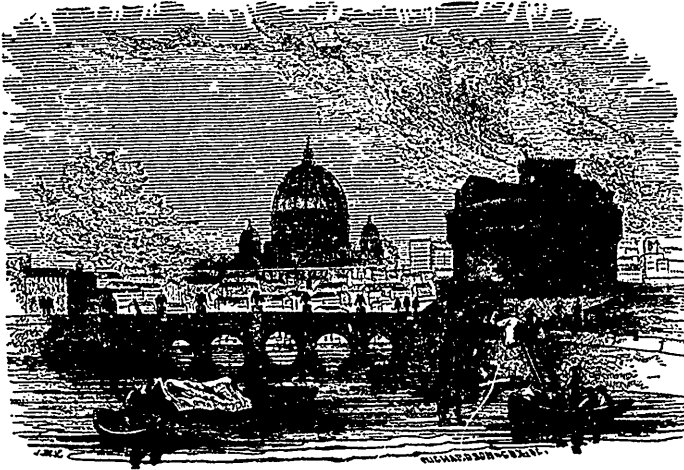


and among classes where men cannot gain access to the Zenanas of the East. Women have proved in course of the past forty years that they have special fitness for special work, as medical missionaries, as Bible-readers, as teachers. Christian ladies of the highest attainments have gone to heathen

lands from Great Britain and the United States and Canada, and have rendered noble service especially in bettering the condition of their own sex. Over one hundred Canadian women have devoted themselves to work among the heathen as wives of missionaries, or as teachers and medical missionaries.

### Brieflet No. 13.



THE LEONINE CITY—ROME.

THIS is the name given to a quarter of Rome separated from the main city by the Tiber, and enclosed within walls of its own. It has a history of its own, too, and it has this added interest that these walls at the present time form the boundary of the Pope's temporal dominions, extending to some 1700 acres more or less. The faith of the civil government is pledged to the Pope and his successors, that they shall retain possession of this circumscribed sanctuary—nothing more and nothing less—though under what conditions or limitations dependent sayeth not. Within these walls are situated the historic castle of St. Angelo, the basilica of St. Peter's, the Vatican Palace, and the old Palace of the Inquisition. There is little doubt that, after all, this is the part of Rome that draws the largest crowds of visitors from year to year; for St. Peter's is the first and last thing that people want to see in Rome. Many centuries before it assumed its present magnificent form, the site on which it stands was known as a part

of 'Nero's Gardens'—the place of fashionable resort in an age of moral depravity such as has never been surpassed since the world began. Here, in the times of the first persecutions, multitudes of Christians suffered martyrdom, and greater enormities were enacted than ever disgraced the Coliseum. Covered with skins of wild beasts, or coated with pitch, they were doomed to die by the mangling of dogs, or by being nailed to crosses, or to be set on fire and burnt by way of nightly illumination. "Along the paths of these gardens were ghastly torches, blackening the ground beneath them with streams of sulphureous pitch, and each of those living torches was a martyr in his shirt of fire."\*

These walls that have stood for a thousand years were erected by Leo IV to protect the Church and precincts of St. Peter's from the deprivations of Saracen hordes who had repeatedly made incursions and carried off

\* FARRAR'S "Early Days of Christianity," P. 53.