PAGE 286 BIS this replaces the last three stanzas of the poem, footnotes included.

You can’t get it out of their heads

That in Romei there are no brigands with flint guns.

Pity on them… they are peasants too,

And among them there are blockheads!

What do we care? We worked so hard

To affirm our Italian-ness

So, now, let’s make a monument to Dante!

“Say hi to him for me!”, Oronzoii would tell me.

But in the colony, don’t volunteer for the job!

If ideals are *cheap*, bronze is even *cheaper*.

i  Rome here stands for Italy (synecdoche.)

ii Oronzo: generic name, needed for rhyming.