

The Catholic Record

Price of subscription—\$2.00 per annum.
United States and Europe—\$2.50.
Singles & Proprietor, Thomas Coffey, L.L.D.
Editors—Rev. James T. Foley, R.A., D.D.
Associate Editor—H. F. Mackintosh.
Manager—Robert M. Burns.
Address business letters to the Manager.
Classified Advertising 15 cents per line.
Remittance must accompany the order.
Where Catholic Record Box address is required
add 10 cents to prepay expense of postage
upon replies.

Obituary and marriage notices cannot be
inserted except in the usual condensed form.
Each insertion 50 cents.
The Editor cannot be held responsible for
unsolicited manuscript. Every address will
be made to return rejected contributions when
stamped addressed envelopes are enclosed.

The Catholic Record has been approved and
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Borelli, late Apostolic Delegates to Canada,
Archbishops of Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa,
and St. Boniface, the Bishops of London,
Hamilton, Peterborough and Ogdensburg,
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from J. Milloy, 241 St. Catherine St. West.
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LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 2, 1923

MICHAEL COLLINS

"Michael Collins is dead!"

As the dread news flashed to the
ears of the earth few there were
who read or heard it but felt keenly
the pang of great sorrow tinged
with horror and despair. For the
heroic soldier who with a price on
his head bore a charmed life in the
gallant fight for Irish freedom fell
by a bullet fired by a brother Irish-
man.

The pity and the tragedy of it!

Yet let not the madness of the
rebels, nor the dastardly ambush-
ing of the gallant Commander-in-
Chief whose settled policy it was to
suppress the rebellion and assert
the rule of the people with the
least possible bloodshed, mislead us
into harsh or despairing judgment
of Ireland. Ireland's humanity was
shown in Collins' policy—whether
mistaken or not—and Ireland's
voice is heard in Richard Mulcahy's
Order issued to every Commandant
of the Irish National Army:

"Stand calmly by your posts.
Let no cruel act of reprisal blench
your honor.

"The dark hours which Michael
Collins has met since 1916 seemed
to steel his bright strength and to
temper his gay bravery.

"You are left, each of you, an
inheritance of that strength and
bravery.

"Let each fill his unfinished work.
Let there be no darkness, and do
not let the loss of our comrade
daunt you.

"Soldiers of Ireland. The army
serves—let it be strengthened by its
sorrow."

The mighty movement which
eventuated in the Anglo-Irish
Treaty and the Free State lost its
brain when Arthur Griffith suc-
cumbed to overwork and exhaus-
tion; now the cause of free Ireland
has lost its sword. For so had
Griffith and Collins been character-
ized.

Not inaptly but inadequately was
Collins called the sword of the Free
State. For soldier and military
genius though he was, he was much
more. As a soldier he dared and
suffered for the ideal of a free
Ireland; to that ideal he devoted
his life and played a decisive part
in its achievement. Yet this alone
would not have made him the
acknowledged leader of his race.
He had the dynamic force, the
dominant personality, the inex-
haustible capacity for work, the
intelligence, the courage, the con-
fidence, and the decision of char-
acter, all the qualities that make
for successful leadership in this
Ireland's time of storm and stress.

While the terms of the Peace
Treaty with England were yet not
fully understood the greatest argu-
ment in its favor with the mass of
Irishmen was the fact that Collins
accepted it: "What is good enough
for Mick Collins is good enough for
me" was the cry which was at once
a tribute to the unquestioned sin-
cerity of his patriotism and to the
soundness of his judgment.

That is the great pity of his
untimely taking off. There is no
need to despair; Ireland is the pro-
lific mother of able and patriotic
sons. But more than ever at this
time she needed Michael Collins, for
not ability and patriotism alone but
proved capacity and prestige are
necessary to leadership in a time
of such serious difficulty and grave
national danger.

From the tributes universally
paid to the dead patriot we select a
few.

Just nine days before the tragic
death that good Irish American,
Joseph I. C. Clarke, thus answered
some of his puny and spiteful
detractors unfortunately still to be
found amongst a negligible section
of Irish Americans:

"For Michael Collins I will only
say he is bravest of the brave and
truest of the true today as in the
past; that the fight for a free Ire-
land which, with Arthur Griffith, he
carried through in London against
the massed talent of the English
Government's ablest negotiators,
stands out as one of the most start-
ling victories in the field of diplo-
macy, old or new.

