

structural principles and findings, while our education acknowledges no restrictions whatever. We have only to recognize this and those within our self-imposed bounds in order to make very short work of Irish education. The time seems to have come when the most abject and servile imitations are the most truly just and honest. It is not of the smallest use to talk of further remedial measures until the present clogged machinery in the law is crushed out. The Government will, we trust, deal with measures of cost, and will adopt whatever methods are practicable for giving effect to Mr. Burke's forthcoming action. But these things are easier than we are unless we begin by crushing the law and making a clean sweep of the whole machinery of education. The minister of crown law matters is one who does not belong to the collection of rent, and purchase of his holding can offer no inducement; the Irish tenant will be thoroughly convinced that no agitation and no manufacturing will enable him to get it for nothing. Discussion of remedial measures whether of one kind or another must remain purely academic, until the authority by which they must be promulgated brings home to every Irish peasant the conviction that it cannot be trifled with.

Yesterday, at his quiet English home, one of the greatest of our countrymen passed away. Indolent and almost without warning the long and noble life of Francis Dawson came to an end. He had reached the age of seventy-three, and though his health, always delicate, had lately shown signs of giving way, he died almost literally in harness, working to the last. To-day, and for a long time to come, he will be mourned by all those in every land who are appreciative his vast services to knowledge, and who honor a lifelong devotion to truth; but with the mourning there will be joined also thoughts that he was happy in living so long, surrounded by devoted friends, and spared not only to do the work that he had set himself to do, but to see it accepted on every side. The story which he told around "The Origin of Species" at its first appearance has not faded. Even the wildest are "clinging themselves to their preconceptions," and are beginning to regard Evolution as a hypothesis which may in a measure be harmonized with their old principles. The story of such scenes as those which took place at the celebrated meeting of the British Association at Oxford, in 1881, and of the battle royal between Huxley, Wallace, and the young and ardent Mr. Storer, reads at the present day like a scene from ancient history; like an episode in the persecution of Galileo, or a preliminary to the emancipation of America. The time has gone by when it was considered possible to extinguish a scientific hypothesis by authority. Moreover, in little more than twenty years, that which is called the Darwinian hypothesis has established itself as, practically speaking, one of the accepted generalizations of science. It is not too much to say that there is no man of real scientific influence in Europe or America who does not owe hold to it in the main. In Germany, in England, in the United States, all that even its former opponents now venture to do is to deny its applicability to certain cases; and in France, though official science still struggles against it, the attitude of the independent sciences is rather that of accepting Mr. Darwin's views, while giving as much as possible of the credit of them to the Frenchman himself. Now is it only in the province of exact thought that this fertile life has taken root. All the world now sees Darwinian phrases, which have passed into the language of every day. We talk familiarly of "development," of "the struggle for existence," of the "survival of the fittest." Those who would be at a loss