

EXPLORATIONS IN ROME, 1871, 1872.

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THE great and important excavations now being carried on in Rome by the Italian Government are entitled to the cordial thanks of all archæologists, and it is with great regret that we observe any drawback ; but we are bound to call attention to the fact that a ruin which has been restored is thereby deprived of much of its value in an historical point of view, and becomes work of the nineteenth century in proportion to the extent of its restoration.

The excavations that have been made in Rome during the winter season that has just passed, have been so numerous and so important in their results, that it is difficult to know where to begin to give an account of them. Those made by the Italian Government are by far the most important, but their very extent and importance makes it desirable to begin with those in which the English archæologists have been more immediately concerned, as they were only permitted to continue and complete the works already begun. These were at the Mamertine Prison and at the Porticus of Caracalla. It was fortunate for us that Signor Rosa, "the Royal Superintendent of the department of Archæology for the Roman Province," acting in the name of the Government, declined to give permission to undertake anything fresh, as the expenses of what we had in hand proved quite as much as our "Exploration Fund" could afford. In completing these two works we have done good service, and have demonstrated the truth of what was previously only conjecture.

In the Mamertine Prison we have cleared out the subterranean passage, one hundred yards long, of the time of the kings of Rome, which formed the communication between the different parts of that great prison in the middle of the city. The vault of the passage is built of the large blocks of tufa, usual at that period, and is of the semi-

hexagonal form called Etruscan vaulting, the same as the oldest parts of the Cloaca Maxima. This passage had been filled up with earth and rubbish for centuries, and being at a great depth, and below the level of the drains of the modern street that has been made above (partly upon the vaults of the old prison), this task proved a very arduous, tedious, and expensive one, but the results are so important towards proving the truth of Livy's History in these particulars, and explaining several passages in other classical authors, that the money has been well spent. It is now a matter of demonstration that this is the prison made by King Ancus Martius "in the middle of the city,"¹ and that the prison was a very large one, divided into different parts, and three storeys high. The part at the foot of the Capitoline Hill, on its eastern side (now cellars under the houses in the Via di Marforio, and the Vicolo del Ghettarello) was called the *Lautumiæ*, and also the *lowest prison*. These cellars we have now rented for some years for the purpose of exploring them thoroughly, and making researches from thence under the street; for this vaulted passage runs under the present street for nearly its whole length. At the north-east end we have not been able to clear it out to the proper entrance, as we were stopped by water which we could not get rid of; but we found another short passage of brick leading into this stone passage from one of the chambers (now cellars). At the south-west end it opens into the lower chamber of what is called the "Prison of S. Peter," where I had discovered a doorway long walled up, and obtained leave to open it (not without some difficulty). The upper part of this great prison was rebuilt in the time of the Emperor Tiberius, as we know by an inscription still remaining on the cornice of the wall of the upper storey; but the portion so rebuilt is of travertine, according to the custom of that period, not of tufa. The lower storey being underground, was not rebuilt, being probably considered as only foundations; but from its low level it was liable to be flooded at certain times of the year, and for that reason when the upper part was rebuilt in the time of Tiberius, A.D. 22, the floor of the lower part was raised by being filled up with earth to the height of 7 or 8 ft., and the floor of the storey above was also raised in the same proportion. This is shown by the

¹ A. U. C. 40, B. C. 713; Livii, Hist. lib. i. cap. 33.

holes for the beams of the old floor, which still remain in the walls of some of the rooms. The subterranean passage has a drain under it, which is in some parts under the pavement; this drain had been choked up by neglect, and a part of the passage itself had thus become a drain. This was traced by the persons employed passing along under the Forum Romanum, and eventually into the Cloaca Maxima. The history of this prison is well known, and the account of the imprisonment of Jugurtha in it as related by Sallust has been noticed on previous occasions. The existence of a far greater part of this ancient prison, much more than was previously supposed, is now clearly proved, although many were quite incredulous about it.

