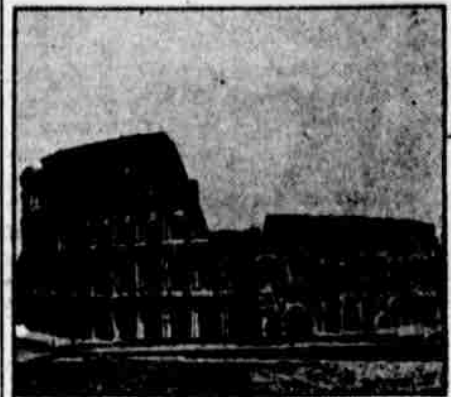


Tour of Europe

Rome is the great mecca of the foreign tourist. In traveling there by rail from Naples it is wise to go first-class, for on this particular journey the best is none too good. There is a general bleakness about the countryside that depresses the spirits, for this old lonely, desolate Campagna district is a desolate place with fever-smitten marshes. The sheep graze drowsily, the oxen are cumbersome and slow, and the wagons move on creaking wheels. The long line of aqueducts comes into view, and two miles from the gates of Rome, upon the Appian way, is the famous battle-torn tomb of Cecilia Metella, which has successfully defied time and decay. Far away are viewed the high peaks of the Apennines, and ahead, massive, mighty, crowning grandly the Eternal City, is St. Peter's stately cupola, with its bright bronze ball above it. This wonderful church is Rome's great historic shrine. It stands at the end of a narrow street, having a large courtyard with an obelisk and fountain. It is too big for convenient sight, big without, big within.



EXTERIOR OF THE COLISEUM.

and size is the keynote to the architecture. Even in the midst of the crowded city its magnitude weighs down the mind. But it is not too big to be intensely interesting, nor yet too big for the spectator to revel in its grandeur, which is as wonderful and mightily mysterious as that of some great forest which the hands of God have built with a labor of centuries.

It is a far climb to the bronze ball above the dome and the high outside galleries is marvelous. The shafts of sunshine coming in the window gleam upon the marble pillars, and add another glory to that of the old mosaics of the dome.

The famous Swiss guards protect entrance to the Vatican, with its loggia, picture galleries and museum of sculpture, the room of Apollo Belvedere, the mosaic factory, the library and the Sixtine chapel, where Michael Angelo's "Last Judgment" is. All this conveys a sense of awe amid the shadow of great history.

The Forum lies in a hollow between the Capitoline, the Palatine and the

Eastern hills. A bird's-eye view shows the Colonnade of the Twelve Gods, and the temples of Vespasian and Concordia, railed in. Everywhere are seen ruins of magnificent temples, palaces and shrines, edifices recalling the most brilliant periods of Imperial Rome. Rich old dwellings have here been recently unearthed. The Sancta Maria Antiqua, restored in 1902, with its gorgeous fresco decorations, is a unique monument of the Byzantine period.

The Colosseum is a pathetic giant of a blood-stained past. Christian altars stand at the entrance through which the wild beasts used to rush to rend the martyrs limb from limb. Near by, spanning the Sacred way, stands the Arch of Constantine to commemorate the beginning of a nobler era in Rome's history, when Christianity attained pre-eminence in the state. Next come the catacombs, 545 miles in length. Over a part of these is built the church of San Sebastiano, the oldest in the world. At a little distance is St. John Lateran, "Mother of Churches," where the tomb of Pope Pius IX. has just been placed. Here is found the holy staircase, that famous flight of twenty-eight marble steps brought to Rome from the house of Pilate at Jerusalem.

The drive outside the city's walls is less attractive than it was a few years ago, before high apartment buildings were erected on the surrounding plain. For instance, at the Porta San Lorenzo one cannot see the Sabine hills. But the walls themselves are high, heavy, frowning, in spite of vines that overrun them and flowers that peep from out their crevices—sufficiently impressive, even as walls of mighty Rome. At every gate is found a famous road, which opens a new vista of association. At the Porta Salara the road leads into the country of the Sabines. At the Porta Pia memorial tablets mark the spot where the breach in the walls was made when the Italians entered here in 1870. At the Porta San Lorenzo is the road which leads to Tivoli, of the wonderful water falls; and so on for almost every one of the thirteen gates of Rome.

One could live a lifetime here, studying, enjoying, thinking, only to feel at last that acquaintance with the city was just beginning, even though ambition and profession was dilettante in place of scientific. Rome is as fascinating, as unfathomable, as full of surprises as a woman who has seen much and suffered much, yet has never lost her native faith in all things good. If it is appropriate that the feminine gender be used to designate any city, it is most appropriate that it be applied to Rome. Paris is feminine, Venice is ladylike, but Rome is womanly. She has the two good qualities of religion and motherhood, without which neither city nor woman can be said to have reached the full stature of beauty.

FREQUENT ENOUGH.



Rich Aunt—You only visit me when you want money. Spendthrift—Well, I couldn't come much oftener, could I?

TWO ANIMALS ARE IN ONE.

Half of a Chameleon May Be Wide Awake and the Other Asleep. To all appearances and according to the researches of those best capable of forming an opinion on the subject the nervous centers in one lateral half of the chameleon go on independently of those on the other, and it has two lateral centers of perception—sensation and motion—besides the common one in which must reside the faculty of concentration.

The eyes move independently of one another and convey separate impressions to their respective centers of perception. The consequence is that when the animal is agitated its movements resemble those of two animals or rather perhaps two halves of animals glued together. Each half wishes to go its own way and there is no concordance of action.

The chameleon, therefore, is the only four-legged vertebrate that is unable to swim; it becomes so frightened when dropped into water that all faculty of

concentration is lost and the creature tumbles about as if in a state of intoxication.

When a chameleon is undisturbed every impulse to motion is referred to the proper tribunal and the whole organism acts in accordance with its decrees.

The chameleon, moreover, may be fast asleep on one side and wide awake on the other. Cautiously approached at night with a candle so as not to awaken the whole animal at once, the eye turned toward the light will open, begin to move and the corresponding side to change color, whereas the other side will remain for a longer or shorter time in a torpid, motionless and unchanged state, with its eye fast shut—Scientific American.

The woman who lives a thousand miles from her kin can claim that she are princes and princesses, but no woman living ten miles nearer should attempt it.

Be sure that you have an aim in life before pulling the trigger.

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