

and their "daily increase" consisted of bishops and priests only? Again, "And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the Elders of the Church.—Acts xx. 17, and in verse 28, the Apostle thus instructs and charges them:—"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood." Here again, we see the distinction between the *Elders* or *Clergy*, and the *laity*, called the *flock*, and the *Church*. Now, according to the lecturer's doctrine that the *clericals* alone composed the Church, the Apostle made a great mistake, and should have charged them to *feed themselves*; but evidently this was not what he meant. It is true that since the Apostles time, and down to the present day, there have been some in the sacred office, who, like those described by the prophet Ezekiel, *literally* fed themselves with the 'fat' of the 'offerings' but fed not the flock; or if they fed them at all, fed them with *tainted* and *unwholesome* food. The Apostle called the elders merely "*overseers*" of the flock, and in another place says of it "Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy." Even Peter, Rome's *rock* and Primate, charges the Elders to "feed the flock of God," but not to be "lords over God's heritage." Further, as to *laymen* being included in the word *churches*, St. Paul, after mentioning Priscilla and Aquila, as his helpers, says:—"Greet the Church that is in their house."—Rom. xvi. 5; and again, "Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house." Col. iv. 15. Now is it at all credible that the *Churches* in these houses were composed merely of bishops and other clerical persons? Such an absurdity cannot be imagined. They were simply male and female *laity* who thus assembled for worship and christian edification.

The Epistles to the Christian believers at Corinth, Galatia, and Thessalonica, are directed to the *Churches* respectively, and these were not constituted of bishops and priests, as stated by the Archbishop; but were composed of *lay persons*,—men and women, husbands and wives, parents and children, masters and servants; and in other relative positions, for whom the epistles contain