

THE LORD'S LAND.

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II.



THE VIA DOLOROSA, JERUSALEM.

THE most sacred spot in Jerusalem, in the eyes of pilgrims from all parts of Christendom, is the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. A tradition, dating back to the time of Constantine, identifies this spot as the scene of the crucifixion and entombment of Christ. The entrance is shown in the engraving on the opposite page. Directly under the central dome is a shrine of yellow marble, twenty-six by eighteen feet, richly adorned

with gold and silver lamps and precious stones. Beneath this is a natural grotto, in which are shown to the credulous the seat of the angel of the resurrection and the very stone which he rolled away! Bending low, one enters the sepulchre itself. The tomb is a recess faced with marble, and adorned with precious lamps and pictures. Here, passionately kissing the stones in an agony of earnestness, kneel pilgrims from every land, while a monk stands by with his contribution-box, crying at the very grave of Christ, "Give! give!" Here, on Easter eve, is celebrated the