

hear," from Mr. Gladstone).—I accept that cheer most thankfully, —I am willing to believe he does not intend to do that which I think his bill would bring to pass. I entreat him not to talk of putting it off to this day fortnight, but I entreat him to withdraw it, on the ground that negotiations are in progress between the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Metropolitan of Sydney, which may lead to useful legislation. If I retain my office for another year, it will not be my fault if some legislation does not take place; but, seeing that negotiations are taking place, and seeing the grave doubts, at least (that I am sure he cannot deny), which surround the enactments of this bill, I entreat my right hon. friend to postpone it for the present. I have no wish to move that the bill be read a second time this day six months. I wish to treat him in the most friendly spirit; but I trust he will not drive me to the necessity of considering whether, consistently with my duty as a Minister of the Crown, I could advise Her Majesty to give her consent to the further progress of a measure which I believe would invade her just prerogative and put an end to her undoubted supremacy. I beg to move that the House do proceed to the other orders of the day.

In reply to observations made by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone,

Sir J. PAKINGTON regretted that he had not read the remainder of the 7th clause, after the construction put on what he had said by his right hon. friend the Member for the University of Oxford. But what his right hon. friend said did not touch what he (Sir J. Pakington) had said. He had said that this was the first attempt which had been made to ordain persons to ecclesiastical office, being British subjects, without taking the oath of supremacy. (Hear, hear.) It was no answer to tell him that among the Thirty-nine Articles there was one which touched the subject. Taking that omission in connexion with the power given to the bishop instead of the Crown by the first clause, he was advised, and he believed, that the provisions of the bill went to doing away with the supremacy of the Crown.