XVII. 1. THE ACTS. 765   
   
 keeper of the prison told # this saying to Paul, The magis-   
 trates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and   
   
 go in peace. 97 But Paul said unto them, They have   
 beaten us openly uncondemned, ©abeing Romans, and ech. xx1i.25.   
 have cast ws into prison; and now do they thrust us out   
   
 privily? nay verily ; but let them come themselves and   
 fetch us out. 38 And the serjeants told these words unto   
 the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that   
   
 they were Romans. 89 And they came and besought them,   
 and brought them out, and ‘desired them to depart out of rotate. ss,   
 the city. “And they went out of the prison, and ever   
 entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen   
 the brethren, they » comforted them, and departed.   
 XVII. 1 Now when they had passed through Amphi-   
 polis and Apollonia, they came to Thessaloniea, where was   
   
   
   
 2 literally, these sayings. ® Titerally, men who are.   
 » better, exhorted.   
   
 the evening before. the serjeants]   
 i.e. the lictors—‘bearers of the rods,’ legal complaint. In the request to depart   
 which, and not fasces, were carried before from the city, the magistrates scem to   
 the colonial duumviri. 86.] Paul and shew fear of a change in the temper of the   
 Silas had returned to the prison: whither mob. 0.] They do not depart hastily,   
 the jailor goes, accompanied by the lictors or as though foreed, but wait to reassure   
 (for it was they that he addressed in ver. the brethren. exhorted is better than   
 37), to announce the order. 37.) ‘comforted, A.V. The one in this ease   
 openly and privily are opposed: the injury would imply the other. Cuap. XVIT.   
 had been public: the reparation, not to 1,] Here (or rather perhaps at “they ex-   
 Paul and Silas merely, but to the Gospel of horted them and departed,” in the pre-   
 which they were the heralds, must be eeding verse) we have the first again.   
 public also. men who are Romans] dropped,—implying apparently that the   
 By the Valerian Law, passed in the year narrator did not accompany Paul and Silas.   
 of Rome 254, and the Porcian Law, in the Ishould be inclined to think that Timo-   
 year of Rome 506, Roman citizens were theus went with them trom Philippi,—not,   
 exempted from stripes and tortures: by as is usually supposed, joined them at   
 the former, till an appeal to the people Berea: see below on ver. 10. when   
 was decided,—by the latter, absolutely. they had passed through] The road, on   
 On the question, how Paul came to be which they travelled from Philippi to   
 bor: a Roman citizen, see on ch. xxii. Thessalonica, was the Via Egnatia, the   
 .—Another irregularity had been com- Macedonian continuation of the Via Appia,   
 mitted by the magistrates, in scourging and so named from Egnatia, in the neigh-   
 them uncondemned.— Mr. Humphry" re- bourhood of which the latter meets the   
 marks, ‘St. Paul submitted to be scourged Adriatic. It extended from Dyrrhachium   
 hy his own countrymen (five times, 2 Cor. in Epirus to the Hebrus in Thrace, a   
 xi, 24): for, he might have pleaded distance of 500 miles. The stages here   
 his privilege as a Roman, to the Jews he mentioned are thus partieularized in the   
 ‘became as a Jew,” observi ing their cere- itineraries; Philippi to Amphipolis, 33   
 monies, and submitting to their law.” miles: Amphipolis to Apollonia, 30 miles:   
 38. they feared] For the account which Apollonia to Thessalonica, 37 miles. See   
 they might have to give at Rome, or even more particulars in Conybeare and Howson,   
 for their popularity with the very mob of i. pp. 368 ff. Amphipolis] Ancieutly   
 Roman citizens who had demanded the called Nine Ways, lying in a most important   
 punishment. 39. besought them] vi: position, at the end of the lake Cercinitis,   
 not to make their treatment matter of formed: by the Strymon, commanding the   
 only easy pass from the coast of the Stry~