

# ASPECTS OF O'CONNELL'S LIFE-WORK

## His Strivings For Christian Education

### ASSOCIATION WITH GREAT CHURCHMEN

#### Attitude To The Queen's Colleges

Below we give the second of a series of twelve special articles dealing with the most important aspects of the life-work of Daniel O'Connell. These articles have been written with the greatest care for the "Save Derrynane" Committee, and should afford political and national guidance of permanent value to newspaper readers everywhere. The opening article dealt with O'Connell's interest in Irish manufacture. The second one is in relation to his strivings for Christian and Catholic education. Here it is in full:—

As one of the vital objects of his alert activities, O'Connell from the outset naturally interested himself in Irish education, and steadily taunted the British Government with the miserable provision made for Maynooth College. With the Duke of Leinster, Lord Cloncurry and others, he was for a time on the Board of the Kildare Place Society, founded in 1811, where he revealed his mind to the whole Whately crew, and ultimately undid their schemes. Naturally, too, he was a zealous member of the Irish National Society of 1822 for the Education of the Poor, and that year we find him prominent at a meeting in the Rotunda to consider the question of national education. Proposing the fourth resolution there, he said in the course of a very eloquent address:—

"The Catholic clergy are most anxious for the establishment of schools in all parts of Ireland, but they wish to see them founded on the principle of diffusing education as widely as possible, while leaving everyone's conscience uninfluenced. They would teach children of all persuasions, but would not interfere with the religious tenets of any. It was on this principle the Kildare Street Society set out; but they had abandoned the principle, and hence did the National Society become necessary. The National Society to the extent of its success, afforded education to the poor, the Kildare Place Society does not educate the poor. It is, indeed, impossible that it can do so; for the Catholic clergy will never consent to the use of the Scriptures without note or comment."

**WORDS OF THANKS TO "J.K.L."**  
 Meanwhile, two of Ireland's greatest Churchmen had earnestly interested themselves in the tangled problem of education. They were born the same year, 1786, being thus O'Connell's juniors by eleven years, and both became illustrious prelates. One, Dr. Doyle, "J.K.L." became Professor at Carlow in 1817, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, 1819. Thanking him later for a most brilliant pamphlet on the whole national situation, O'Connell said:—

"The Catholics are charged with wishing to oppose the process of education. It was a peculiarity of the English Character that liberality was an attribute said exclusively to belong to the Protestant religion; and that the Catholic religion was the reverse.

"Did those who thus argued forget that a Catholic State was the first to proclaim liberty of conscience? Did they forget that

lance to England, announced he would become an American citizen, on reaching his diocese, and ultimately declared he would organise 40,000 armed Irish-Americans to fight here for Emancipation if not granted. He laboured tirelessly to link up the scattered Catholics of the Carolinas and Georgia, preaching in court-houses, State halls, everywhere. In 1826, he delivered before Congress the Jubilee oration on American Independence. He sought aid for his mission in Ireland, England, France, Italy and Austria, and O'Connell was careful to send financial aid from the Emancipation funds to himself and to Bishop Whelan, who laboured in India. At his early death in 1842, he stood unrivalled as preacher, writer and evangelist.

Dr. Doyle had joined the revived Catholic Association early and, on the eve of the Clare election, wrote O'Connell a public letter hoping that the God of Truth and Justice would be with him. When both were examined before a Parliamentary Committee in London, Wellington admitted that J.K.L. rather examined him than they him. He wrote unanswerable pamphlets and public letters and, though he and the Liberator did not always see eye to eye, they fought hand-in-hand against the Tithes and on all vital issues until the bishop's early death at forty-eight.

**INDEFATIGABLE STRIVINGS.**  
 Concurrently with the Emancipation struggle, O'Connell had not only fought against the Kildare Place Society but against the London Hibernian Society similarly concerned with proselytising schemes from Tuam to Cork. Indefatigable also was he in his strivings for primary education and the establishment of Catholic Parochial and Training Schools. He generously aided in the establishment of convents and in the spread of the Presentation Order in Kerry, and used portion of the bequest by his uncle, Count O'Connell, for educational purposes.

On the eve of Emancipation, before a hosting of 60,000, he laid the foundation of the O'Connell Christian Brother Schools, North Richmond Street, Dublin, and obtained from the Catholic Association a grant of £1,500 towards their erection. Already he had come to appreciate highly the courage and the national outlook of Dr. McHale, even while Professor at Maynooth, and gradually adopted the hostile attitude of the Lion of the Fold towards the insidious system of National Education introduced in

## OBITUARY

### MR. AGUSTUS QUINLAN, RATHINA.

Much regret has been occasioned throughout West Limerick by the news of the death of Mr. Augustus Quinlan, Rathina, Newcastle West, who passed away recently at an advanced age and after a long illness. Deceased, who belonged to a highly esteemed and respected family, carried on a very successful business in the town for a long number of years in the premises at Bridge St. now occupied by his son, Mr. John Quinlan. All sections of the community were represented in the very large attendance at the funeral, which took place from Newcastle West Parish Church to Churchtown Cemetery.