"To bring Lloyd George, Winston
Churchill, Hamar Greenwood and
the rest from the murderous
attitude of the year before to a full,
free trust in the Irish people to
handle their own Government is a
colossal work. Collins did it as
Arthur Griffith did it. That should
be enough. As for the ability
Michael Collins has shown, the
firmness, the dash, the unceasing
push, the moderation even in his
place of power, it is delightful and
inspiring. Words would not add to
the brilliance of his deeds—a states-
man's soldier, a soldier's statesman—
he speaks and will speak to the end
for himself."

Morgan J. O'Brien, former
Supreme Court Justice, a splendid
type of Irish American who enjoys
an exceptional degree of the
esteem and friendship of all classes
of his fellow-Americans and who
voices the sentiment of the vast
majority of Irish Americans, said
on hearing the tragic news of
Collins' death:

"I have been absolutely over-
whelmed by this dreadful tragedy.

"Because, you know, after
Griffith's death he was the one man
who stood out after 700 years of
struggle. And he was bringing his
people to the point where all their
troubles, elemental and political,
would be solved.

"It is a great shock to those who
believed in the absolute certainty
that Ireland could govern herself.
Now we have this dreadful crime
presented us by a handful of men—
that is all there, are—standing
against the Government, standing
after 700 years prepared to lose all
through their madness—madness of
a few young and impetuous men
misled by older people. They have
set their cause back many years.

"Collins was one of the greatest
figures, if not the greatest, in Irish
history. He lived for Ireland. He
had intelligence, courage, a spirit
of self-sacrifice and love of country.
At his young age he had recognized
as the leader of the Irish race. Is
it not wonderful that so young a
man could direct the destinies of a
people? More than 80 per cent. of
the Irish people in Ireland and
throughout the world, and the
whole of the United States, had
confidence in this young man's
sagacity and ability to solve the
Irish problem.

"He may favorably be compared
to Lincoln, who, of course, was a
great statesman, while Collins was
a great soldier, a soldier on the
verge of accomplishing the libera-
tion of his people and the restora-
tion of law and order, just as
Lincoln was.

"The men who killed Collins
must either be regarded as children
or as savages. The Irish cause will
go on, perhaps, but things look very
dark. Collins established the only
lines on which the Irish people can
go forward to complete independ-
ence."

Generally, prominent New Yorkers
of Irish sympathies mourned
Collins as "the strongest man in
Irish history" who was rapidly bring-
ing order out of chaos and had
taken his country to the threshold
of peace and prosperity.

Interesting and instructive are
the tributes of the chief personages
of that Government which, little
more than a year ago, offered a
reward of £10,000 for the capture
of the "chief of the murder gang."

Prime Minister Lloyd George
sent the following message to
William T. Cosgrave, Acting Chair-
man of the Irish Provisional
Government:

"I deeply regret to hear of the
death of the Commander in Chief of
the Free State Army. In his death
the Free State has lost a fearless
soldier, a leader of great energy
and devotion and a man of remark-
able personal charm. Please con-
vey to the members of your Govern-
ment my profound sympathy with
them in their loss of one of Ire-
land's brilliant sons at a moment
when Ireland most needed his
special qualities of courage and
resolution."

The Prime Minister issued the
following statement for publication
in The Evening Standard:

"I am inexpressibly sad at the
news of the death of this gallant
young Irishman. He fell victim to
a treacherous blow delivered when
he was engaged in endeavoring to
restore ordered liberty to his
country, which stands sadly in
need of it. His engaging person-
ality won friendships even among
those who met him as foes, and to
all who met him the news of his
death comes as a personal sorrow.

"I sincerely hope his death will
be the last episode in this dark
chapter of Irish history and that a
new and brighter story will hence-
forth be written in the life of that
unfortunate land."

Winston Spencer Churchill, Sec-
retary for the Colonies, has sent the
following message to Mr. Cosgrave:

"I hasten to express to you, as
acting head of the Provisional Gov-
ernment, the sorrow I feel at the
cruel and wanton act which has
deprived Ireland, in her hour of
trial, of the leader she had chosen
and in whom she trusted.

"Michael Collins was a man of
dauntless courage, inspired by
intense devotion to his country's
cause, and his hopes for its future
never quenched. His energy and
vision marked him as a leader of
his fellow-countrymen. He has
fallen trying to do his duty in
accordance with the will of the
Irish nation.

