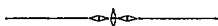


“than any other property can show, and that length of possession, which
 “is recognised as inalienable in private estate, ought in all justice to be
 “so in Church possessions also. We hold that the quasi-public nature of the
 “tithe is no valid ground for its confiscation, so long as the objects to
 “which it has been assigned, mainly by private benefaction, are in them-
 “selves useful to the community. We hold, and have given abundant
 “reasons for holding, that no money held in trust is so prolific of good
 “to the nation at large, and that disendowment would be at once a crime
 “and a blunder. But if so disastrous an alternative were forced on
 “us—and it will never be if the Church is only true to herself
 “—we would say unhesitatingly let us have disendowment rather than
 “disestablishment. Let the Church be stripped rather than God dis-
 “honoured. Individual generosity may replenish the Church’s empty
 “treasury; no individual action would atone for national repudiation of
 “its Christian life and name.”



THE MONTH.

THE Congress at Rhyl seems to have been a decided success. A noble speech on the Church in Wales was made by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the opening address by the President (the Bishop of St. Asaph) was worthy of the occasion. The *Guardian* says :

The disestablishment question entered, it may be said, on a new phase. Appeals to the tender feelings or even to the conscience of the political Nonconformist may be useless. But the world at large will be able to appreciate the full strength of the Bishop of St. Asaph’s vigorous and elevated defence of the Welsh Church. Henceforth it will be vain to reproduce anti-Church statistics, or to deny the life and efficiency of the Welsh dioceses, except in election declamations. The appearance of the Primate, the reception he met with, and his generous and determined championship of that outlying portion of his province will also have very great weight. It is always a gain to have it understood that the moment of compromise and concession has passed—to have it made clear that the Church does not propose to be trampled on. After this, mendacious appeals, manipulated statistics, and the violent diatribes of partisans lose their force. Even politicians must begin to realize the seriousness of the struggle they have before them in the piecemeal disendowment of the Church of England.

The sermons by the Bishops of Manchester and Ripon will repay reading.—The Missionary debate was in its way both entertaining and helpful. Mr. Eugene Stock’s speech was an effective answer to many of the attacks on the C.M.S.—With some of the addresses on O.T. criticism, it is said, many hearers—if not the great majority—were by no means pleased. Professor Sanday’s paper was really practical.

We record with sincere regret the death of Mr. W. H. Smith, First Lord of the Treasury.

The death of Mr. Parnell may, possibly, result in the Separatist representatives from Ireland appearing as one body.

Dean Pigou is appointed to the Deanery of Bristol; a loss to the Diocese of Chichester.

Mr. Balfour, Chief Secretary, with general approval, becomes Leader of the House of Commons and First Lord of the Treasury.

Professor Jebb is the new Member for the University of Cambridge.