

What gate? This is clearly not an abstract statement, implying simply "beyond the city walls," but a distinct reference to *the gate*, τῆς πύλης, by which the sin offering was carried forth to be burned without the city.

Now we can hardly suppose that the sin offering would be carried away all through the crowded and bustling streets, far away to the west, when the eastern gates of the temple, leading directly into the country, were close at hand. Through one of these gates, probably the great East Gate, the offering was taken out; and outside *this gate*, ἐκ τῆς πύλης, our blessed Lord was crucified.

7. Then if he was crucified to the east of the city, there he was buried; for "in the place where he was crucified there was a garden: there laid they Jesus" (John xix. 41, 42).

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MORAR, *April 28th*, 1873.

NOTE.—I think the following extract interesting, as indirectly indicating the eastern site of our Lord's tomb:—"When the apostles separated to evangelise the world, Mary continued to live with St. John's parents in their house near the Mount of Olives, and every day she went out to pray at the tomb of Christ, and at Golgotha."—*Bishop Melito's (of Sardis) History*. See Smith's Dictionary, art. "Mary the Virgin," p. 264.

It is here clearly implied that St. John's house, the tomb of Christ, and Golgotha were alike "near the Mount of Olives." Mary had only to go out to reach the hallowed spots. We cannot understand her as passing through the city to the westward for that purpose.

## HAMATH INSCRIPTIONS.

THE observations of the Rev. W. Wright, of Damascus, demand no comment from me. Time will show whether I was correct in the first tentative investigations of these inscriptions.

It will be observed that M. Clermont-Ganneau in his remarks on the kindred inscriptions of Aleppo, expresses the same opinions as myself in favour of an independent syllabic character anterior to the Phœnician alphabet. He likewise refers to the possibility of its connection with the systems of Egypt and Assyria.

M. Clermont-Ganneau's proposition of the term of Syrian for these characters is useful, because it serves to localise and define them.

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