

that both universities would soon be entirely under the control of the Roman Catholics.

To his great disappointment, James had found that the Protestant dissenters were not giving him the support that he expected. In the hope of gaining over those who still held out, he issued in April, 1688, a second Declaration of Indulgence. In this he renewed the grant of freedom of worship, and further promised to call a Parliament not later than November, at the same time urging that men who were favourable to religious freedom should be returned as members. The Declaration was ordered to be read in all churches on two successive Sundays.



MEDAL STRUCK IN HONOUR OF THE BISHOPS

Before the appointed Sunday on which the Declaration was to be read for the first time, six bishops presented privately to the king a petition, signed by themselves and by Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, asking that the order be withdrawn. In the petition, they set forth their loyalty to the crown and their desire for religious toleration, but held that, as Parliament had frequently declared that the king had no power to dispense with the laws, the Declaration was illegal, and that, as such, they could not conscientiously assist in its publication. The king was furiously angry. "God has given me the dispensing power," he said, "and I will maintain it." The bishops could not prevail on him to withdraw the order, and they retired. The