

"Petronius in peace on the seventeenth day before the Calends of ———, who lived 66 years, in the Consulship of Olybrius and Probinus, most distinguished men, *i. e.* 395 A. D. Here rests in peace ——— who in her life time made this. Space for two bodies is unoccupied."

1. 2. *nis.* The beginning of the word, of which this is the ending, was in the preceding line. *Consulatu Olybrio.* See note on epitaph 58. † *Bisomus vacat.* Was this an intimation that it was for sale? I have not seen Ratti's comment on this inscription, which was published in *Atti della pont. accad. d'arch.*, but De Rossi's notice of it is very unfavorable. He says that his observations show nothing but *incredibilem ejus in re epigraphica inscitiam et summam judicii levitatem.*

(e) *Locus trisomus* :—

80.

CALEVIVSBENDIDITAVINTRISOMVVBIPOSITIERANTVIN
[IETCALVILIVSET
LVCIVSINPA COS · STIL

(*E coemeterio SS. Quarti et Quinti* ; De Rossi, n. 489.)

Calevius vendidit Avin (Avinio) trisomu (trisomum), ubi positi erant vini (bini) et Calvilius et Lucius in pace, Consulatu Stilichonis.

"Calevius sold to Avinius a place for three bodies, where both Calvilius and Lucius had (already) been placed in peace, in the Consulship of Stilicho," *i. e.* 400 A. D.

The stone that bears this inscription is remarkable on account of the symbols that are cut on it, *viz.*, the monogram, the balance, the fish, the candelabrum with seven lights, the house, and the mummy in a receptacle approached by steps. Of the monogram and the fish I have already spoken. The candelabrum with seven lights, or the seven-branched candlestick, is frequently represented on the grave-stones of Jews, and was adopted from them by Christians, with, perhaps, a different meaning. The balance may have been derived from the notion of Psychostasy, which was Eastern in its origin, and to which the weighing of the Fates of Achilles and Hector in the *Iliad* is analogous. With it may be compared the expression used relative to Belshazzar in Daniel, v. 27. Or does the symbol merely indicate the just dealing of the deceased?

† I have given this epitaph in illustration of *locus bisomus*, chiefly on account of the words *bisomus vacat*; but the *locus* seems to have been *quadrisomus*, space for two bodies being unoccupied.