

upon the lame man was, as Baumgarten supposes, or was not⁹ the first Apostolic miracle, it produced a profound impression on the persons congregated at the time within the temple and its courts, who forthwith crowded round the Apostles in Solomon's porch, where the healed man clung to them, as if unwilling to permit their departure. Solomon's porch was a cloister or covered portico which ran along the east wall of the outer court, on both sides of the gate Shushan, and overlooked both the brook Kedron and the valley of Jehoshaphat.¹ It had three rows of columns fifty feet high, and two walks thirty feet wide. The columns were each of one block of white marble, the walks were paved with variously-coloured stones, and the roofs were adorned with sculptures in wood. The porch was a survival from the Solomonic edifice, as the the Phœnician characters upon its stones indicated,² and received its name from this circumstance, rather than from the fact "that teachers of wisdom after the ancient Solomonian manner could there freely appear and gather hearers about them."³ Inferring from what they saw depicted on the countenances of the onlookers therein assembled that they were regarded either as holy men who, in virtue of superior piety, or as magicians who by means of occult arts had restored the cripple to soundness of limbs, Peter, acting as spokesman, explained, in an oration not "fiery," as Ewald calls it, but spirited, that the miracle had been wrought by no superior ability or goodness of their own, but directly and immediately by the name of Jesus—their connection with the amazing deed having been limited to the humble office of exercising faith in that name; that Jesus whom they (the people) and their rulers had ignorantly rejected and crucified had been raised from the dead and glorified; that it behoved them to repent, and turn to God, that their sins might be blotted out; that Jesus had been the very prophet, like unto himself, whose coming Moses had

⁹ See Acts ii. 43.

¹ Josephus, *Antiquities*, xv. 11, 5; xx. 9, 7.

² Warren, *Underground Jerusalem*, p. 61; *The Recovery of Jerusalem*, p. 317.

³ Ewald, *The History of Israel*, vol. vi., p. 360.