school built & superintended by a Society in N. Mass of various contributors calling themselves the Friends of Education (many of them are stated to be Dissenters of different denominations a quaker Mr. Hely takes a chief direction) —
This is a large and important school and is stated by the master and by one of the visiting committee who attended as having been conducted on its present

principle (the same in substance with that of Kildare Place) without deviation since its institution in 1798. Built by subscription soon after the rebellion and had greatly encreased - but with some fluctuations at different times - and is now less numerously attended and in less repute than it was some years ago - This is ascribed by the master to the interference of the Rc Cath. clergy - and on examining the rolls since the year 1815, it appears that the number of Rc C. children has very greatly decreased. It may also be accounted for partly by the circumstance of a chapel school upon a large plan having been founded lately, instead of the Cath. children being left to the small day schools dispersed in town. It is however rather ascribed by one of the visiting Committee Mr Carr to the circumstance that one of the former masters was very ill qualified for the situation, & in

whose time the school greatly declined and also to the superior ability of the present teacher in the chapel school - He farther noticed a circumstance which occurred about 6 or 8 months ago - that the present master used to carry the Prot.t children every Friday, during school hours out of the school to church to be examined in their catechism (by the ~~ele~~ orders of the clergy mass late curate) when he the master accompanied them, & left the Cath. children in the school room in the charge of one of the elder boys - which practise when discovered was condemned by the Committee and forbidden -

This School appears to be in a peculiar situation by having aid both from the Kild. Street Society and the Association for discountenancing Vice. which latter Soc.s have voted £15 to the fund of this school for many years - [It is to be considered whether

a school can be in connexion with both these associations without committing a fraud upon one of them — as the Kilo. regulations require that no catechism shall be taught — and the Assoc. for Disc. bcc requires it is believed that the Pro. catechism shall be taught.] The master was also assistant clerk to the church for many years & received a salary as such.

This institution requires to be farther investigated. The master on examination allowed the above facts.

10th Oct. New Mass.

Conference with the R. C. clergyme M. Chapman — and M. Brennan (V. R. M. Doyle being sick.) They stated their unqualified opinion and resolution that no system of education which embraced the reading of the scriptures without

comment would ever be acceded to or acted upon by them or R. C. Schools on principles. Both objections i.e. using it as a class book — and using it as for instruction without note & explanation. Anxious also to state their opinion that the R. C. hierarchy could control the system — that no aid from Govt. would be received or any system prove effectual which was not approved by the priesthood — who have sufficient influence to render it effectual or otherwise, as guardians of their spiritual interests. — M. Chapman, chaplain to the Nunnery of M. Carmel N. Mass stated that he had been educated in a protestant seminary — that he had hereby kept a school at which many protestants were taught. that the opposition & difficulty and danger did not apply to schools of a higher order — but to those for the education of the poor — who are subject to influence from interested & pecuniary motives — They concurred in stating that they could have no confidence in the conduct of any of

the public societies - considering them all of a proselytising tendency and not to be confided in. The Wildan Plan equally with the others - because they required the use of the Scriptures. Farther that, however poor they are, they are resolved rather to give up the advantage of any aid than to have the least degree of interference with their plan of education by any other body.

It is to be observed that their Free school, which is an extension & important one is conducted on the funds created by private subscriptions from a large body of R. Cath. in N. Ross and governed by a Committee of 18 - That their means are limited. The whole scholars being taught gratis, and that from the great difficulty experienced on this account, they have lately accepted a grant of £40 from the Wild.

Street Society, and some aid in books & requisites. But there is great room to question, & the priest Mr Brennan himself admitted, that deviations of some extent have been allowed from the regulations of that Society which must be unknown to them. The Soc. It was admitted 1. that the Catechism of their church has been and still is taught, though not in the school room, yet at school hours, being carried into the adjoining chapel at 1 o'clock - and that it is also repeated as a task in the morning classes - or was so very lately. [though it is said that orders have been now given to discontinue this.] 2. It is admitted that the Scriptures are read in the following manner only. A few of the children are made to read a verse occasionally - a few verses in all, and these only the verses which have been explained in the chapel previously by the priest. [In this way, the rule

of the Wild-Str. Sc. is literally observed, as to reading some part of scripture without note, but the comment has been already given by the priest, which also saves their system. The teaching of the catechism not in school but in chapel as part homework of the school task, is of the same mind. The practice in both cases evidently jesuitical]

The R. C. priests concurred with the established clergy in bearing testimony to the good conduct of the master of the Charter School in this neighbourhood and apparently regular management of the school.

Stated by Chapman & Brennan P.P. N. Ross that a bequest and endowment in perpetuity for the support of a R. C. chapel or other purpose exclusively R. C. is not good in law being still liable to the operation of penal statutes. This it is presumed must be error. Rev. Cath. clergy are not a corporate body, but such bequest would probably be effectually made if vested in trustees or any body known in ~~one~~ law, for whatever Cath. object & purpose not forbidden directly by law.

New Ross - 11th October. Visited the R. C. Free School, Lancastrian, at the chapel attended by Catholic Curates and Committee of Superintendants and examined the Schoolmaster and inspected the books & registers. Found a very large school attendance, according to the registers for several months past, from 160 to 190. Names on the roll above 300. Found the teacher contrasted in his management

by the visiting Committee & the Priest. His registers of attendance are very inaccurately kept. He calls no roll — and does not mark the names of the presents or absents, but only round numbers of both which do not admit of being checked. Could not swear as to the fact of a particular boys presence or absence on any day. The school has been in part repaired by a grant from the Kild. Pl. Soc. and received a supply of slaty books & requisites and a lending library. But the class lists have not been used — nor the copies for writing — nor the Scripture lessons — nor the reading books — nor lending library. These are all kept in the boxes in which they were sent & have been so since Febry. last. Only the Spelling books and Tables for Lessons have been used. The only Testaments in the School are 12 Douay's sent by Mr La Touche. A few verses of these are read by some boys of the 8th or highest class — being the verses which were read & explained on the preceding Sunday in the Chapel by the priest. & which

he the priest gives notice to the master. The latter is prohibited by the priest from allowing any other parts of Scripture to be read. The Curate Mr Brennan stated that this was done in order to comply with the rule of the Kild. Pl. Soc. Other members of the Committee stated that the applications to Kild. Pl. had not been made by them — but by Mr Carr, an individual in the town — who is not one of the Committee — [Mr Carr was formerly Curate of Nr. Ross but is now a Dissenter] They allowed however that the grant both of £40 for flooring the room, and of books, had actually come from the Soc.ty and an entry by Mr Mile one of its Inspectors appears in the Books in Augt. 1823 stating that such a grant would be recommended & the terms on which it was received. A letter from the agent dated 2d Oct. 1824 was also produced stating that £10 farther would be granted but (this was also on Mr Carr's application) but would not be paid till after Inspector had visited.

[It is evident from the concession of the Priests & the management pursued, that the want of funds has reluctantly induced them to accept the aid of the Soc's but that they do not affect to comply bonafide with its conditions.]

Same day. Visited the Charter School and establishment in the neighbourhood of N. Ross. This is apparently a well conducted establishment. Has at present ~~88 b~~ 88 boys. part of them sent lately from the Foundling Hospital [This is matter for consideration as managed. See the Notes] The master and Mistress seem well qualified. and the boys in good health and condition. The dormitories are too small for the numbers. & the beds too crowded. A large garden is attached. well cultivated and productive. This school is regularly visited by the present

curate, M. Jones, and other visiting Committee of neighbourhood, and a regular visitors book kept.

Same day. Revisited M. Surridge's classical endowed School and examined two of the classes. The Latin class engaged in reading Virgil was under instruction of two of the more advanced scholars but did not exhibit much proficiency. The School in general does not appear under an active or a regular system of training.

