666 HEBREWS. VIL.   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED. AUTHORIZED VERSION.   
 veenxir-20 Eymto whom Abraham, even the   
 patriarch, paid tithes from the best. patriarch Abraham gave   
 5 And indeed \*they the tenth of the spoils.   
 of the sons of Levi, when they re- 5And verily they that are   
 eNumb. xvill, ceive the priesthood, have a com- of the sons of Levi, who   
 21, tithes of the receive the office of the   
 people according to the law, that priesthood, have a com-   
 mandment to take tithes of   
 the people according to the   
 law, that is, of their bre~   
   
 to endure for ever, “because it endured it be noticed that the argument still   
 as long as the nature of the case would forward the personal dignity of Melchi-   
 admit. So” he adds, “David said he sedec, in a way quite inconsistent with   
 would praise the Lord for ever,” &e. the commonly received interpretation of   
 Stier says, “He stands in Scripture as the predicates above), to whom Abraham.   
 a type of an eternal priest.” bub the paid tithes also (went so far as to pay   
 question here is not of type, but of fact. tithes), from the best [of the spoil] (lite-   
 Tholuck, “He remains, in so fur as the rally, that which comes from the top of   
 typé remains in the antitype, in so far an heap, and so the firstfruits. And in   
 as his priesthood remains in Christ.” But consequence, some have pressed here the   
 thas type and antitype are hopelessly proper meaning, and understood, that Abra-   
 confounded. Christ is to be proved to be ham gave to Melchisedec the tenth of that   
 a High Priest for ever after the order of portion of the spoil which was already set   
 Melehisedec. Can we conceive then that apart for God. But, considering that these   
 the Writer, in setting forth what the order words merely take up the tenth part of all,   
 and attributes of Melchisedec are, should ver. 2, and of Genesis, it is more natural   
 go back to Christ to find them ? Again, to to understand the spoils in a wider and   
 shew to what shifts interpreters have been less proper sense, of the booty itself, as   
 reduced here, others actually understand indeed all booty brought away might be   
 “who” before “ abideth,” and construe, considered as the firstfruits, the choice   
 “made like to the Son of God, who, part, in contradistinction to the more   
 abideth, 5c.” Every thing shews worthless portion which was left behind),   
 that which has been maintained all through the patriarch (added at the end of the   
 this difficult passage, that the assertions sentence to emphasize the title: and he,   
 are made, and this chief one is above all the illustrious patriarch). 5.] Con-   
 made, simply of Melchisedec, and they tinuation of ver. 4, setting forth the   
 are, as matters of fact, inferred and laid reason of this greatness, And indeed   
 down by the sacred Writer from the historic (the A. V. “and verily,” is rather too   
 notices of him. What further inference strong) they of the sons of Levi who   
 lies from such dignity being here put on receive the priggthood (or, and perhaps   
 Melchisedee, is not, as I before said, for more properly, “they of the sons of Levi,   
 to enquire: certainly, none whieh can in when they receive the priesthood :” in   
 any way interfere with Christ’s eternal and either case meaning the family of Aaron,   
 sole priesthood, can be correct. It is one not the whole tribe of Levi, which in-   
 of those things in which we must nob be deed was appointed by God to receive   
 wise above that which is written, but must. tithes, see Numb, xvili. 20: the words   
 take simply and trustingly the plain sense they of the sons of Levi will not admit   
 of our Bibles on a deep and mysterions sub- of this interpretation. ‘The Writer speaks   
 ject, and leave it for the day when all shall of the custom, whereby not all the Levites,   
 be clear, to give us full revelation on the but the priests only, received tithes), have   
 matter). commandment to take tithes of the peo-   
 4—10.] See summary at ver. 1. The ple according to the law (the com-   
 Melchisedec priesthood greater than the mandment referred to, on the ordinary   
 Levitical, shewn by the fact that Mel- construction of the first words of the   
 chisedec received tithes of Abraham and yerse, would be Numb. xviii, 20—32.   
 blessed him (4-8), and potentially, in Bout it seems more natural to understand   
 Abraham, Levi (9,10). 4.] But ob- those first words as I have given them in   
 serve how great (of what dignity and the alternative there, and then according   
 personal excellence) this man [was] (let to the law falls into its plaice casily