

could you have than Vesuvius, smoking away as if eager to belch forth its fiery stream? And Vesuvius forms only one side of the frame, the Island of Capri gives the other, with the Mediterranean Sea rolling in the distance.

From San Martino, a lofty hill back of Naples, the prospect is very fine, and the city looks well, but it does not improve on a nearer acquaintance. In some places the houses are remarkably high, and the streets remarkably narrow. The principal characteristic of its people is dirt. The streets are kept tolerably clean, but to look at the people—of course I mean the multitude—one would think that the most unfashionable thing in Naples was cleanliness.

The journey by rail from Naples to the buried city of Pompeii is accomplished in less than an hour, and the guard's cry of "Pompeii" sounds like a voice from the dead, so little are we accustomed to associate anything living with a city that was destroyed eighteen hundred years ago. And yet it has its railway station, and its ubiquitous cabman, whose services can be very well dispensed with as the walk up-hill is not more than two hundred yards to a barrier, where, on paying two francs you are furnished with a ticket and a guide, who is also a soldier, armed. Not much chance for relics here, and they don't take a large party either. There is a soldier for every two, and as there are many parties they keep crossing and re-crossing each other, so that you are continually under their eyes. It is a very unpleasant way of doing a place, but after all it is only fair and just. These relics are more precious than gold, and it is not known what discoveries may yet be made. If strangers were allowed to wander at will through the place there would be much wasteful destruction of property.

Your first visit is to the Museum, where you are shown what seem to be the bodies of three or four men and two women in a perfect state of preservation. The bodies were they felt formed in the ashes and scoria a mould from which these forms are cast. There are eight or ten loaves of bread without a break in them. The oven in which they were baked you see as you are making your rounds through the city. There are several handkerchiefs and other articles of wearing apparel, but these seem to have been damaged by the heat. There are eggs