

"Yesterday evening, after the first Vespers, the town was illuminated. On all sides, the workmen had fixed up magnificent canopies around the Madonnas. During the night the grand triumphal arch of which I have before spoken, was completed, and at almost all the windows were placed transparencies and inscriptions in honour of the Holy Virgin and of the Pope.

"The morning was unclouded; the first rays of the sun saluted one of the finest days of Rome; and an immense crowd admired the magnificent decorations which adorned the houses and the palaces of the Corso.

"All emulated each other in zeal, enthusiasm, and magnificence. I am unable to picture to you the long street of the Corso; the decorations that are seen therein on grand festival days, give no idea of what called forth admiration on this occasion. The yellow and white canopies, ornamented with fringes of gold, the damask, the garlands of flowers, arranged with inimitable art, formed from the Piazza Veneziana to Palazzo del Popolo, a spectacle impossible to be described. Vases ornamented with leaves of laurel, and bearing crowns and banners with the Pope's arms emblazoned on them, were erected at intervals of six feet the whole length of the street. At nine o'clock a squadron of Dragoons cleared the road of carriages, and half an hour after the huzzas proclaimed the approach of the Pope by the Piazza di Santi Apostoli and the street of Romuald. Immediately after His Holiness entered the Corso a shower of flowers and wreaths fell on his carriage. From all the windows and from every story the Holy Father was saluted with the most endearing epithets, and the most filial acclamations. A troop of young persons bearing branches of olive, and preceded by a white banner, on which was written—'Justitia et Pax,' joined the cortege on the Piazza Quirinal, and walked before. The horses went at a foot pace. (The Holy Father before he accepted this demonstration, had stipulated that the horses should not be taken out of his carriage.) The carriage could scarcely move on, so great was the crowd. The venerable Pontiff whom it conveyed bowed on the right and left, giving with a tenderness full of calm and serenity his benediction, which every Catholic received on his knees. The Cardinals Ferretti and Falconieri were in the carriage of His Holiness. In the meantime, the cortege approached the Palazzo del Popolo, receiving everywhere the same testimonies of love, of enthusiasm, and of devotedness.

"The Pope alone passed under the triumphal arch. I will tell you to-morrow of this impromptu monument.

"After having heard Mass in the church of Santa Maria del Popolo, the holy Father returned to

his Palace in the same order, and in the midst of demonstrations ever the same and ever new. The people followed him to the Quirinal, and immediately entering his apartment, the Pope came to the grand balcony, and thanked in the most gracious manner his children, bowing condescendingly to them. All responded to him with the loudest acclamations of joy; but a waive of his hand, and there was instant silence. Then the Pope, lifting his eyes to heaven, pronounced with a voice strong and full of emotion, these sacred words—'Adjutorium nostrum in nomine Domini.' And the crowd with one voice—'Qui fecit cælum et terram!'—and the Holy Father continuing—'Benedicat nos Omnipotens Deus Pater et Filius et Spiritus Sanctus,' the whole people answered, 'Amen,' and retired peaceably, returning thanks to God.

"One of our honorable friends, M. Gaultier de Claby, member of the Academy of Sciences, has sent us some more complete details, which we hasten to publish. It will not be thought that we give too much space to the account of this grand manifestation of the Roman people. It is not only a religious and popular *fete*, but it is a political event of the highest importance, and no one can be mistaken in it. We thank the illustrious *savant* for the communication with which he has been so kind as to favour us. His Catholic heart has not been mistaken in the joy with which the whole Church of France will receive such consolating news.

"Sir—Your excellent journal should not be the last to publish the news of the splendid *fete* which has collected together countless masses of every tongue and of every nation, celebrating with emulation the *fete*, that may well be called the people's festival. Annually, on the 8th of September, the festival of the Piazza del Popolo, a congregation of the Cardinals always collects a large concourse of people.

"Two years since I saw there that venerable old man whom death has so suddenly struck down, and whose recollections and piety were the objects of veneration and respect; that old man whose memory it pains me to see too little respected. If the political system which he pursued has left anything to be desired, Catholics should not forget all that this Sovereign Pontiff did for the extension of the faith; the Church of France above all as Cardinal Bonald so eloquently proclaimed, should regret him more than any other Church.

"This year the Festival of the Blessed Virgin assumed a peculiar character. The great city was desirous of feting on this occasion the new head of the church. The city bore the whole expenses each family pays his share, four paoli per house