INTRODUCTION. ] THE EPISTLE TO TITUS. (cH. xm.   
   
   
   
 CHAPTER XIII.   
   
   
 THE EPISTLE TO TITUS.   
   
 SECTION I.   
   
 TO WHOM WRITTEN.   
   
 1, Tue time and place of writing this Epistle have been before dis-   
 cussed (see above, ch. x. § ii. 29 f.). It appears to have been sent   
 from Ephesus, or perhaps from Macedonia, during the last year of the   
 Apostle’s life (a.p. 67), to Titus, who was left in charge with the   
 Churches in the island of Crete. We shall now gather up the notices   
 which remain to us respecting Titus himself.   
 2. It is by no means easy to construct an account of Titus. At first   
 sight a strange phenomenon presents itself. The narrative in the Acts   
 never once mentions him. And this is the more remarkable, because   
 of all the companions of St. Paul he seems to have been the most valued   
 and trusted. No adequate reason has ever been given for this omission.   
 There must be some, it is thought, which we cannot penetrate. Was he   
 identical with some one or other of St. Paul’s companions, known to us   
 in the Acts under another name ? None seems to satisfy the conditions.   
 Or are we to regard the notice in 2 Tim. iv. 10 as indicative of his ulti-   
 mate desertion of the Apostle, and thus to seek for a solution of the   
 problem? But even with such a supposition, we shall not touch the   
 narrative of the Acts, which we believe to have been published some   
 years previous to the writing of that Epistle. So that we must be   
 content to leave the problem unsolved, and to put together the few   
 notices which we possess, as given of a person distinct from any men-   
 tioned in the Acts.   
 8. The first notice of Titus, in respect of time, occurs in Gal. ii. 1, 3.   
 We there learn that he was of Gentile origin: and that he was taken   
 by Paul and Barnabas to the council of the Apostles and elders which   
 was convened at Jerusalem to consider of the question of the obligation   
 of the Mosaic law. The narrative in the Acts speaks merely of “ some   
 others” being sent with the two Apostles. But we see clearly the reason   
 why Titus should be marked out in Gal. ii. for separate mention. He   
 was an uncircumcised Gentile, and the independence of action of St.   
 Paul is shewn by his refusing to listen for a moment to the proposal,   
 which appears to have been urged, for his cireumcision. In the Acts,   
 no such reason for special mention of him existed. And this considera-   
 tion will shew, that we are perhaps not justified in assuming from this   
 incident that Titus held any position of high confidence or trust at this   
 126