

VII.—O Glorious Princes of the Apostles, saint Peter and saint Paul, the happy inhabitants of Rome are the most admirable and the most glorious monument of your beneficent charity. Ancient and proud Rome drank of the infamous chalice of every sorts of dissipation and impiety; she is drenched with the blood of countless martyrs of Jesus Christ, and in punishment for such wickedness and so many sacrileges, she has been ruined and exists no more. The Rome of to-day owes her existence and her glory to the Apostolic Chair, to your ashes to your hallowed tombs, O Princes of the Apostles. Behold then your city and continue to grant it the favor of your protection. Drive afar from this city and its inhabitants the vices which ruined Rome of old, guilty Rome. Let its inhabitants grow strong and perfect in all the virtues which