The other work on which we were previously engaged was the Porticus of the Thermæ of Antoninus Caracalla, often called the Thermæ of the Antonines. This Porticus or arcade completed the great work of the Thermæ, and was between the main building and the Via Appia; probably it faced that street, and ran down one side of it. The line of the street or road has been slightly changed in that part, and it is probable that it ran along in front of the Porticus, where we have found remains of an old paved street, with the raised footpaths, called *crepedines*, on each side of it, and slight remains of a temple on the other side, which passes under the present Church of SS. Nereus and Achilleus. Our explorations in that direction were again stopped by water. At the south end of the Porticus, between that and the main building of the Thermæ, we had ascertained in previous years that the ground had been intentionally raised as much as 30 ft. against the back wall of the Porticus (on the top of which wall are remains of an aqueduct), and the great main building. In this made earth, at the south end of the vineyard of Mr. Brocard, we had also found painted chambers, at the depth of 30 ft. from the surface of the ground in that part; but as the ground in front of the Porticus is 20 ft. below the level of what it is at the back, the paved street in front of it would correspond in level with the building, to which these painted chambers belonged.

This building I had for some time conjectured to have been the Palace of the Emperor Hadrian, called in the Regionary Catalogue of the fourth century, *Privata Hadriana*,

or the private house of Hadrian. This house had been built on the low level of the old street, made at the bottom of the trench, or the fosse-way of the time of the kings. In the second or third century the level of the streets through Rome was raised in many places to make them more convenient for carriages, and to be above the level of the ordinary floods of the Tiber. For this reason, these great Thermæ were built on a much higher level than the old palace had been. But there are a great series of subterranean chambers under these Thermæ, as there are under many of the palaces in Rome, for use in the hot weather, as in India. It seems probable that a part of the private house of Hadrian was preserved and used for these subterranean chambers. It is hardly possible that the chapel of the Lares, or household gods of Hadrian, could be wilfully destroyed so early as a century afterwards, when it could be preserved for use as a subterranean chapel.

This part of the palace is in the adjoining vineyard of the Cavaliere Guidi, who had excavated it some years since, and made an exhibition of it by the name of the *Villa of Asinius Pollio*. That name was given to it at the suggestion of Signor Pellegrini, who has the well-deserved reputation of being a good antiquary, but in this instance his conjecture was erroneous. Asinius Pollio lived in the time of Cicero, more than a hundred years before the time of Hadrian. The whole construction and decoration of this building is of the time of Hadrian; still the extent, which is so great, and the distance from the previous excavations of Guidi, might lead many persons to think that this could not be part of the same building. To ascertain this point, as we could not afford to excavate the whole series of chambers at that depth, a tunnel was made through from the chambers excavated last year to those which Guidi had excavated previously. In making this tunnel, seventy yards long, two more painted walls had to be cut through, and we came to the foot of a fine marble staircase, going up from this low level to that of the Thermæ above. It is now a matter of demonstration that the whole of this great building was one large palace. The expense, however, of excavating the whole of this site, valuable as the work would have been, was too great for our resources.

Attention having been now directed to this subject, the

Government will doubtless sooner or later take it in hand ; but they have enough already in hand to last them for the next fifty years. I will now proceed to speak of their great works. The Government has undertaken to excavate the whole of the Forum Romanum, and the Palatine Hill, with the slopes round it on all sides, down to the Via Sacra on one side, the Circus Maximus on the other, the Forum Romanum at the north end, and the Colosseum at the other. For this great work the Parliament has voted £1200 a year, and several hundred men are employed upon it, under the direction of the Cavaliere Rosa, who had for some years the management of the excavations for the Emperor of the French. In many respects it could not be in better hands, but Signor Rosa is unfortunately too fond of *Restorations*, which destroy the genuine character of the work, and make it work of the nineteenth century instead of work of the time of the Roman emperors. In the Forum Romanum last year he built thirty-nine new bases of brick to correspond with one ancient base which was of travertine, and it is doubtful whether there ever were any pillars where he has placed these bases, or any vault or roof over a great part of this long raised platform of the Basilica Julia. That great building was begun by Julius Cæsar, and finished by Augustus, who enlarged it very much, and altered the plan of it, so that what had been the breadth became the length, as we are told by the cotemporary authors. The north end towards the tabularium and the temple of Saturn was covered in, and the arches of that part remain. They are built of travertine, according to the fashion of the day, corresponding closely to the arch of Dolabella on the Cœlian, dated by an inscription upon it of A.D. 10, when Dolabella was Consul in the time of Augustus. These stone arches do not extend more than a third of the length of the great platform. The brick bases that Rosa has built are carried on to the farther end of it, and the marble pavement was cut through in several places to admit them.

