

Italy, gave him, as he recalled later, a remarkable piece of advice. He said, go and act not as a judge but as a bishop. And by that he meant, ~~for~~ don't go as ~~a~~ one simply to punish evil doers and to settle disputes, but one who will ~~be~~ take an interest in the well-being of your ~~own~~ people. And Ambrose did exactly that.

He was in the land, which was now the capital of the administration, of the greater part of Italy, in the land in the city of northern Italy, and there he was governor over that whole area, and he came to be very greatly beloved by the people, and he began to take a real interest in Christianity, and he ~~was~~ became a ~~new~~ catechumen. That is to say, he was taking catechetical instruction and studying Christianity and when he would reach the place of being recognized as showing true Christian knowledge and understanding, he would be baptized. And the bishop at Milan was ahead of the Arian party in the west. And Ambrose had not been there ~~very~~ very long, he was a catechumen but he was not there very long, when this bishop died. And the people met, the Christians, met to decide on a successor. And there was great division among them. Great disagreement, and it looked as if a dangerous ~~new~~ riot might come ~~up~~ up. And the word went to the governor, it looked as if there was going to be a great riot, the people were getting so....(end of record)

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....and settle their disputes, and a voice of a child, they say, suddenly rang out, let Ambrose be bishop. And everybody said, my what a good ~~new~~ idea, we ~~all~~ all find flaws in these other people suggestions, they are not men up to the stature of a position like this, why not ask Ambrose to be bishop and he ~~was~~ was the governor. And Ambrose did everything he could to get excused ~~from~~ from it. He wasn't even baptized yet. But he tried to break off from it, and he told them how busy he was as governor and so on, but his friend, Basil the Great of Caesarea, was delighted that God had chosen such a man of so important a post, and he was baptized, and eight days afterwards he was consecrated the Bishop of Milan. And from that time on he acted as a bishop really, gave up his ~~own~~ civil authority, and he was a very influential and active bishop. He