IX. 1—3. Il. CORINTITIANS. 293   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED.   
 of Christ. \*4 Wherefore 24 Continue then to shew unto them,   
 shew ye to them, and be- in the face of the churches, the   
 fore the churches, the proof of your love, and of our ¥ boast- ye.»   
 of your love, and of our ing on your behalf.   
 boasting on your behalf. IX. 1 For as touching the \* minis- «Acts.   
 IX.) For as touching tration for the saints, it is super- 1°   
 the ministering to saints, fluous for me to write to you: 2 for “"\*™   
 it is superfluous for me to I know your > forwardness of mind, » eh.   
 write to you: \* for I know °for which I boast of you to them ¢   
 the forwardness of your of Macedonia, that 4 Achaia hath ¢¢.vi   
 mind, for which I boast of been prepared a year ago; and your   
 you to them of Macedonia, zeal stirred up very many of them.   
 that Achaia was ready a 3©Yet I sent the brethren, that our ech. xh, 17,   
 year ago; and your zeal boast of you may not be made void ~~   
 hath provoked very many.   
 3 Yet have I sent the bre-   
 thren, lest our boasting of   
 you should be in vain in   
 this behalf; that, as I   
 said, ye may be ready: in this respect; that, as I said, ye   
   
 (i.e. ‘are of the churches, what we are of of which I am in the habit of boasting   
 the Lord’—persons sent out with autho- concerning you to Macedonians (Bengel   
 rity), the glory of Christ (i.e. men whose remarks on the present tense, that St.   
 work tends to Christ’s glory). 24.) was therefore still in Macedonia), that   
 Shew then (continue to shew) to them Achaia (he does not say ye—he is relating   
 the proof of your love (‘to us,’ or per- his own words to the Macedonians) hath   
 haps, ‘to your poor brethren :?—but the been ready (viz. to send off the money :   
 former is more likely), and of our boast- and that consequently nothing remained   
 ing concerning you, in the sight of the but for authorized persons to come and   
 churches. collect it. The Apostle, judging by their   
 IX. 1—5.] He recurs to the collection readiness, had made this boast concerning   
 itself, and prays them that they would them, supposing if was really so. That   
 make good before the brethren his boast- this is the sense is shewn by ver. 4) from   
 ing of them, and prepare it before his last year: and the zeal which proceeds   
 own coming. 1.] The connexion with from you (‘which has its source in you,   
 the last verse is thus, ‘I beseech you and whose influence goes forth from you’)   
 to receive the brethren whom I send, stirred up very many of them (but not   
 courteously: for concerning the duty of only the example of your zeal: see ch. viii.   
 ministration to the saints, it is surely 1). 8.] Yet (contrast, not to -his   
 superfluous for me to write to you who boasting above: implying fear lest he   
 are so prompt already.” No new subject should have been making a vain boast   
 begins, as some have supposed ; nor is there concerning them) I sent (epistolary past,   
 any break in the sense at all. Some ob- asin ch. vii}. 22) the brethren, in order   
 seurity has been introduced unnecessarily, that our [matter of] boasting concerning   
 by taking the ministration for the saints you may not in this particular be proved   
 for merely this collection whick is now empty (‘that our boast of you, so ample   
 making : whereas the Apostle chooses such and various—ch. vii. 4, may not break   
 general terms as a mild reproof to the down in this one department.’ Estins   
 Corinthians, who, well aware as they were well calls it “a sharp exhortation of the   
 of the duty of ministering to the saints, Apostle combined with tacit praise”):   
 were yet somewhat remiss in this par- that, as I said (when? in ver. 2? or,   
 ticular example of the duty. There is an in his boasting to the Macedonians? or,   
 emphasis on write, inasmuch as those in 1 Cor. xvi. >—Most naturally, in ver. 2.   
 who carried this letter would be pre- If he had meant, to the Macedonians, it   
 sent witnesses of their conduct. would probably have been “ I am saying,”   
 2.) for (ground of this non-necessity of as I boast above: if ix 1 Cor. xvi., would   
 his writing) 1 am aware of your readiness, have been more clearly expressed.—If so,