THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH.

1. 1—6. 19 (E, p. 616; K, p. 617). THE WALL.
BUILDING. EXTERNAL DISORDERS OVER-
COME. (Division)

H I 1. 1—2. 20. Desolation.

| 1. 1—2. 20 (H, above). DESOLATION.
(Alternation and Intversion)

| H | 1. 1. Date.
| K | L 1. 2. The desolations. Reported.
| | M | h | i. 4—11. Prayer.
| | K | h | i. 1—11. Office. King’s cupbearer.
| J | h | i. 2. 1—4. Office. King’s cupbearer.
| | L | 2. 5—20. The desolations. Reported.

1 The words. Divine revelation in writing must be made up of words (see Ap. 47). The “words” here were written, chronologically, long before the book of Ezra. See the Structures (pp. 616, 617, notes on p. 616; also p. 50, 57, and 58).

Nehemiah = comforter of (= appointed by) Jehovah. From 10. 1 he was one of the “princes” (9. 8) who signed the Solemn Covenant: a prince of Judah, for the “king’s seed” and “princes” were taken to Babylon (Dan. 1. 8), according to the prophecy in Kings 20. 17, 18. The next who signed was Zidkijah, a son of King Jehoiakim (1 Chron. 3. 18). Hanani (v. 2), his brother or near kinsman (a shortened form of Hananiah, cp. v. 4, and 7. 2), was another “prince”, renamed Shadrach (Dan. 1. 3—8). Nehemiah wastheS heshbazzar of Ezra 1. 8. Five parties seen in action in this book: Nehemiah, Ezra, the People, their enemies, and the God of heaven. Chisleu. The ninth month. See Ap. 51. III. 4. twentieth year. See Ap. 50. VI and VII. 6. Cp. 2. 1. Forty-two years from the beginning of the Babylonian Servitude, thirty-five years from Jehoiachin’s captivity, and twenty-three years from the destruction of Jerusalem, and the beginning of the Desolations. See special note on p. 616.

I was in Shushan. Like Joseph in Egypt, Obadiah in Samaria, Daniel in Babylon, and the saints in Caesar’s household (Phil. 4. 22). was = came to be. Shushan. He had been there about sixteen years, and was removed thither from Babylon. Excavations in 1899 by M. de Morgan, at Susa, exposed the remains of three cities. Among them, four black stone pillars, with the Code of Khammurabi (see Ap. 15). Bricks of his palace or temple were also found. Occupied by Babylonians in 2800 B.C.

2 Hanani. Shortened form of Hananiah. Cp. 7. 2. See note above, and cp. Dan. 1. 3, 6. men. Heb. ‘emah. See Ap. 14. III. Tasked. Not about Ezra, and the 42,580 who are supposed to have been already in the Province of Judah: this was removed thither from Babylon. Elccavations in 1899, mentioned eleven times in this book (1. 2; 2. 16; 4. 1, 2, 12; 5. 1, 3, 17; 6. 6; 13, 23, 24), escaped: i.e. from the lands of their captivity. See Jer. 44. 13, 14. Why escape if already set free (Ezra 1. 3)? they said: that which could not have been said if Ezra and his thousands had been already there. The remnant. For the history of this “remnant” see Jer. 40—44. Only a few poor serfs there (Jer. 52. 15, 16). left. Not carried away or returned (Jer. 52. 15, 16). Province = Judah. See Ezra 5. 8. broken down. Just as left by Nebuchadnezzar (2 Kings 25. 9, 10, Jer. 52. 12—14). For the subsequent history see Jer. 40 to 44.

4 11—(h, above). PRAYER. (Intversion)

| h | 14—6. Regard.
| k | 1—6. 7. Confession. People’s sins.
| m | 5—9. Remembrance.
| k | 11—12. Regard.


9 But if ye turn unto Me, and keep My commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from there, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set My name there.

10 Now these are Thy servants and Thy People, whom Thou hast redeemed by Thy great power, and by Thy strong hand.

11 O LORD, I beseech Thee, let now Thine ear be attentive to the prayer of Thy servant, and to the prayer of Thy servants, who desire to fear Thy name: and prosper, I pray Thee, Thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man."

K M i

And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that wine was before him: and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I had not been beforetime sad in his presence.

2 Wherefore the king said unto me, "Why is thy countenance sad, seeing thou art not sick? this is nothing else but sorrow of heart." Then I was very sore afraid.

3 And said unto the king, "Let the king live forever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' sepulchres, is waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire?"

4 Then the king said unto me, "For what dost thou make request?"

5 And I said unto the king, "If it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres, to build again the house which is in the place of my fathers' sepulchres.

6 And the king said unto me, (the queen also sitting by him, "For how long shall thy journey be? and when wilt thou return?"

7 Moreover I said unto the king, "If it please the king, let letters be given unto me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah;

8 And a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which appertained to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into."

And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.

9 Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me.

10 When Sanballat the Horonite, and turn unto Me. National repentance was ever the one great condition of Israel's national blessing (Deut. 30: 2, &c.); and is still the condition. Cp. Acts 3: 14-21, which, with Acts 26: 17, 23-25, was the last national call. 10 redeemed. Heb. ñâḏâh. See note on Ex. 6: 6; 13: 12.


2. 1 Nisan. The first month (Abib, Ex. 12: 2, &c.), called Nisan after the Captivity. This was four months before receiving the news (see Ap. 61. III. 5).

the twentieth year. See longer notes on p. 653.

Artaxerxes = the great king. An appellative (like Pharaoh, Cestr., &c.) used of several kings of Persia. Synonymous with Artachash (Ara. = great, and Khaṭṭā = king, preserved in the modern "Shah"). See Ap. 57 and 58. This Artaxerxes was the great king Aryan (of Herodotus), and Aryan (or Herodotus) inscription, the husband of Esther, and father of Cyrus. He was also the Ahasuerus of Est. 1: 1, which means "the venerable king"; and he was also the "Darius the Mede" (Ezra 4: 6, and Dan. 5: 31. See Ap. 57 and 58.


2 sorrow of heart. See Prov. 15: 13.

3 Let the king live. The usual Oriental salutation. lieth waste. Cp. 1: 3. Impossible if Ezra with his 49,360 returned exiles were already there, and had rebuilt the temple! See notes on 1: 7, 8, and on the Chronological Structure (p. 617, with the notes on p. 615). Also see note on Ezra 4: 12, p. 624.

God of heaven. See note on 1: 5.

2. 5-20 (L. p. 633). THE DESOLATIONS. (REPEATED.) (Alternations.)


O | 7, 8. Letters requested.

q p | 9. The governors beyond the river.

q | 10. Opposition.


o | 18-19. Letters, and king's words reported.

r | 20. Rulers in Jerusalem.

q | 19. Opposition.


6 the queen. Heb. ha-shéqiq = wife. Occurs only here and in Ps. 45: 9. Dan. 5: 2, 3, 23. Not a Hebrew word, but borrowed from the Akkadian shad = bride, and gal = great. Used of a foreign queen. Here it would exactly suit "the great bride" or "royal wife" of Esther. (See notes on the Chronological Structure of Ezra-Nehemiah, p. 618.) Esther is introduced here (parenthetically) because of her sympathy and interest, which Nehemiah so greatly needed at this juncture, as Mordecai had needed it before (Est. 4: 14).

sitting. Not reclining.

by = close to. it pleased the king. The fruit of Nehemiah's prayer (v. 4).