"The double loss within a few
days of Arthur Griffith and Michael
Collins is a heavy blow to the Irish
National Government, struggling
for Ireland's life, freedom and
unity amid so many difficulties, but
in offering you and your colleagues
my sincere sympathy at this tragic
hour I venture also to express my
sure confidence that Ireland will
find men to fill the gap and that
the Irish people will not rest until
they are masters in their own
house."

The Chancellor, Lord Birken-
head, interviewed by The Evening
Standard, said:

"I am profoundly shocked at the
death of Michael Collins. He was a
complex and very remarkable per-
sonality, daring, resourceful, vola-
tile and merry, and differed in
almost every conceivable way from
the more dour and placid Arthur
Griffith. I myself formed the view
quite early in the history of the
negotiations that these two men
were equally courageous and
honest. I never doubted that if
they once gave their word they
would sacrifice life itself in order
to carry out their promise and this
both have done—Griffith perished of
sheer exhaustion and overwork;
Michael Collins predicted his own
end, but the knowledge that his
life was certainly forfeit neither
abated his spirit nor influenced his
actions."

It is not in any spirit of resent-
ment or with the desire to recall
bad old times and methods that we
note the contrast between this
appreciation of Collins the Irish
statesman, and the vilification of
Collins the intrepid Irish soldier
waging unequal warfare for the
freedom of his native land.

Rather is it that we desire to
note the magnitude of the work for
the reconciliation of two peoples in
which Michael Collins bore so con-
spicuous a share as soldier, diplo-
mat and statesman.

Through the grief at his passing
and the manner of it there arises
the vivid realization of a great
work greatly accomplished.

The achievement of Michael
Collins is marvellous; the progress
made under his leadership is
definite and irreversible.

AN IMPORTANT CORRECTION

That there was no unnecessary or
unwarranted interference with the
Catholic Missions of Marianhill,
(Natal, South Africa), during or
after the War is put beyond all
question by the following letter
from His Lordship Bishop Delalle,
O. M. I., Vicar-Apostolic of Natal.

In the interest of truth and
justice we are glad to give editorial
prominence to this authentic cor-
rection of a misleading report of
our N. C. W. C. correspondent.

Editor CATHOLIC RECORD:
Dear Sir,—In your issue of May
20th, under the heading "German
Missions in Africa," your Cologne
correspondent says:

"During the War the work of the
Missions (of Marianhill) was prac-
tically abandoned, because most of
the priests, brothers and sisters
were interned and denied any sort
of communication with their former
associates or their native charges.
For a time after the War the diffi-
culties were hardly less."

Allow me to tell you you have
been imposed upon, and this state-
ment is simply a tissue of untruths.
The Marianhill Fathers, Brothers
and Sisters, owing to my efforts,
were never interned. Five only,
because they gave cause for sus-
picions, were interned for a few
weeks.

The work on the Missions went on
without any interference on the
part of the authorities, except a
few regulations, which at times
were a little annoying, but never
interfered with the work. The best
proof is the fact that during the
whole period of hostilities, the num-
ber of Baptisms of Natives on their
Missions has not decreased, as I
can show from the statistics which,
as their Bishop, I received every
year.

After the War, there was no
difficulty whatever.

Of course, they suffered like the
other bodies of Missionaries from
want of men, but this was a diffi-
culty common to all.

I am sure the Fathers of Marian-
hill would be the first to protest
against the statement of your
Cologne correspondent, as it would
imply a black ingratitude towards
the Government of the Union of
South Africa, which treated them
with so much consideration.

Hoping you will kindly insert
this letter,

I remain, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
H. DELALLE, O. M. I.
Vic. Ap. of Natal.
Durban, Natal, 22/7/22.

THE DONATION OF IRELAND BY ADRIAN IV.

The following letter calls atten-
tion to a mistake which, though
easily enough explained, deserves
to be corrected.

Editor, CATHOLIC RECORD:
A couple of months ago, you
published the following item in
your weekly column of "Catholic
Notes":

"Cardinal Gasquet, in his new
book published in London, declares
that the so-called papal bull
"Laudabiliter" of Pope Adrian
IV, urging the English king, Henry
II, to invade Ireland, is a colossal
forgery. Cardinal Gasquet is the
archivist of the Library of the Holy
Roman Church, and speaks with
great authority."

