

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.

The Catholic University of Ireland, though brought into existence by the accidental circumstances of the day, really owes its foundation to the reasonableness or even necessity of the principle, that a country, possessed of intellectual and moral characteristics proper to itself, should not be without some great central School, for the development of the national genius and the expression of the national mind, according to those elementary laws of opinion and sentiment, which belong to it in history and by inheritance. As England glories in her own Universities, as being institutions cognate to her peculiar social temperament, and uses them as abodes and as organs of her peculiar nationalism; so it is natural that Ireland too should require some corresponding seat of mental activity, and its establishment, when once she began to think and act for herself, was only a matter of time.

Passing over the historical circumstances of its origin, not as unimportant, but as unnecessary and irrelevant to the present sketch, let it suffice to say that collections were commenced in behalf of the Catholic University of Ireland under the authority of the Bishops in the year 1851, and that Professors were appointed in three of its Faculties, and its Schools opened, in the autumn of 1854. It is now commencing its fourth year, and, though its organization is still incomplete, and its classes have not reached their full development, its success hitherto has surpassed the expectations of even zealous supporters, and it has the promise of a steady progress and a satisfactory consolidation in the years which are now before us.

It embraces the five Faculties of Theology, Law, Medicine, Philosophy and Letters, and Science; of which the three latter are at present actually set up and in operation.

I. The Faculty of Theology is not as yet in full operation. A beginning has however been made. A double course of lectures, in Theology and Canon Law alternately, has been commenced, and will be continued to the end of the Session.

There are seven Professors in the Faculty of Medicine; sixteen in that of Philosophy and Letters; and six in that of Science. Deducting those Professors who belong to more Faculties than one, and those who are extraordinary, the whole number of Professors in work in the three Faculties above mentioned, is nineteen.

II. The Faculty of Medicine is established in the large Medical House in Cecilia Street, which contains under its roof two theatres, dissecting rooms, rooms for anatomical preparations, and a chemical laboratory.

This laboratory has been fitted up upon the plan of those established in connection with several of the German Universities, and is designed to meet the wants of three classes of students: 1. those who propose to study chemistry for purely scientific purposes, among which may be named chemico-physiological investigations; 2. those who require a knowledge of chemistry for practical purposes, as agriculture, mining, metallurgy, the various chemical manufactures—bleaching, dyeing, tanning, brewing, distilling, sugar-boiling, paper-making, etc., and civil engineering; 3. students of medicine, who are required to attend one or more courses of lectures on practical chemistry during the summer months.

The course of instruction will be adapted to the objects which each class of students may have in view. Considerable facilities will be afforded to those who intend to devote themselves to industrial pursuits, of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the processes employed in analyzing manures, ores, alloys, salts, barks, dye stuffs, pigments, pharmaceutical preparations, etc.

Besides the regular University lectures on chemistry, the syllabus of which is given in the programme of the Faculty of Science, and which are common to the students of the Faculties of Science and Medicine, and open to auditors on payment of the usual fees, special lectures will be given from time to time, on such branches of chemical science as may appear to be necessary to meet the requirements of particular laboratory students, and which are not comprised in the regular University courses.

With the view of affording students of medicine, etc., an opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of practical pharmacy, a very complete steam apparatus, including vacuum pan, steam engine, etc., constructed by Mr. J. A. Coffey, of London, has been fitted up. This apparatus will also afford facilities for showing the various new applications of steam in the arts, and the manipulation of the vacuum pan in sugar-boiling, etc., etc.

The laboratory is open for students on every day of the week during the session, Saturdays and academical holidays excepted.

The fees for laboratory instruction, which include the cost of all apparatus and materials,—platinum and silver vessels, and salts of gold, silver, platinum, etc., excepted,—must necessarily depend upon the kind and amount of instruction required.

Although it is recommended to students who propose to work in the laboratory, to enter at the commencement of the academic session, they may do so at any other period.

The Medical Faculty is also in possession of the celebrated Munich Library.

This library is the result of the united collections made since an early period of the last century, by some eminent medical philosophers of Germany. It has been most recently enriched by the additions of Dr. von Ringseis, Rector of the University of Munich, from whose hands it has passed directly into the possession of the Catholic University of Ireland. It comprises over 5,000 volumes, including some of the richest and most *recherché* works in medical literature, from the earliest periods of printing. It may be said to represent the select medical literature of the chief schools which have flourished in Europe. The languages which it comprises are Greek, Latin, French, German, Dutch, Italian, and English.

It has also a Medical Lodging House attached to it, in No. 41 York Street, presided over by one of the University Anatomical Demonstrators, and containing accommodation for such students as are willing to avail themselves of it. The terms of board and lodging in this House are £30 for the academic year of nine months.

The Fees of the Medical School are as follows:—

Qualified Matriculated Students, Free; Non-Matriculated Students, £2 2s. for each course.

