760 THE ACTS. - XVI.   
   
 to preach the gospel unto them. 11 Therefore loosing from   
 Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and   
   
 1 Phil the next day to Neapolis; !2and from thence to ! Philippi,   
 which is k the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a   
 colony: and we were in ! that city abiding certain days.   
   
 k render, the first Macedonian city of the district.   
   
 1 render, this.   
 (except as above), is, that several times Philippi was built as a military position   
 St. Paul’s companions are mentioned, but on the site of the village Krenides, by   
 Luke is never among them, On examin- Philip the Great of Macedon. The plain   
 ing however one of the passages where between the Gangites, on which the town is   
 -this is done, we find that after the enu- situate, and the Strymon, was the field of   
 ameration of Sopater, Aristarchus, the celebrated battle of Antony and Octa-   
 Gaius, Timotheus, Tychicus, and Trophi- vius against Brutus and Cassius: see more   
 mus, we are told, going before tarried below. There is now an insignificant   
 for us at Troas: so that the writer evi- place on its site the name Filiba   
 dently regards himsclf as being closely as- (or Philippigi?). the first Mace-   
 sociated with St. Paul, and does not think donian city of the district] It was the   
 it requisite to enumerate himself among first Macedonian city to which Paul and   
 the companions of the Apostle. This may his companions came in that district,—   
 serve as a key to his practice on other Neapolis properly belonging to ‘Thrace.   
 occasions. On the whole, and after carefil And this epithet of first would belong   
 consideration of the subject, J see reason to it not only as regurded the journey of   
 to doubt the common view, that Luke here Paul and Silas, but as lying furthest east-   
 joined the Apostle (whether as a physician, ward, for which reason also the district   
 ‘on account of his broken health, must of called Macedonia prima, though furthest   
 course be matter of conjecture, but is not from Rome. The other explanations are,   
 improbable), and from this time (except (1) ‘chief city, as A.V. But this it was   
 from ch. xvii. l—xx. 5), accompanies him not: Thessalonica being the chief city of   
 to the end of the history. See the ques- the whole province, and Amphipolis of the   
 tion of the authorship of the Acts further division (if then subsisted) of Macedonia   
 discussed in the Introduction, § 1. 12—14. prima :—(2) first is taken as a title of   
 11.] They had a fair wind on this honour, as we find in the coins Pergamus   
 occasion: in ch, xx. 6, the voyage in the and Smyrna (but not in the case of any   
 opposite direction took five days. This is city out of Asia Minor): (8) ‘the first city   
 also implied by we came with a straight which was a colony.’ But there could be   
 course, viz. ran before the wind, The no reason for stating this: whereas there   
 eoincidence of their going to Samothrace would be every reason to particularize the   
 also shews it: determining the wind to fact that they tarried and preached in   
 have been from the S. or S.S.E. It is only the very first city to which they came,   
 a strong southerly breeze which will over- in Macedonia, the territory to which they   
 come the current southwards which runs were scut. a colony] Philippi was   
 from the Dardanelles by Tenedos (Cony- made a colonia by Augustus, as a memorial   
 beare and Howson, i. p. 336): and this, of his victory over Brutus and Cassius, and   
 combined with the short passage, is as a frontier garrison against Thrace. Its   
 mark of the veracity of our narrative. full name on the coins of the city was   
 They seem to have anchored N. of the Colonia Augusta Julia Philippensis. A   
 lofty island of Samothraec, under its lee. Roman colony was in fact a portion of   
 to Neapolis] In an E. by N. dirce- Rome itself transplanted to the provinces   
 tion, past the island of Thasos. It was (Aulus Gellius calls the colonies «little   
 not properly in Macedonia, but in Thrace, effigies images of the Roman people”).   
 and twelve Roman miles from Philippi, ‘The colonists consisted of veteran soldiers   
 which was the frontier town of Macedonia and freedimen, who weut forth, and deter-   
 strictly speaking: see below. It was by mined and marked out their situation,   
 Vespasian, together with the whole of with all religious and military ceremonies.   
 Thrace, attached to the province of Mace- The inhabitants of the colonies were   
 donia, Some Roman ruins and inscrip Roman citizens, and were still enrolled in   
 tions serve to point out the Turkish village one or other of the tribes, and possessed   
 of Cavallo as its site. 12. Philippi] the privilege of voting at Rome. In them