of repentance; see Micah vi. 8.

**12.]** **publicans**, see on Matt. v. 46.

**14.] soldiers**—properly, **men on march:** not  
this need not be pressed, only that they  
were soldiers serving in an army. Who  
these were, we have no means of determining. Certainly not soldiers of the army  
which Herod Antipas sent against Aretas,  
his father-in-law:—see notes on Matt. xiv.  
1 ff.

**neither accuse any falsely]** The  
way in which *soldiers* would be likely to  
act the part of informers, would be by  
laying vexatious charges of disaffection  
against persons.

**15—17.]** Ver. 15 is  
peculiar to Luke, but is equivalent to  
John i. 19—25.

**{15} in expectation**,—i.e. that John would declare himself.

**16, 17.]** Matt. iii, 11, 12. Mark i. 7, 8.  
John i. 26, 27.

The four accounts are cognate, but vary in expression and arrangement: ver. 17 is nearly verbatim as Matthew.

**{16} latchet]** the lace, or thong  
with which the sandal was fastened.

**18—20.] {18}** Luke only: containing the corroboration of the account in Mark vi. 20 of John’s boldness in rebuking Herod, with  
this slight variation, that whereas in Mark  
Herod heard him gladly, and did many  
things in consequence, here the rebuke for  
general profligacy seems to have contributed to his imprisonment. These accounts however, though perfectly distinct,  
are by no means inconsistent. {20} The same  
rebukes which stung Herod’s conscience  
and aided the desire to imprison John,  
might work on that conscience, and cause  
the wish to hear more from the man of  
God. Vv. 19, 20 are *in anticipation* of what  
follows; which is in St. Luke’s manner;  
see ch. i. 80.

**21, 22.] {21}** Matt. iii, 13—17. Mark i. 9—11. St. Luke’s account is  
much more concise than usual, and wholly  
independent of the others; see note on  
Mark i. 10: we have here however three  
additional particulars— 1. that *all the  
people had been baptised* *before* the Lord’s  
baptism: 2. that He *was praying* at the  
time of the descent of the Spirit: 8. that  
the Spirit appeared *in a bodily form.* On  
(3), see note at Matt. iii. 16, § 2.