

as there are not iudged aboue foureteene thousand persons, though in circuite it be little lesse then *Florence*: the Walles for the most part are of Bricke, but in some places of square Stone, the Ramparts conuenient, the Bulwarkes not many nor correspondent: the peece of cheefest import is the Castle vpon the South-west of the towne, wherein is a garrison of fiftie, with munition and other necessaries, for the vse as is abouesaid of keeping the Citty in awe. The scite hereof is in a Plaine vpon the Riuer *Arno*, which passeth through the middest thereof with one bridge onely, and falleth into the Sea some fixe miles belowe; whereby it appeareth that the land hath lately gotten much vpon the Sea on this coast, as we finde in diuers places vpon our coast in England, for that in the time of *Strabo* he reporteth, it was but twenty furlongs off, which is two miles and a halfe distant from the Sea.

Out of this Riuer is cut a Ditch from this Towne to *Liorno*, fifteene miles long, for the more conuenient carriage of such wares as arriue in that Roade, and are thence conueyed by water from *Pisa* vp to *Florence*; and so by land into other places of *Tuscany*, *Romagna*, *Lombardia*, and *Rome* also. The Boates wherein these wares are carried are but small, in number betweene six and seauen hundred, which our English Marchants *Burlando* (gibing) call the great Dukes fleete. The nature of this plaine is for the most part marish, though in times past it was fit either for pasture or tillage, as by the commoditie thereout reaped for the maintenance of the cittie appeareth by *Guicciard*. But since that the Citty being conquered by the *Florentines*, and most of the auncient *Pisani* departed, some into *Sicilia*, other into *Sardegna*, *Corfica*, and other places, preferring a voluntary bannishment, before a forced subiection: the Towne hath beene so desolate as there haue not beene people sufficient to maintaine this plaine against the fury of *Arno*, whereby it hath beene much wasted, as hath partly beene said.

There are, besides the commodity of the seat, lying betweene *Florence* and *Lynorno*, three other causes, that this Citty is frequented, otherwise it would be very desolate. The first is the  
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especially fauour of the Prince himfelfe, who because he was here borne, beareth an extraordinary affection to the place, as by his often coming and long tarrying appeareth. Another is, for that it is the place where properly the order of *S. Stephen* is resident, where the Knights of this order haue their Pallace, Officers, and other dependances. The last, for that there is a studie as they call it in *Italy* (a Vniuersity) erected by *Cosmo*, and is reasonably frequented.

In this Towne among many other Churches and Monasteries, is that excellent Fabrick of the *Battisterio*, built (they say) in foureteene dayes: It standeth hard at the West-end of the *Duomo*, which for the beauty thereof might haue compared with that of *Siena* so much commended, had it not by mishap beene burned in the yeare 1595. in October; it is now in the repairing at the great Dukes charges: Howbeit in lieu hereof, he hath raised the price of his Salt five *Quatrini* in the pound, throughout this State for the space of ten yeares: and it is to be thought (by examples too many of like nature in other places) that being once granted, it shall not then be ended. On the North of this Church is the *Campo Santu*, as they call it, their *Golgetha* or place of buriall, the earth whereof was brought in ships from the *Terra Santa*, as their Histories record: & as they affirme, the dead consume there in foure and twenty houres. Not farre from this place is an old ruinous Tower, called by them (*Torre di fame*) in memory of the mercyleffe crueltie of *Ruggiero* the Archbishop, who vpon suspicion of treason immured therein *Conte Hugolino* a Noble *Pisano*, and his foure children, causing them to be starued: of whom *Dante* the Poet in his 33. chapter *dell inferno*, very elegantly discourseth, faining, that there for a torment due to such a fact, the *Conte* lieth vpon the Bishops-head with a neuer satisfied greedinesse. Here is also an Arsenall wherein the Duke hath two or three of his Gallies in mending, but no new in the making, neither Artillerie or any thing els worth the remembrance. Heere the great Duke hath a Pallace, but so ill contriued, and so vnworthy the presence of so great a Prince, as it is said, the deuiser thereof  
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