7 governors = pāshīnāḥ. A Persian word which occurs only here, Ecc. 2: 5, and Song 4: 13, where it is rendered "orchards". Sept. renders it "paradise", which occurs twenty-eight times: (nine times = Eden, nineteen times = garden, Heb. gāw.)

walled. Some codices, with one early printed edition, Syr., and Vulg., read "walls" (pl). These walls are the that I shall enter into: or, whereunto I shall come. hand. Fig. Antithropotheia. Ap. 6. Also put by Fig. Metonymy (Ap. 6) for God's purpose (Acts 4: 28, 36); power (1 Chron. 29: 4); sovereignty (Ps. 31: 10); providence (1 Chron. 29: 13); supply (Ps. 104: 18); prosperity (Neh. 2: 14); security (John 10: 27, 28). God. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I. 9 captains = princes.

10 Sanballat. An Aramaic papyrus, recently (1909) discovered at Elephantine (in Egypt), was written by two Jews (Delayia and Shelemya) to the sons of this Sanballat, who is called the "governor of Samaria". It is dated the seventeenth year of Darius Nothus (son of Darius Darius). See Ap. 57 (Nothos = Greek "beard"). Here ends the fourth of the Ten Babylonian or, (Cycles for public reading) which commenced with Ezra 8: 25; thus showing that the two books were and are to be regarded as one. See note on p. 682; and cp. notes on p. 366. Horonite. Not of Beth-horon (Josh. 10: 16), but an alien (ch. 13: 27, 28) of Horonaim, a Moabite. Cp. Isa. 15: 5.Jer. 45: 3, 5, 7. See also the Moabite Stone. Ap. 54.
2. 10. NEHEMIAH.

E. W. Bullinger

17 And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung gate, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

18 And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.

19 Then said I unto them, "Why see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lieth waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more reproached."

20 Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me.

And they said, "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for this good work.

9 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, "they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, "What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?"

20 Then answered I them, "What is gone from you?" and said unto them, "Thus saith God of heaven, "He will prosper us; therefore be ye strong, and build.""

3 Then Elishiah the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests, and they built the sheep gate; they sanctified it, and set up the doors of it; even unto the tower of Meah, they sanctified it, unto the tower of Hananel.

2 And next unto him built he the men of Jericho. And next to them built Zacchur the son of Imri.

3 But the fish gate did the sons of Hasenaah build, who also laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

4 And next unto him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koaz. And next to him repaired Hananel the son of the men of Jericho.

3. 1-6. 19 (H2, p. 635). REPARATION.

Afternoon.

17 Or, Sanballat the Horonite. 18 Or, did we not tell you that we would set up gates and build walls?" They said, "We build the wall with our hands."" But Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it.

18 Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for this good work.

19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, "What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?"

20 Then answered I them, "What is gone from you?" and said unto them, "Thus saith God of heaven, He will prosper us; therefore be ye strong, and build."

3 Then Elishiah the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests, and they built the sheep gate; they sanctified it, and set up the doors of it; even unto the tower of Meah, they sanctified it, unto the tower of Hananel.

2 And next unto him built he the men of Jericho. And next to them built Zacchur the son of Imri.

3 But the fish gate did the sons of Hasenaah build, who also laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

4 And next unto him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koaz. And next to him repaired Hananel the son of the men of Jericho.
unto them repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabel. And next unto them repaired Zadok the son of Baana.

5 And next unto them the Tekoites repaired; but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their "LORD.

6 Moreover the "old gate repaired Jeholada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah; they laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, and the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

7 And next unto them repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, the "men of "Gibeon, and of Mizpah, unto the throne of the "governor on this side "the river.

8 Next unto him repaired Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, the "ruler of the half part of Jerusalem.

9 And next unto them repaired Jedaiah the son of Harumaph, even to the "house of Eliashib even to "Azariah the son of Maaseiah the son of Chelub, the "ruler of the half part of Jerusalem.

10 And next unto them repaired Jedaiah the son of Harvestiah, even to "Azaniah the son of Hilkiah, the "ruler of the half part of Jerusalem, and his "daughters.

11 The valley gate repaired Hanun, and the inhabitants of "Zanoah; they built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and a thousand "cubits on the wall unto the dung gate.

12 But the dung gate repaired Malchiah the son of Rechab, the "ruler of the half part of "Beth-haccerem; he built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

13 But the "gate of the fountain repaired Shallun the son of Col-hozeh, the "ruler of the half part of "Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the pool of "Siloah by the "king's garden, and unto the "stairs that go down from the city of David.

14 After him repaired Nehemiah the son of Azub, the "ruler of the half part of "Beth-zur, unto "the place over against "the sepulchres of David, and to the "pool that was made, and unto the "house of the "mighty.

15 After him repaired the Levites, Rehum the son of Bani. Next unto him repaired Hashabiah, the "ruler of the half part of "Keilah, in his part.

16 After him repaired their brethren, Bavia the son of Henadad, the "ruler of the half part of "Keilah.

17 And next to him repaired Ezer the son of Jeshua, the "ruler of "Mizpah, another piece over against the going up to the armoury at the turning of the wall.

18 Moreover the "old gate repaired Jeholada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah; they laid the beams thereof, and set up the "doors thereof, and the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

19 And next unto them repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, the "men of "Gibeon, and of Mizpah, unto the throne of the "governor on this side "the river.

20 Next unto him repaired Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, the "ruler of the half part of Jerusalem.

21 The valley gate repaired Hanun, and the inhabitants of "Zanoah; they built it, and set up the "doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and a thousand "cubits on the wall unto the dung gate.

22 But the dung gate repaired Malchiah the son of Rechab, the "ruler of the half part of "Beth-haccerem; he built it, and set up the "doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

23 But the "gate of the fountain repaired Shallun the son of Col-hozeh, the "ruler of the half part of "Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the "doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the pool of "Siloah by the "king's garden, and unto the "stairs that go down from the city of David.

24 After him Baruch the son of Zabbai "earnestly repaired the "other piece, from the "turning of the wall unto the "door of the "house of Eliashib the high priest.

25 After him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Koza another piece, from the "door of the "house of Eliashib even to the "end of the "house of Eliashib.

26 After him repaired Baruch the son of Zabbai "earnestly repaired the "other piece, from the "turning of the wall unto the "door of the "house of Eliashib the high priest.

27 After him repaired his brethren, Bavia the son of Henadad, the "ruler of the half part of "Keilah.

28 After him repaired Ezra the son of Jeshua, the "ruler of "Mizpah, another piece over against the going up to the armoury at the turning of the wall.

29 And next unto them repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, the "men of "Gibeon, and of Mizpah, unto the throne of the "governor on this side "the river.

30 Next unto him repaired Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, the "ruler of the half part of Jerusalem.
25 Palal the son of Uzai, over against the turning of the wall, and the tower which lieth out from the king's high house, that was by the court of the prison. After him Pedeh the son of Parosh.

