

'The second part comprises a description of the modern city—its churches, palaces, museums, galleries, charitable institutions, hospitals, prisons, schools, colleges, universities, and other public establishments; the third embraces the antiquities, ranged for the most part in chronological order; and the fourth conducts the stranger through the environs of Rome. Among the crowds who annually visit Rome, some will be found unfamiliar with classic antiquity; and the author has therefore premised to his description of the ancient monuments, a series of general chapters on the origin, nature and use of temples, forums, basilics, circuses, theatres, amphitheatres, aqueducts, baths, triumphal and monumental arches, on the domestic architecture of the Romans, on Roman architecture in general, on the materials used by the Romans for architectural use and ornament, on ancient sepulchres, obelisks, public gardens, and Roman roads. These chapters may, it is hoped, prove useful, not only to the visitant at Rome, but also to the classical student at home.'

Dr Donovan's qualifications for its execution he thus briefly and modestly sets forth :

'Rome, ancient and modern, is unquestionably no easy task : the initiated alone can appreciate its difficulties ; but the task is one for which the author was not altogether unprepared. Previous pursuits had long turned his attention to such subjects ; and to some it may be satisfactory to know that more than twenty years professionally devoted to classical studies in their highest department, and a nine years' permanent residence in Rome, may be presumed to have given him ample facilities and, perhaps, some claim to a knowledge of his subject.'

Accurate in description, methodical in arrangement, comprehensive in materials, complete in details, erudite in research and reference, unprejudiced and liberal in sentiment, forcible and elegant in style, the work of Dr Donovan exhausts its subject, and supersedes all its predecessors. It is a book which will be found indispensable to future travellers as containing the only full and accurate description of Rome and its environs in the English—perhaps we should more correctly say, in any language; and it is one equally useful to supply the place of a pilgrimage to the great Christian metropolis for those whose periphrasies cannot be extended so far. It is a work, in fact, which we should wish to see enriching the shelves of every respectable library for the benefit of the travelled and the untravelled. We may add that it is enriched with sixty finely executed engravings designed under the personal inspection of the celebrated antiquary, Nibby, after whose death the plates, still unused, became the property of our author.

It is not merely in accurate and learned description, however, that the present work excels. It abounds in beautiful and profound reflections, couched in elegant and forceful language, and

serving to bring the scenes more vividly before the mind of the absent, or to guide the thoughts of those to whom the scenes themselves are present, into the most fitting channel. As a specimen of our author's reflection, we may take the following passage with which he concludes a glowing description of the ancient pride and glory of the Roman Forum :

'The days of its pride and its glory have gone by for ever : and the traveller, as he walks over the grave of fallen grandeur, and magnificence and power, asks if this lonely and silent spot could have been once the centre of all that was great and grand in the transactions of the ancient world. The mouldering walls—the fallen columns—the ruined temples—and the shattered porticoes around us, proclaim the contrast of past greatness with present desolation ; to the proud fabrics, meant to immortalize their founders, to the trophies of Roman fame, and the monuments of Roman power, which were the glory of the dead and the delight of the living, have succeeded mean and unsightly modern edifices, which obtrude themselves upon the eye, as if to illustrate by contrast the grandeur of ancient times ; the Roman Forum, once so illustrious and magnificent, has well nigh reverted to the state of aboriginal solitude and silence, in which it was found by the shepherd king ; for now, as in the days of Evander, it is a pasture fold, in which the kine ruminate and the oxen low.

——“*Passimque armenta videbant
Romanoque foro laetis mugire cernis*”

(*Æneid* 8, 361)

'The moral is too obvious to detain us long. If the Forum and its glories are laid in everlasting ruin, the destroyer of both may be traced to our vices which succeeded to ancient virtue and freedom, to the long succession of imperial tyrants, whose steps trod on the rights and liberties of their country, while they themselves revelled with savage avidity in human blood, and wallowed with brutal appetite in the foulest depths of imagined and nameless turpitude, under whose unmitigated despotism, unparalleled cruelty, and unexampled, and unpunished crimes, virtue and liberty vanished for ever, bequeathing to future ages the dear-bought lesson, that the stability of empire is not based on mere possession of power, or interest of domination, but on the eternal principles of truth and justice, and the consequent spread of industry, knowledge, civilization, freedom, and religion.'

We shall conclude our notice, and, for the present, our extracts also, with the following, which we take as being calculated to interest a large portion of our readers :

“*ST. ISIDORE'S (IRISH) COLLEGE—IRISH MANUSCRIPTS*”—FATHER WADDING.

'The Irish college of St Isidore stands on the

• The list of Irish MSS. in that famous library was obtained, as given below, in the following manner :—The