PHILIP SKIPPON’S DESCRIPTION OF FLORENCE (1664)

in:

PHILIP SKIPPON:
An account of a journey made thro’ part of the Low-Countries, Germany, Italy and France, in: A collection of voyages and travels, some now printed from original manuscripts, others now first published in English (...), second edition, volume VI (London 1746)

edited with an Introduction by

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Philip Skippon, *An account of a journey made thro' part of the Low Countries, Germany, Italy and France*, in: *A collection of voyages and travels, some now printed from original manuscripts, others now first published in English in six volumes with a general preface giving an account of the progress of navigation from its beginning*, London: Printed by assignment from Messrs. Churchill for Henry Lintot; and John Osborn, at the Golden-Bell in Pater-noster Row, Vol. VI, 1746, pp. 375-749.
Then paiz'd in sight of Li Corzi, a large
building where troopers quarter, and then
we enter'd the mole of Ligorn, deliver-
ing our bills of health on the side of the
mole; Then a folder out of one of the
forts, called to us, and asked whence we
came, &c.

All along this shore of Italy we observ-
ed the fishing-boats always under sail, with
their net-lines fastened to them.

We travel'd by felucca 1233 Italian
miles, viz.

From Genoa to Lerici, 65
The journey to Maléa, 460
From Migues to Salerno, 342
From Naples to Ligorn, 306

July 12. We took our places in the
boat of Navicella, and in five hours
went from Ligorn to Pisa, where a
searcher inquir'd into our portmanteaus.
As night we gave our names to the inn-
keeper.

July 13. In the afternoon, paying two
pieces of eight, and one fourth of a piece,
for our two places, we took coach for
Florence. At the gates of Pisa the search-
ers floup'd us a little: most part of the way
we travel'd this day was a plain road.
We rode 10 miles from Pisa through Cá-
fesina, a small walled place, then went in
fight of Sante Croce on the left side of the
river Arno and M. Opat on the right, and
hereabouts paiz'd close by a monastery of
the Scotchmen, which is a rich place, and
pleasantly feared the woods we travel'd
through belonging to them. Ten miles from
Cafesina we stay'd at an inn called
Scala; and about midnight took coach a-
gain, and floup'd the Arno twice. At
break of day, July 14, we made a long ac-
toence through M. Laga, a walled place, and
for three or four miles travel'd among hills;
and after that we had eight miles in a plain
country, and arrived at eight in the morn-
ing at Florence, where the searchers floup'd
us; then we went to the Dogana, and to
our lodging.

While we stay'd here, these following
particulars were observed by us.

At Porta Romana are these two inscrip-
tions.

Leo X, primus in Flor. genti ex nobilissima
Medicæ, familia Pont. Max. Bononiae
Professus Flor. patriam suam primum tu
in honorem intruxit, divis a loius muri parte
magnificientissimis, vet. ornamenti apparatu et
lapidum solius civitatis planu exceptus
Vol. VI.
Pictures of the dukes relations and of most of the princes in chriftendom.

The story of S. Francis nearly painted on a looking-glass. Many heads and fruits drawn by a woman, viz. Giovanna Garzano, now at Rome. A picture (being Italian work) representing ancient matings. The figure of a Snake twirling herself together, represented very natural in marble. A small chapel here, the walls whereof within richly made with marble Most work describing pots of flowers, and the floor of the chapel was of the same work. A fountain in the yard, where is a statue in a commodious posture, made by Michel Angelo, and highly esteemed.

S. Michael’s church is a tall square building, having on the curfide many fair statues both of brass and marble. Here we heard good vocal and instrumen
tal music on St. Anne’s day, and there was a trumpeter that sounded his notes very sweetly.

While we were at Florence the Englishmen we met with, Mr. Henry Meffingford, Mr. Smith and Mr. Comman, two of the king of England’s musicians, Mr. Comman and Mr. Lee, merchants, Sir John Williams, Mr. Guiffier. Dr. Kirton a physician was very civil to us, Mr. Jo. Cook, of the Inner Temple, was here, and going for Constantinople. Sir Bernard Giacogino was now at Florence his own country, who belongs to the English court.

S. Maria delle Fiore, or the dome, is the cathedral church, which hath its outside neatly crowded over with marble; the front is not yet finifhed. Within, the church is supported by eight pillars at far distance, that do very little hint in the fight of the fides, the arches from pillar to pillar being almost as wide as the nave of the church. The cupola is large. On the walls are many inscriptions, some we transcribed, viz.

Ad perpetum vii memoriam.

Generalis Concilii Florentini celebrato poft longas diffinitiones Uniæ Græcorum fuit

in hoc ipso Ecclesia die vii Iuli

MCCLXXIII., presbyteri ad Concilio Eugenio Papa III. cum latinis Epigraph.
copii et Praetexti et Imperatore Constantinopolitano cum Epigraphi et Praetexti et Prae
cipii Graecorum in capite numero sexaginta, erustatis in unam causam, redem fide
dem, quam Romana tenet Ecclesia confun
erunt.

Several good pictures made by these painters, viz.

cobus min. and S. Paipst by Giovanni dei Opera. S. Matthew by Vincenzo de Raffi.

