

merely TI. After this composite character there is E, or there are two letters that look like IE.

In the 8th line, the first two letters are uncertain, especially the first. The second may be N or A and V tied. The third is certainly E, the fourth F or P followed by PA certainly, after which come C or G and possibly E.

In the 9th line, the first letter is illegible, but an oblique stroke looks like the relic of a V, whence *heu* may be conjectured. TIBIPRO seem to be certain, but the letter after O is very indistinct. It may have been M.

In the 10th line, the first letter is very indistinct. It was possibly I or L. The second letter may have been N or V, the third certainly C followed after a longer space than usual by EPR, after which two letters are lost.

In the 11th line, the letters are almost certainly LAMINIVSV. Of these, A and the last V are not as clear as the others, but of the two a small A is distinct in the photograph. Before L seem to be the remains of the bars of F.

In the 12th line, the letters are certainly EPROFVNE.

In the 13th line, the letters are certainly VCEMVOLV.

In the 14th line, the letters are certainly DEREVITAE.

As we have now considered the text, so far as relates to the extant letters, we may proceed in the investigation of the lines and verses. The first two lines seem to have contained the names of the deceased with the date of his burial (in March or February) as is usual in ancient Christian epitaphs. The verses, most probably, commenced in the 3rd line, and, as the stone has been nearly bisected, we may assume that the lost portion of each line was equal to that which remains, generally, if not always, containing four syllables. These twelve lines, then, may be represented somewhat thus :

- (3) [ — — — S ] EMPERGEL
- (4) [ — — — ] PERVENIE
- (5) [ — — — CO ] NRVERINT
- (6) [ — — — ] PIIS ? VS
- (7) [ — — — ] EFFICENE
- (8) [ — — — ? ] VEPPACE
- (9) [ — — — ] TIBIPRO
- (10) [ — — — ] NECEPRO
- (11) [ — — — F ] LAMINIVSV
- (12) [ — — — ? ] EPROFVNE
- (13) [ RE — — — L ] VCEMVOLV
- (14) [ IT — — — RED ] DEREVITAE.