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M E D A L L I C H I S T O R Y

O F

I M P E R I A L R O M E ;

From the FIRST TRIUMVIRATE,  
UNDER POMPEY, CRASSUS, AND CÆSAR,  
To the Removal of the IMPERIAL SEAT,  
BY CONSTANTINE THE GREAT.

WITH THE  
SEVERAL MEDALS AND COINS,  
ACCURATELY COPIED AND CURIOUSLY ENGRAVEN.

To which is prefixed, an INTRODUCTION, containing  
A GENERAL HISTORY OF ROMAN MEDALS

IN TWO VOLUMES. — VOL. II.

By WILLIAM COOKE, M. A.

*Vicar of Enford in Wiltshire, and Rector of Oldbury and Didmarton, in Gloucestershire.*

The Medal, faithful to its Charge of Fame,  
Through Climes and Ages bears each Form and Name ;  
In one short View subjected to our Eye  
Gods, Emperors, Heroes, Sages, Beauties lie.  
— Again ROME'S Glories shine,  
Her Gods and godlike Heroes rise to View,  
And all her faded Garlands bloom anew.  
Nor blush these Studies thy Regard engage,  
These pleas'd the Fathers of Poetic Rage :  
The Verse and Sculpture bore an equal Part,  
And Art reflected Images to Art.

POPE.

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L O N D O N :  
PRINTED FOR J. DODSLEY, IN PALL-MALL.

MEDICAL HISTORY

1890

IMPERIAL ROMAN

THE HISTORY OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE  
FROM THE DEATH OF JULIUS CAESAR  
TO THE FALL OF THE EMPIRE  
BY G. H. DUNN

THE HISTORY OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE  
FROM THE DEATH OF JULIUS CAESAR  
TO THE FALL OF THE EMPIRE



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II

THE  
DISPOSITION of the PLATES

IN VOL. II.

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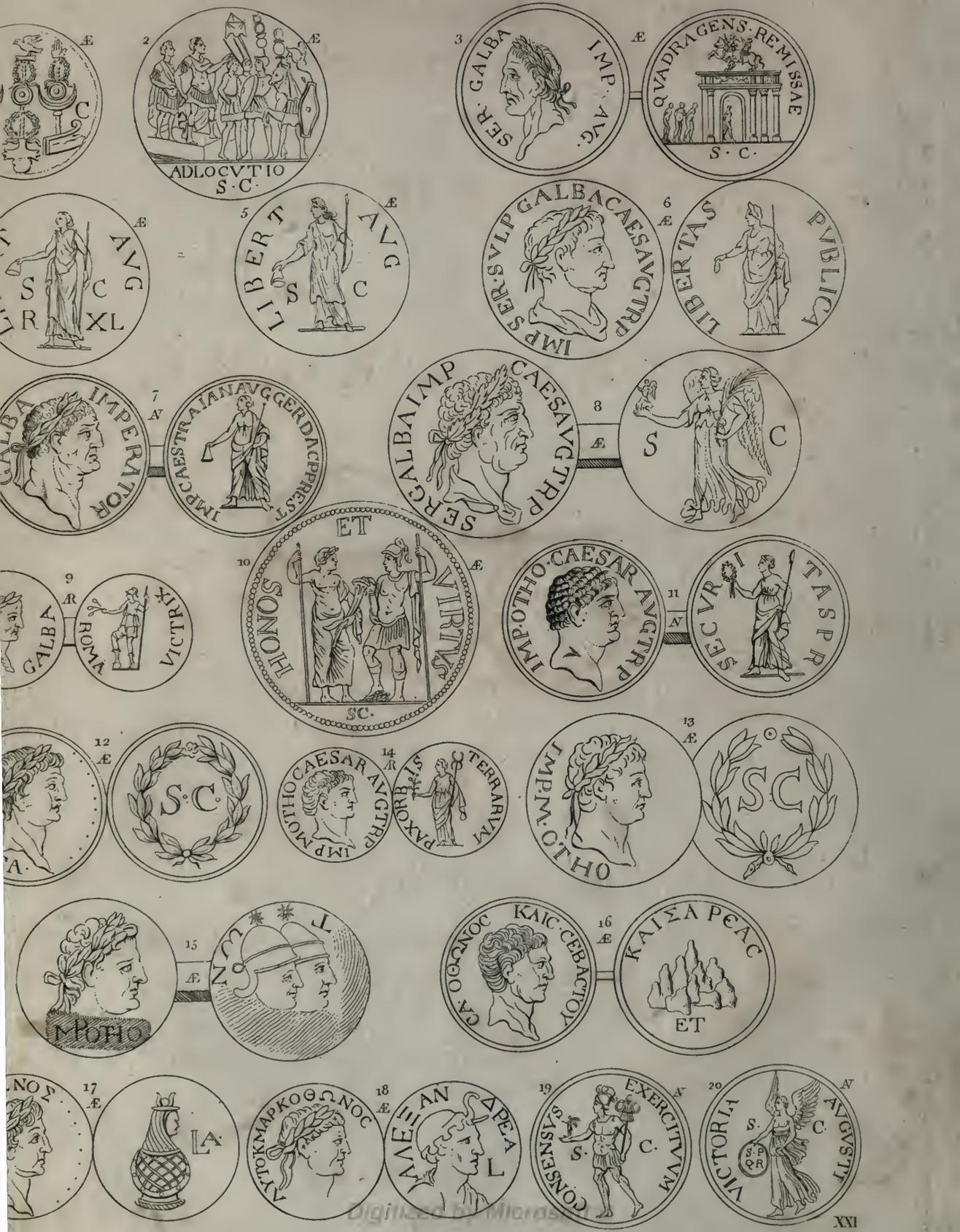


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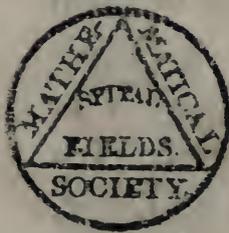
ERRATA in Vol. II.

- Page 197. line 5. *for advaced, read advanced.*  
251. 18. *for Ctefephon, read Ctefiphon.*  
314. 2. *for BPOYZHNQN, read IPOYZHNQN.*  
327. 2. *for Artrival, read Arrival.*  
362. in Frontispiece, *for IMP. C. D. read IMP. C. P.*  
464. 3. *for Ravanna, read Ravenna.*  
486. 24. *for W, supply u.*





THE  
**MEDALLIC HISTORY**  
 OF  
**IMPERIAL ROME.**



**SERVIUS SULPICIUS GALBA.**

**G**ALBA, while he governed the *Tarraconensian Spain*, had only the Command of one Legion (represented on the Reverse before us by a single Eagle and Ensigns, with S. C.) two Alæ, and

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three

GALBA

PL. XXI

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GALBA.

three Cohorts. But before his March he had formed other Legions and Auxiliaries, besides a Body-Guard of Youths of the Equestrian Order, whom he honoured with the Title of his *Evocati*. For this was the Name given to those Soldiers who were particularly *called-out*, and selected for their Bravery. When he advanced near *Rome*, the Marines, whom NERO had inrolled as Soldiers, petitioned him for an Eagle and Ensigns (for he had ordered them to return to their former Estate) that they might so become Legionaries, with much Clamour and Insolence; insomuch that he ordered his Horse to fall upon them, who put seven thousand of them to the Sword, and the rest underwent a Decimation. This, with the Death of *Nymphidius* at *Rome* (tho' slain by the Soldiers on his avowed Intention of setting up for himself) of *Fonteius Capito* in *Germany*, and *Clodius Macer* in *Africa*, inclined the People to believe him cruel. And the Meanness of his Rewards, with his sordid Way of Living, confirmed them in the Opinion of his being extremely avaricious. So that his Arrival looked unprosperous. The City was filled with his own Troops and the Marines. Great Numbers likewise from *Germany*, *Britain*, and *Illyricum*, whom NERO had sent forward towards *Asia*, and afterwards recalled against *Vindex*, afforded Materials for fresh Troubles,

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Troubles, and were at hand for any bold Pretender. We have his Adlocution to the Prætorian Cohorts, and in the Exergue ADLOCVTIO S. C. When on this Occasion they demanded their Donative, "My Custom," said he, "is to chuse my Soldiers, not to buy them." This raised a general Discontent amongst those dangerous Bands. But he would by no Means be constrained to any Thing. So when the Populace vehemently clamoured for the Punishment of *Tigellinus*, and others, who had richly deserved it, he refused to comply; tho' probably they had suffered, had it not been insisted upon. For *Helius*, the late Governor of *Reme*, *Narcissus*, *Patrobius*, *Locusta* the Prisoner, and some others, who had figured under NERO, were put to Death with Ignominy. He was entirely governed by the Will of three Persons, who lived with, and stuck close to, him, and who were therefore called his Pædagogues. These were *T. Vinus*, his Lieutenant in *Spain*, of immense Avarice; *Cornelius Laco*, his Captain of the Guards, whose Arrogance and Indolence were intolerable; and his Freedman *Icelus*, who, having been raised to the Equestrian Order, was now a Candidate for the highest Office of it. These Favourites set every Thing to Sale in such Haste, as if they feared that he would die before they had compleated their

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Pl. XXI. 3.

Business. Their Failings cost him the public Esteem. It is enough for a private Person, that he do no Injury: but it behoves the Prince to be careful that others do it not. Yet he gave several Proofs of a princely Disposition; one of which was, the Remission of *the fortieth Penny*, which none of the ancient Historians have taken the least Notice of. This is evident from the fine Medal in Bronze before us, whereon we see his laureate Head, with SER GALBA IMP AVG. The Reverse has a very noble triumphal Arch, with two Horsemen above, and Captives marching under: the Legend is QVADRAGENSimæ REMISSAE, S. C. This seems to have been a Duty upon Goods imported, and was equal to two and a half *per Cent.* and had by NERO been remitted, and imposed again. This is further confirmed by another, on the Reverse of which a gowned Roman, with the *Rudis* or Wand, which was always given as a Discharge from Slavery, in his left Hand, and a Cap in the right is stiled the LIBERTAS AVGusti: in the Area S C, and a little lower R XL, for *Remissâ Quadragesimâ*. The same Legend we have around a female Figure, adorned with the same Attributes, but without the Remission.

