

iar to all my readers. Hers was a sweet and lovely character, a model of all the virtues which should adorn a woman as daughter, wife and mother !

Her church is in the Roman Forum, on the site of an old temple of Venus, and close by the arch of Titus. She is held in great veneration by Roman women of all classes, and they vie with each other in decking her altars for the festa, which is quite a holiday.

After the grand services at the church are finished, the crowd passes along the old *Via Sacra* of the Romans, to the *Via Tor di Specchi*, to visit a convent founded by St. Frances. The riches and beauty of the chapel of this convent are indescribable. The Sanctuary carpet is of white velvet, with religious emblems in the centre, and the coat-of-arms of the Saint's family (the Pourjiani) on either side in brilliant colors. This carpet is entirely made with the needle, by the ladies of Rome, and when we consider that St. Frances died A. D. 1440, it is a great test of their piety to keep up such work to the present. The walls of the Sanctuary, all around behind the altar, are wainscoted with pure gold, beautifully wrought with scenes from the life of the saint. The buildings of the convent cover considerable ground ; in going through it the eye is constantly delighted with glimpses of inner courts filled with sunshine, where the lemon trees are already showing their golden fruit.

When we entered Rome for the first time it was near the end of February, and our attention was attracted by large posters around the railway station, and at various other places throughout the city, to the effect that :

" On March 17th, the Feast of St. Patrick, the sermon would be preached by the Rev. Father Nugent, of Liverpool, at the church of St. Isadore, of the Irish Franciscans."

Needless to say the 17th found us there, and we had a hard struggle to get inside the door. The church is large, but the crowd on that day was larger than its holding capacity, as every one in Rome who understood the English language desired to hear the learned orator. On leaving the church, at the close of the ceremonies, we found in the outer porch, at the top of the steps, the out-

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