

must in justice to the High Church party say that instances of a similar system of oppression committed by the other side have been brought under our notice. Such and such an Evangelical minister, again, has before now been as much the spiritual inquisitor of his flock (and the crooks of these gentlemen have been pretty long ones) as any Anglican priest who ever labored at the Confessional. It does not signify much if the inquisitorial process is to take place at all, whether the penitent be standing, sitting, or kneeling. It is not a question of a posture, but a fact, and the fact is the abuse of priestly power. The abuse of this power has been brought very offensively before the public in this case of Mr. Poole, but we are far indeed from asserting that cognate abuses do not take place on the other side. The matter must be left, after all, to the discretion of the heads of families. It is their business—indeed, one of their highest duties—to guard all persons under their authority from such dangerous delusions. In case of abuse it only requires that the fact should be made public, and publicity will soon supply a remedy sharper than any in the laboratory of Bishop or Archbishop.