26 Moreover, the Nethinims dwelt in the Ophel, unto the place over against the water gate toward the east, and the tower that lieth out. After them the Tekoites repaired another piece, over against the great tower that lieth out, even unto the wall of 26 Ophel.

28 From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house. After them repaired Zadok the son of Immer over against his house.

29 After him repaired also Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the keeper of the east gate. 30 After him repaired Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph, another piece. After him repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah over against his chamber.

31 After him repaired Malchiah the goldsmith's son unto the place of the 26 Nethinims, and of the merchants, over against the gate Miphkad, and to the going up of the corner.

4. 1—6. 14 (Q, p. 635). OPPOSITION. (Introversion.)

Q | S | U | (p. 637)
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5. 10. 14 (P, p. 635). OPPOSITION. THIRD AND FOURTH. (Extended and Repeated Alternation.)

S | U | (above) | (p. 634)
---|---|---|---
4 | 4. 1—6. 14 (Q, p. 635). OPPOSITION. (Introversion.) | Q | S

4 But it came to pass, that when Sanballat heard that we built the wall, he was wroth, and took great indignation, and mocked the Jews. 2 And he spake before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, "What do these feeble Jews? will they fortify themselves? will they sacrifice? will they make an end in a day? will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned?"

3 Now Tobiah the Ammonite was with him, and he said, "Even that which thou buildest, if a fox go up, he shall even break down thy stone wall."


5 And cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before Thee: for they have provoked Thee to anger before the builders. 6 So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the People had a mind to work.

7 But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth, and conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it.

9 Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.

10 And Judah said, "The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall."

25 high house: or upper, i.e. the site or ruin of it. Not yet rebuilt. Op. 7. 4. court of the prison. Where Jeremiah had been imprisoned more than once (Jer. 32; 33; 1; 38; 13).

26 Moreover. Note the Parenthesis of v. 26.

28 After him repaired also Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the keeper of the east gate. 30 After him repaired Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph, another piece. After him repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah over against his chamber.

31 After him repaired Malchiah the goldsmith's son unto the place of the 26 Nethinims, and of the merchants, over against the gate Miphkad, and to the going up of the corner.

26 26 The gate Miphkad: or, gate of review or registry. Probably north-east of Temple. See Ap. 59.

32 And. This is reckoned in the Massoret as the middle verse of the 685 verses of the whole book "Ezra-Nehemiah", showing that the two books were one.

4.11. NEHEMIAH.

11 And our adversaries said, "They shall not know, neither see, till we come in the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease."

12 And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt 6 by them, said unto us "They will be upon you." Therefore set I in 6 the lower places behind the wall, and on the higher places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

14 And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the 6 rulers, and to the rest of the People, "Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses."

15 And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, that God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work.

u 16 And it came to pass from that time forth, that the half of my 6 servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the habergeons; and the rulers were behind all the house of Judah.

v 17 They which built on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon.

18 For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded.

And he that sounded the trumpet was by me.

19 And I said unto the nobles, and to the 6 rulers, and to the rest of the people, "The work is great and large, and we are separated upon the wall, one far from another."

20 In what place therefore ye hear the sound of the trumpet, resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us." Therefore set I in the lowest place behind the wall.

21 So we laboured in the work: and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared.

22 Likewise at the same time said I unto the people, "Let every one half with his 6 servant lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day."

23 So neither 6, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard, which followed me, 6 put off our garments, saving that every one put off them for washing.

And there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jews.

2 For there were that said, "The children of the people, and the wives of the people, are many: therefore we take up corn for them, that we may eat, and live."

3 Some also there were that said, "We have mortgaged our lands, vineyards, and houses, that we might buy corn, because of the dearth."

4 There were also that said, "We have borrowed money for the king's tribute, and that upon our lands and vineyards.

Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our cause, &c. — suspend the work.

5 by = close to. till ten times. Cp. Gen. 31. 7, they will be upon you. Fig. Ellipsis (Ap. 6). Render: "From all quarters to which ye will turn they shall be upon you."

6 the lower places behind: or, the lowest parts of the space behind.

4. 13-23 (W3, p. 637). ENCOURAGEMENT. (Extended Alternation.)

W3 s = 13. Weapons.

t = 14. Encouragement to nobles, &c.

u = 16-18. Division of labour and defence.

v = 19. Trumpets.

W3 s = 20. Encouragement to nobles, &c.

w = 21-23. Division of labour and guard.

14 rulers, See note on p. 2. 16.


16 servants = young men.

habergeons = corselets or coats of mail.

rulers = princes. Heb. sir. See note on p. 663.

18 For — And.


23 the men of the guard. The Persian guard attached to Nehemiah.


none of us, &c. The Heb. is lit. "none of us put off our clothes: each man went with his weapon (or tool) [and his] water". A single and measured part of the ration "water" being put for the whole. Fig. Symcôde (of the Part), Ap. 6; just as we use "salt" for "salary", because it was once the most important part of the salary. Or, the water may have been required for making the mortar. The Fig. is used to emphasise the exigency of the circumstances. The text is thus not "defective".

5. 1-5 (T, p. 637). GRIEVANCE. (Alternation.)

T v = 1. Complaint.

w = 2. Cause. Debt (Particular).

w = 3. Complaint.

w = 4. Cause. Alienation (General).

1 a great cry. So there were troubles within as well as without. Cp. 2 Cor. 7. 6.

the people = the common people, in contrast with the nobles and rulers (v. 7), who had returned with Nehemiah.

3 have mortgaged = are mortgaging.

the dearth. One of the thirteen famines (Ap. 10) recorded in Scripture. See note on Gen. 12. 10.

5 children = sons. 10. Fig. Asterismos. Ap. 6.

6-19 (7, p. 637). REDRESS. (Repeated Alternation.)


x = 12-13. People. Promiscuous硅


6 And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words.

brethren, our "children as their 6 children: and, 6th, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants, and some of our daughters are brought unto bondage already: neither is it in our power to redeem them; for other men have our lands and vineyards."
7 Then I consulted with myself, and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, "If ye exact usury, every one of your brother," And I set a great assembly against them.

8 And I said unto them, "If we the after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye even sell your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us?"

Then they held their peace, and found nothing to answer.

9 Also I said, "It is not good that ye o do: ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of our enemies?

10 Likewise, and my brethren, and my servants, might exact of them money and corn: I and the oil, that we might not offend the congregation, could not answer.

12 Then said they, "We will restore them, and will require nothing of them; so will we do as thou sayest."

Then I o called the priests, and took an oath of them, that they should do according to this promise.

13 Also I shook my lap, and said, "So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labor, that performeth not this promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied." And the rest of our enemies, heard that I had set a great assembly to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that is, twelve years, and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor.

15 But the former governors that had been before me were chargeable unto the People, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the People: but so did not I, because of the fear of our God.

16 Yea, also I continued in the work of this wall, neither bought we any land: and all my servants were gathered thither unto the work.

17 Moreover there were at my table an hundred and fifty of the Jews and seven rulers, beside those that came unto us from among the heathen that are about us.

