**CHAP. I. 1, 2.]** ADDRESS AND GREETING.

**1. through the will of God**]  
see on 1 Cor. i. 1. **and Timothy**] as  
in 2 Cor. i. 1 (see also Phil. i.1; Philem.  
1, and 2 Thess. i. 1). **our brother**]  
see on 2 Cor. i. 1. On his presence with  
the Apostle at the time of writing this  
Epistle, see Introd. to Pastoral Epistles, §  
i. 5.

**2.**] On COLOSSÆ, or COLASÆ,  
see Introd. § ii. 1. **Grace &c**.] see  
Rom. i. 7. [ **3—29**.] INTRODUCTION, but  
unusually expanded, so as to anticipate the  
great subjects of the Epistle. And herein,  
3—8.] *Thanksgiving for the faith, hope,  
and love of the Colossians, announced to  
him by Epaphras.*

**3.**] **We** (I and  
Timothy. In this Epistle, the plural and  
singular are too plainly distinguished to  
allow us to confuse them in translating:the plural pervading ch. i., the singular ch.  
ii, and the two occurring together in ch.  
iv. 3,4, and the singular thenceforward.  
The change, as Meyer remarks, is never  
made without a reason) **give thanks to God  
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
always** (praying for you),

**4. ]**  
**having heard of** (not, *because* we heard:  
see Eph. i.15. The facts which he heard,  
not the fact of his hearing, were the ground  
of his thanksgiving) **your faith in** (the  
immediate element of their faith) **Christ  
Jesus, and of the love which ye have  
towards all the saints,**

**5.**] **on account of** (this does not render a reason for  
the *thanksgiving*: the ground of such  
thanksgiving is ever in the spiritual state  
of the person addressed, see Rom. i. 8; 1  
Cor. i. 4 ff.; Eph. i. 15, &c.; and this can