Pl. XXI. 4.

Pl. XXI. 5.

But the Accession of GALBA is celebrated on several other Coins. One in Bronze, of the first Magnitude,

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Magnitude, gives his laureate Head, with a full In-  
 scription, IMP SER SVLP GALBA CAES AVG  
 TR P, *Imperator Servius Sulpicius Galba Cæsar  
 Augustus Tribunicia Potestate*; and a like Female  
 Figure on the Reverse, called there LIBERTAS  
 PVBLICA. But the same Head in Gold says only,  
 GALBA IMPERATOR, shewing on the Reverse  
 the very same Figure, as restored by *Trajan*; for  
 the Legend runs IMP CAES TRAIAN AVG GER  
 DAC PP REST, *Imperator Cæsar Trajanus Augustus  
 Germanicus Dacius Pater Patriæ Restituit*. Another,  
 in Bronze, as given at the Entrance of this  
 Reign, shews, on the other Side, a Figure repre-  
 senting victorious *Rome*, with a Laurel Branch in  
 the left Hand, and holding out a Victory to him  
 on her right, with the Senatorian Sanction, S C.  
 But his Denarius, with the laureate Head, and IM-  
 PERATOR GALBA, gives for the Reverse the  
 Emperor himself, in his military Habit, with the  
*Hasta pura* in his left Hand, an Olive-Branch in  
 his right, with his right Foot treading on a Globe,  
 and around ROMA VICTRIX: Another Medal  
 of him, quoted by Mr. *Addison*, bears on the Re-  
 verse the Figures of *Honour* and *Virtue*, ascribed to  
 him by the Senate. The first is a Female, with  
 the *Cornucopiæ* in her left Hand, and the *Hasta*  
*pura*

GALBA  
Pl. XXI.

Pl. XXI.

Pl. XXI.

Pl. XXI.

Pl. XXI.

GALBA.

Addison's Dia-  
logues, p. 171.  
2.

*pura* in her right, her Head being crowned with Laurel: the last is a military Figure, armed with an Helmet, having the *Hasta pura* also in the left Hand, and the *Parazonium* in the Right, with his right Foot treading on an Enemy: in the Exergue S C.

Such, however, was the Situation of Affairs; the Emperor obstinate and inattentive, the Ministers most corrupt, the Soldiery discontented, and the People uneasy, when GALBA, the second Time, and *T. Vinus*, entered upon the Office of Consuls. A few Days after came Letters from *Gaul*, importing, that the Legions of *Upper Germany* demanded of the Senate and People another General. This hastened GALBA'S Design of appointing a Successor. *Piso*, a young Nobleman of most excellent Character, was pitched upon. Him he adopted in the Camp, surrounded by the Prætorian Cohorts, who neither on this Occasion had any Taste of his Liberality. This entirely alienated their Affections. *OTHO*, who judged that his Services had given him a Right to the Succession, caught the Opportunity, and by every Sort of Corruption in his Power, directed the Stream of their Devotion to himself. He gained over a small Body, who were bold enough to declare for him: more of them wished

well to his Pretensions, and the Rest were not inclined to dispute them: so that, a few Days after, he was slain in the Forum by a Party of them. *Sempronius Denfus*, one of his Guards, was the only Person who endeavoured to defend him, and was cut in Pieces. *Piso* escaped, and concealed himself in the Temple of *Vesta*, but was dragged thence, and slaughtered. Their Heads were cut off, and carried to *OTHO*, who viewed them, that of *Piso* particularly, with great Exultation. Thus fell *GALBA*, in the 73d Year of his Age, and the 7th Month of his Reign, according to *Suetonius*. But *Zonarus* says, that he reigned eight Months; and *Dio Cassius*, nine Months and thirteen Days.

*SERVIUS SULPICIUS GALBA* was of proper Stature; had grey Eyes, a bald Head, an hooked Nose, and his Hands and Feet very much distorted with the Gout; so that he could neither hold a Book, nor wear a Shoe. He had also a large and troublesome Excrecence on his right Side. He was a great Eater; and in Winter would rise before Day to gratify his Appetite. The Nobility of his Family was ancient, his Wealth great, and his Parts moderate. My Author (*Tacitus*) says, that he was rather without Vices, than virtuous. But  
it

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GALBA.

it appears, that he wanted not his Share of these; being prone to unnatural Lust, and extremely covetous. Indeed his Obstinacy and Avarice seem to have been the principal Causes of his Ruin.



MARCUS

# Y OF IMPERIAL ROME.



## MARCUS SALVIUS OTHO.

ON the Death of GALBA the Senate assembled, and decreed to OTHO the tribunitial Power, the Title of AUGUSTUS, and all the Imperial Honours. We have his Head in Gold accordingly, as prefixed to this Reign, with the Inscription IMP. OTHO CAESAR AVG TR P. *Imperator Otho Cæsar Augustus Tribunitia Potestate*; and on the Reverse, a female Figure, holding a Javelin in one Hand, and a Laurel Wreath in the other, stiled SECVRITAS P R for *Populi Romani*. Monsieur Patin has one in Bronze, whereon the Head is laureated, with IMP M OTO CAesar.....; and a Laurel Wreath on the Reverse, inclosing S C. He

OTH

Pl. XXI.

Pl. XXI.

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L. XXI. 13.

remarks, that the Letter H is omitted in the Inscription; and observes, that no classic Author has made mention of the Laurel being decreed to him. Yet surely this was one of the *omnes principum honores*, which, according to *Tacitus*, were conferred upon him. But the Coins of *Patin* are of the middle or the smallest Size. We have in the *Pembrokian* Collection one of the first Magnitude, which answers to it exactly enough, except that the Aspirate omitted in the other, is here inserted. It has, however, been confidently averred by some, that no Medals in Bronze, (while others confine the Assertion to the great Bras, and the *Latin Stamp*) were ever struck of this Emperor. And it was a saying of *Christina*, Queen of *Sweden*, that “He who shall have found an antique Coin of ΟΤΗΟ in Bronze, will have found the Philosopher’s Stone.” Yet the same Queen had in her Cabinet of Medals, collected by *Francis Gottifred*, a *Greek* one of ΟΤΗΟ, of this Metal, of unquestionable Antiquity, which shall be produced by and by in its proper Place. The Head and Title of his Denarius entirely resemble that upon his Medal of Gold, already given. The Reverse of it has a decent Figure, holding a *Cornucopiæ* in one Hand, and a Branch of Olive in the other, and is circumscribed PAX ORBIS TERRARVM. For he had flattered.

. XXI. 14.

flattered himself with a peaceable Reign, presuming, that all Opposition would die away before him. And indeed, for the present, and at Home, all Persons joined to abolish the Reproaches which had been formerly heaped upon him, and of which himself seemed now to have lost the Remembrance. Whether he really forgave them, or only deferred his Vengeance, the Shortness of his Reign has rendered uncertain. But the Reproaches of his own Conscience were not to be stifled; for, on the very first Night of his Accession, he was heard to vent many Groans, and was so disturbed in his Sleep, that they, who ran in, found him thrown out of Bed, and lying upon the Floor: after which, by every superstitious Method of Expiation, he endeavoured to appease the Manes of GALBA. The first Thing that he signed, was an Order for 500 Great Sesterces, towards finishing the Golden House of NERO. What chiefly instigated him to aim at Sovereignty, was the Immensity of his Debts. For he did not dissemble the Necessity that he was under, of being Emperor or nothing, and that it was indifferent to him, whether he fell by an Enemy in the Field, or by his Creditors in the Forum.

The public Consternation was scarce over, when the News was spread abroad, that the Legions of *Upper Germany* had declared for VITELLIUS. Then

O T H O .

it was that two Persons at once, of all Men living the most worthless that Immodesty, Indolence, and Luxury could make so, were fatally picked out for the Destruction of the Empire. VITELLIUS, by his Condescension, and the Profuseness of his Gifts (for he gave, without Distinction, both his own and the Property of others) had made himself agreeable to the Army, and to the Lieutenants of those Legions, *Cæcina* and *Valens*, Men of boundless Desires and noted Temerity: so that the latter, entering *Cologne* with the Cavalry, there saluted him Emperor. The Example was presently followed by all the *German* Legions, and these were afterwards joined by the Army in *Britain*. VITELLIUS, thus strengthened, divided his Forces, ordering *Valens*, with a Body of 40,000, to enter *Italy* by the *Cottian Alps*; while *Cæcina* did the same over the *Penine Hills*, at the Head of 30,000. Each was supported by the *German* Auxiliaries; with whom also VITELLIUS himself compleated the Troops, which were to follow under his particular Command. But a wide Difference there was between him and the Troops which declared for him. They were all Alacrity, being proud of their Success in *Gaul*, and panted for Action: while he, anticipating his Imperial Fortune, was dissolved in Ease and Luxury, being commonly full and intoxicated by the

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the Middle of the Day. But the Ardour of the Soldiers did all. They called aloud for the March, and honoured him with the Name of GERMANICUS. That of CÆSAR he refused even after his Success. Meantime OTHO seemed to have bid Adieu to his usual Delicacy, acting like an Emperor. *Marius Celsus*, the Consul Elect, he had not only rescued from the Rage of the Soldiery, but now pardoned him, even while he avowed his Fidelity to GALBA, received him into the Number of his Friends, and made him one of his Generals. This was a popular Action. Nor was the Death of *Tigellinus* less so, whom he constrained to be his own Executioner. His Letters to VITELLIUS were couched in the most friendly Terms, offering Wealth and Favour, and whatsoever Spot himself should chuse for the safe and quiet Enjoyment of it. The same pretended Kindness was on both Sides carried on for a Time with like Dissimulation. But afterwards, like Persons in high Quarrel, they upbraided each other with their Vices and Debaucheries, and with equal Truth:

Amidst these Bickering, Advices came that the Legions of *Dalmatia*, *Pannonia*, and *Mæsia*, had sworn Allegiance to OTHO. The same was said of *Spain*; but it was quickly known to have gone over to VITELLIUS. *Aquitain*, tho' under the Ob-  
ligation:

ΟΤΗΟ.

ligation of an Oath, went off likewise. There was no where Fidelity or Affection; Fear and Necessity swayed all. These turned the *Narbonensian Gaul* to VITELLIUS. The distant and transmarine Provinces Eastward were all for ΟΤΗΟ. *Egypt* and all *Africa* professed the same Obedience.