I presume that the new book
referred to is "Monastic Life in
the Middle Ages," which is a
reprint of essays written at various
times during a long literary life.
In the July number of "The
Month," there is a review of this
book, which is on the whole very
favorable, but is also at times
somewhat critical. The following
extract is a sample of the latter:

"What seems even more surpris-
ing is the venerable author's want
of regard for the opinions, whether
of Catholics or of Protestants,
which differ from his own. Take,
for instance, the Donation of Adrian
IV. A popular consensus of recent
opinions, Protestant and Catholic,
is now easily accessible in The
Catholic Encyclopedia, and they
differ widely from those here pro-
posed. But this essay runs just
as it did forty years ago, oblivious
of the work of all subsequent
scholars, and without even further
search for the important Roman
documents, the absence of which is
passed over, at p. 165, just as
before, with what sounds like a
mere evasion, made by Theiner in
1855."

M. J. GORMAN.

Ottawa, Aug. 24th.

The "great authority" attributed
by the compiler of the note to
Cardinal Gasquet was due to the
recent publication of the book.
The fact, to which our esteemed cor-
respondent and the learned reviewer
in The Month draws attention, that
the book is "a reprint of essays
written at various times during a
long literary life," and that the
question of the Donation of Ireland
is an unrevised reprint of an essay
written forty years ago, removes
altogether the ground for believing
that what is therein written would
be the reasoned judgment of the
eminent author were he now to
address himself to a critical study
of the question.

The Irish scholar Arthur O'Clery,
who writes the article in the Catho-
lic Encyclopedia, points out that
"neither Gasquet nor any of the
others who are against the genuine-
ness of the Bull, refers to the text
of *Laudabiliter* in the *Book of
Leinster*, which is by far the most
important piece of evidence bearing
on the question." And he con-
cludes his article, strongly in favor
of the affirmative side, with these
words: "In conclusion there is not
in my judgment any controverted
matter in history about which the
evidence preponderates in favour of
one view so decisively as about the
Donation of Adrian."

The reprint of Cardinal Gasquet's
forty-year old Essay of course
carries with it none of the authority
that would attach to a pronounce-
ment of this eminent scholar were
he to study critically the evidence
in the premises available today.

The question is one of purely
historic interest, as, it need scarcely
be added, the genuineness or other-
wise of the famous Donation would
have no present practical bearing
on the political attitude of any
Irishman or Catholic.

CO-OPERATION ON THE FARM

By THE OBSERVER

There is a great deal of encour-
agement for the future of the great
farming industry in the formation
in recent years of farmers' co-opera-
tives in many parts of the Domin-
ion. No human solution of any
problem is, or ever can be, perfect;
but it is beyond question that the
position of the farming industry has
been greatly improved, and its
future to some extent assured by
the adoption of the co-operative
principle. More than that, it is a
gain for the whole consuming
public; for, though it is, and
always will be, possible for men,
however organized, to take unfair
advantage of others, that is much
less likely to happen in the case of
a co-operative system than in that of
the present system of the marketing
of goods.

Mr. Papineau, of the central
Farmers' Co-operative Society of
the Province of Quebec, says: "In
seven of the leading agricultural
counties of that Province between
70,000 and 100,000 lambs will be
raised this season, and a large pro-
portion of them will be for sale.
Now, according to the practice of
many years the farmer will await
the arrival of itinerant buyers.
These men will go through the
country and buy up sheep at all
sorts of prices. They are in touch
with the quotations of the principal
markets and are familiar with the
demands. Naturally they buy as
low as possible and sell at the high-
est figure obtainable. In many
cases the farmer is at their mercy."

Mr. Papineau goes on to point out
the disadvantages under which the
farmer labors, in not knowing the
demands of the markets, nor the
ways of stock-yard traders. When
a few farmers get together and try
to act in common, they too often
make a mess of it. Considerations
such as these have had much weight
in bringing about the gradual revo-
lution in the system of marketing
which is involved in the formation
of large co-operative farmers' asso-
ciations. The apple growers of
Nova Scotia have made a great
success in the marketing of that
difficult and uncertain crop. We
need not mention the high degree of
success attained in Ontario by the
farmers' co-operatives.

