

NAHUM.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK AS A WHOLE.

(Division.)

1. 1. THE TITLE.

B² | A¹ | 1. 2-8. JEHOVAH'S ATTRIBUTES DECLARED.
| A² | 1. 9-3. 19. JEHOVAH'S JUDGMENTS FORETOLD.

For the CANONICAL order and place of the Prophets, see Ap. 1, and pages 1206 and 1207.
For the CHRONOLOGICAL order of the Prophets, see Ap. 77.
For the *Formulae* of Prophetic utterance, see Ap. 82.
For the Inter-relation of the Prophetical Books, see Ap. 78.
For the Relation of NAHUM to the twelve Minor (or Shorter) Prophets, see p. 1206.
For the References to the Pentateuch, see Ap. 92.

Nahum concludes the seven pre-captivity Prophets, being the last of the second group of three; and corresponding with JONAH, which also has Nineveh for its subject. See the Structure (p. 1206).

Some eighty-seven years before, JONAH had proclaimed Jehovah's favour to Nineveh, which had prolonged its existence till now, when Nahum's prophecy of coming judgment was fulfilled without further delay.

Nahum is undated; but, if 1. 11 refers primarily to the Rab-shakeh (as we believe it does) of 2 Kings 18. 26-28, then we have a clue of great importance, for that speaks of the fourteenth year of Hezekiah, and gives us the date as 603 B. C.

The Rab-shakeh = the chief of the captains, was apparently a renegade Jew, and a "counsellor" high in favour with the Assyrian king (Sennacherib). He was apparently, as to office, similar to our "Political Officer" in the Indian Frontier campaigns. He insisted on speaking to the common People on the wall in the Jews' language; indicating a freedom in the use of Hebrew that would scarcely be possessed by an Assyrian ambassador.

The Rab-shakeh's words certainly show a deadly animosity towards Jehovah; which is borne out by Nah. 1. 11, and Pss. 120. 2; 123. 3. See Ap. 67.

If this be correct, then we may date Nahum as living and prophesying in 603 B. C.

NAHUM.

TITLE
603

A¹ A
(p. 1262)

B

C

C

B

A

A² D

1 THE °burden of °Nineveh. The book of the °vision of °Nahum the °Elkoshite.

2 °GOD is °jealous, and °the LORD °re-vengeth; °the LORD re-vengeth, and °is furious; °the LORD will °take vengeance on His adversaries, and °reserveth °wrath °for His enemies.

3 °The LORD is °slow to anger, and °great in power, and °will not at all °acquit the wicked:

°the LORD hath His way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of His feet.

4 °He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, °and drieth up all the rivers: Bashan languisheth, and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon languisheth.

5 °The mountains quake at Him, and the hills melt, and the earth is °burned at His presence, yea, the °world, and all that dwell therein.

6 Who can stand before His indignation? and who can °abide in the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by Him.

7 °The LORD is °good, a °strong hold in the day of trouble; and °He knoweth them that °trust in Him.

8 °But with an overrunning flood He will make an utter end of °the place thereof, °and darkness shall pursue His enemies.

9 What do ye °imagine against °the LORD? °He will make an utter end: °affliction shall not rise up °the second time.

10 For while they be °folden together as °thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.

11 There is one come out °of °thee, that °imagineth °evil against °the LORD, °a wicked counsellor.

12 Thus saith °the LORD; "Though they be °quiet, and likewise many, yet thus shall they be °cut down, °when he shall pass through.

1. 1 burden. Cp. Isa. 13. 1-27. 13. See the Structure, p. 930, and Habakkuk. = A prophetic oracle: or, the prophetic doom of Nineveh, written about ninety (603-514 = B. C.) years before Nineveh's doom; and while the Assyrian Empire was at its height. The doom of Nineveh came therefore 176 years after Jonah's mission. The prophecy was addressed to Nahum's own People, but as a menace to Nineveh.

Nineveh. This heading is not "undoubtedly by a later hand", as alleged. The words "the place thereof" (v. 8) would be unintelligible without it. Nineveh is not mentioned again until 2. 8; and is only hinted at elsewhere (3. 1, 18). The Structure below is the best commentary.

vision. Like Isaiah, always one whole. Not written before or separately from, its deliverance.

Nahum = the compassionate, or consoler. The name refers back to Jehovah's compassion connected with Jonah's mission eighty-seven years before. Nothing is known of Nahum beyond his book.

