

EZRA-NEHEMIAH.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE TWO BOOKS AS A WHOLE*, ACCORDING TO THEIR CANONICAL ORDER.

(*Division.*)

A¹ | EZRA. THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE.

A² | NEHEMIAH. THE REBUILDING OF THE WALLS.

(**A¹**, above). EZRA. THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE.

(*Introversion.*)

A¹ | B | 1. 1-4 (**N**†). THE PEOPLE. EMANCIPATION.

C | 1. 5-2. 70 (**P**). THE RETURN UNDER ZERUBBABEL.

D | 3. 1-6 (**Q**). THE ALTAR. BUILDING AND FEAST.

D | 3. 7-6. 22 (**Q**). THE TEMPLE. BUILDING AND FEAST.

C | 7. 1-8. 36 (**P**). THE RETURN UNDER EZRA.

B | 9. 1-10. 44 (**N**). THE PEOPLE. DEDICATION. REFORMATION.

(**A²**, above). NEHEMIAH. THE REBUILDING OF THE WALLS.

(*Introversion and Alternation.*)

A² | E | 1. 1-6. 19 (**K**†). THE WALL. REBUILDING. DISORDERS OVERCOME.

F | **H** | 7. 1-4 (**N**). JERUSALEM. CHARGE OVER.

J | 7. 5-73- (**P**). THE RETURN UNDER ZERUBBABEL.

G | 7. -73-8. 18 (**Q**). FEAST OF THE SEVENTH MONTH (426 B. C.).

G | 9. 1-10. 39 (**N**). FEAST OF THE SEVENTH MONTH (404 B. C.).

F | **H** | 11. 1-36 (**N**). JERUSALEM. RESIDENTS IN.

J | 12. 1-26 (**N**). THE RETURN UNDER EZRA.

E | 12. 27-13. 31 (**K**). THE WALL. DEDICATION. DISORDERS OVERCOME.

* In Hebrew manuscripts of the Bible, and the early printed editions of the Hebrew text, these two books are always treated and reckoned as one book: the 685 verses being numbered from the first verse of Ezra to the last verse of Nehemiah; the middle verse of the one book being given by the Massorites as Neh. 3. 32; while of the ten Sedarim (or Cycles for public reading), the fourth begins at Ezra 8. 35 and ends with Neh. 2. 10. See note at foot of p. 632. Moreover, the notes which the Massorites place at the end of each book are placed at the end of Nehemiah, and not at the end of Ezra. Cp. note on the books of SAMUEL, KINGS, and CHRONICLES, p. 366.

The Structure of the one book is set forth as above, the two Divisions being given in their CANONICAL ORDER.

EZRA confines himself mainly to the events connected with the TEMPLE.

NEHEMIAH confines himself mainly to the events connected with the WALL and the CITY.

Ezra comes first in the Canonical Order, because the TEMPLE is more important than the WALL, morally and spiritually.

Nehemiah follows, because the WALL is of secondary importance.

When the whole of the events are looked at in their CHRONOLOGICAL and HISTORICAL order, a different Structure is necessarily observed: this Structure is determined by certain *fixed points*, common to both Orders. These fixed points determine the place of the remaining events recorded in the two parts respectively. See Table of Events and CHRONOLOGICAL Structure on p. 618, and the Harmony of Events in Ap. 58.

† The letters of this fount (in brackets) correspond with the same letters in the CHRONOLOGICAL Structure on page 617.

CERTAIN FIXED POINTS IN THE TWO DIVISIONS OF THE JOINT BOOKS

May be exhibited as follows, in brief: a complete list of all the events will be found in Appendix 58.

EZRA.

1. 1-4. The People. Emancipation.
1. 5—
2. 70. The Return under Zerubbabel.
(The Temple still desolate: and for sixteen
years later. Hag. 1. 1-4.)
- Feast of the Seventh Month (426 B. C.).
3. 1-13. Temple. Foundation laid.
4. 1-6. 15. The Temple: building.
6. 16-22. Dedication of the Temple.
7. 1-8. 36. The Return under Ezra.
9. 1-4. Feast, &c., of the Seventh Month
(404 B. C.).
9. 5. Separation of the People.
Ezra's Prayer.
10. 1-44. Strange wives put away, and the
Covenant made.

NEHEMIAH.

1. 1-6. 19. The WALL. Rebuilding.
External disorders overcome.
7. 1-4. The condition of the city.
(People few. Houses not built.)
7. 5-73-. The Return under Zerubbabel.
7. -73—
8. 18. Feast of the Seventh Month (426 B. C.).
9. 1-37. Feast, &c., of the Seventh Month
(404 B. C.).
9. 38. Separation of the People.
Levites' Prayer.
10. 1-39. Strange wives put away, and the
Covenant made.
11. 1-12-26. Residents in Jerusalem.
12. 27-47. Dedication of the wall.
13. 1-31. Reformation of the People.

We are now in a position to complete the CHRONOLOGICAL Structure of the joint books.

THE STRUCTURE OF EZRA-NEHEMIAH AS A WHOLE, ACCORDING TO THE HISTORICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF EVENTS.*

(Introversions and Alternation.)

- A¹A²** | **K** | Neh. 1. 1-6. 19 (**E**†). THE WALL. REBUILDING. EXTERNAL DISORDERS OVERCOME.
- L** | **N** | Neh. 7. 1-4 (**H**). JERUSALEM. CHARGE OVER IT.
- O** | Ezra 1. 1-4 (**B**). THE PEOPLE. EMANCIPATION.
- M** | **P** | Neh. 7. 5-73- (**J**).
 Ezra 1. 5-2. 70 (**C**). } THE RETURN UNDER ZERUBBABEL.
- Q** | Neh. 7. -73-8. 18 (**G**).
 Ezra 3. 1-7 (**D**). } FEAST OF THE SEVENTH MONTH (426 B. C.).
- R** | Ezra 3. 8-13 (**D**). THE TEMPLE. FOUNDATION.
- R** | Ezra 4. 1-6. 22 (**D**). THE TEMPLE. BUILDING AND DEDICATION.
- M** | **P** | Ezra 7. 1-8. 36 (**C**). THE RETURN UNDER EZRA.
- Q** | Neh. 9. 1-3 (**G**).
 Ezra 9. 1-4 (**B**). } FEAST OF THE SEVENTH MONTH (404 B. C.).
- L** | **O** | Neh. 9. 4-10. 39 (**G**).
 Ezra 9. 5-10. 44 (**B**). } THE PEOPLE. SEPARATION.
- N** | Neh. 11. 1-12. 26 (**F**). JERUSALEM. RESIDENTS IN IT.
- K** | Neh. 12. 27-13. 31 (**E**). THE WALL. DEDICATION. INTERNAL DISORDERS OVERCOME.

* See notes on p. 618.

† The Index letters (in brackets) correspond with the same letters which indicate the same members in the CANONICAL Structure, on page 616.

NOTES TO THE CHRONOLOGICAL STRUCTURE (p. 617).

The CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER of EVENTS, and the STRUCTURE based thereon, revolutionises the traditional view, which treats this one book as two books; places Ezra historically as preceding Nehemiah; and inserts the book of ESTHER between Ezra, chapters 6 and 7, instead of before Ezra-Nehemiah. (See date, Est. 1. 3.)

Those who thus dislocate the two divisions of this book proceed to speak of certain portions as being "misplaced", and "not original", and as having "false connections". These so-called "discrepancies", after having thus been first made by the commentators, are charged home on the inspired writers themselves.

That the "difficulties" exist only in the minds of the critics will be seen if we note the following facts:—

1. The fixed points, common to the two parts of the book, determine for us the true position of all the other parts, and result in giving us the Chronological Structure of the whole on page 617.

2. The traditional view places the building of the temple by Ezra as coming many years before Nehemiah 1. But this is inconceivable in view of the report brought by Hanani to Nehemiah concerning the desolations (Neh. 1. 3) and repeated to the king (Neh. 2. 3).

3. Nehemiah would surely have inquired about the welfare of the 42,360 exiles who are supposed to have returned to Jerusalem, and not about "the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity" (Neh. 1. 2).

4. When the wall was finished, "the houses were not yet builded" (Neh. 7. 1-4).

5. When the Feast of the seventh month was kept (Neh. 8), "the foundation of the temple of the LORD was not yet laid" (Ezra 3. 1-6).

6. When the people dwelt in their "cieled houses", the house of the LORD still lay waste (Hag. 1. 1-4). These facts are more certain than all chronology, and are more important and conclusive than all reasoning.

7. The names of some of the kings mentioned have been hitherto regarded as proper names; whereas, according to Sir Henry Rawlinson, Professor Sayce, *The Encyclopædia Britannica*, and *The Century Encyclopædia of Names*, three at least are appellatives (like Pharaoh, Abimelech, Czar, Shah, Sultan); viz. AHASUERUS, which means "The venerable king", ARTAXERXES, which means "The great king", and DARIUS, which means "The maintainer". See the Genealogy of the Persian kings (Ap. 57). If these appellatives denote separate and different individual kings, no place can be found for them all on the page of history.

8. See the longer notes on special passages at the end of Nehemiah, page 653.

°EZRA.

A' B
(p. 616)
(N)
(p. 617)
426

1 NOW in the first year of °Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of °the LORD by °the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, °the LORD stirred up the °spirit of °Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and *put it* also in writing, saying,

2 "Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, °The LORD °God of heaven °hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and *he* hath °charged me to build Him °an house at Jerusalem, which *is* in Judah.

3 °Who *is there* among you of all His People? his °God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which *is* in Judah, and °build the house of °the LORD °God of Israel, (*he is* the °God,) which *is* in Jerusalem.

4 And °whosoever °remaineth in any place where *he* sojourneth, let °the °men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, °and with goods, and with beasts, beside the free-will offering for the °house of °God that *is* in Jerusalem."

C (P) A
(p. 619)

5 Then rose up °the °chief of the fathers of °Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, with all *them* whose °spirit °God had raised,

B a to go up to build the house of °the LORD which *is* in Jerusalem.

b **6** And all they that *were* about them strengthened °their hands with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, and with beasts, and with precious things, beside all *that* was willingly offered.

7 Also Cyrus the king brought forth the vessels of the house of °the LORD, °which Nebuchadnezzar had brought forth out of Jerusalem, and had put them in the house of his gods;

8 Even those did Cyrus king of Persia bring forth by the hand of Mithredath the treasurer, and numbered them unto °Sheshbazzar, the prince of Judah.

9 And this *is* the number of them: thirty °chargers of gold, a thousand °chargers of silver, nine and twenty knives,

10 Thirty basons of gold, silver basons of a second sort four hundred and ten, and other vessels a thousand.

11 All the vessels of gold and of silver *were* five thousand and four hundred. All *these* did °Sheshbazzar bring up with *them* of the captivity that were brought up from Babylon unto Jerusalem.

of Judah". **9** chargers = basons or bowls. Heb. 'āqartāl. In Numbers kē'ārāh, plate or dish. Eng. "charger", from French charger, to load. Hence used of both a dish and a horse.

TITLE, Ezra. For the Structure of the two books (Ezra-Nehemiah) as a whole, in their canonical order, see p. 616. For the Structure of the chronological order, see p. 617 and the reasons for it, on p. 618.

The book of Esther precedes (chronologically) the book of Ezra-Nehemiah.