On the north wall is pictured one John Sharp an Englishman, who was a tailor in England, but here was preferred to a command in the army; he took the city of Pisa, and it is flowered of him that immediately before he stormed it, he received a letter from Florence, giving him order not to storm it, but deferred the reading of it till after he had gained the place; he is painted on horseback, and under him is an inscription much defaced, but some words we made shift to read, viz.

Iounnes Auctus Eque Britonum Deus aequi

His costume of arms is painted also, the field argent three fleales of the same on a chevron fable. Under all is written, Paulus Ucelli Opor, being the painter’s name. The picture of this horse is faulted by Borghini, for being painted ambling, which he says is not natural to horses, but, by his leave, some horses pace naturally.

This Sir John Sharp called in Latin Auctus is indeed Sir John Harewood, but by omitting the H. and the W, the name is turned into Auctus. Verstegan, p. 302.

Another inscription under Nic. Tolumniu

His quem sibi numin in Equo pium est Nic

The picture of Dante the poet, with the tower of Babel, purgatory, &c. and these verses underwritten,

Qui sunt coebris sodalium innum. tribu

Lafraviet, invitum cumo ponta fui

Dulcis adhibit Danae sua quem Florentia signet

Suspique confluent ac pinctate parum

Noli potius teneo Mars ferro marere post

Quam vicus virtus cornem imago facti

Here are the monuments of Marsilio Ficino the philosopher, and Ludo de Mars

filius in orator, Ficinus (Ghiberti) a painter and architect, that designed the Campaspe.
Low-Countries, Germany, Italy, and France.

Campanile. He was a poor boy first, that kept sheep, but delighting to make figures in sand, &c. he arrived at a great skill in painting, being taught by Gheriz, the first refector of that art in Florence. Andrea Ferruzzi carved the head of Maffei Ficinus.

One Philippus an architect, that built the roof of this church, and Antonius Squarcia Lupa, an organist, buried here.

The cupola is painted with the description of the day of judgment, by Federico Zuccatore, who is found fault with by Bergini in his Repofs, for representing luxury tormenting in her privacies by the devils. Upon the top of the cupola is a braze globe, which can hold 32 men, that may stand in it. The cupola was contrived by Philippus Brunellesco.

There are two altars at the west end, and none else within the body of the church, and in the cupola is the high altar, and one behind it. Tow large chapels here.

Marble statues of apostles, and the Florentine bishops and saints, adorn the body of the church: about the choir is very good bas-relief work in marble.

The Campanile or steeple is tall, square, and rarely well contrived over the outside, as the dome, with marble; it stands at one corner disjoined from the church’s flutes ador the lower part of it; it is 416 steps to the top, whence we had a fair prospect, but this steeple is not so high as the braze globe on the cupola. On the lower part of the Campanile are small carvings, representing the arts and sciences.

The Baptistery, dedicated to St. John Baptist, is a large octagon; on each side of the entrance is a porphyry pillar, and within are 12 pillars, which have shafts that seem to be ancient. The roof is painted after the Greek manner, and the pavement is remarkable, being variegated with small pieces of marble, like the refectory work. Some say it was formerly a temple of Mars. About the Baptistery are curious braze statues, and there is a pair of stone braze gates wrought with figures, as those at the dome in Pisa.

The two porphyry pillars are chained, and it is said they were brought from Pisa.

On a handsome tomb in the Baptistery lies the figure of a pope, and this underwritten.

Iacques quondam Papa xxiii., obiit Florentie
Anne Dom. MCXXXV. ill. Kalendas Januarii.

The cupola of the Baptistery is covered with lead.

The piazza before the Annunziata is handsome, having a pretty building and Portico on each side; and in the middle is a fine braze flame on horseback, upon the pedestal whereof is inscribed.

Ferdinando I. Magnus, Hierarchus Duci Ferdinandi II, Nipos MVCLX.

Majestatis tantiem.

Towards each side of the piazza is a little braze fountain, and in the front is the Annunziata, a church belonging to the Servites, who have almost every day an evening that lasts three hours; before you enter the church is a cloister, where are figures of men in armour; and in the church, many figures of emperors, kings, popes, &c. Behind the choir is a little chapel, where are curious braze carv’d works made by John Bolognus, who made the chief statues in Florence, and whose monument here is thus inscribed.

I. C. R.


The great duke endeavours to divert the people with many sports, and chiefly other with races, which we saw several times, and, in a street called Il Corso, which is narrow, but about a mile long. One evening we saw the duke pass there in his coach, followed by many noblemen on horseback, two and two together; after that were brought about eight horse-farriers, which the grooms in their several fairs met together at one end of the street, on every horse’s back are plaiters fastened, and to them tied strings, which have sharp rods at the ends, that are clapt under their belly just before they start, a fellow called the owners of the horses names over, and crost the street is a rope drawn, and let loose at the sound of a trumpet, when every horse is first clapt, and without any one on their backs, they all run the length of the Corso, where at the other end is the Palio, a large piece of velvet, or cloth of gold, &c., that they run for; at one race a boy was set on one of the horses, and at first got the start, but was soon overtaken by other horses, and so lost the race.

