802 ST. LUKE. II.   
   
 out a decree from Cmsar Augustus, that all the world   
   
 a Acta 27. should be ° tazed. 2 [\*P And] this 4 ¢azing was first made   
 when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to   
 be ° ¢azed, every one into his own city. 4 And Joseph also   
 went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into   
 bitam.riit, Judea, unto >the city of David, which is called Beth-   
 eMutiie lehem; °because he was of the house and lineage of   
 a fast Lis David: 5 to \*ée tazed with Mary “his espoused [\*T wife],   
   
 being great with child. 8 And so it was, that, while they   
   
 were there, the days were accomplished that she should be   
 ematiios. delivered. 7 And \*she brought forth her firstborn son,   
 © render, enrolled.   
 4 render, enrolment. P omit: not in the original.   
 ¥ vender, enroll himself. IT omit.   
 —or that the first did so, this was not a Roman province at this time, is   
 subsequent to it. Now both of these objection to our text; the compilation   
 senses till recently to be inad- of Ai tus contained the “ kingdoms” of   
 missible. For Quirinus was not known the Roman empire, as well as the pro-   
 to have been governor of Syria till the vinces.   
 year of Rome 758, after banishment of 8—5.] There is a mixture here of Ro-   
 Archelaus, and the of his territory man improbable, customs, which is not   
 to the province of Syria. And the birt! stances. In the Roman census, men,   
 of our Lord occurred at least eight women, and children were all to go   
 before this, to Herod’s death, and be enrolled. But then this census   
 when Sentius Satwrninus was governor of made at their dwelling-place, at that   
 Syria. But it has been made highly of their extraction. The latter practice   
 probable, by W. Zampt of Berlin, that springs from the Jewish genealogical   
 Quirinus was TWICE governor of Syria. habits, and its in this case   
 The substance of his is given at stro: for accuracy of the chrono-   
 length in the in my Greek Testament. ogy this enrolment, by order of   
 The result of it is, Zumpt fixes the Augustus, and for the whole empire, it   
 time of his first governorship at from course would be made so as to include   
 Bo. 4toB.c.1. It is true this does after the Roman manner: but inasmuch   
 quite remove our difficulty. it brings as it was made under the Jewish king   
 it within such narrow limits, any Herod, it was done after the Jewish   
 slight error in calculation, even the manner, in taking this account of at   
 latitude allowed by the words was first his own place of extraction. Mary   
 made might well cover it. I may mention being apparently herself im the   
 it as remarkable, that Justin Martyr lineage of David (see ch. 32), might on   
 (Century 2) three times distinctly this account go to Bethlehem, being, as   
 that our Lord was born under Quirinus, some suppose, an inheritress; but this   
 and appeals to the register made, as does not seem to be Evangelist’s mean-   
 if from it the might, if necessary, ing, but that, after the Roman manner,   
 confirmed. she accompanied her husband. No   
 We conclude then, that an assessment stress must be laid espoused, as if she   
 or enrolment of names with a view to as- were only the betrothed wife Joseph at   
 certain the of the empire, was this time;—she had been taken to his   
 commanded and put in force at this house before this: history in our text   
 It was unaccompanied (probably) by any happening during the time indicated by   
 payment of money. We know that Augustus Matt. i. 25. 1.] Now that “first-   
 drew up an account summary of thewhole born” has disappea: from the text of   
 empire, which took many yeare to arrange St. Matthew (i. 25), must be here re-   
 and complete, and of the enrolment marked, that although the term may un-   
 of the inhabitants the provinces doubtedly be used of an only child, such   
 naturally form a part. the data for use is necessarily always connected with   
 this compilation, the enrolment in our the expectation others to and can   
 text might be one. That Judwa was