

or thought of bringing about the domination or control against which the *Review* writer tells us he means to do his best.

Mr Macdonnell in his letter refers to some claim of the Church of Rome to "exceptional treatment;" and objects to the "interference of that church in our public affairs in a way which would not be tolerated if attempted by any Protestant Church." I should be glad to know what the exceptional treatment and the interference are to which Mr. Macdonnell had reference. The only institution which either he or the *Review* writer mentions is the Central Prison, and the only exceptional treatment or interference specified has reference to that institution.

BOYS' REFORMATORY, PENETANGUSHENE.

My attention has been called to an article in the *Mail*, which is more specific. It speaks of my assenting to a "policy that is placing the Roman Catholic Church in possession of those public institutions, like the Boys' Reformatory at Penetanguishene and the Mercer Reformatory of this city, where proselytizing is to be done." I have already said that there is no proselytizing by Catholics or Protestants in our public institutions. The reformatory at Penetanguishene has a Roman Catholic for a Warden, and so it has had since 1859, when the institution was established. The Warden then appointed held office until 1879, when a change was made in consequence of the desire of the Government to introduce certain modern improvements to which the old Warden was opposed. This institution has always had two paid chaplains, one a Protestant and one a Roman Catholic, who give their whole time to the institution, and it is the only provincial institution which has had such officers. I have never heard of any attempt at proselytism in this institution, and I believe there has always been harmony in it between the Protestants and Catholics.

MERCER REFORMATORY.

With respect to the Mercer Reformatory, Mrs. O'Reilly, the Matron, is the widow of the late James O'Reilly, Q.C., of Kingston, and she was appointed on the strong recommendation of Protestants in that city irrespective of party. The deputy-matron is a Protestant; and the person in charge of the Refuge, where the young girls are, is also a Protestant. On the other hand, Protestants are at the head of the Toronto, London, Hamilton, Kingston, and Orillia asylums, the Blind Institute at Brantford, and the Deaf and Dumb Institute at Belleville; all have been appointed by the present government; and although the principal officer in each is a Protestant, the officer next in position is a Protestant also; and so it is in the case of the Central Prison. I