

A pretty Limerick bride weds in London. A very pretty wedding took place at the Sacred Heart Church, Quix Road, London, of Naval Officer, Michael Murchen, first son of Mr. and Mrs. Murchen, Kilburn, London, to Miss Pearl Cullinane, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cullinane, Coolree, Ballyorgan, Co. Limerick.

History of College

In 1882, Mungret College was established by the Jesuits. From the very outset its courses were directed towards the acquiring of the Matriculation and the full University Arts Degree. It developed the education of its students through the usual Jesuit course: Rudiments, In 1889 at the Public Conferring of Degrees on October 31 at the University Building, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin, Lord Emly, who presided, referred to the success of Mungret in the following terms:

"A new college that I happen to take a particular interest in has been formed at Mungret, in the South of Ireland, and is, I believe, the only Catholic College outside Dublin which confines itself altogether to University education. It has magnificent buildings, ample lecture halls and one of the most beautiful chapels, I think, in Ireland. At the last examination the distinguished success of its students showed how admirable its teaching must be."

"From the fact of this dawn being so bright may we not hope that when the full day comes Mungret may occupy again in the province of learning that position which in this very spot it had occupied twelve hundred years ago." "Freeman's Journal," Nov. 1st, 1888.

In that year 1888 Mungret secured more distinctions in the arts examinations than either Queen's College, Cork, or Queen's College, Galway.

Mungret did present candidates for the Intermediate Board Examination from time to time but its curriculum was formed for the matriculation and the arts degree. From 1886 to the year of its suppression in 1909 it never failed to present students for matriculation, and all three arts examinations of the R.U.I.

Its figures for the B.A. degree successes in comparison with the three university colleges outside Dublin and Belfast in 1900 and the

last two years are:

	1900	1907	1908
Mungret	7	4	4
Q.C., Galway	4	6	6
Q.C., Cork	3	3	2
Magee (Derry)	4	1	1

For the last 10 years of the Royal University the total passes were:— Mungret, 44; Galway, 72; Cork, 41; Magee, 38.

Cork and Galway had 20 professors each Fellows of the R.U.I. Magee College, Derry, had several Fellows, all paid by the R.U.I. Mungret had not one penny piece from any public funds!

Further like the Scottish universities all these colleges prepared students for the matriculation. Galway and Cork prepared few in later years. The totals for all university examinations including matriculation from 1886 onwards are:—

Mungret—969.
Q.C., Galway—936.
Q.C., Cork—599.
Magee College—543.

In the later years before this model residential tutor of Arts Faculty was extinguished by the National University of Ireland Act, 1908, the leading Professor was Father Edward Cahill, S.J., a Limerickman from Rathkeale. A graduate of Mungret College with the highest distinction, Father Cahill waged a battle for the preservation of University status for Mungret and Limerick. But he failed to win support.

The writer hopes to give an account of this at some future date. It is no empty rhetoric to say that the present University Com-

mittee feels that the mantle of Smith O'Brien has fallen on its shoulders. May it be guided and inspired by the spirit of the great and saintly Jesuit, Father Cahill, in the century-old struggle to fulfil the hope expressed by Lord Emly in 1888.

—GERARD O'CONNOR.

FOOTNOTE — The historian, Miss Eleanor Hull, blames the intolerance of the Irish Bishops for the failure of the Queen's University. But what could they do in the century of Kent, Comte, Renan, Leibnitz, Strauss, Hegel, Herbert Spencer and those of the English philosophers, whose materialistic atheism has enslaved more than half the world to-day. To say they are tolerant to-day is sheer nonsense. The number of full-time students at University College, Cork, is 1,362. The number of non-Catholics is: Church of Ireland, 5; the Church of England, 3; Jews, 2. Thus, there are 99.2 per cent. of Catholics in the College. There are more non-Catholics on the staff than in the student body. And yet the Bishops do not protest against the non-denominationalism of the College, "which" in the words of Don Francis McHenry, O.S.B., Glenstal Abbey, "precludes them obviously from realising the full Catholic ideal" — *Limerick Leader*, March 16, 1963.

The writer would like to acknowledge borrowings from Professor Anthony Kerr's "Universities of Europe" in the analysis of the function of a University.

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DUBLIN and CORK

anxious to make a university settlement as some recompense but he would not listen to the Bishops. Some, principally Dr. Munnary, Archbishop of Dublin, were anxious to give the colleges a trial as was Thomas Davis, leader of Young Ireland. But rescript after rescript came from Rome and in 1850, at the Synod of Thurles, the colleges were condemned and attendance of Catholics was forbidden. Thus when the colleges were opened in 1850 few Catholics attended. Limerick consoled itself that it had lost little. In this Limerick was wrong. It had lost a splendid set of buildings which would have made all the difference in 1910. Grammar, Poetry, Syntax, Rhetoric to the Arts Degree. By 1885 it was presenting students for the Royal University Examinations. Peel had run counter to two