Elkoshite. Heb. 'Elkoshi. A village of this name exists to-day, twenty-four miles north of Nineveh (now Konyunjik). See Layard's *Nineveh and its Remains*, i, p. 233.

1. 2-8 (A¹, p. 1261). JEHOVAH'S ATTRIBUTES DECLARED. (*Introversion*.)

A¹ | A | 2. Vengeance.
B | 3-. Long-suffering.
C | -3-5. Power. Unequaled.
C | 6. Power. Irresistible.
B | 7. Goodness.
A | 8. Vengeance.

2 GOD. Heb. EL. Ap. 4. IV.

jealous. Ref. to Pent. (Ex. 20. 5-7. Deut. 4. 24). Ap. 92. See the Structure, and note the subjects of "A" and "A"; "B" and "B"; "C" and "C".

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II. Note the Fig. *Epizeuxis* (Ap. 6), for great emphasis.

re-vengeth = avengeth.
is furious = a possessor of wrath. Heb. "lord of wrath". take vengeance on = be an Avenger to.
wrath. Fig. *Ellipsis* (Absolute). Ap. 6.
for = against.

3 slow to anger = long-suffering. Ref. to Pent. (Ex. 34. 6, 7). Ap. 92. Heb. "long of anger". The opposite of Prov. 14. 17. Cp. Jonah 4. 2.

great. Cp. Job 9. 4; and see the Structure "C", above. will not, &c. Ref. to Pent. (Ex. 34. 7. Num. 14. 18). acquit = clear, or hold guiltless.

4 He rebuketh the sea. Ref. to Pent. (Ex. 14.) Cp. Ps. 106. 9. Ap. 92.

and drieth up, &c. Cp. Josh. 4. 23. Ps. 74. 15.

burned = upheaved. world. Heb. *tebel* = the world as inhabited.

Mal. 3. 2. **7** good. See the Structure "B", above. Cp. 1 Chron. 16. 34. Ps. 100. 5. Jer. 33. 11. Lam. 3. 25.

strong hold = a place of safety. He knoweth, &c. Cp. Ps. 1. 6. 2 Tim. 2. 12. trust in = flee for refuge to. Heb. *hāqāh*. Ap. 69. II.

the Structure "A", above. **8** But, &c. Note the transition in v. 8, which is explained by the Structure "A", above.

the place thereof. Heb. her place: i.e. Nineveh's. See note on title above (v. 1).

and darkness, &c.: or, "as for His foes, darkness shall pursue [them]".

1. 9-3. 19 (A², p. 1261). JEHOVAH'S JUDGMENTS FORETOLD. (*Introversion*.)

A² | D | 1. 9-12-. Destruction of Nineveh.
E | 1. -12-15. Deliverance of Judah.
D | 2. 1-8. 19. Destruction of Nineveh.

9 imagine = devise. Cp. Ps. 2. 1. trouble that now threatens Nineveh.

proclamation. Cp. "rise", Jer. 51. 64. Same word as "abide", v. 6, above.

thorns. The emblem of hostile armies (Isa. 10. 17; 27. 4).

thee: i.e. Nineveh (fem.). evil. Heb. *rā'a*. Ap. 44. viii.

of Belial. The counsellor probably = Rabshakeh; and Belial = Sennacherib. See note on p. 1261.

12 quiet = secure. cut down = cut down (like dry stubble).

Cp. Isa. 8. 8. Dan. 11. 10.

5 The mountains quake, &c. Cp. Mic. 1. 3, 4.

6 abide = stand up. Cp. Jer. 10. 10.

the second time. Referring to the rising up after Jonah's

proclamation. Cp. "rise", Jer. 51. 64. Same word as "abide", v. 6, above.

10 folden = entangled.

11 of. Gen. of Origin. Ap. 17. 2.

a wicked counsellor = a counsellor

of Belial. See note on p. 1261.

12 quiet = secure. cut down = cut down (like dry stubble).

when he, &c. Ref. to Pent. (Ex. 12. 12).

