BOOK L

The following is contained in the Fifthith of Dio's Rome:—
How Caesar and Antony began hostilities against each other (chaps. 1-14).
How Caesar conquered Antony at Astium (chaps. 15-35).

Duration of time, two years, in which there were the magistrates (consults) here enumerated:—
31 Caesar (II.), M. Valerius M. F. Massalia Corvinus.

The Roman people had been robbed of their democratic form of government, but had not become a monarchy in the strict sense of the term; Antony and Caesar still controlled affairs on an equal footing, having divided by lot most of the functions of government between them, and though nominally they considered all the rest as belonging to them in common, in reality they were trying to appropriate it to themselves, according as either of them was able to seize any advantage over the other. But afterwards, when Sextus had now perished, the Armenian king had been captured, the forces that had ware upon Caesar were quiet, and the Parthians were stirring up no trouble, these two turned openly against each other.

1 A. v. Meibom, γ' ιο. L.M.
2 τ. γ' τον. (ὑ. τον.) Palmerius, γα τον. γ' ιο. L.M.
3 τ. Meibom, γ' ιο. L.M.
and the people were actually reduced to slavery. The causes for the war and the pretexts they had for it were as follows. Antony charged Caesar with having removed Lepidus from his office, and with having taken possession of his territory and of the troops of both him and Sextus, which ought to have been their common property; and he demanded the half of these as well as the half of the soldiers that had been levied in the parts of Italy which belonged to both of them. Caesar's charge against Antony was that he was holding Egypt and other countries without having drawn them by lot, had killed Sextus (whom he himself had willingly spared, he said), and by deceiving, arresting, and putting in chains the Armenian king had caused much ill repute to attach to the Roman people. He, too, demanded half of the spoils, and above all he reproached him with Oppos the and the children of her which Antony had acknowledged as his own, the gifts bestowed upon them, and particularly because he was calling the boy Caesar 1 and was bringing him into the family of Caesar. These were the charges they made against each other and were in a way their justification of their conduct, and they communicated them to each other partly by private letters and partly by public speeches on the part of Caesar and public messages on the part of Antony. On this pretext also they were constantly sending envoys back and forth, wishing to appear as far as possible justified in the complaints they made and at the same time to reconcile each other's position. Meanwhile they were collecting funds, ostensibly for a different purpose, and were making all other preparations for

1 Cl. xlix. 41.
war as if against other persons, until the time that

Gnaeus Domitius and Galus Sosius, both belonging to
Antony's party, became consuls. Then they made
no further concealment, but became openly hostile.
It happened in the following way.

Domitius did not openly attempt any revolutionary
measures, since he had experienced many disasters.
Sosius, however, had had no experience with mis-
sfortunes, and so on the very first day of the year he
said much in praise of Antony and inveighed much
against Caesar. Indeed, he would have introduced
measures immediately against the latter, had not
Nobius Balbus, a triaune, prevented it. Caesar, it
seems, had suspected what he was going to do and
wished neither to ignore it nor by offering opposition
to appear to be beginning the war; hence he did
not enter the senate at this time nor even live in
the city at all, but invented some excuse which kept
him out of town, not only for the reasons given, but
also in order that he might deliberate at his leisure
according to the reports brought to him and then
art, after mature reflection, as necessity dictated.
But afterwards he returned and convened the senate,
surrounding himself with a guard of soldiers and
friends who carried concealed daggers; and sitting
with the consuls upon his chair of state, he spoke
from there at length and with moderation in defence
of himself, and brought many accusations against
Sosius and Antony. And when neither of the consuls
themselves nor anyone else ventured to utter a word,
he bade the consuls come together again on a speci-

1 συμβαλλόμενος Η. Βιβλ., συμβαλλόμενος Λατ.
2 αυτές τις συμβαλλόμενοι Λατ.
Τὸν Ἀρτάνιον ἐξελέξατε, οἷον ὅπως μὴ ἀντιπέτον αὐτῷ ταρακόλεστε μὴ σκανδάλισκε ὑπομνήσατε τῇ τοῦ πλῆθους λαβὸς προεξοφολήσατε καὶ μετὰ τούτο πρὸς τὸν Λεστώνον ἀπῆλθον, καὶ σφαίρας καὶ τῶν ἄλλων βουλευτῶν οὐκ ἐλίγον ἦπερφέπτοντο, μεθύομεν εἰς τοιάδει Καίσαρ ἐκείνος ταῦτα ἐκπροσώπησεν ἑκάστην, ὡς καὶ ὁι ἄλλοι τοῖς ἐγκαταλελείθησαν ὑπ’ αὐτῶν δοκεῖ, καὶ ἐπιτρέπειας καὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν ἐπικούρευσεν 1 πρὸς τὸν Ἀρτάνιον μετὰ ἄλλας ἀπεραίων.