We
A Journey thro' Part of the

Italy.


8. Serenif. Prin. Carol. Ioan. Carolus et Etruria pro Catholico Rege famus moris profellus MDCLXXII. A cardina- l's cap on the coffin. And about a guile, within an ecutcheon, was written,

Aramatum Vossum prius aguer.

In a street near S. Spirito is the statue of Hercules killing the Centaur, and admirable to the life out of one stone.

S. Croce is a church belonging to the Franciscans, which hath a pretty square piazza before it, and a fair ascent to it, the pillars that support the church are contrived as in the dome. At the first entrance is a curious marble monument erected to Mich. Angelo's memory, his ef-
Figures is on the top, and under the tomb-stone is an inscription of women (being excellent pieces) with engraver's tools, &c., in their hands. They lay the tomb was made by Mich. Angelo himself. This inscription here.

Michaeli Angeli Benaritis

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Just by is a little monument in memory of Franciscus Benaritis Leonardi F. a knight of Malta, and secrose to Ant. de Paula M. Mag. who died at Malta in 163.

The three statues at Mich. Angelo's tomb are mentioned and explained by Berghini. 1. made by Jac. del' Opera, Sec Architectura. 2. Or that in the middle, by Valerio Cisti for Sculptura. 3. By Bap. del Cavaliere, for Pittura.

The pulpit here is of marble curiously carv'd with the story of S. Francis.

Under Argi's effigies,
Low-Countries, Germany, Italy and France.

Postquam Leonardus a Vita migravit
Historia luget, eloquentia muta est
Fortuna, multa tum Graecas tum Latinas
Lucrèciarum tarncre non potuisse.

Under a fair marble effigies of Carolus
a poet.

Sile, sedes magna quae servat marmora
memoria
Ingenia cœns non satis orbis erat
Quae natura, pluris, quae nos serat omnino
novat.

Caroli ut tiss gloria magna suse
Aulæque gratus erat suis felicis Mææ
Occidit, hæc vetus formæ decerit horrib.

Laurentius Savoiaus Marbio Juliano,
is written on a trunk in a little chapel.

Aug. 4. Was a festival for the great
prince’s birth-day; in the evening were
marqueens on horseback, a court of coaches,
and a triumphant chariot with musicians
playing in it.

Aug. 6. Being the feast of S. Resto,
whose intercession, they believe, freed
the city once from the plague; there was
much devotion in his small chapel, and at
night wine was distributed among the
people.

We walked to the pleasant woods of
Cafina, where are little conservatories
of ice and snow in islands moated about;-
here is one walk about a mile long, and
another of tall pines two miles long. Many
green lawns within the wood, which is
not above one fourth of a mile broad;
hares, pheasants, fiscude (beccafico) &c.
are frequent here; none under penalty of
the gilds, being suffered to shoot or
kill any without licence. About the mid-
dle of the long walk of pines is the
milk-house called Cafina. Coming back
to the city, we crossed over a little cut
for water, which was designed to be made
navigable to Pisa, but the charge of
flowers was too great. This wood did
belong to the prince cardinal now dead, and
now Prince Matthias is heir to it. On the
other side the Arno is another narrow
wood.

We observed the manner of taking beca-
cafici; a large net is hung upon long poles
fet a pretty distance, and two or
three fellows beat the bushes, and fright out
the birds, which lighting on the net (that
is just by) are catch’d and knock’d off with
flicks. These birds are about Angust in
great request.

The citadel is a well fortified place,
where, there are arms ready for 40000
men.

The grand duke’s gallery is a stately
building, consisting of three sides, and is
of a parallelogram figure, it is between
the old palace and the river Arno; under-
neath are the duke’s stables, and over most
part of it a neat cloister or portico, where
are many rooms for officers belonging to
the palace;  &c. In the second story are
fair rooms where the best artists live, who
work for the great duke; and in the
third and highest story, is that which is
properly the gallery, and goes the three
sides of the building; it is of a handsome
breadth; the floor is paved with brick,
but the roof painted with the famous men
of Florence, noted for learning or arts. On
each side are placed on pedestals, many an-
tient and modern heads and statues in mar-
ble, and some in brass. There are several
large pictures of princes, and in small
frames, some pictures of famous men in
the world; tho’ we took notice of were
Jo. Anus Angius, king James, O. Cren-
well; and among the statues we observed
there, an old stone relievo work, being a
man leading a horse, a curious brass head
of Michel Angelo, and this underwrit-
ten.

Sat magnum tuæ sola loco ducis addis imago.

A Cupid in black marble lying on his
back. A Roman orator in brass, Paris in
marble, fitting and holding an apple in his
left hand. A marble statue on a pedestal
rarely wrought with bellow relievo work in
brass, on which is this verse,

Ut postumus servi Delphi et Fratres reu-
outil.