E F¹ (p. 1262) 603 ° Though I have afflicted ° thee, I will afflict thee no more.
 13 For now ° will I break ° his yoke from off thee, and will burst thy bonds in sunder.
 14 And ° the LORD hath given a commandment concerning thee, that ° no more of thy name be sown: out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven image and the molten image: I will ° make thy ° grave; for thou art ° vile.
 F² 15 ° Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, ° keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for ° the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.
 D G K 2 ° He that ° dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face: ° keep the munition, watch the way, ° make thy loins strong, ° fortify thy power mightily.
 2 For ° the LORD ° hath turned away ° the excellency of ° Jacob, ° as the excellency of Israel: for the emptiers have emptied them out, and marred their vine branches.
 L N 3 The shield of his ° mighty men is ° made red, the valiant ° men ° are in scarlet: ° the chariots shall be with flaming ° torches in the day of his preparation, and the ° fir trees shall be terribly shaken.
 4 The chariots shall ° rage in the streets, they shall ° jostle one against another in the broad ways: ° they shall seem like torches, they shall ° run like the lightnings.
 5 ° He shall ° recount his ° worthies: they shall stumble ° in their walk; they shall make haste to ° the wall thereof, ° and ° the defence shall be prepared.
 6 The ° gates of ° the rivers shall be ° opened, and the palace shall ° be dissolved.
 O 7 And ° Huzzab shall be led away captive, she shall be brought up, and her maids shall

1. -12-15 (E, p. 1262). DELIVERANCE OF JUDAH. (Division.)

E | F¹ | -12-14. Evil removed.
 | F² | 15. Good bestowed.
 -12 Though, &c. = And [now, O Judah], &c. Through not seeing the Structure and the change of subject at "E", modern critics say "the first part of this verse is certainly more or less corrupt"; and they alter the Heb. text to make it agree with the last clause ("F¹"), the subject changing there to the removal of evil from Judah. thee: i. e. Judah (v. 13).
 13 will I break, &c. Ref. to Pent. (Gen. 27. 40). Ap. 92.
 his yoke. Some codices read "his rod".
 14 no more of thy name, &c.: i. e. the dynasty of Nineveh should end.
 make = make [it]: i. e. "the house of thy gods".
 grave = sepulchre. Heb. *keber*. See note on Gen. 23. 4. Ap. 95.
 vile = despicable. Cp. Isa. 37. 37, 38.
 15 Behold. Fig. *Asterismos* (Ap. 6), for emphasis, calling attention to the ref. to Isa. 52. 7, the hypothetical second Isaiah, 100 years before he is supposed by modern critics to have lived.
 keep thy solemn feasts. Fig. *Polyptoton*. Ap. 6. Heb. "feast thy solemn feasts": used for great emphasis. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 16. 16, &c.; 23. 21, &c.). Ap. 92.
 the wicked. Heb. [the man of] *Belial*. See note on v. 11.

2. 1-3. 19 (D, p. 1262). DESTRUCTION OF NINEVEH. (Introversion and Extended Alternation.)

D | G | K | 2. 1, 2. Jehovah's defiance.
 | L | 2. 3-10. Judgment. Invasion.
 | M | 2. 11-3. 7. Causes.
 | H | 3. 8-10. Examples. Citation.
 | H | 3. 11-13. Examples. Application.
 G | K | 3. 14. Jehovah's defiance.
 | L | 3. 15-17. Judgment. Devastation.
 | M | 3. 18, 19. Causes.

1 He that dasheth, &c.: i. e. Cyaxares and Nabopolassar (*Herod.* i. 106). A reference or type of the future destruction of Antichrist.
 dasheth, &c.: or, the breaker (Heb. *mēphiz* = battle-axe, or hammer (Prov. 25. 18)). Cp. Jer. 23. 29; 51. 20. Ezek. 9. 2, marg. Mic. 2. 13.
 keep the munition. Fig. *Homœopropheron* (Ap. 6), in the Heb. In English, keep the keeps, or fortify the
 dasheth, &c.: or, the breaker (Heb. *mēphiz* = battle-axe, or hammer (Prov. 25. 18)). Cp. Jer. 23. 29; 51. 20. Ezek. 9. 2, marg. Mic. 2. 13.
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 keep the munition. Fig. *Homœopropheron* (Ap. 6), in the Heb. In English, keep the keeps, or fortify the

fortress, or fence the defences. make thy loins strong: i. e. be courageous. Cp. Job 40. 7. Jer. 1. 17. fortify, &c. = strengthen [thee] with power mightily. Cp. Prov. 24. 5. 2 the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II. The verse not "misplaced", as alleged. See the Structure above. hath turned away = restoreth; or is on the way to bring back. the excellency = pre-eminence. Used in good, or bad sense according to the context. Jacob. Put here for the natural seed, and Judah in contrast with Israel; cp. Gen. 32. 28; 43. 6; 45. 26, 28. as = as [He will restore] the excellency, &c.

