



20 Mc Lavin Street,
Nov. 30, 1907.

My dear Mrs. Harrington,

All the phrases of common speech seem to lose their value in presence of a great crisis in life like that which has come to you and your home. I feel therefore as if it were almost better to be silent than to make a show of furnishing consolation from the commonplace expressions of sympathy. And yet I cannot be silent over such a loss as we have sustained. The loss is one of infinity.

greater sorrow for you and your family than for any other; and at this moment you may rest assured that a very large circle of friends find their thoughts turning in silent, if not spoken, sympathy, towards your home. But we realise at the same time that the loss is one which will be widely and deeply felt throughout the academic and scientific world. Of Dr. Harrington's scientific work it is not for me to speak, but I should like to say one word on his relation to my own academic work. As a teacher of Ethics I was of course required to reiterate the very familiar truth, that a noble life is a far more

powerful influence in the moral elevation of the world than the verbal instruction of any teacher; and I have always thought of Dr. Harrington as one of the influences that made for the highest ideals in University life. For myself personally it is a peculiar gratification to reflect that in all our intercourse I cannot recall a single incident or word that drew the faintest cloud over the serenity of our friendship; and I cannot remember a word from any of his colleagues, which did not indicate sincere affection and respect for his character.

Why should one, so eminently fitted for nobler work here, be taken from us while still in his prime? It is the old problem which has

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perplexed the hearts of the bereaved from the beginning. When we get to the other side, the problem may be found to lose all its perplexity. We are still apt, in spite of science, to think of our little earth as the centre of the universe. We forget that God has made many another dwelling place for His children, and that there may be nobler work for us in one of these. I cannot but think that such work is in store for him whom we miss so much here at the present moment.

"And surely unto thee is given

A life that bears immortal fruit

In such great offices as suit

The full-grown energies of heaven."

With deepest sympathy for you and your family believe me

Yours very truly,

J. Clark Murray