212 ST. MATTHEW. XXVII. 66.   
   
 sure as ye can. 6 So they went, and made the sepulchre   
 1Daa.vi.17. gure, sealing the stone, ¥ and setting a watch.   
 XXVIII. 1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to   
 dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Mag-   
 ach. xxvit.t6. \* and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. \*% And,   
 behold, there was a great earthquake: for !the angel of   
 the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled   
   
   
 K render, besides [posting] the guard. 1 vender, an angel.   
   
 Gospel was compiled, all 2 priori argu- dence, which now rests (speaking merely   
 ments of this kind are good for nothing. objectively) the unexceptionable testi-   
 5.] Ye have—the verb rendered mony of three independent narrators,   
 may be either 1), indicative, have:— of one, who besides was an eye-witness   
 but then the question arises, guard of much that happened. If we aro to   
 had they? and if they had one, why go compare the four, and ask which is to   
 to Pilate? Perhaps we must understand taken as most nearly reporting the exact   
 some detachment placed at their disposal words and incidents, on this there I   
 during the feast—but there does not seem think be no doubt. On internal as well   
 to be any record of a practice. That as external ground, of St. John takes   
 the guards were under the Sanhedrim is the highest place: but not, of course,   
 plain from ch. xxviii. where they make the exclusion of parte of the narra-   
 their report, not to Pilate, but to the tive which he does not toxch. The   
 chief priests 2), imperative ; which improbability that the Evangelists had   
 doubtless it may be; see 2 Tim. i. 18 seen one another’s accounts, becomes, in   
 and note; and the sense here on that this of their Gospels, impossibility.   
 hypothesis would be, Take a body of Here and there we discern traces of a   
 men for a guard. And to this latter common narration as the ground of their   
 I rather incline: see the note in my reports, as g. Matt. vv. 5—8: Mark wv.   
 Greek Test. as ye can] literally 5—8, but even these are few.   
 as you know how :—in the best manner As I have a Gat idea of har-   
 you can. There is no irony in the monizing thi out, I will the stu-   
 as has been supposed. The sealing was fore. to pay carefull; pi notes on   
 by means of a cord or string passing the other Gospels. 1, In the of the   
 across the stone at the mouth of the sabbath] ere is some little difficulty   
 sepulchre, and fastened at either end to here, because end of the sabbath (and   
 the rock by sealing-clay. of the week) was at sunset the night be-   
 Cuar. It is hardly to be supposed that   
 RISEN FROM THE DEAD, APPEARS TO THE St. Matthew means the evening of the   
 womMEN. Mark xvi. 1—8. Luke xxiv. sabbath, though “dawn” is used of the   
 1—12. John xx. 1—10. The independ- day beginning at sunset (Luke xxiii.   
 ‘ ence and distinctness the four narra- and note). It is best interpret a doubt-   
 tives in this part never been ques- ful expression in unison with the other   
 tioned, and indeed herein lie princi testimonies, and to suppose that here   
 difficulties. regard to them, I refer both the day and the breaking of the   
 to what I have said in the Introduction, are taken in natural, not their   
 that supposing us to be acquainted with sense. Mary Magdalene and the other   
 every thing said and done in its order Mary] In Mark, ipreteeg also. St. John   
 and exactness, we should doubtless be speaks of Mc dalene alone. See   
 able to reconcile, account for, the pre- notes there. td to 080 the sepulchre} It   
 sent forms of the narratives; but not was to anoint the Body, for which pur-   
 having this key to the harmonizing of poses they had bought, since the end of   
 them, all attempts to so in minute par- the Sabbath, ointments and spices,   
 ticulars must be full arbitrary assamp- In Mark it is the rising of   
 tions, and carry no certainty with them. sun; in John, while yet dark; in Luke,   
 And I may remark, that of all at dim dawn; the two last agree with our   
 those of the incidents of these chapters text. 2.] This must not be taken as   
 are to me the most Giving pluperfect, “there been, &c.,” which   
 their compilers all for the best in- would he altogether inconsistent the   
 tentions, I confess they seem to me to text. The words here must mean that