1 Cyrus. The son of Astyages and Esther. See Ap. 57, 58, on the genealogy of the Persian kings. So named nearly 200 years before he was born (Isa. 44. 28).

The book of Esther precedes the book of Ezra-Nehemiah, and Neh. 1. 1-7. 4 precedes Ezra 1. 1-14. See note on Neh. 1. 2. Est. 3. 8; 10. 3, and Ap. 57, 58.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

mouth. Cp. 2 Chron. 36. 21-23. Jer. 29. 10-14.

spirit. Heb. rūach. Ap. 9.

2 God. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

God of heaven. See note on 2 Chron. 36. 23. Appropriate in the mouth of Cyrus, and in contrast with all heathen inscriptions.

hath given me. The son of Astyages (the venerable king = Ahasuerus) and Esther. Trained by Mordecai and Nehemiah, he was brought up in the knowledge of God and His Word.

charged me to build. Cp. Isa. 44. 24-28; 45. 1-6, 13. an house. This proclamation put first, as it is the great subject treated of by Ezra.

3 Who is there . . . ? Fig. *Erotēsis*. Ap. 6. build = rebuild.

4 whosoever [of the captive people] remaineth in any place, &c. Note the Fig. *Ellipsis*. Ap. 6. remaineth = is left.

the men of his place: i. e. his Persian neighbours. men. Heb. 'ish. Ap. 14. II.

and. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton*. Ap. 6.

God. Heb. Elohim (with Art.) = the [true] God. Ap. 4. I.

1. 5-2. 70 (C, p. 616; P, p. 617). THE RETURN UNDER ZERUBBABEL.
(*Alternation and Introversion.*)

C A | 1. 5-. The chief of the fathers.
B | a | 1. -5. Return to Jerusalem.
b | 1. 6-11. Assistance (v. 6 by Persians, vv. 7-11 by the king).
A | 2. 1-67. The sons of the Province.
B | b | 2. 68, 69. Assistance (by Israelites).
a | 2. 70. Residents in the cities.

5 the chief of the fathers: i. e. those named in the next chapter. chief = heads.

Judah and Benjamin. But the other tribes found representatives. Cp. 2. 59, 70, where the terms "of Israel" and "all Israel" are used. In 1 Chron. 9. 3, Ephraim and Manasseh are mentioned by name. See note on 1 Kings 12. 17.

6 their hands = them. Put by Fig. *Synecdoche* (of Part), Ap. 6, for themselves.

7 which Nebuchadnezzar had brought. Cp. 2 Kings 24. 13; 25. 14. 2 Chron. 36. 7. Jer. 27. 18-22; 28. 6; 52. 18, 19. Dan. 1. 2; 5. 2.

8 Sheshbazzar = the Chaldean name of the prince of Judah. Not Zerubbabel, which means born at Babel. Probably = Nehemiah, for he was the son of Hachaliah and Zidkijah (Neh. 10. 1), and therefore a "prince

A c
(p. 620)
426

2 Now °these are the °children of °the Province that went up out of the captivity, of those which had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away unto Babylon, and came again unto Jerusalem °and Judah, every °one unto his city;

2 Which °came with Zerubbabel: °Jeshua, °Nehemiah, °Seraiah, Reelaiah, °Mordecai, Bilshan, Mizpar, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah. The number of the °men of °the People of Israel:

d **3** The ¹children of Parosh, two thousand an hundred seventy and two.

4 The ¹children of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy and two.

5 The ¹children of Arah, seven hundred seventy and five.

6 The ¹children of Pahath-moab, of the ¹children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred and twelve.

7 The ¹children of Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

8 The ¹children of Zattu, nine hundred forty and five.

9 The ¹children of Zaccai, seven hundred and threescore.

10 The ¹children of Bani, six hundred forty and two.

11 The ¹children of Bebai, six hundred twenty and three.

12 The ¹children of Azgad, a thousand two hundred twenty and two.

13 The ¹children of Adonikam, six hundred sixty and six.

14 The ¹children of Bigvai, two thousand fifty and six.

15 The ¹children of Adin, four hundred fifty and four.

16 The ¹children of Ater of Hezekiah, ninety and eight.

17 The ¹children of Bezai, three hundred twenty and three.

18 The ¹children of Jorah, an hundred and twelve.

19 The ¹children of Hashum, two hundred twenty and three.

20 The ¹children of Gibbar, ninety and five.

21 The ¹children of Beth-lehem, an hundred twenty and three.

22 The ²men of Netophah, fifty and six.

23 The ²men of Anathoth, an hundred twenty and eight.

24 The ¹children of Azmaveth, forty and two.

25 The ¹children of °Kirjath-arim, Chephirah, and Beeroth, seven hundred and forty and three.

26 The ¹children of Ramah and Gaba, six hundred twenty and one.

27 The ²men of Michmas, an hundred twenty and two.

28 The ²men of Beth-el and Ai, two hundred twenty and three.

29 The ¹children of Nebo, fifty and two.

30 The ¹children of Magbish, an hundred fifty and six.

31 The ¹children of the other Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

32 The ¹children of Harim, three hundred and twenty.

2. 1-67 (A, p. 619). THE SONS OF THE PROVINCE. (Introversion.)

A | c | 1. 2. In sum. The number.
d | 3-58. Names found.
d | 59-63. Names not found.
c | 64-67. In sum.

1 these are. This chapter is parallel with Neh. 7. 69. See the Structure, M P, p. 617, and Ap. 58. children = sons.

the Province: i. e. the Persian province of Judah.

Cp. Neh. 1. 3.

and Judah. Some codices read "and unto Judæa".

Cp. Neh. 7. 6.

one. Heb. 'ish. Ap. 14. II.

2 came with Zerubbabel. But not till after Neh. 1. 1-7. 4. See note on Neh. 1. 2, 3. In Neh. 7. 4 no houses built, but in Hag. 1. 4, houses built and yet Temple lying waste.

Jeshua. The great helper of Zerubbabel.

Nehemiah. Cp. Neh. 1. 1; 10. 1. See note on "Sheshbazzar", 1. 8.

Seraiah = Azariah (Neh. 7. 7). Not Seraiah the high priest, put to death with Zedekiah (2 Kings 25. 18-21).

Mordecai. He had been taken in Jehoiachin's deportation (Est. 2. 5, 6).

men. Heb. pl. of 'ēnōsh. Ap. 14. III.

the People of Israel. See note on 1. 5. So 2. 59, 70; 3. 1; 7. 13; 9. 1; 10. 5. Cp. 1 Kings 12. 17.

25 Kirjath-arim. Now Khan 'Erma. Some codices, with Sept. and Vulg., read "Kirjath-jearim".

36 Jedaiah. The head of the ninth course (1 Chron. 24. 11).

37 Immer. The head of the sixteenth course (1 Chron. 24. 14).

38 Pashur. Cp. Jer. 20. 1; 21. 1 and 1 Chron. 9. 12. Probably belonging to the fifth course, as son of Malchijah. Cp. 1 Chron. 24. 9 with Neh. 11. 12.

39 Harim. The third course. These four were subdivided into six each, making the twenty-four.

43 Nethinims = men given to God or His service. Temple servants. Cp. v. 58; 7. 7, 24; 8. 17, 20. Neh. 3. 26; 10. 28; 11. 21. 1 Chron. 9. 2.

33 The ¹children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred twenty and five.

34 The ¹children of Jericho, three hundred forty and five.

35 The ¹children of Senaah, three thousand and six hundred and thirty.

36 The priests: the ¹children of °Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, nine hundred seventy and three.

37 The ¹children of °Immer, a thousand fifty and two.

38 The ¹children of °Pashur, a thousand two hundred forty and seven.

39 The ¹children of °Harim, a thousand and seventeen.

40 The Levites: the ¹children of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the ¹children of Hodaviah, seventy and four.

41 The singers: the ¹children of Asaph, an hundred twenty and eight.

42 The ¹children of the porters: the ¹children of Shallum, the ¹children of Ater, the ¹children of Talmon, the ¹children of Akkub, the ¹children of Hatita, the ¹children of Shobai, in all an hundred thirty and nine.

43 The °Nethinims: the ¹children of Ziha, the ¹children of Hasupha, the ¹children of Tabbaoth,

44 The ¹children of Keros, the ¹children of Siaha, the ¹children of Padon,

426

45 The ¹children of Lebanah, the ¹children of Hagabah, the ¹children of Akkub,

46 The ¹children of Hagab, the ¹children of °Shalmai, the ¹children of Hanan,

47 The ¹children of Giddel, the ¹children of Gahar, the ¹children of Reaiah,

48 The ¹children of Rezin, the ¹children of Nekoda, the ¹children of Gazzam,

49 The ¹children of Uzza, the ¹children of Paseah, the ¹children of Besai,

50 The ¹children of Asnah, the ¹children of Mehunim, the ¹children of Nephusim,

51 The ¹children of Bakbuk, the ¹children of Hakupha, the ¹children of Harhur,

52 The ¹children of Bazluth, the ¹children of Mehida, the ¹children of Harsha,

53 The ¹children of Barkos, the ¹children of Sisera, the ¹children of Thamah,

54 The ¹children of Nezhiah, the ¹children of Hatipha.

55 The ¹children of Solomon's servants: the ¹children of Sotai, the ¹children of Sophereth, the ¹children of Peruda,

56 The ¹children of Jaalah, the ¹children of Dargon, the ¹children of Giddel,

57 The ¹children of Shephatiah, the ¹children of Hattil, the ¹children of Pochereth of Zebaim, the ¹children of Ami.

58 All the ⁴³Nethinims, and the ¹children of Solomon's servants, were three hundred ninety and two.

59 And these were they which went up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsa, Cherub, Addan, and Immer: but they could not shew their father's house, and their seed, whether they were ° of Israel:

60 The ¹children of Delaiah, the ¹children of Tobiah, the ¹children of Nekoda, six hundred fifty and two.

d (p. 620) 61 And of the ¹children of the priests: the ¹children of Habaiah, the ¹children of Koz, the ¹children of Barzillai; which took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and was called after their name:

62 These sought their register among those that were reckoned by genealogy, but they were not found: therefore were they, ° as polluted, put from the priesthood.

63 And the ° Tirshatha said unto them, that they should ° not eat of the most ° holy things, till there stood up a priest ° with ° Urim and ° with Thummim.

c 64 The whole ° congregation together was ° forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore,

65 Beside their servants and their ° maids, of whom there were seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and there were among them two hundred singing men and singing women.

66 Their horses were seven hundred thirty and six; their mules, two hundred forty and five;

67 Their camels, four hundred thirty and five; their asses, six thousand seven hundred and twenty.

B b (p. 619) 68 And ° some of the ° chief of the fathers, when they came to the house of ° the LORD which is at Jerusalem, offered freely for the house of ° God to set it up in his place:

46 Shalmai. Some codices, with one early printed edition, Sept. and Syr., read "Selami".

59 of Israel. See note on 2. 2, and cp. 1 Kings 12. 17.

62 as polluted, put. R.V.=deemed polluted and put. Heb. *gā'al*, to pollute; not *gā'al*, to redeem. Supply *Ellipsis* thus: "therefore were they [rejected] from the priesthood as polluted". So in Neh. 7. 64; 13. 29. Isa. 59. 3; 63. 3. Lam. 4. 14. Zeph. 3. 1. Mal. 1. 7.

