

by the people to his Apostolic charge, for in St. Luke I find no trace of it." Beza too, when writing of the popular right to vote, says, that the "case of Matthias is nothing to the purpose," (*nikil ad rem facit*).† Mr. Dawson appeals to various authorities, such as Hook, Barrow, Burns, Gladstone, &c., to prove what is not denied, that Bishops were elected by Clergy and Laity. His mode of argument is an *ignoratio elenchi*. What he had to prove was, that Bishops were elected by Clergy and Laity alone, without any reference to, and irrespective of a veto by Provincial Bishops. What he strives to prove is, that they were elected by Clergy and Laity. A thousand years hence, it will be possible to refer to many treatises, and to cite great authorities to prove that in the Episcopal Church of the United States, in the present day, Bishops were elected by Clergy and Laity; but that will not prove that the House of Bishops had nothing to say in the matter. The right of the Bishops to confirm or veto an election is wholly untouched by the fact that Clergy and Laity are said to have elected a Bishop. Not one of the authorities appealed to by Mr. Dawson, asserts that the Provincial Bishops had no veto on a Diocesan election. It is quite possible to cite such historians as Hallam to prove Mr. Dawson's assertion. Hallam says, "according to the primitive custom of the Church, an Episcopal vacancy was filled up by election of the Clergy and people belonging to the city or Diocese." So far Hallam agrees with Mr. Dawson, but let us finish the quotation, "the subject of their choice however, after the establishment of the federate or provincial system, was to be approved or rejected by the Metropolitan and his suffragans, and if approved, he was consecrated by them."\* Gibbon too, would serve Mr. Dawson in proof that Bishops were elected by Clergy and Laity, yet he says, "The authority of the Provincial Bishops who were assembled in the vacant church to consecrate the choice of the people, was interposed to moderate their passions, and to correct their mistakes. The Bishops could refuse to ordain an unworthy candidate, and the rage of contending factions sometimes accepted their impartial mediation."\*\*

Lord Chancellor King in his celebrated "Enquiry," in which he strives to show the identity of Presbyter and

†Slater's draft of the Primitive Church. p. 133.

\*\* Gibbon, vol. 2, p. 281.

\*Hallam. Vol. 2, p. 179.