Same day. Visited again and examined minutely the Chapel Free School, attended by the Priests and most of the R. Cath. Committee. Found a very large attendance of boys. without sufficient room for training & discipline. and considerable confusion prevailing in consequence. The master was trained at Mild. Pl. The school has received grants of money & books from that Society and is considered in connexion with it. But it is not conducted on the plan of the Society in various respects. The class lists are not used. and ~~the atten~~ the mode of marking the attendance, &

very imperfect and irregular. The Scriptures are read only to the extent of a few verses as they are explained in the chapel on Sunday by the priest. The writing copies furnished by the Society have not been used. The greater part of the books sent by them are still in the boxes - and the lending library has not been unpacked. The only reason given is that there are not locked presses in the school room - and that the copy pieces and other requisites have not been fitted up. The supplies from Field. Pl. came in the month of Febry 1824 - A great number of the children attending this day were very small from 5 to 6 years

Mr. Brenan the R.C. Curate stated that the master acted under his positive order as to the reading of scripture - and is prohibited by him from reading any part whatever - but that which has been explained on the preceding Sunday in chapel. - The master stated that he only allowed those children to read the verses in the Sunday test. who have

been regular in their attendance on chapel morning & evening prayers - and other appointed times -

12th October. New Ross -

Revisited the Chapel Free School - Found a smaller attendance considerably than on the preceding day - but still a greater number than were properly accomodated with writing room and space for the proper discipline of the Lancasterian school -

Examined the Master farther as to the mode of instruction - The R.C. catechism is taught in the chapel, during the school hours, certain days in the week. The master carries the younger children from the school room to the chapel for this purpose - the older boys who have already learned the catechism remain at their lessons in the school room. This must be considered a deviation in principle & effect from the rules of Field. Pl.

Examined farther his books & register. The Daily Report Book, though sent in Febry last was only begun to be used in the month of August -

N. B. The master in reporting the number present this morning made an error (of excess) to the amount of 100 –

Same day – Visited the Protest. Free School at New Ross – supported by the N. Ross "a Friends of Education" a society of Subscribers, chiefly consisting of Dissenters –

This school is very well conducted and regularly attended to and visited by the subscribers and patrons. The Master appears very capable and the school in good order and discipline. The female department also made a good appearance but the mistress, a young woman seems to want authority and distinctness. She has received notice of admission to be trained in Kild. Pl. – The school is in connexion with that Soc^y and is also in connexion with the Associating for Discountenancing Vice – from which an annual sum has been received – and the master obtained a gratuity – This union with both these Societies seems unusual – and not very consistent – The Curate M. Jones is accordingly at a loss in what view to consider the school in his returns to the Associate. The Kild. Pl. regulations require that no catechism shall be taught in the school – The Assoc^n on the other hand require that the church Catech^n shall be taught – On examining the master as to this point, it appeared that at one time by direction of the late Curate the Prot. children were taken from school to the church during school hour on one day of the week to be taught the catechism – the Rom. children being left in the school room. The present plan is to teach the Prot. children once a week in the school room, at 3 o'clock, being immediately after school hour, when the R. C. & Dissenters children leave it.

N. B. It is difficult to say whether this is not in fact a deviation from, or at least a non compliance with the rules and conditions of both Societies. (There is a conflicting and exclusive

system at this place, both on the R. Cath. & Prot. parts - approaching to direct hostility - and an opposition in some respects among the different protestant members of the Committee as to the management of their schools.

The buildings and appointment of this Prot. Free school are upon an extended and liberal scale. The system of discipline and regulation of the Kild. Pl. Soc. is regularly and well observed. Their lending library is in use and the general appearance of the management very favourable. The Master and Mistress have dwelling houses at tacked to their respective school rooms. The only defect of the situation is the state of the ground in front of the school. It is built on a steep ascent, and the approach which is also rough, and unfinished is precipitous and dangerous for young children. Irish appears in court they always.

13th Oct. New Ross

Visited Mt. Carmel Nunnery Free School - in the neighbourhood of N. Ross - taught by Mrs Kavanagh & six other Carmelite Nuns. A considerable school on the same plan with other establishments of the R. Cath. orders. Two young women learning French & showed considerable proficiency.

14th October. Waterford

Visited the Blue-(Girls) school founded by the family of Mason. Superintended by Dr Alcock. The school mistress would not ~~no~~ furnish accurate information as ~~Exa~~ to the funds. Examined some of the girls. Their writing was very defective - and specimens

of reading indifferent. The old methods are followed & want of skill on the part of the teacher & assistant. [To be farther examined.

Same day - visited Mr Price's large schools (Re-Cath.) conducted by him and 12 others of Brotherhood, a very extensive and well managed establishment - 4 large rooms adjoining with dwelling house for the brethren. - 592 scholars all boys, found in the school - visit unexpected. The disciplines & state of the school exceedingly good - Monitors alert & well instructed - and the Brethren in attendance evidently possessing authority - without any harshness of manner - Some improvements adopted in the system of monitors duties & registers kept of the daily lessons & proficiency of each boy - See Memor. Book

Same day - visited the School of the Mendicity Association Waterford - See Memor. Bk.

Same day. visited St. John's College Waterford - (Re-Cath. Seminary classical & for priesthood - Mr. Abraham - Scholars dispersed for afternoon - but examined the establishment Library & enquired as to course of study - which is nearly the same as at Maynooth - See Notes -

15th October - Waterford.
Visited accompanied by the Bish. & Dean of Waterford the Blue Coat Boys free school - Grandstown. (Bish. Boys' chap.) and examined the accounts of income & expenditure - present establishment & house & premises. Ten boys have been admitted about a week ago - See separate memorandum of this date of the Master's examination & statements by Mr. Roberts the Treasurer

Same day - Visited the Protestant Orphan School - lately established -

Also the Newtown or Provincial Minister School - supported by the Society of Friends - a small farm attached with garden &c. On similar plan with Prospect School near Lisbourn -

~~Sat. October Waterford~~ Same day. - Visited accompanied by the ~~Bp of Wat.~~ Titular Bishop of Waterf. & Procurator the schools of the Presentation Nunnery at Waterford -

may

16th October - Visited (accompanied by the Bish. of Waterford) the Kild. Street School at House of Industry. Has been lessened by the interference of the R. C. curate.

[N. B. The L. Bish. & Dean & clergy have obtained a perpetual lease of ground & built a substantial house on a large scale for a parochial school in street sense as to manage mint. A grant of £150 obtained from the W. Lieutenant. The remainder of the cost of house (about £250) undertaken by the Bishop - Intended to be supported partly by the small fees from children & partly by subscriptions annually - This is to prevent interference of Bish. & have controul in the plan of education. The Kild. Street regulations objected to by the titular Bishop & his clergy.]

The new school house very substantial and well constructed. Not yet fitted up completely - but in rapid progress

Visited same day some private seminaries - where there is a mixture both in the young gentlemen & ladies schools of R. Cath. & Prot. The system goes on in these without obstruction. Scriptures read by the protest. If R. C. object it is not insisted on.

Visited also the Trinitarian R. C. Orphan establishment for boys & girls established in 1810 (30 boys & 30 girls. - Specimens of reading & writing by the boys very good. The girls engaged in cleaning the house (Saturday)

18th October - Visited the Killotran Charter School - 3 miles from Waterford. Found it in good order - Some of the boys were in the field at work - those in school engaged at lessons - and knitting stockings. Some lately sent from Santry - others from the Foundling hospital - Infection of Scald head has shewed itself and is spreading introduced by ~~son~~ one of the boys lately sent. Master & Mistress appear well qualified.

19th October - Visited at Lismore the Parish school as it is called supported partly by the Vicars choral - An ill appointed small school ~~boys & girls mixed~~ Specimens of reading very indifferent.

