

rous hordes of former days. Nor has Rome suffered only from such foes. Successive Emperors, outvieing each other in luxurious prodigality, had demolished stately edifices to replace them by others still more spacious and of yet more costly materials. Last, if not the worst of spoilers, came the nobles of modern Rome, with a spirit of barbarism which has called forth the just indignation of their own countrymen, who tore down and plundered what time and other enemies had spared: robbing temples, and porticos, and arches to furnish materials for their new palaces. In fact, as has been truly said, they treated those monuments of antiquity and art, as a vast quarry of nature to supply them with stones and marbles for their own use. Pope has somewhat varied, but substantially repeated, the causes of their destruction in his elegant couplets:

"Some felt the silent stroke of mouldering age,
Some hostile fury, some religious rage;
Barbarian blindness, Christian zeal, conspire,
And Papal piety, and Gothic fire."

From one cause or other, the soil of Rome has accumulated to such an extent that the expression of the poet is a melancholy truth, and

"Rome her own sad sepulchre appears."

The streets of the old city lie buried from ten to twenty feet below the present level, and columns and buildings in ruin are covered up deep with the debris. Many works of art have been dug out from their long place of rest and many more no doubt yet lie hid under the earth and houses above them. Still, notwithstanding all that has been said, the seven hills are plainly to be traced out, and with these prominent land marks, it is not difficult to map out on the ground itself, a considerable part at least of the old magnificent city.

Note. THE EXCAVATIONS AT ROME.—A communication from Rome states that the excavations are being actively carried on at the Palatine. They have been for a certain time interrupted on some points, in consequence of the necessity of effecting some works of consolidation, which the removal of an enormous mass of earth had rendered necessary. The clearing away of the long subterranean galleries situated behind the fountain constructed by Vignole has been continued, and large rooms have been found which are supposed to have formed part of the bathing establishment of the Palace of the Cæsars. In the direction of the Grand Circus there has been discovered the statue of a youthful Bacchus, crowned with ivy, of remarkable Grecian workman-ship. It would appear to have belonged to a group, as the hand of another figure is still attached to the body of the young god. A great number of fragments of sculpture of colossal dimensions were found at the same time. From the Aventine, from the banks of the Tiber, and even from the station of the railway from Civita Vecchia to Rome, which is more than half a mile from the Portese-gate, the Portico of the Palatine library may now be seen. It is formed of six magnificent columns in Cipoline marble, of a height of 18ft., columns which M. Rosa has discovered, and has again placed on their bases with their Corinthian capitals. This portico produces a magnificent effect. The Pontifical Archaeological Academy, which occupies at Rome the same rank as the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres at Paris, chose the Palatine for holding one of its late sittings.—*Gallignani's Messenger*.—April, 1853.

B.

OBITUARY NOTICE.

It is seldom that we meet with a character of such perfect integrity and gentleness as the subject of this notice. As a son and as a brother he was never surpassed. Nurtured in the bosom of the Church of England, he entertained an enlightened and profound attachment for her pure doctrines and apostolic rule. His benefactions to the Church were large; and the community in which he resided feel that they have lost a kind, considerate neighbor and a real friend. His kindness to the poor and needy was uniform; the lamentation with which the intelli-