

## MINOR PIECES.

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### ALFIERI'S BENEDICTION.\*<sup>1</sup>

SIA pace ai frati  
Purchè sfratati:  
E pace ai preti,  
Ma pochi, e queti:  
Cardinalume  
Non tolga lume:  
Il maggior prete  
Torni alla rete:  
Leggi, e non re:  
L'Italia c'è.

PEACE be to the friars,  
But in common attires:  
Peace, priests, to you also,  
But few, and don't bawl so:  
Our cardinals bright  
Let 'em leave us our light:  
The chief of the set  
Let him take to his net:  
Then laws, and no king;  
And let Italy sing.

\* Author: Vittorio Alfieri; Translator: Leigh Hunt / Transcribed and annotated by Gilberta Golinelli.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Epigram I, by Vittorio Alfieri (1749-1803), composed in Siena on 15 August 1785 and first appeared in his *Rime* (1789). The English translation is by Leigh Hunt (1784-1859).