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- This work was Printed and almost immediately sup-
 pressed, nearly the whole of the copies having been
 by his Lordship's directions brought to his residence
 in Berkeley Square and there burnt, only two or
 three copies were saved, of which this is one.

I T A L Y
OF SEVERAL
(SOE)

REMARKS MADE IN SEVERAL VISITS

FROM

THE YEAR 1816 to 1854.

BY THE

RIGHT HON. LORD BROUGHTON, G.C.B.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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P R E F A C E.

I PUBLISH these little volumes with much hesitation. They treat, for the most part, of times long past, and refer to a country now made accessible by a few hours' journey and familiar to us by every mode of illustration. It is more than a hundred years ago that Johnson, reviewing a work called 'Memoirs of the Court of Augustus,' said of it,—the "book relates to a people "who above all others have furnished employment to "the studious and amusement to the idle; who have "scarcely left behind them a coin or a stone which has "not been examined and explained a thousand times; "and whose dress and food and household stuff it has "been the pride of learning to understand." This remark must apply, in part, to any work that treats either of Rome, or Italy under its Roman masters; and if it was true in 1756, with how much greater force must it apply to a book published after an interval during which archæological studies, and particularly those which relate to Rome, have made greater progress than at any former period!

I should not, indeed, have ventured upon such a publication but for the following circumstance.

When I rejoined Lord Byron at La Mira, on the banks of the Brenta, in the summer of 1817, I found him employed upon the fourth canto of 'Childe Harold,' and, later in the autumn, he showed me the first sketch of the Poem. It was much shorter than it afterwards became, and it did not remark on several objects which appeared to me peculiarly worthy of notice. I made a list of those objects, and, in conversation with him, gave him reasons for the selection. The result was the Work as it now appears, and he then engaged me to write notes for the whole canto. I performed this task chiefly at Venice, where I had the advantage of consulting the Ducal library, and was seduced by the attractions of the inquiry, and, if I may say so much, by my love for it, into a commentary too bulky for an appendix to the Verses. The consequence was the division of the notes into two parts, one of which was appended to the canto in the form of notes, the other appeared in a separate volume of 'Historical Illustrations.' I mentioned this in the Preface to that volume, and I repeat it now to another generation, to account for venturing to write about Italy at all.

I have been given to understand that both the Notes

and the Illustrations have been received favourably by those qualified to form a judgment on such subjects; and having been enabled, by subsequent visits to Italy and some researches at home, to make amendments and explanatory comments on them, I have added much new matter, which, I hope, may contribute, in some degree, to their general interest, and make them more useful to the traveller.

I am aware that this new portion of my volumes requires most excuse, but that excuse will, I hope, suggest itself to the reader; for, if it does not, nothing that the writer might say would be of any avail.

CONTENTS OF VOL. I.

CHAPTER I.

Switzerland — Chamouni — Byron — Shelley — Madame de Staël — Schlegel — Bonstetten, his account of Voltaire — Departure for Italy — La Ripaille — General Duppa — Meillerie — Lago Maggiore — Isola Bella	Page 1
---	--------

CHAPTER II.

Milan — Society of 1816 — Di Breme — Silvio Pellico — Bosieri — De Tracy — Confalonieri — Count Luigi Porro — Anelli — Count Strasoldo — Austrian Government — The French kingdom of Italy — First appearance of Napoleon at Milan — Madame Castiglione — Prince Eugene — The Secret Society — The Allies enter Italy — Promises of independence — Revolution at Milan — Murder of Prina — Provisional Government — Austrians recover Milan and all Lombardy — Attempt at insurrection in 1820-21	9
---	---

CHAPTER III.

Di Breme — Monti — The Scala — Sgricci — Italian Improvvisatori — Peticari	35
--	----

CHAPTER IV.

Milan — The Arena — The country-house of Prince Eugene — Napoleon — His personal habits — Illness in 1812 — The sights of Milan	51
---	----

CHAPTER V.

Brescia — The neighbourhood — Road to the Adriatic — The Lago di Garda — Sirmium — Catullus — Famine in the Venetian Provinces — Desenzano — Verona — The Amphitheatre — The Congress of 1822 — The tombs of the Scaligers — Romeo and Juliet — Maffei — Arco di Gavi	63
---	----

CHAPTER VI.

Verona to Montebello — Vicenza — Palladian villa of Count Capra — Olympic Theatre — Effect of political condition on dramatic writing — Goldoni — Modern melodramas — Condition of Italian actors — The Sette Comuni — Padua — The University — The Bo — Tomb of Antenor — Livy — Famous natives of Padua — St. Anthony — St. Giustina — Dondi Page 83

CHAPTER VII.

The Banks of the Brenta — Venice — The Bridge of Sighs — The Pozzi — Gondolier's Song — Lion and Horses of St. Mark — Pope Alexander and the Emperor Barbarossa — Decay of Venice — Fall of the Republic — Austrian Government — Armenian Convent of St. Lazaro — The Arsenal — Ferrara — Tasso — Ariosto — Reggio — Petrarch and Laura — Bologna — Mezzofanti — Signora Tambroni — Florence — The Tribune — Dante — Petrarch — Boccaccio — Machiavelli — The Santa Croce — Madame de Staël — Roads from Florence to Rome — Thrasimene — The Clitumnus — Approach to Rome 101

CHAPTER VIII.

Few remains of Republican Rome — Uncertainty of Roman antiquities — The walls of Rome — Their ancient and modern measurement — Various names at different times given to the same remains — Tomb of the Scipios — Destruction of ancient sepulchres 302

CHAPTER IX.

Causes of Destruction of Roman Structures 332

CHAPTER X.

Continuation of Causes of Dilapidation 362

CHAPTER XI.

Continuation of Causes of Dilapidation 386