Many other ancient Greek and Roman
heads. On an old stone is inscrib’d,

Q. GARRGENNIVS
L. F. SCA
CELER
FLORENTIA MIL
COH XI PR
VIX. A. XXIV.
MIL. A. VI.
H. S. E.

On a hollow stone (probably a sculp-
chure) is old relievo work, and this
written,
A Journey thro' Part of the

ALDEIAR MARCIAE FILIAE DULCISSIMAE,

III. DIEB. XIII. ALEIDVS TROFIMICENVS

ET AELIA MARINA PARENTES BENEMERENT.

PECERVNT.

Two old square pillars wrought with armour, &c.

There are several closets in the gallery, and we saw four or five of them, which had many rarities in them; some we took notice of, viz. the picture of Cupid whispering in the ear of a naked Venus, drawn by Titian, and was now copying by Mr. Comar. The skin of a corvi raiens, whose body was as tall as a morn man, and his horns very broad and branched. The skin of a granus ose-horse, which was bare, his body very big and long, his legs short and feet divided into four claws; a horriable tail, a vail head, small ears, broad nose; in the upper jaw, two short but great teeth flanging outwards, and two fewer within; two rows of teeth ran along the middle of this jaw and the lower, in which are also two long furrow'd teeth flanging outwards, and two a little thicker in the middle of them. The walls of one closet well painted with the great duke's territory and the adjacent countries; a vaft terrestrial globe; a sphere of wood; a cabinet adorn'd with braf heads; two or three porphyry heads of dukes of Florence; a table of Myfaic stone-work, representing a Landpik; another Myfaic table of wood with flowers, and one of a baluster, a picture of a man, and looking under it, represents a woman; a Myfaic flowered table, representing Ligeans, where lupins are laid for the fea; a large ebony cabinet adorn'd with curious little pictures; within it is a square that is turn'd upon an axis; the first side hath our Saviour's passion curiously made in ivory, by Mich. Ange; the second side, the twelve apostles in amber; the third side, a crucifix, &c. like the first side, of white amber; the fourth side, ... a long table of oriental alabaster; Adam and Eve's picture, said to be Albi. Duran's original; an obelisk table, most richly inlaid with pearls, rubies, and other precious stones, which represents flowers very exactly; this table is valued at 10,000 crowns. A large cabinet set with precious stones, among which a vail ruby, and a great but rough pearl; this cabinet is worth 50,000 crowns. Many antique idols and lamps in brass; a little figure made of a turquois stone bigger than a hen's egg; a cup made of an horn, they pretend an unicorn's; the iron nail, half whose was gold, turn'd into that metal by Turntis Baffiero; but it seem'd to us a cheat, and was sold for the iron; a tenuifolus plant neatly figur'd in silver over one cabinet was a cupola; a mother of pearl; another inlaid table with flowers and insects made of precious stones; a branched amber candlestick; several old idols; a crucifix of coral; a unicorn's horn, &c. &c.; a prefi full of ivory work curiously turn'd; the figure of S. George on horseback neatly done; the picture of a cardinal well done in Myfaic work; a little Roman stone with this inscription.

APPIS CLAVDIVS

C. F. CAECVS

CENSOR COS. BIS DICT. INTERREX III PR. II AED. CVR. II Q.

TR. MIL. III. COMPLVRA OPPIDA DE SANGITIVS QEFIT.

SABENORVM ET TVSCORVM EXERCITVM FVDIT PACEM.

FIERI CVM PYRRFIO REGE PROHIBVIT IN CENSVRASEIAM.

APPLIS STRAVIT ET AQVAM IN VRBM ADDVXIT AEDEM.

BELLONAE PECIT.

In an entry hung a large landpik, drawn only by a pen. In a little room we saw the altar that is making for the chapel of S. Lorenzo. The front and sides of the altar-table is rare Myfaic work: In the middle is the story of Myfae; and on each side are flowers and birds, that seem, by reason of the excellent flowers, to be half relievos. Red grapes are represented by amethysts. The pedestal is made of several rare stones. Under the tabernacle is the leaf flapper and twelve apostles, all of inlaid work. Three furrow'd pillars of chrysolite, each larger than a man's arm, on each side of the niche where the pyx is to stand. In the upper rooms of the old palace is the wardrobe, a rich treasury, where are 15 large preffes full of plate, among which we observ'd silver wrought bed-pots, the furniture of horses set with precious stones; a prefi full of good plate; a...
Low-Countries, Germany, Italy and France.

Turkey similar for with rubies; a crucifix with diamonds; an altar of many gold; with this inscription, the letters whereof are rubies.

Cæsara II. Dei gratia Magnus Dux Estuariae et Poloniae.

This was vowed to St Carlo of Milan. The duke's picture is kneeling to an altar made in boston with a number of precious stones, and adorned with jewels. Great topsies on this altar, which is valued at 100,000 crowns. The outside of these presided are painted with maps of most countries in the world. A great number of pictures in this room, among which the king of England's. The picture of a woman done in Turkey-work. In a piece of tapestry are three or four figures of full proportion, done most lively. In one room, the prospects of the Piazza Tictico; the duke's palace and Monastaries are drawn in fresco. In the porch, at the end of the gallery, is the statue of Judibb with Holinsen's head in her hand, all of brass; the story of Perseus in marble, and a Roman carrying a statue away by force, with an old man, in one piece of marble, rarely made by J. Rolomans.