Pl. XXI. 15.

On the Calends of *March* he assumed the Fasces, having his Brother *Titian* for his Colleague. And on this Occasion 'tis very probable, that the Medal in Bronze, which is here referred to, was struck; but by what *Greek* City is uncertain, the Legend being almost wholly effaced. The laureate Head is however distinguishable enough, as well as the Name Μ ΟΤΗΟ on his Neck, it being one of those few which were stamped a second Time, and one of the few which have a *Latin* Title on the Face, and a *Greek* Legend on the Reverse. On the Reverse are the usual Heads of the two Brothers *Castor* and *Pollux*, with their respective Stars, and the Article ΤΩΥ of the Legend is still visible, to which the Substantive Αδελφών was undoubtedly annexed. That Honour for the Months of *May* and *June* was destined (to soothe the *German* Army) for *Virginius* and *Poppæus Vopiscus*; for at this Time there were new Consuls every two Months. He now affected the Legislator, giving a new Body of Laws to *Cappadocia* and to *Africa*, more for Ostentation

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tation than Use. This, however, induced the Capitals of those Countries to honour him on their Coins. We have, therefore, from *Cæsarea* of the former, his Head plain, with the Inscription  $\text{ΚΑΛΥΣ ΟΘΩΝΟC ΚΑΙCΑΡΟC CΕΒΑCΤΟΥ}$ : on the Reverse, a rocky Mountain, with  $\text{ΚΑΙΣΑΡΕΑC}$ , and underneath  $\text{ET . . .}$  for the Year; which, perhaps, had no Letter after it, as it was the Beginning of a Reign: for this is not uncommon. This is the Coin in Bronze already spoken of, which was in the Queen of *Sweden's* Collection. *Chiflet*, the same Queen's Almoner, in Confirmation of the Genuineness of it, says, that the learned *Spanheim* had communicated to him the Copy of a Medal, struck in the Reign of **CLAUDIUS**, with the same Figure and Name; and that the abovesaid *Francis Gottifred* had produced others, of **TITUS**, **COMMODUS**, and **SEVERUS**, from the Queen's Cabinet, with the same Device. He tells of others also of the like Sort, struck in the Reigns of **ANTONINUS PIUS**, **CARACALLA** and **GETA**. The Inscription of that, which was struck at *Alexandria*, the Metropolis of the latter, is injured by Time; but the laureate Head, and  $\text{ΟΘΩΝΟC}$ , are very plain. The Reverse is a *Cano-*  
*pus*, the Body of which is the *Hydria* or Water-  
Vessel, with the veiled Head of *Isis* o' Top, crowned  
with the flowering Lotus: in the Area  $\text{Α}$ , for the

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Pl. XXI. I

Pl. XXI. 17

*first*

O. T. H. O.

*first Year.* The Detail of this extraordinary Deity, as my Author quotes it from *Rufinus*, is curious. The *Chaldæans*, says he, are reported to have carried the Fire, which they worshipped, into all Countries, insisting, that the God, who conquered all other Gods, was alone worthy of divine Regard: and it appeared, in the Competition with those of Gold, Silver, Brasses, and Earth, that this God was superior to, and consumed them all. This known, the Priest of *Canopus* set his Wits to Work. He took one of the *Hydriæ*, or Water-Vessels, perforated full of small Holes, which he afterwards closed up with Wax, and then painted the Outside of it very elegantly. This he filled with Water, and, having robbed an ancient Statue of its Head, fitted it very nicely to the Top of his Vessel. When the *Chaldæans* then came thither with their Fire, he produced the God that he had fashioned, around which when the Fire was kindled, the Wax melted, the Water issued from every Vent, and entirely quenched the Flames. From which Time this *Canopus* has been revered as a principal Deity by the *Egyptians*. But there was another struck at the same Place, with the Emperor's laureate Head, and ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΟΣ ΟΘΩΝΝΩΝ, having, on the Reverse, a female Head, representing the City, or the Genius of it, crowned with Towers, and

Pl. XXI. 18.

and with the Elephant's Tooth and Proboscis projecting from the Forehead: the Legend ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΕΑ; in the Area, L.

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 O T H O.

OTHO now replaced the Statues of POPPÆA by a Decree of the Senate. It was even proposed to restore those of NERO; and on a certain Occasion himself was saluted, both by the People and Soldiers, with the Acclamation of NERO OTHO, a Title which he was not averse to; as he had before, to his Patents and first Letters to some Governors of Provinces, annexed that Name.

As the Passages of the *Penine* and *Cottian* Alps were possessed by the Enemy, he resolved to open the War by an Attempt on the *Narbonensian* Province with his Fleet, which was strong and faithful. For the Marines, who had survived the Displeasure of GALBA, he had formed into a Legion, and had filled the rest with the Hope of a more honourable Service. To these he added the City Cohorts, and a Number of Prætorians. The Command of the Expedition was given to *Antonius Novellus*, *Suedius Clemens*, and *Æmilius Pacensis*. *Oseus*, his Freedman, was Admiral. The principal Officers of Horse and Foot were *Suetonius Paulinus*, *Marius Celsus*, and *Annius Gallus*. But his chief Confidence was in *Licinius Proculus*, his Captain of the Guards, a Soldier of no Experience,

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but

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but sly and insinuating. Many of the Magistrates, and a great Part of the Consulars, were ordered to attend his own Person, and amongst them *L. Vitellius*, the Brother of his Competitor. *Cæcina* had now passed the Alps. After, therefore, recommending to the Senate the Care of the Commonwealth, he began his March, leaving the Government of the City to his Brother. He had in his Army 2000 Gladiators. And now, as his first Scheme of attacking the Enemy in *Gaul* had miscarried, he sent forward *Asinius Gallus* and *Vestricius Spurinna* with these, added to five Prætorian Cohorts, the Cavalry, and the first Legion, to guard the Banks of the *Po*. With himself he kept some select Bodies of light Troops, and the rest of the Prætorian Cohorts, all the Veterans, and a vast Number of Marines. No Luxury attended him, but he marched on Foot before the Ensigns, armed with an Iron Breast-Plate, rough, unadorned, and unlike his Character. Fortune flattered him: the greater Part of *Italy*, as far as to the maritime *Alps*, being possessed by Means of his Fleet. But these were held by *Marius Maturus*, who, raising the Inhabitants, endeavoured to expel the *Othonians*, but was by them defeated. On Advice of this, *Fabius Valens* detached to the Assistance of the *Narbonensians*, two Cohorts of *Tungrians*, four Troops of

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of Cavalry, and the whole Strength of the *Tre-*  
*verians*, under the Command of *Julius Clafficus*.  
But these alfo were defeated, though no Ufe was  
made of this Succes, the Victors retiring to *Albi-*  
*gaunum* in *Liguria*: but the News of it kept  
*Corfica*, *Sardinia*, and the rest of the Islands,  
steady.

But *Cæcina* had now reached the *Po*, which he  
passed, and laid Siege to *Placentia*, which was de-  
fended by *Spurinna*, with about 3000 Soldiers. In  
the first Assault the noble Amphitheatre without  
the Walls was fet on Fire, but *Cæcina* was repulſed  
with great Slaughter; on which he repaſſed the  
*Po*, and marched for *Cremona*. *Annius Gallus* was  
then leading the first Legion to the Relief of *Pla-*  
*centia*, but, learning the Motions of the Enemy,  
halted at *Bedriacum*. About the ſame Time, *Mar-*  
*tius Macer*, at the Head of the 2000 Gladiators,  
defeated a large Body of the *Vitellian* Auxiliaries,  
and might have gained greater Advantages but for  
the mutinous Diſpoſition of the Troops, fomented  
chiefly by the Murderers of *GALBA*, who were con-  
tinually blaming their Officers, and who, by ſe-  
ditious Speeches and private Letters to *OTHO*,  
created much Confuſion. This filled him with  
Anxiety: for he, who mended in Adverſity, was  
ever wavering in Proſperity. He, therefore, ſent

O T H O.

for his Brother *Titian*, to whom he gave the chief Command.

