

SHEMUS DHU, THE BLACK PEDDLER OF GALWAY.

A TALE OF THE PENAL TIMES.

CHAPTER XXVII.—Continued.

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

a 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 the abbey walls.

house has been searched for you twice to-day. There 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 do, Shemus?"

pressed, but with more strength of character in his countenance. "What matters it to us? I wish he had choked D'Arcy and the Council. We expected many companions here to make one joyous night of it in the month, but they were frightened by the report that the house was watched and guarded."

German emperors, a certain influence in those elections came to be accorded to them. This influence was justified and legitimate in so far as it was acquiesced in by the Church. We must remember that, according to the notions of that time, the emperors were the chief protectors and defenders of the Church of God on earth. It was their duty to protect the ecclesiastical authorities and the whole Christendom against all enemies, both within and without. They had to help maintain intact the unity of Christian belief; they were to employ their authority in order to make the influence of Christian principles permeate every department of political and social life, and to endeavor to make their Christian subjects faithful to the Church and obedient to her commands.