At the termination of the Session Public Examinations will be held, when, in addition to the usual Prizes in each class, Three Gold Medals will be awarded for the best answering in the following combined subjects:—

1. Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry.

2. Surgery and Practice of Medicine.

3. Chemistry, Materia Medica, and Medical Jurisprudence.

The Examination consists of three parts—Written, *Viva Voce*, Practical, or Demonstrative.

The Certificates issued for attendance on Lectures at this

School are fully recognized and received by the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, the Colleges of Surgeons of Dublin, London, and Edinburgh, the Queen's University in Ireland, the Universities of London, Glasgow, Aberdeen, and St. Andrew's, the Faculty of Glasgow, the Army, Navy, and East India Medical Boards, and by the Apothecaries' Halls, Dublin and London.

III. The Faculty of Philosophy and Letters holds its schools in the University House at No. 86 Stephen's Green. Here too is the University Library, which was commenced with the books of the late Most Rev. Dr. Murray, and has been increased by the valuable library left by the Very Rev. Dr. Flanagan, late P.P. of St. Nicholas, by the library of Mr. Valentine Delany, and by the splendid donations of Mr. Hope Scott, and of other friends of the University.

In the present year its Professors are lecturing or will lecture on Aristotle's Rhetoric, Thucydides, Sophocles, the *Cyropædia*, Horace, Logic and Metaphysics, Public Law, the History of the Early Church, the Antiquities of Egypt and Palestine, Modern History, English History and Literature, Modern Languages, Algebra, Euclid, and Conic Sections.

In conjunction with the Faculty of Science it prepares young men for the examinations necessary for the Army, the Artillery, the Civil Services, and for the Profession of Civil Engineering.

Special Courses of Lectures, two years in length, are arranged for such Students as are desirous of qualifying themselves for these Examinations.

IV. The Course of Studies prescribed by the Faculty of Science is the subject of a separate Advertisement.

V. It is proposed to establish an Observatory, for the twofold object of advancing science by systematic researches, and of affording to the senior students in the faculty of science ample opportunities for becoming acquainted with the methods generally practised in the sciences of exact observation.

VI. It is also proposed to form a University Museum, comprising: i. A collection illustrative of general natural history. ii. A mineralogical collection, consisting of: 1. Series of known mineral species; 2. Series illustrative of form, including pseudomorphs, etc.; 3. Series illustrative of structure. iii. A geological collection, consisting of: 1. A series illustrative of the nature and structure of rocks; 2. A paleontological collection, or series of

fossil organic remains. iv. Collection of models and materials in connection with civil engineering and architecture. v. An art collection, which will include statuary, painting, engravings, carvings in wood, ivory, etc., cameos, seals, niello, enamels, fictile manufactures, mediæval church and other artistically wrought textile fabrics. vi. An ethnological collection, consisting of the weapons, implements of chase, domestic utensils, dress, etc., of the various barbaric or semi-civilized nations, especially those connected with Irish missionary enterprise.

No suitable building has yet been provided for such collections, but a nucleus has already been formed, which it is hoped will be rapidly enlarged. This nucleus consists of a donation by the late Monsignore Bettachini, of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri, Bishop of Jaffna, of a great number of specimens of the birds, amphibiae, and recent shells of Ceylon; and an extremely interesting collection of Greek *terra cotta* vases, etc., found in making some excavations in the neighbourhood of Athens by Major Patterson, and presented by him to the University; a small but choice collection of minerals, rocks, etc., obtained by purchase.

VII. The University Church in Stephen's Green is used for the University High Mass and Sermon, for the Senate, for the Distribution of Prizes, for the Theological Disputations, and other formal University acts. Room is provided for the accommodation of strangers, it being capable of holding 900 or 1000 persons.

On the first of January, 1857, the Students in Lecture in these three Faculties amounted to 110.

VIII. The Burses, Exhibitions, and Prizes, given to the students, are as follows:—

1. Ten Burses for two years, of £40 a-year each, for students in Philosophy and Letters, who are destined at the end of that time to enter the Schools of Medicine, or of any other Faculty in this University; the presentation being in the hands of the Bishops.

2. Two Exhibitions of £35 a-year each, to last two years, for classical and mathematical proficiency respectively, open to the competition of students who have passed their first examination, which takes place at the end of two years' standing.

3. Two Exhibitions of £25 a-year each, to last two years, for classical and mathematical proficiency respectively, open to the competition of students who are not of two years' standing.

4. Seven Prizes of £5 each, offered year by year to the competition of students under four years' standing, five of them for literary compositions in prose or verse, and two of them for acquaintance with some mathematical work or subject.