63 Tirshatha=governor (Persian title). Here refers to Nehemiah, as in Neh. 8. 9; 10. 1; 12. 26. The Heb. title is *Pechah* (Neh. 5. 14, 18; 12. 26). Whence the Turkish *Pashah*. See note on 5. 3.

not eat of the most holy things: i.e. the remains of the meal offering, sin offering, and right shoulder of the peace offerings. Cp. Lev. 2. 3; 10. 12-14, 16, 17. Num. 18. 9, 10.

holy. See note on Ex. 3. 5. with=for. Urim and with Thummim. See note on Ex. 28. 30. Num. 26. 55.

64 congregation=assembly, or muster. forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore. This number (42,360) agrees with Neh. 7. 66. The two lists of names are not alike; but there is no "discrepancy". The two lists, while they agree in the numbers, and vary in names, yet have the totals identical. This shows the independence of the two accounts.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Numbered in Ezra 2. | 42,360 |
|--------------------------|--------|

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Named in Ezra | 29,818 |
|---------------------|--------|

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------|--------|
| " in Neh., not in Ezra ... | 1,765 | 31,583 |
|----------------------------|-------|--------|

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Difference between names and numbers | 10,777 |
|--------------------------------------|--------|

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Numbered in Neh. 7. | 42,360 |
|--------------------------|--------|

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Named in Nehemiah | 31,089 |
|-------------------------|--------|

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----|--------|
| " in Neh., not in Ezra ... | 494 | 31,583 |
|----------------------------|-----|--------|

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Difference between names and numbers | 10,777 |
|--------------------------------------|--------|

65 maids = handmaids.

68 some = a portion. Ezra mentions what one portion gave. Nehemiah (7. 70) mentions what he and two other portions gave. Hence the numbers "perforce" cannot be the same, and there is no "discrepancy". chief = heads.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

God. Heb. Elohim (with Art.) = the [true] God. Ap. 4. I.

69 treasure = treasury.

drams. See Ap. 51. I. 1 (2).

pound. See Ap. 51. II. 4 (1).

70 all Israel. See note on 2. 2, and 1 Kings 12. 17.

3. 1-13 (D, p. 616; Q, p. 617). THE TEMPLE.

FOUNDATION AND FEAST. (Division).

D C¹ | 1-6. The setting up of the altar.

C² | 7-13. The foundation of the house.

1-7 [For Structure of C¹ see next page].

1 seventh month. Tisri. See Ap. 51. III. 5. children = sons.

of Israel. See note on 2. 2, and 1 Kings 12. 17.

the cities. Some codices, with Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read "their cities". man. Heb. *ish*. Ap. 14. II. to = in. Therefore this was after Neh. 7. 1-4.

69 They gave after their ability unto the ° treasure of the work threescore and one thousand ° drams of gold, and five thousand ° pound of silver, and one hundred priests' garments.

70 So the priests, and the Levites, and some of the people, and the singers, and the porters, and the Nethinims, dwelt in their cities, and ° all Israel in their cities.

3 And when the ° seventh month was come, and the ° children ° of Israel were in ° the cities, the People gathered themselves together as one ° man ° to Jerusalem.

D C¹ D (p. 622) 426

E e
(p. 622)
426

2 Then stood up °Jeshua the son of °Jozadak, and his brethren the priests, and °Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brethren, and builded the altar of the °God of Israel, to °offer burnt offerings thereon, as *it is* °written in the law of Moses ° the 1 man of God.

3 And they set the altar upon his bases; for fear was upon them because of the °people of those countries: and they 2 offered burnt offerings thereon unto ° the LORD, *even* burnt offerings morning and evening.

f
Tisri
15-21

4 They °kept also the feast of tabernacles, °as *it is* written, and offered the daily burnt offerings by number, according to the custom, as the duty of every day required;

f

5 And afterward offered the continual burnt offering, both of the new moons, and of all the set feasts of 3 the LORD that were consecrated,

e

and of every one that willingly offered a free-will offering unto 3 the LORD.

D

6 From the first day of the seventh month began they to offer burnt offerings unto 3 the LORD. But the foundation of the temple of 3 the LORD was not yet laid.

C2 g1
425

7 They gave money also unto the masons, °and to the °carpenters; and meat, and drink, and oil, unto them of Zidon, and to them of Tyre, to °bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea of °Joppa, according to the °grant that they had ° of Cyrus king of Persia.

8 Now in the second year of their coming unto the house of °God at Jerusalem, in the second month, began Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to °set forward the work of the house of 3 the LORD.

h1

9 Then stood Jeshua *with* his sons and his brethren, Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of °Judah, together, to 8 set forward the workmen in the house of 8 God: the sons of Henadad, *with* their sons and their brethren the Levites.

g2

10 And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of 3 the LORD,

h2

°they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with °cymbals, to praise 3 the LORD, after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

11 And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto 3 the LORD; because *He is* good, for His °mercy *endureth* for ever toward Israel. And all the People °shouted with a great shout, when they praised 3 the LORD, because the foundation of the house of 3 the LORD was laid.

g3

12 But many of the priests and Levites and °chief of the fathers, °who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes,

h3

wept with a loud voice; and many °shouted aloud for joy:

13 So that the People could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the People: for the People shouted

3. 1-7 (C1, p. 621). SETTING UP THE ALTAR. (Alternations.)

C1 | D | 1. Time. Seventh month.
E | e | 2, 3. Altar and offerings.
f | 4. Feast of Tabernacles.
E | f | 5-. Other Feasts.
e | -5. Altar and offerings.
D | 6-. Time. Seventh month.

2 Jeshua. The high priest. Spelt Joshua in Hag. 1. 1; 2. 2. Zech. 3. 1.

Jozadak. The son of Seraiah (1 Chron. 6. 14, 15). But Ezra was the son of Seraiah (Ezra 7. 1). Therefore Ezra was brother to Jozadak and uncle to Joshua the high priest.

Zerubbabel. Cp. Matt. 1. 12. Luke 3. 27, called Zorobabel.

God. Heb. Elohim (with Art.) = the [true] God. Ap. 4. I. offer = offer up. Heb. 'alah. Ap. 43. I. vi.

written in the law of Moses. See note on Ex. 17. 14, and Ap. 47.

the man of God (with Art.) = the [true] God. See note on Deut. 33. 1; and Ap. 49.

3 people = peoples.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

4 kept, &c. As recorded also in the parallel passage (Neh. 8. 1-18).

as it is written. See Lev. 23. 34-43. Deut. 16. 13-15, and cp. 1 Kings 8. 2, 65.

3. 7-13 (C2, p. 621). THE FOUNDATION OF THE HOUSE. (Repeated Alternation.)

C2 | g1 | 7, 8. The work set forward.
h1 | 9. The priests. Stationed.
g2 | 10-. The work. Foundation laid.
h2 | -10, 11. The priests. Praise.
g3 | 12-. The work. Contrasted.
h3 | -12, 13. The priests. Emotion.

7 and. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6), to emphasise each detail.

carpenters = artificers. bring cedar trees. Cp. 1 Kings 5. 6. 2 Chron. 2. 3, 10. Joppa. Cp. Josh. 19. 46. Acts 9. 35, 43. Jon. 1. 3.

grant. Occurs only here.

of = from. Genitive of Origin. See Ap. 17.

8 God. Heb. Elohim (with Art.) = the [true] God. Ap. 4. I.

set forward = oversee.

9 Judah: or Hodaviah, as in 2. 40.

10 they set the priests: or, the priests took their stand. cymbals. Heb. *m'zillayim*. Dual form, meaning two metal discs struck together, making a clashing sound. Not *zillayim*, which = timbrels, but is translated cymbals in 2 Sam. 6. 5 and Ps. 150. 5, from the rustling sound. See note on 1 Chron. 13. 8.

11 mercy = lovingkindness, or grace.

shouted with a great shout. Fig. *Polyptoton*. Ap. 6.

12 chief = heads.

who were. Some codices, with one early printed edition and Vulg., read "and the".

shouted aloud for joy. Thus fulfilling Jer. 33. 10, 11.

4. 1-6. 22 [For Structures see next page].

1 adversaries. The Samaritans (v. 10). See note on 2 Kings 17. 24, 26.

children = sons. the temple. The walls and gates already built by Nehemiah. See Structures (pp. 616, 617), and notes on Neh. 1. 2. The desolations did not end with Ezra 1, though the servitude did. Cp. Jer. 25. 11. 2 Chron. 36. 21. See special note at end of 2 Chronicles, p. 615.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

God. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.

4 Now when the °adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the °children of the captivity builded °the temple unto °the LORD °God of Israel;

D G
(p. 623)

425 2 Then they came to °Zerubbabel, and to the °chief of the fathers, and said unto them, "Let us build with you: for °we seek your °God, as ye do; and °we do sacrifice unto Him since the days of °Esar-haddon king of °Assur, which brought us up hither."

H 3 But °Zerubbabel, and °Jeshua, and the rest (p. 623) of the °chief of the fathers of Israel, said unto them, "Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our °God; but we ourselves together will build unto °the LORD °God of °Israel, °as king Cyrus the king of Persia hath commanded us."

J N 4 Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the People of Judah, and °troubled them in building,

O 5 And hired counsellors against them, to frustrate their purpose, all the days of °Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of °Darius king of Persia.

N (6 And in the reign of °Ahasuerus, in the beginning of his reign, wrote they unto him an accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem.)

(7 And in the days of °Artaxerxes, wrote Bishlam, Mithredath, Tabeel, and the rest of their °companions, unto Artaxerxes king of Persia; and the writing of the letter was written in °the Syrian tongue, and interpreted in the Syrian tongue.

8 °Rehum °the chancellor and Shimshai °the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to °Artaxerxes the king °in this sort:

9 Then wrote °Rehum the chancellor, and Shimshai °the scribe, and the rest of their °companions; the °Dinaites, the °Apharsathchites, the °Tarpelites, the °Apharsites, the °Archevites, the Babylonians, the °Susanchites, the °Dehavites, and the °Elamites,

10 And the rest of the °nations whom the great and noble °Asnapper brought over, and set in the cities of Samaria, and the rest that are °on this side the river, and °at such a time.

11 This is the copy of the letter that they sent unto him, even unto °Artaxerxes the king; "Thy servants the °men °on this side the river, and °at such a time.

O P i 12 Be it known unto the king, that the °Jews which came up from thee to us are come unto Jerusalem, building the rebellious and the bad

4. 1-6. 22 (D, p. 616; Q, p. 617). THE TEMPLE. BUILDING AND DEDICATION. (Division.)

D | F¹ | 4. 1-6. 15. The building.
F² | 6. 16-22. The dedication.

4. 1-6. 15 (F¹, above). THE BUILDING. (Extended Alternation.)

F¹ | G | 4. 1, 2. Adversaries. Temptation.
H | 4. 3. Obedience to God's word.
J | 4. 4-16. Opposition. Letter to Cyrus.
K | 4. 17-22. King's answer. Success of plot.
L | 4. 23, 24-. Work. Cessation.
M | -24. Duration of cessation.
G | 5. 1. Helpers. (Prophets.) Exhortation.
H | 5. 2. Obedience to God's word.
J | 5. 3-17. Opposition. Letter to Darius.
K | 6. 1-12. King's answer. Defeat of plot.
L | 6. 13, 14. Work. Recommencement.
M | 6. 15. Date of completion.

