

Even now the Government takes no thought of the Catholic children. Were the Catholic children to become this year pupils of the public schools, the Government would have to provide an additional education grant of £50,000, a sum which it is neither able nor willing to provide. The conduct of Parliament and Government ever since the inception of the godless system has been not only tyrannical and unjust in the extreme, but has been shockingly shabby. They have saved money on the adherence of Catholics to principle, whilst compelling Catholics to pay for the free and godless education of other people's children. Their conduct also is an imitation of the conduct of the framers of the penal laws in Ireland. There is nothing they desire less than that Catholic children should frequent the public schools and thus deprive them of an opportunity of compelling their parents to contribute money for other people's use.

N. Z. TABLET: Our clever contemporary, the *Dunedin Evening Star* has during the last few weeks filled his columns with the usual pre-election abuse of the Catholic Church, her hierarchy, and clergy. On Saturday last a farrago of vilification was inserted from the American correspondent who, on the testimony of Archbishop RIORDAN, of San Francisco, stands a convicted and shameless liar. In this precious document, for which the *Star* is directly responsible, occurs the following remarkable sentence: "Our hope is that another generation of Catholic children taught in the public schools will turn the tide against Rome for ever." Is not this letting the cat out of the bag with a vengeance?

Bishop MORAN: Yes, it is. It shows that the object of secularism is not the spread of education but the destruction of the Catholic Church; nay, more, the destruction of Christianity in every form. The veracious correspondent of the *Dunedin Evening Star* might have let the cat still further out of the bag and have said, "Our hope is that another generation of Christian children taught in the public schools will turn the tide against Christianity for ever."

N. Z. TABLET: An attempt is being made by some political opponents to make capital out of your recent utterance on the conduct of the labour party in New Zealand, and to spread abroad the idea that you are opposed in your views on the labour question to the workingman and the workingman's Pope, LEO XIII. Do you wish to make any observation on this matter?

Bishop MORAN: Yes. I am not the enemy of the workingman or the organisation of workingmen. On the contrary, I am, and always have been, in sympathy with both, provided justice be not interfered with, and I accept with my whole heart the teaching of LEO XIII, on the "Condition of Labour"; but I am opposed to the labour organisation as it is conducted in New Zealand, because here this organisation, whilst demanding justice for its own members, is loud in its determination to perpetuate injustice on the Catholics of the country. My indignation has been aroused by its policy to inflict injustice, not only on the Catholic body, but even on its own Catholic members. They have taken up the absurd fad of Sir ROBERT STOUT that aid to the Catholic schools will destroy the present education system. And they have made this foolishness their own, and proclaimed it as if it were the very perfection of political wisdom, thinking thereby they were earning for themselves the character of wise men and deep politicians.

THE REIGN OF VITUPERATION AND IGNORANCE CONTINUES.

THE cry raised by the *Dunedin daily Press* and their cowardly anonymous writers has been taken up, as we anticipated it would, by the *Press* in several places in the country; and the writers borrowing from their city friends shout loudly and vehemently against Bishop MORAN for advising his people to give a block vote for friends, and to abstain from voting when they cannot vote except for an enemy. We are not surprised at this, although in itself it is very wonderful. For, as is known to all, these very men who deprecate the Bishop's action have always in the past advised and given a block vote against the concession of justice to Catholics. And not satisfied with denouncing the Bishop's policy, which has been always and everywhere in this country characteristic of themselves, they forthwith proceed editorially and under the mask of anonymity to slander, not only the Bishop, but all bishops and priests, and the entire Catholic Church. Catholics, although in the estimation of these teachers of the public and these patrons of godless schools, a

stupid unthinking lot of dolts led by the nose by their clergy, will not fail to note the object lesson taught by the tactics of these advocates of godlessness in the schools, and of these men who scruple not to take the money of Catholics to help them to teach their own children in these godless schools. And what is this object lesson which even blind Catholics cannot fail to see? Is it not this: That these men endeavour to force Catholic children into their godless schools to teach them to despise and loathe their Church and its pastors, the native land of their fathers, to make them ignore even as an historical fact the very existence in the world of Christianity? Anyone who has read the "object lesson" published in the *Dunedin Star* a few evenings ago cannot fail to have perceived the object secularists have in view in advocating the continuation of injustice to Catholics. So many absolute lies and vile calumnies against the clergy and Catholic laity of the South of Ireland could not have been heaped together in one letter by anyone, except a person actuated by a diabolical and insane hatred of Catholics. And although the *Star* stated that this letter was written by a Scotchman who had resided many years in the South of Ireland, we absolutely refuse to believe any Scotchman wrote that letter. But we have no hesitation in affirming our conviction that instead of being written by a Scotchman, it was, in reality, written by a lineal descendant of the impenitent thief. None other but such a one could be capable of writing such a vile production. Well, Catholics note all this, and perceive what is the nature of the teaching and influence in store for their children under a system of education so zealously patronised by the *Star* and its anonymous cowards. It appears that the miscalled Liberal party in the late Parliament, in accordance with its traditions, could not separate without affording another evidence of its tyrannical disposition. By an Act passed in this Parliament, it appears that all must vote, under the penalty of being disfranchised, whether they wish to do so or not. This is another specimen of tyranny. If all the candidates are a man's worst enemies, hold principles which he abhors and believes are most injurious to the best interests of the country, nevertheless, he must vote for one or other of these men. What is this but unmitigated tyranny! Yes, it is unmitigated tyranny to compel a man under the penalty of disfranchisement to vote under such circumstances; and it is only another device to trick, Catholics especially, into the necessity of helping their enemies into Parliament, in order that they may there, through their own aid, trample on and kick them. It is said of the Bishop, he places the education question above all other questions. Of course he does. And have not those who quarrel with him for so doing always done the same themselves? We have never known an election contest in which the men who now assail the Bishop have not advised the electors to vote against every friend of Catholic schools, no matter what his political principles were. Why, they are doing so now, even whilst assailing the Bishop. What is this assailing, then, of the Bishop but the most barefaced and sinister hypocrisy? And further, these very men who assail him most vigorously, in the administration of the godless schools system, break, in order to injure him and his, even the Education Act, bad as it is. The Act, on the face of it, supposes that some sort of justice should be done to Catholics, and private schools. It authorises inspection of these schools by public school inspectors, but the school boards have refused to carry out this provision. Again, it authorises school boards to found scholarships for children attending private schools, and although the Government grants £5,000 per annum over and above the ordinary capitation grant to provide these scholarships, not one has been founded for private schools from the day of the inception of this system to the present hour. Thirdly, if a Catholic applies for the situation of teacher in a godless school, he or she is told there is no chance for them as they are Catholics, and the Catholic Bishop is opposed to the public school system; and so on and so on. This is the way in which the godless school system is administered with the knowledge and connivance of the Government. We mention these facts, not to complain, because we do not wish to see Catholics even as teachers in the godless schools, but merely to illustrate the fiendish spirit in which Catholics are treated by the patrons and administrators of the godless schools. Only one thing remains to be done to complete this godless system, and that is to insert the "object lesson" of the *Star* and the letters of the other anonymous cowards side by side with those passages in Collier's "History of the British Empire," in which it is taught that the Catholic Church sells indulgences. This

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