18 Now that which was o prepared for me daily was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all sorts of wine: Yet for all this required not I the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this People.

19 Then I thought upon me, my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.

20 Then are and the rulers. See note on 216, exact usury. It was twelve per cent. See v. 11.


22 set = appointed.

23 assembly = body of witnesses. Heb. 'khalah (fem.). Occurs only here and Deut. 33. 4. against = over.

24 redeemed = re-purchased. Heb. kashah, to acquire by purchase; not gashah, to redeem by purchase; or paddah, to deliver by power. See notes on Ex. 6. 6.; 13. 13.

25 heathen = nations.

26 do = are doing.

27 ought ye ...? Fig. Erotesia. Ap. 6.


29 servants = young men.


31 the hundredth part. Paid at one per cent. per month, as was the custom; it was twelve per cent. per annum.

32 The wine. Some codices, with two early printed editions and Syr., read "I the new wine."

33 wine. Heb. tirah. Ap. 27. II.

34 as = according as, called: i.e. as witnesses.


36 congregation = assembly or muster.


38 Moreover. See special note on 14. 18, on p. 653, and longer notes on p. 654.

39 time = day. governor = Pasha.

40 from the twentieth year. See Ap. 50. VI and VII (5).

41 Artaxerxes = the great king, viz. Artaxerxes. See notes on p. 618, and Ap. 57.

42 the bread of the governor. The supplies due to him from the people.

43 beside. Heb. 'adar = after i.e. after the rate of, as in Jer. 3. 17; 18. 12. Rendered "beside" only here, out of several hundred times.

44 shekels. See Ap. 51. II.

45 we. Some codices, with Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read "I you."


47 prepared. At Nehemiah's own cost.


49 Think. Fig. Apostrophe (Ap. 6) and Fig. Anthropopathia (Ap. 6).

6. 1-14 (S, p. 637). OPPOSITION. FIFTH AND SIXTH (COMPROMISE). (Extended Alteration.)

S X | 1. Occasion.
Z | 9-7. Fear.
Z | 13. Fear.
B | 1 Sanballat ... Tobiah. See notes on 2. 19; 4. 7 and. Note the Fig. Polysyndeton (Ap. 6), for emphasis.
C | Geshem. Another spelling in Sanballat's letter (c. 6). Gashmu.

2-8 (Y, above). FIRST STRATAGEM. (V) COMPROMISE. (Repeated Alteration.)

C | a2 | 5-7. Accusation.

Now it came to pass, when Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and that there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;)

2 That Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, "Come, let us meet together in..."
6. 2. NEHEMIAH.

2 some one of the villages — in Ophir (7. 19. Ezra 2. 25); now Kefr 'Ana, twenty-five miles from Jerusalem; eight miles east of Jaffa; six miles north of Lydda; plain = valley, or combe.


3 why...? Fig. Erotésis. Ap. 6.

4 four times. The enemy takes no denial. after the same manner. The only sure and safe procedure. Cp. 1 Sam. 17. 30.

8 servant = young man, open letter. That others might read it.

60. Some codices, with three (and one in marg.) early printed editions, read "Thou".

9 hands = hands.

10 Shemaiah. A professed friend, but a false prophet. See v. 12.

11 shut up = confined, as in prison. Heb. 'ásar. See Jer. 33. 1; 36. 5; 39. 15.

6. 10-12 (Y, p. 689) SECOND STRATAGEM. (VI) (AFFRIGHTING). (Alternation.)

Y c | -10-. Stratagem. Made.


A c | 11. Stratagem. Failure.


B e

the house of God. This must have been a temporary structure. Nehemiah would not be without some place wherein to worship. The Altar not yet erected. The Temple not yet built. See notes on 7. 4, and p. 618; also Ap. 65.


A d Therefore = to this end.


11. 10. Fig. Asterismos. Ap. 6.

12. Therefore = to this end.

sin. Heb. 'ădâh'. Ap. 44. i.


15. fifty and two days. If finished on twenty-fifth Elul, work took fifty-two days, it must have been commenced on third of Ab (fifth month). Work rapid, because all materials there: and God's good hand was there upon them.

17. the nobles = certain Nobles. Not necessarily all.

18 For there were many in Judah sworn unto him, because is was the son in law of Shecaniah the son of Arab; and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah.

19. Also they reported his good deeds before me, and uttered my words to him. And Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear.

7 Now it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the porters and the singers and the Levites were appointed,

2 That I gave my brother "Hanani," and Ha-
5 And my God put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the People, that they might be reckoned by genealogy.

C (And I found a register of the genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein,

6 These are the children of the province, that went up out of the captivity, of those that had been carried away, whom Nebuchad­nezzar the king of Babylon had carried away, and came again to Jerusalem and to Judah, every one unto his city;

7 Who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Bani. The number, I say, of the men of the People of Israel was this;

C6 8 The children of Parosh, two thousand an hundred and seventy and two.
9 The children of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy and two.
10 The children of Arah, six hundred fifty and two.
11 The children of Pahath-moab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand and eight hundred and eighteen.
12 The children of Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.
13 The children of Zattu, eight hundred forty and five.
14 The children of Zaccai, seven hundred and threescore and seven.
15 The children of Binnui, six hundred forty and eight.
16 The children of Bebai, six hundred twenty and eight.
17 The children of Azgad, two thousand three hundred twenty and two.
18 The children of Adonikam, six hundred threescore and seven.
19 The children of Bigvai, two thousand threescore and seven.
20 The children of Adin, six hundred fifty and five.
21 The children of Ater of Hezekiah, ninety and eight.
22 The children of Hashum, three hundred twenty and eight.
23 The children of Bezai, three hundred twenty and four.
24 The children of Hariph, an hundred and twelve.
25 The children of Gibeon, ninety and five.
26 The children of Beth-lehem and Netophah, an hundred fourscore and eight.
27 The children of Anathoth, an hundred twenty and eight.
The Nethinims: the *children of Ziha, the *children of Hashupha, the *children of Tabbaoth,

47 The *children of Keros, the *children of Sia, the *children of Padon,

48 The *children of Lebana, the *children of Hagaba, the *children of Shalmai,

49 The *children of Hanan, the *children of Giddel, the *children of Kahha,

50 The *children of Reiah, the *children of Rezin, the *children of Neokda,

51 The *children of Gazzam, the *children of Uzza, the *children of Phaseah,

52 The *children of Besai, the *children of Meunim, the *children of Nepishim,

53 The *children of Bakbuk, the *children of Hakupha, the *children of Harhur,

54 The *children of Bazlith, the *children of Meheida, the *children of Harsha,

55 The *children of Barkos, the *children of Sisera, the *children of Tamah,

56 The *children of Zechariah, the *children of Hatipha.

57 The *children of Solomon's servants: the *children of Sotai, the *children of Sophereth, the *children of Perida,

58 The *children of Jaala, the *children of Darcon, the *children of Giddel,

59 The *children of Shephatiah, the *children of Hattil, the *children of Pochereth of Zebariah, the *children of Amon.

60 All the Nethinims, and the *children of Solomon's servants, were three hundred ninety and two.

61 And these were they which went up also from Tel-melah, Tel-haresha, Cherub, Addon, and Immer: but they could not shew their father's house, nor their seed, whether they were of Israel.

