THE TRUE WITNESS, AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

SHEMUS DHU,

THE BLACK PEDDLER OF GALWAY.

A TALE OF THE PENAL TIMES.

CHAPEER XXVII.-CONTINUED.

"In my poor judgment, your honour has been over generous in your hospitality to-night. Will we defer speaking on serious business until morning? It cannot be your wish to act to-night.".

My wish!" said D'Arcy, with a sudden fierceness of voice-" my wish! For what purpose else have I summoned you here?—my wish to hear of our success? Yes; and my command to you to tell it to me. Ha! ha! ha! I know it, Shemus; you have had your part in making my fortune. You will have a reward more than you agreed for if all succeed. Shall we have wine to help us to digest our plans?"

This was said in such a maudlin, yet sinister voice, that the person addressed, though completely versed in the guilt of B'Arcy, was at fault to judge whether it was the voice of confidence or of

cunning.
"No; if it please you, sir," said he called the Peddler, "I think it better to defer our conversa-

tion until morning." . "Ha!" exclaimed D'Arcy, assuming his most malign look, before which, however, the dark face of the Black Peddler, looking out from its muffling of frieze, remained unmoved—"ha! I see it, Shemus Dhu; you would wish the bird to be flown before morning. By heavens, he shall be mine before the sun arises! No deceit now, Shemus. The papers which my worthy relative gave you, who is now paying the peralty of his rush adventure to Gal-

"Thou art mad, D'Arcy," sail Shemus Dhu, coolly folding his a.ms, and looking, without a change of voice or of manner, upon him-"thou art mad, in truth, or else your reason has flown away from the wine thou hast drank I have had no papers from Fergus of Portarab, unless those which I gave to you a few hours since. Of what papers do you speak ?'

"Of those which prove the legitimacy of O.Halloran," replied D'Arcy. "I will have them; and if you refuse to give them, or if you deceive me about them, I will have you, before an hour passes. in the deepest dungeon, there to rot without light or food. I must have that hellish hag's dying

words." "D'Arcy," replied Shenus Dhu, without a muscle of his face discomposed, "your threats, you know, are vain against me; speak like a man of reason, and you shall be answered. Have you not got the papers you required? Have you not, first, the her mit's, or rather Lambert O'Halloran's, deeds of right?"

"They are fulse—they are but copies," replied D'Arcy. " if they were genuine, they are of no use

"But have you not" replied Shemus, "the young man's, Henry D'Halloran's, deeds of title-the papers which Fergus of Porturah had, and which I have delivered to you?"

"They, too, are deceptions; at least, they give me no title whilst the young man's legitimacy can be proved—though this I might take means to prevent. But the confession, the written confession of that wicked woman, I must have from you, Shemus; Laffan has given it to you, signed; on it depends my fortune; for it proves that Godfrey O'Halloran was not the murderer of my father. I wish that the arch-fiend of hell had blasted her tongue, ere she made that confession. Those papers, Shemus

-none others will answer me." There was a pauso. Shemus Dhudil not answer for a few moments. The apathy of his appearance had passed; his face became flushed: he stretched his right arm suddenly torth, and asked, in a voice to strike terror:-

"Man, do you curse your own firsh? Do you curse the wome that bore you—the mother that has died an hour since, and is now before the judgment seat of God?"

D'Arcy laughed in mockery of Shemus' feeling. "She was the spawn of Hell," he said. "It was e murdered O'Grady. She was no mother of mine she pawned me first on my reputed father, and then upon D'Arcy. She was a fiend incarnate, who

"Listen tn me, wicked one," cried Shemus. interrupting D'Arcy with such a voice, and such a manner of stern command, that the half-drunken, hardened villain qualled before it, in the humility and meekness of vice abashed. "She was thy mother-and her curses attend thee. Listen. I am no longer thy seeming friend. In the justice of retribution, I am thy evil genius, even to thy destruction. Too long have I forborne. Often have I raised my hand to strike thee dead in thy acts of wickedness; I spared thee, because thou drewest thy blood from the veins of her whom I once loved. But think not that I ever was thy instrument of evil. I have never been traitor to the love of the O'Halloran. Thy time has come, wicked man; thy cup of iniquity is filled up, even to overflowing. Thou has long escaped; but God's vengeance has pursued thee to this time—like a vulture, descend. thy destruction is near. I leave thee-but, remember we shall meet soon."

