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1864

Testimonials

IN FAVOUR OF THE

REV. JOHN BURNELL PAYNE, ^{M.}~~B.A.~~,

CANDIDATE FOR THE PROFESSORSHIP OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
AND HISTORY AT OWEN'S COLLEGE, MANCHESTER.

I N D E X.

- I. Professor Birkbeck.
- II. E. E. Bowen, Esq.
- III. Rev. W. G. Clark.
- IV. Rev. T. L. Kinsbury.
- V. F. T. Palgrave, Esq.
- VI. H. Sidgwick, Esq.
- VII. C. A. Buchheim, Ph.D.
- VIII. H. Lee Warner, Esq.
- IX. Henry Jackson, M.A.
- X. A. Sidgwick.
- XI. Oscar Browning.
- XII. F. C. Hodgson.
- XIII. A. C. Swinburne.
- XIV. Thos. Woolmer.
- XV. Thos. Hodgson.
- XVI. A. W. Benson.
- XVII. T. H. Fisher.
- XVIII. Joseph Bickersteth.
- XIX. De Guingand.

WELLINGTON COLLEGE,

May 12, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,

In forwarding for your inspection my Testimonials, I beg to state a few other particulars which I think may be important.

I am 27 years of age, and unmarried.

In 1858 I took the Degree of B.A. in the University of London, with Classical Honours.

I had previously studied for two years at University College, London. The length of time since my connection with University College ceased, alone prevented my troubling the Trustees with Testimonials from my Tutors there, who were good enough to help me to gain a position as private tutor shortly after my leaving there.

In 1860 I entered at Trinity College, Cambridge, which I left in 1862, on gaining a Scholarship, open to the whole University, at Downing College.

In 1864 I took the Degree of B.A., and was in the Second Class in Classical Honours, First Class in the Moral Sciences Tripos.

After Christmas 1864-5 I became an Assistant-Master here, and at the Christmas Ordination 1865-6 I was ordained Deacon by the Bishop of Oxford.

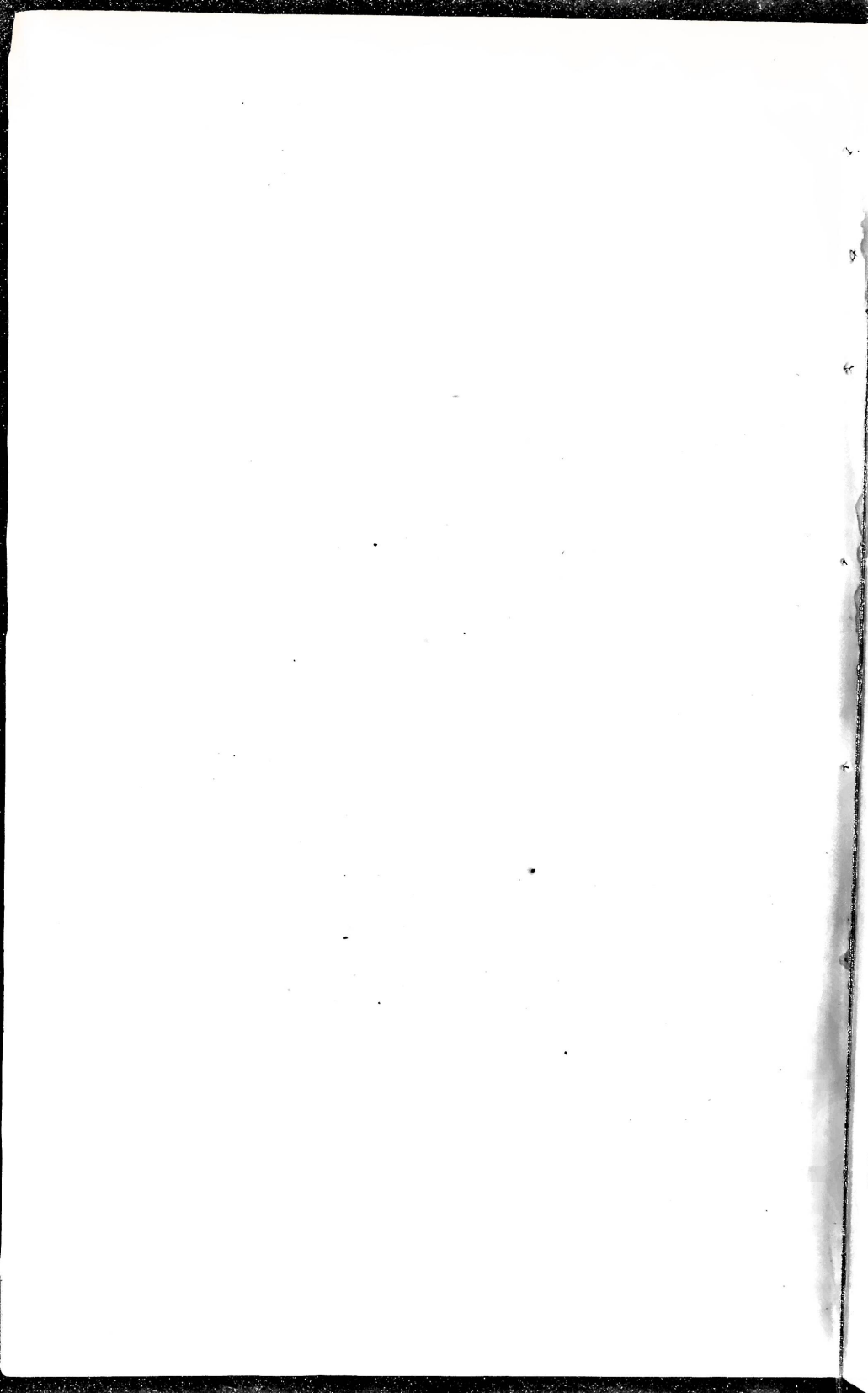
Trusting that if I receive the honour of your selection I may deserve it, and assured that my best efforts will in that case be devoted to the service of your College,