In justice to the Italian Government, I must state the fact that they have now forbidden any more *restorations* to be made.

There can be no doubt that too much work has been thrown upon Signor Rosa, who has been obliged to leave a great deal to other persons who are often very ignorant.

The weeding of the Colosseum, about which there has been a great outcry, was really necessary, but it was done in a hasty, careless, slovenly manner, in Signor Rosa's absence, by ignorant people, and some mischief was done in consequence, but not much. The weeds and shrubs will soon grow up again; they were only of fifty years' growth, and another fifty years will probably make it necessary to have the building weeded again. The weeds and roots of shrubs will displace the stones, and injure the building, if long neglected.

The excavations now making under the direction of the Government are very important; they have been carried on from the arch of Septimius Severus, where the excavations of the Duchess of Devonshire were left off, some thirty or forty years since, to the temple at the corner of the Palatine, with the celebrated three columns, the name of which has been so long disputed, but which may now be considered to be the temple of Castor and Pollux. The foundations of the temple of Julius Cæsar have recently been found close to these on the eastern side, between those columns and the temple of Antoninus and Faustina. In this direction the work is going on vigorously. The original Cloaca Maxima has been found near to these columns, at the northern end of the platform of that temple. The Cloaca now in use and so called, is mediæval, on a higher level, and rather farther north.

The digging is still going on vigorously in this direction, or was when I last heard, which was quite recently; but they have an immense mass of earth to remove, as the earth dug out during previous excavations was all thrown here fifty years ago, and has become quite solid. The general orders are to clear away everything down to the pavements, and where there were old streets, this is the right way of going to work, and good results are brought out day after day. A little farther to the south, between the Arch of Titus and the Colosseum, another gang of men have been at work, and have brought to light a great deal that is interesting. The remains of a mediæval tower, built of old materials taken from some wall or gate of the time of the kings, have been found; these seem to indicate the site of the Porta Mugionis, but this is doubtful. Beyond this, nearer to the Colosseum, but on the higher level, between the paved road

and the cliff of the upper part of the Palatine, they have found remains of bath chambers belonging to the *Lavacrum Publicum* of Heliogabalus, and the gratuitous baths established by him with the hypocaust to warm them. In this part also remains of a temple were found, believed to have been that of *ORCUS*, mentioned by Lampridius in the life of Heliogabalus, and the dedication of which was changed to that of the Sun by that emperor. One long, large swimming bath had been since converted into a church, probably about the eighth century; the round apse and the lower part of the walls remain. Behind this church, and under the cliff, are other bath chambers of the third century.

In the great *Thermæ* of Caracalla another gang of men have been at work, and, having only general orders to go upon, they have, in my opinion, done rather *too much*. The general orders are to clear everything away down to the pavements, which is quite right in the streets, but within the walls of a great public building this is going too far. The fragments of the vaults of the upper storey, with the mosaic pavements on the surface, are very interesting and important, and a large proportion of these have been destroyed and cut up into blocks of a convenient size for building purposes. The masses of vault are so solid and hard, that the men were obliged to have recourse to blasting with gunpowder in order to break them up, to the great alarm of the gardeners who live near, who thought that the lofty walls would be shaken down by the concussion. Of the pieces of marble columns and the capitals that are found here, some are preserved on the spot (as they all should be), others are carried away to museums or for other purposes. A sort of local museum is formed, or being formed, within the work, but it is *not* confined to things found there; several objects, known to have been brought from other places, are placed there. The same is the case on the Palatine Hill, where another local museum is being formed, and this also is *not* confined to things found on the Palatine, as it ought to be; a number of very prettily-carved sarcophagi are placed in the corridors of the Palatine museum. This has misled some French and German correspondents of scientific journals, who have stated to their respective countrymen that interments must have been permitted on the Palatine, because they have seen these sarcophagi there, not for a

moment supposing that they had been brought there from the catacombs, after resting for awhile in the Government warehouses, which are overflowing. Still in the Thermæ of Caracalla, on the whole, the work is well done, and the results are good ; by clearing away down to the old pavements, the whole arrangements of the chambers are being clearly brought to light, with the baths of every description—hot, cold and tepid, and large swimming baths. Other large halls have been used for gymnastic exercises only, with galleries for spectators. Nothing has been done towards excavating the subterranean chambers, but this work will follow hereafter. Neither has anything yet been done towards clearing out the subterranean passages, which are very numerous in Rome, and which would be interesting objects of investigation, which the archæologists would have carried on if permitted to do so ; but they have never hitherto been able to obtain permission. The great activity of the present Government does certainly afford reason for their wishing to keep the matter in their own hands.

