

## THE CRUSADE AGAINST THE IRISH CHURCH.

*The Plot, "The Hour, and the Man."*

BY THE GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND.

*To the Right Hon. Wm. Ewart Gladstone, M. P.*

SIR—

Having shown in former letters how your Parliamentary schemes clash with the great fundamental statutes of the realm, and threaten anarchy and possibly civil war—for men will not calmly see Throne, Church, and Constitution, cemented by the blood of so many brave men of old, fall in one common ruin—having also shown the corrupt compact of your Government in 1866 with the sworn foes of civil and religious liberty who represent the Pope in the House of Commons, in which compact you acted the part of a political pedlar selling his wares—namely, the power and influence which have fallen to his lot as a politician—to the highest bidder; it is now my purpose to canvass the pretensions of yourself and followers to speak for the people of this nation as approving of your coercive measures against the Protestants of Ireland.

It was surely very generous of you to fill the heart with hope for the destruction of Ireland's Church and of the British Constitution—for they stand or fall together—of Mr. James Finlen, the Clerkenwell monument-builder to the "Manchester Martyrs." "The hour and the man" at length had come! The hour was on Saturday 18th inst.; the man, your renowned colleague the promoter of processions in honour of assassins and traitors, and through whose zeal in getting

up Sabbath-breaking demonstrations in favour of treason, sedition, and Popery, you hoped to renew the fainting spirits of your followers, and throw fresh ingredients into the seething cauldron of revolutionary agitation.

Yet despite the communications you made to him of confidence in the triumph of your cause—which is to induce this nation to cast off God—there are many indications, and you know them, that the campaign will be a more weary one than you first contemplated, and the battle more fierce than will be pleasant for your peace of mind. The only way that cowards can cheer each other's spirits is by pointing to their own numerical strength, and by ridiculing the weakness of the foe. Your hope is plainly that the many will be on your side, and that, thanks to your happy thought of assailing the Irish Church, you will Christmas in Downing Street. Our hope as Protestants is, under God, in the truth and justice of our cause, and the certainty of its ultimate triumph. It is true that before this grand consummation the throne and all our institutions may be cast down, as were the walls of Clerkenwell prison by the party whose alliance you have now secured; but after Englishmen shall have wept off their folly in tears of blood, they may deal with this conspiracy in such a manner as to teach a stern