

4. ullus ex protectis<sup>1</sup> ingrediatur huc, neque propter tributum (solvendum) neque propter aliud quidquam.
5. Et caveatur ne transgrediatur hoc, et observetur
6. decretum ab Ipsa mandatum. Faxit Deus !

With reference to this inscription M. Clermont-Ganneau writes:—  
 “It appears to me to be of the highest importance in connection with the history of the *Martyrion of Constantine*; it proves that the old wall on the Russian ground east of the Holy Sepulchre is indeed the eastern wall of the Martyrion, and that it had on this side a vestibule and a staircase. I am about to read a memoir on this discovery before the Academy.”

## A GREEK INSCRIPTION.

By the Rev. H. PORTER.

BEIRÛT, *May 19th*, 1897.

I ENCLOSE a copy of another Greek inscription, which is found in our College Museum here. It is on a neatly-wrought headstone to a grave. The stone is cubical at the base, about 12 inches each way, surmounted by a short pillar. The lettering is very clear, and corresponds to the best type of Greek funeral inscriptions for the early period of the Christian era.

ΔΙΟΔΩΡΕΧΡΗCTE  
 ΚΑΙ ΑΩΡΕΕΤΩΝ  
 ΕΙΚΟCΙΚΑΙ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΧΑΙ  
 ΡΕΖΗΤΕΙ ΔΕ CΕ Η ΑΤΥ  
 ΧΗCΟΥ ΜΗΤΗΡ ΠΕΝΘΕΙCΕ  
 ΟΛΟC ΟΙΚΟC

*Διόδωρε, χρηστὲ καὶ ἄωρε, ἐτῶν εἴκοσι  
 καὶ τριῶν, χαῖρε. Ζητεῖ δέ σε ἡ ἀτυχή[s]  
 σοῦ μήτηρ, πενθεῖ σε ὄλος ὁ οἶκος.*

“O Diodorus, good and untimely (taken) at twenty-three years of age, farewell!  
 Thy unhappy mother seeks thee; all the household grieves for thee.”

[The expression “thy unhappy mother seeks thee” is doubtless derived from Luke ii, 48, “Thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing,” and if so it adds one more to the number of scriptural quotations on the early Christian tombstones.—A. S. M.]

<sup>1</sup> Subditis scilicet Christianis et Judæis.