



To,

F. H. North, Esq.

Under Secretary,

Colonial Secretary's Office.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st of February re Clontarf Orphanage, and in the first place to express my regret that on account of illness I have been unable to reply to it sooner.

As soon as the allegations of misconduct on the part of one of the Teachers at the above mentioned Institution reached my ears, I had a consultation with Brother Nunan, the Superior of the Christian Brothers in this State. Both of us came to the conclusion that in view of what had transpired a New Superior, and if possible a new Staff, would be necessary at Clontarf. At my request then Fr. Nunan made all necessary arrangements to proceed to Sydney by the first available Boat as the Head Superiors of the order in Australasia reside there. His Instructions from me are; to bring back not only a new Staff, but the most capable and experienced men in the management of youth that the order can provide. Unfortunately on account of the dislocation of traffic by sea & land, he has not been able to start but I understand from him that he hopes to get away by the "Victoria" on the 10th instant. Meanwhile a Retreat, & series of Spiritual Exercises lasting three days, has been preached to the boys by one of the Redemptorist Missionary Fathers. The result has been so consoling that I will arrange for another before the end of the year.

I have been in the habit of visiting St. Joseph's Girls Orphanage

"The Palace"
~~Bishop's House~~, Victoria Square
~~St. George's Terrace~~

Perth, March 3rd. 1919
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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ne Foundling Home very frequently and thus assuring myself by personal investigation & observation that everything was being satisfactorily conducted in these Institutions. As soon as my health permits I will have the usual formal Visitation of Glendalough Industrial School. I have not been in the habit of visiting Clontarf Orphanage as often as the others, partly because of its inaccessibility by motor, and partly too because I had seen better results from that than from any other of our Institutions. In fact so pleased was I with the class of boys Clontarf was turning out that I was principally instrumental in providing the Band Instruments for them early last year as a mark of my appreciation of the good work being done there and as a means of brightening their lives.

Though very deeply grieved & disappointed, I am hopeful that the provision of a new staff, and the good example and religious spirit of the other Brothers, will gradually efface the evil that may have been done by one unworthy member of the staff.

Thanking the Minister and the Department for the consideration shown us in such trying circumstances, and assuring you of my personal desire to carry out any suggestions which the Department may make for the better working of the Institution.

I have the honour to remain,

Yours very truly.

ARCHBISHOP OF PERTH.