62 The *children of Delaiah, the *children of Tobiah, the *children of Nehokda, six hundred forty and two.

63 And of the priests: the *children of Haba-
NEHEMIAH.

7. 11. 72 And that which the rest of the people gave was twenty thousand four hundred and twenty pound of silver, and two thousand pound of silver, and threescore and seven priests' garments. 
73 So the priests, and the Levites, and the porters, and the singers, and some of the People, and the Nethinims, and all Israel, dwelt in their cities; and when the seventh month came, the children of Israel were in their cities.

V | 8. -1-12. The first day. 
V | 8. -13-18. The second and following days. 

The seventh month. This was in 426 A.C., not in 404 B.C., which is referred to in 9. 1-3 and Ezra 9. 1-4. (See Ap. 58.)

8. -1-12 (V, above). THE FIRST DAY. (Division. ) 

8. -1-9 (W, above). THE BOOK, OPENED AND READ. (Alternation and Intversion.) 
W | g | 1-2. The book brought forth. 
X | h | 3. The reading. 
| g | j | 4. Station of Ezra and others. 
| f | 5-7. The book opened. 
| h | 8. The reading.


73 the Nethinims. See note on Ezra 2. 43.

V | 8. -1-12. The first day. 
V | 8. -13-18. The second and following days. 

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| g | j | 4. Station of Ezra and others. 
| f | 5-7. The book opened. 
| h | 8. The reading.


the water gate. See notes on 3. 26 and 5. 5.


the LORD. Heb. Jehovah (with 'eth). Ap. 4. II.
2 Ezra the priest. It was the priest's duty at this and at all times to teach the people the Word of God. See note on Deut. 17. 11; 33. 10; and cp. Mal. 2. 7.

congregation = assembly or muster.
upon the first day, &c. This was according to the requirement of Deut. 31. 9-12, every seventh year. Cp. Lev. 23. 23-25.

4 pulpit = high platform. Eng. " pulpit " from Lat. pulpitum, a stage of a theatre.

and. Some codices, with five early printed editions, omit this " and ".

5 opened the book = unrolled the scroll. in the sight = before the eyes.

6 Ezra blessed = the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

7 Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the People to understand the law: and the People stood in their place.

8 So they read in the book of the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

9 And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the People, said unto all the People, "This day is holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep." For all the People wept, when they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said unto them, "Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: 

9 Nehemiah. He now uses the third person. This is not necessarily a sign of change of authorship.

h holy. See note on Ex. 8. 5.
8. 10.

NEHEMIAH.

G(N) Y¹
Tisri
404

9 Now in the twenty and fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, and with sackclothes, and earth upon them.

2 And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.

3 And they stood up in their place, and read in "the book of the law of " the Lord their God one fourth part of the day; and another fourth part they confessed, and worshipped the Lord their God.

Z² q³

4 Then stood up upon the stairs, of the Levites, Jeshua, and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, "Bani, and Che-

r¹

nani, and cried with a loud voice unto the Lord their God.

10 is the [is].


joy. Chald. ḫedēḵēḵ. Occurs only here, i Chron. 16. 27, and Ezra 6. 16.

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

is = that [is].

strength = defence, or refuge.


V m | 13. Second day. Reading.

n | 14-17. Feast. Tabernacles (manner).

m | 18. Every day. Reading.


14-17 (n, above). FEAST. TABERNACLES (MANNER). (Introversion.)


p | 15. To go forth, &c.

p | 16. The going forth, &c.

o | 17. Obedience. Dwelling in booths.

13 chief = heads.

found : i.e. they came to the place where direction was given.

written. See note on Ex. 17. 14, and Ap. 47.

children = sons.


mount = hill-country.

as it is written. See Lev. 23. 42.

16 and. Note the Fig. Πολυγάγδενων (Ap. 6), to mark the minuteness of the obedience.


17 Jeshua. Another spelling of Joshua.

not... done so. 2 Chron. 8. 13 speaks only of the offerings required by the Law, which Solomon offered.

Nothing is said there of what the People did; so that there is no "discrepancy", as is alleged.

Israel. See note on 1 Kings 15. 17.

18 he. Some codices, with Syr., read "they", assembly = restraint : i.e. restraint from work.

manner = regulation, or ordinance.


Z² q³ | 9. 4-6. The Levites. Cry to Jehovah.

r⁴ | 9. 4-5. Prayer.

q³ | 9. 5-6. The Levites. Blessing Jehovah.

r⁴ | 9. 6-7. Praise.


Z² q³ | 10. 8-10. The Levites. Themselves.

r⁴ | 10. 7-8. Separation from foreigners.

q³ | 10. 8-9. The Levites. Their families.

r⁴ | 10. 9-10. Cleaving to their brethren.


Neh 9. 1-10. 39 is parallel with Ezra 9. 1-10. 44. Ezra 4. 1-8, 36 comes between Neh. 8. 18 and 9. 1. See the Table and Structure on p. 617, notes on p. 618, and Ap. 58.


children = sons.

2 strangers = sons of the foreigner.

3 sins. Heb. chēḏāḏ. Ap. 44. i.


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


4 stairs = platform. Omit the comma.

Bani, and Chenani. Some codices, with Sept., read "sons of Chenani".

5 Levites. For these names, cp. 3. 17; 7. 43; 10. 10; 12. 5-24. Ezra 2. 40; 2. 6.

5 Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said,
NEHEMIAH.

9. 5. NEHEMIAH.

9. 5-38 (p. 644). PRAYER. (Repe ted Alternation.)

r2 A1 | 5, 6. Praise of Jehovah.
A2 | 32. Prayer to Jehovah.
A1 | 38. Covenant with Jehovah.

5 Stand up, &c. One of the most glorious of all Doxologies, blessed be = let them bless.
6 Thou . . . Thou . . . Thou. Fig. Epizeuxis (Ap. 6), for emphasis.
art Lord = [art] Ge, Jehovah. heaven = the heavens.
heaven of heavens. Fig. Polyptoton (Ap. 6), for emphasis.
and. Note the Fig. Polyptoton (Ap. 6), throughout this confession.

7-31 (B1, above). CONFESS ION.
(Repeated Alternation.)


Abraham. See note on Gen. 17, 5, and Ap. 50. III.
The letter נ (He) = five. This is the number of grace (Ap. 10), put into the middle of the names (Abram and Sarai), as a symbol of the grace that called him. See Ap. 50. III for the repetition of five in its multiples all through his life.

8 faithful. Because He had made it so. Cp. Jas. 3. 6, covenant.

9 afflic tion, humiliation. Cp. Ex. 2. 21-25.
10 shewed signs, &c. See Ex. 7, 7, 8-12; 12 and 14.
Ps. 103:5; 106:7; 135:9.

