§ rv] MATTER, AND STYLE. [ayrropucrion.   
   
 him (i. 1) :, the latter had been the bearer of the tidings from Thessa-   
 lonica.   
 2. Now we know (Acts xviii. 5) that they rejoined him at Corinth,   
 apparently not long after his arrival there. That rejoining then forms   
 our point of starting. And it would be in the highest degree unnatural   
 to suppose that the whole time of his stay at Corinth (a year and six   
 months, Acts xviii. 11) elapsed before he wrote the Epistle,—founded as   
 it is on the intelligence which he had heard, and written with a view to   
 meet present circumstances. Corin therefore may safely be assumed   
 as the place of writing.   
 8. His stay at Corinth ended with his setting sail for the Pentecost   
 at Jerusalem in the spring of 54 (see chron. table in Introd. to Acts).   
 It would begin then with the autumn of 52. And in the winter of   
 that year, I should be disposed to place the writing of our Epistle.   
 4. It will be hardly necessary to remind the student, that this date   
 places the Epistle jirst, in chronological order, of all the writings of   
 St. Paul that remain to us.   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 SECTION Iv.   
 MATTER, AND STYLE.   
   
   
   
 1. It will be interesting to observe, wherein the first-written Epistle   
 of St. Paul differs from his later writings. Some difference we should   
 certainly expect to find, considering that we have to deal with a tem-   
 perament so fervid, a spirit so rapidly catching the impress of circum-   
 stances, so penetrated by and resigned up to the promptings of that   
 indwelling Spirit of God, who was ever more notably and thoroughly   
 fitting His instrument for the expansion and advance of His work of   
 leavening the world with the truth of Christ.   
 2. Nor will such observation and enquiry be spent in vain, especially   
 if we couple it with corresponding observation of the sayings of our   
 Lord, and the thoughts and words of His Apostles, on the various great   
 departments of Christian belief and hope.   
 8. The faith, in all its main features, was delivered once forall. The   
 facts of Redemption,—the Incarnation, and the Atonement, and the   
 glorification of Christ,—were patent and undeniable from the first. Our   
 Lord’s own words had asserted them: the earliest discourses of the   
 Apostles after the day of Pentecost bore witness to them. It is true   
 that, in God’s Providence, the whole glorious system of salvation by   
 grace was the gradual imparting of the Spirit to the Church: by occa-   
 sion here and there, various points of it were insisted on and made pro-   
 minent. Even here, the frec:t and fullest statement did not come first.   
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