THE ACTS. XXVII.   
 824   
   
 unto his friends to refresh himself. 4 And when we had   
 launched from thence, we sailed under Cyprus, becanse   
 the winds were contrary. 5 And when we had sailed over   
   
 the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to J Myra,   
 [Fa city] of Lycia. 6 And there the centurion found a   
 ship of Alexandria sailing into Italy; and he put us   
   
 therein. 7 And when we had sailed slowly many days,   
 J the Vatican MS. has Myrrha: the Alexandrine MS. has Lystra.   
   
 K not expressed in the original.   
 to Tyre. On this it may be well to quote   
 been under Tyre, and to have furnished (from Smith) the testimony of M. de Pagés,   
 her with mariners (see Ezek. xxvii. 8). It a French navigator, who, on his voyage   
 went over to Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, from Syria to informsusthatafter   
 but seems under him, and afterwards under making Cyprus, “the winds from the west,   
 the Chaldzeans and Persians, to have had tri- and consequently contrary, which prevail   
 butary kings of its (Jer. xxv. 22; xxvii. in these places during the summer, forced   
 3). The Sidonians furnished the best ships us to run to the north. We made for the   
 in Xerxes’ navy. Under Artaxerxes Ochus coast of Caramania (Cilicia), in order to   
 Sidon freed itself, was by him, after a meet the northerly winds, which. we found   
 severe siege, taken and destroyed. It was accordingly.” 5. Myra] It was, says   
 rebuilt, and soon after went over to Strabo, on a high hill, about three miles   
 Alexander, keeping its own vassal kings. from the sea. The neighbourhood is full   
 After his death it was alternately under of maguificent ruins; see Sir C. Fellows’s   
 Syrian and Egyptian rule, till it fell Lyeia, ch. ix. The name still remains.   
 under the Romans. The present Saida is The various readings merely shew that the   
 west of ancient Sidon, and is a port of copyists were unacquainted with the place.   
 some commerce, but insecure, from the 6.] The Alexandrian ship may have   
 sanding up of the harbour. The friends been laden with corn for Rome; but this   
 here mentioned were probably Christian cannot be inferred from ver. 38, for the   
 brethren (see ch. xi. 12, where the Gospel ship had been lightened before, ver. 18.—   
 is said to have been preached in Phosnicia ; Ou her size, see below, ver. 37.—Most   
 and ch, xxi. 3, where we find brethren at probably this ship had been prevented   
 Tyre); but it is usual in that case for taking the direct course to Italy, which   
 brethren or disciples to be specified: com- was by the south of Crete, the prevailing   
 pare ch. xxi. 4,7. The refreshing him- westerly winds. Under such circumstances,   
 self (literally, attention paid him) says Mr. Smith (p. 32), “ ships,   
 was perhaps to obtain from them that those of the ancients, unprovided with a   
 outfit for the voyage which, on account of compass, and ill calculated work to wind-   
 the official precision of his custody at ward, would naturally stand to the N. till   
 Cesarea, he could not there be provided they made the land of Asia Minor, which   
 with. 4. we sailed under] i.e. ‘in the is peculiarly favourable for such a mode of   
 lee of, Cyprus. “ When a ship is forced navigation, because the coast is bold and   
 out of her course by a contrary wind, so safe, and the elevation of the mountains   
 that an island is interposed between the makes it visible at a great distance; it   
 wind and the ship, she is to sail under abounds in harbours, while the sinuosities   
 the island.” Wetstein; who also says, “If of its and the westerly current would   
 the wind had been favourable, they would enable them, if the wind was at all off the   
 have put out to sea, and left Cyprus on land, to work to windward, at least as far   
 the right, as in Acts xxi. 3, but now as Cnidus, where these advantages ceased.   
 they are forced to coast along Cilicia, be- Myra lies due N. from Alexandria, and its   
 tween Cyprus and Asia.” They kept under bay is well calculated to shelter a wind-   
 shelter of Cyprus, i. e. between Cyprus bound ship. The Alexandrian ship was   
 and Cilicia, so having sailed the whole not, therefore, out of her course at Myra,   
 length of the sea off Cilicia Pamphylia, even if she had no call to touch there for   
 they came to Myra. See the account of the purposes of commerce. ‘7. we   
 the reverse voyage, ch. xxi. 8, where, the had sailed slowly] It is evident that the   
 wind being nearly in the same quarter, the ship was encountering an adverse wind.   
 direet course was taken, and they left The distance from Myra to Cuidus is only   
 Cyprus at a distance on their left, going