11 persecutors = pursuers.
mighty waters. Cp. Ex. 15. 5.
12 led them = ledlest them gently.
14 madest known . . . Thy, &c. Jehovah’s Sabbath was in Gen. 2. 1-3. Made known to Israel (Ex. 20. 9-11).
Established as a sign (Ex. 31. 13-17.)
holy. See note on Ex. 3.5.
sabbath = cessation (from work), rest. This rest was made for man (Mark 2. 27).
water. Ex. 17. 6. Num. 20. 7-11.
16 dealt proudly = fostered pride.
17 among = with.
appointed a captain. See Num. 14. 4.
to their bondage. Some codices, with one early printed edition, read במשרה = to Egypt, instead of במצרים = in their rebellion.
as. The A.V. of 1611 had "the".
18 Yea, when they had made them a molten calf. &c. See Ap. 4.

9. 18. NEHEMIAH.

r2 A1 | 5, 6. Praise of Jehovah.
A2 | 32. Prayer to Jehovah.
A1 | 38. Covenant with Jehovah.

1 Stand up and bless = the Lord your God for ever and ever: and blessed be Thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.
2 0 00 Thee, even 0 00 Art = LORD alone; 0 00 hast made heaven, the 0 00 heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and 0 00 preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth Thee.

3 Thou hast chosen Abram, &c. brought him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the name of Abraham.

4 And foundest his heart = faithful before Thee, and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give to them to choose Abram, and broughtest him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the name of Abraham; and gavest them right judgments, and good statutes and commandments:
5 0 00 And madest known unto them Thy holy sabbath, and commandedst them pre­cepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses Thy servant:
6 And gavest them bread from heaven for their hunger, and broughtest forth 0 00 water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and promisedst them that they should go in to possess the land which Thou hadst sworn to give them.

7 But the God and our fathers = dealt proudly, and hardened their necks, and hearkened not to Thy commandments.
8 And refused to obey, neither were mindful of Thy wonders that Thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage:

9 but 0 00 Art = a 0 00 God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not.

10 Yeah, when they had made them a molten calf, &c. This is Thy God that brought thee up out of Egypt, and had wrought great provocations;

19 Yet in Thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness: the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way; neither the pillar of fire by night, to shew them light, and the way wherein they should go.

20 Thou gavest also Thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not Thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst:

21 Yea, forty years didst Thou sustain them in the wilderness, so that they lacked nothing; their clothes waxed not old, and their feet swelled not.

22 Moreover Thou gavest them kingdoms and nations, and dividedst them into corners: so they possessed the land of Sihon, and the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan.

23 Their children also multipliedst Thou as the stars of heaven, and broughtest them into the land, concerning which Thou hadst promised to their fathers, that they should go in and possess the land, and Thou subduedst before them the kings, and the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan.

24 And they took strong cities, and a fat land, and possessed houses full of all goods, wells digged, vineyards, and oliveyards, and fruit trees in abundance: so they did eat, and were filled, and became fat, and delighted themselves in Thy great goodness.

25 And they took strong cities, and a fat land, and possessed houses full of all goods, wells digged, vineyards, and oliveyards, and fruit trees in abundance: so they did eat, and were filled, and became fat, and delighted themselves in Thy great goodness.

26 Nevertheless they were disobedient, and rebelled against Thee, and cast Thy law behind their backs, and slew Thy prophets which testified against them to turn them to Thee, and they wrought great provocations.

27 Therefore Thou deliveredst them into the hand of their enemies, who vexed them:

28 But after they had rest, they did evil again before Thee:

29 And testifiedst against them, that Thou mightest bring them again unto Thy law:

30 Yet many years didst Thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by Thy spirit in Thy prophets:

31 Nevertheless for Thy great mercies' sake Thou didst not utterly consume them, nor forsake them; for Thou art a gracious and merciful GOD.

32 Now therefore, our GOD, the great, the mighty, and the terrible GOD, Who keepest covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before Thee, that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our princes, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all Thy People, since the time of the kings of Assyria unto this day.

33 Howbeit Thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for Thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly:

34 Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept Thy law, nor hearkened unto Thy commandments and Thy testimonies, wherewith Thou didst testify against them.

35 For they have not served Thee in their kingdom, and in Thy great goodness that Thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which Thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works.
9. 36. NEHEMIAH.

10. 32.

36 Behold, we are servants this day, and for the land that Thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the good thereof, behold, we are servants in it:

37 And it yieldeth much increase unto the kings whom Thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we are in great distress.

38 And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, seal unto it."
32 For the shewbread, and for the continual "meat offering, and for the continual burnt offering, of the sabbaths, of the new moons, for the set feasts, and for the holy things, and for the sin offerings to make an atonement for Israel, and for all the work of the house of our God:

33 And we cast the lots among the priests, the Levites, and the people, for the wood offering, to bring it into the house of our God, after the houses of our fathers, at times appointed by year by year, to burn upon the altar of our God, as it is written in the law:

35 And to bring the firstfruits of our ground, and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, unto the house of the LORD:

36 Also the firstborn of our sons, and of our cattle, as it is written in the law, and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks, to the priests that minister in the house of our God:

37 And that we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God;

38 And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes; and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers, into the treasure house.

39 For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.


H D | 1. Dwelling. Proportion.

1 rulers = princes.
3 chief = heads. but = and.
4-9 (F, above). THE DWELLERS. (Repeated Alternation.)

E F1 | 4-9. In Jerusalem.
G1 | 4-9. In the cities.
F2 | 4-9. In Jerusalem.
G2 | 4-9. In the cities.
G1 | 10-19. In the villages.

3 chief = heads.
5 Shiloni = the Shilonite.

of Uzziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the son of Shephatiah, the son of Mahalaaleel, of the children of Perez;
6 And Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the son of Col-hozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the son of Adaiah, the son of Joiarib, the son of the children of Zechariah, the son of Shiloni.
7 All the sons of Perez that dwelt at Jerusalem were four hundred three-score and eight valiant men.

2 And the People blessed all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.

A D | 2. And the People also cast lots, to bring one of ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and nine parts to dwell in other cities.

E F1 | 3 Now these are the chief of the province that dwelt in Jerusalem:
G1 | but in the cities of Judah dwell every one in his possession in their cities, to wit, Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the Nethinims, and the children of Solomon's servants.

F2 H1 t | 4 And at Jerusalem dwell certain of the children of Judah,
u and of the children of Benjamin,
t Of the children of Judah; Athaiah the son

33 meat offering = gift, or meal offering. Heb. min-āh. See Ap. 43. II. iii.
burnt offering. Ap. 43. II. ii.
holy. See note on Ex. 33. 35.
34 offering = heave offerings. See Ap. 43. II. viii.
36 offering = heave offerings. See Ap. 43. II. viii.
39 children = sons.
not forsake: not fail to provide for. Sept. has same word as Heb. 10. 26, episkalētēpontos.
11. 8. NEHEMIAH.

10 Of the priests: Jediah the son of Joaiah, the son of Seraiah, the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Merari, the son of Azitub, was the ruler of the house of God.

11 And his brethren, the chief of the fathers, two hundred forty and two: and Amasai the son of Azareel, the son of Ahasai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Harim, the son of Immer,

12 And their brethren, mighty men of valor, an hundred twenty and eight: and their overseer was Zabdiel, the son of one of the great men.

