

1 columns to about half their height. Above the entablature is an attic with a statue in full relief  
2 of Minerva. The entablature is very much enriched, and the ruin is intensely interesting. Next  
3 visited the "Academy of St Luke." Here we found a number of casts of the figures on the Trajan  
4 column. Also in the picture gallery a number of fine pictures by Rubens, van-Dyck, Raphael,  
5 Titian, Paul Veronese, & others. Next visited the Mamertine Prison located near the Roman  
6 Forum. First passed into a church which is built on top of the prison, the floor of the church  
7 elevated 4 or 5 steps above the present grade. We descended a flight of stone stairs some 20  
8 feet to the Jailors room. A hole 2 feet diameter in the floor opened into a lower dungeon.  
9 Originally this was the only entrance way into the room below, and through this hole St. Paul  
10 was let down by ropes to the lower dungeon where he was confined 22 months. A good flight  
11 of stairs have been constructed in modern times for visitors to pass down into this lower  
12 chamber. Here we were with dim tapers in the very room in which the Romans say Peter and  
13 Paul were both confined, and here is where the venerated Chains of St Peter were found. We  
14 were also shown a shallow well in the floor of the dungeon, nearly full of clear water. This is a  
15 miraculous spring which sprung up opportunely for baptizing the jailor and his household.  
16 Unfortunately, we have been instructed that a similar event happened to the jailor and his  
17 household at Philippi, in Macedonia, and some have been so incredulous as to doubt that Peter  
18 ever was in Rome. All this would spoil a very interesting tradition in regard to this prison. Paul  
19 may have been imprisoned in this very dungeon. I believe a man kept in this dungeon 22  
20 months would find it no very great additional hardship to be beheaded. Perhaps this was Neros  
21 method of reconciling his victims to that disagreeable operation. Leaving this dismal place, we  
22 critically examined the numerous interesting ruins in and around the great Roman forum.  
23 Excavations have been made here over a large area to the depth of 20 or 25 feet to the level of  
24 the ancient city. In making these excavations, a vast quantity of interesting matters were  
25 brought to light. The marble floor and bases of the columns of the "Basilica Julia." This must  
26 have been a very extensive building. It was commenced by Caesar and completed by Augustus.  
27 A few marble steps lead from this floor down to the pavement of the "Sacred Way," a street  
28 paved with blocks of lava. Over this way the triumphal processions of the victorious armies of  
29 the Romans passed into the forum to receive the honours and plaudits of the people. The most  
30 imposing ruin is the colonnade of the "Temple of Saturn," erected 490 B.C. 8 granite Ionic  
31 columns are standing with a large portion of the entablature. The basement on which the  
32 columns rest is 16 feet high; then three beautiful columns of the Temple of Vespasian; the  
33 grand old triumphal arch of Septimius Severus; the foundations of the Temple of Concord, built  
34 many years before Christ. The isolated "Column of Phocas," erected in 608, is a lofty fluted  
35 Corinthian column with capital in good preservation. This column was taken by the exarch  
36 Smaragdus from some ancient edifice and set up here in honour of the Tyrant Phocas. South of  
37 the Basilica Julia are the ruins of the Temple of Castor and Pollux, erected about 496 B.C.  
38 These are three Corinthian columns of Parian Marble in good condition. The foundations and  
39 steps leading up to this temple have been uncovered by the recent excavations. The  
40 foundation walls of the Temple of Venus, directly in front of the last mentioned temple. We  
41 next examined the Temples of Romulus and Remus. Went inside of the Temple of Romulus. It