

THE HISTORY OF ROME

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BY
THEODOR MOMMSEN

TRANSLATED
WITH THE AUTHOR'S SANCTION AND ADDITIONS

BY
WILLIAM P. DICKSON, D.D., LL.D.

PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

THE PROVINCES, FROM CAESAR TO DIOCLETIAN

PART I

2 Pts.

WITH EIGHT MAPS BY PROFESSOR KIEPERT

LONDON
RICHARD BENTLEY & SON, NEW BURLINGTON STREET,

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OF THE
ROMAN EMPIRE

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TO
LÉOPOLD KRONECKER
AND
RICHARD SCHÖNE
IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE

PREFACE

A WISH has often been expressed to me that the History of Rome might be continued, and I have a desire to meet it, although it is difficult for me, after an interval of thirty years, to take up again the thread at the point where I had to let it drop. That the present portion does not attach itself immediately to the preceding, is a matter of little moment ; the fifth volume would be just as much a fragment without the sixth as the sixth now is without the fifth. Besides, I am of opinion that, for the purposes of the cultured public, in whose minds this History is intended to promote an intelligent conception of Roman antiquity, other works may take the place of the Two Books, which are still awaiting between this (the Eighth) and the earlier ones, more readily than a substitute can be found for that now issued. The struggle of the Republicans in opposition to the monarchy erected by Caesar, and the definitive establishment of the latter, are so well presented in the accounts handed down to us from antiquity that every delineation amounts essentially to a reproduction of their narrative. The distinctive character of the monarchical rule and the fluctuations of the monarchy, as well as the general relations of government influenced by the personality of the individual rulers,

which the Seventh Book is destined to exhibit, have been at least subjected to frequent handling. Of what is here furnished—the history of the several provinces from the time of Caesar to that of Diocletian,—there is, if I am not mistaken, no comprehensive survey anywhere accessible to the public to which this work addresses itself; and it is owing, as it seems to me, to the want of such a survey that the judgment of that public as to the Roman imperial period is frequently incorrect and unfair. No doubt such a separation of these special histories from the general history of the empire, as is in my opinion a preliminary requisite to the right understanding of the history of the imperial period, cannot be carried out completely as regards various sections, especially for the period from Gallienus to Diocletian; and in these cases the general picture, which still remains to be given, will have to supply what is wanting.

If an historical work in most cases acquires a more vivid clearness by an accompanying map, this holds in an especial degree true of our survey of the Empire of three Continents according to its provinces, and but few of its readers can have in their hands maps adequate for the purpose. These will accordingly be grateful, along with me, to my friend Dr. Kiepert, for having, in the manner and with the limits suggested by the contents of these volumes, annexed to them, first of all, a sheet presenting a general outline of the *Orbis Romanus*, which serves moreover in various respects to supply gaps in those that follow, and, in succession, nine special maps of the several portions of the empire drawn—with the exception of sheets 5, 7, 8, 9—on the same scale. The ancient geographical names

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occurring in the volumes, and the more important modern ones, are entered upon the maps ; names not mentioned in the volumes are appended only, in exceptional cases, as landmarks for the reader's benefit. The mode of writing Greek names followed in the book itself has been displaced by the Latinising spelling—for the sake of uniformity—in several maps in which Latin names preponderate. The sequence of the maps corresponds on the whole to that of the book ; only it seemed, out of regard for space, desirable to present on the same sheet several provinces such as, *e.g.* Spain and Africa.

PREFATORY NOTE BY THE TRANSLATOR.

WHEN I learned from Dr. Mommsen that he was about to issue, after so considerable an interval, a continuation of his *History*, I had some thoughts of leaving the task of its translation to other and less occupied hands. But, when he expressed a desire that I should introduce this new portion also to the English public, I felt it but due to him as well as to the publishers and to those who had favourably received my rendering of the earlier volumes, that I should attempt to meet his wish and what I might presume to be theirs.

