

is the shadow of power in the church, for the Sovereign, on the decease of a bishop or archbishop, issues the letter *congé d'élire*, permitting and commanding the chapter to elect for the vacancy. But the letter missive, containing the name of the successor, whom the Sovereign wills to be elected, accompanies it; and for the chapter to depart from the royal will, and to elect another, is to incur the penalties of a præmunire, including forfeiture of goods, outlawry, and other evils. Thus the title 'head of the church' possessed by the Sovereign is not a mere name, but is significant of real and large power possessed, and that power is frequently used, by improper advice, for the attaining of political rather than religious ends, as it may suit the views of the Lord Chancellor or the other Cabinet Ministers. In the Episcopal Church of Ireland, and I believe in the Colonies also, there is not even a shadow of power in the church; for the bishopric is an entire donation, and comes, by letters-patent, from the Sovereign. In one lay person dwells power sufficient to place in the highest spiritual offices 66 men; viz., 2 as archbishops of England, 25 as bishops of the dioceses in England, 2 as archbishops of Ireland, 13 as bishops of dioceses in Ireland, 6 as bishops of dioceses in Scotland, and 16 as bishops in the different Colonies; and whether these men are learned or ignorant, pious or immoral fathers in spiritual attainments or little children, is of no importance—for there is no appeal, and no remedy. 'Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom.'

III. I am not a member of the Episcopal Church of England, because the *Titles* of the chief of the clergy show a departure too far from christian simplicity, and a resemblance too near to popish pomp and folly. The bishop's title is *The Right Reverend Father in God*, and that of the archbishop's is *His Grace the Most Reverend Father in God*. The common title is *My Lord*. Over whom is the bishop of the Episcopalian Church a lord? 'Over God's heritage'? Then St. Peter reproves him, and declares that such he ought not to be. It does not seem very apostolical for the Archdeacon, prior to the ordination, to cry out in the full church,—'*Reverend Father in God*, (to the bishop) I present unto you these persons present, to be admitted to the order of priesthood'; or for the bishop, bringing up the new bishop, to say aloud to the archbishop, '*Most Reverend Father in God*, we present unto you this godly and well-beloved man to be ordained and consecrated a Bishop'; for no such titles are in the Scriptures, nor found among the clergy of the first ages. These arrogant and pompous names are akin to idolatry, and unbecoming humble and spiritual men, as bishops ought to be. Protestants who condemn the 'man of sin,' 'the son of perdition,' for exalting 'himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped,' not only in power but also in title, are especially to blame. The splendid titles of the head clergy of the church have lately presented themselves rather singu-

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