cu. tv.] THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS. [xytropuctioy.   
   
   
 Paul’s spirit, especially interesting as a self-defensive apology, flows   
 and streams onward, till at length in the sequel its billows completely   
 overflow the opposition of the adversaries.” Erasmus strikingly says,   
 “Learned men bestow much toil in explaining the designs of poets and   
 rhetoricians: but in this rhetorician much more toil is required to ap-   
 prehend what he is about, whither he tends, what it is that he forbids:   
 so full of tortuosities is he, if I may say it without blame. Such is his   
 versatility, that you would hardly think one and the same man was   
 speaking. At one time he wells up gently like some limpid spring;   
 by and by he thunders down like a torrent with a mighty crash, carry-   
 ing every thing with him by the way; now he flows placidly and   
 smoothly, now spreads out far aud wide, as if expanded into a lake.   
 Then again in places he disappears, and suddenly reappears in some   
 different place, and with wonderful meanders washes now one bank,   
 now the other, and sometimes digressing to a distance, by a backward   
 winding returns upon himself.”   
 2. The matter of the Epistle divides itself naturally into three parts:   
 1. i. to vii. 16. Here he sets forth to them his apostolic walk and   
 character, not only with regard to them, though he frequently refers to   
 this, but in general.   
 2. viii. 1 toix. 15. He reminds them of their duty to complete the   
 collection for the poor saints at Jerusalem. .   
 8. x. 1 to xiii. 10. Polemical justification of his apostolic dignity and   
 efficiency against his disparagers.   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 CHAPTER IV.   
 THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS.   
 SECTION I.   
   
   
   
   
 ITS AUTHORSHIP.   
   
 1. Or all the Epistles which bear the characteristic marks of St.   
 Paul’s style, this one stands the foremost. See below, on its style, § iv.   
 So that, as Windischmann observes, whoever is prepared to deny the   
 genuineness of this Epistle, would pronounce on himself the sentence   
 of incapacity to distinguish true from false. Accordingly, its authorship   
 has never been doubted.   
 2. But that authorship is also upheld by external testimony :   
 (a) Ireneus quotes the Epistle by name: “In the Epistle to the   
 Galatians he says, What therefore is the law of works ? It was enacted   
 until the seed should come,” &e. (Gal. iii. 19.)   
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