Socn was the life led by Nero and such was the a.d. es way he ruled. I shall now relate how he was put down and driven from his throne.

While Nero was still in Greece, the Jews revolted openly, and he sent Vespasian against them. Also the inhabitants of Britain and of Gaul, oppressed by the taxes, were becoming more vexed and inflamed than ever.

There was a Gaul named Galus Julius Vindex, an AQUITANIAN, descended from the royal race and by virtue of his father's status a Roman senator. He was powerful in body and of shrewd intelligence, was skilled in warfare and full of daring for any great enterprise; and he had a passionate love of freedom and a vast ambition. This was the man who stood at the head of the Gauls.

This Vindex called together the Gauls, who had suffered much by the numerous forced levies of money and were still suffering at Nero's hands. And succeeding a tribunal he delivered a long and detailed speech against Nero, saying that they ought to revolt from the emperor and join the speaker in an attack upon him, "because," as he said, "he has despised the whole Roman world, because he

1 Cf. Zonaras (Vindex) seeing his fellow-Gauls engage for rebellion, aroused them by an harangue that he delivered.  

2 Cf. Zonaras ([11, 13, p. 41], 10-12 D.); (Oidiphekos) ὁ τότε ὁ ἐπήκοος Γαλάτης ἱεράτης γρήγορα ὑπεστασάτο, δὴ ἰδοὺ ἐπηγγέλθη ἐπὶ τῶν αἰτησιῶν.
has destroyed all the flower of their senate, because Aug. 61 he debauched and then killed his mother, and does not preserve even the semblance of sovereignty. Many murders, robberies and outrages, it is true, have often been committed by others; but as for the other deeds committed by Nero, how could one find words fittingly to describe them? I have seen him, my friends and allies,—believe me,—I have seen that man (if man he is who has married Sporus and been given in marriage to Pythagoras), in the circle of the theatre, that is, in the orchestra, sometimes holding the lyre and dressed in loose tunics and buskins, and again wearing high-soled shoes and mask. 2 I have often heard him sing, play the herald, and act in tragedies. I have seen him in chains, hustled about as a miscreant, heavy with child, yea, in the travails of childbirth—in short, imitating all the situations of mythology by what he said and by what was said to him, by what he submitted to and by what he did. 2 Will anyone, then, style such a person Caesar and emperor and Augustus? Never! 2 Let no one abuse those sacred titles. They were held by Augustus and by Claudius, whereas this fellow night most properly be termed Thyeses, Oculos, Alcmeon, or Orestes; for these are the characters that he represents on the stage and it is these titles that he has assumed in place of the others. Therefore rise now at length against him; succour yourselves and succour the Romans; liberate the entire world! 7

1 See lxii (Ixxii), 9 and note.
2 Is supplied by Bk. 175
Such words falling from the lips of Vindex met the approval of all. Now Vindex was not working to get the imperial office for himself but selected Servius Sulpicius Gallus for that position; this man was distinguished for his upright behavior and skill in warfare, was governor of Spain, and had a nulliary force of no small size. And he was proclaimed emperor by the soldiers.

Rufus, the governor of Germany, set out to make war on Vindex; but when he reached Vesontio, he proceeded to besiege the city, for the alleged reason that it had not received him. But Vindex came to the aid of the city against him and encamped not far off, whereupon they sent messages back and forth to each other and finally held a conference by themselves at which no one else was present and came to a mutual agreement against Nero, as was conjectured. After this Vindex set out with his army.

1 Cf. Zonaras: And he made them swear to do everything in the interest of the senate and the Roman people and to stay in case he should do anything contrary to this purpose. For emperor he chose Servius Sulpicius Gallus, who was a patrician from the same family and was at the time governor of Spain. This man accepted the power but declined to assume the imperial titles at that time.

2 Cf. Zonaras: And having associated with himself many of the senators who were in exile, he appointed Gallus king. This man immediately armed the forces and made all his preparations for war, after which he marched upon Rome.

3 Cf. Zonaras: At any rate, Nero, being greatly alarmed at this, sent off Petius Gallus to conduct the war. But Rufus, not venturing even to engage in battle with Gallus, came to terms and made a compact with Vindex, in which he chose to rule the Gauls himself and agreed that Spain should belong to Vindex and that Gallus should receive all Italy together with the remaining provinces that owed allegiance to the Roman empire. After these terms had been
army ostensibly to occupy the town; and the soldiers of Rufus, becoming aware of their approach and thinking the force was marching straight against them, marched out in their turn, on their own initiative, and falling upon them while they were off their guard and in disarray, cut down great numbers of them. Vindex on seeing this was so overcome by grief that he slew himself.

As the revolt continued, Vindex slew himself; for he felt exceedingly grieved because of the peril of his soldiers and was vexed at Fate because he had not been able to attain his goal in an undertaking of so great magnitude, namely the overthrow of Nero and the liberation of the Romans.

This is the truth of the matter; but many after-wards inflicted wounds on his body, and so gave rise to the false impression that they themselves had killed him.