3 Ταῦτα δ’ ὅν τοιοῦτοι ὑπ’ ἔκεινων γεγομένων ἀνεξήγησαν παρά τῷ Ἀρτάνιοιν αὖ φαγάστε καὶ πρὸς τὸν Καίσαρα ἐδόθην ἄλλοι τε καὶ ὁ Τίτιος καὶ ὁ Μύλημος, καίσαρ διὰ πρώτον τε ἐκατοντάων τιμῶμεν καὶ τὰ ἀπόρητα αὐτῶν 2 πάντα ἀδίκητε, ὡς εἰδοῦν τὰς ὑπό τοῦ ἴδιου ἀνέπαφτα, καὶ προσέτετε καὶ ἐν τῇ ἀπειλῇ αὐτῶν ὁ Καίσαρ τῇ τοῖς ἐρωτώμενοι συνήγησις καὶ ἔνεχον καὶ ἔτειν ὑπὸ ἔδειρεν, καὶ αὐτὰ ὁ Ἀρτάνιος ἀκύρωσεν βουλὴν τὶς τῆς τὸν παρόντων ἤβρασε καὶ ἐκκεντρεῖν ὅπῃ εὐκτέρων πολλῶν τῷ πλήθους ἀνέλειπτο καὶ τὴν τῆς Οκταβίας συνάκτης ἄδειας, προσπεριεσάστε τι αὐτῶ εἰκένω, ὡς καὶ τῇ Κλεοπάτρῃ τῇ ἕγκυρος.

3 ἄβαστε, ἤπνοιμενοι, καὶ σφαίρας ὁ Καίσαρ ἀκεραίωσε τῇ δεξαμενῇ τὸ ἄλλα τὰ Ἀρτάνιοιν ἀπείρωσε, καὶ τὴν τῆς Τίτιου παρ’ αὐτῶν τάσσεται, καὶ δὴ ἕτοιμα καὶ ἔνεχον, καὶ τὰ ἐν ταῖς διαβάσεις αὐτῶν γεγομένα τὸν τὸ ἔρχοτα αὐτῶν ἔμαθε· καὶ ὅραται γιατὶ ἡ ἀφάση 1 μεταμόρφωσιν αὐτὸν ἀνέγερσιον τοῦ ἀναβασίσθη.

1 Ὁλοκλ. Ρ. Στιψάθ., Σλαβ. ΙΜ.
it, and then carrying it into the senate and later into the assembly, and reading it. For the clauses contained in it were of such a nature that this most lawless procedure on Caesar's part brought upon him no reproach from the citizens; for Antony had borne witness to Caesarion that he was truly sprung from Caesar, had given some enormous presents to his children by the Egyptian queen, who were being reared by him, and had ordered that his body be buried in Alexandria by her side.

This caused the Romans in their indignation to believe that the other reports in circulation were also true, to the effect that if Antony should prevail, he would restore their city upon Cleopatra and transfer the seat of power to Egypt. And they became so angry at this that all, not only Antony's enemies or those who were not siding with either man, but even his most intimate friends, censured him severely; for in their consternation at what was read and in their eagerness to counteract Caesar's suspicion of them, they spoke in the same way as the rest. They deprived him of the consulsiphip, to which he had been previously elected, and of all his authority in general. They did not, to be sure, declare him an enemy in so many words, because they were afraid his adherents would also have to be regarded in the light of enemies, in case they should not abandon him; but by this action they showed their attitude more plainly than by any words. For they voted to the men arrayed on his side pardon and praise if they would abandon him, and declared war outright upon Cleopatra, putting their military chiefs as if they were close
at hand, and went to the temple of Bellona, where they performed through Caesar as fictiles all the rites preliminary to war in the customary fashion. These proceedings were nominally directed against Cleopatra, but really against Antony. For she had enslaved him so absolutely that she persuaded him to act as gymnasiarch to the Alexandrians; and she was called “queen” and “mistress” by him, had Roman soldiers in her bodyguard, and all of these inscribed her name upon their shields. She used to frequent the market-place with him, joined him in the management of festivals and in the hearing of lawsuits, and rode with him even in the cities, or else was carried in a chair while Antony accompanied her on foot along with her eunuchs. He also termed his head-quarters “the palace,” sometimes wore an oriental dagger at his belt, dressed in a manner not in accordance with the customs of his native land, and let himself be seen even in public upon a gilded couch or a chair of that kind. He posed with her for portrait paintings and statues, he representing Osiris or Dionysus and she Selene or Isis. This more than all else made him seem to have been bewitched by her through some enchantment. For she so charmed and entranced not only him but all the rest who had any influence with him that she conceived the hope of ruling even the Romans; and whenever she used an oath her strongest phrase in

1 A Greek official, who exercised complete supervision of the gymnasia, paying for training and incidents; arranging the details of contests, etc. Vitarch (Ant. 32) states that in Athens also Antony on one occasion laid aside the insignia of a Roman general to assume the purple mantle, the white shoes, and the robe of this official.
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swearing was by her purpose to dispense justice on the Capitol. This was the reason they voted for war against Cæcopatra, but they made no such declamation against Antony, forsooth, knowing full well that he would become an enemy in any event, since he certainly was not going to prove false to her and espouse Cæsar’s cause; and they wished to have this additional reproach to put upon him, that he had voluntarily taken up war on the side of the Egyptian woman against his native country, though no ill-treatment had been accorded him personally by the people at home.

Accordingly, the men of fighting age were being rapidly assembled on both sides; money was being collected from every quarter, and all the equipment of war was being speedily gathered together. The preparations as a whole far surpassed in size anything that had ever been before; for all these nations co-operated with one side or the other in the war: Caesar had, in the first place, Italy (he had even attached to his cause all those who had been placed in colonies by Antony, partly by frightening them, since they were few in number, and partly by conferring benefits upon them; for example, among his other acts, he personally gave a new charter to the colonists who had settled in Bononia, so that the impression might prevail that the colony had been sent out by him), and besides Italy he also had in alliance with him Gaul, Spain, Illyricum, the Africans (including not only those who long since had adopted the Latin tongue, with the exception of the people in Cy-

i.e. she would say: “As surely as I shall one day dispense justice on the Capitol, so surely,” etc.

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