2 Zerubbabel. See note on 3. 2. chief= heads. we seek your God. A priest had been sent to these Samaritans (2 Kings 17. 28-33).

we do sacrifice unto Him. Heb. text = "although we have not been sacrificing". Some codices, and two early printed editions, with Sept. and Syr., add "unto Him". Esar-haddon. The son and successor of Sennacherib (see notes on 2 Kings 19. 37, and 2 Chron. 33. 11).

Assur= Assyria. 3 Jeshua. See note on 3. 2. Israel. See note on 2. 2 and 1 Kings 12. 17. as = according as.

4. 4-16 (J, above). OPPOSITION. LETTER TO CYRUS. (Alternation.)

J | N | 4. 4, 5-. Opponents. Counsellors.
O | -5. Action. To frustrate.
N | 6-11. Opponents. Writers.
O | 12-16. Action. Writing.

4 troubled them in = terrified them from.

5 Cyrus. The son of Astyages and Esther. See Ap. 57, 58.

Darius: i.e. Darius Hystaspis (see Ap. 57, 58). "Darius" being only an appellative (= the maintainer), needs "Hystaspis" to be added, to identify him; as Astyages, when called Darius, needs the addition of "the Mede". See Ap. 58, and notes on p. 618.

6 Ahasuerus = the venerable king. See Ap. 57, 58, and p. 618. An appellative, used here of Cyrus (v. 5), or retrospectively of Astyages; or, this verse may be retrospective, and should be in parenthesis.

7 Artaxerxes = the great king. Used here of the Cyrus of v. 3. See Ap. 57, 58, and p. 618. Verses 7-23 may also be retrospective of Neh. 2. 20-6, 15.

companions = colleagues or associates. the Syrian tongue: i.e. in Aramaic characters as well as in the Aramaic language. Cp. Est. 1. 22; 8. 9, where "writing" (Heb. *kāthab*, to grave) is the same word as in this book.

8 Rehum. From here to 6. 18 is in Syriac, which was like the French of to-day. Cp. 2 Kings 18. 26. From 6. 19-7. 11 is Hebrew; and Syriac again from 7. 12-27; then Hebrew. the chancellor = the master of judgments or decrees. the scribe: or secretary. in this sort = after this manner. 9 Dinaites. Probably from a Persian city. Apharsathchites. A Medo-Persian tribe. Tarpelites. Probably from east of Elymais. Apharsites. Of Persian origin. Archevites. From Babylonia. Cp. Gen. 10. 10. Susanchites. From the Persian province or city of Shushan, the capital of Elam. Dehavites = the Dahae of Herodotus (i. 125). Elamites. From a province of Persia. 10 nations = peoples. Asnapper = Assur-bani-pal, or Sardanapalus, the only Assyrian king who got into Elam, or held Shushan (now Susa) its capital. on this side = beyond, on the west side: regarded from the east side of the Euphrates. at such a time. This may refer to the date of the letter; or be rendered, as in R. V., "and so forth". 11 men. Chald. *ēnōsh*. See Ap. 14. iii.

4. 12-16 (O, above). ACTION. WRITING. (Introversion and Alternation.)

O | P | i | 12. Notification.
k | 13. Hypothesis. "If".
Q | 14. Concern. Maintenance.
Q | 15. Advice. Search.
P | i | 16-. Certification.
k | -16. Hypothesis. "If".

12 Jews. Nehemiah, Hanani, and friends. Occurs eight times in Ezra, viz. 4. 12, 23; 5. 1, 5; 6. 7, 7, 8, 14. The name by which they were known to Gentiles, because the majority belonged to Judah.

city, and have ° set up the walls *thereof*, and joined the foundations.

^k (p. 623) 13 Be it known now unto the king, that, if this city be builded, and the walls set up *again*, then will they not pay toll, tribute, and custom, and so thou shalt endamage the revenue of the kings.

^Q 14 Now because ° we have maintenance from the king's palace, and it was not meet for us to see the king's dishonour, therefore have we sent and certified the king;

^Q 15 That search may be made in the book of the records of thy fathers: so shalt thou find in the book of the records, and know that this city is a rebellious city, and hurtful unto kings and provinces, and that they have moved sedition within the same of old time: for which cause was this city destroyed.

^{Pi} 16 ^{Bi} certify the king that,

^k if this city be builded *again*, and the walls thereof set up, by this means thou shalt have no portion on this side the river."

^{Kl} (p. 624) 17 Then sent the king an ° answer unto ^s Rehum the chancellor, and to Shimshai the scribe, and to the rest of their ° companions that dwell in Samaria, and unto the rest beyond the river, "Peace, and at such a time.

^m 18 The letter which ye sent unto us hath been plainly read before me.

^m 19 And ° I commanded, and search hath been made, and it is found that this city of old time hath ° made insurrection against kings, and that rebellion and sedition have been made therein.

20 There have been ° mighty kings also over Jerusalem, which have ruled over all countries beyond the river; and toll, tribute, and custom, was paid unto them.

ⁱ 21 Give ye now ° commandment to cause these ° men to cease, and that this city be not builded, until *another* ° commandment shall be given from me.

22 Take heed now that ye fail not to do this: why should damage grow to the hurt of the kings?"

^L (p. 623) 23 Now when the copy of king ° Artaxerxes' letter was read before ° Rehum, and Shimshai the scribe, and their ° companions, they went up in haste to Jerusalem unto the ° Jews, and made them to cease ° by force and power.)

24 Then ceased the work of the house of ° ^{GD} which is at Jerusalem.

^M 425-410 So it ceased unto the second year of the reign of ° Darius king of Persia.

^G 1st Elul 410 5 Then the prophets, ° Haggai the prophet, and ° Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied unto the Jews that were in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the ° ^{GD} of Israel, ° even unto them.

^H 2 Then rose up Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and began to build the house of ° ^{GD} which is at Jerusalem: and with them were the prophets of ° ^{GD} helping them.

set up the walls. Quite true; for Nehemiah's work had long preceded this. See the Chronological Structure, p. 617, and notes on p. 618; also Ap. 58. And note that, when Nehemiah's work was done (7. 4) and the houses built, the house of God was still lying waste (Hag. 1. 1-4). The Temple not mentioned here.

14 we have maintenance = the salt of the palace is our salt. See note on Num. 18. 19.

4. 17-22 (K, p. 623). KING'S ANSWER. SUCCESS OF PLOT. (*Introversion*.)

K | 1 | 17. Mission.
m | 18. Reception.
m | 19, 20. Verification.
l | 21, 22. Prohibition.

17 answer. Chald. *pithgām* = an order or decree. A Persian word. Occurs only here and 5. 5, 11; 6. 11. Dan. 3. 16; 4. 17. 19 I commanded = I made a decree.

made insurrection. Chald. lifted itself up.

20 mighty kings. Such as David and Solomon.

21 commandment = decree.

men = strongmen, *gubrayya'a*. Chald. form of Ap. 14. IV.

23 by force. Chald. by arm; "arm" being put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Cause), Ap. 6, for the force put forth by it.

24 ^{GD}. Chald. 'ēlāhā' (*ha*, emphatic), sing., same as Heb. Eloah. Ap. 4. V.

5. 1 Haggai. The prophet of that name. In the second year of Darius (Hag. 1. 1), "sixth month".

Zechariah. The prophet of that name. In the second year of Darius, "eighth month" (Zech. 1. 1).

^{GD}. Chald. 'ēlāh (sing.). Same as Eloah. Ap. 4. V. of Israel. Still "Israel", because representative of the whole nation. See note on 1 Kings 12. 17. even unto them: or "[which was] over them".

2 ^{GD}. Chald. 'ēlāhā', as in 4. 24. Heb. Eloah (emph.). Ap. 4. V.

5. 3-17 (J, p. 623). OPPOSITION. LETTER TO DARIUS. (*Extended Alternation*.)

J | R | 3, 4. Governor. "Who commanded?"
S | 5-. Non-cessation. Fact. } Verbal.
T | -5. Appeal to Darius.
R | 6-10. Governor. "Who commanded?"
S | 11-16. Non-cessation. Reason. } Letter.
T | 17. Appeal to Darius.

3 governor. Chald. *peḥāh* (modern "Pasha"). Tatnai was governor in Syria, Zerubbabel was governor in Judah. Cp. vv. 6, 14; 6. 6, 7, 13; 8. 36. Dan. 3. 2, 3, 27; 6. 7; and Hag. 1. 1, 14; 2. 2, 21.

companions = colleagues or associates.

commanded you = made a decree to you; given a firman.

make up = build. So the wall had already been built by Nehemiah. See the Chronological Structure, p. 617, and notes on p. 618; and Ap. 58.

4 said = told. Chald. 'āmar, which must be followed by the words spoken (which are given in next clause).

we. Note this pronoun (first person sing. and pl.). Here, and 7. 27-9. 16, and Neh. 1. 1-7. 73; 12. 27-43; 13. 4-31. Sept., Syr., and Arab. read "they".

after this manner. Verse 4 should be rendered "we told them what the names were, accordingly the names of the men", &c. It is not a question.

men. As in 4. 21.

make this building. Heb. "build this building". Fig. *Polyptoton* (Ap. 6), for emphasis.

3 At the same time came to them Tatnai, ° governor on this side the river, and Shethar-boznai, and their ° companions, and said thus unto them, "Who hath ° commanded you to build this house, and to ° make up this wall?"

4 Then ° said ° we unto them ° after this manner, "What are the names of the ° men that ° make this building?"

J R
(p. 624)

S (p. 624) 410 5 But ° the eye of their ¹ 𐤀𐤏𐤏 was upon the ° elders of the Jews, that they could not cause them to cease,

T till the matter came to ° Darius: and then they returned ° answer by letter concerning this matter.

R 6 The copy of the letter that ° Tatnai, ³ governor on this side the river, and Shetharboznai, and his ³ companions the ° Apharsachites, which were on this side the river, sent unto ° Darius the king:

7 They sent a letter unto him, wherein was written thus; "Unto ° Darius the king, all peace.

8 Be it known unto the king, that we went into the ° province of Judea, to the house of the great ² 𐤀𐤏𐤏, which is builded with ° great stones, and timber is laid in the walls, and this work goeth fast on, and prospereth in their hands.

9 Then asked we those elders, and said unto them thus, 'Who commanded you to build this house, and to make up these walls?'

10 We asked their names also, to certify thee, that we might write the names of the ° men that were the ° chief of them.

S U n (p. 625) 11 And thus they returned us answer, saying, 'We are the servants of ° the ¹ 𐤀𐤏𐤏 of heaven and earth,

o and build the house that was builded ° these many years ago, which a great king of Israel builded ° and set up.

V 12 But after that our fathers had provoked the ¹¹ 𐤀𐤏𐤏 of heaven unto wrath,

V He ° gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, the Chaldean, who destroyed this house, and carried the People away into Babylon.

U n 426 13 But in the first year of ° Cyrus the king of ° Babylon the same king Cyrus made a decree to build this house of ² 𐤀𐤏𐤏.

14 And ° the vessels also of gold and silver of the house of ² 𐤀𐤏𐤏, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple that was in Jerusalem, and brought them into the temple of Babylon, those did Cyrus the king take out of the temple of Babylon, and they were delivered unto one, whose name was ° Sheshbazzar, whom he had made ³ governor;

15 And said unto him, 'Take these vessels, go, ° carry them into the temple that ° is in Jerusalem, and let the house of ² 𐤀𐤏𐤏 be builded in his place.'

o 16 Then came the same ¹⁴ Sheshbazzar, and laid the foundation of the house of ² 𐤀𐤏𐤏 which is in Jerusalem: and since that time even until now hath it been in building, and yet it is not finished.'