D'Arcy was too much unnerved to prevent the egress of Shemus Dhu. By degrees he recovered his former setf-possession. He called for more wine -an unusual command from him-your deep dinkers are never dangerous; they are sots, or beasts of the lowest reason; but they have not the caution of the serpent—and he was carried to his couch, by his faithful servant boy, in an insensible

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Henry O'Halloran and Shemus Dhu were quickly disguised by the assistance of their watchful friend. They descended the hill on their route to the north gate of the city. The east, or William's gate, was nearer to them; but, then, it was the main eutrance to the town, and more carefully watched. The object of our travellers was to enter without notice. Shemus Dhu was obliged to help his companion over many difficulties of the uneven path which he had chosed, before they stood beneath the high and dark wall, which even at this moment-forming the boundary of a pleasure-garden attached to Kilroy's Hotel-presents, in its partly ruinous state. difficulties which would deter the most daring climber. Shemus Dhu stood beneath the frowning wall, without uttering a word, his companiou following his example. The north, or Abbey gate of the town, was some hundred yards to their right, in a receding angle of the wall. A feeble light, that glimmered from one of the turrets which overhung it, was the only sign of any person being watchful in their neighbourhood, if you except a feebler light that twinkled from the broken cloisters of the old h'ranciscan Abbey, which stood a short distance on

the outside of the wall. "I expected to meet a person here," said Shemus Dhu to O'Halloran, with some anxiety of voice, but

in the lowest whisper.

"I fear me there is some danger, if not actual treachery, around us. The silence, unusual at this early hour, as well as the absence of our friends, be-

token it." "I must give a signal, O'Halloran, whatever con-

peculiar form, and put them to his mouth. At first his companion heard, at some distance from him, as he fancied, sounds, not of the human voice, but as of an instrument, low and sullen, then rising to a quick, sharp tone, which died in echo beyond against the Courthe abbey walls. Henry O'Halloren, at first could do Shemus?" scarcely believe that the sounds proceeded from Shemus Dhu; and afterwards he was more astonish ger, Mistress E ed that he would give such an alarm where secrecy was their greatest wisb. The sounds were heard, and answered, but far weaker and shorter to the ears

answered. I saw you when you were descending the hill. I could not then speak or give you any signal. It is not ten minutes back since the wall around here was examined by the guards, and I

notice of the danger?" asked Shemus, with some displeasure of voice.

"I dared not stir until this minute," said the other. "Even when I saw you just now, though I more than suspected who you were, I had some fear

that you were our enemies." "Well, let us not lose more time," said the Peddler. "There will be shortly another search, when they discover their mistake. Are the people to be

trusted, Morgan, and is everything safe?" "Ah! I fear," said Morgan, "we will have more difficulty than you expected in entering the town. The breach in Martyn's wall is repaired, by order of the Council. They heard yesterday that the smuggling business was increasing for some time back and they examined to-day, and closed up all the suspicious holes and breaches through which there was a possibility of introducing contraband goods. But, to tell you my opinion of it, there is a deeper motive for closing the secret entrances to the city than the prevention of illicit commerce at which you know the Council have often winked; and, moreover, double guards are set upon the gates, and no person, from morning until night, passes without scrutiny, as if we were in the old time of the OFishertys or O'Hallorans."

"Well, my friend, the time will come about again yes, it will come about—when either an O'Halloran or O'Flaherty will be remarkable in the annals of our town."

"Would that the old times came now upon us, Shemus!' said he called Morgan, with the recklessness of excited f eling, which waits not to consider the evils which might follow. "Would that those stirring times came round! I am an O'Halloran, Shemus, and I would then have some hope of being distinguished."

The young speaker was powerfully formed; he was taller than either of those to whom he spoke, and of a stronger make—so Henry O'Halloran conceived, as he looked quickly and keenly at him, after the last words which he uttered.

"Hush! Morgan," said Shemus Dhu, quickly, you know we are not out of danger here—you shall not speak these words so loudly. I care as little as you who he be who governs us-a Stuart or a Cromwell-neither are Irishmen-as neither of them leaves us our homes, or gives us peace in the worship of our faith. Yet I am glad," continued the Peddler, after a moment's pause, "that you have told your name. You know my companion. He now must know you as one deeply devoted to his

The distant relations clasped each other's hands. and more warmly than Shemus Dhu expected, from the pride of one of them.