Also the Cork Hibernian School built & superintended by the D. of Devonshire - a large and very well appointed school with separate establishments for boys & girls - Seems very well conducted - N.B. It derives also aid from the Kildare Street Socy. - The Inspector from Kild. Pl. happened to be in the School (Mr Donellan) He considers the union of this with the Hibern. or any other association as injurious to the Kild. Str. by identifying them with the proselytising bodies - Mr D- is a R. Cath. He considers the Kild. Pl. to be a fair & conscientious body - Found their rules well adhered to in this School.

It is generally understood in this part of Ireland that the conductors of the late Hibernian Society meetings (the leaders of those) have distinctly avowed their desire and intention to proselytize.

Visited same day the endowed classical School at Lismore - of ancient foundation by the E. of Cork - now vested (thro' a Burlington) in the D. of Devonshire. Exterior of the building & premises good - with ample play ground & large school room lately built by the D. of Devonsh. But the school is declining - Could receive 40 boarders but tho' he had that number once the vacancies have not been filled up - and they have decreased to 13. Formerly taught as assistant at Fermoy & brought scholars with him - He assigned in this an cause for the difference (Lismore being a limited place) the state & management of the school may require to be examined particularly - the food of the boys is a material point in these schools.

N. B. The R. Cath. priest Foran at this place is a liberal & candid man. The Archdeacon and Vicars bore testimony to this effect. No outward animosity is apparent. Mr. Foran approves of the Scriptures being read partially that is select portions by the older children — though not used as a class book. Col. Currey, by his prudent & intelligent management, has acquired the full confidence of the Rom. Cath. as well as Pro. clergy of this place.

20th. Visited, with Col. Currey, the schools at Youghal — Illeterniga & Kildare — Roman Catholic Free School — 570 children on average. General Free School, very large established also — Endowed school of E. of Cork (now D. of Devonshire) a declining & ill conducted school. Master absent — usher incapable — & boys indiscipline & unfaithful. There as well as many other schools in this part of Ireland, have been thrown into disorder, and incumbing

of late.
The R. Cath. school & school house at Youghal are in the utmost state of distribution — from the ruinous state of their walls & roofs — which are in the greatest degree dangerous — the crowded condition of the rooms — want of books — number of children & precarious funds — The D. of Devonshire has been liberal to all of these schools but the funds are inadequate — the teachers are unequal to the duty — and the rooms are anxiously filled by the R. C. clergy — 2/3rd of the children in this school appeared to be under 8 years of age — above 500 pre sent.
Stated by the friends that 1100 R. C. children on an average at tended the Sunday & Moral catechetical examination on Sundays (1,100,—)
The state of the R. C. school room, was so dangerous

that I urged & directed an archi-
tect to be employed immediately to
ascertain this safety. —
A bay had fallen thro' a gap in
the 2d floor, a few days ago
and many of the rafters & planks
were rotten — as well as the walls
diverged from the lines — N. B.
The Cath. prints were rather
anxious to point out these dif-
ficulties & dangers — An applic-
ation was lately made to the
Lt. but the estimated gains in
was £700, or £800, The
print allowed that £400 would
build the houses & that £150
could be got for it by subscription

I was attended on this examined
by the church of England clergyman
R. C. print and 2 coadjutors.
Capt. White a patron — and
some of the ladies of the diff.
schools — as well as by Col. ~~White~~
Carey

Examined the Will of Mich. E. of Cork
The terms of which are for the support
of the free schools erected by him &
but without other specification or
condition —

22d October — Inspected the Lan-
casterian Subscription School at
Clogheen — with Dr Tuckey — The
Parish Priest M. Carey on Friday
last interdicted the use of the Scrip-
tures under pain of withdrawing the
children who are all Rm. Cath. The
teacher also is a Rm. Cath. This
M. Carey said was by express direc-
tion of his Bishop — The Douay
version was the only one used in
the school. and it had been read
with the knowledge of the priests
This interdiction he stated to have
been in consequence of the attempt
to persuade the people by the promoters
of the late public meetings —

23d. October – Clonmell

visited, with Mr Wall the rector, Mr Flannery PP & his curates (Baldwin and Brenan – intelligent young men) several of the schools in Clonmell. – among others the Convent free schools for boys & the Presentation Nunnery. Also the Orphan female free school from which 28 Cath. children were withdrawn on the 4th inst. and who are now at the Nunnery School. Also the endowed school taught by Dr. Bell (Col. Bagwell) – another of those designated Free schools by the deed of endowment and earlier appointments, but now entirely changed in their character – This school, the funds of which are considerable (at present £400 under leases to expire in 17 or 18 years) requires to be investigated. There is no free scholar now on the foundation.

See Notes –

The clergymen & preists are on a good footing here – Some of the private schools have been broken up other diminished by the interference of the preists within 3 weeks past under direction of the Cath. Bishop Dr Kelly –

24th. Attended the Sunday school examination at church – 126 children, boys & girls present – instructed by male & female teachers, under direction of Mr Wall the rector – Note. This school was only begun 6 weeks ago. The Methodists & another Dissenting congregation had previously taught Sunday schools at their respective meetings – They are now united in the church with the children of the establishment. The Dissenting children attending in common with those of the church. The scriptures are read and the children examined on them – and committ passages to memory – but no catechism is taught –

Note - The R. Cath. Curates at Clonmell stated that their objection to the schools was always the same & equally strong before as after the late meetings in the South of Ireland - and that it was their intention to have denounced and interdicted the schools wherever the Scriptures are read -

Dr. Wall confirmed this statement to me and particularly as to the Church Missionary Society stated that their late meeting was in pursuance of & agreeable to their usual proceeding - a similar meeting took place last year - The object of the Hibern. Soc. was to establish provincial or district Societies & depots - to save the time & expense of communication with London - as already established at Cork -

25th October -

Visited the parish School - Clonmell - a small & ill appointed school - Also the Clonmell Charitable female school supported chiefly by Quakers - The greater part of the children ~~from~~ at this school to the amount of nearly 100 were withdrawn in the beginning of this month - X

Visited same day, ~~the s~~ Mrs Strangman a Quaker lady near Clonmell - and Lady Osborne, on the road to T

Both of these schools have been closed - the former on the 27th September - the latter (Lady Osborne) on the 30th of August.

N. The meeting of the Hibernian Society at Cork took place on the 9th & 10th Sept. That at Clonmell on the 21st & 22nd Sept. The visit of Mr Noel & Capt. G. to Lady O. which preceded the Clonmell meeting was subsequent to the breaking up of her L.ps school -

X Lamentable ~~proof~~ ~~[illegible]~~ proof & [illegible] of [illegible] Domination

Kilkenny. 26 October –

Visited, with Revd. Mr. Roe (the Bishop & Dean of Ossory both from home) the parochial Free School for the united parishes – superintended by as well as supported by the clergymen; ~~[illegible]~~ a very well appointed and well conducted school – for boys & girls. the books kept on an accurate & regular principle & a daily inspection exercised –.

Visited also with Mr. Murphy one of the R. Cath. Curates, the Cath. Free School, supported by subscription. an old institution. having been established in 1784. though considerably enlarged and improved since that time. This school is on a good scale and order of appointment. excellent room & accommodation. But the books & registers are very inaccurately kept. They do not show the attendance. and it was

evident on examination that the master had in his returns to the clergymen most grossly exaggerated his report of the attendance – having no data for striking his average and the numbers in the visitors books for the same period in no respect justifying the amount of numbers given by him from recollection.