T (p. 624) 17 Now therefore, if it seem good to the king, let there be search made in the king's treasure house, which is there at ¹³ Babylon, whether it be so, that a decree was made of Cyrus the king to build this house of ² 𐤀𐤏𐤏 at Jerusalem, and let the king send his pleasure to us concerning this matter."

5 the eye. Fig. *Anthropopatheia*. Ap. 6. elders. Chald. *šib* = grey, hoary. Used only of Ezra here and 6, 7, 8, 14.

Darius. See note on 4. 5.

answer. See note on 4. 17.

6 Tatnai. His name has been recently found in a contract. Apharsachites. See note on 4. 9.

8 province. Cp. Neh. 1. 3.

great = rolling: i. e. too heavy to be moved without rolling. 10 chief = head.

5. 11-16 (S, p. 624). CESSATION. REASON. (*Introversion and Alternation*.)

S U n | 11-. Answer of builders.

o | -11. The building.

V | 12-. People. Provocation.

V | -12. People. Captivity.

U n | 13-15. Answer of Cyrus.

o | 16. The building.

11 the 𐤀𐤏𐤏 of heaven. See note on 2 Chron. 36. 23. 𐤀𐤏𐤏. Chald. *'ēlah*. Same as Eloah. Ap. 4. V. these many years ago. Nearly 500 years.

and set up. Cp. 1 Kings 6. 1.

12 gave them. Cp. 2 Kings 24. 2; 25. 8-11.

13 Cyrus. Cp. 1. 1.

Babylon. Included now with Persia. Cp. 6. 1. Neh. 13. 6.

14 the vessels. Cp. Ezra 1. 7, 8; 6. 6.

Sheshbazzar. See note on 1. 8. This was Nehemiah, who was present, though the stone was actually laid by Zerubbabel (Zech. 4. 9).

15 carry them into = set them down, or deposit them in. is = is to be.

6. 1-12 (K, p. 623). KING'S ANSWER. DEFEAT OF PLOT. (*Alternation*.)

K p | 1. Darius. Search made.

q | 2-5. Decree found (Cyrus).

p | 6, 7. Darius. Forbearance ordered.

q | 8-12. Decree made (Darius).

1 Darius: i. e. Darius (Hystaspis). See Chronological Structure and notes (pp. 617, 618), and Ap. 57, 58.

Babylon. See note on 5. 13.

2 Achmetha = Ecbatana, the capital of ancient Media.

3 first year of Cyrus. Cp. 1. 1.

𐤀𐤏𐤏. Chald. *'ēlāhā* = Heb. Eloah (Ap. 4. V.); the final "ha" is for emphasis.

offered. Chald. *d'ba'h*. Same as Heb. *zēbach*. Ap. 43. I. iv. cubits. See Ap. 51. III. 2.

4 rows = layers or stories, as in 1 Kings 6. 36.

new timber. Should be "timber, one": i. e. one row.

In changing the ancient characters into the modern square characters the *aleph* ('a) in *had'a* ("one"), in the ancient character, was mistaken for *š*, Tau, the "th" in *hadath* ("new"), and so was transliterated. The Sept. has preserved the original reading, and the R.V. notes it in the margin. The two lines should read: "layers of great stones, three; and a layer of timber, one".

house = treasury: "house" being put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Adjunct), Ap. 6, for the treasures in it.

6 Then ° Darius the king made a decree, and search was made in the house of the rolls, where the treasures were laid up in ° Babylon.

2 And there was found at ° Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of the Medes, a roll, and therein was a record thus written:

3 "In the ° first year of Cyrus the king the same Cyrus the king made a decree concerning the house of ° 𐤀𐤏𐤏 at Jerusalem, Let the house be builded, the place where they ° offered sacrifices, and let the foundations thereof be strongly laid; the height thereof threescore ° cubits, and the breadth thereof threescore cubits;

4 With three ° rows of great stones, and a row of ° new timber: and let the expences be given out of the king's ° house:

K p (p. 625)

q

410 5 And also let the golden and silver ° vessels of the house of ³ 𐤇𐤍𐤇, which Nebuchadnezzar took forth out of the temple which ° is at Jerusalem, and brought unto Babylon, be restored, and brought again unto the temple which is at Jerusalem, every one to his place, and place them in the house of ³ 𐤇𐤍𐤇."

p 6 "Now therefore, ° Tatnai, governor beyond the river, Shethar-boznai, and your ° companions the Apharsachites, which are beyond the river, be ye far from thence:

7 Let the work of this house of ³ 𐤇𐤍𐤇 alone; let the governor of the ° Jews and the elders of the Jews build this house of ³ 𐤇𐤍𐤇 in his place.

q 8 Moreover ° I make a decree what ye shall do to the elders of these ⁷ Jews for the building of this house of ³ 𐤇𐤍𐤇: that of the king's goods, even of the tribute beyond the river, forthwith expences be given unto these ° men, that they be not hindered.

9 And that which they have need of, both young bullocks, and rams, and lambs, for the burnt offerings of the ° 𐤇𐤍𐤇 of heaven, wheat, salt, ° wine, and oil, according to the appointment of the priests which are at Jerusalem, let it be given them day by day without fail:

10 That they may offer sacrifices of ° sweet savours unto the ° 𐤇𐤍𐤇 of heaven, and pray for the life of the king, and of his sons.

11 Also I have made a decree, that whosoever shall ° alter this word, let timber be pulled down from his house, and being set up, let him be hanged thereon; and let his house be made a dunghill for this.

12 And the ³ 𐤇𐤍𐤇 That hath caused His name to dwell there destroy all kings and people, that shall put to their hand to ° alter and to destroy this house of ³ God which is at Jerusalem. 𐤆 Darius have made a decree; let it be done with speed."

L 13 Then ⁶ Tatnai, governor on this side the river, Shethar-boznai, and their companions, according to that which ¹ Darius the king had sent, so they did speedily.

14 And the elders of the ⁷ Jews builded, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they builded, and finished it, according to the ° commandment of the ° 𐤇𐤍𐤇 of Israel, and according to the ° commandment of ° Cyrus, and ° Darius, and ° Artaxerxes king of Persia.

M 15 And this house was finished on the third day of the month ° Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of ¹ Darius the king.

F² r 16 And the ° children of Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the rest of the ° children of the captivity, kept the dedication of this house of ³ 𐤇𐤍𐤇 with joy,

s 17 And ° offered at the dedication of this house of ³ 𐤇𐤍𐤇 an hundred bullocks, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs; and for a sin offering for ° all Israel, twelve he goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel.

5 vessels. Cp. 1. 7.

is = was.

6 Tatnai, governor = Tatnai, pasha. See notes on 5. 3, 6.

companions = fellow-labourers or colleagues.

7 Jews. See note on 4. 12.

8 I make a decree. This was a new decree of Darius Hystaspis.

men = strong men. Chald. *gubbrayya'*. Heb. *geber*. Ap. 14. IV.

9 𐤇𐤍𐤇. Chald. *'ēlāh*. (Sing.) Same as Heb. Eloah. Ap. 4.

𐤇𐤍𐤇 of heaven. See note on 2 Chron. 36. 23.

wine = strong red wine. Heb. *chemer*. See Ap. 27. iii.

10 sweet savours. See note on Lev. 1. 9.

11 alter. A similar strong threat in the inscription of Darius on the Behistūn rock (Ap. 57). Cp. Dan. 3. 29.

12 alter. Supply Fig. *Ellipsis* (Ap. 6): "alter [this decree]".

14 commandment = decree.

Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton*, to mark the important fact that three kings, at various times, were concerned in the rebuilding of Jerusalem. The last named was the first in order.

Darius was Darius Hystaspis, and Artaxerxes was Astyages (the father of Cyrus), the same as in Neh. 2. 1. See Ap. 57 and 58; and notes on p. 618.

15 Adar = the twelfth month. See Ap. 51. III. 4.

6. 16-22 (F², p. 623). THE DEDICATION. (Introversion.)

F² | r | 16. Feast of Dedication. "Kept with joy."

s | 17. The People. Their offerings.

t | 18. The priests. Set.

u | 19. The passover kept.

t | 20. The priests. Purified.

s | 21. The People. Their purification.

r | 22. Feast of passover. "Kept with joy."

16 children = sons.

17 offered = brought near. Ap. 43. I. i.

all Israel. See note on 1 Kings 12. 17. Note the number "twelve". Ap. 10.

18 as it is written = according to the writing.

the book of Moses: i. e. the Pentateuch. See Ap. 47.

19 And, &c. Here recommences the Hebrew language. See note on 4. 8.

kept the passover. One of the ten so recorded. See note on Ex. 12. 28.

21 heathen = nations.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

God. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

18 And they set the priests in their divisions, and the Levites in their courses, for the service of ³ 𐤇𐤍𐤇, which is at Jerusalem; ° as it is written in ° the book of Moses.

19 ° And the ¹⁶ children of the captivity ° kept the passover upon the fourteenth day of the first month.

20 For the priests and the Levites were purified together, all of them were pure, and killed the passover for all the ¹⁶ children of the captivity, and for their brethren the priests, and for themselves.

21 And the ¹⁶ children of Israel, which were come again out of captivity, and all such as had separated themselves unto them from the filthiness of the ° heathen of the land, to seek ° the LORD ° God of Israel, did eat,

22 And kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with joy: for ²¹ the LORD had made them joyful, and turned the heart of the king

405 of Assyria unto them, to strengthen their hands
in the work of the house of ²¹ God, the ²¹ God of
Israel.

C (P) W¹ **7** Now after these things, in the reign of
(p. 627) ° Artaxerxes king of Persia,

X¹ v¹ ° Ezra the ° son of ° Seraiah, the son of Azariah,
404 the son of Hilkiah,

2 The son of Shallum, the son of Zadok, the
son of Ahitub,

3 The son of Amariah, the son of Azariah, the
son of Meraioth,

4 The son of Zerariah, the son of Uzzi, the
son of Bukki,

5 The son of Abishua, the son of Phinehas,
the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the chief
priest:

6 This Ezra went up from Babylon; and he
was a ° ready scribe in the law of Moses, which
° the LORD ° God of Israel had given: and the
king granted him all his request, according
to the hand of ° the LORD his ° God upon
him.

w¹ 7 And there went up some of the ° children of
Israel, ° and of the priests, and the Levites,
and the singers, and the porters, and the ° Ne-
thinims, unto Jerusalem,

W² in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king.

404 8 And he came to Jerusalem in the ° fifth
X² v² month, which was in the seventh year of the
1st Nisan king.

to 9 For upon ° the first day of the ° first month
1st Ab began he to go up from Babylon, and on the
first day of the fifth month came he to Jeru-
salem, according to the good ° hand of his ° God
upon him.

w² 10 For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek
the law of ° the LORD, and to do it, and ° to
teach in ° Israel statutes and judgments.

W³ Y 11 Now this is the copy of the letter that the
king ° Artaxerxes gave unto Ezra the priest,
° the scribe, even a scribe of the words of the
commandments of ° the LORD, and of His sta-
tutes to ° Israel.

12 ° Artaxerxes, king of kings, unto Ezra the
priest, a scribe of the law of the ° G D D of
heaven, perfect peace, and at such a time.

