

to be drawn therefrom - viz,  
that qualified public  
opinion in this country  
was divided as to  
what should be done,  
while there was a  
consensus of opinion  
against control by  
South Kensington.

I should then observe  
that in these circumstances  
we (the committee) might  
assume that nothing

Confidential.

4/8/97

My dear FitzGerald,  
23/28 I wanted to show  
you my amended report  
after having seen T.P. Gill's  
Memorandum which only  
reached me on the  
27<sup>th</sup> ult.

I now enclose it, but  
will ask you to let me  
have it back by return

23/28  
of post and to regard  
it as confidential.

Abney has been most  
nice about it and  
hopes that I will still  
be able to sign the  
report with him to  
Norton.

I have written indicating  
the only lines upon

which I can do so &  
offering to draft the  
report on those lines.

I should commence  
by summarizing very  
much as I have done,  
making alterations  
rather in the form than  
the substance, — the  
statements in the  
Appendix — I should  
then indicate the  
obvious conclusion

In our opinion, the  
most suitable site  
would be in Keldare  
Place running back  
↳ Upper Merion St.

This is, of course,  
a rough & hurried  
sketch of the lines  
upon which I should  
draft the report,  
but it will suffice

23/28

would be done without con-  
sulting local opinion  
and unless supported  
by the great majority  
of those who may be  
regarded as the spokesmen  
of the people upon  
this question.

Having gone so far,  
I would then say  
that we have of

23/28

cannot do difficulty in  
reporting that the existing  
College is wholly inadequate,  
& that the existing <sup>site</sup> does  
not admit of any  
additions to the structure  
which would be  
sufficient for the purposes  
of a great College  
of Science for Ireland,

while, on the assumption  
that a new College  
of Science is to be  
built in Dublin  
on the lines which  
are generally approved  
for such colleges,  
we consider that  
such and such ground  
space should be  
provided and that,

and as I had talks with  
Abney on the subject,  
he is thoroughly posted  
on the question; while  
he is a remarkably  
able man.

Wishing you a very  
pleasant trip to  
America,

Yours very sincerely  
Wm. A. Holmes.

23/28

I show you that it  
will substantially express  
the views which are  
set forth in my report,  
and that, if I can  
get <sup>Abney's</sup> Norton to sign  
it, it will be more  
effective for our  
purpose than my

23/24

Report alone would  
be.

It would be well worth  
your while to try to  
see G. Balfour  
at the Irish Office  
in Old Queen St.

and you should also  
see Spring Rice

a visit and have a  
talk with him on  
the subject.

He is the officer at the  
Treasury who will, in  
the first instance,  
deal with our Report,  
and as he has seen  
the first drafts of  
Abney's & my report,  
as well as the statements  
in the Appendix,