The armoury. The armoury is in the gallery, where these particulars were shown: "Perseus" arms for horse and man; a broadcart that will draw up 60 pounds, a great figure a horse made in brass, by J. Rolomans; the head-piece said to be Holinsen's, made of Cosinian brass, and wrought with Arabic letters; the sword of Carlos M., the sword of Carlos V. and his Repea of oriental arms, five large swords that have had the pope's benediction; the imperial cap of a pope; the habit of "Janissar," a captain in the Turks' armory; a great horn, used by the ancestors before the invention of trumpet; a long horn, with a hole in the middle, where the Turks make a hollow noise when the people are called to their sports; two iron hats, within the crowd, having each four pitholes; a Perseus' fiddle; Indian weapons; Indian ears; an iron pithole of the ancients, made thus; the hair of a horse's tail seven braccia long.

The king of China's armist made of fish-bones, and his wooden sword; Persia's armist, made into great scales; Italian looks for women; a pair full of guns laid curiously with ivory; a standard of the king of Sweden; D. Bernard duke of Saxony's standard, wherein was written, Sine Nomine fufra; Japanese swords, that were shap'd thus; Sanderberg's sword, given to the duke of Ueber by the republic of Venice when he was their general; the armour of Charles V, the face of his helmet shaped like a dog's snout; Lolliiud's armist; Henry IV of France's armur; the armur of Lorenzo Mefi-dici.

Rich prizes taken from the Turks; the queen of Faw's hair, taken by the great duke's galley; another fiddle, felmet, knives, and horse-harnets, set with precious stones; the helmet of Mero Trist, a renegade Geneve's; two old Balifru; two guns, whereof the barrels and the greatest part of the locks were of gold, given to the duke of Florence by an emperor of Germany; a buffalo's hide cut into a thong 200 braccia long; nine pistols.
A journey thro' Part of the

Under the statue of Judith in the piazza is written:

Exemplum Sal. publicè Criss pofitorum 

Under the statue of Jupiter,

Te Fili si quis feresit Ultro ero.

Under Cuffopatia and Percius, (a little boy in her hand)

Tuta Jove at sancta pignoria leto fugor.

Under Diuno:

Res Virumis Clussum du ribi Cafiga Sorer.

Nigh S. Trinizia is a pillar with justice on the top, which was erected at the taking of Siena; and on the pedestal is inscribed:


We saw the great duke's rich coach, a rich which they say cost at least 60,000 bauds, the coach-box, and behind, and wheels plated with silver and richly gilt; a thick embroidery of gold mixed with some silver was the curtain, lining within, seats, coachman's cushion, and the furniture for six horses; in the roof of the coach are the duke's arms set within a florin of muffy gold; the field was lepto langua, and the pallets rubies; twelve bars of steel neatly wrought (which cost each 350 bauds, as we were told) sat on the coach, axe-tree, &c., together: on each corner of the coach flood a curious florin; each, having four figures of muffy silver, and gilt.

Nigh S. Mark's church is the pizium or, where many wild beasts are kept in several "room".

Square courts wall'd about, and on the walls are galleries, whence the duke and others are spectatores; when some of the beasts are brought to fight together; we saw: three lions, a tiger and a leopar, which differ but little in colour and bigness; two bears, a grizzly wild boar with black short ears, a long flouer, black feet and tail.

S. Mark's church belongs to the Dux St. Mark's; it is a little place, where Pesci church

Mirandula and Pectus are bury'd. A little chapel here, handsomely crutched with marbles, at the charges of the Scolastes, a noble family. Another chapel, where a faint of late date, viz. S. Anthony, once archbishop of Florence his body is enthron'd. His story is describ'd in bral relief work by John Bologna. The first
mixture he did, was the setting of a broken pipkin together, and making it whole. Good pictures, and marble statues (among which Edward the Confessor was represented in this chapel.

We saw the famous chapel at St. Lorenzo, which is a circular cupola of a good height, where the great duke is to be buried. Part of the inside is filled with the wall being craved over with jasper, porphyry, &c. which are made into large ovals, and look very rich and magnificent. A green and yellow jasper from Sicily make the pediments of the pilasters. A green jasper from Carthage, and a red jasper from Cyprus, made use of here. Towards the bottom of the walls, in the Mothe work, are the arms of all the cities under the duke, viz.


On every side is designed a monument for a great duke, and their tombs one to be placed over their tombs. These inscriptions are already here, viz.


On the canons houses of are two or three Roman tomb-stones, with baffe relief figures.

The statue of Caftius I. on horseback in bracts, with this inscription on one side of the pedestal.

Caffius Medici magni Etruriae Ducis primi, felici, invicto, fide, elementi, fere militae pacifici; in Etruria Anti- vii, Patri & Principi Optimo Ferdinando II. Magn. Ducis Etr. I. erexit an. CICLXXII.

On another side of the pedestal is rarely carved in bracts the manner of his coronation by the pope, and over it written,

Ob. Zulam. Rel. practicamique fidei studium.