2. 3-10 (L, above). JUDGMENT. INVASION. (Alternation.)

L | N | 3-6. Nineveh. Assaulted.
 | O | 7, 8. Captured.
 | N | 9. Nineveh. Spoiled.
 | O | 10. Dismayed.

3 mighty men = mighty ones, or warriors. Cp. 2 Sam. 23. 8. 1 Kings 1. 8, 10. made red = reddened [with blood]. men. Heb. pl. of *ēnōsh*. Ap. 14. III. are in scarlet = [are clad] in scarlet, as were the armies of the Persians. the chariots shall be . . . torches: or, with the flashing of steel the chariots [glitter]. fir trees. Put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Cause), Ap. 6, for the spears or lances made from them. 4 rage = rave [as though mad]. Heb. *hālal*. jostle. From Old French *jouster*, to tilt; from Low Latin *juxtare*, to approach (as in tilting). Jostle = to push against, a frequentative form; but the Heb. (*shākak*) means to run to and fro, as in Isa. 33. 4. Joel 2. 9. they shall seem = their appearance is. run = rush, or flash. Heb. *rūz*. 5 He. The king of Assyria (3. 18). recount = bethink himself of. worthies = nobles, who may assemble their troops; as in 3. 18. Judg. 5. 13. 2 Chron. 23. 20. in their walk = as they march. the wall thereof = her wall: i. e. the wall of Nineveh. and = yet. the defence = the mantelet, or portable storming cover [of the besiegers]. 6 gates = flood-gates, or sluices. the rivers. Nineveh lay on the east (or left) bank of the Tigris. The Khusur (a perennial stream) ran through it; also a canal from it to the Tigris ran through the city. opened: i. e. by the enemy. be dissolved = melt away [in fear], or was in dismay. 7 Huzzab. The words which follow show that the queen or queen-mother is meant: or, *Huzzab* may be taken as a verb (dual of *nāzah*), and the "and" as = though (like "but" in v. 8). In that case read: "though firmly established, she shall be dishonoured and taken captive"; the city being thus personified.

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°lead her as with the voice of doves, °tabering upon their °breasts.

8 °But Nineveh °is of old like a pool of water: yet °they shall °flee away. Stand, stand, shall °they cry; but none shall look back.

N
(p. 1263)

9 Take ye the spoil of silver, °take the spoil of gold: for there is °none end of the store and glory out of all the pleasant furniture.

O

10 She is °empty, °and void, °and °waste: and the heart melteth, and the knees smite together, and much pain is in all loins, and °the faces of them all gather blackness.

M P
(p. 1264)

11 °Where is the dwelling of the °lions, and the feedingplace of the young lions, where the lion, even the °old lion, walked, and the lion's whelp, and none made them afraid?

12 The lion °did tear in pieces enough for his whelps, and strangled for his lionesses, and filled his holes with prey, and his dens with ravin.

Q

13 °Behold, I am against thee, °saith °the LORD of hosts, and I will burn her chariots °in the smoke, and the sword shall devour thy young lions: and I will cut off thy prey from the earth, and the voice of thy °messengers shall no more be heard.

P

3 Woe to the °bloody city! it is all full of lies and robbery; the prey °departeth not;

2 °The noise of a whip, °and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the prancing horses, and of the °jumping chariots.

3 The horseman lifteth up both the °bright sword and the °glittering spear: and there is a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcases; and there is none end of their corpses; °they stumble °upon their corpses:

Q

4 °Because of the multitude of the °whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, °the mistress of °witchcrafts, that selleteth nations through her °whoredoms, and families through her °witchcrafts.

5 °Behold, I am against thee, °saith the LORD of hosts; °and °I will discover thy skirts upon thy face, °and °I will shew the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame.

6 And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and °make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazingstock.

7 And it shall come to pass, that all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, 'Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan °her?' whence shall I seek comforters for thee?

