INTRODUCTION. | THE EPISTLE TO TITUS. (eu. xu.   
 Church had been founded by himself; he was torn away from it in the   
 midst of his teaching : every reason existed for constantly recalling what   
 he had said to them, either to enforce it, or to guard it from misunder-   
 standing. Such was not the case here. He was writing of a Chureh   
 which he had not himself founded: whose whole situation was different :   
 and writing not to the Church itself, but to one whom he had commis-   
 sioned to set it in order, and who knew, and needed not reminding of,   
 what he had preached there,   
 9. It only remains under this head, that we should say something   
 of the character of the Cretans which St. Paul has quoted from   
 Epimenides, ch. i. 12,—‘ The Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, slow   
 bellies.”   
 10. Meursius, in his very complete and elaborate treatise on Crete,   
 has accumulated nearly all the testimonies of the ancients respecting   
 them. From his pages I take a few, that the student may be able to   
 illustrate the character by them.   
 11. Ontheir avarice, we have the testimony of Livy, “ The Cretans had   
 followed (Paulus /Emilius, with) the hope of getting money : and seeing   
 that more offence than favour was likely to accrue in the division, a sum   
 of fifty talents was placed on the bank of the Strymon, to be plundered   
 by them :”—of Plutarch, “ Of the soldiers the Cretans followed crowding   
 together, not from good will, but for money, as bees throng to the   
 combs :”—of Polybius, “A life led in the pursuit of shabby gain and   
 covetousness is so much the custom of their country, that among the   
 Cretans alone of all mankind gain is thought no disgrace.”   
 12. On their ferocity and fraud, Polybius says, “ ‘The Cretans, who   
 live in the midst of civil quarrels and wars private and public, the worst   
 of mankind ;”—and again, he tells us that the Cretans, accustomed to   
 ambushes and robberies and thefts by land and by sea, and nightly   
 attacks, and to all sorts of underhand ways of gain, were yet in the   
 open field cowards and fraudulent :—Strabo says, that Crete confessedly   
 degenerated for the worse ; for that, after the Tyrrhenians, the Cretans   
 took up the pursuit of piracy :—an Epigram of Leonides, “The Cretans   
 are always pirates and pests of the sea: who ever knew a just act of   
 Cretans ?”   
 13. On their mendacity, Polybius testifies that, with rare exceptions,   
 it was impossible to find greater masters of craft and deceit than the   
 Cretans, or more unrighteous frauds than theirs. The very word “to   
 Cretize” was an expression for “to lie.” Suidas has, “to Cretize: a   
 word used with allusion to the Cretans ; for they are liars and deceivers :”   
 see also Polyb. viii. 21. 5. And their general depravity was summed   
 up in the proverb, “Three Kappas are cursed: Kappadocia, Krete,   
 Kilikia.”   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
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