

tion of the rights of the patrons. It was resolved by the Parliament of England that an embassy should carry to the pope five letters from the Bishops, the Abbots, the Lords and Commons, and the King, respectfully demanding redress, and threatening, in case of not obtaining it, no longer to obey the Church of Rome. While these letters were on their way, the pope having learned that many rich English Ecclesiastics died intestate, decreed that the possessions of all such should revert to himself, and commissioned the Franciscan and Dominican friars to see to the execution of this mandate.

The next year he sent over a mandate that all the resident clergy in England should pay *one-third* of their revenues to his See, and the non-residents *one-half*. The clergy, however, were prevented from paying this exaction by the King. In fact the papal power was always usurping the rights of the Church and the State. These were scarcely a tithe of the evils which our church suffered from the unscriptural supremacy of the Pope of Rome.—*Palmer's Hist.*, page, 139. These impositions in connection with the fearful idolatry, the paganism of Rome, were forced upon our fathers, and Rome's impieties were thus joined with the religion of the Bible which had been given them by their early teachers, who had received it from Christ Him-