

The different sects possess chapels around this rotunda. Immediately behind the Holy Sepulchre is the Coptic Chapel, *Q* in the plan, and behind that the Syrian or Jacobite Chapel. A short and narrow passage leads to a rocky chamber where we are shown the empty tombs of Joseph of Arimathea and of Nicodemus. At *U* is shown the station of Mary Magdalene, and at *V* that where Christ appeared to her in the garden. In the Latin sacristy we are shown the sword, spear and cross of Godfrey de Bouillon, the first Christian king of Jerusalem.

Directly opposite the door of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre is the large and sumptuous chapel of the Greeks, called the Catholicon, one hundred and twenty feet in length, and lavishly decorated with gilding and paintings. At *R*, in the middle of the floor, is a short column which is said to mark the centre of the world. Over and over again have I seen pilgrims devoutly prostrating themselves on the floor and kissing this stone. Behind a carved screen is the most holy place of the Greeks, adorned with jewelled altars and sacred pictures.

We attended a very high¹ function in this Catholicon, when the church was densely crowded, but places were reserved for us close beside the throne of the patriarch. A peculiarity of the Greek Church is that no woman's voice is heard in its music nor are any bells rung. The calls to prayer are made by beating on sonorous wooden boards, in a quick throbbing time, extremely musical and impressive. In the solemn litany the patriarch prayed by name for all the sovereigns of Europe.

Other chapels are that of "Longinus," the Chapel of "The Derision," and that of "The Parting of Christ's Raiment."

Descending twenty-nine steps we reach a large chapel (*G*, to the extreme right of the plan), the Chapel of St. Helena, sixty-two feet long and forty-two feet wide, dating from the seventh century, with strongly marked Byzantine architecture. Descending thirteen steps more we reached the dark and very ancient crypt (*H*), a rude cave in the rock, described as the Chapel of the Finding of the Cross. This chapel is twenty-four feet square. A life-size statue of the Empress represents her holding the cross.

The tradition is that this British-born empress, the mother of Constantine, prompted by a divine vision undertook the pilgrimage to Jerusalem, where she discovered, not only the Holy Sepulchre, but also the cross of Christ; in fact, three crosses were found, those of the two thieves as well. The true cross of Calvary was identified by a miracle which was wrought in restoring to life a dead man. The cross was hewn in pieces and the precious fragments divided among the many churches of Christendom; indeed,