

BUILDING THE TOMBS OF THE PROPHETS.



GIROLAMO SAVONAROLA.

Four hundred years ago, on the twenty-third of May, 1498, Girolamo Savonarola was burned to death in the great square in the City of Florence. By a sublime poetic justice the world to-day rings with his fame as the prophet and forerunner of civil and religious liberty in United Italy. In the very chamber in which Savonarola held his council when, as the most potent spirit in Italy, he administered the civil affairs in Florence, King Victor Emanuel held the first Parliament of

United Italy. Savonarola has been called the John Wesley of Italy. He was more. He was, in a way, the combination of Luther and Cromwell, reforming at once the religion and politics of the country.

Bruno, the Italian monk, who was burned at the stake in the city of Rome, in 1600, has recently had erected to his honour a bronze statue in that city.

John Wycliffe, whose ashes the persecuting monks of the period strewn upon the rippling burn of Lutterworth, which carried them into the Severn, and the Severn into the sea, "an emblem of his doctrines, that like its waters encompass the world," is hailed as the Morning Star of the Reformation.

Crammer, Latimer and Ridley, who were burned at Oxford, have their monument in that classic city. Tyndale, who was burned at Mechlin, has his bronze statue on the banks of the Thames. Zwingli, who died upon the field of Kappel, lives in bronze in the city of Zurich, where he so long ministered to the church of God.

Luther has at Worms, where he was arraigned before Charles V., one of the noblest monuments in Europe. The memory of Jerome and Huss, burned without the gates of Constance, is perpetuated by a colossal monument on the site of their martyrdom. Thus the words of our Saviour are fulfilled, "Ye build the sepulchres of the prophets, and your fathers killed them." God buries his workmen, but carries on his work. Their bodies lie mouldering in the grave, but their souls go marching on.

GLEANINGS FROM GLADSTONE.

You cannot fight against the future.

Men are apt to mistake the strength of their feeling for the strength of their argument.

Every real and searching effort at self-improvement is of itself a lesson of profound humility.

We cannot change the profound and resistless tendencies of the age toward religious liberty.

If we are just men, we shall go forward in the name of truth and right, bearing this in mind - that when the case is proved

and the hour is come, justice delayed is justice denied.

Yes, the disease of an evil conscience is he, and the practice of all the physicians of all the countries in the world. . . . It is written in the eternal laws of the universe of God that sin shall be followed by suffering.

Depend upon it that all false, all sham work, however it may last for a little, the effect of it is ultimately to destroy reputation, to take away confidence, and to act most injuriously upon those who have adopted the trick.