"Young men," said Shemus Dhu, in his accustomed cold manner, interrupting the conversation, which conveyed exchange of friendship between them, " to be of any use to each other, we must enter the town: by what means say you, Morgan?"

gate, Shemus," said Morgan O'Halloran. "But, and middling visitors, as well as the purpose of then, it is only a chance of escaping detection. I came prepared for every event. If you are bold or less anxious at heart for the success of his presenough to scale the wall, I have with me ropes and ententerptise, he could have full opportunity to irons suited to the adventure. Do you wish it, indulge his habitual wit and natural turn for sarcasm Shemus Dhu?"

Let it be so," said their guide. "I suppose there is no other resource."

know, Shemus," said his companion in a joyous table and two benches of seats, which were appropriattune.

An iron rod, able to support the weight of a man's body, was forced into the wall by the young man, body, was forced into the wall by the young man, as noiseles ly as he could. He stood upon it, and then upon another higher, and another, until he voice over their mulled ale and wine. The lower reached the top of the wall. He then fastened to a stake, deeply driven into the earth and mortar, the end of a coil of rope ladder.

"Now, be cautious," he said to his companions below. "Shemus, do you, as you, ascend, force out the irons; we ought not to leave traces of our way of entrance. The O'Halloran can ascend with-

out their help." There was something grateful to the feelings of Henry in the words "The O'Halloran." It was said with such an emphasis, such a conscious tone of voice, that it bound the speaker for ever to the listener. He, The O'Halloran, received it as a good omen. It was a light which brightened the darkened path before him. It shone upon his heart, and aroused feelings which were sleeping there before-feelings which said to their possessor, "It is worth any danger to be the acknowledged chief of such a man as this." Still, he knew not the dispositions of this man; all he knew was, that he was dating, strong, tall. How the heart of developed manhood yearns, even without a knowledge of the fact, to be chief among its equals, in love, in avarice, in ambition—the three arch passions which warp man's best feelings! With a joyous heart upon it for some time, and descended at a place which Shemus Dhu conceived most secure. They passed through an enclosed garden of vegetables; thence into a stable-yard, and entered one of the principal inns of the city. As they came through the door—a back one, be it remembered, and therelight, coming towards them from the far end of the long and narrow passage in which they stood.

"It is fortunate that it is she," said Shemus, after a moment's examination of the figure. "You wait here; I will meet hor. Eila knows me well, and will bring us without any remark into the kitchen, as if we had passed from the street."

The young woman raised the light, to examine the person who approached her. Shemus Dhu raised the cap which concealed his features, and said to her, in a sweet tone: "Ah! Mistress Eila, don't you know your old friend, Shemus?-Hush!" he continued, as he saw the burst of welcome on her lips: "you must have heard I am not so free to persons who had some claim, from gentility of procome and go as formerly. You must not know me before others; I am in disguise here."

here, Shemus? and who are those you bring with bigh point of honor. They had all been accustomed to the equality of Cromwell's discipline, and lorans, who had advanced nearer than Shemus was

"I will tell you again, colleen bawn. These are my friends; and one of them a friend of yours. Mor-

gan, speak, map, for yourself."
"Mr. O'Halloran here, too!" exclaimed the blushing girl, whilst she gently released her hand from the warm shake of the young man. "I fear, Shesequence follows. However, you need not fear, if mus, there is danger here for you and your friends."

are watches on all the places to which you are accustomed to resort. My father you know is not willing to protect you even he has not the power against the Council and Mr. D'Arcy. What can I

"I will put you to little trouble, and in no danger, Mistress Eila," said Shemus Dhu. Your house is large enough to give privacy for a few hours to a young friend of mine. Mr. Morgan can provide for himslef, for there is nothing to terrify him unless your father's looks, and, I believe, he is of Challoran.

"You needed not to have given the signal," said now fast asleep, as usual; or, perhaps, your astrange voice, coming from a tall figue, which had emerged from behind a buttress of the wall. "It is well for you, Shemus, that it was understood and well for you, Shemus, that it was understood and engaged I saw you when you were descending man to the room which looks into the corder. man to the room which looks into the garden—we can enter it from the yard. I will meet you in the kitchen."

"No, Shemus," replied the girl; "go you three to the room.—Or, no; it is better that Mr. O'Halloran be not here, and with you, at this hour. I will pass him into the street, and will then send you what will make your lodgings comfortable until morning. You cannot enter the kitchen; there are soldiers supping there. You would be recog-

"I thank you, Eila, for your care; but I must even see those soldiers. Fear not that I will be in danger from them. Is there a chance of a visit

from D'Arcy to-night?" "I heard him say to my father that he would be here early to morrow. There is no fear of his com-

ing to-night." "That is some comfort: it would be hard to deeive that deep villain," thought Shemus, taking the light with a gentle force from the hand of the young woman, and turning to retrace his steps through the passage.

