

**THE RELIGIOUS TEACHING OF CHURCH
TRAINING SCHOOLS, A COLLECTION OF
THE QUESTIONS
GIVEN IN THE THE ANNUAL
GOVERNMENT EXAMINATION OF THOSE
INSTITUTIONS, FROM 1861 TO 1870**

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The Religious Teaching of Church Training Schools, a Collection of the Questions Given in the Annual Government Examination of Those Institutions, from 1861 to 1870 by Benjamin Morgan Cowie

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BENJAMIN MORGAN COWIE

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FROM 1861 TO 1870.

EDITED BY

BENJAMIN MORGAN COWIE, B. D.

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One of H.M.'s Inspectors of Schools,
and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen.



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INTRODUCTION.

THE change which takes place this year in the relation of our Church Schools and Training Colleges in the matter of Religious Instruction to the Government of the Country, is a very important one for many reasons.

Hitherto, by an agreement made by the late Archbishop Howley with the Lord President of the Council, all the Inspectors appointed by Her Majesty to inspect and examine Church Schools, were to be persons in Holy Orders. The Archbishop had a veto on each appointment, and reports were to be made to the Archbishops of each Province by the Inspectors, as well as to the Lords of Committee of Council. Her Majesty's Inspectors were specially to inquire into the Religious Knowledge of the Children and Students in training in Church Schools. In British and Nonconformist Schools the Inspectors were laymen, and were *not* to inquire into the religious instruction given (if any).

Henceforth, in order to treat all classes alike, and to avoid the appearance of giving a State sanction to the religious instruction of children of the Church, while it is withheld from the children of Nonconformist parents, the inspection and examination by the Officers appointed by the State are to be exclusively on secular subjects.

The Church has been therefore compelled to make new arrangements for securing effectual supervision and encouragement of religious instruction.

With respect to the Training Colleges, the Archbishops have appointed the Reverend Canon Norris of Bristol as their Examiner, and on him and on his successors will henceforth rest the responsibility of securing efficient instruction and competent knowledge in our School Teachers.

Ever since the Training Colleges have been in existence, there has been a continual and close supervision of their work, including the religious instruction given to their inmates by Lectures and definite Teaching in the Class Room, as well as of the moral and dogmatic Teaching from the pulpit of their several chapels.

The Examination Questions given for the last ten years are here collected together, and put into a convenient form for reference.

The testimony of the Bishops and many others interested in National Education has been frequently given

in commendation of the Religious Examinations held by Government Officers.

It is also important to show that the range over which religious instruction can extend (without introducing questions which are of extreme importance, but which diverging schools of thought treat very differently,) is very large, and includes so much that the absence of these delicate subjects is scarcely noticeable.

It is also hoped that there will not be any sudden change in the system pursued, and that past Examination Questions may still be guides both to Lecturers and Students.

The Church at large may here see what has been the character of the religious instruction given to the present School Teachers, while passing through their short Collegiate Life, and hence may conclude what will be the religious teaching of the Schoolmaster and Schoolmistress, especially as regards the Pupil Teachers whom they are now bringing up.

On this depends in a great degree the future of our country. The righteousness which exalteth a nation must be the righteousness which is by the faith of Christ, and the hearts of our people must be prepared to receive the grace of God, by diligent cultivation: sound knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, as the Word of God, and of the Book of Common Prayer as the Manual of Devotion, is essential to make men good and honest members of our branch of the Holy Catholic Church;

and this collection of Examination Questions is now prepared to be put into the hands of School Teachers, Pupil Teachers, and Students in Church Training Schools, with the hope that it may in some degree promote that knowledge which maketh wise unto salvation.

B. M. C.

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EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ADMISSION
TO TRAINING SCHOOLS.

THE same paper of questions was given to young men and young women, when they were examined to ascertain whether they were sufficiently advanced to profit by the lectures and systematic work of a Training College. For answering these questions the time allowed was three hours. Candidates were directed not to answer more than one question in each section.