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. B. PAYNE,

The Trustees of Owen's College, Manchester,



TESTIMONIALS.

I.*

DOWNING COLLEGE,

June 1st, 1864.

MY DEAR SIR,

FROM the opportunity I have had of forming an opinion, I believe you possess very considerable knowledge of English and General Literature, as well as the power of expressing your views with facility and clearness. I have no doubt that you would perform with much ability the duties of the office for which you are a candidate.

Believe me, my dear Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

W. LL. BIRKBECK,

*Downing Professor of Laws in the
University of Cambridge.*

To J. B. Payne, Esq.

* This Testimonial and others marked with an asterisk were presented in support of an application for the Professorship of English Literature at Lampeter College.

II.*

HARROW, N.W.

GENTLEMEN,

Having been informed that my friend Mr. J. B. PAYNE is a candidate for the Professorship of English Literature and History at Owen's College, I have no hesitation in stating my belief that the College will be most fortunate should it succeed in obtaining his services.

Everyone who has known Cambridge for the last few years must be aware of the reputation which Mr. PAYNE has acquired for proficiency in these and kindred subjects. I am not in a position to speak with authority on his classical attainments, to which he will of course find many to do justice; but I know him to be well versed in the literature of our own country as well as that of others, and to be, both in speaking and in writing, no mean master of the language.

By his knowledge, fluency, and taste, Mr. PAYNE is eminently fitted for lecturing a class; and his general ability and high character will be esteemed by every student.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. E. BOWEN,

Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge; Assistant-Master in Harrow School.

III.

CAMBRIDGE.

MR. J. BURNELL PAYNE, B.A., of Downing College, and late of Trinity, informs me that he is a candidate for the vacant Professorship at Owen's College.

I have much pleasure in stating that in my opinion he is well qualified for such an office. He has excellent abilities, and an extensive knowledge of Modern Literature, English, German, and French. As he is also able to express himself with fluency, he would, in my opinion, be an effective lecturer.

W. G. CLARK,

*Tutor of Trinity College (Public Orator
in the University).*

IV*.

TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

I HAVE known Mr. PAYNE intimately for some years, and have great pleasure in expressing my conviction that he is eminently fitted by his literary tastes and habits, an extraordinarily wide range of reading, and his familiar acquaintance with other modern literatures beside that of his own country, to discharge with peculiar efficiency and credit the duties of the post for which he is a candidate.

Having received his education partly in Germany, he has diligently availed himself of the opportunities thus afforded him of acquiring a familiar and accurate knowledge of the language and literature of that country, and his proficiency in both respects is such as even the most cultivated Englishmen very rarely attain to.

T. L. KINGSBURY,
Chaplain of Trinity College.

V

WHITEHALL.

HAVING had the pleasure of knowing Mr. J. B. PAYNE for some years, and having myself had considerable experience in the line of work which he is desirous of carrying on at Manchester, I think that I may, without presumption, express the opinion that he possesses more than common qualifications for a "Professorship of English Literature, Language, and History." In English Literature, which has more frequently been discussed between us, he seems to me to have an unusually wide and accurate range of knowledge, with a lively power of criticising what he has read. I think him a man successful in giving others the interest which he himself feels in literature, and that, as a teacher, he would be eminently likely to lead his pupils to a broad, and, at the same time, an accurate knowledge of his subject.

