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 If that condition had continued If Italy had been a ~~upper~~ upper country through the years ~~it~~ it is hard to see how there could have been a papacy in Italy which was in a position of leadership through all of Christendom, that is all of Western Christendom. And this situation was brought to an end by the result of the cooperation of the papacy and the Franks, the Franks we noticed were the people who had conquered most of France, they were a people originally very harsh, but a people who had received a great deal of Christian teaching and there were many very fine Christians, they ~~old~~ old leaders of the Franks had descended to degeneracy, the descendants of Clovis had become absolutely nothing except by title, men who had a great deal of luxury, men who did nothing but they were fortunate in having a family which had the position of leaders of their task, nailed to the tasks they called them, and this family gradually assumed control, and there were the real controlling force even though the descendant of Clovis were ~~not~~ nominally king but without any power it was just a lot of lustre, and so the time came when the papacy could profit greatly by associating with the mayors of the ^{Palace} ~~province~~, and the mayors could associate with the papacy, which came about early in the eighth century, that the mayor of the palace who had all the power in his hand to direct the army and to control the laws of France and who were actually the rulers, so he said he would like to be king in name as well in fact, but it was quite a dangerous step, a man of who was only a king in fact who to become a king in name ~~not~~ If it were not such a dangerous step, England would have been far better off in the last three centuries than she had been, for Oliver Cromwell the best man who ever sat on the throne of England, would have made himself king in name and as well as in fact, as a result the king of England would have had a succession probably of fine Christian kings who would have been a great help to that country and to the world, instead of the succession of weaklings and wicked men who succeeded Cromwell in ~~power~~ power in England but Cromwell ~~not~~ as long as he lived he could have the power of the king and rule as a benevolent dictator in England, and raise British prestige to a point far higher than it had ever been before was subsequently at least for a century