N. The superintendence & visitation by the committee of subscription particularly the R. C. Curates, is very regular & frequent as far as can be judged by the frequent entries in the visitors books. But the notices of the progressive improvement of the individual scholars is very defective. In reality the irregular attendance of the poorer children, who are often detained by working at home, by cold hunger & rashedness, the inadequate supply of books & requisites, and the disproportioned call on the master's attention from such a multitude of children, make it impossible or extremely difficult to keep up the control of inspection & the observation of progress in such schools –

N. B. There is no diocesan school at Kilkenny - The diocese of Ossory and some others have been united to this effect. and school to be held for them at Carlow.

27th October - Visited the Kilkenny College - a large & very fine estate - instituted as a classical school - endowed by the Duke of Ormonde in 1684 - See Notes

Also the private (or hedge) schools in Kilkenny St. John's parish kept by Cloghessy - Ignan - and McEvoy - miserable and wretched in every respect as to accommodation, instruction or usefulness - See notes

Also the Rec. Cath. Parochial School - being a small - but seemingly well conducted school of the poorest class superintended by the English Clergyman (Mr Shaw) in union with the R. Cath. curate. The funds exceedingly low but the Inspection has secured some progress & advantage & the boys were well instructed and able in a respectable measure to answer on examination. Mr Shaw has occasionally supplied small books for the School - An enlarged school room is proposed to which aid from the Lord-Lieut. fund is expected -

Sam. day - Visited the School of the Presentation Nunnery partly Orphan School for 35 residents at advancing house in Nunnery & partly Day School of about 150 girls - accommodation excellent - an old established Orphan &c comparatively - partnerships well conducted - with a governess for the working branches & transplanting &c. The other or large School department very deficient in instruction & proficiency in reading

children very irregular in attendance - incapable of giving any account or explanation of what they are learning - and the books as usual very limited & inadequate - The exterior of the school very good - and school upper dresses provided to the girls while in the room.
The Orphan girls could give tolerable answers when examined - Second well taken care of clean orderly - and cheerful - Sodgy well & fed & clothed in the establishment -

A very considerable library attached to the establishment and kept in the Orphan School room is intended for circulation & so used as stated by the Nuns & point, among the poorest of the people. It consists of several 100 volumes of theological works, besides which there are a few about 6 or 8 small volumes of history & miscellaneous literature - Johnson Rasselas - Miss Young Hist of Ireland and a few more - One copy of the

Bible in numbers, on the upper shelf unbound. M. Murphy the priest did not know of it being there. "Old & New Test." in the catalogue of the books but he thought this was Reeven or Johnson's summary. The books are said to be constantly lent out to the common Cath. people.

Kilkenny 28th Octr.

Visited the Kilk. Lay College. Revd. M Shearman - Pro. Cath. - a considerable classical seminary under superintendence of R. C. Bishop Dr. Marmion and taught by M. Shearman with aid of 3 R. C. Clergymen and a lay upper - Examined classes in Greek & Latin. English reading and recitation. The proficiency not remarkable - and the recitation very unfavourable in point of accuracy and taste. The teachers do not seem well grounded except in some mechanical parts and the intellect of the scholars not called forth. Particular boys were called out for the tasks and in general excuses made for the rest when called upon. As to farther particulars, see Notes

Called for Lo. Ormonde - but his Lp. was from home.
Interviewed with Dr. Marmion R. C. bishop - who stated in general that the supply of priests for this

part of Ireland is now sufficiently
fell from Maynooth — So as in a
great measure to supersede the neces-
sity of private Cath. seminaries for
ecclesiastics — A large seminary
at Carlow — the others in this part
of the Kingdom will probably dec-
line and be superseded — That in
the neighbourhood of Kilkenny is
on same plan of education as
Maynooth — about 35 or 40
students taught there. but is not
expected to continue. No endow-
ment founded by subscriptions in
1814 or 1815 — in times of plenty
laymen among better farmers gave
commonly £50 — He allowed
that the excitement lately at
Kilk. on the subject of scripture
reading was not owing to any
new event in this neighbourhood
The meeting here was of the Bible
Soc. and was in usual routine.
being a 12th anniversary of that Soc.
But alluded to the attempt gene-
rally in other places of enlarging &
enforcing the diffusion of scriptures
and the religious animosity which
it had produced & would continue.

The Bishop of Ossory not at home.
Nor the Dean —

Same day — visited the Lintown
Factory in the neighbourhood of
Kilkenny — See Note book and
full memorandum of examination
of M. Bronnows the master of this
date. The establishment seems
well conducted in respect to the fair
and kind treatment of the children
by the master & mistress — as to which
all the boys bore testimony and
seemed happy cheerful and lively
The time of the master however is
evidently employed more in his farm-
ing pursuit than in the school
department or even in the working
rooms — The farm is at present
and has been lately as allowed
by him more profitable than the
weaving — which as he avers is barely
sufficient to repay & sam him
without affording profit. He does
not himself do more than superin-
tend the school that is to say he
does not himself actually teach —
leaving it to his brother who aids
him gratuitously — and to an

apprentice who though not quite unqualified is unfit to fill the place of a teacher or have proper controll over the children. They have no regular school when the master's brother is absent which he is occasionally at Dublin college he has been there to attend an examination on since Friday last. 6 days and the reading & school exercises have been partly suspended if not entirely for that time. They had only six copy books among 22 boys - and some of these nearly written out, which master stated was owing to his application for a supply, made 3 months ago, not having been answered by de Armstrong ~~the~~: The number who could read ~~no~~ is ~~three~~ 13 out of the 22. These read distinctly and correctly from the Testament and in general were able to explain readily the meanings of words and the subject of the passage & relation history. It is to be observed that their Catechist, the Rev Peter Rose of Kilkenny, pays particular

attention to his duty, as testified by the master and evinced by his numerous visits to the school and entries of observations on the books - and the result of his superintendance and of the instructions of himself and the clergy who occasionally visit for him in his absence is visible in the intelligent answers given by the boys on their scriptural lessons.

They use slates only in cyphering. Clothes were sent from Dublin this morning for yearly supply. Coat weent coat & 2 pr trowsers - & 3 pr shoes for each boy. The master has no share or advantage in the clothing - except that he supplies the hats, purchasing them in Kilkenny & charges them to the Incorp.d Society.

He has 10 acres attached to the establishment. He rents 10 more in the neighbourhood and he has a small property which he occupies and cultivates himself in county of Carlow - which requires his occasional absence.

There are 8 looms in the work shop. 5 of which were employed this day - and 3 winding wheels

There were 20 or 22 looms in the former house in the suburbs of Kilkenny - but 8 only have been put up at the present house -

The time allotted for education appears too small - viz. two hours in the day - and these either before breakfast or - in the evening - In the rest of the day, there are 8 boys employed at the looms - 6 said to be employed at winding for them (14 in all at work) and the remaining 9 boys are either at work on the school lands, or in the kitchen and house - or must be idle -

Stated by master that he estimates value of work in weaving at 2s. per yard Lallows 1/4 to the apprentices as premium or encouragement. On examination found that the most which any boy had received in this way was £2. The boy who stated having received this has been in the house 4 years. This was his earning during that time. Two other boys who had finished one and two webs had not received any thing of payment. The master stated that he was their

debtor.

Kilkenny 29th October - Interview with Ld. Ormonde - - With Mr. Graves formerly diocesan schoolmaster. This diocese written by proclamation in deep lost with Loughlin & Ferns School to be kept at Carlow -

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Returned to Dublin 30th Octr. 1824

1826

September 22nd A.

Route by Athlone to

Balinasloe – 23d.

