

T H E  
ROMAN ANTIQUITIES  
O F  
DIONYSIUS HALICARNASSENSIS,

Translated into ENGLISH;

WITH

NOTES and DISSERTATIONS.

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B Y

EDWARD SPELMAN, Esq.

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V O L. III.

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THE  
ROMAN ANTIQUITIES  
OF  
DIONYSIUS HALICARNASSENSIS.

THE SIXTH BOOK.

THE consuls of the following year, who were Aulus Sempronius Atratinus, and Marcus Minucius, entered upon their magistracy in the seventy first Olympiad, in which Tisicrates of Croton won the prize of the stadium, Hipparchus being archon at Athens; and, during their consulship, performed no action either of a military, or civil nature, worthy the notice of history (for the truce with the Latines gave them a long respite from foreign wars; and the injunction, decreed by the senate, against the exaction of debts, till the war, that was expected, should be, securely, terminated, quieted the disturbances raised in the city by the poor, who desired to be discharged of their debts by a public act.) However, they procured a decree of the senate to be passed, granting power both to the Latin women, who were married to men of worth, and distinction among the Romans, and to the Roman

women married to Latines, either to stay with their husbands, or to return home; and it was, also, ordered that the male children should remain with their fathers, and the female, and unmarried should follow their mothers: For it happened that a great many women, through the affinity, and friendship subsisting between the two nations, had contracted marriages in one another's cities. The women, having this liberty granted to them by the decree of the senate, shewed how fond they were of living at Rome: For almost all the Roman women, who lived in the Latin cities, left their husbands, and returned to their fathers; and all the Latin women, who were married to Romans, except two, despised their country, and staid with their husbands: A happy omen foretelling which of the two nations should be victorious in the war. Under these consuls, they say, the temple was consecrated to Saturn, upon the ascent, leading from the forum to the capitol, and annual <sup>1</sup> festivals, and sacrifices were appointed to be performed at the public expence: They add that, before this, the altar, built by Hercules, stood there, upon which, the persons, who had the superintendance of these holy cere-

#### ANNOTATIONS on the Sixth Book.

<sup>1</sup> *Eοστιας*. These were the *Saturnalia*, which, after the reformation of the calender by Julius Caesar, were celebrated on the sixteenth of the calend's of January (the seventeenth of December) They consisted of four days only, till <sup>a</sup> Caligula added a fifth, which he called *Juvenalis*. <sup>b</sup> Livy, also, places the dedication of the temple of Saturn, and the institution of the *Saturnalia*, under these consuls; *his consulibus (A. Sempronio, et M. Minucio) aedes Saturno dedicata: Saturnalia institutus festus dies.*

<sup>a</sup> Sueton. Life of Caligula, c. 17.    <sup>b</sup> B. ii. c. 21.

monies committed to them by Hercules, sacrificed burnt-offerings, as first fruits, according to the custom of the Greeks. Some historians write that this temple was inscribed with the name of Titus Lartius, the consul of the former year; others, with That of Tarquinius, who was expelled the kingdom: And that Postumus Cominius consecrated the temple pursuant to a decree of the senate. These consuls, therefore, as I said, had the opportunity of enjoying a profound peace.

II. They were succeeded in the consulship by Aulus Postumius, and Titus Virginus: Under whom, the truce for a year with the Latines expired: And great preparations for the war were made by both nations. All the common people of Rome entered into the war willingly, and with great cheerfulness: But the greatest part of the Latines shewed a coldness to the undertaking, and were forced into it; the men of power in the cities, being almost all corrupted with bribes, and promises by Tarquinius, and Mamilius; and those among the common people, who were dissatisfied with the war, excluded from a share in the public counsels: For such of them, as desired to be heard in their assemblies, could not, even, obtain it. Upon which, many, resenting this usage, left their cities, and deserted to the Romans: For the men, who had possessed themselves of the power in every city, did not chuse to put a stop to this; but thought themselves much obliged to their adversaries for submitting to a voluntary banishment. These the Romans received, and such of them, as came with their wives, and children, they employed in defending the city, distri-

buting them among the centuries appointed for that purpose: And the rest they sent into the fortresses near the city; and, dividing them among their colonies, took care they should create no disturbance. All men being of opinion that the present juncture, again, required the administration of a single person at liberty to act according to his own sense of things, and subject to give no account of his actions, Aulus Postumius, the younger of the consuls, was appointed dictator by his colleague Virginius: And, according to the example of the former dictator, created Titus Aebutius Elva his general of horse. And, having, in a short time, lifted all the Romans, who were arrived to the age of manhood, he divided his army into four parts; one of which he himself took the command of; another he gave to his colleague Virginius; the third, to Aebutius, general of the horse; and left the command of the fourth to Aulus Sempronius, whom he appointed to guard the city.

III. After the dictator had prepared every thing, that was necessary for the war, his scouts brought him word that the Latines had taken the field with all their forces: And, presently, others informed him that they had, by storm, possessed themselves of a strong place, called <sup>2</sup> Corbio, in which there was a small garrison of the Romans; all of whom they put to the sword; and, being masters of the place, they made it the seat of the war. But the number of slaves, and cattle they found in the country, except Those taken at Corbio, was not answerable to their expectation;

<sup>2</sup> Κορβίωνα. In Latin, *Corbio*, a town lying to the north of mount *Algidus*.

the husbandmen having, long before, removed all they could of both into the neighbouring fortresses: However, the enemy set fire to the houses they had abandoned, and laid waste the country. After they had taken the field, a fresh army arrived at their camp from <sup>3</sup> Antium, the most considerable city of the Volscian nation, with arms, corn, and every thing else, that was necessary for carrying on the war. This raised their confidence to a great degree, and gave them room to hope that, now the city of Antium had set the example, all the Volsci would join them with their forces. Postumius, being informed of these things, marched out, presently, against the enemy, with a design to fall upon them before all their forces were assembled: And, having made a forced march in the night, advanced near the Latines, who lay incamped in a strong post, near the lake, called <sup>4</sup> Regillus; and he himself incamped above them on a hill, that was high, and difficult of access: Where, if he continued, he was sure to have great advantages over the enemy.

IV. The generals of the Latines, Octavius of Tusculum, the son-in-law, or, as some write, the son of the son-in-law of Tarquinius, the late king, and Sextus Tarquinius (for they happened, at that time, to be incamped afunder) joined their forces; and, assembling the tribunes, and centurions, they considered with them in what manner they should

<sup>3</sup> Εξ Ἀντίου. See the fifty seventh annotation on the fourth book.

<sup>4</sup> Πᾶσα Λιμνὴ Ρηϊλλῆ. This is the *Lacus Regillus*, near which this remarkable battle was fought: <sup>c</sup> Livy says

it lay in the territory of the Tusculani; *ad Lacum Regillum*, in agro Tusculano, *agmini hostium occurrerunt*. It is, now, called, <sup>d</sup> *Lago di S. Prasseda*.

<sup>c</sup> B. ii. c. 19.

<sup>d</sup> Cluver, Ital. Antiq. B. iii. c. 4.

# END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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