"I will not part from you, Shemus," said Henry O'Halloran. "It is better that I be nearer to you than in that distant room. You know not what may happen,"

"Neither will I part from you Shemus" said Morgan. "I have sworn to it. Dear Eila, I must remain here whilst Shemus remains."

"If you must follow Sheinus, you will it, I suppose," said the young woman, with a sudden pertness, strangely at variance with the depth of feeling and earnestness of manner which she expressed a moment before. "Pursue your will Morgan. Remember, I forewarned you of the danger which threatens you "

"There is no danger which threatens us, mistress, I tell you," said Shemus Dhu, with some acerbity of voice. "I will allow the young men to have their wish. They may come to the kitchen, but not immediately after me; they must not know me there, whatever happens. Are there others there besides these soldier dogs, Mistress Ella?"

"Yes; there are some half-dozen young men of the town. My father's kitchen seldom wants visitors." "Well, there is no need of speaking in such a cold tone to friends. Are any of your gentle guests here to night, mistress?"

"They are gone," said Eila, "except three or four, who are now in their sleeping rooms." "It is as I hoped for," said the Peddler. "Give me my pack? Eila; I left in your keeping a week

back. To deceive, I must have recourse to my old trade. Morgan, remember his safety depends upon your prudence. Let there be some time passed before you ent r." Whilst Eila went for the Peddler's pack, he gave

instructious to his companions in what manner they

should b. have. One or more of the lowest menials

of the cousehold passed and repassed at the head of the domestics, much more as their young mistress had given them command to make no remarks. Shemus Dhu received the sealskin pack from the young mistress of the household, end carrying it in the knowing way of his trade, passed into the great hall of the house, and thence into the kitchen, "We may demand admittance at the farthest which served the purpose of taproom for the low culinary use. If Shemus Dhu were in the humour, upon the scene and actors on the scene which was presented to him on his entrance. The kitchen was a long and low room; the upper parl, or part "No other, certainly. Even if there were I nearest to Shemus was divided into narrow wainscotwould prefer this. There is spirit in the trial, you ed compartments, each affording space for a small ed to those who wished to be private in their potations. Two of these compartments were occupied by part of the room had the general character of a kitchen properly so called. The width of the chimney-mouth, the large hobs, the heavy crane of iron which supported the various cooking utensils the hams and bacon hanging in abundance from the ceiling-the immense dresser running half way through the room, and ornamented with goblets and platers of pewter, ladles, spoons, and knives; saucepans of brass; a few drinking cups of apparently more valuable metal, placed in the most conspicuous part of the shelves—all told that it was a kitchen where the ordinary wants were well provided for. However, these appurtenances or ornaments of the room did not engage Shemus' attention. He looked quickly and earnestly through the persons who were scattered around—some near the fire on low stools, and the greater part of them seated on either side of a long narrow frame of trance with any particular observation. He was, therefore, enabled to glide without remark to one of the vacant hobs-a point of observation which he so much desired, as it afforded him means to see solely engag d in the enjoyment of the cheer offered to him, had his eyes keenly fixed upon the visitors room, including, not the servants, but the occupants of the wooden stalls. There were five young men them-for the labors endured. They quaffed their wine or ale, as it might be; had their jokes with fession and gentility of demeanor, to say what they "In the name of heaven' how have you come tain bounds. The soldiers were sometimes on the were only just beginning to understand the deference to rank and to intellect which Monarchy had quite introduced with Charles the Second.

"Ah! but have you heard how the Black Peddler has deceived D'Arcy and the Council?" said one of the civilians—a young man, well dressed and of genteel appearance. This was the first attempt at general conversation which interested our friend on the hob.

house has been searched for you twice to day. There dressed, but with more strength of character in his German emperors, a certain influence in those countenance "What matters it to us? I wish he elections came to be accorded to them. This in. will give you Shemus Dhu's health; I owe him the honour for many a good bargain he has brought me drinking soldiers from their recesses. They looked to their comrades at the table, and seemed to un-derstand each other. The companions of the young man who gave the toast were checked suddenly in their desire to rise, by the approach of the military, and by the solemn looks, which they only attempted to put on; for their seriousness was burlesqued by the depth of their potations.