Meanwhile *Cæcina*, much concerned to be thus foiled in his first Attempts, was eager to recover his Reputation before *Valens* should arrive and rob him of all the Glory. Twelve Miles from *Cremona*, he laid an Ambush of all his fiercest Auxiliaries, in the Woods adjoining to the Road, charging his Cavalry to march further on, and provoke the Enemy to Action: this done, they were to give Way, and draw them to the Snare. But this was discovered, and the *Othonian* Generals counteracted the Design to his exceeding Loss. And it was thought, had it not been for the over-cautious Behaviour of *Suetonius Paulinus*, his whole Army might have been destroyed. However, they were soon joined by the Forces under *Valens*, and both Leaders resolved upon a Battle as soon as possible. OTHO, his Brother *Titian*, and *Proculus* were likewise for an immediate Engagement, against the Advice of *Paulinus*, *Celsus*, and *Gallus*. It was determined also that OTHO should continue in Safety at *Brixellum*, which disheartened his Army, and kept from it a strong Body of Horse and Foot to attend him. His Defeat was the Consequence of these imprudent Counsels. Still his Affairs were not irretrievable. He had considerable Forces on the other Side

Side the *Po*: the Legions from *Moefia* were at Hand, having entered *Aquileia*, and a good Part of the Army had ftayed with him. Notwithftanding thefe Confiderations, he no fooner received certain Advice of this Event, than he determined to put an End to his own Life; a Refolution moft ftange and unexpected, from one of his luxurious and effeminate Difpofition. The Manner of his Death in feveral Circumftances reftembled that of CATO of *Utica*. He fpake comfortably to, fuiting his Speeches to the Age and Dignity of, thofe around him. With a placid Countenance, and a firm and unftaken Tone, he reftained their Tears; ordered Shipping and Carriages for them at their Departure; furnifhed them with Money, and recommended a timely Submiffion to the Victor. Then obferving *Salvius Cocceianus*, his Brother's Son, trembling, and in Tears, he endeavoured to confole him, by chiding his Fears while he commended his Piety:

“ that VITELLIUS, who would receive his whole  
“ Family in Safety, could not be fo cruel as to  
“ hurt him: that by thus haftily ridding him of  
“ a Competitor, he fhould merit his Clemency;  
“ for that his Death was not an Act of Defpair,  
“ fince he fhould embrace it even while his Army  
“ was eager for Battle: that he had gained enough  
“ of Reputation for himfelf, and Honour for his  
“ Pofterity.

O T H O.

“Posterity. Be of good Courage, therefore,” said he, “and regard your Health, nor ever forget, nor yet too much remember, that OTHO was your Uncle.” After this, dismissing every Body, he rested a little, but was disturbed by a sudden Tumult occasioned by the Consternation and Licentiousness of the Soldiery, who threatened Destruction to those that were going, and particularly to *Virginus*, whose House they had invested. Having checked the Authors of the Sedition, he returned, and waited patiently till his Friends had all departed in Safety. In the Evening he quenched his Thirst with a Draught of cold Water; and, two Daggers being brought to him, he tried their Points, and put one of them under his Pillow; when, being informed that his Friends were out of all Danger, he passed the Night quietly, and slept well. At Break of Day he stabbed himself, when his Freedmen and Slaves, with *Plotius Firmus*, his Captain of the Guards, entering, found only one Wound. His Funeral was hastened, as himself had directed, that his Head might not be cut off and exposed. Some of the Soldiers, from their Affection to him, slew themselves at the Pile, whose Example was followed by others at *Bedriacum*, and elsewhere.

Thus died OTHO, at the Age of thirty-seven Years, having reigned, according to *Dio*, ninety  
 10 Days;

Days ; but, according to *Suetonius*, ninety-five ; and left it a Question, Whether his Life had been more execrable, or his Death more honourable ? He was of the middle Stature, badly footed, and shambled in his Gait. Having little Hair, he wore false curled Locks, nicely fitted to his Head as they had been natural. This is apparent on his Coins. From the Time that the Down began to appear upon his Chin, his Custom was every Day to rub and smooth his Face, and clean it with moist Bread, that there might be no Appearance of Beard. This was but one Instance of his Effeminacy ; for he also officiated openly at the Rites of *Isis*, in a long linen religious Vesture : so that the Manner of his Death was much wondered at. But, however it might gain the Admiration ; or be palliated by the Historians, of those Times, in these it must be considered, like every other Exit of the Kind, as an Act of Despondence, and devoid of real Fortitude. And indeed this Opinion some Persons of Judgment entertained of it even in those Times. For we find *Mucianus*, the Governor of *Syria*, in his Speech to *VESPASIAN*, observing, that  
“ he fell not by the Generalship of the Leader  
“ employed against him, or by the Strength of the  
“ Army, but by his own too hasty Desperation.”

*Ne*

O T H O.

*Ne Othonem quidem ducis arte, aut exercitûs vi, sed præproperâ ipsius desperatione, victum.* Tacit. Hist. lib. ii. c. 76. I have hitherto met with no genuine Coin of this Emperor bearing the Title of P M *Pontifex Maximus.*



A U L U S



AULUS VITELLIUS.

**A.** VITELLIUS had filled up his Legions with VITELLI  
 fresh Musters in *Gaul*, and been joined by  
 eight Thousand Men from *Britain*, when, after a  
 few Days March, he was informed of the Suc-  
 cess of his Armies, and the Death of *OTHO*. At  
*Lions* he was met by the Generals both of the con-  
 quering and the conquered Forces. *Valens* and  
*Cæcina* were received with the greatest Honours.  
 The whole Army was ordered out to meet his Son,  
 then six Years old, whom he decorated with all the  
 Ensigns of his Imperial Fortune. In the next  
 Place, the most active Centurions of *OTHO*'s Party  
 were put to the Sword. This alienated the Affec-  
 VOL. II. E tion

VITELLIVS. tion of the *Illyrian* Armies. The other Legions also received the Contagion, looking on the *Germanians* with an envious Eye.

The Union of these Legions from *Upper* and *Lower Germany* was celebrated afterwards by several Coins in Bronze, shewing for the Reverse a legionary Soldier, holding up a Trophy in his left Hand, and a Victory in his right: the Legend CONSENSVS EXERCITVVM S. C. as was their subsequent Success by other Re-

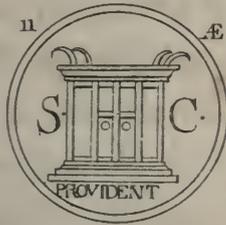
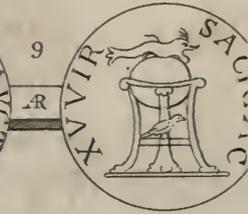
verses; one of which has a *winged Victory*, holding a Shield, inscribed with S. P. Q. R. *Senatus Populusque Romanus*: the Legend VICTORIA AVGVSTI, and in the Area S. C. Another has the Emperor, seated on a Globe, sustaining with his Spear a Trophy, on the Shield of which a *Victory alate* is inscribing his Triumph. The short Peace which en-

sued, is also commemorated by a female Figure, with a *Cornucopiæ* in her left Hand, and a *Caduceus* in her right, the Emblems of *Plenty* and *Felicity*, who is stiled PAX AVGVSTI; in the Area S. C.

Another has the Emperor in his military Habit, giving his Hand to a Senator, with the Legend also PAX AVGVSTI; in the Exergue S. C.

All this while the Luxury of VITELLIUS was most detestable. The great Men, and even the Cities, as he passed, were exhausted with the Costliness of his Entertainments. He wrote to the Senate,

nate,





## OF IMPERIAL ROME.

nate, that he deferred the Title of AUGUSTUS, nor would receive that of CÆSAR : so that the Medals of Gold, with his laureate Head, say only A VITELLIVS IMP GERMANICVS, shewing on the Reverse either the laureate Head of his Father, with the Ivory Sceptre before him, and the Eagle rising from it, according to the Poet :

*Da nunc et volucrem sceptro quæ surgit eburno.*      Juv.

Give now Rome's Eagle with expanded Wing,  
And from the Ivory Sceptre bid it spring.

And the Legend *Lucius VITELLIus* III CŌSul CENsor ; or the Symbol of *Liberty*, with the *Rudis* and *Cap*, as already described upon the Golden Medal of GALBA, with the Legend LIBERTAS RESTITVTA. But this Strain of Humility lasted not long, since we find, on the Reverse of the same Head and Inscription, the Bustos of his two Children, distinguished as the LIBERI IMPeratoris GERManici AVGuſti. We have two of his Denarii also, with his laureate Head, perfectly resembling this, but whereon that Title is assumed, together with the tribunitial Power, A VITELLIVS GERM IMP AVG TR P ; with his Father on the one Reverse, L VITELLIVS COS III CENSOR, and his Children on the other, with LIBERI IMP GERMAN. We have a very fine one in Bronze, of the

VITELLIVS. first Magnitude, struck in Honour of his Father, which has on one Side the Emperor's laureate Head, with the Inscription A VITELLIVS GERMAN IMP AVG PM TR P; and, on the Reverse, the Cenfor represented in the Discharge of his Office, several *Romans* appearing before him: the Legend L VITEL CENSOR II. His first Wife was PETRONIA, the Daughter of a Consular, by whom he had a Son, named PETRONIUS, blind of one Eye, and whom he was thought to have murdered. He next married GALERIA FUNDANA, whose Father was of Prætorian Quality. By her he had this Son and Daughter; the former being almost dumb with a strange Hesitation of Speech.

The early Manhood of VITELLIUS had been spent in the Isle of *Capreæ*, amidst the Debaucheries of TIBERIUS. Hence he was called *Spintria*, and was supposed to have earned the Preferments of his Father by the Prostitution of his own Body. The Rest of his Life was of a Piece with this, and he was in high Favour with CALIGULA, CLAUDIUS, and NERO, by whom he was loaded with civil and sacerdotal Honours. He had been sent into the *Lower Germany* by GALBA, as one that could do no Hurt; being wholly taken up with the Indulgence of his Palate.

