A HISTORY OF NEW TESTAMENT TIMES: THE TIME OF THE APOSTLES; VOL. II

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A history of New Testament times: the time of the Apostles; Vol. II by A. Hausrath

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A. HAUSRATH

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A HISTORY

OF THE

NEW TESTAMENT TIMES.

BY

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THE TIME OF THE APOSTLES.

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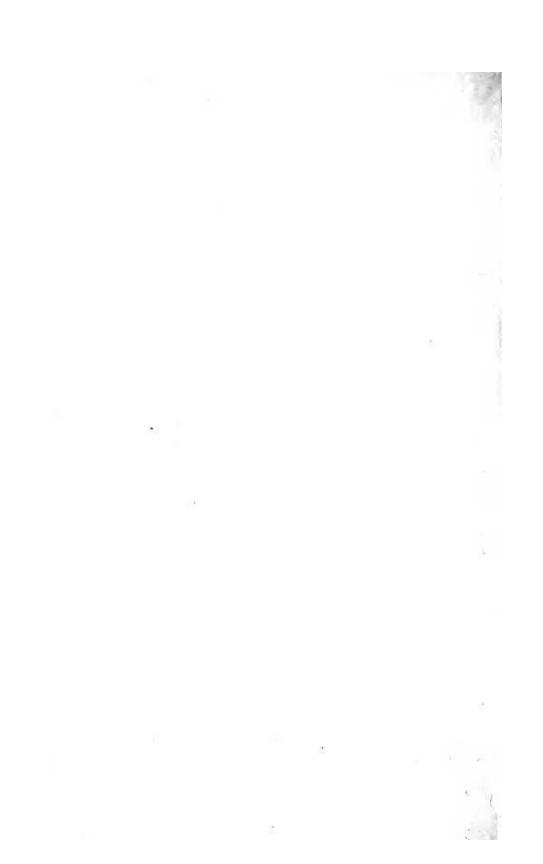
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ERRATA.

The references on pp. 38, 60, 101, 105, 110, 149, 204, to Vols. i. and ii. of the English Translation should be to Hausrath's "Time of Jesus."

Third Division.

CALIGULA AND THE JEWS.



CALIGULA AND THE JEWS.

1. The Change of Government in Rome.

"When Tiberius died, he left Caius the empire over land and sea free from insurrection; the law was respected; all parts of the realm were in complete harmony; north and south, east and west, nations of barbarian or Greek extraction, civilians and military, were all united in maintaining peace and enjoying its blessings.1. . . . Three-and-twenty years had Tiberius ruled over land and sea, securing peace and the blessings of peace, and leaving his successor no cause to embroil him in war or light up a conflagration in the future."2 Such is Philo's verdict on the rule of Tiberius; but his opinion must be discounted by the fact that the situation Caligula found in the East was by no means so peaceful as asserted by the Alexandrian teacher in his blind hatred against the emperor. Still this Jewish judgment on Tiberius is remarkable, considering that he had shown great severity to the Roman Jews. Once more we see that the provincials thought very differently of the emperor whom the Roman aristocracy hated so bitterly. In him they honoured the man before whom their oppressors quailed, and who had established a permanent and reasonable administration in place of a rapid succession of officials in feverish haste for gain. To this day many inscriptions bear witness to his firm administration, beneficence and justice.3 Every kind of business flourished; the tribunals were free from corruption.

¹ Leg. ad Gaium, Mang. 546, 547.

² Ibid. 566.

Suet. Tib. 37; Tac. Ann. 1, 81; 2, 1; Inserr. Orelli, 689, 3796. Cf. Hertzberg, Gesch. Griechenl. unter den Römern, 2, 4, seq.

Suet. Tib. 33; Tac. Ann. 1, 74; 2, 34; 3, 10, &c.