

bishops over the priests. They could demand whatever share they chose of the priests' income, or remove them without assigning any cause, except to the Pope, who in like manner could summarily dispose of the bishops, and until a country is placed under a canon law. This arbitrary power continues centred wholly in the Vatican. The Pope has been careful not to hasten the declaration of canon law in Protestant countries, such as Britain and the United States, as it greatly circumscribes his power; and now it is said he is trying to bring the Roman Catholic countries of Europe down to the same level by making the tenure of office of their bishops and priests absolutely dependent on his own will. This great revolution is described as follows:

*L'Emancipatore Cattolico* of Naples says:

The Vatican does not feel quite safe as regards the bishops, who, especially in distant parts, enjoy a supremacy to be compared to that of the Pontiff himself, for may there not, one of these days, come up the grave question, What is the Pope but a bishop, like all the other bishops? The authority which the Bishop of Rome has arrogated over his brethren may be inquired into. To guard, then, against any possible difficulty, the question is under consideration at the Vatican of suppressing entirely all the faculties given to some bishops by other popes, or conferred by the canons of the Church. The Episcopate would be thenceforth entirely subject to the Holy See, which would have supreme authority over it. The measure would not reach bishops alone, for the Pope has already assigned to the appropriate congregation the private examination of all the measures proper to take, in order that as to the conduct of ecclesiastics throughout the world there may be but one rule, and that set by the Vatican. The formula, "One fold and one shepherd," would then have a very decided application.

THE NEW DEER CASE.—Having considered the protests by several members of the New Deer congregation against the election of the Rev. Mr. Bruce, Portlithen, as minister of New Deer, on account of his being presently under suspension by the General Assembly, the Presbytery of Deer has resolved to submit for the opinion of Sheriff Lee, the Procurator of the Church, the following points, viz.: Whether in the circumstances Mr. Bruce's appointment in a valid and effectual appointment; whether Mr. Bruce is qualified to accept it; whether, if there were no other reason for refusing to sustain his appointment than his suspension, the Presbytery is bound to sustain it and take steps to translate Mr. Bruce to New Deer; and what course of procedure the Presbytery ought to follow should any or all of the above questions be answered in the negative. The call and concurrence in favor of the Rev. Mr. Bruce was left in the hands of William Scott, merchant in the village, up to Tuesday, when at the close 816 persons had signed the call and 529 the concurrence—total, 1345. The requisition to the Committee numbered 1279.

A NEW POPE REPORTED ELECTED, —Private information has reached London, Eng., (says a telegram to the *Liverpool Courier*) from a person of the highest rank in Rome, that a new Pope has definitely been elected. The new Pope is said to be Cardinal Panebianco and he was elected *in pectore* at a secret conclave of cardinals, summoned last week, in consequence of the dangerous condition of the aged Pontiff's health.