In some parts of Canada, the
farmers have gone farther than the
marketing of their farm products;
and have gone into the purchasing
of the supplies they require on the
farm; and it is at this point in the
business that the interesting ques-
tion arises, what are to be the
future relations between the
farmer, on the one hand, and the
producer of other goods, and the
general consuming public; to which
of course, the farmer belongs, as do
all the other people in the country.
Those problems remain for the
future; and the steps that have
been already taken are unques-
tionable steps in the right direction;
but it may be remarked that co-
operative enterprise can be a
permanent success only by avoiding
the spirit of greed which has
brought the present system into
such deep disrepute. So long as
the co-operative enterprise is con-
fined to societies of people of one
occupation, who have a common in-
terest and no conflicting interests,
the matter is not difficult; but dif-
ferent considerations arise when we
consider a possible situation where,
say, a farmers' co-operative and a
manufacturers' co-operative find
themselves with conflicting or
divergent interests. But we may
point out that there is no reason
why the occupations of a coun-
try must be separated, so that
all the farmers will be in one
co-operative, having only to do
with agriculture or in a num-
ber of co-operatives of that sole
occupation; whilst each other occu-
pation is set apart in a similar
manner, having to do with nothing
but its own particular business; and
though that may be a very natural
way to start co-operative enter-
prises, it is not at all inevitable that
they should be continued along that
line.

The Co-operative system is not
confined to single occupations. It
is perfectly applicable to unions of,
say, farmers and manufacturers;
or to societies which may run farms
and shops; or farms and factories.
And if one can imagine a farmers'
co-operative at loggerheads with a
co-operative of, let us say, grocers,
it is just as easy to imagine a co-
operative in which several such con-
flicting interests would be harmon-

ized, by simply forming them from
the members of the several occupa-
tions or groups; and indeed that is
the way it is done in Europe, and
notably in Great Britain and Ire-
land, where it is quite common to
see co-operative societies engaged
in the work of several different
occupations; farming, manufactur-
ing, banking, and transportation
and other things.

The strong point about the co-
operative system is, that it tends so
strongly to harmonize the diver-
gency of interests which, under the
present system, makes of business a
great game of grab, in which the
principal aim of the parties con-
cerned is to get the better of the
party which is opposite in interest.

That that war in business is
carried on at a great cost to the
consumer is only too plain. What I
have said in former articles about
the cost of advertising bears out
the charge that the present system
is economically wasteful, and that
it is so to a scandalous extent.

That people do not get up adver-
tisements to entice themselves is
plain enough; for though men fool
themselves easily enough in many
ways, they do not write advertise-
ments to humbug themselves; they
let other people fool them when
they want to be foolish in that par-
ticular way. The vast sums now
spent in advertising goods may be
cut out, to the extent of two thirds,
at least, in computing the probable
savings of the co-operative system.

So may the sums now spent in the
travelling expenses of commercial
travellers. This may not seem to
be good news for those who are now
making their living in that way;
but they need not fear the change;
for no change which makes the
whole country so much more pros-
perous—and that is what is indi-
cated in every country where co-
operation has been introduced—is
likely to leave long out of employ-
ment a class of men so capable and
useful as the commercial travellers.

The expense of the vast amount
of banking now necessary to look
after a multitude of customers'
accounts, would also be largely cut
out. Besides these important sav-
ings there is another, which is a
very important matter. As every-
body knows, under the present
system, the good payers pay for the
poor ones. Thousands of shops are
started all over the country. Many
of them go to the wall. The whole-
saler who supply them with goods
recks their chances; and price
their goods with an eye to their
probable average losses on unpaid
accounts. This extra price is passed
on to the retail customer by the
retail shopkeeper; and it is paid in
part every time we buy goods.

Co-operative Societies, as man-
aged in the European countries,
seldom fail; for they are organized
on a large scale; employ experts as
managers; and deal mainly on a
cash basis.

These are some of the advantages
of the Co-operative system over the
system at present in use.

In future articles I shall take up
the actual results attained in co-
operative enterprises.

Father Huslein, the eminent
economist, regards the Co-operative
system as applicable to the business
of manufacturing as well as to that
of buying and selling the manu-
factured goods; and if so, there is
little doubt that another generation
will see practically all the business
of the world done co-operatively.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

THE TORONTO Evening Telegram,
always conspicuous in any anti-Catho-
lic or anti-Irish tirade, says of
Lord Northcliffe that "he was
hated and despised by the Ulster
men and women who followed
Edward Carson." It would be hard
to conceive a higher tribute to the
deceased peer.

