Il. 1,2. COLOSSIANS.   
   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED.   
 that we may present every   
 man perfect in Christ Je- sent every man perfect in Christ +:   
 sus: % whereunto I also 294 whereunto I labour also, \*ear- ¥   
 labour, striving according nestly contending ‘according to his t Jesits   
 to his working, which working, which worketh in me ° omitted   
 worketh in me mightily. mightily. all our   
 ITI. 1 For I would that II. 1 For I would have you know   
 ye knew what great conflict how great a \*contention I have for # Ph 130.   
 I have for you, and for you, and those at Laodicea, and as \*™\*\*'\*   
 them at Laodicea, and for many as have not seen my face in   
 as many as have not seen the flesh; 2 >that their hearts may »20or.i.6.   
 my face in the flesh; ? be confirmed, they °being knit to- cen.   
 their hearts might be com-   
 Sorted, being knit together   
 in love, and unto all riches   
   
 gether in love, and unto all the   
   
   
 in all wisdom (these words represent the had not seen (vv. 1—3) : 2) warning them   
 method of this teaching); that we may against false wisdom which might lead   
 present (see above ver. 22) every man them away from Christ (vv. 4—23): and   
 (notice the emphatic triple repetition of that a) generally and in hints (vv. 4—   
 every man, shewing that the Apostle was 15),—b) specifically and plain-spokenly   
 jealous of every the least invasion, on the (vv. 16—23). 1.) For (follows on,   
 part of the false teachers, of those souls and justifies, it exemplifies he con-   
 with whom he was put in charge. At the tention just spoken of, ch. i. 29) I would   
 same time it carries a solemn individual have you know how great (emphatic: not   
 appeal to those thus warned and taught) only that I have a but how great   
 perfect in Christ (clement of his perfec- it is) a conflict (of anxiety and prayer,   
 tion, in union with and life in Him,— ch. iv. 12: his present imprisoned state   
 comprehending both knowledge and prac- necessitates this reference here: he could   
 tice. The presentation spoken of is clearly not be in conflict with the false teachers)   
 that at the great day of Christ’s appear- I have on behalf of you, and those at   
 ing)? 29.] His own personal part Laodicea (who probably were in the same   
 in this general work—for which end (viz. danger of being led astray, see ch, iv.   
 the presenting, &c.) I labour also (also on Laodicea, see Introd. to Apocalypse,   
 implies the addition of a new particular § iii. and (for) as many as have not.   
 over and above the proclaiming, carrying seen my face in the flesh (the tendency   
 it onwards even to this), earnestly con- of this verse is, exalt the importance of   
 tending (in spirit; in the earnestness with the Apostle’s bodily presence a church,   
 which he strove for this end, see ch. ii. if its defect caused him such anxiety, so   
 1—3: not, with adversaries: this was so, that we must not say, with some, that he   
 but is not relevant here. See Phil. i. 30; shews them how little his bodily presence   
 1 Thess. ii, 2) according to (after the mattered compared with his presence in   
 proportion of, as is to be expected from) the spirit which they always had),   
 His (Christ’s—see Phil. iv. not God’s) 2.] that (object of the contention) their   
 working, which worketh in me mightily hearts may be confirmed (it can hardly be   
 (there is no allusion to gifts, as doubted here, where he is treating, not   
 some have thought). of troubles and persecutions, but of being   
 Cuar. II.] First part oF THE EPis- shaken from the faith, that the word, so   
 TLE. His earnestness in entering into manifold in its bearings, and so difficult   
 and forwarding the Christian life among to express in English, carries with it the   
 them, so amply set forth in ch. i., is now meaning of strengthening, not of   
 more pointedly directed to warning them merely. If we could preserve in ‘comfort’   
 against false teachers. This he does by 1) the trace of its derivation from the Latin   
 connecting his conflict, just spoken of, ‘confortari, it might answer here: but   
 with the confirmation in spiritual know- in our present usage, it does not convey   
 ledge of themselves and others whom he any idea of strengthening), they being