

## ADDRESS OF THE IMPERIAL GENERAL COUNCIL

*Of the Loyal Orangemen of England, Scotland, Ireland, Canada, and the other Colonies, representing half-a-million of men, adopted at their meeting held in London on Wednesday the 17th July, 1867, to the Orangemen of the Empire.*

*First.*—The Constitution in Church and State, and the Civil and Religious Liberty of all classes, have never been in such serious hazard since the reign of King James the Second.

*Second.*—The danger to the Church is in great measure occasioned by the Romanizing party amongst the Clergy of the Church of England; as to whom we deem it needless to wait for the Report of the Royal Commission, or minutely to examine Rubrics and the Canons of 1503, and the conflicting opinions of Counsels, the case being too clear to admit of doubt, and these Ecclesiastics have designedly introduced, and are now introducing the Romish Vestments, Ritual, and Doctrines—conduct which common sense teaches to be inconsistent with the principles of the Reformation, and with Clerical honesty.

*Third.*—But the danger, both to the State and also to the Church, is mainly occasioned by the gradual and perpetual concessions since the year 1829, made in Parliament in favour of the Roman Catholics: the great delusion of the present time being, to treat Popery as if it were an innocent form of Christianity, deserving equal privileges and equal position with Protestantism.

*Fourth.*—In the last and present sessions, especially, several measures, tending to the manifest destruction, immediate or remote, of the true principles of the Constitution, have been, and are being passed through Parliament, and with such rapidity and recklessness as would be unjustifiable even in the most ordinary and harmless Bill. We speak not of Parliamentary Reform, as to which we express no opinion.

*Fifth.*—To specify all the advantages obtained by the Romanists by their well sustained system of attack, aided by so

called Protestants of all political parties, would (except as shewn in the annexed Synopsis) be impracticable within the limits of an Address. We, therefore, confine ourselves to a brief statement of of the consequences, immediate and future, of the Repeal of the Declaration against Transubstantiation, and of the Repeal of the Ecclesiastical Tithe Act.

*Sixth.*—As to the former measure, the immediate result will be, that the Sovereign will be the only person in the British Dominions required to make the Declaration against Transubstantiation, which at present forms part of the Coronation Oath. The remote result, and at no distant period, will be, the abolition or alteration of that Coronation Oath (the main, if not the only practical obstacle to a Roman Catholic assuming the Crown), to be speedily followed by the Repeal or Alteration of the Royal Succession Act.

*Seventh.*—As to the latter measure, the immediate consequence of the Repeal of the Ecclesiastical Titles Act will be, the practical acknowledgment of the Pope's *Legal* power to do by a mere Bull that which our Sovereign cannot do without express sanction of Parliament; namely, to establish, at his own will and pleasure, a Hierarchy in any and every part of the British Empire, with territorial titles. The Queen's supremacy will thus be effectually destroyed: while the lay Roman Catholics themselves will be injuriously affected by the increased facilities for the introduction, by their Bishops, of the Canon Law for their Government.

*Eighth.*—The next, and not distant, consequences will be, the ostentatious exhibition, in public, of the Romish Bishops and Priests in full costume, attendance and ceremonial, their religious