Z x 13 I make ° a decree, that all they of the Peo-
ple of ° Israel, and of ° his priests and Levites,
in my realm, which are minded of their own
freewill to go up to Jerusalem, go with thee.

y z 14 Forasmuch as thou art sent of the king,
and of his ° seven counsellors, to enquire con-
cerning Judah and Jerusalem, according to the
law of thy ° G D D which is in thine hand;

15 And to carry the silver and gold, which the
king and his counsellors have freely offered
unto the ° G D D of ° Israel, Whose habitation is
in Jerusalem,

16 And all the silver and gold that thou canst
find in all the province of Babylon, with the
freewill offering of the People, and of the
priests, offering willingly for the house of their
° G D D which is in Jerusalem:

a 17 That thou mayest buy speedily with this
money bullocks, rams, lambs, with their ° meat
offerings and their drink offerings, and offer

7. 1-8. 36 (C, p. 616; P, p. 617). THE RETURN
UNDER EZRA. (Repeated Alternation.)

C W¹ | 7. 1-. Artaxerxes. Time.
X¹ | v¹ | 7. 1-6. Ezra. Journey. Hand of God.
w¹ | 7. 7-. His companions.

W² | 7. -7. Artaxerxes. Date.
X² | v² | 7. 8, 9. Ezra. Journey. Hand of God.
w² | 7. 10. His purpose.

W³ | 7. 11-26. Artaxerxes. Decree.
X³ | v³ | 7. 27, 28-. Ezra. Blessing.
w³ | 7. 28. His companions. "Chief men."

W⁴ | 8. 1. Artaxerxes. Time.
X⁴ | w⁴ | 8. 2-14. Companions of Ezra.
v⁴ | 8. 15-36. Ezra. Journey. Hand of God.

1 Artaxerxes = the great king: i.e. Darius (Hystaspis).
See notes on p. 618. Ap. 57 and 58.

Ezra. By this genealogy (vv. 1-5), compared with
1 Chron. 6. 15, Ezra was brother to Jehozadak and
uncle to the high priest Joshua. Ezra was deported
with Zedekiah.

son = descendant.

Seraiah. Slain at Riblah (2 Kings 25 18-21).

6 ready = skilful.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

God. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

7 children = sons.

and. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6) in this verse.
Nethinims. See note on 2. 43.

8 fifth month. Nisan (March-April). Ap. 51. III. 4.
9 the first day of the first month. See note on
Gen. 8. 13.

first month. Ab (July-August). Ap. 51. III. 4.

10 to teach in Israel. This was the chief duty of
priests. See note on Deut. 33. 10.

Israel. Judah contained representatives of the whole
Nation. See note on 1 Kings 12. 17.

7. 11-26 (W³, above). ARTAXERXES. DECREE.
(Introversion.)

W³ | Y | 11, 12. Introduction.

Z | 13-25. The decree for Ezra.

I^r | 26. Conclusion.

11 the scribe . . . a scribe = a perfect scribe. Fig.
Epizeuxis (Ap. 6).

12 G D D. Chald. 'ēlāh. Same as Heb. Eloah.
Ap. 4. V.

G D D of heaven. See note on 2 Chron. 36. 23.

13 decree. This decree (vv. 12-26) is in Chaldee,
not in Hebrew. An inscription found at Susa com-
mences with the same words. Cp. Dan. 2. 37.

13-25 (Z, above). THE DECREE FOR EZRA.
(Alternation.)

Z | x | 13. To companions.
y | 14-20. To Ezra. Supplies.
x | 21-24. To treasurers.
y | 25. To Ezra. Magistracy.

13 his: i. e. Israel's priests.

14-20 (y, above). TO EZRA. SUPPLIES.
(Introversion.)

y | z | 14-16. The king's money.
a | 17, 18. For service. Offerings.
a | 19. For service. Vessels.
z | 20. The king's treasury.

14 seven counsellors. Cp. Est. 1. 10, 14.

15 Israel. See note on 1 Kings 12. 17.

17 meat offerings = meal offerings. Heb. gift offer-
ings. Ap. 43. II. iii.

404 them upon the altar of the house of your ¹² GDD which is in Jerusalem.

18 And whatsoever shall seem good to thee, and to thy brethren, to do with the rest of the silver and the gold, that do after the will of your ¹² GDD .

^a (p. 627) 19 The °vessels also that are given thee for the service of the house of thy ¹² GDD , those deliver thou before the ¹² GDD of Jerusalem.

^z 20 And whatsoever more shall be needful for the house of thy ¹² GDD , which thou shalt have occasion to °bestow, bestow it out of the king's treasure house.

^x 21 And °I, even J Artaxerxes the king, do make a decree to all the treasurers which are beyond the river, that whatsoever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the ¹² GDD of heaven, shall require of you, it be done speedily,

22 Unto an hundred °talents of silver, and to an hundred °measures of wheat, and to an hundred °baths of °wine, and to an hundred baths of oil, and salt °without prescribing how much.

23 Whatsoever is commanded by the ¹² GDD of heaven, let it be °diligently done for the house of the ¹² GDD of heaven: for °why should there be wrath against the realm of the king and his sons?

24 Also we certify you, that touching any of the priests and Levites, singers, porters, °Nethinims, or ministers of this house of ° GDD , it shall not be lawful to impose toll, tribute, or custom, upon them.

^y 25 And if you, Ezra, after the wisdom of thy ¹² GDD , that is in thine hand, set magistrates and judges, which may judge all the People that are beyond the river, all such as know the laws of thy ¹² GDD ; and °teach ye them that know them not.

^y 26 And whosoever will not do the law of thy ¹² GDD , and the law of the king, let judgment be executed speedily upon him, whether it be unto death, or °to banishment, or to confiscation of goods, or to imprisonment."

^{X³ v³} 27 °Blessed be °the LORD °God of our fathers, Which hath put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to beautify the house of °the LORD which is in Jerusalem:

28 And hath extended °mercy unto me before the king, and his counsellors, and before all the king's °mighty princes.

^{w³} And J was strengthened as the hand of °the LORD my °God was upon me, and I gathered together out of Israel °chief men to go up with me.

^{W⁴} 8 These are now the °chief of their fathers, and this is the genealogy of °them that went up with me from Babylon, in the reign of °Artaxerxes the king.

^{X¹ w⁴} 2 Of the sons of Phinehas; Gershom: of the sons of Ithamar; Daniel: of the sons of David; Hattush.

3 Of the sons of Shechaniah, of the sons of Pharosh; Zechariah: and with him were reckoned °by genealogy of the males an hundred and fifty.

19 vessels. See note on 1. 1.

20 bestow, bestow. Fig. *Anadiplōsis* (Ap. 6), for emphasis.

21 I, even I. Fig. *Epizeuxis* (Ap. 6), for emphasis.

22 talents. See Ap. 51. II.

measures . . . baths. See Ap. 51. III. 3.

wine. Cp. 6. 9. Heb. *chemer*. Ap. 27. iii.

without prescribing how much = without measure.

23 diligently = quickly, exactly. A Persian word, 'advazda'. Occurs only here.

why . . . ? Fig. *Erolēsis*. Ap. 6.

24 GDD . Chald. 'ēlahah = Heb. Eloah (emph.). See Ap. 4. V.

26 to banishment: or exclusion from the assembly. Chald. = to rooting out. Occurs only here.

27 Blessed, &c. These two verses (27, 28) resume the Hebrew language.

28 mercy = lovingkindness, or grace.

mighty. Heb. *gibbōr*. Ap. 14. IV.

chief = heads.

8. 1 chief = heads: i. e. heads of houses.

them that went up. Most of these names appear in ch. 2 and Neh. 10. The number is 1,496. If there were no women with them, this might be the cause of the "strange" marriages in ch. 10 and Neh. 10.

Artaxerxes: i. e. Darius (Hystaspis). See Ap. 57 and 58.

3 by genealogy = a lineage.

4 Pahath-moab. Cp. 2. 6.

5 sons of Shechaniah. Sept. reads "sons of Zattu, Shechaniah".

9 Of. Some codices, with one early printed edition and Sept., read "And of".

10 sons of Shelomith. Sept. reads "sons of Bani, Shelomith".

12 ten. Some codices, with Syr., read "twenty".

13 last. In contrast with others.

these. The only case where there were three heads. In all other cases (except v. 14, where there are two) only one head is mentioned.

14 them. Heb. text reads "him"; but some codices, with one early printed edition, read "them", as in A.V.

4 Of the sons of °Pahath-moab; Elihoenai the son of Zerariah, and with him two hundred males.

5 Of the °sons of Shechaniah; the son of Jahaziel, and with him three hundred males.

6 Of the sons also of Adin; Ebed the son of Jonathan, and with him fifty males.

7 And of the sons of Elam; Jeshaiiah the son of Athaliah, and with him seventy males.

8 And of the sons of Shephatiah; Zebadiah the son of Michael, and with him fourscore males.

9 °Of the sons of Joab; Obadiah the son of Jehiel, and with him two hundred and eighteen males.

10 And of the °sons of Shelomith; the son of Josphiah, and with him an hundred and threescore males.

11 And of the sons of Bebai; Zechariah the son of Bebai, and with him twenty and eight males.

12 And of the sons of Azgad; Johanan the son of Hakkatan, and with him an hundred and °ten males.

13 And of the °last sons of Adonikam, whose names are °these, Eliphelet, Jeiel, and She-maiah, and with them threescore males.

14 Of the sons also of Bigvai; Uthai, and Zabbud, and with °them seventy males.

v⁴ A
(p. 629)
404

15 And I gathered them ° together to the river that runneth to ° Ahava; and there ° abode we in tents three days: and I viewed the People, and the priests, and found there ° none of the sons of Levi.

16 Then sent I ° for Eliezer, for Ariel, for She-maiah, and for Elnathan, and for Jarib, and for Elnathan, and for Nathan, and for Zechariah, and for Meshullam, ° chief men; also for ° Joiarib, and for Elnathan, ° men of understanding.

17 And I sent them with commandment unto Iddo the chief at the place ° Casiphia, and I told them what they should say unto Iddo, and to his brethren the ° Nethinims, at the place ° Casiphia, that they should bring unto us ministers for the house of our ° God.

18 And by the good hand of our ° God upon us they brought us ° a man of understanding, of the sons of Mahli, the son of Levi, the son of Israel; and Sherebiah, with his sons and his brethren, eighteen;

19 And Hashabiah, and with him Jeshaiah of the sons of Merari, his brethren and their sons, twenty;

20 Also of the ° Nethinims, whom David and the princes had appointed for the service of the Levites, two hundred and twenty ° Nethinims: all of them were expressed by name.

B b

21 Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river ° of ° Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our ° God, to seek of Him a right way for us, and for our little ones, and for all our substance.

22 For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy in the way: because we had spoken unto the king, saying, "The hand of our ° God is upon all them for good that seek Him; but His power and His wrath is against all them that forsake Him."

23 So we fasted and besought our ° God for this: and He was intreated of us.

c

24 Then I separated twelve of the ° chief of the priests, Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and ten of their brethren with them,

25 And weighed unto them the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, even the ° offering of the house of our ° God, which the king, and his counsellors, and his lords, and ° all Israel there present, had offered:

26 I even weighed unto their hand six hundred and fifty ° talents of silver, and silver vessels an hundred ° talents, and of gold an hundred ° talents;

27 Also twenty ° basons of gold, ° of a thousand ° drams; and two vessels of ° fine copper, precious as gold.

28 And I said unto them, "Ye are ° holy unto ° the LORD; the vessels are ° holy also; and the silver and the gold are a freewill offering unto ° the LORD ° God of your fathers.

