

ly shameless. Every occasion was sought of adding insult to injury. The royal thief set the example by possessing himself of the Quirinal Palace; the present queen made a jest of occupying the private apartments of His Holiness, and turned the Consistory Hall into a dancing room. Across the street, Humbert stabled his horses in a house that had sheltered saints. Their Highnesses did not lack approval and disciples; their crimes were gold-plated, robes and furred gowns hid all; and apt pupils followed in the footsteps of their princely masters. In two years, more than one hundred religious houses were taken by force from their possessors, and turned to the profit of the intruders; some became governmental offices; others, military barracks; others still were publicly sold and the proceeds went to replenish the royal exchequer, but no penny of compensation was offered the ejected owners.

Take a few examples. Such as might attract the attention of anyone in a short walk through Rome, and can be at most only a feeble index of the misdeeds of Italy's present rulers.

The churches come first. All, except St. Peter's and St. John of Lateran, became state property. Some were demolished to make room for a modern Rome that was to rise from their ruins; others, defaced on the plea of widening streets and beautifying boulevards, though under a southern sun wide streets are a plague, and boulevards an impossibility. The Pantheon, in pagan days sacred to all the gods, and in christian, the Church of All Saints now holds the bones of the most eminent rascals of Italy, which is about equivalent to making it the rendezvous of All Devils.

Next, the schools. The Roman College became the state University. Its staff of professors and its two thousand students, mostly foreigners, had to seek other quarters. Catholic, even Christian philosophy was banished from its halls: St. Augustine and St. Thomas made way for Kant and Schopenhauer. The place in the programme of studies formerly held by theology, was given to biology and veterinary science. Father Secchi's famous astronomical laboratory and observatory, representing much expense and years of patient labor, fell into the hands of men

who, while teaching their students to scan the sky, are determined to keep them at a telescopic distance from heaven.

Primary and secondary education, was reformed by making all schools neutral in the matter of religious instruction, and by substituting therefor a kind of foolish naturalism. The results of this godless system are in many ways apparent, but nowhere more strikingly than in the demeanor of the Roman youth towards ecclesiastics of every rank and age. The unexpected and gratuitous presentation of a piece of paving-stone from an unseen hand, is not a rare occurrence, while the familiar cry of the crow is varied from time to time by epithets that refuse to fall from an English pen. The same well-trained and promising youth, formed a considerable part of the howling mob that followed the body of Pius IX, on the occasion of its translation from its resting-place in the city, to the Church of St. Lawrence outside the walls.

Co-incident with the struggle around the schools took place the systematic expulsion of the religious orders from their houses, and in every possible case the government's agents augmented the guilt of their glaring robbery by the most uncalled for outrages on religious feeling. Thus the General House of the Oratorians became a military barracks, and the ribald jests of a brutal soldiery pollute the spot sanctified by the long life of St. Philip Neri. The General House of the Jesuits, containing the apartments of St. Ignatius of Loyola, serves for the Department of the Interior, and their novitiate, where the room of St. Stanislaus Kotska was guarded with zealous care, was demolished to make room for the residence of the Master of the Royal Household. The Dominicans also lost their Roman residence, endeared to them by the precious memories of their holy founder, and they, as well as the Jesuits, were relieved of the care and worry attendant on the possession of their immense libraries. In the spacious six story building, where formerly the Pope's councillors transacted a large fraction of the world's business, is to be found to-day the Italian Secretary of State and his assistants. By an unexampled act of generosity the owners are allowed the use of the top floor.

On the 4th of July I met a band of