it ſhould become too heavy for him; ſince he was appointed the General Paſtor of *All*, (*n*) who ſhould give in their Names to Chriſt, within the Diſtrict alloted him, as well as of the Chriſtians whom he found already ſettled in it. In the mean time, it was frequently his Province to do the ſeveral Works of an *Evangeliſt*, *Prophet*, and *Ruler*; although, in the Text juſt cited, the Note of Diſtinction ſet upon ſuch as *laboured in the Word and Doctrine*, beſides their *ruling well*, doth plainly intimate, that there might ſometimes be *good Rulers*, who did *not* ſo *labour in the Word and Doctrine*.

I have been the longer in opening this Paſſage of Scripture, becauſe, I think, it may help us to conceive, by what Steps the Government of the Church was ſettled; what was *extraordinary*, as well as what was *ordinary*, and deſigned for Continuance, in her firſt Offices; how eaſily *Biſhops* might ſucced to the *Apoſtles* in the *ſtanding* Parts of their Function, by *Ordaining*, *Ruling*, and *Confirming*, over and above their common *Labour in the Word and Doctrine*, as *Paſtors and Teachers*; how *Presbyters* might alſo diſcharge the Function of *Prophets*, by expounding the Oracles of God, to ſuch as had already receiv'd and acknow-

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(*n*) μελλόντων πιστεύειν, *ſaith* Clemens Romanus, *in a Paſſage which will be hereafter cited, ſee Note* w: *He was the eldeſt Writer we have ſince the Scriptural, and elder than ſome of the Canonical Pen-men.*

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