

we fail to see his martyrdom. It is easy to mount the martyr height on the wave of popular applause. We are far from expressing sympathy with the course pursued by the dean, whose conduct is open to criticism. He is true, however, to his system, a system Dr. Wilson for eighteen years maintained and strengthened, a system which has ever restrained personal freedom; the supposed *eclat* of which, moreover, even Dr. Wilson is not ready to forego. Men who chafe under the same may remember the homely proverb, "You cannot have your pudding and eat it too." This our fathers knew, and stepped out of Babylon.

OUR English contemporary, the *Nonconformist and Independent*, has certainly not lessened its worth by reducing its price, indeed we think, with its new departure, it has acquired additional vigour and worth. Its work, as the uncompromising champion of religious liberty and equality in England, is not yet done, as the following choice items may make plain:

Not very long ago a calico printer, of Manchester, purchased the living of Stockport for £12,000, and presented his son thereto. It was a shrewd investment. The rectory of Stockport has attached to it certain glebe lands which have been let on building leases, and they appear to have been hitherto regarded as renewable. The present Rector of Stockport determined, however, to test his rights, and the High Court of Justice has given a decision in his favour. A glebe land leaseholder who had spent his all in improvements on the old assumption of renewal, applied, and the amount demanded as rent was more than the gross annual value of the property. The unfortunate victim died broken-hearted, leaving a wife and daughter in actual want. A number of other leaseholders find themselves in an equally unfortunate position; and under the circumstances, they have resolved to raise a defence fund in order to carry a test case to the House of Lords. It is calculated that if the rector is successful in his present policy, the annual value of his living will be shortly increased to £12,000, its present value being only £2,000. What has the fabled "pious founder" to do with all this! A local paper puts the case very pithily by declaring that the church has been made the heir of the leaseholders during their own life-time. Church defenders may, perhaps, object that the church itself obtains no advantage; but so long as the church permits her wealthy laymen and their clerical relations to act as speculators in ecclesiastical lands, she must bear the responsibility.

Again:

One of the dealers in ecclesiastical property has just issued a circular, in which he says: "I beg to state that I undertake the sale and purchase of advowsons, next presentations, Episcopal chapels, etc.; and if you should have such description of property for disposal I shall be glad to receive full particulars, or, if you wish to make a purchase, a statement of your requirements." Has this gentleman any article on hand of the Stockport pattern, warranted to increase in value tenfold within the next ten years?

GENTLE reader, did you ever see a man with a grievance? "What grievance?" you ask. Ah, well, no one can tell, but one whom the world has united to abuse, neglect, underestimate or put aside; a man whom everybody illtreats, and no one, as he should, sustains. Give him the opportunity, he will bore you, complain to you, gives you abundant reason why his foes should be your special object of hate, and depart to curse your obtuseness in not seeing as he sees. The stars in their courses fought against Sisera, they have "fallen from grace" in not fighting for him. Before his grievance hung a pall over the earth Niagara had beauty, but its rainbow is faded, its spray hideous, and the roar utterly hearthenish because its mighty forces have not been turned aside to redress his wrongs. And why should the sun rise in beauty and set in glory unless to join ungrateful man in mockery of him? We have often felt that the framers of the Anglican Litany were short-sighted in not putting among the terrors from which they prayed for deliverance, "men with grievances."

OUR short experience in the editorial chair has, however, revealed to us another specimen of the genus *homo*, which to those who permanently sit therein must be an object of dread, unless, perchance, as the eels to the woman's severe art "they get used to it." We inserted a story with a moral, plain to us as the print upon the page. One of the characters therein was made to utter an exclamation expressive of intense emotion. She could scarcely have done otherwise under the circumstances. Some very sage advice was sent to us thereon about the impropriety of the utterance. Well, had we examined the tale with a critic's microscope, we should perhaps have scored out the word—which, at any rate, is not a bad one—and thus escaped the reproof. But really when we enjoy the sunlight, we are not growling because there are spots on the sun. And we mused. Editorial chairs are not like to that of St. Peter's, infallible, where would the infallible critic be were they so? So many people are afterwards. What is done they actually can see! And as they never do anything but look after others, they are happily conscious that they cannot be criticized in return. We do not know in the competition of life which comes