

papers are notoriously imaginative; and sweeping or sensational statements from such a source are always more or less suspect. It is, therefore, in no way matter for surprise to find Mr. Redmond giving an explicit disclaimer to these alleged separatist statements. The following letter (says the *Dublin Freeman's Journal*) has been sent to a Glasgow correspondent who wrote to Mr. John Redmond regarding an alleged quotation from a speech which he was supposed to have delivered in America:—

House of Commons,

July 6th, 1911.

Dear Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Redmond to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., and in reply have to state that the allegation that he, speaking at Buffalo, U.S.A., last year, said that 'what the Irish Party wanted was Separation,' is absolutely untrue. Mr. Redmond never made any such statement either at Buffalo or elsewhere.—Yours very truly,

T. J. HANNA.

Peter Campbell, 98 Stanley street,
Kinning Park, Glasgow.

A Hawera Protest

A Hawera parent, who has been proceeded against by the local Truant Inspector for not sending his boy to school, has sent a vigorous and indignant letter to the *Wanganui Chronicle* on the subject. In the course of the letter he gives the following as his grounds for not complying with the compulsory provisions of the Education Act:

'It is a "terminological inexactitude" to state that I refused to "send my boy to a school where military training is taught." The reasons given by me to the Truant Officer, for taking my boy from the Hawera State School, were numerous, among them being:—(a) His general education was not conducted on lines which I approve. He was kept too long in standards which he had obviously outgrown. In arithmetic, for instance, he was compelled to work for twelve months at rules which should be mastered in three months. (b) I strongly object to the absence of gymnastic training, and to the substitution thereof of military drill with dummy guns, even for children under the age of twelve years. It is immoral, from my point of view, to instruct infants, not to speak of grown-up boys, in militarism. The Hawera school is in danger at present of being turned into a military academy. (c) I object to the insanitary conditions existing at the school when my boy attended, the urinals and closets being so bad that some boys refused to enter them. My child contracted measles at the school. (d) I object to my child associating with boys who constantly use filthy language, and whose actions were in some cases unspeakable; and no power in New Zealand will compel me to tolerate such.'

Whatever may be thought of the first three grounds advanced, the sympathy and support of the whole community will go with the protester in the stand he takes in regard to the last count of his indictment.

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The letter concludes with the following sarcastic outburst: "The Board instructed the Truant Officer to take action against the father." Does the Board think that I am incompetent to teach my child? I am a poet, journalist, author, artist, and musical and dramatic critic of twenty years' standing. I am author of the following books—*The Higher Teaching of Shakespeare*, *The Inwardness of Shakespeare*, *Lady Rosalind* (a novel), *Collected Verses, Flowers, Birds, and Children*, *Symbolistic Sonnets, Poems, Essays for Ireland*, *Imaginations in the Dust*, as well as innumerable essays on educational and literary subjects. University men throughout Europe have not been above learning from my books, and I have been elected a F.R.S.L., F.R. Hist. Society, and member of the Society of Arts—all London—on the merit of my creative literary work. Does the Education Board believe that I am not competent, or to be trusted, to see that my child is properly educated? Or, has the Board allowed itself to become a foolish tool in the hands of the headmaster of the Hawera School? My wife is a highly-educated

woman, and quite capable of imparting a satisfactory education. New Zealand is a truly remarkable country! Is there any other country in the world where the village tailor and the village piano-tuner are tolerated as dictators of educational policy?—Yours faithfully,

'LOUIS H. VICTORY.

'Regent Street, Hawera.'

THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

Catholic Schools and Colleges in India—a splendid advertisement. Page 1749.

Home Rule and Religious Intolerance—what leading Protestants have to say. Page 1759.

'God or No-God in the Schools'—glaring misrepresentations of Dr. Temple and Dr. Parker exposed. Page 1729.

The late Cardinal Moran—full description of the solemn obsequies and funeral. Page 1739.

Modernism in Protestant Churches—and its consequences. Page 1737.

John Redmond and Separation—an emphatic disclaimer. Page 1750.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DEBATE.

Would Germany be justified in going to war to enforce her demands in Morocco?

Would England be justified in entering upon war to resist German demands in Morocco?

Should all editorial and other newspaper articles be signed by the name of the writer?

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The annual Peter's Pence collection will be taken up at St. Joseph's Cathedral on next Sunday.

The missions which are to be held throughout the diocese by the Redemptorist Fathers will be opened at Oamaru and Palmerston South on the first Sunday in October.

During the absence of his Lordship the Bishop from the Dominion all communications in connection with diocesan affairs should be sent to the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., Oamaru.

On Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral from the last Mass until Vespers. In the evening there was the usual procession, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

His Lordship the Bishop left on Wednesday by the Ulmaroa for Sydney for the purpose of assisting at the Month's Mind of the late Cardinal Moran. His Lordship will return to New Zealand in time for the opening of the new church at Timaru, on Sunday, October 1.

The St. Patrick's Young Men's Club, South Dunedin, held their weekly meeting on Monday evening, there being a fair attendance of members. The programme consisted of impromptu speeches, the speakers being Messrs. Carr, McAllen, and Fitzgerald, who delivered excellent addresses.

The Christian Brothers' Old Boys Association held a social on Wednesday evening of last week in the Early Settlers' Hall. It proved a complete success, members being present from various parts of the province. There were over 300 persons present. The funds are to be devoted to the initiation of a scholarship fund for the Christian Brothers' School.

An Association football club has recently been established at Oamaru, and on Saturday the Christian Brothers' Club sent a mixed team to Oamaru in response to an invitation from the new club. In splendid weather, and in the presence of a large number of interested spectators, who were for the most part witnessing the Association game for the first time, a fast, exciting match was played, the visitors winning by the

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