29 Watch ye, and keep them; until ye weigh them before the ° chief of the priests and the Levites, and chief of the fathers of ° Israel, at Jerusalem, in the chambers of the house of ° the LORD."

30 So took the priests and the Levites the weight of the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, to bring them to Jerusalem unto the house of our ° God.

B b

31 Then we departed from the river of Ahava

8. 15-36 (v⁴, p. 627). EZRA. JOURNEY.
(Introversion and Alternation.)

v⁴

A | 15-20. Mission. Commenced.

B | b | 21-23. Difficulty. Encountered.

c | 24-30. Charge.

B | b | 31, 32. Difficulty. Overcome.

c | 33-35. Charge.

A | 36. Mission. Completed.

15 together = out. .

Ahava. Ahava. The name of the river, and of the city. Cp. v. 21. abode = encamped.

none of the sons of Levi. Only priests and laymen. The Levites were slack. Cp. 2. 40. Only a small number accompanied Zerubbabel (2. 36). Not so the priests (2. 36-39).

16 for. The Syr. and Vulg. omit the word "for" throughout this verse, and read "then sent I Eliezer", &c., as in v. 17. chief men = heads.

Joiarib. A.V., 1611, read "Jarib".

men of understanding. Fig. *Antimereia* (of Noun), Ap. 6 = wise and prudent men, especially for teaching.

17 Casiphia. Not identified. Probably near Babylon. Nethinims. These were the ministers of the Levites. Originally Gibeonites. See note on 2. 43.

God. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

18 a man. Heb. *'ish*. Ap. 14. II.

21 of. Omitted in A.V., 1611. 24 chief = princes.

25 offering = heave offering. Ap. 43. II. viii.

all Israel. See note on 2. 2 and 1 Kings 12. 17.

26 talents. See Ap. 51. II. 6.

27 basons = bowls. of = valued at.

drams. Heb. *darics*. See Ap. 51. I, and cp. 2. 69 and 1 Chron. 29. 7.

fine copper, &c. = copper shining like gold.

28 holy = a holy body. See note on Ex. 3. 5.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

34 By number and by weight of every one: or, the whole by number and weight.

35 Also, &c. The fourth of the ten *Sedarim* (or cycles for public reading) begins here and goes on to Neh. 2. 10, where it ends; thus uniting the two books in one. See note, p. 632. children = sons.

36 commissions = Royal decrees. Heb. *dath*. See note on Est. 1. 8.

lieutenants. Heb. *satraps*. A Persian title.

God. Heb. Elohim (with Art.) = the [true] God. Ap. 4. I.

on the twelfth day of the first month, to go unto Jerusalem: and the hand of our ° God was upon us, and He delivered us from the hand of the enemy, and of such as lay in wait by the way.

32 And we came to Jerusalem, and abode there three days.

33 Now on the fourth day was the silver and the gold and the vessels weighed in the house of our ° God by the hand of Meremoth the son of Uriah the priest; and with him was Eleazar the son of Phinehas; and with them was Jozabad the son of Jeshua, and Noadiah the son of Binnui, Levites;

34 By number and by weight of every one: and all the weight was written at that time.

35 Also the ° children of those that had been carried away, which were come out of the captivity, offered burnt offerings unto the ° God of Israel, twelve bullocks for all Israel, ninety and six rams, seventy and seven lambs, twelve he goats for a sin offering: all this was a burnt offering unto ° the LORD.

36 And they delivered the king's ° commissions unto the king's ° lieutenants, and to the governors on this side the river: and they furthered the People, and the house of ° God.

12th
Nisan
to
4th Ab

c

A

B C¹ D¹
(p. 630)
404

9 Now when these things were done, ° the princes came to me, saying, "The ° People of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites, have not separated themselves from the ° people of the lands, *doing* according to their abominations, *even* of the ° Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.

2 For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons: so that the ° holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of *those* lands: yea, the hand of the princes and rulers hath been chief in this ° trespass."

E¹ d¹ **3** And when I heard this thing, I ° rent my garment and my mantle, and plucked off the hair of my head and of my beard, and sat down ° astonished.

e¹ **4** Then were assembled unto me every one that ° trembled at the words of the ° God of ¹ Israel, because of the ° transgression of those that had been carried away;

E² d² F¹ and **5** sat ° astonished until the evening ° sacrifice. And at the evening sacrifice I arose up from my heaviness; and ° having rent my garment and my mantle, ° I fell upon my knees, and spread out my hands unto ° the LORD my ° God,

G f¹ **6** And said, "O my ° God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to Thee, my ° God: for our ° iniquities are increased over *our* head, and our ° trespass is grown up unto the heavens.

7 Since the days of our fathers *have we been* in a great ° trespass unto this day; and for our ° iniquities have *we*, our kings, and our priests, ° been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to a spoil, and to ° confusion of face, as *it is* this day.

g¹ **8** And now for ° a little ° space grace hath been *shewed* from ° the LORD our ° God, to leave us a ° remnant to escape, and to give us ° a nail in His ° holy place, that our ° God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage.

9 For ° we were ° bondmen; yet our ° God hath not forsaken us in our bondage, but hath extended ° mercy unto us in the sight of the ° kings of Persia, to give us a reviving, to set up the house of our ° God, and ° to repair the desolations thereof, and to ° give us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem.

f² **10** And now, O our ° God, ° what shall we say after this? for we have forsaken Thy commandments,

11 Which Thou hast commanded ° by Thy servants the prophets, saying, 'The land, unto which *ye* go to possess it, is an unclean land with the ° filthiness of the ° people of the lands, with their abominations, which have filled it from one end to another with their uncleanness.

12 Now therefore give not your daughters unto their sons, neither take their daughters unto your sons, ° nor seek their peace or their wealth for ever: that ye may be strong, and eat the good of the land, and leave *it* for an inheritance to your ° children for ever.'

9. 1-10. 44 (B, p. 617). THE PEOPLE. DEDICATION. REFORMATION. (*Division*.)

B | C¹ | 9. 1-10. 17. The evil-doing. Confessed.
C² | 10. 18-44. The evil-doers. Reformed.

9. 1-10. 17 (C¹, above). THE EVIL-DOING. (*Introversion and Alternation*.)

C¹ | D¹ | 9. 1, 2. The evil reported to Ezra.
E¹ | d¹ | 9. 3. Ezra. Grief.
E² | d² | 9. 4-10. 1-4. Ezra. Prayer.
E³ | d³ | 10. 5-8. Ezra. Grief.
E⁴ | d⁴ | 10. 9. Assembly. Trembling.
E⁴ | d⁴ | 10. 10, 11. Ezra. Charge.
E⁴ | d⁴ | 10. 12-14. Assembly. Obedience.
D² | 10. 15-17. The evil removed by Ezra.

1 the princes. Not all of them. Cp. v. 2.
People of Israel. See note on 2. 2 and 1 Kings 12. 17. people = peoples, or nations.
Canaanites. Contrary to the law (Ex. 34. 12-16. Deut. 7. 1-3). See Ap. 23 and 25.

2 holy seed, or the sanctuary's seed. See note on Ex. 3. 5 and cp. Dan. 2. 43. Ex. 19. 6; 22. 31. Deut. 7. 6; 14. 2. trespass = defection. Heb. *mā'al*. Ap. 44. xi. Not the same word as in v. 6.

3 rent my garment, &c. These were signs of inward mourning. See v. 5. Josh. 7. 6. 1 Sam. 4. 12. 2 Sam. 1. 2; 13. 31. 2 Kings 18. 37. Job 1. 20. Matt. 26. 65. astonished: i. e. causing astonishment in such as saw me.

4 trembled at the words, &c. Cp. Isa. 66. 2.

God. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.
transgression = defection. Heb. *mā'al*. Ap. 44. xi.

9. -4-10. 1- (d², above). EZRA. PRAYER. (*Introversion and Alternation*.)

d² | F | 9. -4, 5. Prostration and astonishment (Acts).
G | f¹ | 9. 6, 7. Confession.
G | f¹ | 9. 8, 9. Divine mercy.
f² | 9. 10-12. Confession.
g² | 9. 13, 14. Divine wrath.
f³ | 9. 15. Confession.

F | 10. 1-. Prostration and weeping (Acts).

sacrifice = meal offering. Heb. *minchah*. Ap. 43. II. iii.

5 having rent = having already rent.

I fell upon my knees. Cp. 10. 1. 2 Chron. 6. 13. Dan. 6. 10. Luke 22. 41. Acts 7. 60; 9. 40; 20. 36; 21. 5. the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

6 iniquities. Heb. *āvāh*. Ap. 44. iv. trespass. Heb. *'ashma* (fem.) = guilt incurred. The masc. = guilt imputed (as in Lev. 5. 7. Num. 5. 8. 2 Kings 12. 16. Ps. 68. 21). Ap. 44. ii. Not the same word as in v. 2. Cp. vv. 7, 13, 15.

7 been delivered. For these selfsame sins! as in v. 2. confusion of face. Cp. Dan. 9. 5-7.

8 a little space = a little while. Heb. *kim'at*. See note on "almost" (Prov. 5. 14). Referring to the respite which had been begun by the kings of Assyria (6. 22. Neh. 9. 32) and continued by the kings of Persia. remnant to escape. The same which Nehemiah had already inquired about (Neh. 1. 2, 3).

a nail = a peg surely driven in. Put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Adjunct), Ap. 6, for the dwelling secured by it. holy place = Jerusalem, or sanctuary. Cp. Ps. 24. 3. Isa. 56. 7; 57. 13.

9 we were. Or, supply the Ellipsis "we [are]". bondmen. The subjects of the Persians (Neh. 9. 36). mercy = lovingkindness, or grace.

kings of Persia. See Ap. 57.

to repair the desolations. Cp. Neh. 1. 2, 3.

give us a wall. This helps to prove that the task of Nehemiah had already been effected. See the Structure on p. 617, notes on p. 618, and Ap. 58.

10 what shall we say...? Fig. *Erotēsis*. Ap. 6.

11 by = by the hand of.

filthiness. Showing Ezra's acquaintance with the Pentateuch. Cp. Gen. 15. 16. Deut. 9. 5. 1 Kings 21. 26.

12 nor seek their peace. Ref. to Pent.: the very words of Deut. 23. 6. children = sons.

^{g2}
(p. 630)
404 13 And after all that is come upon us for our
°evil deeds, and for our great °trespass, seeing
that *Thou* our God hast punished us less than
our °iniquities *deserve*, and hast given us
°such deliverance as this;

14 °Should we again break Thy command-
ments, and join in affinity with the °people
of these abominations? wouldst not Thou be
angry with us till Thou hadst consumed *us*, so
that *there should be* no remnant nor escaping?

^{f3} 15 O °LORD °God of Israel, *Thou art* right-
eous: for °we remain yet escaped, as *it is*
this day: °behold, we *are* before Thee in our
°trespasses: for we cannot stand before Thee
because of this."

^F 10 Now °when Ezra had prayed, and
when he had confessed, weeping and
casting himself down before the house of °God,

^{e2}
12th
Tisri there assembled unto him out of °Israel a very
great °congregation of °men and women and
°children: for the People °wept very sore.