"What, ho! comrades, who mentions a traitor's name here?" said the temporary authority of the party, "We will see whom we have got amongst us." Sergeant," said the proposer of the toast, indignantly, "I have mentioned no traitor's name: I have given but the name of one whom I am sure is an honest fellow, and loyal to his king, though he

"Young gentleman, I do not doubt what you say: but I have a higher authority than your Council's to seek for this peddler; and with your leave I must ask the names of those present, and then dismiss them for the night, if they satisfy me."

wav.

"Mr. Sergeant," sail the first speaker, "I might question your authority to interrupt our conviviality. if I pleased: I am sure your instructions don't go so far; but I will submit, since it pleaseth my friends. My name is Phelim M'Carthy; by pro-fession, clerk to Martyn and Lynch, merchants."

"It's well spoken, young gentleman," said the sergeant. "I am loth to disturb you; but I was ordered to examine where I suspected. Your tonst created the suspicion."

Each of the young men in turn gave their names and occupation to the sergeant. Whilst doing it, they intimated to each other that it was more to please themselves than to please their interrogators that they did so. Certainly there were fiery souls among them, who would have resisted had they thought it to be an action reflecting upon their rights as free citizens, instead of half jest and half duty as they seemed to understand it.

"You may depart, gentlemen," said the sergeant, after hearing each. "We are satisfied, and pass you as loyal subjects to our gracious king. But, stop—hal whom have we here?" he said, in a tone of more seriousness; and pointing to Shemus, who had arisen from the hob: "To which of you, my masters, does this fellow belong?"

"By St. Nicholas! I disclaim him said the sturdy person who proposed the obnoxeous toast, looking with surprise at the uncouth figure in which the Peddler appeared "Answer for yourself, good man." All agreed that they did not know the person, They did not observe him entering, and they concluded that he had been there before them.

"Who be you, man?" asked the sergeant, coming close to Shemus. "An honest man conceals not his countenance, I think."

"If it be your pleasure to hear me, sir," replied Shemus, in a winning tone, sufficiently humorsome to excite the smiles of the civitians, who at the moment were afraid that he could not satisfactorily answer for himself, "I will tell you a long story of my ancestors, and what they did, and what they did not; and how they left me sole heir to all they had not, but wisely settled upon fools all that they had. Bring a draught, that I may begin my history for this worshipful officer."

"It is too late to hear your history, my man. Answer men: who are you, your name and profession? whence come you, and whither go you?'

"It would be hard to answer all these questions in one breath, sir," said the Peddler, with an air of the greatest deference. "Winny there knows me and mine."

"Oh! yes," interrupted the quickwitted girl; "it is O'Neil, the dealer from the West. Ah! how did you enter, Bill, without us noticing you before? How is Biddy and the little ones?"

"They are all well, praises to heaven! a-colleen. Biddy bid me bring a nice present

show it to you by-and-by." This was said with the best-acted simplicity; and the sergeant and his men would have passed out without further examination of the guests or vistors, did not the door open and p esent the two O'Hallorans-one of them entering with the gayest self-possession, without disguise; and the other following, and evidencing surprise both in look and manner, despite the carelessness he had attemp ed to assume.

(TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR MIXT.)

