§1J ITS AUTHORSHIP. [ayrropuction,   
   
   
 Philippi, i. e. to the end of that chapter. But is it conceivable, that the   
 ‘we’ should not be resumed when the journey begins again ch. xvii. 1,   
 —that it should not be used ch. xviii. 11, secing that from 2 Gor. i. 19   
 it was Paul, Silvanus, and Timotheus, who were preaching during that   
 time at Corinth—in fact, that it should never be resumed till ch. xx. 5,   
 at the very place (Philippi) where it was dropped before ?   
 The argument from the similarity of silva and lucus is too unsub-   
 stantial to deserve serious attention. And that built on the assumption   
 that the author of the third Gospel and the Acts must have held a place   
 of greater honour than we find assigned to Lucas, is purely arbitrary   
 and sufficiently answered by observing that he is ranked with Marcus,   
 apparently his fellow-Evangelist, in Philem. 24. Rather would it seem   
 probable, that the men of word and action, in those times of the living   
 energy of the Spirit, would take the highest place; and that the work   
 of securing to future generations the word of God would not be fully   
 honoured, till from necessity, it became duly valued.   
 12. I shall now endeavour to sketch out the personal history of tho   
 author of the Acts, as far as it can be gathered, during the events   
 which he relates.   
 The first direct intimation of his being in the company of St. Paul,   
 oceurs ch. xvi. 10, at Troas, when Paul was endeavouring (looking for a   
 ship) to sail into Macedonia. Now at this time, Paul had been appa-   
 rently detained in Galatia by sickness, and had just passed through   
 (preaching as he went, see ch. xviii. 23) that country and Phrygia. It   
 is hardly probable that he had visited Colossx, as it lay far out of his   
 route, but he may, in the then uncertainty of his destination, have done   
 so. (See Col. ii. 1 and note.) I say this, because it is remarkable that   
 in sending Luke’s salutation to the Colossians (Col. iv. 14), he calls him   
 “ the beloved physician.” This designation might recall to their minds   
 the relation in which Luke had stood to Paul when in their country; or   
 more probably may have been an effusion of the warm heart of Paul, on   
 recollection of the services rendered to him on that journcy by his loving   
 care. At all events such a designation, occurring in such a place, is not   
 inconsistent with the idea that Luke about that time became St. Paul’s   
 companion on account of the weak state of his health. Further to   
 establish this is impossible: but what follows is not inconsistent with it.   
 We find him in the Apostle’s company no further than to Philippi, the   
 object perhaps of his attendance on him having been then fulfilled \*,   
 13. If we seek for any trace of previous connexion between Luke and   
 St. Paul, we find nothing but the very slightest hint, and that perhaps   
 hardly to be taken as such. In ch. xiv. 21 we read, that Paul, after the   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 4 He may have been put in charge with the church at Philippi; but the conjecture   
 is not very probable.   
 77]