

can be no unity outside the Apostolic Church. Let us all pray that we may have in necessariis, unitas; in dubiis, libertas; in omnibus, caritas.

LAYMAN.

P. S.—I would add that I cannot conceive how any one can be brought to believe in an "Invisible Church" with unauthorized teachers.

August 30th, 1881.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

LONDON, August 30.

When I last wrote the political horizon had been wearing a threatening and disturbed aspect; thick clouds gathered over the heads of the Government, and carnage and pillage and ruin were predicted on all sides. The two Houses of Parliament frowned dangerously at each other; some fierce growls were heard to ascend from the more pugilistic hon. members, while the country was one boiling cauldron, almost maddened with anxiety for a general election, and burning their arms for the conflict. The most hot-headed Radicals laughed when they considered the probability of a conflict between the "people's representatives" and the "hereditary enemies of the people"—a consummation they had for many years been devoutly wishing to take place; and they could think of nothing that would give them greater satisfaction than an excuse for preaching the abolishing of the hereditary chamber, and thus deprive their lordships of privileges they have enjoyed for centuries. A host of meetings were held with that end in view all over the country, and resolutions full of fire and wrath were continually sent to Mr. Gladstone, who convened such meetings thinking that or never was their time. But amid all this commotion, suddenly the whole agitation collapsed, by the Lords and Commons, or Mr. Gladstone and Lord Salisbury, coming to an understanding and arranging a compromise, as I briefly told you in my last. For compromise it was, whatever either party might say to explain such an interpretation of mode of settlement away. Thus the Bill was ultimately accepted by the Peers, and last Saturday, the Prorogation Day, received Royal Assent, and is thus now law. Every sensible man, whatever his political opinions, must devoutly hope and pray that this "Message of Peace" may prove in reality to be a lasting boon and benefit indeed to the sister isle, so that peace and prosperity may replace the contentions and inquiet that have characterized that distressful country for many a long year past. Many are waiting anxiously to see how the country will accept the measure, and the action of Mr. Parnell's Land League in the matter. But more of that anon.

The session that closed last Saturday been not inaptly called the Single Bill Session, as the Irish Land Bill is the only Bill of first magnitude the Government have passed. The measure that I previously referred to, the "Contumacious Prisoners' Release Bill," was duly passed by the Lords, but suffered a collapse in the House of Commons by a "count out" whilst Mr. Beresford Hope was explaining its provisions to hon. members. So the measure must lapse till next session, and Mr. Green languish in Lancaster gaol, unless he chooses to bend his stiff neck, and give those pledges that are requisite for his release. The Rev. Pelham Dale has a writ out against him for costs in the litigation in his case, and he persists in setting the whole affair a naught. In the end, I fear, the Sheriff will be called in in his case also, and thus add another to the already sufficiently scandalous list of such proceedings.

After many and diverse rumors respecting the succession of Dr. Stanley at Westminster, the news is now current, with a sufficient air of authority to give credence to the statement, that the Rev. Dr. Bradley, Master of University College, and one of the most distinguished of the past head Head-Masters of Marlborough College, has been appointed to that honourable and responsible position. The past record of the reverend doctor is such as to justify the appointment. In politics, the presumptive Dean is a Liberal, and in theology may be said to approximate the Broad School. It may be said that his views were moulded and built upon those of the late Dr. Arnold. In this matter he is a prototype of the late Dr. Stanley. It is supposed that a divine of Dr. Bradley's stamp has purposely been selected for Westminster, so as to preserve the "balance of power" as it were between that place and

St. Paul's. Many thought that Mr. Gladstone would be sure to elect a High Churchman for the post. The Deanery of Westminster is not at all as other Deaneries. The holder of the decanal office at Westminster Abbey is more independent, far more exalted and conspicuous, knowing no superior. It is an imperium in imperio. He possesses all the dignity that pertains to a Bishop, with that exclusive control over his own ecclesiastical edifice which even Bishops do not enjoy. The appointment of a head to Westminster Abbey cannot but be one that interests and concerns all Englishmen. The building is itself one of the finest specimens of Mediaeval architecture in the kingdom, and is the last resting-place of England's Sovereigns and greatest worthies. It is also the place where the coronation takes place on the accession of a fresh regal head of the Empire. Hence the Crown has a voice in the appointment of its Dean. The successor to Dr. Stanley has already enjoyed the Royal favour, as he is one of her Majesty's Chaplains in Ordinary.

