

THE CONTRAST.

N.B. *The Reader is requested carefully to examine the passages of Scripture in their proper connexion.*

An Ancient Christian Pastor, Elder, or Bishop.

1st. He was one of *two or more* appointed to preside over a Christian congregation.—Acts xiv. 23, Phill. i. 1.

2nd. He was distinguished for superior intelligence, character, experience, and fitness for office.—1 Tim. iii. 1, 7, Tit. i. 6 to 9.

3rd. He was chosen *by and from among his Christian brethren*, as their honoured *servant*.—Acts vi. 1-3, 1 Tim. iii. 4, 6, 10, Matt. xx. 25, 26, 27.

4th. He was employed in a secular calling for his temporal support.—Acts xx. 33, 34, 35.

5th. He stood in the relationship of an elder brother, or as a guide.—Matt. xxiii. 8, 1 Pet. v. 2, 3.

6th. He only *assisted* in the Christian assembly in the duty of *mutual instruction*.—Rom. xv. 14, 1 Cor. xiv. 3, 31, 1 Thes. v. 11 to 14.

7th. He received no pecuniary rewards *as Pastor*, although Evangelists or Missionaries were thus sustained.—1 Pet. v. 2, Luke x. 1 to 7, 1st Cor. ix. 14.

8th. He had no jurisdiction whatever beyond the congregation over which he, with others, presided.—Acts xx. 28—"Flock," NOT FLOCKS.

9th. He was, at all times, amenable to the members of the congregation.—1 Tim. v. 19, 20.

10th. He was united to the body alone by the bonds of Christian esteem and affection.—1 Pet. v. 2, 1 Thess. v. 12, 13.

A Modern Pastor, Minister, or Bishop.

1st. He is, contrary to Scripture, *sole presiding officer* over the congregation.

2nd. He is almost invariably appointed before the people have any opportunity of judging as to his intelligence, character, experience, or fitness for office.

3rd. He is chosen from *a distinct class*, and generally by clerical authority, to be a *master* over the people.

4th. He repudiates a secular calling, subsists most generally upon the means of the congregation or the public chest, and is very often a mere clerical drone.

5th. He stands in the relationship of a spiritually independent ecclesiastical governor or commander.

6th. He claims and exercises, contrary to the New Testament, the right of being *sole* instructor to the congregation.

7th. He generally enters into an engagement to receive a stipulated sum of money as Pastor or Minister, while performing no Missionary labour.

8th. He, with his clerical brethren generally, claim and exercise jurisdiction over *all* the congregations of the denomination.

9th. He is most generally amenable only to Church Courts, to superior clerical jurisdiction, or perhaps only to himself: the people have little, if any, power over him.

10th. He is generally united to the body by a written deed of obligation. He to preach so many discourses, and the people to pay so many dollars.

11th. Like he, by his duties as was fitted brethren spiritual

12th. His ed, general Paul, he vetoed no apparel. you."

13th. His heavenly ness, wh Pet. v. 4. love to G

"Would I Paul, Were he on and own, Paul should trace His master's design. I would express In doctrine un And plain in chaste, And natural in Himself, as c And anxious n May feel it to And tender in A messenger

Q. What name? A. wherein I v father-in-G do for you should rem Church of secondly, th that I shoul the days of bound to b A. Yes, ver he hath cal give me m relations to