On his Advancement the Astrologers were obliged,

ged, by an Edict, to quit *Italy* before the Calends of *October*. This was answered by an Order stuck up, commanding the Emperor to quit the World by the same limited Space of Time. The Death of *Dolabella*, now slain by his Command, procured him much Ill-Will, and was an unfavourable Specimen of his Government. At the same Time the Spirit of the conquered Legions gave him great Uneasiness. They were therefore dispersed and enfeebled through various Pretences. Next to this was his Fear of the Prætorians. But they, being first separated, then soothed with an honourable Discharge, brought their Arms to their Tribunes, till the War being rekindled by *VESPASIAN*, they proved the main Strength of the *Flavian* Party. Nor were his own Forces much less mutinous and refractory.

Being come to *Cremona*, he would needs glut his Eyes with a View of the Field of Battle, which was still a dreadful Spectacle, and offered Sacrifice to the Deities of the Place. The nearer he approached to the City, the more profligate was his March, by the Intermixture of Players, Eunuchs, and other Buffooneries of the Court of *NERO*, whom he admired, and had himself followed, while he sung, not from Necessity but his own luxurious and gluttonous Disposition; and to whom he afterwards

VITELLIVS.

wards offered inferial Sacrifices in a full Assembly of all the sacerdotial Colleges. This he seems to have done in virtue of his own Office, and by Way of Ostentation, as being one of the *Fifteen* who had the Charge of the Sybilline Oracles, and the Regulation of all sacrificial Affairs. Hence we have on a Silver Coin his laureate Head, with the Inscription A. VITELLIVS GERM IMP AVG TR P; and on the Reverse a Tripod, with a Globe and Dolphin on Top, and an Eagle underneath, importing his sacerdotial Honour, and universal Dominion: the Legend is XV VIR SACR FAC, *Quindecemvir Sacris Faciendis*.

Pl. XXII. 9.

It appears that he was careful to have the City duly supplied with Corn, by the Honours paid him on the Reverse of his Coins, in consequence of Senatorial Decrees; one of them having the Figure of the Goddess *Ceres*, seated, with a Torch in her left Hand, and Ears of Corn in her right, the Legend being CERES AVG, and in the Area S. C. Another exhibits an Altar, with the same Sanction in the Area; and in the Exergue PROVIDENTiæ. These are both in Bronze.

Pl. XXII. 10.

Pl. XXII. 11.

At his first Arrival his Mother, *SEXTILIA*, was declared *AUGUSTA*, and her Statue erected. We find her also on the Reverse of some of his Coins in Bronze, seated, with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand,

Hand, and a Branch of Laurel in the other. The same Inscription was, by a Decree of Senate, annexed to both, MATri AVGuſtæ or i, MATri SENatus, MATri PATRiæ: in the Exergue S C. Very extraordinary Honours; but which could not soothe her Griefs, as she foresaw, with Dread, the fatal Conſequences of his Ambition.

VITELLIVS  
Pl. XXII. 12

On the unlucky Day of *Allia*, he took upon him the *highest Pontificate*, settled the Elections for ten Years to come, and declared himself *perpetual Consul*. He had his set Meals three, and sometimes four, Times a Day, being accustomed to empty his Stomach for the Sake of eating more. At the Dedication of a large silver Dish, which he called the Shield of *Minerva*, he filled it with the Livers of Scares, the Brains of Pheasants and Peacocks, the Tongues of Flamingos, and the Milks of *Murænæ*, brought from *Spain* and *Parthia*. The Entertainment, which his Brother gave him, was remarkable; for it consisted of two Thousand Fishes, and seven Thousand Birds. He was cruel withal; for he contrived the Destruction of many of the Nobility, his own School-Fellows and Equals, by various Kinds of Fraud. To one of them, sick of a Fever, he, with his own Hand, gave Poison mixed with Water. Of his Creditors, he scarce spared any. One, whom he had ordered for Death, he

VITELLIVS.

recalled, and, while the Spectators were praising his Clemency, had him slaughtered on the Spot, saying, that " he wanted to feed his Eyes." When two Sons earnestly supplicated Mercy for their Father, he condemned all three. No wonder that his Reign was short. It is rather to be wondered, that such a Tyrant should meet with any Defenders. Yet was his *Equity* cried up by the flattering Senate, on one of his Reverses in Bronze, by a female Figure standing, with an armed Spear in the left Hand, and an even Balance in the right, distinguished as the AEQVITAS AVGVSTI, according to the Poet :

*Scis etenim justum geminâ suspendere lance  
Ancipitis libræ.*

Thou know'st with equal Hand to hold the Scale. DRYDEN.

But his Spies now arriving from *Syria* and *Judæa*, with Advices that the whole East submitted to his Authority, it is incredible how much his Haughtiness and Indolence increased upon him. For now, being freed from all Apprehensions, both himself and his Army bade adieu to all *Roman* Discipline. His Fears had arisen chiefly from that Quarter ; for VESPASIAN was much talked of, and he was moved at the Mention of his Name. It is therefore probable that at this Time his Coins, in Bronze, were

were struck, which are still extant, shewing a female Figure at rest, with her right Hand upon her Head, and before her a blazing Torch, and a Serpent rising from a Congius or Measure, with the Legend SECVRITAS P ROMANI; in the Area S. C.

VITELLIUS  
Pl. XXII. 14

But that cautious Commander was only weighing the Circumstances of Things around him. *Mucianus*, the Proconsul of *Syria*, was well disposed towards him, and more so towards his Son *TITUS Alexander*, who governed *Egypt*, was in the same Counsels. The third Legion, which had passed from *Syria* into *Mæsia*, he counted for his own, and had a good Hope of the other Legions of *Illyricum*; for the Arrogance of the *Vitellian* Soldiers had very much exasperated all the Armies. Confirmed at length by the Persuasions of *Mucianus*, and his Friends and Officers, he threw off his Disguise. The first Motion was made by *Tiberius Alexander*, in *Egypt*, who disposed the Legions there to take the Oath to *VESPASIAN*. This was done by his own Troops also, with inexpressible Ardour. Those at *Antioch* did the same, whom, as well as the *Syrians* in general, *Mucianus* had violently inflamed, by asserting, that *VITELLIUS* had determined to send the *German* Legions into *Syria*, and to order the *Syrian* Legions to winter in Ger-

VITELLIUS. *many.* All *Syria*, therefore, came readily into his Measures. So did *Sobemus*, *Antiochus*, and *Agrippa*. Nor was the young and beautiful Queen *Berenice* less agreeable through the Magnificence of her Presents. Thus *Asia*, *Achaia*, and the neighbouring Parts, professed Obedience to VESPASIAN. The Legions of *Cappadocia* were afterwards brought over. It was resolved, that *Mucianus* should march with a Part of the Forces against VITELLIUS. Letters were written to all the Armies, and the Prætorians invited from all Quarters to take Arms. *Mucianus*, with the light-armed Troops, marched on with moderate Speed, and was followed by the sixth Legion, and a Body of thirteen thousand Regulars.

This was no sooner known, than the Legions in *Mæsa* and *Illyricum* declared for VESPASIAN. Influenced by these, the two that were in *Pannonia*, with *Antonius Primus* at their Head, took the same Engagements, and were imitated by the Troops in *Dalmatia*. All the Forces, which had favoured OTHO, were strongly solicited to the same Service. The Design was, to draw so near on all Sides, as to be ready to enter *Italy* in the ensuing Spring. But the Activity of *Primus* disdained these dilatory Counsels. He advanced to *Aquileia*, gained Possession of several Cities, and defeated a Body of Horse and Foot belonging to the Enemy. Being then re-  
inforced

inforced by two Legions, he made himself Master of *Verona*, and so cut off their Communication with *Germany*. VITELLIUS

VITELLIUS, justly alarmed, gave Orders for his Troops to take the Field. New Musters were made, and every possible Encouragement given. But the *German* Army was no more the same. Luxury, and Debaucheries of every Kind, had sunk their Spirits, and enervated their Bodies. They were more disposed for Rapine and Sedition than for Discipline and Action. *Cæcina* too, their General, was thought to waver in his Fidelity. He had a Conference with *L. Bassus*, under whose Command were the two Fleets at *Misenum* and *Ravenna*, which soon after revolted. But when he declared his Intention of doing so likewise, he was imprisoned by his own Officers.

*Primus* had now been joined by three Legions more, and was prepared for a decisive Action. He attacked the Enemy's Cavalry near *Cremona*, and routed them, with two Legions which came to their Assistance. This brought on a general Engagement, which lasted all Night, and ended in the entire Defeat of the *Vitellians*. Their Camp was taken, themselves forced to a Surrender, and the unfortunate City of *Cremona* burned to the Ground.

Still VITELLIUS was absorbed in Luxury, and

VITELLIVS.

little moved with evil Tidings. The Defection of *Cæcina* rather gave him Satisfaction, as it discovered the Affection of his Troops. To the People and the Senate he cried up their Fidelity in the most lofty Terms. A Decree passed for the striking of Coins, which might record it to Posterity. These had for their Reverse two joined Hands, with FIDES EXERCITVVM S. C. But when he heard of their Defeat, instead of endeavouring to repair his Losses, his Study was to conceal them. His other General, *Valens*, who had been confined by Sicknefs, had now fallen into the Enemy's Hands, by whom he was afterwards put to Death; and his remaining Troops had unseasonably quitted the Passage of the *Apennine* Mountains. Yet, in the Midst of these Distresses, he assumed the Title of CAESAR, which he had hitherto rejected.

