

Therefore, much as we dislike the errors of Dr. Colenso, we dislike even more the passionate injustice of Bishop Selwyn.

To sum up, I have shewn your Grace that, for the object the Conference has at heart, their legislation is worthless. I now shew your Grace, by this instructive judgment, that if Ecclesiastics are unfit to make laws, they are still more unfit to administer them. In their own sphere, in the exercise of their high office, we esteem and regard them; when they step out of that sphere and take the functions of Parliament, their projects are blunders. But when they step on the bench, and, with the passions of partisans, attempt to adjudicate on right, their judgments are a grievous wrong. England tried them some centuries ago, and set them aside as unqualified for judicial duties. For long training, and habits of impartial reasoning, are needful to fit a man to be a judge. The specimen here given by bishops of undoubted ability, shews that, of all the evils that can befall our Church, the gravest will be that of committing the rights and independence of our clergy to Ecclesiastics as administrators of our laws.

I have the honor to be,  
Your Grace's obedient servant,  
AN EX-M.P.

#### SPIRITUAL TRIBUNALS PRODUCING DIVERSITY OF FAITH AT HOME.

LONDON, February 3, 1868.

MY LORD ARCHBISHOP,—

While it has appeared from the preceding argument that the objections to bishops presiding on a judicial tribunal, which is to decide the doctrines and fortunes of the clergy, are thus clear and cogent, there are reasons why such an experiment is especially unsuitable to the case of our colonies. For your Grace has doubtless observed, that the increase in the number of colonial bishops makes it more difficult to find qualified persons to undertake the office. Clergymen, actively engaged here, are unwilling to abandon a sphere of usefulness for one which is distant and doubtful. Hence the Crown and the heads of the Church are every day more straitened in their choice, and are compelled to select clergymen, who, holding extreme views, think that the post of a bishop will give them opportunities of propagating these; or the choice falls on inferior men, attracted by a post which raises them out of their obscurity into notice, and gratifies them by rank, and opportunities of display.

Thus we have seen persons, whose names we never heard of, not known beyond the narrow circle of some obscure parish, or suburban district, raised to be bishops, and itinerating through England to flaunt their dignity with cross and crozier, and to take part in the Romish rites which now scandalize the Church. I do not allude to the notoriety, which attended a recent consecration of a bishop, and which surprised