Mr. P. Bounder – Great opposition in parish – particularly by resistance to school in country – I now R. C. school opened – Violence used directly by the Priest in compelling parents who had consented, to withdraw their children & place them in his (priests) school –

Not succeeded yet in establishing Irish schools – though many children have been taught Irish but not adults. – In general the R. C. schools go no farther than instruction in spelling – no other actual & sufficient tuition –

Mr P. mentioned a strong act

of violence committed by one of the Rel. people against another who had re-fused to withdraw his child not-withstanding the denunciation — and for which, in consequence of the messag interference of the magistracy, he was obliged to fly —

Two Hibernian Soc. Schools in Ballinsalon — and a female (Ladies Hib.) lately established the teacher in which has been much molested in consequence — and the interference of the Police become necessary

—

25th Sept. Longhrea —

No diocesan School ever established either in Clonfert or Kilmacduagh —

No measures taken to prepare or open one at Longhrea —

No schoolmaster appointed — nor money collected in either diocese —

No assessment made by the Countess —

[Rev. Edwd. Hartigan, registrar to the Ld. B. of Clonfert so informed me]

Visited the free school under clergy in Longhrea — 40/ to teacher from the clergyman — Connected with the Kildare Street Society (male department) — Master not trained at Kildare Street — Not intelligent — N.B. keeps his rolls at same numbers notwithstanding scholars discontinuing — in order to keep them uniform — ex. gra. 30 scholars in Augt. 29 in Sept. he leaves out No 23 being the boy who had left the school —

Small remains of a lending library –
One of most advanced scholars, 2 years at the school could not read or pronounce or stop – did not understand the words
Same school – female class – 14 to 18 present – Mr Doyle teacher – excellent appearance – intelligent – judicious and well instructed – educated in Kildare Street model school – sent there by Mr M. a lady in Loughrea
– Female class connected with London Hibernian Society – Work taught as well as reading & writing – Girls well instructed in reading
Mr Boys school was connected formerly with L. H. S. One R. C. girl attended Doyle – contrary to parents & priests endeavours
Visited R. C. pay school – (free) supported by clergy & subscriptions – about 100 present 200 said to be number in whole.
Rev. Cath. Population
Opposition to school by R. C. Priests

Same day – visited L. Hib. Soc. school at Kilchreest – small village 3 miles from Loughrea on Gort road & superintended by Rev. Edw. Hartigan – Kilchreest a quarter of Kilmacteige & Clonfe
Rev. Cath. Population
Property – Mr Pearse's – no aid given by proprietors – Opposition by R. C. Priests

– Doyle reader forth L. H. S. came to the school while I visited it – His wife is the teacher of the Loughrea female school His salary £30 – hec. £20 pr. sound
Teacher of School at Loughrea – Cassidy seems well qualified & intelligent – His emoluments about £18 per ann according to his account – consisting of an interest of Mrs G. Hardt in addition to pay of L. H. S.
School very small room – without proper appointments – desks turned out to field to make room – Fate of children about 100 present rooms crowded children many unclothed –
Several examined could repeat 8, 9, 10, or 11 chapters – one boy repeated correctly at opening of the gospel of John
– Great want of paper, slates, & other materials
Rev. M. H. only about 6 months in the case. No aid or countenance from landowners – But a school tho' denounced & opposed has not diminished. Never more numerous dissented & nearly emptied for a few days in July 1824 but filled again – 3/4th now are R. C. children – Priests dissipated & not reported – & have little influence

N.B. Kildare Street Soc. have withdrawn their aid from this school last season - on their general plan of discontinuing with other Societies - which has thrown the School into grave difficulties - from want of suffic. aid & therein -

Qu. To send contribution for paper &c.

Kild. Street Soc. have issued in 1826 a Regulation for Teachers and rule of explaining & construing to scholars giving somewhat greater latitude.

Qu. of whole principle in this respect - & benefit of it -

Arch B. of Tuam stated to me at Mackrey that the new regulations of the K. S. S. had rendered them an efficient body -

Gort - 26 Sept.

Much neglected both by landlords and clergy - No efficient schools - or encouragement -

Entirely Ro. Cath. population.

Visited Kildare Street school in suburbs taught by - O Bryen - 84 on roll - 57 - present - Opposed by priest - but not diminished in number - Withdrawn formerly for a short time - but parents send them back - Present master only 7 months. Prob. &c. appear accurately kept. The priest lately proposed that R C catechism should be taught to the R C children after school hours - master referred to curate M Delvigs who would not permit it - being contrary to rule & principle of Soc. and R C clergy intend to establish new school by subscription - and to convert the present chapel (when new one is completed) into a school house -

Visited Kilmacdough - its shrine tomb of St. Macdough - and station - &c. &c. - young man who continued notwithstanding priests' order to keep testament at home -

27th Septr. 1826 — Galway

Visited accompanied by Mrs Jas. Warden Daly, and by the R.C. Warden of Galway and 3 members of the R.C. Committee of new schools, the different institutions in Galway — R.C. free school attached to Seminary College — Lancasterian, for 1000 children, as intended has been built by the subscription — £500 paid for old Barrack building — 2 large rooms — about 100 feet in length — 30 or upwards in breadth — very partially furnished (N.B. cast iron feet to benches & desks in our frames) — Master receives £40. per ann — Stated that his present number seems 330 — I examined the role book and found the number regularly entered by names from 1 to 219 — after which the next No was 300 — and continued regularly to end — 330. making by their histories an error of 81 — over rated — R.C. Warden of G. was present — Did not seem aware of the fact — reproved the master — who could not account

for the mistake —

Visited also the Monastery of Franciscans —

Nunnery of Presentations —

Visited also school buildings unfinished of the Subscription School under Mr. Jas. Warden Daly's superintendance Grant from the Ld. Lieut. of £250 — Subscription of £300 from Sir G. Smith Trustees — and remainder of £800, cost of building &c. made up by subscription —

Intended for male & female schools — House for master & mistress — meat & commodious adjoining — Separated by wall & separate entrances —

N.B. The children at the R.C. Lancasterian school not examined — but most of them are young — some mere infants — Our boys in girls Inst. frocks — & not known by the Warden or Committee of R.C. who attended to be a boy —

Examined the 1st class of the Presentation scholars (girls) in reading — Read ale — and entirely ignorant on trial of

of the meaning & subject - And spelling very bad -
Plain work taught
Platt tried - but discontinued - not profitable - & disliked by children

N.B. M. J. Daly considers the L. Hibernian Society as the most effective & useful in this District -

Irish spoken generally and Irish books & instruction given in different schools, both pay - & L.H.
Priests preach in Irish - - X
Prot. clergy do not - - X

Visited same day - the Mendicity Society - and the County Goal - Good substantial building - 70 inmates at this time - Classification not completed but seems well found clean - industry among the females
No Tread mills hitherto. But county has presented for one -

Dr Ffrench stated that children attended on Sunday at chapel for catechetical instruction to amount of 1200, or 1400 assisted by lay R.C. gentlemen & ladies -

N.B. Representation of Trinity in 3 stone figures on college gate of Confraternity -
Picture in the nuns convent chapel of St Francis, receiving the stigmata on his hands & feet & side - Warden Ffrench remarks that these and other things indifferent and not necessary to be believed not being revealed in Scripture - but

to be received or not according to the
evidence - Note - 1. The extent of this
allowance - and 2. What is the question
as to the people who view these representations - and the impression on them - Point
allows the superstition - but he does
not tell his flock that it is superstition
Saves as to penance at shrines - &c.
Points permit it - perhaps enjoins it
Bishop or Superior does not enjoin
or authorize it but he does not
forbid - or even dissuade - and does
not entrust his flock on the real
judgment of the case - and does not
relieve them from the degrading superstition - & either culpably from
design or gross neglect, permits the
ignorance & the debasing practice
to continue -

Population of Galway entirely
Roman Cat - with trivial exception

Visited goal at Galway - [illegible]
& lies on old plan - Considerable [illegible]
not sufficient classification - Spinning given
to female prisoners - no worsted for males but
a teacher - & some books provided - teaching
among others by order of managers - No tread
mill yet -

28th Galway - Visited the L. H. School,
Mich. McDonough master - 13 years
since 1st establish. - at St Nicolas
church yard

Mr Gillespie one of the L H Soc's
inspector resident at Galway
N. B. Master seems stupid and
inefficient.