But, on the Captivity of *Valens*, most of the *Vitellian* Forces went over to the opposite Party. On the News of this, he made a public Offer of surrendering the Empire, in which he was prevented by the Violence of his *German* Guards, who drove *Sabinus*, the Brother of VESPASIAN, and Governor of *Rome* (with whom the Compact was actually made) while he endeavoured to enforce it, into the Capitol, and besieged him there. Yet not his Guards only, but all around him, seemed averse to this

this Agreement: so that when he would have delivered his Sword, as the Ensign of his Authority, to the Consul first, next to the Magistrates, and then to the several Senators present, they refused to receive it. On this he declared, that he would go and surrender it in the Temple of CONCORD. But when several of them cried out aloud, that their *Concord* was in him; that “himself was their CONCORD;” he returned, affirming, that he would then keep his Sword, together with the Surname of CONCORD, which they had given him. This was ratified by a Decree; for we have one of his Reverses with the Figure of this imaginary Goddess, seated, having a *Cornucopiæ* in her left Hand, and a *Patera* in the right, with an Altar blazing before her, and the Legend CONCORDIA AVGVSTI: in the Exergue S. C. At last the Capitol was taken by Assault, and that superb Structure reduced to Ashes. *Sabinus* was murdered by the Soldiers, and this little Success seemed to revive the Spirit of the Party. The Populace, in general, declared for him, and defeated *Petilius Cerealis*, who was marching to the Relief of the Capitol, at the Head of a thousand Horse. His Brother *Lucius* was successful also against the Marines in *Campania*. But *Primus*, advancing with his Forces to the City, was encountered under the very Walls. Having driven the

Pl. XXII.

VITELLIUS.

the Enemy within the Gates, the Battle was there renewed, and continued the whole Day. In the End, those who remained in Arms took Shelter in the Prætorian Camp, as their last Refuge, where they were with Difficulty forced, and put to the Sword. When VITELLIUS heard that the Enemy was at Hand, he left the Chair, in which he was then carried, and fled privately to his Father's House, attended only by his Baker and his Cook; but the next Day, on a light Report that a Peace was obtained, he returned to the Palace, when, finding it entirely deserted, he put on a Belt, stuffed with Gold Coins, and concealed himself in the Porter's Lodge, a Dog being chained before the Door, which he barred with the Bed and Bedstead. Here he was found, and hence he was dragged with Ignominy to the *Gemonian* Stairs, where he suffered a painful Death. His Head was then cut off, and exposed through the City, and his Body thrown into the *Tyber*.

VITELLIUS was of an enormous Size, with a Face made red by Intemperance, a fat Belly, and lame of one Thigh, having been hurt by a Chariot, while he waited on CALIGULA, as he was driving. He consumed seven Millions of our Money on his Belly in the Space of a few Months. And it is thought, that, had he reigned much longer, the

Revenues of the whole *Roman* Empire would have been insufficient for his Table. He perished, with his Brother and Son, in the fifty-seventh Year of his Age, after having reigned one Year, all but ten Days. We have no *Greek* Coins of this Emperor, but what were struck in *Egypt*, and they are rarer than those of *Otho*. *Vaillant* enumerates only four, which have for their Reverses a *Serapis*, an *Isis*, a *Canopus*, and a *Victory*.

VITELLIUS

T. FLAVIUS



## T. FLAVIUS VESPASIANUS.

VESPASIAN.

**V**ESPASIAN was now created Emperor by the Senate, and his Sons, TITUS and DOMITIAN, elected *Cæsars*. The eldest also entered upon the Consulate with his Father. Hence on the Denarius, which on one Side bears the Emperor's laureate Head, with IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG, we have for the Reverse the Heads of his two Sons, with TI CAESAR AVG F COS, *Titus Cæsar Augusti Filius*, for the one, and CAESAR AVG F, for the other. In the East he had encountered no Obstruction in his Way to Empire, except that which he met with from *Anicetus*, the Freedman of *Polemo*, the late King of *Pontus*. This Man

Pl. XXII. 16.

Mān, having got together a Fleet of light Ships, made himself Master of *Trapezund*, and cut in Pieces a Cohort there in Garrison. Against him VESPASIAN detached *Viridius Geminus*, a Commander of approved Valour, who, building some *Liburnian* Vessels, defeated him in the Mouth of the River *Chobus*, while he imagined himself secure under the Protection of *Sedochus*, the King of *Lazi*. This Victory, according to *Tacitus*, gave great Joy to VESPASIAN. It is celebrated on a Medal in Bronze, by a *Victory alate*, standing on the Prow of a Ship, having a Wreath of Laurel held out in her right Hand, and a Palm Branch in the left, with the Legend VICTORIA NAVALIS; in the Area S. C.

VESPASIAN

Pl. XXII. 17

At this Time both VESPASIAN and TITUS were at a Distance from *Rome*; for the former had committed to the latter the Care of the *Jewish* War, and was himself at *Alexandria* in *Egypt*, where he much exasperated the People by the heavy Taxes imposed upon them. Mean while *Mucianus* governed all in *Italy*, and ratified his Orders with the Seal of VESPASIAN, sent to him for that Purpose. His principal Care was to fill the Treasury; for Money, he said, was the Nerves of Government, which he advised VESPASIAN (and his Advice was not lost) to procure by all Means. The Senate considered him rather as a Joint-Emperor

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than

VESPASIAN.

than a Subject; and when the Honour of the Consulship was disposed of, as is said above, they conferred on DOMITIAN the Prætorship, and Consular Authority; on *Mucianus* triumphal Ornaments, on Pretence of an Expedition against the *Sarmatians*. For a Triumph over Citizens was not allowed. Even when *the Dictator* triumphed for his Success in *Africa*, his Victory over *Juba* was the Pretext. *Antonius Primus* was rewarded with Consular Honours, and *Cornelius Fuscus*, and *Arrius Varus*, with Prætorian, for their signal Services.

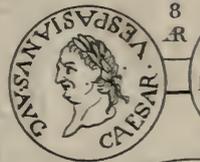
Some Rebellions happened now in *Gaul* and *Germany*, which are described at large by *Tacitus*, and which were quelled at length, not without much Difficulty and Bloodshed, by *Cerealis*. One of them was attended with extraordinary Circumstances. *Julius Sabinus*, Prince of the *Lingones*, who claimed his Descent from the Dictator, took upon him the Title of CÆSAR, and raised a considerable Army. Being defeated, he retired into the Country, and concealed himself and his Wife in a subterraneous Sepulchre for nine Years together, having two Children born to him in that Time.

Young DOMITIAN, having been guilty of many arbitrary Proceedings, kept himself at *Albano* through Fear of his Father. He had fallen in Love with DOMITIA, the Daughter of CORBULO, whom he took from her Husband, and kept as one of his  
Mistresses,

Mistresses, though he afterwards married her. But VESPASIAN  
 VESPASIAN, arriving at *Brundisium*, was there met  
 by *Mucianus*, and the principal Nobility; as he was  
 at *Beneventum* by DOMITIAN, whose Reception was  
 little agreeable to the Haughtiness of his Dispo-  
 sition. When he came near to *Rome*, he was at-  
 tended by the whole City, in a Manner, and with  
 the loudest Acclamations. He repaid this Wel-  
 come by an uniform Behaviour, full of Sweetness  
 and Affability. He resided rarely in the Palace,  
 being fond of the *Sallustian* Gardens; and the  
 Gates of the royal Apartments were all Day open  
 and unguarded. He was constant in his Atten-  
 dance on the Senate, and communicated all Things  
 with the Fathers. In what concerned the Com-  
 monwealth he acted like an Emperor; in all Things  
 else as a private Person.

On the Commencement of the new Year he be-  
 came Consul for the third Time. The Medals  
 now struck in Honour of him are numerous.  
 Those in Gold have, some, his laureate Head, with PI. XXII. 1  
 IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG TR P.; and  
 on the Reverse, *Returning Fortune*, with COS III  
 FORT RED, *Fortuna Redux*. This Deity lays  
 hold on the Prow of the Ship which brought him,  
 with her right Hand, and has a *Cornucopiæ* in her  
 left. For he was quite in Disgrace under NERO,  
 G 2 whom

- VESPASIAN. whom he had grievously offended, sometimes by sleeping, at others by leaving the Place, while he fung; so that he was altogether obscure, when called upon to command against the *Jews*. Other
- Pl. XXII. 19. Reverse, of the same Head and Title, have the Temple of VESTA, which he either repaired or adorned: and others, a *Victory alate*, treading on a Globe, and protending a Wreath of Laurel from her right Hand, while her left sustains a Branch of Palm: in the Area VIC AVG, for *Victoria Augusti*. Others, of the same Metal, have his laureate Head, surrounded by a larger Inscription, IMP CAESAR VESPAS AVG COS III TR P P P, *Imperator Cæsar Vespasianus Augustus Consul Tertio Tribunitiâ Potestate Pater Patriæ*; and on the Reverse the Head of his Wife, with the Legend DIVA DOMITILLA AVG. For he had married FLAVIA DOMITILLA, the Daughter of *Statilius Capella*, an Equestrian, by whom he had TITUS, DOMITIAN, and DOMITILLA, and who died, as did the Daughter, while he was yet a private Person. But it appears by these Medals, and the Deification recorded on them (though unnoticed by *Tacitus*, *Suetonius*, and *Dio*) that her Memory was very dear to him.
- Pl. XXIII. 3. *Patin* gives us a *Greek Coin* in Bronze, inscribed ΦΛΑΟΥΙΑ ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑΛΛΑ, *Flavia Domitilla*, with an Horse, on full Speed, for the Reverse, and on the
- Back





Back of it a Serpent, raised and hissing, with his Sting exerted, and underneath L. S. for the *sixth Year*: by which Figures he supposes the Brevity of her Life to be signified, the Horse being the Symbol of Celerity, as the Serpent is of the Year revolving into itself; or rather, as it is so figured, the Emblem of Death. But after all, whether it relates to this Lady or not, is uncertain. But her *Denarius* we are sure of, since it bears her Head, with *DIVA DOMITILLA AVGVSTA*; and has on the Reverse a *Fortune*, with a *Cornucopiæ* in her left Hand, and the *Helm* in her right: the Legend *FORTVNA AVGVST*. At this Time the Emperor's two Sons were dignified with the Title of *Princes of the Roman Youth*, since they are represented on Horseback as such on the Reverse of one of his Coins in Bronze, the Legend of which is *Titus ET DOMITIANUS CAESARES PRINCIPES IVVENTUTIS*. On the Reverse of another, they are placed by the Emperor under the protecting Hands of his guardian Genius, who brings forward the eldest with the right, while the youngest is shielded under the left Arm: the Legend is *TVTELA AVGVSTI*. There is a remarkable Passage in *Suetonius*, where, speaking of the Omens which foreboded the Empire to *VESPASIAN*, he says, "There were not wanting Persons who interpreted these

VESPASIA

Pl. XXIII.

