

1 left, ascended the "Pincian Hill." The road ascends in long zig-zags and is as perfect as a road
2 can be made. It is lined with statues and antique fragments. From the terrace at the summit
3 we had a grand view of the city. This hill is beautifully arranged in park and gardens and is a
4 favorite resort for the people. A band plays here two hours on Sunday & Thursday afternoons.
5 Here were the celebrated gardens of Lucullus and Messalina. The wife of Claudius is said to
6 have celebrated her orgies here. Returning to our hotel, we passed an obelisk which Hadrian
7 erected in Egypt to the memory of Antinous, subsequently brought to Rome and erected here
8 in 1822.

9 Decr 13th. Sunday. Went to St Peters at half past 10 to hear "High Mass." Heard some good
10 music and saw some high performance. Could not understand a word of the mummary, so did
11 the next best thing: walked around examining the monuments and other works of art. In the
12 afternoon took carriage and drove 2 hours in the suburbs, the air chilly and threatening rain.
13 We returned in good season to our hotel. Do not feel very pleasant about that ride and shall
14 not repeat it on the Sabbath, although it is difficult to keep the run of the days of the week
15 without an almanac as we saw men at work laying pipes in the streets, carpenters and masons
16 at work, the street and drives as full as upon any other day of the week. The stores, however, I
17 noticed were generally closed.

18 Decr 14th. Guide & carriage at half past 9 A.M. Drove into the "Jews Quarter" and visited their
19 synagogue. Nothing noticeable on the exterior. After scrambling up a dilapidated stone stairs,
20 we entered a large room with no pretensions to architectural beauty, but fitted up with a
21 number of non-descript altars, or pulpits, and a gallery with a close screen for the female part
22 of the congregation, the walls emblazoned with symbols pertaining to their worship, etc. On
23 the floor below, found two other rooms where the poorer classes of Jews could come in. Our
24 curiosity satisfied, we resumed our carriage & drove to the Temple of Octavia (sister of
25 Augustus). This is a first class ruin built 14 years B.C. Two colonnades remain with their
26 pediments. Next passed the Theatre of Marcellus of the same date as last mentioned ruin, the
27 first story Doric, the second Ionic. A part of the cornice of first story is yet perfect, and two or
28 three of the Ionic capitals are good as new, notwithstanding they were cut nearly 2000 years
29 ago. These grand old ruins are inexpressibly interesting. Next came to the House of Rienzi (the
30 last of the Tribunes), the house built 900 years since of brick, ornamented with sculptured
31 fragments of buildings that were in ruins at the time this was erected. It is a small, quaint old
32 pile of rubbish. Near this is the "Temple of Fortune," a small building with 4 Ionic columns at
33 each end and 7 on one side. It is in good preservation for a structure as old as the hills. Next
34 visited the Temple of Vesta, built in the 2nd century. The building is a small circular structure
35 surrounded by a Corinthian colonnade of 20 columns, much dilapidated. The cornice has
36 entirely disappeared, and the whole thing is covered by a shabby conical tile roof, flat and ugly.
37 Some of the capitals are nearly perfect and very fine. From this point passed along the foot of
38 the Aventine hill on the left bank of the "Tiber." Here is the harbor of the city. A number of
39 small schooners and two little steamboats were moored against the walls of the river bank.
40 Made a very poor show as far as commerce is concerned. There is a large derrick arranged with