

tions and English rule and inheritance, accepting English earldoms for Irish chieftancies, and consenting to the title which Henry took to himself, of King of Ireland. Matters looked bright and English rule might have at last succeeded had Henry lived longer, and had not his quarrel with the Pope given rise to complicated differences of doctrine which laid the foundation of future conspiracies, insurrections and revenges.

Passing over the disturbed reigns of Edward Sixth and Mary, we find things in no very orderly condition on the accession of Elizabeth. The element of creed now comes fully into play in the government of Ireland. The Church and Abbey lands with their revenues, which Elizabeth farmed out, that she might lighten the expenses of her government, were sources of dissatisfaction. The priests set themselves in opposition to the government which had despoiled their property. The authority of the Pope was used to neutralize the authority of Elizabeth. She was head of the English church, while he was king of the kings and queens of the earth. Society was thus again disorganized. Banditti roamed everywhere, and Elizabeth's soldiers sent to suppress them were almost banditti themselves. Shan O'Neill put himself at the head of the movement against Elizabeth who assisted the enemies of the O'Neills, and Shan was murdered. In the South she pitted Ormond and Desmond against each other. In the war which followed between England and the Geraldines, the country was wasted. So utterly desolated was Munster that the lowing of a cow, the sound of a ploughboy's whistle was not to be heard from Valentia to the Rock of Cashel. Hugh O'Neill, bred in the English Court and sent over to Ireland with the highest hope that he would bring everything over to English ideas, adopted all the Irish ideas. "Train a wolf's cub as a dog and he will be a wolf still," was the remark on his conduct. There was a war then of six years. To urge on the resistance of the Irish, a Nuncio from Rome proclaimed that no Catholic could, without sin, submit to a heretic Sovereign; far less take part against the faithful who were in arms for the holy church. This doctrine made toleration impossible, and compelled the maintenance of laws which, in time, provoked insurrection and all its fatal consequences. Had that doctrine been renounced it might have been possible to re-establish the Roman Catholic church; but how was it possible for a Sovereign to establish a church which not only held the