Pl. XXIII.

Pl. XXIII.

## THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

ESPASIAN. “ these Things as if the Commonwealth would  
 “ one Day come, *in TVTELAM ejus*, under the  
 “ Care of his guardian Genius.” Another, in  
 St. *Jerome*, will illustrate this, “ Under this Error,  
 “ and most evil Custom (of Idolatry) the Cities of  
 “ many Provinces labour, and *Rome* itself, the Mis-  
 “ trefs of the World, in her several Courts and  
 “ Palaces, venerating the Image of TVTELA  
 “ with waxen Tapers and Lights, whom they call  
 “ by that Name, with respect to the Guardianship  
 “ and Protection expected.” With this Title the  
 lyric Poet addressës AUGUSTUS.

————— O Tutela *præsens*  
*Italia dominaeque Romæ!* HOR.

Dread Guardian of th' Imperial State,  
 Whose Godhead rules thy Country's Fate! FRANCIS.

pl. XXIII. 7. A Medal in Bronze, of the first Magnitude, with  
 the Emperor's laureate Head, and his Titles at  
 large, IMP. CAES. VESPASIAN AVG PM TR  
 P P P COS III, has also the two *Cæsars* on the Re-  
 verse, with their Designation to the Fasces. Each  
 has the *Hasta pura* in his right Hand; and the  
 eldest of the two, which is the larger and manlier  
 Figure, is stiled *Imperator*; so that it was struck  
 after the Conclusion of the *Jewish* War. The Le-  
 gend behind DOMITIAN is CAES AVG F DES,  
*Cæsar*

*Cæsar Augusti Filius Designatus*; and that behind VESPASIAN TITUS, which is continued in the Exergue, is IMP AVG F COS DESIT, *Imperator Augusti Filius Consul Designatus iterum*. For the latter returned this Year from the Destruction of *Jerusalem*. It was the ancient and constant Opinion of the East, that the Ruler of the World was to come from *Judea*. The *Jews*, with Reason, taking this Prediction to belong to themselves, had rushed precipitately into that Rebellion, which ended in the Excision of their Capital, and the Dispersion of those who survived the general Slaughter. The Adulation of *Josephus*, however, applied it to VESPASIAN, which procured him Liberty and Favour. A Triumph on this Occasion was decreed both to the Father and the Son; and the former, as well as the latter, was saluted *Imperator* for the nineteenth Time, as is evident from the *Denarius* before us, bearing his laureate Head, with CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. and on the Reverse the Legend IMP XIX. And it is further evident, from the Measure between the Letters and the Figures, and the Ears of Wheat springing from it, that a Congiary of Corn was distributed to the People on the same Occasion. Magnificent Arches were erected to both, and the Triumph was most pompous. Tired with the Tedioufness of it, he could

PL. XXIII.

O I

not

VESPASIAN. not help saying, that he was deservedly punished, for desiring at his Years a Triumph, neither due to his Family, nor hoped for by himself. It is celebrated on the Reverse of many of his Coins, by the Figure of a Woman, representing *Judea*, seated on an Heap of Arms, at the Foot of a Palm-Tree, with her Veil hanging loose behind, and leaning her Head upon her left Hand, in a Posture denoting Sorrow and Captivity. The Legend of all but one is

Pl. XXIII. 9, 10, 11, 12. IVDEA CAPTA. This naturally reminds one of that Passage of the Psalmist, *By the Waters of Babylon we sate down and wept, when we remembered thee, O Sion.* “But what is more remarkable,” says Mr. Addison, “we find *Judea* represented as a “Woman in Sorrow, sitting upon the Ground, in “a Passage of the Prophet that foretells the very “Captivity recorded on these Medals.” But the Legend of that one is very particular, as it is an Address of this captive Daughter of *Jerusalem* to her Conqueror, VICISTI CAESAR. Such Addresses, however, are not so uncommon on Coins, as to impeach the Genuineness of them, since we shall find another of the same Kind in the Course of this Reign. And with respect to this before us, *Patin* has pronounced it most unquestionably genuine. But another Reverse has the same melancholy Figure, with the Addition of a Shield fixed to the Palm-

Palm-Tree, and a *winged Victory* inscribing the Action thereon; and here the Legend is VICTORIA AVGVSTI. The last-mentioned Author remarks, on the Coin before us, that we find this Way of registering a Victory touched upon in *Virgil*:

*Ære cavo clypeum, magni gestamen Abantis  
Postibus adversis figo, et rem carmine signo;  
“ Æneas hæc de Danais victoribus armâ.”* Æn. lib. iii.

I fix'd upon the Temple's lofty Door  
The brazen Shield which vanquish'd *Abas* bore:  
The Verse beneath my Name and Actions speaks,  
“ These Arms *Æneas* took from conqu'ring *Greeks*.”

DRYDEN.

The Heaps of Arms on which the Woman sits, in the Coins above, denote that they were become useless, or that a Peace was the Consequence of this Success. In the fourth is the Figure of a Man, with his Hands bound behind him, which seems intended to represent the Captivity of *Simon*, the *Jewish* Chief, whom *Dio* calls *Barphoras*, and *Tacitus* confounds with *John* of *Giscale*, by misapplying to this latter the Name of *Bargioras*, who was led in Triumph and put to Death on the same Day. Another Medal of Gold, but struck the following Year, records the same Success and Triumph, having the Emperor's laureate Head, with IMP CAES VESPAS AVG PM TR P IIII PP COS IIII; and on the Reverse a Trophy, with the

PI. XXIII.

## THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

VESPASIAN. Legend DE IVDAEIS. But another Reverse of  
 Pl. XXIII. 16. the Emperor shews the Deity of War, with a  
 Casque or Helmet on his Head, a Spear in his right  
 Hand, and holding a Trophy in his left, called in  
 the Legend MARS VICTOR. This last Medal is  
 in Bronze; and all of them bear the Sanction of  
 the Senate.

The Senate decreed to VESPASIAN all the usual  
 Honours, full of Joy and full of Hope, as an End  
 now seemed to be put to Wars of every Sort; *Gaul,*  
*Spain, Germany, Illyricum, Egypt, Judea, Syria,* and  
 all the Provinces, enjoying profound Quiet, as if  
 the World throughout was pacified. This State of  
 Pl. XXIII. 17. Things is recognized on one of his *Denarii*, con-  
 taining his laureate Head, and the maimed Inscrip-  
 tion IMP CAESAR VESP..... P; and having  
 on the Reverse the Bust of PEACE, inscribed in  
 the Legend PACI ORBIS TERR AVG. The  
 Reader will endeavour to make out the EPH, for  
 which we are at a Loss; unless, perchance, it be  
 an Intimation that it was struck E PECVNIA  
 HOSTICA, from Money taken from the Enemy.  
 Pl. XXIII. 18. But there is a very fine Medal in Bronze, with his  
 laureate Head, and a full Inscription, IMP CAE-  
 SAR VESPASIANVS AVG PM TP PP COS III;  
 of the Reverse of which Mr. *Addison* has taken  
 particular Notice. “ Here (says he) you see the  
 “ Peace

OF IMPERIAL ROME.

5

“ Peace which VESPASIAN procured the Empire,  
 “ after having happily finished all its Wars, both  
 “ at home and abroad. The Woman with the  
 “ Olive-Branch in her Hand is the Figure of  
 “ PEACE.

VESPASIA

*Pignorâ Pacis*

*Prætendens dextrâ ramum canentis Olivæ.* SIL. IT. lib. iii.

In her Left Hand she holds  
 The Olive-Branch, the candid Pledge of Peace.

“ With the other Hand she thrusts a lighted Torch  
 “ under an Heap of Armour that lies by an Altar.  
 “ This alludes to a Custom among the ancient  
 “ *Romans*, of gathering up the Armour that lay  
 “ scattered on the Field of Battle, and burning it  
 “ as an Offering to one of their Deities (*Mars*).  
 “ It is to this Custom that *Virgil* refers, and which  
 “ *Silius Italicus* has described at large.

*Qualis eram cum primam aciem Præneſte ſub ipſâ*  
*Stravi, ſcutorumque incendi victor acervos.* VIRG. ÆN. lib. viii.

Such as I was beneath *Præneſte's* Walls ;  
 Then when I made the foremost Foes retire,  
 And ſet whole Heaps of conquer'd Shields on fire. DRYDEN.

*Aſt tibi, Bellipotens, Sacrum, conſtructus acervo*  
*Ingenti mons armorum conſurgit ad aſtra :*  
*Ipſe manu celſam pinum, flammâque comantem*  
*Attollens, ductor Gradivum in vota ciebat.* SIL. IT. lib. x.

## THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

ESPASIAN.

- " To Thee the Warrior-God, aloft in Air  
 " A Mountain-Pile of *Roman* Arms they rear :  
 " The Gen'ral, grasping in his Victor-Hand  
 " A Pine of stately Growth, he wav'd the Brand,  
 " And cry'd, O *Mars*, to Thee devote I yield  
 " These choice First-fruits of Honour's purple Field."

