

1 roof supported on plain round cols. of white marble. The choir is raised 7 or 8 feet above the  
2 main floor with marble steps at each side. [Inserted at the top of page 11 of this second  
3 volume: "(received 950 £ circular notes Duncan Sherman & Co.)] The floor of the choir rests on  
4 groined arches supported by 28 small marble columns, a flight of marble steps from principal  
5 floor down to the crypt. The screen of the choir is of fine white marble beautifully sculptured  
6 and inlaid with darker marbles. The walls are all lined with marble. Five windows in the semi-  
7 circular apse are of semi-transparent marble and have a very good effect. St Miniato's tomb  
8 under the high altar, not very remarkable. The mosaic pavement is very beautiful, laid down in  
9 1207. So says a tablet in the floor. The view of the city and its northern suburbs is very fine  
10 from the piazza in front of the church. The hill around the church was fortified by Michael  
11 Angelo. Some of the walls and ramparts still remain enclosing a cemetery in which we found  
12 many beautiful monuments. In one of the public squares which we passed in returning, we saw  
13 a very fine statue of David copied from one of Michael Angelos works.

14 Nov 8<sup>th</sup>. Sunday. Went to the American church. Heard a refreshing sermon.

15 Nov 9<sup>th</sup>. Took carriage to visit Fiesole, an ancient Etruscan Town on a very high hill 3 miles north  
16 of Florence. This town dates its founding several centuries before Christ. It was conquered by  
17 the Florentines in 1010. Visited an old cathedral and monastery remarkable for nothing but  
18 their antiquity. Saw some remains of old Roman walls, etc. Very pleasant drive. (Mrs. Van &  
19 the girls visited the Anatomical Museum on the afternoon of the 7<sup>th</sup>.)

20 Nov 10<sup>th</sup>. Visited the Uffizi Gallery to see the pictures and statues, also cabinet of engraved  
21 gems. The most extensive gallery we have ever visited. Were delighted and remained until  
22 exhausted nature drove us home. Propose a second visit to this extraordinary place.  
23 Afternoon ladies out shopping. I took a promenade. Stopped at the bank and looked over  
24 American papers.

25 Nov 11<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Van and the girls buy silk for new dresses. I remained at home writing up my  
26 journal & resting generally.

27 Nov 12<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Van & girls visited an artist studio to look at some paintings. I went to bank.  
28 Drew 50 £ Macquay [?] Hooker & Co. and indulged in a rest for the balance of the day.

29 Nov 13<sup>th</sup>. Received 3 letters. Clara, James & Hattie. Had a good time over them. Raining hard  
30 to day and did not leave the house.

31 Nov 14<sup>th</sup>. Snowed a little this morning and rained the rest of the day. Did not go out.

32 Nov 15<sup>th</sup>. Sunday. Fine morning. Julia is not well to day & remained at home. The rest of us at  
33 church, American chapel.

34 Nov 16<sup>th</sup>. Ladies busy with dress makers. Took short walk and laid up for the day.

35 Nov 17<sup>th</sup>. Took walk about town (not a very long one). Attended to dress makers.