H
(p. 1263)

8 Art thou °better than °populous No, that

18. Deut. 18. 10). Ap. 92. witchcrafts=sorceries. Cp. Isa. 47. 9. 5 Behold. Fig. *Asterismos* (Ap. 6), for emphasis. saith the LORD of Hosts=[is] the oracle of Jehovah Sabaoth. See note on 2. 15. I will discover. Carrying out the symbol of whoredom for idolatry. Cp. 2. 13; 3. 5. I will shew, &c. (Isa. 47. 2, 3. Jer. 18. 22, 26. Ezek. 16. 37). 6 make thee vile=disgrace thee. 7 her. Some codices, with two early printed editions, Aram., Syr., and Vulg., read "thee"; but the Codex "Mugah", quoted in the *Massorah* (Ap. 80), reads "her". 8 better=situated better. populous No=N'o-'Amōn. 'Amōn is not a Heb. word meaning "multitude", but an Egyptian word meaning the Egyptian god "'Amōn". No=the Egyptian net, meaning the city; now known as "Thebes". (Cp. Jer. 46. 26. Ezek. 80. 14, 15, 16).

lead her=mourn for, or bemoaning. tabering=drumming [with their fingers] incessantly. Heb. *taphaph*, from *toph*=a drum. See note on Ex. 15. 20. 1 Sam. 10. 5.

breasts=hearts. Some codices read "heart" (sing.); but others, with eight early printed editions, read "hearts" (pl.).

8 But=Though, to answer to the "yet" of the next line.

is of old, &c. Read "hath been from of old [filled with men] as a pool [is full] of water".

they: i.e. the defenders.

flee away. Before their besiegers.

they: i.e. the captains.

9 take the spoil. Note the Fig. *Epizeuxis* (Ap. 6), for emphasis.

none end, &c.=[there are] treasures without end, [and] stores of all covetable vessels.

10 empty . . . void . . . waste. Note the Fig. *Paronomasia* (Ap. 6), for emphasis. Heb. *būkāh umbūkāh um'bullākāh*.

and. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6), for emphasis. the faces of them all, &c. Only here, and in Joel 2. 6. The reference is to Joel 2. 6 (as 1. 15 is to Isa. 52. 7); not vice versa.

2. 11—3. 7 (M, p. 1263). CAUSES. (Alternation.)

M P | 2. 11, 12. Jehovah. Defiance.

Q | 2. 13. The cause. Hostility.

P | 3. 1-3. Jehovah. Defiance.

Q | 3. 4-7. The cause. Hostility.

11 Where . . . ? Fig. *Erotēsis* (Ap. 6), for emphasis. lions. Note the Fig. *Synonymia* (Ap. 6), for emphasis. This is Jehovah's answer to Sennacherib's taunt in 2 Kings 18. 34, looking back after the fulfilment of this prophecy. old lion=lioness.

12 did tear=was tearing. Nineveh again personified in vv. 11, 12.

13 Behold. Fig. *Asterismos*. Ap. 6.

saith the LORD of Hosts=[is] the oracle of Jehovah Sabaoth.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah, as in v. 2. The full expression, "Jehovah of hosts", occurs only here in Nahum ("Q") and in the corresponding member ("Q", 3. 5). See note on 1 Sam. 1. 3.

in the smoke=into smoke.

messengers=ambassadors. Cp. 2 Kings 18. 17, 19; 19. 9, 23.

3. 1 bloody city=city of great bloodshed (Ezek. 22. 2, 3; 24. 6, 9. Hab. 2. 12).

departeth not=will not be lacking. Captive princes were exposed to public contumely in cages, &c.

2 The noise, &c. Between vv. 1 and 2 supply the logical *Ellipsis* (Ap. 6), thus: "is not released. [Hark! the enemy is within thy gates!] The noise of a whip . . . chariot".

and. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6), for emphasis. jumping=bumping, or sounding.

3 bright=gleaming. glittering=flashing.

they: i.e. the slayers. Heb. text margin, with some codices, and four early printed editions, reads "so that they stumble", &c. upon=over.

4 Because, &c. Note the Structure, which shows that here, in the member "Q" (vv. 4-7), we have the cause, corresponding with "Q" (2. 13).

whoredoms=idolatries.

the mistress of witchcrafts. Ref. to Pent. (Ex. 22.

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was situate among °the rivers, *that had the waters round about it, whose rampart was °the sea, and her wall was °from °the sea?*

9 Ethiopia °and Egypt were her strength, and *it was °infinite; °Put and °Lubim were thy helpers.*

10 °Yet was °she carried away, she went into captivity: her young children also were dashed in pieces at the top of all the streets: and they cast lots for her honourable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.

H
(p. 1263)

11 °Thou also shalt °be drunken: thou shalt °be hid, thou also shalt seek °strength because of the enemy.

