

But even in peaceful times fame stirs up enemies, and troubles kindle in fiery times, as in the case of Savonarola, round a blameless life of lofty energies ; and these causes, no less than his own zeal alike to learn and to teach, led Origen to travel far. He visited the Palestinian Cæsarea with a shorter and a longer residence, besides sojourning at Rome and Antioch, as also in Achaia, Cappadocia, and Arabia. He stayed twice at Athens, and wrote some of his commentaries there. He speaks of himself as "having visited many places, and everywhere sought those who announced that they knew anything." In Cæsarea he had firm friends in the local bishop and Patriarch. They recognized his conspicuous powers by enlisting him as a lecturer or preacher, albeit a layman at the time. The Patriarch of his native Alexandria, who had befriended him before, resented this ; and wrote to remonstrate as against an unprecedented novelty. But several then recent instances were at once quoted against him. Origen, however, returned to his jurisdiction, and stimulated by the bounty of a wealthy friend, Ambrosius, wrote now or laid the deliberate foundations of other works, exegetic and miscellaneous, and began that mightiest Biblical work, the *Hexapla*, the fame and a few fragments of which alone have come down to us.

But Greek philosophy was in the air of Alexandria, and no open mind could escape it. Origen had evidently strong sympathies with inquirers who came asking the gravest and deepest questions. In short, his sympathies were "a world too wide" for those of Demetrius the Patriarch. He quitted Alexandria. The immediate cause was a summons to Achaia to compose some controversy ; but passing again through friendly Cæsarea, he was there ordained, a step which infringed the canonical claims of his native Patriarch, a small-minded stickler for such points, who thereupon succeeded in making Alexandria too hot for him. His dignified sense of injury, and fear lest the unruffled calm which his meditations needed should be disturbed, are expressed in a fine philosophic passage, translated, i. p. 412, but too long for extraction here. He seems always to have retained the enthusiasm of his friends ; and the much later statement that