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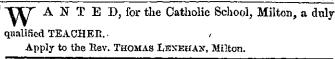
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(To be continued.)

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SUBSCRIPTIONS TO	MAY 24, 1	FOR \$78.	WEEK	ENI	DING	
Mr. Curry, Wellington Rev. Father Golden Jr. Crowe, Oamaru , Burke, Port Chalmers , Fitzgerald, Oamaru , Dees, Goldsboro' , McEntee, Greenstone , Carey, Greenstone , Drennan, Camptown , Moloney, Greenstone , Dillman, Kumara , Connelly, Dilmanstown , Tierny, Dillmanstown		FOR	WEEK		DING £ s. 0 12 1 5 0 12 1 5 0 12 0 12	đ. 6 0 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
", Griffin, Dillmanstown- , Sheehan, Dillmanstown- , Ryan, Greenstone ,, Corbett, Westbrook , Dascy, Naseby- ,, Foster, Christchurch , Jennings, Gisborne	•			• • • •	0 12 0 12 0 12 0 12 2 10 1 0 1 5	6 6 6 0 0 0

We are obliged from want of space to hold several subscriptions bring a blush to the cheeks of many members of over to our next issue, which will afford us room for all requirements. I if, indeed, such a praiseworthy thing is possible.





FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1878.

THE NEW EDUCATION ACT.



E do not know whether our legislators are ashamed of their work of the last session; so far at all events as legislation in reference to education is concerned. But this we do know that they ought to be ashamed. Our legislators are the paid servants of the public, and ought to give honest work in return for their pay and honours. Have they done so? The contest

now raging between the Dunedin School Committee and the Otago Board of Education answers this question very fully. Where were all the lawyers of both houses of Parliament, or what were they doing when this godless Act was passing through Committee? Where was our present Attorney General? Or if they were in the House of Representatives, or the Legislative Council, and paying attention to their work, what can be said as to their brains and their legal knowledge?

This godless Education Act has been so framed that it has succeeded wonderfully in setting by the ears the various bodies appointed to administer the new law. The Otago Board of Education, knowing itself to be bound to consult School Committees as to the appointment of teachers, so manages, that its treatment of the Dunedin School Committee for example, amounts to a farce. The appointment committee of the Board, a body unknown to the law, makes up its mind to recommend certain appointments to the Board, and then coolly asks the School Committee if it has any objection to such appointments without affording any further information. Whereupon the committee is indignant, and justly so, and warns the persons appointed by the Board not to accept the situations of teachers in the Albany-street School. Both sides have something to say in their favour. The Board affirms that the law gives it the exclusive power to appoint teachers, which is true; and the School Committee maintains that before appointments are made, it should be really consulted, and that the farce of a consultation is against both the letter and the spirit of the new law. This it appears to us is also true.

There is now a species of dead-lock, and who is to solve the difficulty? Will there be an appeal to the Supreme Court, or will the parties wait till the meeting of Parliament, and for a new Act to amend the law made last Session? The latter alternative, we suppose, will be adopted. But, then, what a commentary on the capacity of our legislators for their work does not this afford ! We see from the report of Mr. SWANSON'S speech, at Ponsonby, given by one of our con-temporaries, that Mr. SWANSON the member for Newton, seems to regret his want of education, because it has prevented him from taking office in the Government of the colony. It appears to us that if his modesty, in not attempt-ing office, had also induced him, and what we say of him is true of a good many others, to reflect that want of education is also a reason sufficient to persuade men of common sense to decline Parliamentary honours, it would be very much better for the colony and the cause of legislation.

A great deal of time is lost, a great amount of money unnecessarily spent, and a great deal of harm done by men undertaking duties, for the proper discharge of which they are totally unfit. And in nothing is all this so true as in the mether of her making. Men who understood their busithe matter of law-making. Men who understood their busi-ness would frame intelligible and wise laws, that would not require amending for generations, in one tenth of the time spent by bunglers and incompetent persons in making laws that cannot be understood, or that only lead to increased litigation, or that must be either repealed or amended forthwith. Such a state of things is highly discreditable, and ought to bring a blush to the cheeks of many members of Parliament,