Among the recent discoveries in the Forum Romanum is a series of large brick pediments on the eastern side, with fragments of the marble columns that have stood upon them ; they extend nearly from the arch of Septimius Severus to the temple of Julius Cæsar, on the eastern side of that of Castor and Pollux. These pediments are of the time of Diocletian, that is of the beginning of the fourth century. They are said to have been along the side of the Via Nova, or that branch of it that led to the Via Sacra. Another branch is said to have gone to the west. Near the south end of this line of pediments, and near the temples, the remains of a fountain were also found, with a semi-circular basin. These are quite distinct from the *restorations* of bases on the platform of the Basilica Julia, and the paved street passes between that platform and these pediments. The one on which the column of the Emperor Phocas stands seems to have been a continuation of them.

The discovery of the foundations and the podium or base-ment of the temple of Julius Cæsar is important, and effectually settles a long-disputed question, when only one temple was known on this site, as to *which* it was ; some passages of the ancient authors seemed to indicate that the temple of Castor and Pollux stood on this site ; others, with equal clear-

ness, that the temple of Julius Cæsar was here ; now we see that both were side by side, with a mere passage between them, between the corner of the Palatine and the temple of Antoninus and Faustina. We may expect soon to find the foundations of the arch that stood here also. Close to these remains of the temple of Julius Cæsar some fragments of a set of Fasti Consulares were also found, containing the first two lines beginning with the first King, Romulus, the son of Mars. The inscription on one of these is—

ROMVLVS · MARTIS · F · REX · ANA · · ·
 DE CAENINENSIBVS K · MAT · · ·
 MARTIS · F · REX · II.

This tablet (*tabula*) is of the time of Augustus, and of course can only show the belief of the Romans at that period.

The early character of the construction of the walls of the great prison of the kings, is really stronger evidence, because it shows that this building was erected at the time when Livy and Dionysius say it was. Another great public building adjoining this has also been more carefully examined during this season. Although no recent *excavations* have been actually made there, a good deal of exploration has taken place, and so much information that was new and unexpected has been found, that it has excited a great deal of public attention. This great public building belongs to the earlier part of the history of Rome ; it forms one side of the Forum Romanum, though not actually in it, having been separated from it by the old wall that enclosed the Capitoline Hill, before its union with the Palatine. In this wall was the gate of Saturn, some slight remains of the foundations of which have been brought to light, between the temple of Saturn and the temple of Concord. This great building was originally called the *Capitolium* ; it is now called the *Municipium*, because it contains, and always has contained, the offices of the municipality ; but these offices occupy the two upper storeys only, which are above the level of the Piazza del Campidoglio, an open square on the Capitoline Hill. On this side the building is only two storeys high, and the front was rebuilt by Michael Angelo. But on the side next the Forum, the building, being built against the cliff of the hill, is there five storeys high, the upper two being the only part inhabited. There is reason

to believe that these two upper storeys were originally of wood only, and were burnt in the time of Sylla ; the other three storeys are of the massive stone-work of the time of the kings, and were considered as foundations only, and therefore let alone when the upper part was rebuilt. These walls, built of blocks of tufa each of a ton weight, four feet long and two feet thick, like the wall of Romulus on the Palatine, are as good a foundation as could be desired. A short description of this important building seems necessary, and it could not have been explained until quite recently. On the lowest storey, nearly level with the Forum, are two doorways only ; these open to staircases, passing behind the storey above, which may be considered as the ground floor ; the two doorways and a few steps only being at the lower level. The ground floor, then, is the *Ærarium*, or public treasury of the kings, and is admirably calculated for the purpose ; it is a long narrow passage, the back of which was cut out of the rock, and it is divided into a series of small square chambers, admirably calculated to stow away the square blocks of bronze, which formed the money of Servius Tullius, who reigned soon after the time when this treasury was built.

