652 THE ACTS. IIs   
   
 insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue   
 Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood. 20 Por it is   
 written in the book of Psalms, ™ Let his habitation be   
 m Ps. Ixix, desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and, " His   
 n Ps, 8. v bishoprick let another take.   
 21 Wherefore of these men   
   
 which have companied with us all the time that the Lord   
 Mark i... Jésus went in and out among us, ® ° beginning from the   
 pver. 9. baptism of John, unto that same day that ? he was taken   
 up from us, must one \* de ordained %to be a witness with us   
 q John xv. 23 And they appointed two, Joseph   
 yer.8. ch, of his resurrection.   
   
 V render, office. X the original has merely, become a witness.   
 that actually used by the speaker. The there one adversary is even more pointedly   
 words and idioms of a mother tongue con- marked out. See also Ps. lv. bishop-   
 tain allusions and national peculiarities rick] not necessarily such, in technical   
 which never could have been in the mind aceuraey: the word may signify any   
 of one speaking in a different language ; overseership, office, or charge. But, con-   
 but the ear tolerates these, or sidering the usage of the word and its   
 rates them, if critically cognates, in this and the following books   
 was known... al See Luke xxiv. 18. of the N. T., and in the chnreh, I regard it   
 The field of field In Matt. is xxvii. to as best to keep every where the literal   
 the fuct of its having been bought with the rendering, leaving each passage to explain   
 i price of blood : here, to the fact of Judas itself. 21.) Wherefore, since all this   
 having there met with @ signal and bloody has happened to Judas, and since it is the   
 death, On the whole, I believe the result divine will that another should take the   
 to which I haye above inclined will found eharge which was his. all the time]   
 the best to suit the phanomena of the two This definition of the necessary qualifica-   
 passages,—viz. that, with regard to the tion of an apostle exactly agrees with our   
 purchase of the field, the more circum- Lord’s saying in John xv. 27: “ Aud ye   
 stantial account in Matthew is to be also are witnesses, because ye have been   
 adopted ; with regard to the death of Judas, with me from the beginning.” See Intro-   
 the more cireumstantial aceount of Luke. duction, ch. i., § paragraph 5. 22.)   
 The clue which joins these has been lost to the baptism of John is mentioned as a   
 us: and in this, only those will any well-known date, including of course the   
 stumbling-bloek, whose faith in the veracity opening event of our Lord’s ministry, His   
 of the Evangelists is very weak indeed. own baptism by John. That Joln econ-   
 The field originally belonged to a. tinued to baptize for some time after thut,   
 potter, and was probably a piece of land can be no possible objection to the assign-   
 which had been exhausted of ay fit ment of ‘ John’s baptism’ generally, as the   
 his purposes, and so was useless. Jerome date of the eommencement of the apostolic   
 relates that it was still on the South testimony. We may notice, that from this   
 side of Meunt Sion, in which neighbour- point, the baptism of John, the testimony   
 hood there is even now a bed of white clay. of the Evangelists themselves in their   
 20.] For, the connexion being, ‘all Gospels properly begins, Matt. iii. 1,   
 this happened and became known,’ &e., ‘in i. 1, Luke iii, John i. 6. @ witness   
 accordance with the prophecy” &e. Ps. .... of his resurrection] This one event   
 Ixix. is eminently a Messianic psahn,— was the passage-point between the Lord's   
 spoken in the first place of David and his life of humiliation and His life of glory,—   
 kingdom and its enemies, and so, according the completion of His work below and he-   
 to the nniversal canon of Old Testament ginning of His work above. And to ‘ give   
 interpretation, of Him in whom that king- witness with power’ of the Resurrection   
 dom found its true fulfilment, and of His (ch. iv. 33), would be to discourse of it as   
 enemies. And Judas being the first and being all this: in order to which, the whole   
 most notable of these, the Apostle applies ministry of Jesus must be within the cycle   
 eminently to him the words which in the of the Apostle’s experience.—It is remark-   
 Psalm are spoken in the plural of all such able that Peter here lays down experience   
 enemies, The same is true of Ps. cix., of matters of fact, not eminence in any   
 subjective grace or quality, as the con-