*the hardness of their hearts”* —one of the  
most striking and graphic descriptions in  
the Gospels. It was thus that He bare  
(see Matt. viii. 17), even while, on earth,  
our sins and infirmities. *Their* hearts were  
hardened,—but *He* grieved for it.

**11. foolishness**] It does not appear that this  
word can ever mean, asin A. V. ‘madness,’  
or as some explain it, rage of a senseless  
kind. The proper meaning, ‘senselessness,’ ‘wicked folly,’ must be kept to.

**communed** — viz. the Pharisees and  
Herodians: Mark, ver. 6, where see note.

**12—19.**] CALLING AND NAMES OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES. Peculiar (in this  
form) to Luke: see Matt. xii. 15—21;  
Mark iii. 13—19. We may observe, that  
St. Matthew does not relate the *choosing*of the Apostles, but only takes occasion to  
give a list of them on their being sent out,  
ch. x. 1 ff.; and that St. Mark and St.  
Luke agree in the time of their being  
chosen, placing it immediately after the  
healing on the sabbath,—but with no very  
definite note of time.

**12.**] **in these days** is vague in date, and may belong to  
any part of the period of our Lord’s ministry now before us. I believe it to be a form of acknowledgment on the part of the  
Evangelist, that *he did not determine exactly  
into what part of this period to bring the  
incident so introduced.* Indeed the whole  
of this paragraph is of a supplementary and  
indefinite character, serving more as a preface to the discourse which follows, than as this and the cognate, though independent,  
account of Mark.

**went out**—viz. from Capernaum.

**the mountain**—see on Matt. v. 1.

**to pray**—see note on ch. v. 16.   
  
  
  
**and continued all night in his prayer to God**] This is the right rendering. The fancy that by the words rendered *“in his prayer to God”* is meant in a house of prayer, is quite baseless.

**13. he led unto Vim his disciples**]  
expressed in Mark, *“He calleth to him  
whom he would”*—i. e. *He summoned to  
Him a certain larger number, out of whom  
He selected Twelve.* We are not to suppose that this selection was now first made out of a miscellaneous number—but now  
first formally announced; the Apostles, or  
most of them, had had each their special  
individual calling to be, in a peculiar  
manner, followers of the Lord, before this.

**he named**] not at a previous, or  
subsequent period ; *but at this time.*

**14.**] On the catalogue, see notes on Matt.  
X.l ff.

**16.**] **Judas of James** —usually,  
and I believe rightly, rendered Jude the  
*brother* of James: see Introduction to  
Jude. On the question *who this James*  
*was*, see on Matt, x. 3, and xiii, 55.

**17.**] Having descended from the mountain, He stood on a level place—i.e. *possibly,* as has been suggested by some, *on a*