

"(1) No resolution of a School Board for the dismissal of a certificated teacher shall be valid, unless adopted at a meeting called not less than three weeks previously, by circular sent to each member, intimating that such dismissal is to be considered, and unless notice of motion for his dismissal shall have been sent to the teacher not less than three weeks previous to the meeting. Such circulars shall be held to have been delivered to the members of the School Board, if sent by the clerk by post, addressed to the usual or last known place of abode of each member, and such notice to the teacher shall be held to have been delivered if sent by the clerk by post, in a registered letter, addressed to the usual or last known place of abode of such teacher.

"(2) No resolution of a School Board for the dismissal of a certificated teacher shall be valid unless agreed to by a majority of the full number of members of such School Board.

"(4) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, it shall be lawful for a School Board summarily to suspend any teacher from the exercise of his duties, but such suspension shall not affect the teacher's right to the salary or other emoluments attached to the office."

How different this is from the mode of engagement on this continent. Here a teacher is hired (!) for half a year or a year; and the understanding is, unless re-engagement follows, that he leaves at the end of his term, be that a month or a year. What waste is caused by frequent changes of teacher! There is loss of time to both master and scholar, often loss of means to the master, and in many cases the country loses permanently the experienced teacher, and in his stead obtains the ser-

vices of the inexperienced. For these reasons amongst others, I take the liberty of recommending that all forms of agreement for second-class certificates and higher grades should be prepared on the supposition that the engagement is to continue for an indefinite period, subject to the condition of being terminable upon giving three months' notice by either trustees or teacher.

*Politics in school affairs.*—Though many Church schools have been transferred from the control and management of the Churches, both in England and Scotland, such changes frequently involving the retirement of the master, and though, as above stated, several test cases have been before the courts (Scotland) to ascertain the authority of school managers to dismiss masters in certain circumstances, yet not in a single instance have I observed any complaint or the remotest allusion made as to politics having any influence in the matter. In sharp contrast with this state of affairs is what we find on the other side of the great lakes. Every year complaints are made, and becoming louder and more frequent, that political considerations influence very largely both the engagement and dismissal of the school teacher, as well as affect very materially the remuneration received. As a fair specimen of what I have met in my reading time and again during the last few years, the following quotation may suffice:—"In a good many cities, the School Board has been captured by the politicians, who have used the schools to work fat jobs, sprout municipal fathers, and fill the school-rooms with incompetent favourites of the ward trustee. This petty favouritism is still the curse of the village and country schools everywhere, and, like a poisonous malaria, infests the whole system of education with a general debility fatal to effective work." We