I have endeavoured to prepare the translation according to the principles and method adopted in the earlier volumes (and explained in my preface to Volume I.), so far as there can be uniformity in applying them after an interval of five-and-twenty years ; and, if in my desire to reproduce the form as well as the matter of the book, I have at times followed the mould of the German too closely, I trust that the reader may not at least often be at a loss for the meaning. The task has been in so far longer and more difficult, that there is a much larger proportion of matter in the form of notes. The present volumes differ indeed considerably in character from those preceding them ; but, while the reader will miss, as Dr. Mommsen has himself remarked, the graphic description and portrait-painting of the earlier portions, he will find compensation in the presence of other and fresh elements

of interest, more especially in the copious and masterly use of materials gleaned from the epigraphic stores¹ which Dr. Mommsen has done so much to collect and to make accessible. To prevent misconception, it may be well to add that in translating the work I am not to be held as accepting all its principles and verdicts.

Whether, and when, the missing link of the Fifth volume will be supplied, Dr. Mommsen leaves as open questions. I have thought that the convenience of different readers would be best met, under the circumstances, by issuing the volumes, after a fashion common in Germany, with a general and a special title, so that they may either take their place in continuation or be procured by themselves. The special title chosen is somewhat elliptical in point of grammar ; but the fuller form would have been cumbersome.

¹ The chief epigraphic works referred to are usually quoted under the initials, or other very abbreviated form, of the title, and, as they may not be known to all readers, I subjoin a brief explanation :

- C. I. L.* represents the great *Corpus inscriptionum Latinarum* projected and authorised by the Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin, in the preparation and superintendence of which Dr. Mommsen has had a chief part. Begun upwards of twenty years ago, it now extends to sixteen volumes (or half volumes) folio.
- Eph. Ep. or Epigr.*, is the *Ephemeris epigraphica*, issued under the sanction of the Archaeological Institute at Rome, and edited by Mommsen, Henzen, and others, as a *Supplement* to the *Corpus* above named. It was begun in 1872, and has reached a sixth volume.
- C. I. Gr.* — *Corpus inscriptionum Graecarum* prepared under the auspices of the Berlin Academy, by Boeckh and Franz, and subsequently by E. Curtius and A. Kirchhoff. 4 vols. fol. 1828-1877.
- C. I. A. or Att.* — *Corpus inscriptionum Atticarum*, edited under the like authority, by Koehler and Dittenberger, of which five volumes or parts have appeared since 1877.
- C. I. Rh.*, or sometimes "Brambach," denotes the *Corpus inscriptionum Rhenanarum*, edited by Wilhelm Brambach, and issued in 1867.
- "Orelli" or "Henzen" or "Orelli-Henzen," indicates the *Inscriptionum Latinarum selectarum amplissima collectio*, edited by Orelli and (in the supplementary third volume) Henzen, and published at Zürich, 1828-1856.
- Bull. de corr. Hell.* denotes the *Bulletin de correspondance Hellénique*, published by the *École Française* at Athens from 1877 onward, of which nine or ten volumes have appeared.
- "Le Bas" or "Waddington" or "Le Bas-Waddington," refers to the *Voyage archéologique en Grèce et en Asie mineure*, by Philippe Le Bas and William Henry Waddington, of which portions have appeared at intervals since 1847.

I have taken the opportunity, in verifying various references, to correct several such errors as are apt to occur in the frequent use of figures; have broken up some of the longer paragraphs, and added considerably to the marginal headings; and have drawn up on my own part an Index, which seemed to me more necessary even for the present than for the earlier volumes. In preparing it I have attempted a mean between a mere notice of the more salient matters and a full list of names, and have sought to meet the wish of a correspondent by indexing the names under the familiar surname rather than (as in the Index to the earlier volumes) under the gentile name.

As regards the maps which have been specially prepared, as the preface states, for the book by the well-known German cartographer, Professor Kiepert, I have deemed it best simply to append them, as they stand delineated by him, to the English book. Beyond the apparent incongruity of the German titles the reader will have little difficulty in using them, and will be glad to be in possession of Dr. Kiepert's own work. I have, however, sought to obviate any such difficulty by prefixing an explanatory leaflet.

WILLIAM P. DICKSON.

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