Much opposed by the R C Priest.
About 80 on rolls - male & female
together - Female connected with
Ladies Hib. Soc. And seems rather
better conducted.

Examined sceptrum reading class
6 boys - read well - Did not
repeat what committed to memory
with accuracy

Sourty has 3 schools at Anna
Down parish - only place where
the Priest does not oppose he
rather favours them

Master has £10. 10. for Warden -
Daily - About £12 for Sourty

The child with drawn - the name
& number are both left out of next
role - but other numbers left as before
to

correspond as they explain it, with the class papers which last perhaps twice as long as the quarter rule — or more.

Examined some of the boys who had been withdrawn by the priest, and had gone to Gills (R. C.) school but thought it a bad school got two lessons & complained to parents — and have returned here.

N. B. — Mr Darcy expects to make a good & efficient school at the new building, visited jubilee and does not think this the L. It will never be made a school at least under the present master but he will not interfere with it.

Long conversation with Mr Darcy curate to Warden Daly — He does not expect any advantage from conciliation or compromise. The parties are opposed here and openly and with apparent violence if not virulence. Mr D. intends to establish a large & effective school, thro' subscriptions at instance of his rector Mr D. and aid obtained from Ld Lenox's friend & from Trustees of Sir E. Smith, and not yet fixed if he will be connected with any of the Societies. He is inclined to adopt following methods. To receive any who are willing to take the advantage of the instruction. The Scriptures to be in the School — further use of all who will use them. To be read by the Protestant children — not forced upon the R. C. or others. A bona fide abstinence from proselytism or interference — two real grounds for Jealousy — but no yielding or withholding from those who will learn. The Protest. children to be taught twice or oftener in the week by the clergymen in the Committee room (no School). The others to be let alone unless when they desire instruction.

M. D. stated that no measures were taken by the R C clergy for education of this people till the Prot. moved - and nothing done beyond or independent of latter. When one moved or stopped the other did. And nothing efficient yet done -

He stated that the opposition to the Schools of clergy here was antecedent to the appointment of this Commission.

That the opposition is open & declared, -

That a gradual amelioration is going on in Galway - effect of various measures & clergy.

A Saving Bank is successful.

A charitable loan also - which began in 1822 - and from 1800, the capital with which it then began has grown to £[illegible]

It operates by loans of money only - £1. or more. and with every £1 lends the borrower must repay the same and ~~[illegible]~~ /10 to the fund. Nothing has been lost by these loans since the commencement.

N. B. Long & violent tirade from the R C Warden against Govt. Neglect of their petitions. Persecution intolerance - waste of money. £40000 to other

Same day

Visited the College as it is called or School of Sir E. Smith on height in neighbourhood of Galway. Reply Dr. Whitelaw or Whitelaw. He represented his very implacable situation. School inefficient. No boarders - a few day scholars. Board ought to be stable by common English schools on their estate - which produce £3000 per annum and have fr 3 to 4000 tenants

Now

Now or for any few of these are apply for free education — [No pressure fruit in reality]

N. B. — The master of school at Claros Bridge followed me to Galway — (O'Bryen)
Stated his number to be 70 Earl year 100.
A Mon his school established about 3 years ago at the village by Mr Redding his and the children finding it free left O'Bryen.
Mr R's is not a poor estate — There are 6 months — they exercise trades of carpenter shoemaker mason &c. and work for the neighbourhood. They preach with chapel on Sundays
Used to eat at the village they do not now. Have the house and land acres from Mr. R.
No Protestants in the village —

28th Provided to Tuam — and stopped at Clare Galway abbey old & fine ruin of Dominican Friars with extensive burying grounds — monuments & inscriptions exposed — shells & bones scattered as well as piles. — Handsome tower — and steeple arch window & pillar remnant. Adjacent house occupied by a solitary Franciscan friar — in poorest circumstances — Young man but infirm from bad health — Unable as he stated in winter to quest. — Says mass daily in chapel of friary — rinses pittance of potatoes — & turf — Was very grateful for the present of shillings — Showed us a

Chronicle of the Religious houses of the Dominicans — the house at ~~Galw~~ Clar Galw — noticed as Cœnobium Claræ Galvidiæ

Had an Irish Vocabulary dated 1814 printed in Dublin — Imperfect copy unbound of the Latin Vulgate — & one or two more R C books of devotion

29th Sept. Visited the Schools supported by the Archbish & Mrs French — Bible read — no other books — Sunday School spelling books —

Visited with Mr. Irwin the old dilapidated school house — large but very insufficient in point of repair. Situated in middle of town — Roof open & quite exposed to the weather on one side. No repairs made for long time. Scarcely habitable in its present state — Master has commission from Lord Lindh dated in 1825 Income £70 — No boarders — a very few day scholars — No measures taken for assessment of country. No presentment made — wait for report of Commission as understood — House was used for some years as a temporary barracks —

Mrs French's poor shop — making up & selling clothing for people — not what is found in shops — gives tickets for deposits. & article not delivered till paid for —

Visited Pro-Ca — free school females Books used — Dublin spelling books — others all Pro-Cath. religious books & tracts. one torn copy of History of Old Testament — Poor mass catechism — ~~Tra~~ Roman Cath. Association Tracts —

Visited some months ago by Miss Holmes — from ~~Lord~~ British Hibernian Society

who distribute residue funds of Relief Committee. Her report very unfavourable of discipline of school and reading - one girl only &c. Noticed their wretched appearance - Entered on the Books - Answered in a subsequent entry by the Committee of Ladies & R.C. clergy -

Miss Blake one of Patronesses stated & showed me an application by memorial to the Brit. Soc. for aid - also reference which they made to Mr. French - and Mr. French answer that she could not recommend aid to any school not countenanced by the Arch. Ks. of Tuam - Miss H. and the Teacher ~~made~~ and the R.C. committee who attended me made strong complaints of the abscess - but evidently overlooking the circumstance that the aid for clothing &c. for the Lar. Committee if granted was direct support to whole system of school -

The plan is exclusive R.C. education - no Pro. child - no copy of any part of Scripture - catechism &

religious instruction given - little attention evidently given to reading or other branches - Miss ~~Holmes~~ Blake stated that girls did not require much reading - enough if taught work - and catechism -

School mistress allowed that one copy of Douay testament had been in the school ~~[illegible]~~ when she came - said that a visitor, an English gentleman, called Harris or O'Harris, had taken it from the school room - She told the priest & ladies of Committee but did not ask for a copy to replace it and they gave no order - Expected every day that it would be returned - did not know where Mr. Harris lived - this occurred 4 years ago. With exception of 2 girls, reading very badly at points visited also free school for boys - (Pro Cath.) same as Dublin Hunt & funds. Has once connected with Field. Sh. Soc. Pleased £50 from them for aid of building - also slates & requisites & £250 fr. Ld. Lieut. funds - Rest of £500 subscribed. & ~~[illegible]~~ kept up by annual subscription. - About 200 boys on rate attendance said to be 120 or more on average - One master - present

one long thin & old & inefficient — trusts to monitors —
He supplied with books — paper &c
one copy only of Testament — but it is read daily by one class — a chapter daily as stated. Books passed from hand to hand of the class. 8 or 10 examined from — and read well —
School separated from K. S. Soc. on this ground — of want of sufficient supply of Scripture — that is numbers of books — and correspondence was exhibited — Secretary & other members of the Committee could not explain or give a reason for of the difference between 8 boys reading from one testament and 8 testaments being in school — or why last was more objectionable than the first — whole ground being that did not chuse any dictation or interference — N. B. this was after they had got the money & school requisites —

N.B. Great excitement and animosity apparent every way in this town & Castlebar. Meeting of R.C. at the chapel on preceding day — to petition parliament. & much violence & personality in speeches of Mr. Geneva Macdonnel & others agt. the Archb. of Tuam & family.
Archbr. Charge last month had been very strenuous & open agt. the Popish errors &c. Charge expected to be published.
Dr. Kelly was present at meeting on 23th.
Archbr. was absent — at Anniversary meeting of Loughrea Bibl. Soc.

