

some, it is composed of square red tiles imbedded in cement, in others of cement alone, while in others, again, it consists of small cubes or fragments, from half an inch to an inch square, laid down piece by piece in cement to form a pavement.

The walls were coated with plaster, upon which colours were laid, sometimes plain, sometimes in ornamental design. Fragments of plaster showing the colour upon them have been found in the rubbish with which the floors were covered.

One of the most interesting discoveries in connection with the excavations has been that of fragments of Roman window glass, not blown or rolled, but cast in a mould. No whole pane has been found, but there are enough pieces to show that the size was 11 3-4 inches long by 8 3-4 inches wide.

Many antiquities of interest have been dug up in the vicinity. One of the most curious is a bell which suggests a modern bicycle bell. There seems to be no doubt, however, as to its genuineness. It is a curious instance, showing how conservative mankind is. Among other articles which have been found are a comb, a key-head, a bone pin, a bronze ornament, a pair of tweezers, several knives,

and a horse-sandal, some of which are not unlike those at present in use. The knives are not set into handles like our modern cutlery. The horse-sandal recalls the shoe which is put over the horse's foot sometimes, to prevent him from slipping into the soft earth.

Many coins have also been dug up, several of which belong to the reign of Tetricus, and dating from A.D. 267 to 272.

No clue has yet been found as to the time when the villa ceased to be occupied. There are no traces of charred roof or walls, so that it probably was not burnt down. The fact that all the walls are brought down to the level of the ground, is easily explained by the way in which the ruins were used as a quarry from which to obtain materials for building the church, and doubtless other buildings too.

The foundations of the villa lie four or five feet below the present level of the ground, and must have been in constant danger from the overflow of the river. To remedy this, a wall 340 feet in length had been built between the house and the river. The difference of level is largely due to the continual washing down of the soil from the higher slopes, though the turning over of the soil and the action of earth-worms have no doubt helped to bring about the result.

L'ENVOI.

And they were stronger hands than mine
That digged the Ruby from the earth—
More cunning brains that made it worth
The large desire of a King ;
And bolder hearts that through the brine
Went down the Perfect Pearl to bring.

Lo, I have wrought in common clay
Rude figures of a rough-hewn race,
For Pearls strew not the market-place
In this my town of banishment,
Where with the shifting dust I play
And eat the bread of Discontent.

Yet is there life in that I make—
Oh, Thou who knowest, turn and see.
As Thou hast power over me,
So have I power over these,
Because I wrought them for Thy sake,
And breathed in them mine agonies.

Small mirth was in the making. Now
I lift the cloth that cloaks the clay ;
And, wearied, at Thy feet I lay
My wares ere I go forth to sell.
The long bazaar will praise—but Thou—
Heart of my heart, have I done well ?

—Rudyard Kipling.