BOOK LIII

The following is contained in the Fifty-third of Dio's Rom.

How the temple of Apollo on the Palatine was dedicated (chap. 1).

How Caesar delivered a speech in the senate, as if he were retiring from the sole rulership, and afterwards assigned to that body its provinces (chaps. 2-12).

About the appointment of the governors sent to the provinces (chaps. 13-15).

How Caesar was given the title of Augustus (chap. 16).

About the names which the emperors receive (chaps. 17, 18).

How the Suebics were dedicated (chap. 23).

How Caesar fought against the Astures and Cantabri (chap. 29).

How Galicia began to be governed by Romans (chap. 29).

How the Baetica of Neptune and the Bithia of Agrippa were dedicated (chap. 27).

How the Pantheon was dedicated (chap. 27).

How Augustus was freed from the obligation of obeying the laws (chap. 29).

How an expedition was made against Arabia Felix (chap. 29).

Duration of time, six years, in which there were the magistrates (consulta) here enumerated:

30. Augustus (X), G. Nucens C. F. C. N. Flaccus.

These were the occurrences at that time. The following year Caesar held office for the sixth time and conformed in all other respects to the usages.

1. Kallimachos Xyl. vallimachos VM.
2. Pius Died., vallimachos VM.
DIOYS ROMAN HISTORY

BOOK XXXI

handed down from the earliest times, and, in par-
ticular, be delivered to Agrippa, his colleague, the
bundles of rods as it was incumbent upon him to do,
while he himself used the other set; 1 and on com-
pleting his term of office he took the oath according
to ancestral custom. 2 Whether he ever did this
again, I do not know, for he always paid exceptional
honour to Agrippa; thus he gave him his niece in
marriage, and provided him with a tent similar to
his own whenever they were campaigning together,
and the watchword was given out by both of them.
At this particular time, now, besides attending to his
other duties as usual, he completed the taking of
the census, in connection with which his title was
princeps senatu, as had been the practice when
house was truly a republic. Moreover, he com-
pleted and dedicated the temple of Apollo on the
Palatine, the precinct surrounding it, and the
libraries. He also celebrated in company with
Agrippa the festival which had been voted in
honour of the victory won at Actium; and during
this celebration he caused the boys and men of
the nobility to take part in the Circenian games.
This festival was held for a time every four years and
was in charge of the four priesthoods in succession—
I mean the pentecosts, the augurs, and the septem-
vir and quindecimviri, as they were called. On
the present occasion, moreover, a gymnastic con-
test

1 Augustus seems to have used twenty-four listsors until
29 B.C., and thereafter twelve, first as consul (until 29), then
as praetor, (until 16), and later in all consuls. Cf. lvi. 19, 5.
2 The customary oath taken by the consuls at the close of
their term of office to the effect that they had done nothing
contrary to the laws and had acted for the highest interests
of the state. Cf. xxxvii. 38, 2, and xxxviii. 12, 3.
BOOK LIII

was held, a wooden stadium having been constructed in the Campus Martius, and there was a gladiatorial combat between captives. These events continued for several days and were not interrupted even when Caesar fell ill; but Agrippa went on with them even so, discharging Caesar’s duties as well as his own.