This building is mentioned by Terentius Varro, as one of those that were considered in his time to have belonged to the city of the Sabines, on the Hill of Saturn, before the union with the Romans on the Palatine. Varro wrote a hundred years before the Christian era, and his testimony therefore is valuable ; but as he also lived nearly seven hundred years after the erection of the building, it cannot be considered as decisive. It seems more probable that this great mass of building was erected immediately after the union of the two hills, by enclosing them in one wall to make one city (as recorded by Dionysius). By mutual consent the Hill of Saturn was made the Capitol of the united city, from which circumstance this great building was originally called the *Capitolium*. The storey next above this and closely connected with it (in fact part of the same construction), is the *Tabularium* (or Public Record Office, where the bronze tables or tablets were kept). In front of this was an open arcade or *porticus*, which remains, though the arches are blocked up, but one of which has been opened to show what they were. It has been thought dangerous to open the others, but there is reason to believe the fear is groundless.

The third storey, which is the intermediate one, equally the third from above and from below, is believed to have contained the *senaculum* or Senate House at the eastern end, with an easy staircase up to it, and at the western end the offices for the clerks of the Treasury. The doorway at the foot of the western staircase is of the time of the early Empire, or perhaps earlier; it was long concealed by the platform of the temple of Saturn, and is now only partly visible, the lower part being still blocked up. From this doorway rises a remarkably steep, straight staircase, or flight of steps going up direct to the third floor, with no doors or openings into it until that level is reached. It passes behind the *Ærarium* and the *Tabularium*, and the inner part of it is cut out of the rock. Cicero in his oration (*pro Fonteio*) mentions this staircase, and writes, "Was it easier to climb the Alps than to climb the steps of the *Ærarium*?" This reference to the steps is very remarkable, and is an important confirmation of the fact that this is the staircase of the *Ærarium*. The third floor appears to have been much damaged by the great fire in the time of Sylla, some early portions of the old wall which remain being here filled up with later work, but the stairs at this eastern end can be clearly traced up to this level, and are quite different from the others, being carried round the corners of a square space, so as to make the ascent easier than by going straight up. This doorway to the *senaculum* was covered by the platform of the temple of Concord, in the same manner as the doorway to the *Ærarium* was concealed by that of the temple of Saturn, and which is still concealed in that manner.

At the foot of the Capitoline Hill, in the *Via di Marforio*, four pits were dug in April, 1872.

1. In the open place at the south end opposite to the Church of the Crucifixion, under the inscription which records that the statue of Marforio had stood there. In this part all was "made earth" to a great depth.

2. Near the old steps to the Capitol; here some modern drains were found and repaired, they being *over* the old subterranean passage, and the water that escaped from the drain fell into that passage.

3. Inside the line of the *agger* (the ridge across the street). The soil here was found to be made earth to a great depth on the eastern side of the street, but tufa rock on the western side,

under the Capitol. The houses on that side seem to be all built on the ledge of the tufa rock.

4. In the northern part of the street outside of the ridge. Here are brick walls of the time of Trajan, under the present houses, and a tufa wall at the southern end of the pit under No. 81 D. This appeared to be the end of the tufa wall, with a vaulted chamber built up against it, belonging to the Forum of Trajan. Marble columns have also been found at the same place.

Apparently the houses on both sides of the Via di Marforio are built on the old tufa wall in this part. This is only a short distance to the south of the tomb of Bibulus. The Vicolo di Marforio turns off to the east, just outside of the site of the supposed line of the old tufa wall, which crosses the street, and makes it almost impassable for carriages. This ridge was ascertained, as we expected, to be caused by the agger and wall of the kings passing under the street at this point. Outside of the wall to the north, we found by the difference of level that we were in the great fosse, part of the Forum of Trajan being made in it, of which there are remains in the cellars of the houses on the eastern side of the street. On the ridge we found the connection of the wall of the kings with the foot of the rock of the Capitoline Hill, under a house which had been rebuilt a few years since; and Signor Visconti had told me that he had seen this wall there, but he called it the wall of Servius Tullius, but the construction shows it to be before his time. It is the beginning of the wall that enclosed the Hill of Saturn and the Palatine *in one city*. The arch of Trajan stood in the line of this wall at the south end of the Forum, probably on the site of an old gate. After crossing the great fosse, the wall arrives at the foot of the Quirinal Hill, and then turns to the right or south as far as the Torre dei Conti, which was built in the middle ages upon an old tower of tufa at that angle of the second city of Rome. Part of this wall at the foot of the Quirinal was used to enclose that side of the Forum of Augustus, but was certainly built before that time. It was used because it stood there, and it would not pay to carry it away, for it would have cost as much to move these great stones, each a ton weight, as to bring others from the quarry. Doorway arches were cut through the wall, either in the time of Augustus or during the Republic, probably the latter, as the one that remains

