

the Piazza. A child picked up one of Savonarola's fingers and carried it home to its mother. The bodies were conveyed in carts and cast into the Arno; but fragments which fell out by the way were gathered up and preserved as relics. Pico della Mirandola tells us that he secured a portion of the heart of the Frate, which had been recovered from the river. It was believed that miracles were wrought by means of these relics.

History tells us of the miseries which were in store for Florence in the future. The bitterest enemies of the Frate knew their error too late, when they were forced to make common cause with the Piagnoni against the tyrants who sought to bring them under their former bondage. The excellence of Savonarola's policy has been acknowledged, not by mere partisans, but by historians who had little sympathy with his prophecies or with his religious reform. The ruin of Florence was the result of the restoration of the Medici, and from that time it has never recovered its ancient position in Italy and in Europe. Some of the causes which led to the failure of the work of Savonarola we have endeavored to indicate. Of the man himself, of his intellectual and moral greatness, of his simplicity and godly sincerity, of the nobility of his aims and the sanctity of his life, none will doubt who carefully and candidly consider the testimony of his words and deeds. If there are any who will still bring against him the mere vulgar charges of fanaticism, or even of imposture, we can only say, "Wisdom is justified of her own children."

"From his early youth to the day in which he was led forth to die on the gallows," says the Padre Marchese, "he was always equal to himself in the innocence of his life, in the love of truth, in his charity towards the human