5. Medical Prizes as above.

6. A Prize of books given to the best students at each of the Affiliated Schools after the annual examination.

7. A free Burse for four years, offered once a-year to the competition of students belonging to the Affiliated Schools.

IX. There are at present four Collegiate Houses in the University for the accommodation of students; St. Patrick's, St. Mary's, St. Laurence's, and our Lady's of Mount Carmel. The Pension varies with the Houses and the students. At St. Patrick's it is £60 the Session, which includes all expenses except the entrance and examination fees of £1 each. The only extras, which a student need have in addition, are the cost of books, clothes, and medicine.

The Collegiate Houses are governed by a Dean, who lives in the House and is the Chaplain. He avails himself of the assistance of Sub-Dean, and Tutor or Tutors, intern or extern, as he judges it expedient. The aid of Private Tutorial Instruction, in addition to Professorial Lectures, is included in the Pension. This aid is best given, when possible, by an Intern Tutor, whose office answers generally to that of a Private Tutor at Oxford and Cambridge, or of a German Professor or Doctor who takes private pupils. It is the office of the Tutor to prepare his Pupils for the Professorial Lectures and the successive Examinations; and, as he has to act, not as their superior, but as their friend, he has no coercive jurisdiction over them.

X. 1. Such Students as are inmates of the Collegiate Houses are the formal Intern members of the University; but there are two other classes of persons who are considered practically as Interns, and have the same privileges as Interns.

2. First, those who, though boarding and sleeping at home, enter themselves at some Collegiate House, and place themselves under its jurisdiction during the business hours of the day, that is, from nine or ten o'clock to three. These Students have, among other privileges, the full Tutorial instruction of Interns.

3. Secondly, those who are members merely of a Licensed House; the conditions of a Licensed House being, that its responsible Holder is a member of the University, and that its Discipline is not more stringent than that to which proper Externs are submitted. The Medical Lodging House, mentioned above, is one of these Licensed Houses.

4. These are the two classes of quasi-Interns. As to Externs proper, they are such students as lodge at home or in an approved Lodging, and have nothing found for them (as board, tuition, etc.) by the University.

5. Auditors are such as, without being entered, or passing the Examinations, attend the Lectures of the University.

6. Non-residents are such as, without attending the Lectures of the University, are entered and pass the Examinations.

Thus there are six different methods, of more or less intimate connexion with the University. 1. That of Interns, living in Collegiate Houses. 2. Interns, attending Collegiate Houses. 3. Interns, living in Licensed Houses. 4. Externs. 5. Auditors. 6. Non-residents. To which may be added, 7. Auditors and Non-residents who are in the same position as Externs, except that they are beyond University jurisdiction.

TABLE OF FEES

(For first year; succeeding years are either the same or less).

	Collegiate House. £	Professors' Money. £	Entrance Fee. £	Total. £
Interns proper, in Collegiate Houses, .	50	10	1	61
Interns improper, with use of Tutor,				
1. Attached to Collegiate Houses,	10	10	1	21
2. In Licensed Houses, <i>e. g.</i> , Medical Lodging Houses,				
Externs proper,	0	10	5	15
Auditors,	0	10	0	10
Non-residents,	Fees of Membership and Examination.			

XI. The Intern's day is made up of attendance at Mass, attendance at Lectures, recreation, preparation of Lectures, etc. He must be indoors in the evening at a fixed hour.

The Extern must be indoors at ten at night. He attends the University High Mass, and observes his religious duties, as the Intern.

XII. Affiliated Schools are such Grammar Schools through the country as are subject to the yearly inspection of the University. The pupils are examined, and, as is mentioned above, are rewarded by Prizes at school, and by Burses in the University.

XIII. The grades or ranks in the University are those of Student, Scholar, Inceptor, Licentiate, and Doctor or Fellow of the University. Of these the real dignities or degrees are the Scholarship, Licentiate, and Doctorate.

The members of the University are examined:—1. At Entrance, when they become “Students”; 2. formally at the end of two years, when they become “Scholars”; 3. at the end of the third year, when they become “Inceptors”; and 4. formally at the end of the fourth, when they become “Licentiates”.

The Entrance Examination, which is the only one requiring notice here, has for its one object that of ascertaining the suitable preparation of the Candidate for attending and profiting by the University Lectures. He is made to construe Greek and Latin books, and to translate into Latin, with this sole object. For the same reason he is examined in the Catechism, and in the first elements of Ancient Geography, Chronology, History, Arithmetic, and Geometry.

There is a private Collegiate Examination at the end of every Term.

Those who are destined for Professions, ordinarily betake themselves to the Faculties of Medicine, Science, etc., after passing the Examination for the Scholarship at the end of two years from entrance.

XIV. The Academical Year or Session lasts from the beginning of November to nearly the end of July. It is divided into three terms, before Christmas, and before and after Easter.

Further information concerning the University may be obtained from the Annual Calendar, the Prospectus, and other Papers, all of which may be obtained by letter, or on application, to Thomas Scratton, Esq., the Secretary, at his Office, 87 Stephen's Green, where he is to be found daily from ten to four, Sundays and Holydays excepted.