THE "RIGHT OF VETO." In connection with the discussions concerning the Conclave, reference has been made of late to a right of veto which is supposed to reside in certain powers, and which is described as so stringent that the election to the Papal dignity of any person against whom it had been exercised, would be not only improper, but invalid. Journalists and writers have gone even much farther than this in Germany. They have pretended that, should the person elected not be considered satisfactory by the Governwood, which extended from the hearth to the ment of the German empire-and we can easily dresser. Those present did not visit Shemus' en-trance with any particular observation. He was, would be "satisfactory" in the eyes of Prince Bismarck and the anti-Catholic politicians of Germany -we would not be "recognized." What effects would follow from this absence of recognition we what passed about him, without being himself are left to imagine. But, seeing that under exist-Henry O'Halloran leaped upon the wall. He was brought into collision with the guests, or being ing legislation the Pope is inhabited from exercising property in the property noticed by them. An use of warm ale and a sice of bread were handed to the Peddler by a female servant, who nodded to him in giving it, as much as to say—"You are safe, Shemus, in my keeping." Shemus Dhu, whilst he pretended to be deeply and sall. Sixteen centuries ago Decius and Diocletian declined to recognize the Popes of their days, beging the pretended to be deeply and sall. Sixteen centuries ago Decius and Diocletian declined to recognize the Popes of their days, beging the pretended to be deeply and sall. Sixteen centuries ago Decius and Diocletian declined to recognize the Popes of their days, beging the pretended to be deeply and sall. yond trying to get hold of them, and translate them from earth to heaven as speedily as possible. But no Catholic dreamed that the validity of an election fore left quite ajar, without any fear of intrusion around. There might be a dozen persons in the from that quarter—they observed a figure, with a room, including, not the servants, but the occupants to the Bishopric of Rome could be dependent on the good-will of the Emperor of the World; or that of the city—young men of pretensions in life—who, after their labors in mercantile or other duties, be in the smallest degree diminished. be in the smallest degree diminished or repaired scught, in the relaxations of the Royal Inn or because it was not "recognized" by that master of tavern—so the hotel, of which Fila Lynch's father many legions. Is there not something supremely was master, was lately called—spirit and strength inconsistent in the pretension that the validity of for their morning duties, and recreation-due to an election to the Papacy could be dependent upon the approbation of a secular prince, who absolutely and in toto rejects his spiritual authority and denies the servant wenches, of whom there were then two that there be any title to it? Is there not in this present which told for the honor of the establish- something like the admission of the possibility that ment—we mean for the weight of business; and they there may be a great mistake, and that the Pope were tolerated by the soldiery in their witticisms, as really has that Divine warrant for his dignity and jurisdiction which is so empathically repudiated? We have it on the highest authority that a certain pleased and to do what they liked, yet within cer- class of beings "believe and tremble." They too would, if they could, overturn what they hate; but they feel too well that their own hatred is no convincing proof that it does not really exist.

endeavored to influence or control Papal elections, and often in a highly improper fishion. Odoacer, who became King of Italy upon the overthrow of the Western Empire, made an ordinance that no mission. Later on, the Greek emperors at Constansequence follows. However, you need not fear, if mus, there is danger nere for you and your filed.

you follow my counsel, in any event," he said, after She said this in a voice of tenderness, glancing at some minutes' pause. He then joined his hands in the excited face of Murgan O'Halloran. "This young man next to the speaker, less fashionably stored under Charlemagne and his successors, the require it.—Catholic Mirror.

had choked D'Arcy and the Council. We expected fluence was justified and legitimate in so far as it many companions here to make one joyous night was acquiesced in by the Church. We must resport that the house was watched and guarded the emperors were the chief protectors and defend Heigh holit is time for bed. But before we part I are of the Church of God on fearth. It was the ers of the Church of God on tearth. It was their dity to protect the ecclesistical authorities and the whole Christendom against all enemies, both within honour for many a good bargain he has oroughe me shemus Dhu, gentlemen it said the young man, and without. The half to help to maintain intect the arising, and cutting rapid figures of eight in the air with his goblet. The loudness of voice and ears their authority in order to make the influence of mestness with which the toast was given, called the Oristian principles permeate every department of bolitical and social life, and to endeavor to make the collection of their recesses. Christian principles political and social life, and to endeavor to make their Christian subjects faithful to the Church and obedient to her commands. This position of the emperors clearly did not confer upon them any jurisdiction in ecclesiastical matters, but only a right of influence within certain many perceive that it was so recognized by the perceive that it was so recognized by the Thus, right of influence within certain limits. And we Pope Eugenius II, ordered that the Pope, having been freely elected, should be consecrate ed only in the presence of the emperor or of his representative. This was abrogated by Adrian III, but was re-established. It is well known how the emperors availed themselves of this opportunity, in order to make a series of encroachments, which seriously hampered the freedom of the election itmay have displeased some of the authorities of Galself." This was one of the matters which led to the great conflict conducted with such skill and courage by St. Gregory VII, the Pope whom the Protestant historian, Leo, pronounces to be by far the greatest man of the Middle Ages. Since his time, it may be said that not only was the election itself free, but the claim to confirm it became obsolete. In 1179 the third Council of Latern, presided over by Pope Alexander III, declared that henceforward the election of the Pope belonged exclusively to the College of Cardinals, and that the person so elected by them was to be forthwith recognized as Pope. Now, it is well to recall here that since the Divine Founder of the Church Himself left no ordinance regulating how His Vicar, who was to rule His Church on earth, was to be chosen, this election, like any other ecclesiastical fact, is to be regulated by the laws of the Church, and by them only. There is something preposterous in those who profess to deny the Divine origin of the Church and of the Papazy discussing the conditions of the validity of a Papal election. It is a matter which exclusively concerns the Cathol's Church and her children. It is toward the latter end of the fitteenth century that we meet with the first indications of the exercise by certain secular princes of that interference in Papal elections which has been designated the "veto" or the "right of exclusion " This consists in the right, on the part of the power exercising it, of notifying to the Cardinals assembled in Conclave that for certain reasons the election of such and such a person designated by name would be unwelcome to it, This notification may be made at any period of the Conclave, but must be made before a scrutiny or ballot. In other words it cannot take the form of a protest against an election which has been already completed, or which may be in the very act of being performed. Further, this right can only be exercised once during a Conclave, and is limited to one person only. There are, indeed, instances on record where it has been employed against a Cardinal who would otherwise probably have ben elected; and the power that excluded him has the mortification of seeing another chosen who was still more distasteful. As to the powers which are invested with this

