

visited England in the 7th Century, and asked the subjection of the English Church to the See of Rome, the Clergy and leading Churchmen met at a place known to-day as Augustine's Oak, and returned him the following answer :—

“ We acknowledge the Supremacy of no foreigner.”

But now the scene is changed—by degrees the leaven had been working in the English nation until finally the Civil Authorities imposed the Papal Supremacy upon our Fathers.

Zealous for his Sovereign, the King and Bishop of Rome, the Romish Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1091, made the attempt to induce, not the Irish Church but the Irish Monarch, Thurlough, to exercise his authority in bringing about a conformity between the services then used in the Irish Church and those of the Roman Communion. He complained in the name of the Pope, of the discipline of the Irish Clergy, and desired him to assemble a Synod for the purpose of making those changes which were necessary to assimilate the Irish to the Roman Church. But while the Archbishop of Canterbury was thus interfering with the affairs of our Church in Ireland, he was furnishing posterity with a pregnant proof of the independence both of their Church and Monarchy, and more than intimating, that neither their ecclesiastical nor