

It was thought that the disestablishment of the Irish Church would go a great way to satisfy the Irish Roman Catholics, and so convince them of the intention of the Government to do every thing in their power in the way of justice to Ireland, that peace and tranquillity would be restored to the country. Besides, to strengthen this conviction, which they thought was sure to exist, a number of Fenian prisoners, who were under penal servitude, were released. All these generous acts do not seem to have had any good effect. Discontent seems as rife as ever. Scarcely are these Fenians liberated, when they begin anew, with their old accomplices, to agitate against the Government, and excite the people to rebellion. The leniency extended to them seems to have made them speak and act with greater freedom. Assassination and agrarian outrages are almost of daily occurrence, but the assassins, and the perpetrators of these outrages, are shielded and protected to such an extent that the police authorities cannot discover them. Such a state of matters was never anticipated. The promise, that the Irish land question and other Irish grievances would, at an early period, engage the attention of Parliament, after the manner in which the Irish Church question was settled, ought to have produced a different state of matters. It was to be expected that the lower and more ignorant classes would require some time to allow their Irish blood to cool, and look upon the British Government with favour. It was, however, never doubted for a moment that those who were their recognized leaders would have been able to have kept them, by wise counsel, from active hostility and secret outrages. It is with the educated and more influential class that we have been most grievously disappointed. Instead of using their power to reconcile the people to the Government, they have been stimulating and spurring them on to make the most absurd demands. There has lately been an assembly of the Irish Roman Catholic Hierarchy, at Maynooth. The resolutions which were adopted certainly reflect very little credit on that body. A Protestant Government on their account disestablished a Protestant Church, and now they have the audacity to come forward and ask for an extreme denominational system of education. It is one of their principles, they say, that the children of their people must be educated in schools and colleges which are entirely under the power and government of their church. Accordingly, they ask that their schools and colleges be endowed by Parliament, and then handed over to them, and put entirely under their control. They will only be satisfied with having their children educated in institutions in which their peculiar theological views are taught. They believe that any other system of education would be against the interests of their church, and would be "grievously and intrinsically dangerous to the faith and morals of Catholic youths." With this object, Cardinal Cullen issued a manifesto to the adherents of the R. C. church, to support the Hierarchy in their object. He declares that they will enforce their views, and that parents who will send their children to the mixed schools in defiance of their wishes, will be deprived of the privileges of the church. He says:—"In writing to you, or addressing you heretofore, I have never had occasion to speak of ecclesiastical penalties; but I am now so convinced of the evils of the model school system, that I give notice to any Catholic parents who will obstinately persevere in keeping their children in the lion's den, in the midst of danger, that I feel bound to deprive them of the advantages of the Sacraments of the Church until they make up their minds to act as parents anxious for the salvation of their children ought to act." To be excommunicated from the church and to be deprived of her sacraments are the two great penalties on which the Roman Catholic clergy fall back when they find themselves in an emergency. You perceive that the people are here spurred on to make demands on the government which it will be impossible to grant. Such a system of education will never meet the approval and sanction of the British Parliament, and be endowed from the public exchequer. Now, any bill which will not be in accordance