Rufus mourned his death greatly, but refused to

agreed upon them, some of Rufus' troops plotted against Vindex, being ignorant of the agreement their leaders had made and eager to secure the supreme power for their general. Vindex, now, might easily have saved his life; but he was indignant and bewailed the fact that he had been injured by those who were of the same mind as he and that, although both Rufus and he were working against Nero, they were destroying each other, and he was disgusted, moreover, with this mortal life and even had something to say against Fate because, having put his hand to so great an undertaking, he had not been able to carry it through; and so he made away with himself.
accept the office of emperor, although his soldiers \textsuperscript{4} \textsuperscript{5} \textsuperscript{6} frequently urged it upon him and he might easily have obtained it. For he was an energetic man and had a large and zealous military force, and his soldiers threw down and shattered the images of Nero and called Rufus by the titles of Caesar and Augustus. When he would not heed them, one of the soldiers thereupon quickly inscribed these words on one of his standards. He erased the words, however, and after a day of trouble brought the men to order and persuaded them to submit the question of the throne to the senate and the people. It is hard to say whether this was merely because he did not deem it right for the soldiers to bestow the supreme power upon anyone (for he declared this to be the prerogative of the senate and the people), or because he was entirely high-minded and felt no desire himself for the imperial office, to secure which others were willing to do anything and everything.

Nero was informed of the uprising of Vindex as he was viewing the gymnastic contest in Nepolia just after luncheon; but, far from showing any grief, he leaped down from his seat and vied in prowess with some athletes. Nor did he hurry back to Rome, but merely sent a letter to the senate, in which he asked them to excuse him for not coming, pleading a sore throat, implying that he would like, even at this crisis, to sing to them. And he continued to devote the same care and attention to his voice, to his songs, and to his lyre-playing, not only at that juncture but also later. Because of this he would

--Xiph. 133, 25–184, S.R. St.

\textsuperscript{3} In the orthos supplied by Beirn.

\textsuperscript{4} \textsuperscript{5} \textsuperscript{6} om. \textit{filius}, \textit{sine} \textit{voce}.
DIO'S ROMAN HISTORY

ἐξεκίνησεν, εἰ τε καὶ ἦγακεν ζηθής τε ἐν τούτοις ὑπὲρ ἔκβασις, εὐθὺς τις αὐτῶν ὁς καὶ καταρρέθη·

Ἐπεξερεύθης καὶ ἀκούσας ὁ Οἰλίνδος ἦπερ ὅτι "ἐν τῷ Νύμφω ἀποκτείνεται τὸν τούτῳ ἀπεκτάσας μοι ἔξω ἀντιλήφθην," τούτους μὲν τις ὁ Οἰλίνδος ἐγένετο.—Xiph. 183, 9–12 R. St.

ΕΠΙΤΟΜΗ ΤΟΥ ΚΩΛΟ ΛΧΙΗ

not utter a word in a loud voice, and if he was at all any time compelled by the circumstances in which he now found himself to shout out anything, yet somebody would promptly remind him that he was to sing to the lyre and thus curb and control him.

It is stated that when Nero set a price of ten million sesterties upon the head of Vindex, the latter upon hearing it remarked: "The one who kills Nero and brings his head to me shall get mine in return." That was the sort of man Vindex was.

In general, Nero still behaved in his accustomed manner and he was pleased with the news brought him, because he was expecting in any event to overcome Vindex and thought he had now secured a ground for leves of money and murders. He continued his luxurious practices; and upon the completion and adornment of the shrine of Sabina he gave it a brilliant dedication, having first inscribed upon it the statement that the women had built it to the deified Sabina, Venus. Now in this matter he told the truth, since the building had been constructed with money of which a great part had been stolen from the women; but he also had his numerous little jokes, of which I will mention only one, omitting the rest. One night he suddenly summoned in haste the foremost senators and knights, as if to make some communication to

1 Cf. Petor. Patro. (exc. Fust. 70, p. 215 Mai — p. 197, 4–11 Didot), ᾧ ἂν γνησία μαθέως πάντα τὸ τέλος τῆς Βίλικας καὶ ἐκλέξατο πάντα ἀκούσα ὑπὲρ τοῦ νομού ἀπεκτάσας καὶ ἀκούσας πρὸς ἀκούσας ἀπεκτάσας αὐτῆς Βίλικας ἀπεκτάσας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ ἀκούσας ἀπὸ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας δι' Νύμφην μὴ ἀκούσας τὴν προφητείαν καὶ τούτῳ βούλοντας καὶ τούτῳ βούλον...
 Dio's Roman History

EPI TOME OF BOOK LXIII

them regarding the political situation, and then said (I quote his exact words): "I have discovered a way by which the water-organ will produce louder and more musical tones." In such jests did he indulge even at this crisis. And little did he reckon that both sets of doors, those of the mausoleum of Augustus and those of his own bedchamber, opened of their own accord on one and the same night, or that in the Alban territory it rained so much blood that rivers of it flowed over the land, or that the sea retreated a long distance from Egypt and covered a great portion of Lycia. But when he heard of Galba having been proclaimed emperor by the soldiers and about the desertion of Rufus, he fell into great fear, and not only made preparations himself at Rome, but also sent against the rebels Rubrius Galba and some others.

On learning that Petronius, whom he had sent ahead against the rebels with the larger portion of the army, had also espoused the cause of Galba, Nero repented no further hope in arms.

Now that he had been abandoned by everybody alike, he began forming plans to kill the senators, turn down the city, and sail to Alexandria. He dropped this hint in regard to his future course: "Even though we be driven from our empire, yet..." 1

1 P. Petronius Turpilianus. Cod. VI. ECCEOS S. PAULUS. 12
2 CL. Joan. Antioch. and Exc. Val.: When one advised him, etc., he finally decided to kill, etc.
3 Joan. Antioch. adds "by night."

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