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Sample
Quener
Sept 1900

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Very sincerely yours,

Robert H. Quener

Handwritten mark

214 West 23d St. New York Sep. 23. 1890.

Sir J. William Dawson,

Dear sir:-

Permit me to intrude for a little on your valuable time. I have been requested to prepare a paper for a ministerial meeting on "Romanism and the Public Schools." Much diversity of sentiment exists among the pastors of the city as to what attitude Protestantism should take in reference to the whole subject of common school education. Many, among whom Dr. Crosby is conspicuous, would make this education purely secular, remanding all religious culture to the family and the church. This course is proposed with the view of preventing a division of the school funds in the interests of the parochial schools of the Romish church. On the other hand a minority of our ministers insist on the teaching of the essential principles of Protestant christianity, believing that in the absence of this we shall raise up a generation of Atheists, and imperil the nation. The Nicene creed is regarded by some a sufficient and necessary basis of such education.

It seems to me that the problem is one of the gravest that now engages public attention. The Roman Catholics are aroused

resolute and hopeful, so some of the leading ecelistics say. They expect uttémately to gain the ascendancy in this country and mould our institutions in harmony with the principles and claims of the Papal Hierarchy. This consummation may never be realized, but the Romansts may greatly mar our educational work, as, indeed they have alread done, and may greatly impair the power of Protestantism in this country.

Now as I desire to ascertain the views on this subject of some of our representative minds I venture, dear Sir, to solicit yours, and if you will favor me with a reply at your earliest convenience you will confer a favor on myself which will be highly appreciated, and may advance the cause of truth.

Very sincerely yours,

Robert F. Sample.
Pastor Westminster Pres Ch.
New York.