Now Caesar allowed it to be understood that he was spending his private means upon these festivities, and when money was needed for the public treasury, he borrowed some and supplied the want; and for the management of the funds he ordered two annual magistrates to be chosen from among the ex-praetors. To the populace he distributed a quadruple allowance of grain and to some of the senators he made presents of money. For so many of them had become impoverished that some were willing to hold even the office of aedile because of the magnitude of the expenditures involved; indeed, the functions which belonged to that office, and particularly the judicial functions, were assigned to the praetors, as had been the custom, the more important to the praetor urbanus and the rest to the praetor perennis. In addition to all this, Caesar himself appointed the praetor urbanus, as, indeed, he often did subsequently. He cancelled all obligations which had been given to the public treasury previous to the battle of Actium, except those secured by buildings, and he burned the old notes of those who were indebted to the state. As for religious matters, he did not allow the Egyptian rites to be celebrated inside the pomerium, but made provision for the temples; those which had been built by private individuals he ordered their sons and descendants, if any survived, to repair, and the rest
he restored himself. He did not, however, appropriate to himself the credit for their erection, but allowed it to go as before to the original builders. And insomuch as he had put into effect very many illegal and unjust regulations during the factional strife and the war, especially in the period of his joint rule with Antony and Lepidus, he abolished them all by a single decree, setting the end of his sixth consulship as the time for their expiration. When, now, he obtained approbation and praise for this act, he desired to exhibit another instance of suaganimity, that by such a policy he might be honoured all the more and might have his sovereignty voluntarily confirmed by the people, so as to avoid the appearance of having forced them against their will. Therefore, having first pinned his most intimate friends among the senators, he entered the senate in his seventh consulship and read the following address:

