§ 1.) PLACE AND TIME OF WRITING. [ixtropvctioy.   
   
 7. Clement of Alexandria says, ‘‘ When, at the death of the ant, he   
 removed from the island Patmos to Ephesus, &e.” This passage, it is   
 true, contains no mention who the tyrant was, nor any allusion to the   
 writing of the Apocalypse: but it is interesting for our present enquiry   
 as shewing, in its citation by Eusebius, how he understood the date fur-   
 nished by it. For he introdnees it by saying that St. John “ruled the   
 churches in Asia when he had returned from his exile in the island after   
 the death of Domitian,” and cites Clement as one of the witnesses of   
 the fact.   
 8. Origen merely calls St. John’s perseeutor “ the king of the Romans,”   
 without specifying which, And he seems to do this wittingly: for he   
 notices that John himself does not mention who condemned him. See   
 the passage quoted above, § i. par. 12.   
 9. Ensebius, having cited the passage of Irenwus noticed aboye, says,   
 “Some have even accurately specified the time as the fifteenth year of   
 Domitian, mentioning, with many others, Flavia Domitilla, daughter of   
 the sister of Flavius Clemens, one of the powerful men at Rome at that   
 time, as having been banished to the island Pontia for her testimony   
 to Christ.” And this same statement he repeats elsewhere: and, in   
 another place, gives the account of the return of St. John from Patmos   
 in the beginning of Nerva’s reign, cited above, par. 92.   
 10. Tertullian does not appear quite to bear out Ensebius’s under-   
 standing of him: for he only says, after mentioning the persceution of   
 Nero, “Domitian also had attempted it, being a partial inheritor of   
 Nero’s cruelty: but being also accessible to humane feeling, he easily   
 stopped it when begun, and even restored those whom he had banished.”   
 Here he certainly makes Domitian himself recall the exiles.   
 11. Vietorinus, in the passage above referred to (par. 1), and after-   
 wards (par, 2), plainly gives the date: as also in another place, where   
 he states that the Apocalypse was written under Domitian,   
 12, Jerome says, “Domitian in his fourteenth year beginning the   
 persecution second after Nero, he (John) being banished to the island   
 Patmos wrote the Apocalypse .... but when Domitian was slain, and   
 his acts, on account of their excessive cruelty, repealed by the Senate,   
 he returned to Ephesus under the Exaperor Nerva.” See too his testi-   
 mony above, § i. par. 25,   
 13. So also Sulpicius Severus and Orosius, and later writers gene-   
 rally. The first who breaks in upon this concurrent tradition is Epi-   
 phanins, in two very curious passages: the first where he says, “ that   
 the Holy Spirit moved John to write his Gospel, at the age of ninety,   
 after his return from Patmos, which took place under Claudius Cesar ;”   
 the other,—that “he prophesied long ago, in the times of Claudius   
 Cwsar, when he was in the island Patmos.” a   
 14. Now it is plain that there must be some strange blunder here,   
 335