

the Irish Church cannot be questioned, as at the time the Bishop of Rome, so far from having made any claim to the supremacy, had actually disavowed any pretensions to it; whilst John, Bishop of Constantinople, claimed and assumed the title of Universal Bishop. This occurred at a time when Italy was in a very unsettled state, and John, in his correspondence with Gregory the Great, then Bishop of Rome, styled himself "Universal Bishop."—Gregory remonstrated mildly, but John persevered, and a correspondence upon the subject ensued between the Emperor and Empress. In a letter to the latter he says, "It is a lamentable thing that his brother and fellow-bishop should endeavour to be called sole Bishop. But, indeed, what else is manifested in this his pride, but that the times of Antichrist are nigh at hand even now?"