THE DEATH of Genevieve Ward in
England last week leaves Mme.
Navarro (Mary Anderson) and Ellen
Terry almost the sole survivors of
the classic stage of the last quarter
of the nineteenth century. And the
fact that they have no successors is
a decided misfortune to the pres-
ent generation. For the leading
actors of the period referred to
were first of all artists, whose
highest ambition was to make their
profession an elevating force, and
by the interpretation of the works
of the great dramatists to instil
into life an interest above the sordid
things of the market place, to
lessen, if they might, the rough
places in life's journey, and to

increase thereby the sum of its
joys.

OF GENEVIEVE Ward, as of many
of her contemporaries, men and
women, it can be said that she never
prostituted her art to an unworthy
purpose, but by her consistent devo-
tion to its best traditions increased
perceptibly the sum of intellectual
pleasure to a whole generation.
Those whose privilege it was to
witness her rendition of some of the
most noted parts in the legitimate
drama—in Lady Macbeth, for
example, or Queen Catherine, in
Shakespeare's "Henry VIII."—will
not need to be reminded of her
power over an audience. It may be
doubted, however, if she ever
reached a higher level in her art
than as the adventuress, Stephanie,
in "Forget-Me-Not"—that unfor-
gettable performance for which she
had unique qualifications and which
seemed beyond the range of any
other artist of her generation. She
has now passed from the shifting
scene of life, but her memory
remains as a cherished possession to
multitudes on both sides of the
Atlantic.

SLAVES of the tobacco habit (for
men may pass out of the category
of moderate devotees of Dame
Nicotine, and become veritable
slaves) may take comfort from the
experience of the "Old Tiger" of
France, M. Clemenceau. Until
1896 he smoked to excess. Sickness
having in that year overtaken him,
he sought medical advice and was
told that tobacco was the main
cause of his illness, and that if he
hoped to regain health he must
limit himself strictly to six cigars
a day. He declared, however, that
he would rather give up smoking
altogether, and forthwith resolved
to do so. For a fortnight he sat
and worked every day with a box
of his best cigars open on the desk
in front of him. It was a terrible
ordeal, as he afterwards confessed,
which only a man of immense
will-power could have survived.

That M. Clemenceau possessed such
power of will was proved by the
result of this ordeal, no less than
by his war achievements. He
carried it through successfully, and
now declares that he has never
since experienced the craving.
What merit he might have gained
had he infused a religious spirit
into the experience!

THE CENTENNIAL of the poet
Shelley's death recalls his descrip-
tion of Rome, regarded by many as
one of the finest pieces of writing in
our language, especially that
portion of it devoted to the English
Cemetery, in which he was destined
to find his last earthly resting
place. There, close beside the
grave of his brother poet, Keats,
and the latter's artist-companion,
Severn, Shelley's ashes were depo-
sited after the cremation of his
body on the seashore at Lagurno,
whence it had been cast up by the
waves following the storm in which
he lost his life. The cremation, it
should be added, was compulsory
under the law, cholera being epi-
demic at the time.

"Rome," he had written, "is a
city, as it were, of the dead, or
rather of those who cannot die, and
who survive the puny generations
which inhabit and pass over the
spot which they have made sacred
to eternity. In Rome, at least in
the first enthusiasm of your recog-
nition of an ancient time, you see
nothing of the Italians. The nature
of the city assists the delusion, for
its vast and antique walls describe
a circumference of sixteen miles.
Wide wild fields are enclosed within
it, and there are glassy lanes and
copses wending among the ruins,
and a great green hill, lonely and
bare, which overhangs the Tiber.
The gardens of the modern palaces
are like wild woods of cedar, and
cypress, and pine, and the neglected
walks are overgrown with weeds.
The English burying-place is a
green slope near the walls, under
the pyramidal tomb of Cestius, and
is, I think, the most beautiful
and solemn cemetery I ever beheld.
To see the sun shining on its bright
grass, fresh, when we first visited
it, with the autumnal dews, and
hear the whispering of the wind
among the leaves of the trees, which
have overgrown the tomb of Cestius,
and the soil which is stirring in the
sun-warm earth, and to mark the
tombs, mostly of women and young
people who were buried there, one
might, if one were to die, desire the
sleep they seem to sleep. Such is