

manly sports and amusements, refreshing themselves afterwards with a plunge into the neighbouring Tiber.* As time advanced, and the city spread and increased, some few temples were at first erected there; but it was also used for other than its original purposes. Men of great eminence were, towards the close of the Republic, buried there; so that it could hardly even then have been accounted as part of the city, since interments were forbidden within it by the laws of the Twelve Tables—"In urbe ne sepelito,"—though it is true that in those times such injunctions were not very likely to be regarded. Thus Sylla, the Consuls Mirtius and Pansa, and Julius Cæsar, were, among others, buried there. It may be doubted, however, whether the bodies were not always first burned and their ashes only deposited there, as was certainly the case with regard to Sylla and Cæsar. This practice became very general under the Empire, though, previously, interment of the body was usual among the Romans, and was very frequently on the sides of the great highways, as may be seen at this day on the Via Appia, which is bordered with tombs. I may here observe that a remarkable exception to this law of the Twelve Tables was made very early, in the case of Poplicola, whose eminent services in the expulsion of the Tarquins had obtained for him the privilege and honour of a tomb near the Forum. In the age of Augustus, the Campus Martius began to be filled with numerous and stately edifices. Hither the body of that Emperor was borne on the shoulders of his senators to be burned; his ashes being deposited in the magnificent mausoleum bordering closely on the Tiber, which he had taken care to erect for himself. It is now a ruin covered with streets and houses. When built it was surrounded with groves, laid out with walks, for the use and recreation of the people. Temples, theatres, palaces, and baths, sprung up there also, and with their grounds and gardens, extended over and covered a great part of this wide and once open area. It is upon this extensive space, thus bounded and described, that modern Rome has been chiefly built—though it is on the other side of the Tiber, on another hill, Mons Vaticanus, that the vast palace which takes from it its name—the Vatican, and the magnificent and unrivalled church of St. Peter's, the most prominent objects of modern Rome, are situated. From the foot of the Capitoline ran northerly the Via Lata, which was probably, judging from its name, the principal street in Rome. This terminated in the old Flaminian Way, one of the great roads leading from the city. It may still be traced for twenty miles and more, by the side of the present road, paved with the large square blocks of dark grey-stones which the Romans generally employed in such works. They built substantially, and for posterity. On this way, at the then extreme point of the Campus Martius, was the old Flaminian gate; very near to where it stood is the present Porta del Popolo; from which, following closely the course of the old road towards the capitol, runs the Corso, the principal street of modern Rome, dividing the present city, as the Flaminian Way did the Campus Martius: about two-thirds of it lying between the Corso and the River. I have been thus particular that you may, if possible, understand from my description, the relative positions and parts occupied by the ancient and modern cities. You will thus too, in some degree, comprehend how many remains of the one may exist without being more than they are, covered up and concealed by the other. These remains, as you will see, being chiefly to be found on the seven intramural hills or in their immediate neighbourhood. I wish, indeed, that I had the aid of a good plan of Rome† to which I could refer as I run over those

* Uinctos Tiberinis humeros lavit in undis.—*Hor. Carm. III.*, 72.

† See among others the plan of modern Rome in Bradshaw's Continental Guide and Vasi's *Pianta delle vestigie di Roma Antica*.