2 And Shechaniah the son of Jehiel, *one* of
°the sons of Elam, °answered and said unto
Ezra, "We have °trespassed against our °God,
and have taken strange wives of the °people
of the land: yet now there is hope °in °Israel
concerning this thing.

3 Now therefore let us make a covenant with
our °God to put away all the wives, and °such
as are born of them, according to the °counsel
of °my LORD*, and of those that °tremble at
the commandment of our °God; and let it be
done °according to the law.

4 °Arise; for *this matter belongeth* unto
thee: *we also will be* with thee: be of good
courage, and do *it*."

^{E3 d3} 5 Then arose Ezra, and made °the chief
priests, °the Levites, and all °Israel, to swear
that they should do according to this word.
And they swore.

6 °Then Ezra rose up from before the house
of °God, and went into the chamber of °Jo-
hanan the son of Eliashib: and *when* he
°came thither, he did eat no bread, nor drink
water: for he °mourned because of the °trans-
gression of them that had been carried away.

7 And they made proclamation throughout
Judah and Jerusalem unto all the °children
of the °captivity, that they should gather them-
selves together unto Jerusalem;

8 And that whosoever would not come with-
in three days, according to the counsel of the
princes and the elders, all his substance should
be °forfeited, and himself separated from the
°congregation of those that had been °carried
away.

^{e3}
29th
Chisleu 9 Then all the °men of °Judah and Benjamin
gathered themselves together unto Jerusalem
within three days. *It was* the °ninth month,
on the twentieth *day* of the month; and all
the people sat in the °street of the house of
°God, °trembling because of *this* matter, and
for the great rain.

^{E4 d1} 10 And Ezra the priest stood up, and said
unto them, "We have °transgressed, and have
taken strange wives, to increase the °trespass
of °Israel.

11 Now therefore make confession unto °the

13 evil. Heb. *rā'a'*. Ap. 44. viii.

such deliverance: or, such a reserved survival.

14 Should we . . . ? Fig. *Erotēsis*. Ap. 6.

15 we remain yet escaped: or, we are left but a
remnant that is escaped. Cp. Neh. 1. 2, 3.
behold. Fig. *Asterismos*. Ap. 6.

10. 1 when Ezra had prayed. Note the change to
the third person. This does not imply another author-
ship. Such changes are common. Cp. Isa. 6. 5-8; 7. 3;
37. 6 with other passages. Also Jer. 20. 1-6 with v. 7;
and 21. 1 and 28. 1, 5.

God. Heb. *Elohim* (with Art.) = the [true] God. Ap. 4. I.
Israel. Cp. 1. 5; 2. 2, 59, 70; 6. 21; 7. 10, 13; 8. 25; 9. 1.
See note on 1 Kings 12. 17.

congregation = assembly. Assembled 24th Tisri. Cp.
Neh. 9. 3.

men. Heb. *'ēnōsh*. Ap. 14. III.

children = little ones. Heb. *yeled*. Not the same word
as in v. 7.

wept very sore. Heb. "wept a great weeping". Fig.
Polyptōton. Ap. 6. See note on Gen. 26. 28.

2 the sons of Elam. Cp. v. 26.

answered and said. A Heb. idiom, by which the
first verb "answered" must be rendered according to
the context. Here = "confessed and said".

trespassed = acted treacherously. Heb. *mā'al*. Ap. 44. xi.
people = peoples. in = for.

3 such as are born. 'It does not appear that She-
chaniah's proposal was carried out. Cp. vv. 11, 14.

counsel. See Ps. 33. 11; 73. 24; 106. 13. Prov. 8. 14;
19. 21. Isa. 46. 10, 11.

my LORD* = Jehovah. One of the 134 places where
Jehovah was altered by the *Sopherim* to *Adonay*. See
App. 32 and 4. viii. 2. tremble. Cp. 9. 4.

according to the law. See Deut. 24. 1, 2.

4 Arise. It would seem that Ezra continued kneeling.

5 the chief priests = the princes of the priests. Cp.
2 Chron. 36. 14.

the Levites. Some codices, with one early printed
edition, read "and the Levites".

6 Then Ezra rose up. In response to Shechaniah.
Johanan. The son of Eliashib, the high priest who suc-
ceeded Joiakim, the successor of Jeshua (Neh. 12. 10, 23).
came thither. According to Syr. and Arabic =
"lodged (or spent the night) there".

mourned. Cp. the first occ. of Heb. *'ābāl*. Gen. 37. 34.
transgression = unfaithfulness. Heb. *mā'al*. Ap. 44.
xi. Cp. v. 2 and 10.

7 children = sons. Not the same word as in v. 1.

captivity = exile. As in vv. 6, 8, 10; 1. 11; 2. 1; 4. 1;
6. 19, 20, 21; 8. 35; 9. 4.

8 forfeited = devoted.

carried away = into captivity.

9 Judah and Benjamin. Yet spoken of as contain-
ing representatives of all Israel. See note on v. 1.

ninth month. That is Chisleu (= Nov.-Dec.), four
months after Ezra's arrival (7. 8).

street = broad place.

10 trespass. Heb. *'āshah*. See note on 9. 6. Ap. 44. ii.

11 the LORD. Heb. *Jehovah*. Ap. 4. II.

12 As thou hast said = according to thy words.
Heb. marg. reads "word".

13 a time of much rain = the rainy season.

transgressed = rebelled. Heb. *pāsha'*. Ap. 44. ix.

LORD °God of your fathers, and do His plea-
sure: and separate yourselves from the °people
of the land, and from the strange wives."

12 Then all the °congregation answered and
said with a loud voice, "As thou hast said,
so must we do."

13 But the People *are* many, and *it is* °a time
of much rain, and we are not able to stand
without, neither *is this* a work of one day or
two: for we are many that have °transgressed
in this thing.

404 14 Let now our °rulers of all the ¹congregation stand, and let all them which have taken strange wives in our cities come at appointed times, and with them the elders of every city, and the judges thereof, until the fierce wrath of our ¹God ° for this matter be turned from us."

D² 15 ° Only Jonathan the son of Asahel and (p. 630) Jahaziah the son of °Tikvah ° were employed about this *matter*: and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite helped them.

1st 16 And the ⁷children of the ⁷captivity did so. Tebeth And Ezra the priest, with °certain ° chief of the fathers, after the house of their fathers, and all of them by *their* names, were separated, and sat down in the first day of the tenth month to examine the matter.

403 17 And they made an end with all the ¹men 1st that had taken strange wives by ° the first day of the first month.

C² 18 And among the sons of the priests there were found that had taken strange wives: *namely*, of ° the sons of Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brethren; Maaseiah, and Eliezer, and Jarib, and Gedaliah.

19 And they ° gave their hands that they would put away their wives; and ° *being* guilty, they offered ° a ram of the flock for their ¹⁰trespass.

20 And of the sons of Immer; Hanani, and Zebadiah.

21 And of the sons of Harim; Maaseiah, and Elijah, and Shemaiah, and Jehiel, and Uziah.

22 And of the sons of Pashur; Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, ° Nethaneel, Jozabad, and Elasah.

23 Also of the Levites; Jozabad, and Shimei, and Kelaiah, (the same *is* Kelita,) Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer.

24 Of the singers also; Eliashib: and of the porters; Shallum, and Telem, and Uri.

25 Moreover of ¹Israel: of the sons of Parosh; Ramiah, and Jeziel, and Malchiah, and Miamin, and Eleazar, and Malchijah, and Benaiah.

26 And of the sons of Elam; Mattaniah, Zechariah, and Jehiel, and Abdi, and Jeremoth, and Eliah.

27 And of the sons of Zattu; Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, and Jeremoth, and Zabad, and Aziza.

28 Of the sons also of Bebai; Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai, and Athlai.

29 And of the sons of Bani; Meshullam, Malluch, and Adaiah, Jashub, and Sheal, ° and Ramoth.

30 And of the sons of Pahath-moab; Adna,

14 rulers = princes.

for. Heb. 'ad = "until", as in the previous clause. Translate and supply Fig. *Ellipsis* (Ap. 6) thus: "until the fierce wrath of our God be turned from us, until this matter [be carried out]".

15 Only = But, or, Nevertheless.

Tikvah. Cp. 2 Kings 22. 14 and 2 Chron. 34. 22. were employed, &c. = superintended [the business]. 16 certain = men. Heb. 'enōsh. Ap. 14. III. chief = heads.

17 the first day of the first month. See note on Gen. 8. 13. Ezra's last date. The commission, therefore, sat for eighty-eight days.

18 the sons of Jeshua. Who had come up with Zerubbabel (2. 2). There were 973 priests of that house (2. 36). There were found guilty seventeen priests, ten Levites singers and porters, and eighty-six lay people, making 118 in all.

19 gave their hands. Heb. idiom for giving their word. Cp. 2 Kings 10. 16.

being guilty. Cp. Lev. 5. 1.

a ram. See Lev. 5. 14-19.

22 Nethaneel. Some codices, with five early printed editions, read "and Nethaneel".

29 and Ramoth. Heb. text reads "Jeremoth". Marg. reads "and Ramoth".

31 of. Some codices, with one early printed edition, Sept., Syr., and Vulg., have this word "of" in the text.

44 strange = foreign.

Thus ends the first part of this book "Ezra-Nehemiah"; not abruptly; as it is followed by the second part, which is concerned mainly with the rebuilding of the city and the walls, instead of with the Temple. The incidents recorded in Neh. 1. 1-7. 4 had taken place before the first return under Zerubbabel. See the Structures and notes on pp. 617, 618, and Ap. 58. Cp. also Neh. 7. 4 with Hag. 1. 1-4.

and Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezaleel, and Binnui, and Manasseh.

31 And ° of the sons of Harim; Eliezer, Ishijah, Malchiah, Shemaiah, Shimeon,

32 Benjamin, Malluch, and Shemariah.

33 Of the sons of Hashum; Mattenai, Mattathah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh, and Shimei.

34 Of the sons of Bani; Maadai, Amram, and Uel,

35 Benaiah, Bedeiah, Chelluh,

36 Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib,

37 Mattaniah, Mattenai, and Jaasau,

38 And Bani, and Binnui, Shimei,

39 And Shelemiah, and Nathan, and Adaiah,

40 Machnadebai, Shashai, Sharai,

41 Azareel, and Shelemiah, Shemariah,

42 Shallum, Amariah, and Joseph.

43 Of the sons of Nebo; Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jadau, and Joel, Benaiah.

44 All these had taken ° strange wives: and some of them had wives by whom they had ⁷children.

[N.B. This division of the book Ezra-Nehemiah, in the later printed Hebrew Bibles, is quite modern. It breaks up the *fourth* of the ten *Sedarim* (or cycles for public reading) which begins at Ezra 8. 35 and ends with Neh. 2. 10. See note on p. 617, and cp. note on p. 366.]

THE TEN SEDARIM

are as follows:

(1) Ezra 1. 1-3. 12.

(2) " 3. 13-6. 17.

(3) " 6. 18-8. 34.

(4) " 8. 35-Neh. 2. 10.

(5) Neh. 2. 11-3. 37.

(6) Neh. 3. 38-6. 14.

(7) " 6. 15-8. 9.

(8) " 8. 10-10. 1 (Heb. 9. 37).

(9) " 10. 1 (Heb. 2)-12. 25.

(10) " 12. 26-13. 31.