mnTRODUCTION.] ON THE PASTORAL EPISTLES. [cH. x.   
   
 elsewhere, ‘the child is father of the man: the same characteristics,   
 which we mect full-grown both in the heretics and in the Church of   
 the second century, must be expected to occur in their initiative   
 and less consolidated form in the latter days of the Apostles and their   
 Church \*.   
 29. We come now to treat of objection II.,—the peculiarity of ex=   
 pressions and modes of thought, both of which diverge from those in   
 St. Paul’s recognized Epistles. There is no denying that the Pastoral   
 Epistles do contain very many peculiar words and phrases, and that the   
 process of thought is not that which the earlier Epistles present. Still,   
 our experience of men in general, and of St. Panl himself, should make   
 us cautious how we pronounce hastily on a phenomenon of this kind.   
 Men’s method of expression changes with the circumstances among   
 which they are writing, and the persons whom they are addressing.   
 Assuming the late date for our Epistles which we have already men-   
 tioned, the cireumstanecs both of believers and false teachers had mate-   
 rially changed since most of those other Epistles were written. And if   
 it be said that on any hypothesis it cannot have been many years since   
 the Epistles of the imprisonment, we may allege ou the other hand the   
 yery great difference in subject, the fact that these three are addressed   
 to his companions in the ministry, and contain directions for Chureh   
 management, whereas none of the others contain any passages so   
 addressed or of such character.   
 80. Another circumstance here comes to our notice, which may have   
 modified the diction and style at least of these Epistles. Most of those   
 others were written by the hand of an amanuensis; and not only so,   
 but probably with the co-operation, as to form of expression and putting   
 out of the material, of either that amanuensis or some other of his   
 fellow-helpers. The peculiar character of these Pastoral Epistles forbids   
 us from imagining that they were so written. Addressed to dear friends   
 and valued colleagues in the ministry, it was not probable that he should   
 have written them by the agency of others. Have we then, assuming   
 that he wrote them with his own hand, any points of comparison in the   
 other Epistles? Can we trace any resemblance to their peculiar diction   
 in portions of those other Epistles which were undoubtedly or probably   
 also autographic ?   
 81. The first unqnestionably autographic Epistle which oceurs to us   
 is that to Philemon: which has also this advantage for comparison, that   
 it is written to an individual, and in the later portion of St. Paul’s life.   
 And it must be confessed, that we do not find here the resemblance   
 of which we are in search. There is actually but one single word as a   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 4 See the objection regarding the youth of Timothy assumed in these Epistles,   
 below in § ii., ‘On the places and times of writing.’   
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