as in ver. 5: or unions for missionary purposes.

**16.**] The mean-  
ing of this injunction seems to be, that the  
Roman Christians should take occasion, on  
the receipt of the Apostle’s greetings to  
them, to testify their mutual love, in this,  
the ordinary method of salutation, but  
having among Christians a Christian and  
holy meaning, see reff. It became soon  
a custom in the churches at the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.  
**All the churches of Christ salute you** ]  
This assurance is stated evidently on  
the Apostle’s authority, speaking for the  
churches; not implying those only whom  
he himself had visited, ch. 26; but  
vouching for the brotherly regard in which  
the Roman church was held by all churches  
of Christ. The above misunderstanding  
has led to the exclusion of the word **all**,  
which is read in all our oldest MSS.

**17—20.**] WARNING AGAINST THOSE WHO  
MADE DIVISIONS AMONG THEM.—To what  
persons the Apostle refers, is not plain.  
Some think the Judaizers to be meant,  
not absolutely within the Christian pale,  
but endeavouring to sow dissension in it.  
Others think that St. Paul merely gives  
this warning in case such persons came to  
Rome. *Judging by the text itself*, we  
infer that these teachers were similar to  
those pointed out in Phil. iii. 2, 18; 1 Tim,  
vi. 3 ff.; 2 Cor. xi. 13, 20: *unprincipled and  
selfish persons, seducing others for their  
own gain*: whether Judaizers or not, does  
not appear: but considering that the great  
opponents of the Apostle were of this  
party, we may perhaps infer that they also  
belonged to it.

**17.**] The doctrine  
here spoken of is probably rather ethical  
than doctrinal; compare Eph. iv. 20-24.

**19.**] See ch. i. 8. Their obedience  
being matter of universal notoriety, is the  
ground of his confidence that they will  
comply with his entreaty, ver 17,.—Some  
slight reproof is conveyed in **I rejoice** . . .  
**yet**... They were well known for obedience, but had not been perhaps cautious  
enough with regard to these designing  
persons and their pretended wisdom. See  
Matt. x. 16, of which words of our Lord  
there seems to be here a reminiscence.

**20.**] “Seeing that he had mentioned those who caused divisions and