F. T. PALGRAVE,
*Late Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, and Vice-
President of the Kneller Hall Normal
Training School; at present Examiner in the
Education Office.*

VI.*

GENTLEMEN,

I am requested to testify to the qualifications of Mr. J. B. PAYNE for the Professorship of English and General Literature. I have known Mr. Payne intimately for some years, and am convinced that he is unusually well qualified for such a post. His acquaintance with our own literature, especially the earlier writers, is very extensive. His knowledge of the French and German languages is accurate and complete, and his familiarity with the best writings in those languages remarkable in an Englishman. He has a sensitive perception of style, and a sound and cultivated judgment of literary merit of all kinds. He has laboriously mastered the writings of the most important thinkers in England and on the Continent, since the re-awakening of thought in Europe; and has successfully trained his mind to take profound and philosophic views of all subjects upon which he employs it. He, moreover, combines with this capacity for wide and general views a strong interest in the individualities of different authors, and a genuine enthusiasm which would prevent the study of literature from ever becoming a dry and lifeless one in his hands.

I cannot but add, that he possesses in a high degree the power of stimulating other minds with which he comes into contact, and of communicating to them his own vivid intellectual interest. This faculty, combined with the clearness of head and readiness of expression that he possesses, can hardly fail to render him a successful teacher.

I am, Gentlemen,

Faithfully yours,

HENRY SIDGWICK,

*Fellow and Assistant Tutor of Trinity College,
Cambridge.*

VII.

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON,
May 11th, 1866.

ENJOYING the privilege of a personal acquaintance with Mr. PAYNE, of Wellington College, I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to his high literary attainments, and to his perfect knowledge of the history and literature, not only of his own country, but also of that of Germany and France. As a further recommendation of Mr. PAYNE, for whom I entertain the highest respect both as a scholar and a gentleman, I beg to add that he possesses in an eminent degree a sincere devotion to the educational profession, and that he is fully acquainted with the best methods of teaching.

C. A. BUCHHEIM, Ph.D.,

*Professor of the German Language and Literature
 in King's College; and Examiner in German
 to the University of London.*

 VIII.

RUGBY,
May 10, 1866.

MY DEAR PAYNE,

I HAVE much pleasure in being able to testify to my belief that you know more of English Literature than most of your and my contemporaries at Cambridge. If I am at all qualified to judge, your knowledge was of a very superior kind; and of this I am certain, that I often derived great instruction from a walk or a talk with you. Of your fitness for the place, as regards the interest you take in the subject, no one could doubt. Of your proficiency I have no doubt.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

H. LEE WARNER,

*Fellow of S. John's College, Cambridge, Assistant
 Master in Rugby School.*

IX.

HAVING been informed that Mr. J. B. PAYNE, of Downing College, Cambridge, is a candidate for the vacant Professorship of English Language and Literature at Owen's College, Manchester, I have great pleasure in testifying to my belief of his fitness for the post. During the last three years I have had frequent opportunities of forming an estimate of his knowledge and abilities. He has read extensively in all branches of literature: in particular he has studied our early authors with unusual care. I well remember his acute and just criticisms upon certain of our less known poets. His own style is fluent and lively. His love of the artistic, which amounts to enthusiasm, joined with a remarkable faculty of continuous exposition and great fertility of illustration, cannot fail to interest any audience.

I may add that Mr. PAYNE is well acquainted with the literature of Greece and Rome, and with the principal languages of modern Europe.

HENRY JACKSON, M.A.,
Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.

X.

RUGBY,
May 10, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,

MR. J. B. PAYNE was an intimate friend of mine during a considerable part of my residence at Cambridge, and I am therefore in a position to speak of his abilities not without confidence.

His acquaintance with English Literature is unusually extensive; and he is at the same time possessed of a vividness and fluency in his powers of expression which cannot fail to stimulate all whom he has to teach.

His critical powers are sensitive and developed; and he belongs to that small class, even among cultivated men, whose minds can be said to be really active.

As a teacher of any subject he knows, he would be undoubtedly good; of a subject with which he is so well acquainted as English Literature he would be most excellent.

Believe me,

Yours obediently,

ARTHUR SIDGWICK.

XI.

ETON COLLEGE,

May 11.

I AM extremely glad to hear that my friend the REV. J. B. PAYNE is a candidate for the Professorship of English Language, Literature, and History at Owen's College, Manchester, as, from his great knowledge of English and Foreign Literature, his cultivated taste for beauty, and his clearness and facility of expression, he appears to me admirably suited to fill such a post with credit.

