literally, a *grace* or *favour*, 2 Cor. i. 15.  
See also ch. i. ll. **30—32.**] **the love  
of the Spirit**, *the love shed abroad in  
the heart by the Holy Ghost* ;—a love  
which teaches us to look not only on our  
own things, but on the things of others.

**31.**] Compare Acts xx. 22; xxi.  
10—14. The exceeding hatred in which  
the Apostle was held by the Jews, and  
their want of fellow-feeling with the Gentile churches, made him fear lest even the  
ministration with which he was charged  
might not prove acceptable to them.

**32.**] **and may with you find rest**  
‘that we may mutually refresh ourselves,  
I after my dangers and: deliverance, you  
after your anxieties for me.’

**CHAP. XVI. 1—16.**] RECOMMENDATION OF PHEBE: GREETINGS.

**1, 2.**] In all probability Phebe was the bearer of the Epistle, as stated in the subscription. **deaconess**]  
See 1 Tim. iii. 11, note. Pliny in his celebrated letter to Trajan says, “I thought  
it requisite to enquire the truth even by  
torture, from two handmaids who were  
called ministrœ (deaconesses).” The deaconesses must not be confounded with the  
*widows* of 1 Tim. v. 3—16, as has sometimes been done.—CENCHREE, the port  
of Corinth, on the Saronic gulf of the  
Ægean, for commerce with the east (Acts  
xviii, 18), nine of our miles from Corinth.  
The Apostolical Constitutions make the  
first bishop of the Cenchrean church to  
have been Lucius, consecrated by St. Paul  
himself.

**2.**] **in the Lord,** i.e. *in a  
Christian manner*,—as mindful of your  
common Lord: as becometh saints, i.e.  
“*as saints ought to do,*’ —refers *their* conduct to her;—not, ‘as saints *ought to be  
received.*” **assist her**] Her business  
at Rome may have been such as to require  
the help of those resident there.  
**a succourer of many**] This may refer to a  
part of the deaconess’s office, the attending  
on the poor and sick of her own sex.  
**of myself also**] when and where, we know  
not. It is not improbable that she may  
have been, like Lydia, one whose heart the  
Lord opened at the first preaching of Paul,