13 Also of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Hashub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Binnui;

14 And Shobbethai and Jozaiah, the son of Shomer, the son of Azriel, the son of Meshek, the son of Bareth,

15 And the sons of Asaph: Heman, the son of Joel, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, the son of Jahdai, the son of Shimias, the son of Asaph, the son of Meshaphath,

16 And of the sons of Asaph: Zechariah, the son of Meshelemiah, the son of Hagob, the son of Asaph, the son of Elkanah, the son of Immer,

17 And their brethren, mighty men of valor, an hundred twenty and eight: and their overseer was Zechariah, the son of Meshelemiah, the son of Micah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Jannai,

18 And the sons of Nethaniah: Zaccur, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Bahurim, the son of Zaccur, the son of Shelbi,

19 And their brethren, mighty men of valor, an hundred twenty and eight: and their overseer was Shemaiah, the son of Shallum, the son of Joshua, the son of Elazar, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elchanan.

12. 1. 10-19 (H, p. 648). SACRED.

(H) 10-14. The priests.

10. The priests.


12. chief = heads.


14. 18. holy. See note on Ex. 3.5, or, = the Sanctuary's city.


21. the Nethinims = the Nethinims. Fig. Epanthetabolos. Ap. 6. The clause beginning and ending with the same word. See note on Ezra 2.49.


25-36 (G, p. 648). IN THE VILLAGES.


31-35. Benjamin.

36. Levites. Sacred.

25. villages. Heb. daughters, i.e. of the mother city, with their fields = in their fields: i.e. unwalled (Lev. 25.31). Cp., for the names that follow, Josh. 15. 13, &c.

29. En-rimmon. Now Knoon Umm er Ramanim. (Cp. Josh. 16.21; 19. 7; 1 Chron. 4. 32.)


35. the valley of craftsmen. Cp. 6.2 and 1 Chron. 4.14. craftsmen = artificers.

36. were divisions, &c.: or, "Judah's divisions were assigned to Benjamin."

12. 1-26 (J, p. 616; (N), p. 617). THE RETURN UNDER EZRA. (Alteration.)


29. And at En-rimmon, and at Zareah, and at Jarmuth,

30. Zanoah, Adullam, and in their villages, at Lachish, and the fields thereof, at Azekah, and in the villages thereof. And they dwelt from Beer-sheba unto the valley of Hinnom.

31. The children also of Benjamin from Geba dwelt at Michmas, and at Gibe, and in their villages, at Lachish, and the fields thereof, at Azekah, and in the villages thereof. And they dwelt from Beer-sheba unto the valley of Hinnom.

32. And at Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah,

33. Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,

34. Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat,

35. Lod, and Ono, the valley of craftsmen.

36. And of the Levites were divisions in Judah, and in Benjamin.

12. Now these are the priests and the Levites that went up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra.
12. 2.

NEHEMIAH.

2 Amariah, Malluch, Hattush, 3 Shebnaiah, Rechab, Meremoth, 4 Iddo, Ginetho, Abijah, 5 Miamin, Maadiah, Bilgah, 6 Shemaiah, and Joiarib, Jedaiah, 7 Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah, Jedaiah. These were the 8 chief of the priests and of their brethren in the days of Jeshua.

8 Moreover the Levites: Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and Mattaniah, who was over the thanksgiving, and his brethren.

9 Also Bakkbukiah and Unni, their brethren, were over against them in the watches.

10 And Jeshua begat Joakim, Joakim also begat Eliashib, and Eliashib begat Joiada, 11 And Joiada begat Jonathan, and Jonathan begat Jaddua.

12 And in the days of Joiakim were priests, the 13 chief of the fathers: of Seraiah, Meraiah; of Jeremiah, Hananiah; 13 Of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amariah, Jehohanan; 14 Of Melic, Jonathan; of Shebnaiah, Joseph; 15 Of Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai; 16 Of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon, Meshullam; 17 Of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadian, Pillai; 18 Of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan; 19 And of Jarih, Mattani; of Jedaiah, Uzzi; 20 Of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber; 21 Of Hilkiah, Hashabiah; of Jedaiah, Nezaneel.

22 The Levites in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, and Johanan, and Jaddua, were recorded the 23 chief of the fathers: also the priests, to the reign of Darius the Persian.

24 The sons of Levi, the 25 chief of the fathers, were written in the book of the chronicles, even until the days of Jeshua the son of Jehonathan, the son of Eliashib.

24 And the chief of the Levites: Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brethren over against them, to praise and to give thanks, according to the commandment of David the man of God, ward over against ward.

25 Mattaniah, and Bakkbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, Akkub, were porters keeping the thresholds of the gates.

26 These were in the days of Joiakim the son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor, and of Ezra the priest, the scribe.

27 And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites out of all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem. To keep the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings, and with singing, with cymbals, psalteries, and with harps.

28 And the sons of the singers gathered themselves together, both out of the plain country round about Jerusalem, and from the villages of Netophathi;

7 chief=heads.
8 the Levites. Cp. Ezr 2. 40 and 7. 43, above.
9 over against = corresponding to those in v. 8, in the watches: i.e. the courses, or watchings.
14 Shebnaiah. Some codices, with two early printed editions, Sept., and Syr., read “Shechaniah”.
15 Helkai. Some codices, with six early printed editions, read “Hilkai”.
22 Darius = Darius Hystaspis. See Ap. 57 and 58.
23 the book of the chronicles: i.e. the public records or registers.
24 the man of God. See Ap. 49.
25 ward = charge.
26 governor = Pasha. Chal. pechah.

12. 27–13. 31 (K, p. 616; (K), p. 617). THE WALL. DEDICATION. INTERNAL DISORDERS OVERCOME. (Division.)

E L I | 12. 27–47. Dedication of the wall.


12. 27–47 (L I, above). DEDICATION OF THE WALL (Introduction.)

M O | 27. Assemble. Levites.

P 1 | 28, 29. Singers.

P 2 | 30. Priests and Levites.

Q | 31–. Assemble. princes of Judah.

R | 32. Right hand. Thanksgiving.

S | 33. Left hand. Thanksgiving.

T | 40–42. Assemble. In detail.

U | 43–44. Offerings. Rejoicing.


27 with thanksgivings. Ps. 147 would have been a suitable psalm for the occasion, and Ps. 122.

28 the singers. Mentioned in n. 74.

plain country = surrounding country.


31 companies of them that gave thanks. Heb. celebrations; “celebrations”, or thanksgivings, put for the choirs who rendered them, by Fig. Metonymy (of Effect), Ap. 6.

32 Hoshaiah. Cp. Jer. 42. 1; 43. 2.

33 Ezra. Not Ezra the scribe.

29 Also from the house of Gilgal, and out of the fields of Geba and Azmaveth: for the singers had built them villages round about Jerusalem.

30 And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and purified the People, and the gates, and the wall.

31 Then I brought up the princes of Judah upon the wall,

and appointed two great companies of them that gave thanks,

whereof one went on the right hand upon the wall toward the dung gate;

32 And after them went Hoshaiah, and half of the princes of Judah,

33 And Azariah, Ezra, and Meshullam,

34 Judah, and Benjamin, and Shemaiah, and Jeremiah,

35 And certain of the priests’ sons with
trumpets; namely, Zechariah the son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattanias, the son of Michaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Assaph:

30 And his brethren, Shemaiah, and Azrael, Milai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethaneel, and Judah, Hananni, with the musical instruments of David, the man of God, and Ezra the scribe before them.