At one end is described the Florentines naming him for their prince, and over their written

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there are ghiotto, i.e. water-sports, and in the middle a tall fountain with some figures, and a vast cistern cut out of one stone, a pleasant walk of cypresses, a pretty fountain of a marble figure, pouring water into a large tub made of white marble, and a boy that thighs against it, is of the same piece of marble: many gardens for herbs and flowers. This garden is about a mile in compass, and is so overgrown, being uphill and downhill. A soldier of the guard went along with us, whom we rewarded with a fiorino. Night the court of guards lies a rude lowstone as big as two horses can well draw.

The gentlemen daughters are boarded in numbers for about 10L. per annum during, and there they are taught to work, sing, &c. till they marry. French modes are followed here, and it is the custom (used in few places besides in Italy) to salute the ladies by pulling off hats, when the men pass by them. A stranger may hire a coach for 5. per day; and any of the Florentine gentry will lend their coach.

They use generally flask-bottles for their wine, of which the chief are Perdea, a whiff and sweet wine, and red wine like clarit: they stop those bottles only with a little straw, and put a little oil in the neck of the flask. They cool their wine by putting ice or snow about the bottle, or else put the bottle in a basin of well-water, which is cool in this city.

Here, at Naples and Silvi, &c. they pour water into the flask while they are drinking.

A Journey thro Part of the Coast of Italy.

Pane di Bocca they call their soft bread, which is white and well made, without yeast.

The common sort of people will refresh themselves in hot weather, by eating two or three pieces of a green pompee, kept cool in wells; they call it cameru; the meat is red within, and the seeds black: the table is very waterfull and unpleasing to those that are not used to it. The ladies will eat of it, and drink usually after it Vino Greco.

They have also a melon with a white pulp, and the beet melon they call Pompone di Melo, having a very red pulp and rough coat. It tastes pleasantly.
The air of this city is counted good in the summer, and bad in the winter, by reason of the burning cold, which causes apoplexy. &c. In two or three places, some make and sell beer.

Gleaning of hens being very frequent out about Florence.

All the houses are tiled with rows of tiles, thus:

\[ \text{tiles} \]

Upon the square are set tiles, a long way, close together, and thwart them, and, over the commissaries of them, it laid a gutter-tile at i, with the convex side up.

Every night, all strangers names are carried by the innkeepers, &c. to the "Piazza Vecchia." None are suffered to walk after the bell rings at three hours of the night, with swords, daggers, or knives.

A guard every night watches the goldsmith's bridge, another the silk shops, which are together, and that walk up and down the city.

The tile trade is much decayed here, the greatest quantity they lead to London.

Boys and young fellows play at bowls in the middle of the streets. In the city-ditch, gentlemen play with wooden ball-doves and a wooden ball, which they serve with their hands, on a pavement.

There have been these dukedoms of Florence:

1. Alexander Florentius Dux I.
2. Cosmas I. Flor. et Senatum. D.
3. Albericus Magnus D. I.
4. Franciscus Errurie Mag. Dux II.
5. Ferdinandus I. Magnus Dux III.
6. Ferdinandus II. Mag. Dux IV.
7. Cosmas III. Alituria Mag. D. VI.

Since we travelled,

Ferdinand II. was the fifth duke of Tuscany at our being in Florence, he hath reigned 44 years, and he married Vittoria di Rovera (now living) of the house of Urbin; he brought the duke a large revenue, and hath three children: 1. Cosmas, the great prince. 2. Another born four or five years since. The prince married Margarita, second daughter of the duke of Crimini. She is now in great discontent, and displeased with her husband and the court of Florence, because her French servants were sent away for their great infidencies. She never leaves her house, unless in public or without her mask, and has scarce seen her husband, this half year, who is also displeased at her, and lying with her. When the duke of Crimini (the French ambassador lately at Rome) was here, she declared a divorce, and requested a portion, which was 40,000 ducats.

John Medici, the cardinal, is the great duke's uncle, who hath a fair palace high by St. Mark's; the duke hath two brothers, Matthias, governor of Siena; and Leopold. There were two more, viz. Johannes, a cardinal, and Francisca. The present great duke is very froward, and trades much in merchandise. He hath always two favourites, an old man and a young man. In the summer time he drinks nothing but small beer, and after dinner goes to bed and sleeps till the heat of the day is over, and then the street before his palace is chained up, that no carts nor coaches may disturb him. Every night the keys of the city are brought to him, and he hath good information of all affairs. Justice is well executed here, for he doth punish criminals who are fetched out of churches. The pope and the great duke have agreed, that any offender may be pursued that hath done mischief in one, and flees into the other's country.

Almost every summer evening there is a tour of coaches in the chief streets, and on festivals the great duke, duchess, lords are present; the duke always rides in a coach drawn but by four horses, with a postilion, the duchess was always marked, and rides in a coach with six horses.

The duke allows his resident at London 3000 l. sterling per annum, and the king of England gives him his wine, which, they say, he makes advantage of, by selling it to the winners for 100 l. per annum.

At this time (the plague being in England), all letters from England were opened and aired at the Lazaretto over Brimstone.