(miscalled the Arco di Pantano) is of the Gabii stone called *sperone*, which was generally used in the time of the Republic, before the Romans, had possession of Tivoli or Tiber, with its quarries of travertine. There was a similar doorway arch at the end of the next street (where the remains of the temple of Pallas stand), which is shown in a drawing of Palladio, to whom this ruin was given by the Pope as building materials, and who has preserved this record of them. This street had been the "Forum transitorium" of Nerva, and a wall of travertine was built to divide the Forum from that of Augustus. This wall is about twenty feet high, and is inserted at an angle in the lower part of the old wall of the kings, which is sixty feet high and twelve feet thick. This junction is still visible behind the houses on the side of this street at the north-east corner.

The great wall of the second City of Rome must then have passed at the back, or eastern side of the Velia, with the great fosse, now the Via del Colosseo, outside of it; then turning at an angle in front of the Colosseum, and at the further end of the great platform, where the Church of S. Francisca Romana now stands. It continued along the south-east end of the Palatine, and at its foot, with the great fosse continued outside of it, now to the Via di S. Gregorio, then turning the angle of the Palatine, we find it on the western side towards the Circus Maximus, again behind the houses, and in a garden. Soon after this it arrives at the towers under the Church of S. Anastasia at another angle. These towers, of which the lower part only remains, have been called the *Pulvinarium*, or cushioned gallery of the kings, by the side of the Circus Maximus; they may have been used for that purpose, but were not likely to have been built for it. At this point there are two towers close together, which might have been necessary to protect an angle of the fortification. The wall then crossed the valley to the bank of the Tiber, with part of the river Almo near its mouth for a wet ditch, and on the bank of the Tiber the fine tufa wall called the *Pulchrum Littus* was built, of which we have remains in several places, and by which we can trace it along the Tiber to the bridge called Ponte Rotto, and beyond that to the other bridge called the Ponte Quattro Capi, which goes across to the island. This old tufa wall then turned again at an angle to join the western side of the Hill of

Saturn, with a great fosse outside of it, where the fish-market was made, and under the Church of S. Angelo in Pescheria (or "the angel in the fish-market"). There was a double line of defence, as was usual, across this valley,—the Ghetto and the fish-market are now in the great outer fosse, and a portion of the outer wall remains under the church. This was for many centuries the boundary of THE CITY at that point; and the Porta Triumphalis was built there, the remains of which now form the porch of that church. The cliffs on the north side of the Hill of Saturn were considered a sufficient defence to complete the circuit. This was a mistake, as we know that the cliffs were scaled and the Capitol was taken.

Some excavations have been also made by Signor Rosa near the arch of Janus, and here remains of a wall were found, of the same character as the wall of Romulus against the cliff of the Palatine. This confirms my view that the original entrance to the fortifications of the Palatine was at this point, the Aqua Argentina having served as a wet ditch from the Lupercal, in which it rises, to the point where it falls into the other stream coming from the Quirinal, afterwards made the Cloaca Maxima. This stream had been the ditch under the north-end of the Palatine, and at the point of junction there would naturally be a drawbridge, and a tower, and a Janus or gateway-arch with four faces would be the more convenient where four roads met, from the Palatine, the Capitol, the Forum Romanum, and the Forum Boarium. This is the natural entrance to a zig-zag road up the north end of the Palatine, and the terrace at the foot of the upper cliff, against which the earliest wall in Rome is built, and in which a gateway is cut, called by Signor Rosa the Porta Romana, but which may be the Porta Mugionis, because the cattle would come up this way from the Forum Boarium, the Smithfield or cattle market of ancient Rome. The arch stands over the principal stream, and close to the point of junction of the two streams.

We now come to what is usually called the PALATINE proper, the level surface of the hill within the scarped cliffs and old walls. In this part great excavations have been continued, and much has been discovered. A work of the earliest period has been found in the form of a small temple built of tufa, of the same character as the wall of Romulus round the Roman Quadrata. Remains of the earliest wall had

been already found on three sides of the arx or citadel of the Palatine called Roma Quadrata, and on both sides of the great fosse across the middle of the hill, the bottom of which was on the same level, or nearly so, as the Summa Via Sacra, on which the arch of Titus stands.

