

As I had to make a choice between foregoing the sights of Smyrna and the ruins of Ephesus—fifty miles off by rail—I preferred the former. My party of friends from Berlin University went out by rail to the ancient city, and described the ruins, especially of the great Temple of Diana, as especially interesting, although scarcely one stone was left upon another. "If the glory of Ephesus was great," says a recent writer, "its ruin is remarkable. What remains attests its vastness, but of that magnificence naught but

343 feet, but the great Temple of the Sun, which we saw at Baalbec, was almost as large, and its columns were even larger. Seven of the latter, with their entablature rising seventy-five feet, still remain, while at Ephesus not a fragment stands erect. What gives the latter its special interest is its association with sacred history from the persecutions of St. Paul, who fought with beasts and beast-like men at Ephesus. The story of his visits is told in Acts xviii, xix. and xx. From his prison cell in Rome he



TOMB OF POLYCARP, SMYRNA.

fragments exist. It has a character of desolation of its own. The population has passed away from the site, and of the monuments of marble scarcely enough remains above ground to mark their sites." Many of its smaller columns were carried off to embellish Constantinople, Rome, Pisa, and other cities. What became of the many statues that adorned its temples we cannot tell, unless they were burned for lime or buried beneath the soil.

The great Temple of Diana was one of the largest and most famous in the world. It measured 164 by

subsequently wrote the Epistle to the Ephesians.

Here, also, St. John is believed to have retired after his return from his banishment to Patmos. Here, too, according to tradition, the Virgin Mary went to live with the beloved disciple, and here she died and was buried. Here was held the famous Council of Ephesus, and here is said to be the tomb of Mary Magdalene. The Grotto of the Seven Sleepers is a place of interest to Mohammedans as well as Christians. Tradition reports that during the persecution of the Christians in the