

We looked down on the *Forum Romanum* with its shattered columns, its ruined temples, mutilated statues, and broken altars, its glorious arches, its crumbling tabularia—from which grand orations used to be delivered to applauding multitudes,—the remains of law courts, prisons, and dungeons. The *Tarpean rock* is there too, though scarcely distinguishable amid the piles of rubbish and the houses that surround it. And there is the *Via Sacra*—so often trodden in solemn procession by Popes and Bishops and Emperors: and the *Arch of Titus*—a silent witnesser to-day, of the destruction of Jerusalem: and Vespasian's vast *Colosseum*—capable of holding 80,000 spectators—where men, women, and children have so often been "sent to the lions:" beyond this, the ruins of the Imperial Palace, which must have been the most magnificent pile of buildings that ever existed, and the well defined boundaries of *Roma Quadrata*—the original city, founded in 756 B. C. Large portions of the walls have recently been brought to light, that were laid there by skilful hands, twenty-five hundred years ago! All around us is this wonderful city—rising as it were out of its grave, with its four hundred splendid churches, its palaces and parks, its monumental pillars and obelisks, its gardens and fountains. Beyond the walls, the *Campagna*, a dreary uninhabited waste of twenty miles, with scarcely a tree to relieve the monotony—only here and there, heaps of bricks, welded together with cement, marking the sites of ancient villas, temples, and tombs, and the long lines of aqueducts resting upon lofty arches. The *Appian Way* runs across this wilderness, straight as an arrow, and in that direction we can clearly see the Alban and the Sabine Hills, and Monte Soracte—all famous in classic song—and we stretch our eyes and imaginations to discover "Horace's farm." The population of Imperial Rome is supposed to have been from two to three millions, at the least. Modern Rome has only about 365,000 inhabitants, but it has been increasing steadily during the last seventeen years, at the rate of ten thousand per annum.

The Church of England seems to have been the first to plant a Protestant station in Rome. In 1818, they acquired a house outside the walls which was fitted up for public worship. It is still used by them,

but will soon be supplanted by the large and handsome edifice in course of construction, *intra muros*. A Presbyterian mission was commenced in 1861 by Rev. Dr. Loughton, Free Church minister of Greenock, who held private services in his own house within the walls. Mr. Fraser of Gourcock, and Mr. Carlyle, a returned missionary from India, continued private services until the arrival of Dr. James Lewis of South Leith in 1864. Dr. Lewis continued his ministrations during eight years, and by his efforts, the first Protestant Church was built: it was opened for worship on the 8th of January, 1871. He died the following year and was buried in Rome. At the commencement of his ministry, the congregation had to be warned not to shew their Bibles: they were not allowed to sing: and they were requested to dismiss as quietly as possible, in twos and threes, lest the object of their meeting should be discovered. In 1867, these private meetings were officially declared to be illegal and were forbidden by Cardinal Antonelli. But the Presbyterians were not to be so easily snuffed out. Opposition inspired them with courage to assert openly that they had a right to live. They hired an upper room outside the walls and instituted *public* worship. The means taken to suppress it only served to advertize it. They built a little church, and Protestants of different denominations flocked to it. For a number of years after the death of Dr. Lewis, services were continued in this chapel, outside the Porta del Popolo, by a succession of ministers of the Free Church and of the Church of Scotland who co-operated with entire unanimity. Among the ministers who thus took part in the work during the interregnum of nine years were Mr. Miller of Genoa, Dr. James McGregor of Edinburgh, the late celebrated Dr. John Ker, and Dr. Robert Buchanan, of Glasgow: the latter died here in 1875; Dr. Murray Mitchell, and Dr. Gray of Liberton. The last of the "colleagues" under the dual system was Dr. John Jenkins of Montreal. The present incumbent was inducted in November, 1882, and on the 21st of January, 1885, the new church was opened.

The following summary of the statistics of the Evangelical Churches in Italy for 1886, kindly furnished by the Rev. J. B. Will of Florence, affords a sufficiently clear