

all cases where death ensued from the contagion.¹ Perugino died and was buried in a field at Fontignano. His sons² piously contracted with the monks of S. Agostino (1524) that his body should be taken out of its unconsecrated resting-place to hallowed ground.³ In return for this service they agreed to pay for the completion of unfinished portions of the altarpiece of their father.⁴ If, during the subsequent days of disturbance which history has chronicled, their tender solicitude was deceived, it is not to them that blame can be attached. The mortal shell of their father remained in the grave to which it had been first consigned, and no one knows where lie the bones of Pietro Perugino.⁵

A duty that now claims performance is, to notice works of Perugino (or bearing his name in various galleries) which have not been described in the foregoing narrative:—

Perugia. S. Maria Nuova, but now in Gallery, No. 2. Transfiguration, wood, tempera. This is a reduction from the cartoon of the same subject used for the fresco of the Cambio; the figures being reversed. Old varnish has given a crystalline reddish appearance to it. Extensive retouching has also taken place. The predella (now unnumbered in gallery) contains the Nativity between the Annunciation and the Baptism (tempera). The beauty and freshness of its colour tell how fine the Transfiguration may have been. The compositions are the usual ones. The conception of the Annunciation recalls that of the Fano altarpiece; and the Virgin's movement is a Florentine reminiscence. The Baptism is in so far varied that

¹ Mezzanotte ub. sup. 184, and Tranquilli in Mariotti, Lett. ub. sup. p. 189.

² Perugino left three sons, Francesco, Michael-Angelo, and Giov. Battista. See the root of the family in Orsini, ub. sup. p. 237.

³ It had been Perugino's wish that he might be buried in S. M. de' Servi at Florence; he had purchased a burial place there for himself and his descendents in

1515. The record is in Gualandi, Memorie ub. sup. Ser. IV. p. 115.

⁴ The record in full is in Mariotti Lett., notes to pp. 182 and foll^g.

⁵ Vasari says (VI. p. 51): that Perugino was honorably buried, but there is every reason to doubt this assertion. See the Memorie of Giacomo Giappesi in Mariotti, Lett. p. 186.