

tons. But the quarter inhabited by the soldiers was not abandoned. The power of the Roman discipline retained these men at their post. In 1794 that part of the buried city occupied by the military was discovered. It presented an enclosure, of which the centre was occupied by a garden; the columns of the outer walls of Doric order, painted in red. The walls and the pillars are covered with popular inscriptions, rough representations of gladiators, soldiers, sailors, vessels, &c. In one of the chambers, which was a prison, were discovered four skeletons, with their legs fastened in a great iron machine. To the left was the apartment of the centurion in command; near the skeleton of the latter were found two cups of silver, while, before the entrance, was the skeleton of his horse, richly apparisined. Around the gate of the enclosure there were discovered thirty-seven skeletons of soldiers, recognized by their armor, and also a great number of arms, which are now preserved in the museum at Naples. Among these have been remarked a trumpet of copper, six ivory flutes, and a helmet, on which was engraved the destruction of Troy. Our sentenel remained at his post from the 23rd of November, 79, till the 20 of April, 1794, at which period he was transferred in his armor, to the entrance of the Bourbon Museum. If the Neapolitan soldiers of our time had inherited any portion of the courage of their fathers, Garibaldi would not have taken possession of Naples with forty men and a corporal. The ruins of Palmyra, of Babyion, of Rome, and of Athens arrest our steps and cause us to meditate; but this ancient suit of armor, which served as a tomb to that unknown soldier, gives rise to reflections, perhaps, still more profound. It is the contemplation of that man, simple, ignorant of philosophy, unknown to the world, who, through obedience to the Roman military discipline, remained at his post in presence of death. If paganism could produce such a phenomenon, what miracles ought not Christianity accomplish, inspiring the soldiers of a Catholic nation with its lofty heroism! Under the Shadow of the Cross our armies would be invincible.

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The most recent case of absence of mind is that of an editor of a society journal who lately copied from a hostile paper one of his own paragraphs, and headed it "Wretched attempt at wit."