

as anyone can do its vast importance,
both as an acquirement & as
a training, in any scheme of
popular education.

If the Board desire I
shall prepare a scheme for the
organization of this general
Department of instruction &
submit it for consideration.

Yours faithfully

T. R. Keller

Prof. G. F. Fitzgerald, F.T.C.D.

104, PEMBROKE ROAD,
DUBLIN.

Nov. 14. 1898

8/29

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald

I believe that the
National Board of Education
will shortly have to decide whether
they will include in the estimates
any provision for the carrying out
of the recommendations of the
Manual Instruction Commission.

If it is decided, as I trust it
may be, to take any steps in that
direction, I imagine that the
Board will find it necessary to
form a special department under

supervision of a Director or some
such officer to ~~the~~ deal with
the whole branch of education
comprised in the Manual
& Practical Instruction Report.

It is evident, as the Commissioners
themselves say, that it cannot
be incorporated into the existing system
& treated under the same regulations
as the subjects now taught.

I have formally applied to Mr
Redington to be considered as a
candidate for such an appointment
should one be made, & wish to
request the favour of your support

for my candidature, if it meets
your approval. I am warmly
interested in the subject, having
long believed that the purely "literary"
(save the mark!) training given
through the Nat. schools, & the
practical exclusion of science
& manual training, handicaps
Irishmen most deplorably both
in & out of their own country.

I suppose I am myself more of
a man of letters than a man of
science - but I am not altogether
without a tincture of scientific
knowledge & I recognize as fully

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