700 ‘ THE ACTS. VIII.   
   
 eGen.xxit.a: Stephen to his burial, and ° made great lamentation over   
   
 3 As for Saul, “he made havock of the Church,   
   
 committed them to prison. 4 Therefore ° they that were   
 13. scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.   
 6.1 Timi. 51 Then f Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and   
 ch. 5 preached Christ unto them.   
 feb, vi.5, 6 And the ™people with one   
   
 accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake,   
 nu hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. 7 For   
 gMarkxvi.17.€ 9 unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of   
   
 many that were possessed with them: and many taken   
   
 ije dragging. render, So then.   
 1 yender, And. M render, multitudes.   
 0 render, when they heard them, and saw. ° see note.   
   
 from their exalted position of veneration the former. preaching the word]   
 by the people, the perseeution did not ex- Here first we become acquainted with the   
 tend to them: perhaps they remained, as missionary language so frequent in the rest   
 possessed of superior and devotion. of the book: and we have the word, an   
 But this latter reason is hardly applicable, abbreviated expression very familiar among   
 after the command of our Lord ‘When Christians when the book was written, for   
 they perseeute you in one city, flee to the fuller one which must have prevailed   
 another” Matt, x. 28. Stier refers their at first, “the word of God.” 5.   
 remaining to an intimation of the Spirit, Philip] The deacon: not one of the Twelve:   
 to stay and strengthen those who were left. this is precluded by vv. 1 and 14, And   
 Mr. Humphry cites an ancient tradition, it is probable, that the persecution should   
 mentioned by Clement of Alexandria, and have been directed especially against the   
 by Eusebius from the Apocryphal work colleagues of Stephen. Philip is mentioned   
 ealled the Preaching of Peter, that the again as the Evangelist,—probably from   
 Apostles were ordered by our Lord to re- his having been the first recorded who   
 main at Jerusalem twelve years. But this preached (evangelized) the word,—in eh.   
 could not be the case, as we have Peter and xxi. 8,—as married, and having four   
 John going down to Samaria, yer. 14. daughters, virgins, who prophesied.   
 2, devout men] Whether Jews or Chris- the city of Samaria] Verbatim as John iv.   
 tians, is certain. Ananias is so called, 5, in which ease it is specified as being   
 ch. xxii, and he was a Christian. Ols- Syehar (Sichem). As the words stand   
 hausen thinks that, if they had been here, seeing that Samaria (vv. 9, 14; ch.   
 Christians the term “brethren” would ix. 31; xv. 8) the district, I   
 have been used: but this does not seem by be inclined to believe that Sychem is here   
 any means certain: we can hardly reason also intended. It was a place of rising   
 so minutely from the diction of one section importance, and in after-times eclipsed the   
 in the narrative to that of another, espe- fame of its neighbour Samaria, which latter   
 cially in the case of a section so distinet had been, on its presentation by Augustus   
 and peculiar as this one. Besides, “dbre- to Herod the Great, re-fortified and called   
 thren” in this very general sense does not Sehaste. It still, however, bore the name   
 oceur till ch. 80. Probably they were of Samaria. them] The inhabitants,   
 pious Jews, not yet converts, but hearers implied in the word city. gave   
 and admirers of Stephen. 8. made heed... .] If this place was Sychem, the   
 havock of] The word so rendered is pro- narrative in Jobn iv. will fully for   
 perly used of wild beasts or of hostile the readiness with which these people re-   
 mnies, and ravaging. ceived ‘the proclamation of the Christ’   
 4—12.] Preaciine or THE Gosprt 7.] According to the reading in the   
 IN SaMaRra By Paiste. 4.) So thea genuine text, which is too strongly upheld   
 resumes the subject dropped at the end of by manuscript authority to be rejected for   
 yer. 1, and determines this verse to be the the easier one, the literal   
 opening of a uew section, not the close of is as follows: For in the case of who