It is a feature in ecclesiastical appointments that must attract the notice of the merest ordinary observer, how often eminent school-masters are singled out for appointments high in the ecclesiastical scale. Probably it was because Dr. Butler is the head-master of Harrow that he was pointed out as the probable new Dean. The number of the present "Princes of the Church" who have left the academic chair or the pedagogue's seat goes to support this view. The present Archbishop of Canterbury was for some years well known as Dr. Tait, head-master of Rugby. Dr. Goulburn, the present Dean of Norwich, held the position at the same establishment, and also Dr. Temple, now Bishop of Exeter. Dr. Vaughan, Dean of Llandaff, and Master of the Temple, was distinguished some time as head-master of Harrow, where he was greatly beloved, as, indeed, he is wherever he goes. The clear and learned intellect, combined with gentleness and meekness, with a winning manner that charms and subdues, is inimitable. He once had the offer of the see of Rochester, but refused it. Then again the first Bishop who ever went over to Calcutta had been head-master of Marlborough College, as more recently was Dr. Farrar, the popular pulpit orator and writer, who now occupies St. Margaret's Church, under the shadow of the Abbey; and Dr. Bradley himself, as I have said before, filled at one time the same post. The present Bishop of Llandaff was, before his appointment to that see, principal of Lampeter College. The venerable Bishop has now completed his 83rd year of his age, and the 32nd of his episcopate. This list is enough to show the favour which the pedagogic hunting-ground finds with the powers that be in filling up such appointments.

Conjecture is rife as to the "little game" the Roman Catholics have in hand in this country. Cardinal Manning is being "pushed" forward on all sides and all occasions. No large gathering, no popular party, no public movement, but "Cardinal Manning" figures as one of the guests and patrons, and invariably his name finds premier position in the printed list, as being the most important and honoured of the company. One sees such names grouped as Cardinal Manning, the Lord Mayor of London, Lord Shaftesbury, and the Bishop of Exeter. It is whispered that all this energy and publicity is nothing but a popularity seeking campaign against the time when the favour of the people has been sufficiently courted to justify the launching forth of some bold Papal scheme. I know a place in the Provinces—a district, the hot-bed of Dissent—where the Cardinal has lately been "stumping." The following was his programme:—Tuesday night, a lecture on "Education" in one town; on Wednesday night, a lecture on the same subject in a town 12 miles distant from his previous night's scene of labour; on Thursday, on "Education" again, at a town 40 miles distant; on Friday, in the afternoon, at an Art Exhibition that was being held in a town 30 miles distant, a lecture or address on the uses of such gatherings; in the evening of the same day, a lecture on Education in a town 24 miles distant; on Saturday night back again to the same town, and a lecture on Temperance; on Sunday, preaching in two towns, 12 miles apart. All this activity, which is paraded and made the most of, and the subjects of his lectures being such that he can catch the popular ear, tends to make the Cardinal popular, and

hence the Church to which he is allied gets the benefit of his popularity. So it is all through the country. But the wise ones say there is a purpose at the bottom of it all. The Pope's position is by no means safe in Rome. France has practically overthrown the Church; in Spain she is not near by so strong as she was. So new fields must be sought, and England is the victim. But the game will not pay. So soon as the Papal Church and its emissaries take off the velvet glove and reveal the iron hand of the Religious Despot, so soon will the country arouse itself and none of it. This is a subject that is causing a great deal of quiet talk here just now, especially as it is known that negotiations have passed respecting a Papal Legatee in this country, being accredited at St. James. Old Father Time will tell us all about it.

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Post Office Inspector's Office, Halifax, August 26th, 1881.

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CHARLES J. MACDONALD, P. O. Inspector.

Post Office Inspector's Office, Halifax, August 26th, 1881.

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