"I am sure that I shall seem to some of you, Conscript Fathers, to have made an incredible choice. For what each one of my hearers would not wish to do himself, he does not like to believe, either, when another claims to have done it, especially as everyone is jealous of anybody who is superior to him and so is more prone to disbelieve any utterance that is above his own standard. Besides, I know this, that those who say what appears to be incredible not only fail to persuade others but also appear to be impostors. And indeed, if it were a question of my promising something that I was not intending to put into effect immediately, I should have been exceedingly loath to proclaim it, for fear of gaining, instead of gratitude, some grievous im-
petition. But as it is, when the performance will
follow the promise this very day, I feel quite con-
fident, not only that I shall incur no reproach of
falsehood, but that I shall surpass all mankind in
good repute. You see for yourselves, of course,
that it is in my power to rule over you for life; for
every factious element has either been put down
through the application of justice or brought to its
senses by receiving mercy, while those who were on
my side have been made devoted by my reciprocat-
ing their friendly services and bound fast by having
a share in the government. Therefore none of them
desires a revolution, and if anything of the sort
should take place, at least the party which will
stand by me is even more ready than it was before.
My military is in the finest condition as regards both
loyalty and strength; there is money and there are
allies; and, most important of all, you and the
people are so disposed toward me that you would
distinctly wish to have me at your head. However,
I shall lead you no longer, and no one will be able
to say that it was to win absolute power that I did
whatever has hitherto been done. Nay, I give up
my office completely, and restore to you absolutely
everything,—the army, the laws, and the provinces,—
not only those which you committed to me, but
also those which I myself later acquired for you.
Thus my very deeds also will prove to you that even
at the outset I desired no position of power, but in
very truth wished to avenge my father, cruelly
murdered, and to extricate the city from great evils
that came on unceasingly. Indeed, I would that I
had not gone so far as to assume charge of affairs
as I did; that is, I would that the city had not
διδασκαλία μου προς τούτον τι την πίλει, ἄλλον ἐν εἰρήνῃ καὶ ὑμνοῖς, καθάπερ ποτὲ καὶ οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν, καὶ ὑμᾶς τούτοις ἐν τῆς τῇ ἡλικίᾳ ἐν ἐπάθειας, ἐπεὶ δὲ ὑπομονής, ἐν τούτῳ προάγοντο ἠκούσατε καὶ ἐμοὶ, καθάπερ ποτὲ ἐν τῷ πόσῳ, καὶ χρήσατο συνεεικονίζω καὶ πέντε ὄρασι, μέχρι μέν 6 ὑμᾶς τὰ πράγματα τῆς παρὸς ἔργῳ ἐπινοεῖος ἐγείρηκε, πάντα τὰ προβολήματα καὶ ἐπί τῆς ἡλικίας ἐπάλαξε καὶ πάντα ἐνεπάθος καὶ ἐπί τῆς τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἄλλον ἐνεπάθεια ἔμεινεν ἢ ἔμαινεν ἐν πάντω τὰ περιεπηρήματα, καὶ ἐπέλεξεν καὶ ἐκάθισεν ἐπὶ τῷ τῷ πάντῃ περιπατεῖται, ἐμείς εἰς καὶ σώζετο καὶ σωφρονεῖται, ἐπείδης καὶ λοιπὸς ποιήσατε ἡ ἡγεῖται καὶ τῆς ἐφόβου ἄνθρωπον καὶ τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἐπανέλαβε, ἀπολύεται καὶ τῇ εἰρήνῃ καὶ τῇ ἀπεριθομένῃ, εἰς τὸν ὅπλα καὶ τὰ ἐπικύρως, καὶ τοπίτευσα νὰ διδότω εἰςπρατηρία. 4 Ἀλλὰ μίας ἐν καταφάσματι εἰς ταῖς ὑμῖν φρονού ὑπὲρ τῶν ἰδίων ἐπιλεξαίνου μοι καὶ πραξαίνεται καὶ ἀνατερμοῦσθαι ὑπόθεται, καὶ προσεκληματίζω καὶ ἄλλον πάσαν τινὰ ἅπαθους ἃπαθος ἐπί τῶν τοῖς πολλόν, καθαρὰ χρωμάτων ὑψηλον ζεύκων. 5 ἕως, ἐπεξεργάσασθε μὴ αὐτὸν μοῦ καταγώγη, μὴ αὐτὸν μοῦ καταγώγη, 6 ἀλλὰ μίας ἐν καταφάσματι εἰς ταῖς ὑμῖν φρονού ὑπὲρ τῶν ἰδίων ἐπιλεξαίνου μοι καὶ πραξαίνεται καὶ ἀνατερμοῦσθαι ὑπόθεται, καὶ προσεκληματίζω καὶ ἄλλον πάσαν τινὰ ἅπαθους ἃπαθος ἐπί τῶν τοῖς πολλόν, καθαρὰ χρωμάτων ὑψηλον ζεύκων. 5 ἔως, ἐπεξεργάσασθε μὴ αὐτὸν μοῦ καταγώγη, 6 ἀλλὰ μίας ἐν καταφάσματι εἰς ταῖς ὑμῖν φρονού ὑπὲρ τῶν ἰδίων ἐπιλεξαίνου μοι καὶ πραξαίνεται καὶ ἀνατερμοῦσθαι ὑπόθεται, καὶ προσεκληματίζω καὶ ἄλλον πάσαν τινὰ ἅπαθους ἃπαθος ἐπί τῶν τοῖς πολλόν, καθαρὰ χρωμάτων ὑψηλον ζεύκων.
other hand, condemn me as foolish because, when it is in my power to rule over you and to hold so great a sovereignty over this vast world, I do not wish it. For, if one looks into the merits of the case from the point of view of justice, I regard it as most just for you to manage your own affairs; if from the point of view of expediency, I consider it most expedient, both that I should be free from trouble and not be the object of jealousy and intrigue, and that you should have a government based upon liberty and conducted with moderation and friendly feeling; and if, finally, from the point of view of glory, to win which many men are often found ready to choose war and personal risk, will it not add most to my renown to resign so great an empire, will it not add most to my glory to leave so exalted a sovereignty and voluntarily become a private citizen? Therefore, if there is any one of you who believes that no man except we can really and sincerely hold to such ideals and give them utterance, at least let him believe it of me. For, though I could recite many great benefits conferred upon you both by me and by my father, for which we beyond all other men could reasonably claim your affection and your honour, I could single out no other act in preference to this, nor could I feel a greater pride in any other thing than in this,—that he refused the monarchy although you offered it to him, and that I, when I hold it, lay it aside.

What achievement, indeed, could one compare with these acts of ours? The conquest of Gaul, the enslavement of Pannonia, the subjugation of Moesia, the overthrow of Egypt? Or Pharmaces, or Juba, or Phraates, or the campaign against the Britons, or
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