30th Sept. Castlebar —
Conversed with Parcd. Mr. Seymour Curate of Castlebar — lately come in place of Mr Smith who is gone to Hollymount — Mr. S. an old man but active & warm promoter of schools on best principle — of desire to improve the people — Was long curate at ~~Philips~~ Louisburgh. West of Westport Speaks Irish well — People tho' decided Rt. C. population unwilling to part with him. allowed him to read Irish testament & occasionally preach to them at their cabins & occasions of funerals — when would not attend to him if read in English

Some very interesting anecdotes to this effect proving the principle of Irish Society's method & its effects. Mr Galbraith rector of Newport met me at Castlebar today. He & Mr Seymour & Mr Gildea agreed in resolution shown by the people to disregard the efforts of the priests in stopping the schools. (Kild. Street & L. Hilton) Children are withdrawn from time to time but after a little time they return again nearly in same number from preference to the Scripture schools & finding no benefit in the other (chapel) schools.

Method is, as confirmed by the teachers here & other places — that priest denounce school — or rather reads out the name of the people whose children attend it or come to school & order them out — they are taken to the chapel school — the best of the children, that is, to say those who have been at the Kildare Street or other Pro. school, are employed as monitors in the chapel school. The master pays no attention, being unable from ignorance or from numbers of scholars — the monitors never advance any farther in instruction — they tire & become discontented — leave the R. C. school, and either stay at home or go back to the Pro. school — tell a new stimulus and a new denunciation. &c.

A person from Thames' or Thomas's parish attended me — who confirmed this is a school of the Kild. Street of considerable extent in that parish — so as stated by him are these continuing to attend in opposition to priests.

I examined some children attending the curate's school (Mr Smith's) at Castlebar — who had been there withdrawn & had returned — reviewed no instruction at chapel schools. K.

~~Lightfoot~~ Louisbrook schools in this parish as reported by Mr Seymour, have been within these few weeks quite shut up in consequence of priests' interference at order of his bishop. But as pressed to be again opened. [illegible]

At Louisbrook there was when Mr S. first went there, a good parish school

It was countenanced & assisted by the priest. Was taken up by the Kilda Street Soc. who also established various others in the parish. But about 6 months ago the Bishop made a decided effort & broke them all up.

Visited with M. S. the school kept by Martin Bird, supported by M. Smith, the late curator. It was formerly under the L. Hib. Soc. for about 11 years who took it up when a private school. They gave it up in October 1825. from want of funds as master thinks. He did not consider himself well paid by them. N. B. In keeping his rolls conformable to class papers, he adds very properly a column of real numbers, as a check upon the alteration of numbers when children withdrawn.

He had once as he states 150 scholars present roll is 88 - attendance effective about 40. -

Is entirely paid by M. Smith. Greatly opposed by priests - name of people lately called out at altar. Has lost 40 this month. - But expects them to return as they have done before -

get no instruction at priests school.

Has 11 testaments in school

Examined 6 of the boys in Scripture class - read distinctly & well - with good pronunciation - Repeated very correctly a ~~17 ch. of Tol~~ chapter of 1st Cor.

Visited (Mrs Hall's mistress) girls school at Mall - castle bar. Inspected on 7th of this month by John Henry, inspector of L. Hib. Soc. - and was lately visited by M. Donellan of Kild. Sh. Soc. She removed a gratuity from K. I. S. about 5 months ago.

Examined 10 girls on Scripture reading. Read tolerably well - but not equally. Repeated the 17 ch. of John Gospel very imperfectly.

Visited also the Rho. Ca. free school at Chapel - Boys school dismissed & master not at home -

Saw female school Mrs Canovan. Roll 271 - Average of attendance for weeks ended this day per rule books, 77. No class books kept before this year 1826. She was not

not directed to keep roller - or furnished with them before - her own private role or list is not kept - was thrown away or destroyed.

Understood that ladies of Committee were to attend daily - one or more. But no entries of visit or names during this year on back except two days - one entry of visit only from P. P.

School inspected by Mr Donellan 23d July 1826 -

Received on 22 August 1826 - from Kild. Pl. Soc. 3 dozen spelling books - a ream of paper -

Have also in school 1 dozen of Dr Gray's Selections 7 copies of Donay's Testament which were received about 3 years ago

Mistress has been 4 years in school

Foundation 2 doz - primers of Kild Pl. Soc. 3 doz. Dublin reading

She received £3. gratuity last year - Mr Donellan promised her a grat.y this year - but she has not received it

The children of the 1st reading class read the Donay testament 3 times in the week - viz. a chapter each day.

The R. C. catechism (Butler) is taught my day 1/4 of an hour after school.

N. B. The punishments in the R. C. free schools at Tuam - inter alia 10 to 20 lashes on bare back - gagging - putting in bag with fingers in mouth &c placarded in both male & female schools

Depository of Bibles, Castlebar - prices down to 1/ for Testament excellent type. Lesser 7d.

Westport - 1st & 2nd October -

Crow patrick mountain - Station & penances - refr. which St. P. cured the vipers toads &c.

Mr. Hardman - Instances of R. C. seeking & purchasing Scripts. 6 or 8 cases.

Mr. Vivers lately quit down to ascertain the state of the Lowsburgh School &c.

2nd October - Visited R. C. free school Westport - Patron Mr Mat. McDonell (broth. of Aneas McD.) - Male & female school. Met 2 members of Committee of Managers - School rooms large and airy - £100 fr. Ld Lieut. fund £50 from

Kild - Pl. S. Mist of subscription said to be £700 to £800 in all
No connexion with any Soc. now. broke off from Kild - St. ~~some~~ about two months ago.
Haran (master) has no assistants but of boys monitors -
Present book of register (of K. P. S.) begins March 1822.
Mr Donellan visited in July last when told that no longer any connexion.
Average attendance for last week 165 daily. Total role 253.
N. Books of registry but in column for the progress of scholars in Arithmetic no entry for two months past - Present scripture

N. B. "The following mountains of Sir F. Lynch Blosse, viz. - - - - are Poisoned."
Placard in Castle bar in the Tolsey Lot. place

readers said to be 58. Examined 15 the number present - about 8 of them read tolerably well the 12th ch. of Pinkladiver - Master corrected pronunciation to devoor and irth (Devoor Earth -)
They read Douay testament - Have no copies. No explanation given of words

or otherwise -
Great confusion and noise in school. Most of the children doing nothing - Ins. plays boys ~~as~~ monitors - Want pencils & other materials - Enough of spelling books Reading (Dublin) books
Tried 6 boys in dictation of arithmetic - addition. One boy only had the sum right - The others all differed in the sum - But owing chiefly to the incorrect mode of the master dictations - Most of them were right with sums on the bad tablet Joins. Glad to find no distinct directions now to take it

Visited same day Kild - Sh - school at Ardigammen 1½ miles from Westport - with Mr Walker curate. Michael Naughten master - House building 1824. Visited by Mr Donellan in 19 July 1826. After his visit an order came from the Soc. - to report the number on role and also the number of those who had attended at any time during the 6 months previous - In consequence of the examination made on this occasion

~~and as~~ 84 were struck off the
list and the rall thus purified.
Before this 203 stood on the rall
Thus reduced to 119
Average attendance for last week
on examination of the rall this
day, appears to have been 66.
70 present this day.
Examined at the school house
this day a weaver in the village
Jane Higgins. He has 6 chil-
dren at this school. Is a R. Ca.
Priest has never spoken to him
or asked him. Sent his children
because convenient. If he should
be pressed by the priest he must
would withdraw his children.
But he would bear a good deal
first — (i.e. before he would con-
sent or be forced to withdraw them)
Examined — John Higgins
son of above Jane. 14 years old
has been 3 years here.
Sarah Higgins Dr. of Jan. 13 years
Intelligent children nothing particular
in statement.

