

thing, and there is no record of any area in Christendom for nearly 1500 years without such an office. We do, indeed, read of something like Episcopal Presbyters in the early Church, *i. e.*, Presbyters who were apparently invested with Episcopal functions. men who were Bishops as well as Presbyters. Possibly some of the Presbyters or Elders, mentioned in the New Testament, were such, and hence their twofold designation -- sometimes as Presbyters, sometimes as Bishops. At all events, Jerome seems to refer to such a class as having continued for about two hundred years in Alexandria. But these seem to have been superseded elsewhere at a very early date, probably before the end of the first century, by the monarchical Episcopate. But whether this be so or not, the fact that confronts us is that the Episcopate, whether under that name or not, and whether exercised by an individual or by a College of Episcopal Presbyters, is an integral part of the Christian Church as known in history, an integral part of that system of means which Christ founded for the realization of the true end of human life, and which we call the Church. It is much more a part of the Christian tradition than the Sunday. And if men accept the change