of about 180 nautical miles.

**Puteoli**] (anciently Dicæarchia, now Puzzuoli)

was the most sheltered part of the  
bay of Naples. It was the principal port  
of Southern Italy, and, in particular,  
formed the great emporium for the Alexandrian

wheat ships.

**14.**] These  
Christians were perhaps Alexandrines,  
as the commerce was so considerable  
between the two places.

**so**] i.e. *after this stay with them:* implying that  
the request was complied with.— The  
brethren at Rome had heard probably  
by special message sent by some of their  
fellow-voyagers. [See a detailed account  
of the stages of the journey not here  
mentioned, in Conybeare and Howson, ii.  
pp. 438 ff.]

**15. Appii forum, and  
The three taverns**] Luke writes as one of  
the travellers *to* Rome, who would come  
on Appii Forum (forty-three miles from  
Rome) first. It was on the Via Appia,  
which leaving Rome by the Porta Capena,  
passed through the Pontine marshes, as  
far as Capua. Being not far from the  
coast (Strabo, v. 233), it was the resort of  
sailors, as Horace describes it. It has  
been suggested to me, that these may have  
been sailors belonging to the canal boats,  
as Appii Forum is too far inland to have  
been resorted to by sailors from the coast.  
He further says that it was an unpleasant  
halting-place for travellers, having, besides,  
very bad water.—The **Three taverns** was  
a way-side inn, ten miles nearer Rome.  
Cicero mentions both in the letters to  
Atticus. The brethren were in two parties:

some had come the longer, others the  
shorter distance, to meet the Apostle.—  
I have given several instances in my Greek  
Test. of the practice of going forth to meet  
approaching travellers of eminence.

**took courage**] Both encouragement as to  
his *own arrival*, as a prisoner, in the vast  
metropolis,—in seeing such affection, to  
which he was of all men most sensible;  
and encouragement as to his *great work* so  
long contemplated, and now about to commence

in Rome,—in seeing so promising a  
beginning for him to build on.

**16.**]  
The omission of the disputed words here  
is too strongly attested to allow us to  
retain them in the text. As regards the  
fact indicated in them, the captain of the  
guard (prefect of the prætorian guard)  
was the person officially put in charge  
with the prisoners sent from the provinces.

The prætorian camp was outside  
the Viminal gate, where it had been fixed  
and fortified by Sejanus. It was incorporated

in Aurelian’s walls, and now forms  
a square projection from their line.

**Paul was suffered**] This permission probably

resulted from the letters of Festus,  
expressing that no crime was laid to the  
charge of Paul: perhaps also partly from  
the favour of Julius, and his report of the  
character and bearing of Paul on the journey.

**the soldier**] a Prætorian, to  
whom he was chained; see below, ver.  
20; and note on ch. xxiv. 23.

**17.**]  
The banishment of Jews from Rome (ch.  
xviii. 2) had either tacitly or openly been  
abrogated some time before this. Priscilla