37 And at the fountain gate, which was over against them, they went up by the stairs of the city of David, at the going up of the wall, even unto the water gate eastward.

38 And the other company of them that gave thanks went over against them, and 3 after them, and the half of the people upon the wall, from beyond the tower of the furnaces even unto the broad wall;

39 And from above the gate of Ephraim, and above the old gate, and above the fish gate, and the tower of Hananeel, and the tower of Meah, even unto the sheep gate: and they stood still in the prison gate.

31 So stood the two companies of them that gave thanks in the house of God, and 3 and, and the half of the rulers with me:

41 And the priests; Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micahiah, Elueniah, Zechariah, and Hananiah, with trumpets:

42 And Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eliazar, and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malchijah, and Elam, and Ezar. And the singers sang loud, with Zechariah their overseer.

43 Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for 24 God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.

44 And at that time were some appointed over the chambers for the treasures, for the offerings for the firstfruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them out of the fields of the cities the portions of the law for the priests and Levites: for Judah rejoiced for the priests and for the Levites that waited.

45 And both the singers and the porters kept the "ward of" their God, and the ward of the purification, according to the commandment of David, and of Solomon his son.

46 For in the days of David and Asaph of old there were chief of the singers, and songs of praise and thanksgiving unto 2 God.

47 And all Israel in the days of Zerubbabel, and in the days of Nehemiah, gave the portions of the singers and the porters, every day his portion: and they sanctified holy things unto the Levites; and the Levites sanctified them unto the "children of Aaron.

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13. 1-31 (L, p. 650). INTERNAL DISORDERS OVERCOME. (Introversion.)

1. On that day: i.e. of which he is about to write, the book of Moses. See Ap. 47.

2. Because they (pl.). Num. 23. 5. Deut. 23. 3, 4.

3. Children = sons.


6. Not at Jerusalem. Nehemiah did not return with Haggai and Zachariah at the beginning of this reign.

13. 35. NEHEMIAH.

36 of David: i.e. dating from, or invented by him.

37 the stairs. See 3. 15.

15. 1-31 (L, p. 650). INTERNAL DISORDERS OVERCOME. (Introversion.)

1. On that day: i.e. of which he is about to write, the book of Moses. See Ap. 47.

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6. Not at Jerusalem. Nehemiah did not return with Haggai and Zachariah at the beginning of this reign.

13. 35. NEHEMIAH.
408 Artaxerxes king of Babylon came I unto the king, and after certain days obtained I leave of the king: 7 And I came to Jerusalem, and understood of the evil that Eliashib did for Tobiah, in preparing him a chamber in the courts of the house of God. 8 And it grieved me sore; therefore I cast forth all the household stuff of Tobiah out of the chamber. 9 Then I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers: and thither brought I again the vessels of the house of God, with the meat offering and the frankincense. 10 And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them: for the Levites and the singers, that did the work, were fled every one to his field. 11 Then contended I with the rulers, and said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them together, and set them in their place. 12 Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil unto the treasuries. 13 And I made treasurers over the treasuries. Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah: for they were counted faithful, and their office was to distribute unto their brethren. 14 Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof. 15 In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine presses on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the sabbath day: and I testified against them in the day wherein they sold victuals. 16 There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the sabbath unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem. 17 Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them, "What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day? 18 Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the sabbath." 19 And it came to pass that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the gates, that there should be no burden be brought in on the sabbath day. 20 So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice. 21 Then I testified against them, and said unto them, "Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do so again, I will lay hands on you." From that time forth came they no more on the sabbath. 22 And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the sabbath day. 23 In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab: 24 And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people. 25 And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair.
LONGER NOTES ON SPECIAL PASSAGES IN NEHEMIAH.

2. The "seventy sevens" of Dan. 9. 24-27 begin here (454 B.C.). The "seven sevens" (Dan. 9. 25), or forty-nine years begin here, and end in 405 B.C.; marked by the completion and dedication of the second Temple. The "threescore and two sevens" (Dan. 9. 26), or 434 years begin (or rather, follow on) in 405 B.C., and end in 445 B.C., the year of the Cross. The last "seven" is therefore, still future. The first four of the "seven sevens" ended in 426 B.C., marked by the Decree of Cyrus, which ended the Babylonian Servitude of seventy years. See Ap. 50, 57, and 58.

5. Moreover from the time that I was appointed, &c. Verses 14-19 are put within brackets for the following reasons:

As Nehemiah's record must have been written many years later, after the dedication both of the Temple (405 B.C.) and the Wall (403 B.C.), the reference to his policy during the twelve years of his governorship, from the twentieth to the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes (Darius Hystaspis), is introduced here, in order to emphasise the contrast between the rapacity of "the nobles and rulers" (5. 7), and his own conduct. For he says that, not only at that time (454 B.C.) did he not exploit the people for his own advantage, but that during his governorship (which ended in 407 B.C., some four or five years at least before the time of his writing the final record, more than forty years later than 454), when, according to Eastern views, he would have been justified in getting as much as he could out of his office, he not only lived entirely at his own charges but supported others also. See note below on 13. 4-9.

7. The houses were not built; no sign of houses being built. This statement refers to the permanent stable habitations of the city proper which Haggai speaks of as being in existence forty-four years later (Hag. 1. 4. 9). The word banith, house, means a dwelling, and in 2.3 and 3. 31 is rendered "place", which clearly indicates its meaning in these passages. Among the ruined houses left by Nebuchadnezzar many might easily have been made habitable sufficiently to fulfil the conditions of S. 16.

5. I found a register of the genealogy of them which came up at the time. It must be borne in mind that Nehemiah wrote long after this date (426 B.C.); probably between 403 and 400 B.C. It is quite natural therefore that he should write of finding such a book as this. When he says, "I found a book "; &c., it does not mean that Nehemiah found or discovered the register at that time; but, writing long after, he says, "I find that the list of names was, so and so", &c.

13. And before this...the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon (13. 6). The Artaxerxes (great king) here is Darius Hystaspis. The record here must have been written after the dedication of both Temple (405 B.C.) and Wall (403 B.C.). The thirty-second year is that of the king's age, not of his reign, for he only succeeded Cambyses in 411 B.C. His twentieth year (5. 14) was 419 B.C., when, on the death of Cyrus, Nehemiah was appointed to be the governor in the land of Judah. Consequently Nehemiah's twelve years of governorship end in 407 B.C., two years before the completion and dedication of the Temple, and when Darius Hystaspis had been reigning three years. In that year (407 B.C.) Nehemiah evidently receives a report from his deputy (probably Haman still) as to the Temple progress, and doubtless of the Eliashib-Tobiah scandal. He determines to go himself, obtains leave of absence (with difficulty, apparently, 13. 6), and comes to Jerusalem. Arriving there, he "understands" the evil concerning Eliashib, casts forth Tobiah and his "stuff", and hurries on the Temple work towards completion.