12 All thy strong holds *shall be like fig trees with the firstripe figs: if they be shaken, they shall even fall into the mouth of the eater.*

13 °Behold, thy people in the midst of thee are women: the gates of thy land shall be set wide open unto thine enemies: the fire shall devour thy bars.

G K

14 °Draw thee waters for the siege, fortify thy strong holds: °go into clay, and °tread the mortar, make strong °the brickkiln.

L

15 There shall the fire devour thee; the sword shall cut thee off, it shall eat thee up like the °cankerworm: °make thyself many as the °cankerworm, °make thyself many as the °locusts.

16 °Thou hast multiplied thy merchants above the stars of heaven: the °cankerworm °spoilth, and fleeth away.

17 °Thy °crowned are as the locusts, and thy °captains as the great grasshoppers, which camp in the °hedges in the cold day, but when the sun ariseth they °flee away, and their place is not known where they are.

M

18 Thy °shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria: thy nobles shall °dwell in the dust: thy people is scattered upon the mountains, and °no man gathereth them.

19 There is no °healing of thy °bruise; thy wound is grievous: all that hear the °bruit of thee shall clap the hands over thee: for °upon whom hath not thy °wickedness passed continually?"

the rivers = the Nile streams. Heb. *y'orim*, the regular word for the Nile and its canals, &c. First occurrence Gen. 41. 1; rendered "flood" (Jer. 46. 7, 8. Amos 8. 8; 9. 6); "brooks" (Isa. 19. 6, 7, 8); "streams" (Isa. 33. 21).

the sea. The Nile so called in Job 41. 31. Isa. 18. 2; 19. 5.

from = of: i.e. consisted of.

9 and. Some codices, cited in the *Massōrah* (Ap. 30), omit this word "and"; in which case we should render the clause: "Ethiopia strengthened her; Egypt [defended her with countless hosts (or hosts without end)]".

infinite. Heb. = and there is no end. See the above note; and cp. 2. 9; 3. 3. Isa. 2. 7.

Put. Gen. 10. 6, the third son of Ham, next to *Cush* (Ethiopia) and *Mizraim* (Egypt). Put was among the mercenaries of Tyre (Ezek. 27. 10). Cp. Jer. 46. 9.

Lubim = Lybians. Cp. 2 Chron. 12. 3. Dan. 11. 43.

10 Yet was she, &c. The cuneiform monuments tell us that Thebes, the old capital of Egypt, was destroyed by Assyria about 663 B.C. Assurbanipal has recorded his conquest. Nahum, writing about 603 B.C., refers to this as a well-known event, and likely to be remembered. Nineveh fell later, just as Nahum had foretold. See note on 1. 1. Yet Nahum refers to the Pentateuch! See Ap. 92.

she: i.e. Thebes.

11 Thou: i.e. Nineveh.

be drunken: i.e. drink of the cup [of judgment]; or, be stupefied by thy calamity.

be hid = hide thyself.

strength = strength [for defence]; hence = "thou shalt seek a stronghold, or refuge [in vain]".

14 Draw thee = Draw for thyself.

go . . . tread, &c.: i.e. make plenty of bricks [for the strongholds].

the brickkiln = the brick-work [= fortifications, or walls] built with bricks. Heb. *malben*. See notes on 2 Sam. 12. 31. Jer. 43. 9; and Ap. 87.

15 cankerworm = the young locust. Heb. *yelek*. See note on Joel 1. 4.

make thyself many = [though thou be] numerous. Fig. *Irony* (Ap. 6).

locusts = the young locust. Heb. *'arbeh*. See note on Joel 1. 4.

16 Thou = [Though] thou, &c.

spoilth = stript itself, or cast off the skin.

17 Thy. The 1611 edition of the A.V. reads "The", crowned = mercenary crowds. Heb. *minzārim*. Occurs only here. See *Faerst, Lex.*, p. 832.

captains = muster-masters, or marshals. Heb. *tiphsar*. Occurs only here, and Jer. 51. 27. Like the Assyrian *dupsarru* = a tablet-writer.

hedges = loose stone walls.

flee away = are in flight.

dwell = lie down: i.e. in death.

no man

18 shepherds = leaders, or rulers. Here = generals.

gathereth them. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 30. 4). Ap. 92.

breaking, or breach: i.e. ruin.

bruit = report, tidings. Heb. *shēma'*. The English "bruit" = rumour; from the French *bruire*, to make a noise.

cruelty. Heb. *rā'a'*. Ap. 44. viii.

19 healing = alleviation.

bruise =