308 ST. LUKE. II.   
   
 journey ; and they \* sought him among their kinsfolk and   
 acquaintance. # And when they found him not, they turned   
 back again to Jerusalem, Y seeking him. And it came to   
 pass, that after three days they found him in the temple,   
 sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and   
 ems ris. asking them questions. 47 And £all that heard him were   
 Si: Jou wu. at his understanding and answers. 48 And   
 \* when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother   
 said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us?   
 behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.   
 4 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me?   
 hJohnit.16. wist ye not that I must be \* about " my Father's business ?   
 X render, sought him every where.   
   
   
   
   
 Y render, seeking him every where.   
 ® render, among my Father’s matters.   
   
 from the same district travelling ther work to do on earth, of perfectly   
 for security and company. eo in- that Law. Every word of these verses   
 terpretation that went a day’s jour- ts of the importance to modern com-   
 ney, seeking him,’ is absurd: for batants for sound doctrine. Let the ad-   
 they would have turned back sooner: a versaries us,—why should his   
 few minutes might have sufficed the here have spoken, and not Joseph, unless   
 search. It was not till they laid up there were some more than usual reason   
 the night that they him, as at that for her being put forward rather his   
 time they would naturally his return reputed father? Again, let the mythical   
 to their own tent. Olshausen remarks, school of Strauss us a reason, an   
 that being accustomed to His thoughtful- incident altogether their view) so de-   
 ness and obedience, they were free from rogatory to the character of the subject   
 anxiety, till discovered He really of it, shonld have been inserted, if the   
 not in the company. 45. myths arose out of an exaggerated esti-   
 him every where] as they went back, all mate of the dignity of that character?   
 the way. 46.] Some interpret the thy father] Then to this time   
 three days, of their day’s journey out, Joseph had been so called by the holy   
 one back, and one in but the: Child Himself: but from this time,   
 were more likely days spent in Such words are not chance; had Mary   
 in Jerusalem ; or, at events, reckoned said “we,” the strong contrast what   
 from their discovery His not being with follows could not have been brought out.   
 them. in the temple] In one of the How is it that ye sought me 1]   
 rooms attached to the temple, where the ... what (reason) is that . . .   
 Rabbis taught their No stress This is no reproachful question. It is   
 must be laid on in the midst; it is only asked in all simplicity boldness of   
 among. Nor must it be supposed from holy childhood . . ye not know ?’...   
 asking them questions that our Lord was it appeared as if conviction, the ex-   
 acting the part of a master. It was the pression of which now first breaks forth   
 custom in the Jewish schools for the from Hr, must have been a matter   
 scholars to questions of teachers ; known to them before. I must] This   
 and a great part of the Rabbinical is that must, so often used by our Lord   
 consists of the answers of the to of His appointed and wu! em course,   
 such questions. 48—50.] The salient Analogous to this first utterance of His   
 point of this narrative appears to lie conviction, is dawn, amongst ourselves,   
 thy father contrasted with my Father. of the principle of duty in the youthful   
 This was the first that those wonder- and well-trained spirit about this same   
 ful words of self-consciousness been age,—this ‘earing time’ of human pro-   
 heard from the holy Child—when He : see below on ver. among   
 began to be “a son of the law,” He first my Father's matters] primarily, the   
 calls His Father, Who gave Him the house of my Father; bat we must not