This temple is the earliest in Rome, and can hardly be any other than the temple of Jupiter Feretrius, built by Romulus in the year 4 of Rome. There are also remains of a grand flight of steps reaching up to this temple from the western side, built of the same large blocks of tufa, and of the same early construction. This must be the *Scala Caci*, or steps of Cacus, mentioned as amongst the earliest constructions in Rome, the situation agreeing exactly with the notice we have of it. This temple is recorded by Livy to have been built *in capitolio*, which has been understood to mean on the Capitoline Hill; but the Hill of Saturn, at that time, was in possession of the Sabines, the union of the two hills not having taken place until some years after that date. This discovery led me to investigate the history of the temple of Jupiter Capitolinus, and I have arrived at the conclusion that it must be the temple excavated by Bunsen some years since (in the garden of the Prussian Embassy), which is precisely on the top of the Tarpeian rock, or that part of the Hill of Saturn that was used for a place of public execution. This temple is recorded to have been built in that situation by the two Tarquins, to commemorate the conquest of Gabii; and it was a place of importance. The temple itself is small, as they usually were; but it stood in a large space which was surrounded by a portico or arcade, of which we have the back wall only. The arches and decorations were probably of wood and *bronze*, according to the fashion of that period, and have long since disappeared. But the large space enclosed in the heart of the city and of the citadel indicates a place of importance. The building material both of the temple and of the wall of the porticus, is stone from the quarries of Gabii, and it is the earliest instance in Rome of the use of that stone.

The next important discovery on the Palatine is the great reservoir for water for the house previously discovered, and which I believe to be the house of Hortensius, purchased by Augustus, and inhabited by him for forty years, as we are told by Suetonius. This house was that of an ordinary

citizen, with no mosaic pavement, and no fresco paintings, because Augustus wished to live the life of an ordinary citizen. But the Senate was not satisfied with such a residence for their chief, and a few years afterwards they added state apartments to it, as we are told by Dion Cassius (himself a Roman senator, a century afterwards). Augustus, we are told, had chosen this site because it was near the house of Romulus, and in the Arx. These remains are in the arx or citadel, and the site of the house of Romulus is recorded to have been very near to this spot. The house usually called the house of Augustus, under the Villa Mills, is part of the great palace of Domitian, whose brick stamps were found in the wall by Nibby, and the plan of the adjoining building in this part of the hill clearly shows it to have been so. Signor Rosa has been misled by what are called the Roman traditions, which are usually the conjectures of learned men in past generations. This large reservoir would be more properly called a *Castellum Aquæ* than a *Piscina*. It was no doubt part of the additions made by order of the Senate to supply the house and the fountains with water. Some leaden pipes, with the name of Julia stamped upon them, were found there last year. There can be little doubt that Julia lived in the same house as Augustus. In the southern portion, formerly the pontifical part of the hill, some other considerable excavations have been made in the place which Visconti calls the Stadium, and these seem to show that it could not have been the Stadium, but was more likely the Gymnasium. The Exedra or State seats have been excavated, and some paintings of the third century found on the walls.

Near the remains of the early temple before-mentioned, and so near as to touch it on the northern side, are remains of the platform and marble steps of another temple of the time of Augustus, and at the foot of these steps a fine marble statue of a goddess, or an empress, was found. The head is wanting, but the figure is a grand one, of a size larger than nature. Various conjectures have been made relating to it, but they are only conjectures.

Some excavations have been made in the platform on which the church and monastery of S. Francisca Romana now stands, but outside the monastery, towards the Colosseum,—five great fragments of a large column of porphyry have been found, probably one of the double row of columns

of the Porticus Liviae, of which the plan was found in one of the fragments of the Marble Plan of Rome, excavated in 1869, which agrees remarkably with this site, the basis of the double row of columns remaining on several parts of this platform, which is partly made on the rock at the north end, but on a late wall at the south end, opposite to the Colosseum. At the south end there are steps up to it, exactly as represented on the Marble Plan.

