

had given them, and the Church knew that no principle of right or justice was infringed by them. Finally, the question being proposed to the bishops and clergy assembled in the Provincial Synods of Canterbury and York, whether the Bishop of Rome, has, in the Word of God, any greater jurisdiction in the Realm of England than any other foreign bishop. It was determined in the negative—that he had not. The Universities, Chapters, Monks, and Friars, throughout the kingdom declared their assent. One bishop only (Fisher) refused to unite in this general decision of the Church of England; and thus the ordinary jurisdiction of the pope over England, was regularly and lawfully suppressed; not by a faction or party, seceding from the Church of England, but by the Church herself.

The popes thought proper to consider the Church of England and the whole nation with it, in a state of schism as soon as their own usurped jurisdiction was abolished. "There was," says Palmer, "a small party in England, which secretly held the views of the popes on this subject—these were attached to the old superstitions, though they did not venture to separate from the Church."—*Page, 161.*

Again, the same author says, "The popish intruders into English Bishoprics were expelled by the civil power; and their