

**STATE POLICY IN IRISH
EDUCATION, A.D. 1536 TO 1816,
EXEMPLIFIED IN DOCUMENTS
COLLECTED FOR LECTURES TO
POSTGRADUATE CLASSES**

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State policy in Irish education, A.D. 1536 to 1816, exemplified in documents collected for lectures to postgraduate classes by T. Corcoran

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T. CORCORAN

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STATE POLICY IN IRISH EDUCATION

A.D. 1536 to 1816

EXEMPLIFIED IN DOCUMENTS COLLECTED
FOR LECTURES TO POSTGRADUATE CLASSES
WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY

THE REV. T. CORCORAN, D.LITT.,

PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION IN THE
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND
(UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN)

Author of "Studies in the History of Classical Education,
Irish and Continental"

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TO THE
MEMBERS

Preface.

THE texts in this volume have been collected for class-work with Advanced Students in the Department of Education, at University College, Dublin.

A Postgraduate Training Course in the Theory and Practice of Education must necessarily afford but a limited place to the study of the History of Education. But with such students and in such a Course it is desirable that some important historical issue in Education be worked at in its documentary sources; and such an issue may best be sought in the History of Educational Practice within their own country. The subject here dealt with has these qualifications, and has the further advantage that it affords an exceptionally apposite introduction to, and basis of comparison with, the special subject treated in a further Course for the Degree of M.A. in Educational Science, on the Development (since the French Revolution) of State Control of Education in France, Germany, and Great Britain.

The due limits of the present subject precluded any treatment of other Irish branches of the History of Education within the period. Such are (1) the Irish Colleges on the Continent, A.D. 1590-1789, and (2) the Schools of Irish law, history, and poetry, conducted by many scholar-families, lingering on in one or two cases till 1750. Such families were the O'Clerys in Tyrconnell, the O'Davorens of Cahermacnaughten and Noughaval in Clare (1350-1600), and the MacEgans (see Documents, Part I. No. 34), who for fifteen generations maintained higher studies in Irish at Duniry, Park, and Tullach-na-Daly in Galway, Ballymacegan (Redwood) in Lower Ormond, and Annaghmeadle and Castletown in Ely O'Carroll. This work depended on their possession of the lands assigned them for such service by the great septs, Celtic or Norman, educated by them 'in poetry and well-proven law'; and so they were sore stricken by the vast confiscations of the 17th century.

These subjects, and also the history of Irish learning and scholarship at home and in Europe, A.D. 800-1300, with the History of

PREFACE.

Education in Ireland since 1816, will, it is hoped, be dealt with in further volumes for which considerable materials are now collected.

The present work is primarily intended for use with students : but it may perhaps prove of some help to other readers. The purpose of the Introduction is to suggest the examination of certain issues in the History of Education, in Ireland and in other countries. By express design, therefore, the Documents are not therein dealt with exhaustively. The Indexes, too, are planned so as to aid in the use of the Documents, but not to permit students to dispense themselves from personal work on the texts.

The references provided throughout will be easily understood. The Calendars of State Papers (S.P.), materials in the Public Record Office, Ireland (P.R.O.), and the publications of the Historical Manuscripts Commission (Hist. MSS. Comm.) are often cited. The 'Hogan Transcripts' are a large collection of copies of letters and other papers, made at Rome, Brussels, and elsewhere, from 1864 to 1900, by the Rev. Edmund Hogan, S.J., D.Litt. To him, as well as to Stanislaus Murphy, Esqr., Secretary, Commissioners of Education ; to my colleagues, Professors Mary T. Hayden, M.A., and George Sigerson, M.D. ; and to the Library staffs of The Royal Irish Academy, the King's Inns, the National Library of Ireland, and the University Library, Cambridge, my sincere thanks are due for assistance given me.

T. C.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN,

1916.

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