

the ecclesiastical jurisdiction in Crete, Greece, Thessaly, Macedonia, Epirus and Albania, Southern Italy, and Sicily from the See of Rome to that of Constantinople, from Latin to Greek Christendom. Such of the above-named regions as lie east of the Adriatic belonged naturally and historically to the sphere of Hellenism, but the case was somewhat different with South Italy and Sicily, which were at least in process of being Latinized. To the east of the Adriatic, the change made by Leo was permanent; to the west, it always depended on the extent to which the Emperors in Constantinople could make their authority felt and recognized—and that authority ceased to be of any account after the middle of the eleventh century, when it was extinguished by the Normans. But to return from the eleventh century to the earlier part of the eighth; we find Italy groaning under Lombard oppression, while those who claimed to be the legitimate lords of Italy appeared to be more concerned with ecclesiastical questions than with the deliverance of the land from the barbarian. It should be remembered, however, that Constantinople had been besieged for the *second* time by the Moslems in 717, and that they were at all times infinitely more dangerous to the Empire than the Lombards. Yet the resources of the Empire were very considerable, and might well have been found adequate for an effective re-establishment of the Imperial authority in the land of its origin. That authority, however, now that it was striving for reform—in other words for the extirpation of superstitious practices and the repression of monasticism, was odious to the prophets who (sincerely enough) prophesied falsely, to the priests who bore rule by their means, and to the people who loved to have it so. History and geography took effect through the opposition of Pope and Emperor on the question of the honours to be rendered to pictures or images of Christ and the Saints. The Popes indeed were at heart less anxious for the veneration of pictures and images than for the consolidation of their influ-