The great duke is not well beloved by his subjects, who are oppressed with a multitude of gabels. No gentleman can marry his daughter, but pays 8 per cent. of the portion. No cow can enter the gates of Florence but must pay three crowns to the custoners. Eggs, fruit, and all manner of small commodities pay taxes. A Camera legenda, or lodgings, give yearly a considerable sum.

Oranges were formerly here very plentiful and cheap, but since a gabel was raised on them, and the monopoly bought,
bought, the Genoese (from whom the oranges came) have brought few litters, and therefore they are now very scarce, and the monopolist like to lose by his bargain.

No person without licence can keep a gun or pistol in his house.

The duke’s guard are not Switzers, but Germans from Austria and those parts; they are 100 in number, and so appointed by Charles V. He had a body-guard of Germans, who ride in the city with their swords drawn. Marques Vigo is captain of the duke’s guard.

Marques Salvino was lately sent into England to congratulate the king’s return.

The duke has one or two parks which are looked after by an English park-keeper. The duke is at a lest rate with his cook to serve his table, and he allows his servants board wages. He is also agreed with his baker at a yearly rate, who pays him 1000 ducats per annum, for the monopoly of baking the first urine.

There are three dukes subject to the vulgar people Duca di Berich; 2. The duke of Savalizi; 3. Duke Strozzi.

Marques Riccardo is the richest nobleman. The duke of Northumberland is not very rich; his daughter is married to a second husband the marques Palotti of Bologna; she was one of the duchesses of Savoy’s ladies, and had her portion given her by that duchess. This Duke of Northumberland hath a writing wherein one of his ancestors, a knight, was in Henry VIIIth’s time authorized to undertake the king’s affairs in Italy. This duke both one for a page to the duke of Bavaria, and another in the college at Douay, who is like to be preferred by an uncle, a bishop in France, to an abbot’s place.

One Paolo Becchi, a botanist, is now employed by the duke in Sicily.

The Italian red wines are deeper coloured than the French; because the liquor stands longer together with the pressed grapes; Hufjyamuns albus steeped in Vino Grès is used by the country people, to make them fain.

Prunus (Prunus Species) much in request, and eaten as a dainty.

Dr. Kirton gave us these informations.

The country people about Florence when they sweat for the French Pox, are put into an oven, keeping their heads out.

About Florence the people are troubled with worms in their blood, and other parts, and a kind of cancerous humour corrodes their flesh away.

MEDICINES.

Dr. Kirton told us, he has one strumnum (which he will leave to his heirs) to cure the French Pox in a short space, and perfectly; he purges them seven or eight days. The chief ingredient is Senna. In twenty days the cure is perfected, and he never fails.

That Fosecco the pope’s physician lately cured a man of a leprosy, by giving only vipers to eat for 15 days.

He knew by his own experience at Padua, that hens, &c. would eat vipers very greedily, and that the fowls will take rarely well.

Riverius’s prescription of Gravis metalis in a gyler for the Angina, has been successfully experimented by him. He has also given Hunga Bencheda Rolandi.

The hemorrhoids are cured by bathing the fundament with heated urine. And a glister of one’s urine is good for the internal hemorrhoids.

The spleen cured by opium in a plaster at Padua.

For the Hydrophonik, Take of box, penroyal, and primrose (leaf and root) and boil a competent quantity of each in milk, and give to man, dog, &c. bitten, the sooner the better.

Sir Edwd. Moyr’s Decocitum mufirum Carduici, was nothing but the decoction of C. C.

Two or three spoonfuls of juice of camomile, with a few drops of spirit of vitriol given in a pottinger of broth to one in a fever, is a good medicine, and seldom fails, if given before the cold fit of an ague.

Drawing of blisters is good for any ache in the joints.

A man’s own urine gargled, cures a sore throat and the tooth-ache.

Vipers have first their heads and tails cut off, before they are used in medicines.

Vomiting is seldom prescribed by Italian physicians.

The root of Bardana major in powder, to the quantity of a dram given in broth, is a certain remedy for a pleurisy.

Mercurius dulcis, with Jusap Dianeridum, &c. is a good medicine for a cough, spit, and blood.

Dr. Kirton saw a fellow presently recovered from a paroxysm of the falling sickness, by cutting off some of his hairs, and putting it into his hand.
To make new wine taste like old.

Take the ashies and half of wine, and make them up into a paste with the essence of wine; tie this up in a cloth and hang it within the hurg-hole of the vessel of new wine, in the space left empty for the bag to hang in, which will drop now and then, and in two or three days will precipitate all the dregs, and the wine will drink pleasantly.

The day of Florence, reputed the fairest in Italy, is divided into two parts by the river Arno, a shallow stream, over which are four bridges; one is built with goldsmiths' tops; this and another (which at each corner hath a fair marble statue) are remarkable for their arches, which are made flatter than ordinary arches are. In this river are barbels in great plenty, and almost every house near the river hath a great net at the end of a pole.