OSCAR BROWNING,

Assistant Master at Eton College.

XII.

May 11, 1866.

I HAVE very great pleasure in stating that I believe Mr. J. B. PAYNE, who is now a Candidate for the Professorship of English Language and Literature at Owen's College, to be exceedingly well qualified by a wide acquaintance with English Literature for that position. I believe also that his intimate knowledge of the Language and Literature of France and Germany, as well as of the results of the Science of Comparative Philology, would render him highly qualified for the scientific Teaching of the English Language.

F. C. HODGSON,

Fellow of King's College, Cambridge.

XIII.

I HAVE enjoyed for some time the acquaintance of Mr. J. BURNELL PAYNE. No man who can say the same could fail to perceive and to admire his varied and accurate knowledge, his fine and critical relish of the higher literature. Few have ever seemed to me so fit to hold, so certain to adorn, an office in which this taste and this talent would find scope at once and use.

A. C. SWINBURNE.

Author of "Atalanta in Ceylon" and "Chartelard."

XIV.

29, WELBECK STREET, W.,

May 10, 1866.

I HAVE been acquainted with the REV. J. B. PAYNE for about eleven years, and, from numerous conversations during that time, believe him to possess not only an unusually extensive knowledge of English Literature, both prose and poetical, but likewise an exceedingly vivid power of expressing his own views upon the subject, and awakening a similar interest in his audience to that which he himself feels.

THOS. WOOLNER,

Author of "My Beautiful Lady."

XV.

May 10, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,

THOUGH my acquaintance with the REV. MR. PAYNE is of recent date, and though I have never had an opportunity of hearing him lecture, I have been frequently, in intercourse with him, been much impressed by the evidence he has incidentally given of his extensive knowledge and thoughtful appreciation of English Literature, and of the amount of reading that he has accomplished, not in careless haste, but with profitable result. From all that I know or have heard of him, I am much disposed to believe that if he were entrusted with the Professorship to which he aspires he would speedily earn a reputation for himself, to the great gain of the Students and the honour of the College.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

W. B. HODGSON, L.L.D.,

*Vice-President of the College of Preceptors,
Examiner in the University of London, &c.*

XVI.

May 10, 1866.

THE REV. J. B. PAYNE has been a year and a half a Master on the Modern side of Wellington College, and now has the most important part in the administration and teaching of the Modern Classes.

He is an excellent modern linguist, and is both widely read and most deeply interested in Modern Literature, English and Foreign. He is fond of teaching in itself as an art, and has most successfully cultivated it. I know, indeed, very few men whom I consider to be equally apt in catching a student's difficulties, weighing them, and meeting them by clear and lucid statement.

He has great promptness, and fluency of expression, and is happy in illustration.

Both by knowledge, therefore, and by cultivation, Mr. PAYNE appears to me to be excellently adapted for the public duties of the post which he now seeks; and at the same time his influence and example would, I am sure, be exceedingly stimulating to the private studies of his class.

E. W. BENSON,

*Master of Wellington College,
Late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.*

XVII.

WELLINGTON COLLEGE,

May 11.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE been associated here with Mr. PAYNE since he has been at the College, and have had opportunity of observing his knowledge of History, and his extensive acquaintance with English Literature; and if conversation be any criterion for public lecturing, I can also bear witness to his great dexterity in weaving his literary knowledge into what he says to those about him. He has, besides, always had among us the reputation of an excellent teacher.

I have the honour to be,

Yours obediently,

T. H. FISHER,

Mathematical Master

XVIII.

May 10th, 1866.

THE REV. J. B. PAYNE, attended my lectures in the Moral Sciences in St. John's College, and appeared to me to show not only great interest in the subject, but remarkable freshness of thought and power of expression. I believe that the Examiners for the Moral Sciences Tripos formed the same estimate of MR. PAYNE'S ability from the papers which he sent up in that examination.

I have little doubt that he would prove an effective lecturer.

JOSEPH BICKERSTETH MAYOR M.A.,
*Head Master of Kensington School; late Fellow and
 Tutor of St. John's College, Cambridge.*

XIX

MON CHER MONSIEUR PAYNE,

Si vous me demandez ce que je pense de votre connaissance de la langue et de la littérature Française, je répondrai à cela, toute considération de camaraderie mise de côté, que je vous crois aussi bien versé dans la littérature Française qu'aucun de nous; que de plus vous savez fort judicieusement en apprécier la valeur, et qu'enfin vous possédez notre langue de manière à l'écrire et à la parler presque aussi bien qu'un Français, et qu'un Français instruit.

Votre tout dévoué,

DE GUIGNAND.
Professor of French at Wellington College.

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