

ized; but the subsequent withdrawal of the Romans about the beginning of the fifth century and the invasion of the country by the heathen Saxons brought trouble and disaster upon the British Church—the Christians were driven into Wales and Cornwall, the rest of the island being in the hands of the heathen invaders.

THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH.

It may be well to pause here and to take a brief retrospect. The Church of Jesus Christ, founded in Jerusalem, was by the express commission of her Lord to be spread through all the world. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," said our risen Lord to His apostles. Wherever the Gospel was preached a branch of the Christian society called "the Church" was established for the perpetuation of the teaching of the Christian faith, and the administration of the Christian sacraments. Everywhere, too, this society was governed by a ministry of bishops, priests, and deacons: and though this Christian society, called "the Church," might acquire in different places local names, such as "the Church of Jerusalem," "the Church of Rome," "the Church of Gaul," "the Church of Alexandria," it was, nevertheless, but one society.