100 ROMANS. XI.   
   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED. AUTHORIZED VERSION.   
 diminishing the riches of the Gen- be the riches of the world,   
 tiles; how much more their fulness ? and the diminishing of them   
 13 But I am speaking to you Gen- the riches of the Gentiles ;   
 « tiles: inasmuch therefore as ®I am| how much more their ful-   
 ness? 3 For I speak to   
   
   
 prosperons effect of a worse cause, to the the view of Olshausen, after Origen, that   
 nore prosperous effect of a better cause.” the idea of a definite number of the elect   
 —But (‘taking for granted, that’—as is here in the Apostle’s mind,—that the   
 in last verse—taking for granted the his- falling off of Jews produces a deficiency   
 torical fact, the stumble of the Jews in the number, which is filled up by the   
 has been coincident with the admission of elect from the Gentiles, as ver. 25: un-   
 the Gentiles) if their is the riches derstanding by fulness both there and   
 of the world (the oceasiox of that wealth, here, if I take his meaning aright, the   
 — the wealth itselt the participation number required to fill up the roll of   
 in the unsearchable riches of Christ), an@ the eleet, whether of Jews, as here, or   
 (this latter clause parallel and explana- Gentiles, as there. Tholuck, while he   
 tory of the less plainly one before concedes the legitimacy of the idea of a   
 it) their diminishing, the riches of the fulness of the elect, maintains, rightly,   
 Gentiles, how much more (shall) their that in this section such idea is brought   
 fulness (be all this) ?—On the words here forward: and that it would not have   
 used, diminishing and fulness, much ques- been intended, without some more definite   
 tion has been raised. I have taken both expression of it than we now find.—1   
 as answering strictly to the comparison have thought it best, above, considering   
 here before the Apostle’s mind, viz. that the very various meanings and difficulty   
 shing and enriching, the the word fulness, to keep here to that   
 ssives their, and of the world, of which seems to be indicated by the iimme-   
 the Gentiles, as subjective: ‘if their im- diate context, which is, besides, the pri-   
 poverishment be the wealth of the Gen- nitive meaning of the word.—It must be   
 tiles, how much more shall their enrichment noticed, that the fact, of Israel being the   
 be ’—But several other interpretations are chosen people of God, lies at the root of   
 possible. (1) Diminishing may mean, as in all this argument. Israel is the nation,   
 1 Cor. vi. 7, degradation, and fulness the covenant people,—the vehicle of God's   
 would then he re-exaltation to the former gracious purposes to mankind. Israel,   
 measure of fayour,—or perhaps ‘ their nationally, is from present favour,   
 pletion,’ «their highest degree of favour.’ That very deposition is, however, aecom-   
 (2) If we regard the meaning of panied by an outpouring of God’s riches of.   
 in ver. 25, we shall be tempted here to merey on the Gentiles ; not as rivals to   
 understand it ‘full mwnber, and simi- Israel, but still as further from   
 larly diminishing, ‘small number’ So God, formally and nationally, than Israel.   
 the majority of Commentators. Thus the If then the disgrace of Israel has had such   
 argument will stand: ‘If their unbelief a blessed accompaniment, how much more   
 (i.e. one part of them) is the world’s blessed a one shall Tsrael’s honour bring   
 wealth, and their small number (i.e. of with it, when His own people shall once   
 helievers, the other part of them), the more be set as a praise the midst of the   
 wealthof the Gentiles, much more their earth, and the glory of the nation   
 full (restored) number !’ i.e. Olshansen 13.] « Why, in an argument coneerning the   
 explains it, ‘ If few Jews can do so much Jews, dwell so much on the reference to   
 for the Gentile world, what will not the Gentiles discernible in the divine economy   
 whole number do?’ Bunt thus we shall regarding Israel? Why make it appear   
 the argument, from the less to the as if the treatment of God’s chosen people   
 —‘if their sin has done so much, how mueh were regulated not by a consideration of   
 more their conversion?’ unless indeed it them, but of the less favoured Gentiles?   
 be said that reduction of numbers implies The present verse gives an answer to this.   
 a national trespass. Besides, it ean hardly qnestion.—But (sueh, and not “for,” is   
 be shewn that the original word rendered the reading our most ancient MSS. and   
 diminishing will bear this meaning of ‘a versions. ‘The disjunctive conjunction in-   
 small nnmber.’ (3) Tholuck, from whom trodnees an apology for the foregoing   
 mostly this note is taken, uotices length verse: i. e. “in thus speaking, let it be