INTRODUCTION. ] 1 CORINTHIANS. (cu. 11.   
   
   
   
 CHAPTER II.   
   
   
 THE FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS.   
   
   
 SECTION I.   
 ITS AUTHORSHIP, AND INTEGRITY.   
   
   
   
 1. As far as I am aware, the first of theso has never been doubted by   
 any critic of note. Indeed he who would do so, must be prepared to   
 dispute the historical truth of the character of St. Paul. For no more   
 complete transcript of that character, as we find it set forth to us in the   
 Acts, can be imagined, than that which we find in this and the second   
 Epistle. Of this I shall speak further below (§ vii.). ~   
 2. But external testimonics to the Authorship are by no means   
 wanting.   
 (a) Clement of Rome, in his Epistle to this very Church of Corinth,   
 says :—‘ Take up the Epistle of the blessed Paul the Apostle. What   
 wrote he first to you in the beginning of the Gospel? ‘Truly he wrote   
 to you spiritually, concerning himself and Cephas and Apollos, on   
 account of your having then made parties in favour of each.”   
 (8) Polycarp, to the Philippians :—“ Who knew not of the judgment   
 of the Lord? Know we not that the saints shall judge the world ? as   
 Paul teaches” (1 Cor. vi. 2).   
 (c) Irenaeus quotes ch. x. 1, as also does Cyprian, as from “the   
 Epistle to the Corinthians.”   
 (@ Athenagoras :—“It is necessary, according to the Apostle, that   
 this corruptible and dissoluble should put on incorruptibility” (1 Cor.   
 xv. 53).   
 (e) Clement of Alexandria cites this Epistle very frequently and   
 explicitly: e.g. “Paul has freed us from the doubt in the first to the   
 Corinthians, saying nearly thus: ‘Brethren, be not children in your   
 minds,’ &e.” (ch, xiv. 20)—And he proceeds to quote also 1 Cor.   
 xiii. 11.   
 (f) Tertullian :—\* Paul, in his first to the Corinthians, notes the   
 deniers and doubters of the resurrection.”   
 3. The integrity of this Epistle has not been disputed. The whole of   
 it springs naturally out of the circumstances, and there are no difficulties   
 arising from discontinnousness or change of style, as in some passages of   
 the Epistle to the Romans.   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 14