~~[illegible]~~

Commenced with — Oss Weaver from
Glasgow — employed by Mr. Sligo
at his cotton factory at Mulpour
for 18 months. Now undertaken
the factory w/ Lord S. & steward
as experiment. Thinks it will
succeed. Ld. S. paid ready
money for cotton from England or
Scotland chiefly Liverpool
(short bills) Is still
this seeing. Found
when he came 20 looms
Had lately 102 — Lord S.
disgusted with people at late
election — Never pressed him
and his objects fitted good of
the people —
Ld. S. went on wrong plan
of replacing spoiled or decay
reaching [illegible] Thr have

made the people employed purchase of the machinery & materials or have charged them with it. He found out & allowed this.

Necessary to send the goods & cotton & conducting to be finished (i.e. bleached & coloured) in Scotland & it could be done cheaper & better & returned to Wetland than in the neighbourhood bleacher spoiled the colour here. 200 hundred in cases with the Ca. & prefer and for other reasons prefer protestants more steady.

~~[illegible]~~ Small congregations of Protest Presbyterians, Mr Crichton minister.

Ls

[Mr. — Brown — Mr. & Mrs Mahon — Colonel of Customs Galway Election — Sir — Gough Mayor of Galway Sir Sir]

3d

4th Anniversary Bible Meeting at Castlebar. Mr Wolfe (Jones) Mr Pope

3 ~~4th~~ Oct.

Ballina by the Pontoon road windings of the Conn Lough & islands — grand array of L. Conn & the Neptune Mountains

4th Oct.

From Ballina by the Ox mountains Church of Dromore West Church of Shreen & Ballysadare to Sligo. 28 miles —

At Castlebar on 4th met Capt. Gordon Mem. State of R. C. priesthood at Birr in county of Limerick. Former priest ~~[illegible]~~ excommunicated but greater part of the people whose tenants his successor put in by force.

Some ~~[illegible]~~ of the R. C. at Ashmead on joined Mr. Murray — applyed him for information.

Large attendance at Limerick - at anniversary meeting of the Branch Ilib. Soc.

At Ballina on 5th Rector & Curate No Elevoson absent. Saw the Teacher of the Apostolic School & the Teacher of the Kild. Street School No diocesan school built or master appointed - or step to them.

Black, teacher of the Kild. Street school - a Pr. Ca. the school is patronized by the Pr. C. Bishop (Waldron) his coadjutor Mackaul - States the average attendance at 120 or 130 No protestant child - visited last by Mr. Fitzgerald -

Morell teacher of the Apoc. school stated that he has 50 on roll - average daily attends: about 43 - 3 or 4 Pr. Ca. only. Has no Bible in school & only 20 Testaments - not sufficient for the school - He was trained at the new model school for the Apoc. in Foundling Hospital, there 4 months. In his absence the school was visited by an Inspector for the Apoc. Does not know his name - left no note. At one time he had about 30 Pro Ca. in the school - But opposed by the priest who drew them off to his school and the chapel - Before that they had been gradually increasing

Post Office

To Sligo on the 4th -

6th Oct. visited the female L. H. free school - female taught by - patronage Mrs. Whitakes & other ladies - 70 girls - Examined 1st class Scripture readers - Read well - distinct utterance - slow - & observed pauses - also with intelligence - answered on examination of meaning - & 3d class younger readers - indifferent

Also the female school, free taught by Miss McIntosh - Examined

3 doses - Read well - Mr Armstrong
Mr Carter, formerly catechist of the
Charter school examined them on the
passage - Bad method - did not
elicit their understanding of passage
He stated that Charter school
going on well under new
Master Upton - Some of the
boys obtained premiums (2 viz.)
at the Associate annual examination
Last week - these 2
boys had been in Charter school
when formerly vetted by Comm.
Boys have been transferred
from other Charter schools - but
no new admissions -
Mr A. examined himself & master
(Devins) on former examination
Had been seen but not overall
&c

Examined, at Mr Blair's
Office, with him & clerks
the general books & records

The L. H. Soc.
State of schools during years
ending Augt. 1826 as
compared with Augt. 1825
viz. On Rolls
In Augt. 1825 - 661 Schools
50,967 pupils -
In August 1826, 455 schools
36,759 scholars
Withdrawn in consequence
of disunion of Kild. Str. Soc.
198 Schools - 13494
Scholars -
N. B. Sunday school
pupils in great measure but
not all duplicate attendance.
Calculated in reports at one
half as different attendance -
1/3rd probably more correct
which will give as the actual
number on rolls ~~73,637~~
66,500 - See printed Report.

Mem. Dowgally School in Co Cavan. In Irish, "back of the Sun"

M. B. stated that some of their most inefficient schools had been taken up & continued by the Kild. Sk. Soc. in consequence of late resolutions

Ex. gr. Gortinadden School near Ballicoumill - where, out 124 scholars, the master was only entitled to payment for 19 scholars

Kilrea School. (one of Erasmus Smith) where £800 had been expended by them and a salary given of £30. The school consisting of 30 scholars - the master was only entitled by reports of Impudo to payment of £1.4. in the year. And in the female school of same established

consisting of 32 scholars the mistress was only entitled to payment for 9 -

These schools during the times referred to were connected with both societies - now disjoined & adhered to Kild. Sk.

Exhibited the volumes of sworn signatures of parents as heads of families of children in attestation of Jeff & character of the Jeff schools

Number of ~~signatures~~ attestations 16,967. of whom 9683 could not write (consider the number of these Prot.) Of the whole number 9360 were Rom. Cath. 7607 Protestants

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Seeing of Sligo - Longh Gill - Mountains - Bay &c

7th October

Boyle – formerly Abbey Boyle
Fine ruin of abbey 13th or 14th Cent.
Concentric arches Saxon & Gothic
Mr Robertson & family – Mr Caleb
Robt – Mrd Mr Hackett
Rmd Mr Shaw of
Parish School
Ly Lorton's female school
Mrs McTourtearpes –
Avoid Freemans Inn –

Rev. Mr McCrea – curate Boyle
(chaplain to Ld. Lorton) –
Same view as Mr D'Arcy with respect
to the plan of public schools –

Longford – Kinnegad – Gilcock –

Mr McCrea, curate at Boyle –
chaplain to Lord Lo –

Mr Shaw curate of — near Boyle

Returned to Dublin Thursday morning
12th October 1826

Mem

Rev. Mr Pounden – Baldinaslae
— – Hardman – Westport
— – Darcy – Galway
— – Warden Daly – —
— – McCrea – Boyle
— Shaw – — near Boyle
— Wilson (Presbyt.) Boyle – formerly Ballina
— W. Percy – Carrickson Shannon
John Duckworth Esq – ib. (Mr Digby)
Rev. Tho. Gibson Mullingar (Idem)
J. H. Blakeney Esq. Abbot – Co. Galway Mr B. Digby
James Brown Esq. Clarmount – Clarmorris

Arklow Charter School
Mr. Adamson.

New Ross Education Friends.
Kild. Str. & Cap. Street.
Inconsistent &

New Ross Chapel Sch.
Kild. Pl. - rules not observed

Lintown Factory - Mr Adamson
Paper & Copy books &c

Copies to be made of Mr Lee's & Thackeray's reports.

EX BIBL. UNIV. EDINBURGEN.