

general ignorance displayed by Mr. McLean throughout his entire remarkable effusion. The leading musicians of Canada are almost unanimously opposed to the 'philanthropy' of the Associated Board, and among the Toronto members of the committee which has been appointed to take action in preparing a protest with regard to these examinations, are such prominent members of the profession as Messrs. W. Elliott Haslam, J. D. A. Tripp and Edgar R. Doward, all private teachers and independent of any music school. Surely Mr. McLean must have gotten his information from Mr. Aitken, the honorary secretary of the Associated Board."

Under no circumstances can the correspondence in question be construed as an invitation to the Associated Board on any such basis as is represented by the scheme which is now proposed to be forced upon the country.

In view of the foregoing exposition of the facts in the case, the claim set up by Mr. Aitken and his Canadian agents, that the Associated Board had been invited to operate in Canada under conditions similar to those at present existing, fails in substantiation.

INJUDICIOUS TACTICS.

From the time of his first visit here in 1897, Mr. Aitken, as Hon. Sec. of the Associated Board has failed to command the confidence of the musical profession in Canada. The genuineness of his motives and the fairness of his policy have been continuously held in question by those even who entertain the highest regard for the eminent English musicians with whom Mr. Aitken, in his capacity as Hon. Sec. of the Associated Board, has the honor to associate.

The following will serve to reveal Mr. Aitken's disposition towards the musical profession in Canada, and also the injudicious and insulting tactics employed in his dealings with them.

In a protracted communication to the *Globe*, Feb. 28th, 1899, Mr. Aitken says:

"I have come from England to Canada to put this matter fairly and squarely before the Canadian public. I have come to tell the truth, and, if possible, make other people tell the truth.

"The Associated Board is not a money-making concern, nor is it a dividend-distributing body. The Board has never visited any colony yet, except by invitation. In the case of Canada, that invitation was freely given for years past by the Canadian profession, and notably by gentlemen who are principals or proprietors (or those who represent them) of the trading institutions known as the Dominion College of Montreal, the Toronto College of Music and the Toronto Conservatory of Music.

"Some of these gentlemen, for reasons best known to themselves, have altered their minds. That they have a perfect right to do, but they have no right to misrepresent the work and the motives of the Associated Board. No device has been too mean, no untruth too gross and no statement too