

my visits, having handed over the matter to the Bishop. I had conversations with the master on several occasions as to my teaching, he having seen fit to find fault with my teaching, and particularly when I, on one occasion, in addressing the children, said that English dissenters were further removed from dogmatic truth than Roman Catholics. What led to my making any such remark was the fact that the master had informed me that the children had been calling each other Presbyterians, Catholics, &c. He considered that I, in desiring to teach the Church of England children separately, was helping to perpetuate these differences. There may have been other children than those of the Church of England present when I made the statement above, but I had not asked for them. The master seemed to object to my attending weekly, and having a separate room after the other Protestant ministers began to visit regularly.

### Enclosures.

A.

SIR,—

Industrial School, Caversham, 22nd October, 1877.

The bearer, Mr. Louis J——, has called on me this morning, with the intention of taking his children from the school. I have informed him that I could not take upon myself the responsibility of liberating them without consulting you, you being the committing Magistrate. I would therefore respectfully request that you would be pleased to let me know whether it would be in accordance with your wish that the children should be liberated.

I would beg to state that, should you consider it advisable, I could license the children to the father for the period for which you committed them; and, should the mother misconduct herself again, I could withdraw the children from their parents.

I have, &c.,

E. TITCHENER,

Master.

James Fulton, Esq., Resident Magistrate, West Taieri.

B.

SIR,—

Outram, 24th October, 1877.

In reply to your letter of the 22nd instant, referring to Louis J——'s application to withdraw his children from the Industrial School, I have to inform you that I called yesterday, but found you out.

I have informed J—— that his children were not committed without grave consideration on my part, and after long personal acquaintance with the way in which they have been not only neglected, but trained in evil habits, by the example and precepts of their drunken and depraved mother. Under these circumstances I will be no party to placing the children under the same evil influences, nor of letting the mother have control of them until she has shown by reformed habits that she has turned over a new leaf.

As, however, the little one (twenty months old, as I am told) cannot be contaminated by her mother's conduct, and seeing that the father has his eldest daughter at home, who can save the child from neglect, I have no objection, if you can legally see your way to it, to consent to its being restored to the parents during the good behaviour of the mother, with the distinct understanding that, if she breaks out again, the child will be at once taken from her and returned to your care.

With regard to the two girls, I am given to understand that Mrs. J——'s married sisters, both, I believe, highly respectable women, intend to apply to have their nieces licensed to them. To this I can have no objection, provided they distinctly understand that while under their charge they are not to be committed to the mother's care, even for a time, until she has shown herself worthy of the trust.

I have, &c.,

JAMES FULTON, R.M.

Mr. E. Titchener, Master, Caversham Industrial School.

C.

(Telegram.)

Outram, 4th February, 1878.

I WITHDRAW my consent to Caroline J—— being any longer intrusted to her mother's care.

Mr. Titchener, Caversham.

JAMES FULTON, R.M.

D.

SIR,—

Industrial School, Caversham, 5th February, 1878.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of yesterday's date *re* child Caroline J——.

I am really at a loss to know what to do. I have 234 children in the school; every corner of the place is full, and what to do with another I do not know. I have written to the Government, stating the circumstances in which I am placed; and Dr. Burns, the medical officer, has written to Mr. Watt, the Resident Magistrate in Dunedin, stating that it "is fraught with danger to all inmates and officers to make a single fresh admission." The infants are simply poisoning each other, and, to make matters worse, the whooping-cough has just made its appearance among the children. But, as a matter of course, if you order the child to be returned to the institution I must take it in.

I am afraid I am going to have something to do to get the maintenance money from J——; I have made repeated demands, but can get nothing.

In the event of your ordering the child to be returned, may I beg that you would instruct the police stationed near you to rearrest and bring the child here.

I have, &c.,

E. TITCHENER,

Master.

J. Fulton, Esq., R.M., West Taieri.

E.

SIR,—

Industrial School, Caversham, 15th July, 1878.

I have the honor to request that you will be pleased to inform me whether Louis J—— is fit and proper person to take charge of his children.