17—27. THE ACTS. 829   
   
 20 And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared,   
 and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be   
 saved was then taken away. \* ¥ But after long abstinence   
 Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye   
 should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from   
   
   
 Crete, and \*to have gained this harm and loss. 2 And   
 now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be   
 no loss of any man’s life among   
 you, but of the ship.   
 \*3 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, feb sill.   
 . a   
 whose thou am, must be &whom I before Cxsar: and, Fear God # Pan. vi.16.   
 hath given thee all them that sail with thee. mn, De   
 fore, #sirs, be of good cheer: ® for I believe God, 25 that it   
 261 Howbeit we must be   
 shall be even as it > was told me. But when the fourteenth \*   
 east upon a certain island.   
   
 night was come, as we were driven up and down in Adria,   
 about midnight the shipmen deemed that they drew near   
   
 Y read, And.   
 2 literally, Men.   
 8 render, should have been spared. > render, hath been.   
 rigging. with our own hands is should have turned to your own account   
 used as shewing the urgency of the this harm and loss. This may perhaps   
 danger—when the seamen would with be what our translators meant by gained :   
 their own hands, cast away what otherwise but it is by no means clear. 23.) Paul   
 was needful to the ship and themselves. characterizes himself as dedicated to and   
 20.] The sun and stars were the the servant of Ged, to give solemnity and   
 only guides of the ancients when out of bespeak credit for his announcement. At   
 sight of land. The expression, all hope such a time, the servants of God are highly   
 was taken away, seems, as Mr. Smith has esteemed. 24. all them that sail with   
 noticed, to betoken that a greater evil thee] Bengel remarks, that “ Paul is in the   
 than the mere foree of the storm (which sight of God the chief man in the ship and   
 perhaps had some little :—no small the director of its course.” 26. we   
 tempest seems to imply that it still must be cast...] Spoken prophetically,   
 raged, but not as before) was afllicting as also ver. 31: not perhaps from actual   
 them, viz. the leaky state of the ship, revelation imparted in the vision, but by a   
 which increased npon them, as is shewn power imparted to Paul himself of pene-   
 by their successive lightenings of her. trating the future at this crisis, an-   
 21. after long abstinence] “ What caused nouncing the Divine counsel. 27, the   
 the abstinence? A ship with nearly 300 fourteenth night] The reckoning of days   
 people on board, on a voyage of some length, counts from their leaying Fair Haven:   
 must have more than a fortnight’s see vv. 18, 19. in Adria} Adria, in   
 (and see ver. 38): and it is not enough the wider sense, embraces not only the   
 to say with Kuinoel, that ‘their continual Venetian Gulf, but the sea to the south of   
 Jabour and fear of danger had caused them Greece :—so Ptolemy, “The Peloponnesus   
 not to think of their food.’ ‘Much ab- is bounded on the W. and S. by the Adri-   
 stinence’ is one of the most frequent con- atic Sea: and again, Sicily is bounded   
 comitants of heavy gales. The impossi- on the N. by the Sea of Adria.” In fact,   
 bility of cooking, or the destruction of he bounds Italy on the S., Sicily the E.,   
 provisions from leakage, are the principal Greece on the S. and W., and Crete on the   
 causes which produce it.’ Smith, p. 75: W. by this Sea, which notices sufficiently   
 who quotes instances. But doubtless indicate its dimensions. So also Pansanias,   
 anxiety and mental distress had a con- speaking of the straits of Messina,   
 siderable share in it. should have for their tempestuous churacter by the   
 been spared this harm and loss] literally, meeting of the Tyrrhenian and the Adriatic