204 ST. MATTHEW. XXVIII.   
   
 he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus,   
 he delivered him to be crucified.   
 97" Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into   
 0 Tea. 5.   
 the ® common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band   
 of soldiers. % And they stripped him, and put on hima   
   
 scarlet robe. 2° And wher they had platted a crown of   
 thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right   
 hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked   
 , him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews. % And ? they spit   
 upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head.   
 81 And after that they had mocked him, they took the   
 q Isa. Kings off from him, and put his own raiment on him, 4and   
 ¥ Num. Hed. led him away to crucify him. 52\*And as they came out,   
 XELL13.   
 vi   
 © iterally, the pretorium.   
   
 hands, to betoken innocence from blood- soldiers’ 29.) It does not ap-   
 guiltiness, prescribed Deut. xxi. 6—9, pear whether the purpose of the was   
 and Pilate uses it here as intelligible to wound, or simply for mockery—and   
 the Jews. 25.] blood here has been equally uncertain is of what kind of   
 supposed to mean the punishment of thorns it was composed. The acanthus,   
 but more probably there is a much wider with its large leaves, singularly   
 reference—as the adherence of blood to unfit for such a purpose: as is the plant   
 the hands of a murderer is an idea not with very long sharp thorns commonly   
 bearing any necessary to punish- known as spina Christi, being a brittle   
 ment, only to guilt. 26.) The acacia (robinia),“and the very length of   
 custom of scou before execution was the thorns, ‘ich would meet in the   
 general among the Romans. After the middle if it bent into a wreath, pre-   
 scourging, John xix. Pilate made a cluding it. Some flexile shrub or t   
 last attempt to liberate Jesus—which must be understood—possibly some variety   
 answers to “I will chastise him and let of the cactus or prickly pear. ‘Hassel-   
 him go,” Luke, ver. 16. delivered quist, a Swedish naturalist, supposes a   
 him—to the Roman soldiers, office very common Plant, naba or nubka of   
 the execution would be. the Arabs, with many small and sharp   
 27—80.] Jasvs MOCKED BY THE SOL- spines; soft, and pliant branches ;   
 DIERS. lark xv. 16—19 (omitted in leaves resembling ivy, of very deep   
 Luke). John xix. 1—8. The assertion green, as in designed mockery of 2 vic-   
 “delivered him to be crucified” ver. 26 Ee 's Travels, 288. 1766 (cited   
 is not strictly its place there. Before FM). & reed—for a sceptre.   
 that, the of this come in, ere follows the exhibition Jesus   
 and the last attempt of Pilate liberate ilate, his last to release   
 Him. 27. the common hall] literally, ie John xix. 4—16.   
 the pretorium. The residence of the 31—34.] Hz 18 LED TO CRUCTFIXION.   
 man governor was the former palace of Mark xv. 20—23. Luke xxiii. 26—33.   
 Herod, in the upper the whole John xix. 16,17. erusalem, accounts are   
 band] The band is the eohort—the tenth liar to Matt. and Mark. distinct.   
 part of a legion. The term the whole is St. Matthew’s and St. Mark’s are, the   
 af course to be pressed. unto him usually took but varied in expression,   
 ort with Him. This happened in detail ; Luke’s and 1 Kings xxi. 18,   
 in rere -room of the cohort: and the Acts ‘alone; Heb. xiii. the fullest,   
 narrative of it we may well believe may ing us the deeply interesting to   
 have come from the centurion or others   
 (see ver. 54), were afterwards deepl   
 impressed at the crucifixion. 28.   
 Possibly the mantle in He had been   
 sent back from Herod—see note on Luke,   
 ver. 11: or perhaps one of the ordinary