

house of the Minimi, that is "the Least." Judging by the name, the government probably thought these men would more easily gain Paradise if they possessed nothing at all and so their convent became a technical school, where everything but virtue is taught. A few hundred yards further on stands a house once occupied by a religious community of women who on account of their absolute seclusion from the world were called the "Sepolte Vive." These holy women are now replaced by a few detachments of the Municipal Guard, and the convent which formerly resounded with the praises of God is now profaned by hideous blasphemies, and the ribald songs of the soldiery. These are but a few instances of the thousands of confiscations that might be chronicled. If the spoliators acted thus brutally with the principal residences of the great religious orders, one can easily conclude how those of minor importance must have fared.

As regards the embellishing of the city it must be premised that the necessary and useful ought to be preferred to the beautiful, and such seems to have been the case in Rome previous to 1870. With the coming of the Piedmontese, however, and their so-called progressive ideas, the old order changed yielding place to new. Those narrow streets, so comfortably cool in the fierce glare of the July sun, have in many cases been transformed into wide thoroughfares on which during the long summer days the heat is simply unbearable. In their modernizing mania the new comers have destroyed some of the most attractive features of the ancient city. But these mad schemes have most injured their projectors, and the effort to have an "up-to-date" Rome has ended in dismal failure. Nowhere is this so well seen as in the "New Quarter." It will be remembered that the population of Rome received a phenomenal, though not altogether desirable, increase immediately after the entrance of the troops of Victor Emmanuel into the city. The greatest activity was manifested; new streets were laid out and immense buildings planned. But little by little the bottom fell out of the "boom"; money became scarce; the floating population dwindled away; and what were to be their dwellings remain

to this day unfinished and — windowless and roofless — mark the most unsightly spot in Italy and are a monument to the genius of modern Rome. Looking at them the Romans smile and say: "The Piedmontese destroyed ancient ruins in order to construct new ones." In the year 1856 Pius IX expended 244,000 scudi on the preservation of the monuments and antiquities of the city, and every year of his administration was marked by a similar wise outlay in this direction. Of course it is easily understood that the army and the fleet made the present financial condition of Italy such as to absolutely preclude any such expenditure.

However if ancient Rome has been neglected, the new Capital has its monuments, and they are quiet in keeping with Italy's later-day progress. In the public gardens on the street corners and in the squares may be seen monuments of men whose sole claim to remembrance is that they were either traitors to their lawful sovereign or renegades to their religion. In the beautiful park on the Pincian Hill, Count Cavour, the prince of diplomatic knavery, and the red-shirted Garibaldi divide the honors with Cola Di Rienzi the last of the tribunes, Mazzini, the advocate of the dagger, and the infamous Giordano Bruno. Scattered throughout the city and erected within the past quarter of a century, are statues of the traitor Mamiani, the famous minister Minghetti, the brigand brothers Cairoli and many others of the same stamp.

A natural consequence of Rome being proclaimed Capital of Italy is the residence here of him who styles himself its king. But he does not deceive himself; he knows full well that no royal usurper can expect to be loved or respected in a city where the rightful king already resides; one acknowledged and honored as lawful sovereign not by any faction or clique but by the people; whose right of sovereignty dates back more than a thousand years, and who, although now a prisoner and confined to a single palace with a few faithful guards, exercises a more powerful influence than the master of the Quirinal, backed by his hundreds of thousands of half-starved soldiers.

Moreover, what earthly dignity can he compared to that of the Papacy? Beside