

There is an opening from St. Mark's place to the sea, on which stand two lofty pillars of granite. Criminals, condemned to public punishment, suffer between these pillars; on the top of one of which is a lion with wings, and on the other, a saint.

At one corner of St. Mark's church, contiguous to the palace, are two statues of Adam and Eve. Near a range of buildings, called the New Procuratie, stands the steeple of St. Mark, a quadrangular tower, about three hundred feet in height. It seems, this state of disunion between the church and steeple is not uncommon in Italy, though some think they should be as inseparable as a man and his wife.

A few paces from the church are three tall poles, on which ensigns are raised on days of public rejoicing. These standards are in memory of the three kingdoms of Cyprus, Candia, and Negropont, which once belonged to the republic, the three crowns of which are still kept in the ducal palace.

At the bottom of the tower of St. Mark is a small neat marble building, called the Loggia, where some of the procurators of St. Mark constantly attend to do business.

The patriarchal church of St. Mark is of mixed architecture, though principally Gothic. It is, unquestionably, one of the richest and most expensive in the world; yet our author says it does not much strike the eye at first. The pillars are all of marble, and the outside, inside, ceiling, and paving, are all of the same costly material. The whole is crowned by five domes; and the front has five brass gates, with historical bas-reliefs. Over the grand gate are placed the four famous bronze

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