The buildings about the old palace are very mean, but the streets about the Annunziata, Santo Trinità, and the duke's palace (which, formerly belonged to the family of Pitti) are fairly adorned with houses of the nobility, amongst which that of Signore, is taken notice of by Sir H. Wotton. Some have the fountains of the outside rough hewn, which they call Maniera Ruffian. Iron rings fix'd in the walls of their palaces, which are to tie mules, &c. to.

The fountains are pav'd (as at Lucca) with broad free stone, which are made rugged for horses to go on without slipping; the kernels run under the pavement.

When any horse, &c. changes, there are men and boys, with affes, that gather it up presently, and carry it away in wooden panniers out of the streets and the highways.

The Jews have their ghetto here, and are much favoured by the great duke; they have the monopoly of making all sorts of buttones, which is the chief trade they employ themselves in.

Here are many hospitals; but the fairest is that of Santa Maria Novella, having a handsome portico in the front, built by the opera, i.e. revenues of the hospital; (This word opera is frequently written on gravestones in Florence.) 70,000 ducats per annum is the revenue.

Some of the country people are pretty rich, and are worth 1000 piafoles a man, which they get by looking after gentlemen's estates and villas, for which they have the vintage, &c. They bring wood and wine, &c. for the most part on mules and affes.

Aquva di Noverre (a city in the pope's territory) is sold by apothecaries for above a tafthouse a bottle, and is preferable in fever. The apothecaries here abate much of what they set down in their bills. A tafthouse is the usual fee for bleeding.

When Sir John Finch and Dr. Barret were here, they presented the great duke with English horses, Irish dogs, the London polyglott bibles, and the duke bestowed two cabinets on Sir John Finch, and a gold chain on the doctor.

In the middle of the fountain at the foot of Piazza Vecchia, is a marble Neptune very like the big, made by Bernabò Ammannati; under Neptune are two sea-monsters which throw out water; a Neptune rides in his chariot drawn by four brazen horses excellently made. They seem to be swimming in the sea. A very large octagonal basin of marble, on which are placed four sea-nymphs in brass, and at each corner is the figure of a fawn or fairy holding a fish, spouting out water under their arms.

The old palace is a large and high pile. The old building, with a tall Campbell, is the Palace. The great hall is about the bigness of that at Augsburg; the doors, but not so pleasant and lighted, in this the walls are well painted, and the roof pictur'd. The labours of Hercules are here in distinct statues. By the entrance into this palace is a Hercules killing Cacus, made by Bartolomeo, 1554.

S. Spirito is a pretty convent of A.D. Spiritus, guinesses, who have a large and near Church, in the choir is a flateley marble altar under a canopy, supported by four marble pillars; the monks fix it about in a octagon of marble.

The Carmelita Calecati have a good cloister.

We informed ourselves of some fountains they find not far from Florence, at Rittagio three miles and a half off, and at Pistoia Arganza twelve miles off; where they dig fountains with the signatures of herbs, trees and representations of landkips. In the Arno is a yellow flame they goth well. Pierre Im.-Black flate is brought from Genua, Breg.-boca.-

Cenobito is a kind of fine agate or marble from Spain. They polish fountains with Lutero, Goffo, &c. and take them alonder with a little bow, having a brass wire stringing the flame often with...
A Journey thro' Part of the

church pavement is of Mosaic work, made by Matheus Sillot, wherein are depicted some Bible stories; that of S. Peter, with his feet as sacrifices, and Mosaic frieze of the rock, is curiously and exactly done. About the choir is good painting in fresco, drawn by Salone. Two great silver candlesticks stood before the altar, and at the altar are four marble angels, each holding a lighted candle. In a little room called the Libraria, the story of Aeneas Sylvius the pope, is admirably well painted on the wall, one said to be done by Petro Pernigino, and another by Raphael Urbino; under all are inscriptions, one was translated,

Aeneas Sylvius à Bafilorsi Cumilio in ulterior Britanniam Orator et Scotiam ad Regnum Caledonius missus, à templo altari Norvagiam pujus et per Britanniam Regis Speculatorum primum in Anglia recensuratus.

The pulpit is of stone well carved. The cope is covered with lead. La Medici is a pretty church; we saw the Michaeli, with pictures of miraculous cures, etc.

The Dominican church in Campo Regia is very broad and without pillars; here many Germans are buried.

The Angevins are like us, but better; they have two neat courts cloistered about.

The bishop’s palace is built of white marble.

We saw the hospital and the prince’s palace, where Prince Matheus the governor lives, who guarded by Switzerland.

The palace of pope Aeneas Sylvius (Pius II.)

A fine circular colonnade commands the city.

The Carmelites is a pretty convent.

The piazza is large and very handsome, resembling a cockpit shell, and is well built about with traditions, busts, etc., a square fountain called Fonte Branda, three fountains on the wall whereon figures of marble in bas-relief.

La Sapienza is the schools, an indistinct building, where are some students, etc., and above forty professors.

Most of the houses in Siena are built of brick; they are tall, and generally handsome, only they have paper windows instead of glass.

This city is situated on hills, and is very pleasant, the streets clean and neatly paved with bricks set edgeways.

Wine here sold for one jilo a flask, which is somewhat a smaller measure than that at Florence. It feem’d to have a taste of vinious.

In