ou. n11.] 2 CORINTHIANS.” [zyrropuction.   
   
   
 3. No Epistle raises in us a higher estimate of the varied and wonder-   
 ful gifts with which God was pleased to endow the man whom He   
 selected for the Apostle of the Gentile world: or shews us how large a   
 portion of the Spirit, who worketh in each man severally as He will,   
 was given to him for our edification. The depths of the spiritual, the   
 moral, the intellectual, the physical world are open to him. He sum-   
 mons to his aid the analogies of nature. He enters minutely into the   
 varieties of human infirmity and prejudice. He draws warning from   
 the histcry of the chosen people: example from the Isthmian foot-race.   
 He refers an apparently trifling question of costume to the first great   
 proprieties and relations of Creation and Redemption. He praises,   
 reproves, exhorts, and teaches. Where he strikes he heals. His large   
 heart holding all, where he has grieved any, he grieves likewise ; where   
 it is in his power to give joy, he first overflows with joy himself. We   
 may form some idea from this Epistle, better perhaps than from any one   
 other,—because this embraces the widest range of topics,—what mar-   
 vellous power such a man must have had to persuade, to rebuke, to   
 attract and fasten the affections of men.   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 CHAPTER III.   
 THE SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS.   
 SECTION I.   
 ITS AUTHORSHIP, AND INTEGRITY.   
   
   
   
   
   
 1. Tue former of these is undoubted. No Epistle more clearly marks   
 itself out as the work of the Author whose name it bears. It is in-   
 separably connected with the First, following it up, and only differing   
 from it as circumstances since occurring had affected the mind of the   
 writer. See this more dwelt on, when I speak of its style and matter,   
 below, § iii.   
 . 2. The external testimonies are, ©   
 (a) Irenzus, quoting ch. iv. 4, as said by Paul in the second to the   
 Corinthians.   
 (6) Athenagoras, quoting ch. v. 10.   
 (c) Clement of Alexandria very frequently cites our Epistle ; and as   
 the second to the Corinthians.   
 (d) Tertellian mentions an objection raised, that St. Paul had, in his   
 second Epistle to the Corinthians, pardoned the fornicators, whom in the   
 first Epistle he had ordered to be delivered over to Satan, in the destruc-   
 tion of the flesh: and then cites ch. ii. 5—11.   
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