(xvi. 16—28) ;—AND CONCLUDING DOXOLOGY (xvi. 24—27).

**14—33.**] He  
first (14—16) *excuses the boldness of his  
writing*, by the allegation of *his office as  
Apostle of the Gentiles.*

**14.**] **even I  
myself** (i.e., ‘notwithstanding what I have  
written:’ see ch. vii. 25, note. It may  
mean, ‘*without information from others*,’  
‘I, on my own account’). **ye also  
yourselves**, i.e. without exhortation of  
mine.

**15.**] The words **in some  
measure** restrict the character of “*more  
boldness*” to certain parts of the Epistle,  
e.g. ch. xi. 17 ff. 25; chaps. xiii. and xiv.  
**because of the grace**, **&c**., i.e. ‘my  
apostolic office was the ground and reason  
of my boldness.’

**16.**] **ministering as  
a priest in the gospel of God** (the Apostle  
is using a figure in which be compares himself to a priest, and the Gentiles to the  
sacrifice which he was offering : see below),  
**that the offering up of the Gentiles** (genitive of apposition: *the Gentiles themselves  
are the offering*; so Theophylact, “This is  
my priesthood, to preach the Gospel. My  
knife is the word, ye are the sacrifice”)  
**may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy  
Ghost.**—The language is evidently figurative, **and can** by no possibility be taken as  
a sanction for any view of the Christian  
minister as a *sacrificing priest*, otherwise  
than *according to that figure*—viz. that  
he offers to God *the acceptable sacrifice  
of those who by his means believe on Christ*.

**17—22.**] *The Apostle boasts of the  
extent and result of his apostolic mission  
among the Gentiles, and that in places  
where none had preached before him—***I have then** (consequent on the grace  
and ministry just mentioned) **my boasting**  
(i.e. ‘I venture to boast:’ not ‘*I have  
whereof I may glory,*’ as A.V.) **in Christ  
Jesus** (there is no stress on this:—it merely  
qualifies the boasting as no vain glorying,  
but grounded in, consistent with, springing from, his relation and subserviency to  
Christ) **in** (concerning) **the things which  
pertain to God** (my above-named sacerdotal  
office and ministry)

**18.**] In our  
English text, this verse has been put into  
the affirmative form, in which alone it can be  
made to convey a clear sense to the English  
reader: see below. The connexion is:  
‘I have *real* ground for glorying’ (in a  
legitimate and Christian manner ; and the  
literal rendering of the original which  
follows is nearly as in A. V.). **For I will  
not** (as some false apostles do, see 2 Cor. x.