privilege they are only three, viz., Austria, France, and Spain. This has been the usage during the four centuries which have passed since its first appearance; and as there is question of a matter which exists only by usage, it cannot be extended beyond the limits which this usage of four centuries has traced. Signor Bonghi, who until a year ago was the Italian Minister for Public Instruction, and who, whatever may be his faults, is a man of great abilities and rare information, has lately published a work entitled Pius IX and the Future Pope. In this he has shown that the pretentions which some persons have lately set up on the part of Portugal and Naples, as if they too could claim the right of veto, is without foundation. And although he shows a desire that, if possible, Italy also should be considered to have a right to this privilege, he acknowledges that the force of facts demonstrates that belongs exclusively to the three powers men-From all this it is clear that this right of veto, or

of excluding a certain person from the list of those eligible for the Papacy, is not a "right" at all, in the strict acceptation of the term. It is not an ecessary faculty of the three powers mentioned, which belongs to them as an attribute or consequence of their sovereign political independence. Such a notion would be irreconcilable with the proper idea of the Church as an independent society, divinely constituted and politically complete in herself. Furthest ought equally in this case to be the right of every other State, at least of every one which was Catholic—a pretension at variance with historical facts. Neither is it a treaty-right conceded to those three powers by the Church. There is no trace of any formal concession of the kind; there is no hint about it in any of the numerous Concordats. It is rather a usage than a right, which derives all its efficacy and validity from the toleration of the Church, and may, if one pleases, be regarded as a right just so far and so long as it is thus tolerated. It plainly rests upon the principle that the Church and State can mutually help and support each other, and can harmoniously work together for the benefit of the people. When this is really the case when the great Catholic powers truly act as protectors and defenders of the Church, assisting her in her mission and promoting her Divine end, it is easy to understand how they may be allowed to exercise a limited influence in certain ecclesiastical affairs. This influence must, it is to be presumed, be employed for the advantage of the Church, and of the Catholic people. It is only in this sense that it could be permitted by the Church. But if it were attempted to employ it in a manner hostile and injurious to the Church. But, if it were attempted to employ it in a manner hostile and in-jurious to the Church, it is plain that it could be no longer tolerated since the only ground on which it rests would be thereby taken away. Signor Bough, in the work to which we have above referred, is forced to admit that the rights of the three governments with respect to the Papal election are of "only uncertain origin," and that they have been made use of in a very vague manner. The principle which has justified the Church in permitting the usage will equally justify her in abolishing it under altered circumstances.

The history of the Conclaves thoroughly confirms this explanation of the supposed right of veto. Generally speaking, the College of Cardinals has acquiesced in the exclusion from one election of a Cardinal when expressly desired by one of the three powers. It knew that by so doing peace and concord between Church and State were more firmly established, and the work of the Church, over which the Pope who was to be elected would preside; was facilitated. But there have not Ever since the fifth century secular princes have been wanting instances in which such an veto was neglected. Not to accumulate instances, Cardinal Chigi, although "excluded", by France, was elected in 1655, and became Alexander VII. so famous for his frequent condemnations of January. one should accept the Papal dignity upon being But the French Government never harbored the elected thereto until he had received the royal per- monstrous thought of rejecting his election because its "veto" had been disregarded. What was done tinople claimed the right of confirming the election. then will, we may be sure, be done again as often as the glory of God and the good of the Church may