

Classical learning, to be led by Vergil's words from the transient greatness of the old Rome to the immortal destiny of the spiritual Rome and the Empire of the Catholic Church.

One of my favourite quotations from Vergil is a saying of his in which one is reminded that even in suffering, when everything seems to have gone wrong and there seems no hope, there will be some recompense for the brave and persevering soul in the time to come—when he can look back with thankfulness of what he has done, hard though it was and bitter at the time. *Forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit!* (Aen. i. 203.) 'Perchance even this (travail) it will some day be a joy to recall!' And this high sentiment may be true in little things as in greater. If it requires labour, difficult work, pain in the student who is trying to get enough Latin to read and study Vergil, — and for most it requires real toil in the early stages — every student who has persevered knows that all his trouble has been amply repaid by the joys of the reading which follows.

Yes, Vergil can become more than an occupation, or a study dictated by duty or a desire for knowledge. He can become, as he became to Dante, Racine, Newman and countless others, a comfort, a companion in the pilgrimage of life, a real friend.

So let us take our leave of Roman Vergil, grateful for the treasure he has bequeathed to us, as to his own age, and let us make our salute to him in the words of one of our own poets, Alfred Lord Tennyson :

*"I salute thee, Mantovano,
I that have loved thee since my day began;
Wielder of the stateliest measure
Ever moulded by the lips of man."*

D. J. G. LEECH.

ILL.MO AC R.MO DOMINO

MICHAELI GONZI

ECCLESIAE MELITENSIS LUMINI AC DECORI

AD EPISCOPALE MUNUS INEUNDUM

GAUDISIENSEM SEDEM INGREDIENTI

DIE X AVC. ANNO MCMXXIV

GRATULATIONES ET VOTA.

CARMEN

Non adeo flores apibus, non floribus imber,
Non lac est agnis gratum, dulcissime Pastor,
Quam tuus adventus nostram incundus in Urbem!
Gaudia Gaudisium sincero pectore promit,
Exprimit atque tibi longaevae gaudia vitae.
Te Melite genuit: primaevae flore iuventae
Te vidit, mirae studio pietatis amore
Flagrantem, summa doctrinae laude coruscum.
Omnes illa tuae rapuit clementia formae,
Comis amabilitas, facilis reverentia vultus,
Eloquii gravitas in tempore: verba salutis
Saepe tuo e labio facundo turba recepit,
Te fortem mirata, simul dulcedine plenum.
Ingredere, o Pastor: cleri populique sonoros
Ausculata plausus, communia suscipe vota.
Te duce, succrescet recti tenor, ardor honesti,
Religio ac pietas, sacrisque frequentia templis.
Tu sacris studiis animos animosior addes,
Atque tuam famam recolet studiosa iuventus.
Quandoquidem tibi nomen adest memorabile, clarum,
Armipotens Michael, princeps coelestis et aulae,
Te iuvet assidue, stygio defendat ad hoste.
Eja agite, o Cives, plausus renovate frequentes
Pastori eximio: Domino persolvite grates.
Vos, pueri ingenui, manibus date lilia plenis.
Dicite: Io, Pastor, tranquillos vive per annos,
Carus Pastorum Pastori tempus in omne,
Insuper excelsae carus sine labe Mariae!
Hoc leve carmen habe, magni sed pignus amoris.

S. ATTARD, CAN.