In making the new street from the railway station to the Quirinal Palace, near the Via Mazzarino and Via dei Serpenti, the excavators have met with the subterranean chambers of some large building of the first century, with massive walls faced with brick, a mosaic pavement, and a crypto-porticus, or subterranean arcade or corridor, the walls of which are faced with *opus reticulatum*. The name of this great building has not yet been ascertained. In digging the foundations of the great public building for the offices of the Treasury near the Porta Pia, they have found a portion of the wall of Servius Tullius, in the horn-work to protect the Porta Collina, on the south side of the road leading to it within the modern Porta Pia. The other portion of the horn-work is in the garden of Sallust (now of Spithoever) on the northern side of the road. Here they have also found a head of Cybele, of the natural size, in Greek marble; the head has the corona of towers, but it is slightly damaged.

In the course of what is called the *restoration* (?) of the wall of Rome, the remains of the Porta Salaria have been demolished, and in doing so some interesting tombs have been brought to light. They are chiefly of the first century, and perhaps a little earlier, one resembling the tomb of Bibulus (c. B.C. 20); but the most interesting and curious of these are the tombs of two young scholars, who had been successful competitors in the *Lustra*, or open competitive examinations of those days, and these two prizemen died soon after their success. One of these occurred in the sixth *Lustrum*, and the person commemorated obtained the Latin verse prize at the age of thirteen, as we are told in the inscription, which is all that we have of this tomb. His name was—

LVCIVS VALERIVS PVDENS.

The sixth *Lustrum* was in the time of the Emperor Domitian (A.D. 91).

The other of these tombs is far more interesting and important, because we have the effigy of the youth perfect. He is represented in the toga, and carries in his hand a scroll, covered with a Greek inscription, which we are told by another inscription in Latin on the flat surface of the slab, were the Greek verses which he had recited extempore, and by which he had gained the Greek prize against fifty-two competitors in the fifth *Lustrum*. The Latin verses by which he obtained the Latin prize, are also inscribed upon the flat surface of the tomb, together with another inscription as the record of these facts by his parents mourning for his loss. He seems indeed to have been a promising youth, and had probably overworked his brain too young, a caution to other scholars. His name was,—

QVINTVS SVLPITIVS MAXIMVS.

The fifth quinquennial *Lustrum* was also in the time of the Emperor Domitian (A.D. 86).²

The remains of the old paved road, and of an aqueduct, were also found under this gate at a considerable depth.

In the public burial-ground near the church of S. Lorenzo, outside the walls formerly called the *Campus Veranus*, two elegant small marble statues have been found this season. One represents the goddess TELLVS, or the Earth, personified. The figure is seated, and holds a sceptre in the left hand; the right hand is broken off. An inscription on the base states that AVLVS HORTENSIVS CERDO dedicated this statue to "Mother Earth," TERRAE MATRI.

A. HORTENSIVS · CERDO · DEAE · PIAE ·
ET CONSERVATRICI · MEAE · D. D.

The Cavaliere De Rossi has carried on his excavations in the Catacombs of Pretextatus and of S. Calixtus, opening some new corridors and finding some new inscriptions, of which an account will appear in his excellent Journal, the *Bulletino di Archæologia Christiana*. The monks of S. Agnes³ have also carried on some important excavations in their catacomb. These are of great interest and import-

² The Cavaliere Visconti has written a book on the subject of this tomb from the inscriptions upon it, with a fac-simile of my photograph of it.

³ These good monks have been helped

by the "Roman Exploration Fund," and have applied for fresh assistance, which will be given as soon as the Fund admits of it.

ance ; they have opened a passage through from the entrance on the eastern side of their church, passing under the church, and under the great staircase by which we descend into it ; that church having been originally the burial chapel at the entrance of the catacombs, was always below the level of the ground. This passage or corridor then passes under a part of their garden, and there is an exit from it in the mausoleum and Baptistery of S. Constantia. In the course of these excavations they have found the lower chambers of no less than five pagan tombs, with passages from them into the catacombs. According to the theory of the Roman Catholic priests, *all* these passages were made in the sixteenth century by persons in search of treasure, but it seems rather doubtful whether they were not made by the families to whom the tombs belonged, after the lower chambers were full, to make more room for bodies. It is well known that the ground set apart for a tomb and a family burial-place was sold in perpetuity to that family, and the right of burial extended to any depth. It seems probable that many parts of the great catacombs were originally made to give more room for burial to the families to whom the tombs above belonged.