The officiating clergy were:—Right Rev. Monsignor Hannan, P.P., V.G., Newcastle West; Rev. M. O'Brien, P.P., Castlemahon; Rev. M. Quinn, O.C., Templeglantine; Rev. Father Costelloe, O.C., Newcastle West; Rev. Father Kirby, O.C., Croom; Rev. Father Kennedy, O.C.; Rev. Father Hartnett.

Chief mourners—John Quinlan (son); Richard Quinlan, Listowel (brother); Kathleen, Margaret, Sophie, Gussie Quinlan (grandchildren); Richard Quinlan, Listowel; Maurice Quinlan, Cork (nephews); Mrs. M. O'Connell, Newmarket; Mrs. J. Kenny, Castlemahon; Mrs. E. Hartey, Causeway; Mrs. R. Buckley, Cork; Margaret Quinlan, Listowel (nieces); Mrs. E. Quinlan, Rathina; Mrs. J. Quinlan, Bridge Street (daughters-in-law); Mrs. W. Quinlan, Newmarket; Mrs. R. Quinlan, Listowel; Mrs. E. Clarkson, Newtownshandrum (sisters-in-law); John Joe and Billy O'Connell, Newmarket (grandnephews); Kathleen O'Connell, M. Harty (grandnieces); Elsie Andrea, Millstreet (cousin); J. Kenny, M. Buckley, M. O'Connell (nephews-in-law); Mrs. M. Fitzgibbon, Mrs. P. Fitzgibbon, Mrs. Deady, Rita Dore, J. Whelan, Aneas Lane, J. Browne, senr.; J. Browne, junr.; John Clarkson (relatives).

Mass Cards—Loving son, John; loving brother, Richard and family; loving grandchildren and daughter-in-law, Rathina (Novena of Masses); Rosie and Gus Quinlan, New York; Hannah Quinlan, Bridge Street; Quinlans, Newmarket; Eddie and Rosie Harty; Jim and Bertha Kenny; Rita Dore, Ballykenny; Whelan family, Listowel; Fitzgibbon family, Gurrane; Michael and May McNamara, Brook Lodge; Aneas, Charlie and Nora; Nellie Lane; Griffin family; Kitty and Billy O'Connor; Legion of Mary; B. McDonagh; Laurence and Mary Morrissey; Mary Griffin; D. Curtin; Mary O'Connor; Killeline; Power family; Reidy family, Rathina; McDonagh family, Lisvernane; John O'Connor; Michael O'Halloran and family; Maura Normoyle; the Staff of Robert Cussen and Son; Annie O'Connor and Mary McAuliffe; David and May Nash; Nick and Mrs. Normoyle; John O'Connor and family, Bishop St.; Robert Cussen and family; David and Mrs. Shanahan; Pat and Mrs. Hogan, Ballyine; Mr. and Mrs. B. McEnery; Maura Connolly; John Bourke; Mr. and Mrs. P. Wingfield; Michael and Mamie Histon; B. Woulfe, P. O'Callaghan, Ballynoe; Bridget and Margaret Nash; Jackie and Margaret O'Connor; Kitty Doherty; Michael Bourke, K. Lane, Croom; Con and Mrs. Mulcahy, Templeglantine.

Telegrams—John Galvin Dromcollogher; Nick Barry, Newmarket; Marion Griffin, Lisvernane; Agnes Mangan, Killee; Mabel Riordan and aunts, Limerick; Denis Healy and mother, Kilmahane; Alice M. Barrett, Toureen-Donnell.

Letters—Miss K. Culhane, Lisdoonvarna; N. S. Buckley, Bridge St.; Kitty Lane, Croom; Mother Mary Roberta Quinlan, Wisconsin; Sister Mary Brendan Quinlan, Belfast; Sister Mary Margaret Francis Lane, New Jersey; James Mulcahy, Rev. Dom Arnold, O.S.B., Devon; Sister M. Alphonsus, Convent of Poor Clares, Kenmare; Ben Two-mey, Tullylease, etc.

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## FOUND DEAD IN BED

Mr. Joe Mulqueen, Knockaderry, was found dead in bed on Thursday morning of last week (writes our Knockaderry correspondent). He was a well known local character. He served with the British Army in Egypt during the first world war, and used to tell interesting anecdotes of his service, especially his examination of the Catacombs. He worked at Ardnacrusha during the full time of operation there, and on many occasions walked from Knockaderry to Limerick on Sunday evenings to be at his work on Monday morning. He was a great historian, and was a reader of Church history since its earliest ages. His splendid handwriting was his special feature. He was a pupil of Mr. Michael O'Callaghan, at Castlemahon, nearly 60 years

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