With respect to the *standing Column*, " It was  
 " from this Pillar that the Spear was tossed at the  
 " Opening of a War, for which Reason the little  
 " Figure on the Top of it holds a Spear in its  
 " Hand, and *Peace* turns her Back upon it."

*Prospicit a templo summum brevis area Circum :*

*Est ibi non parvæ parva columna notæ :*

*Hinc solet hasta manu, belli Prænuincia, mitti ;*

*In regem et gentes cum placet arma capi.*

OID.

- " Where the high Fame the ample Cirque commands,  
 " A little, but a noted Pillar stands ;  
 " From hence, when *Rome* the distant Kings defies,  
 " In Form the War-denouncing Jav'lin flies."

In the Exergue, S C. On the same Occasion was  
 the Medal struck, which we have given as a Fron-  
 tispiece to this Reign, which is in Bronze, and of  
 the first Magnitude ; the Reverse of which exhibits  
 a military Figure symbolical of *Rome*, having an  
 Helmet on his Head, the *Hasta pura* in his left  
 Hand, and in his right a *Victory*, with a Palm-  
 Branch and Laurel-Wreath ; the Legend ROMA,  
 and in the Area, S C.

Notwithstanding

Notwithstanding the heavy Load of Imposts under which the People laboured, the Senate were pleased to compliment the Emperor on the PUBLIC CREDIT, by decreeing a Reverse to one of his Coins, with a female Figure, having a *Cornucopiæ* in one Hand, and the Lap gathered; while the other Hand is extended, and the Palm open, to express the Frankness of TRUST, and the Plenty produced by it. The Legend names her FIDES PVBLICA. This might be owing to his Non-Infringement hitherto of the Acts of his Predecessors, or it might be done in order to recommend to him the Establishment of what they now imputed. For we read not of any particular Provision made for this End; a Blessing which seems to have been reserved for the Government of his Son TITUS. Yet it is probable that the Decree was grounded on some Profession or Declaration to this Purpose.

But before the Arrival of TITUS at *Rome*, very injurious Reports had been spread of him, as intending to set up for himself in the East. These seem to have been owing to the Progress which he made through those Countries, after the Destruction of *Jerusalem*. At *Antioch* he had been received with the highest Honours, and, when he came to the *Euphrates*, was addressed by Ambassadors from *Vologeses*, the *Parthian* Monarch, who presented.

VESPASIAN. presented to him a Crown of Gold. On his Return he passed into *Egypt*, visiting *Alexandria* with much Pomp; and at *Memphis* assisted at the Consecration of the *Apis*, with a Diadem on his Head; and tho' this was according to the ancient Rite of that Religion, there were not wanting those who gave it a perverse Interpretation. I have no doubt but that the Silver Medallion before us bears Relation to this Transaction, as it represents him so adorned. The Inscription IMP T CAES F VESP AVG P M I R CS III.; which may be read *Imperator Titus Filius Vespasiani Augusti Pontificis Maximi Imperii Romani Consulis Tertio*. On the Reverse is a Figure seated, with his Helmet on, and resting his Shield upon his Knee; while another Person, standing by his Horse, holds his Finger towards his Mouth, intimating somewhat mysterious: in the Exergue, S C. This, added to the extraordinary Attachment of the Soldiery, encouraged the Rumour; on which Account he made what Haste he could to the Embraces of his Father, crying out, "I am come, Father, I am come;" and, to evidence his Duty and Fidelity, as well as their perfect Agreement, other Coins were struck in Silver, with his laureate Head, and IMPERATOR T CAESAR AVGVSTI F; having on the Reverse a CONCORD seated, with a *Cornucopiæ* in the left Hand,

Pl. XXIII. 20.

Pl. XXIV. 1.





Hand, and a Bunch of Poppies in the right, the Emblem of Placidity and Quiet, intitled CONCORDIA AVG. From this Time TITUS became a Partner in the Tribunitial Power, and Joint-Censor with his Father.

All this while the Capitol was rebuilding with extraordinary Magnificence, the Care of which the Emperor had committed to *L. Vestinus*. It was raised upon the old Foundations, with some Addition of Height, and makes the Reverse of one of his Medals in Bronze; whereon we see the Figure of the Temple, and the Deities (*Jupiter, Juno, and Minerva*) inclosed; and in the Exergue, S C. In his sixth Consulate the Temple of PEACE was dedicated, in which the Spoils taken from the Temple of *Jerusalem* were laid up. The Plan of this also forms the Reverse of one of his Medals, having in the Area S C. He finished also the Temple of DIVVS CLAVDIVS, begun by AGRIPPINA; raised an Amphitheatre in the Middle of the City, laid out a Forum, and was the Author of many other public Works.

Pl. XXIV. 2

Pl. XXIV. 3

*Berenice* now came to *Rome* with her Brother *Agrippa*. On the latter, Prætorian Honours were conferred. The former was received into the Palace, and became the Favourite of TITUS. She hoped to become his Wife, and acted as such.

3

But

VESPASIAN.

But when he found that this Connection rendered him unpopular, he parted with her, though much against the Will of both. At this Time *Julius Sabinus*, already spoken of, was discovered and brought to *Rome*. With him suffered his Wife, called differently by the Historians, *Peponilla*, *Epponina*, and *Empona*, though she produced her two Sons to move Compassion. “These (said she to the Emperor) I brought forth in a Sepulchre, that we might be the more Suppliants.” Her Speech extorted Tears, but not Mercy. The famous *Julius Agricola* was now made Governor of *Britain*.

In the ninth Consulship of VESPASIAN, we find his two Sons *designed* jointly to succeed to that Honour. This appears from one of his Reverses, whereon their Busts face each other, with the Legend IMP T VES COS..... and D. CAESAR. AVG. F. COS. DESIG.

*Alienus Cæcina*, whose Exploits, and subsequent Defection from VITELLIUS, have been already spoken of, now cancelled the Merit of the last Service, by entering into a Conspiracy with *Eprius Marcellus*, against the Life of VESPASIAN; though both had been distinguished by him with many Honours. The former had engaged a large Number of Soldiers, but was slain in the Palace by the Command

Command of Titus, as he rose from an Entertainment there. The latter was condemned, and cut his own Throat. Thus the Emperor escaped the Snares of ungrateful Men, but was soon after carried off by a Fever. When reproved in his Sickness, by the Physicians, for living after his usual Manner, and fatiguing himself with the Cares of State, he answered, that "it became an Emperor "to die standing." When People talked of a Comet which appeared then, he said, that "it "did not portend Death to him, but to the King "of *Parthia*, who wore his Hair, for that himself "was bald." When he found his Disease mortal, "Methinks (said he) I am going to be a God," alluding to the *Roman* Custom of deifying their Emperors. Thus was he full of Jest and Pleasantry to the last. He was in his seventieth Year when he died, having reigned ten Years wanting six Days. His Consecration-Medal represents him drawn by four Elephants, with a Spear in his right Hand, and a *Victory*, holding out a Wreath, in his left: in the Area DIVO AVGVSTO VESPAS; and in the Exergue S. P. Q. R. A small one of Gold, with his laureate Head, and the Inscription IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG, has for the Reverse a Priest, veiled, in the Act of offering, with an Altar before him: the Legend AETER-

Pl. XXIV. 5

Pl. XXIV. 6

VESPASIAN.

He was a square-set Figure, with Limbs compact and strong, and his Countenance like that of one in the Act of straining. He had good Health, and, to preserve it, used Friction to a stated Quantity, and fasted one Day in every Month. *Suetonius* says, that the only Thing justly blameable in him was his Avarice. Yet he appears not to have hoarded Wealth for himself, but for public Uses. For he was liberal to all Sorts of People. He allowed yearly Salaries to the poorer Consulars, and restored many Cities, throughout all the Provinces, which had suffered by Earthquakes and Fire. Of the Imperial City he was particularly regardful, having restored many of its noblest Edifices, and added others. There are ancient Inscriptions yet extant which testify his Liberality in the Reparation of Temples, Aquæducts, and Highways. Where Houses had been burned, or run to Ruin, he obliged the Owners to rebuild them, or allowed that Liberty to others, insomuch that the City began to wear a new Face. And these Improvements were judged by the Senate worthy to be recorded on his

Pl. XXIV. 7. Medals. For there is one before us, on which he is raising the suppliant City from the Ground; a military Person (probably his Son *TITUS*) assisting, with the Legend *ROMA RESVRGES*: though this may also refer to the Condition of the State in general;

general, rent and distressed as it had been by Civil Wars, till relieved by his Accession. As a Commander, he perfectly understood his Duty. His Donative to the Soldiers was no larger than in Times of Peace; and he was a strict Disciplinarian. When a spruce young Man, scented with Perfumes, came to return him Thanks for his Preferment, "I had rather," said he, "that you had smelled of Garlic," and revoked his Grant. As a Man, his Civility, Clemency, and Placability, were remarkable. He splendidly endowed the Daughter of VITELLIUS, and gave her most honourably in Marriage. When in NERO'S Time he lamented himself to the Officer, who was sent to forbid him the Palace, saying, "What shall I do? and whither shall I go?"—the other, in a surly Tone, replied, "To the Gallows."—This Man waited upon him, when Emperor, to intreat his Pardon; when all the Answer that he gave him was, "Go, be gone—to the Gallows."—When he was advised to beware of *Metius Pomposianus*, supposed to be of the Imperial Family, he not only did not hurt him, but made him Consul; saying, that "he would answer for his Gratitude." No innocent Person suffered with his Knowledge. *Helvidius Priscus*, who would salute him only as a private Person, and who, during his Prætorship,

VESPASIAN. would not acknowledge him in his Edicts, though first banished, and afterwards doomed to Death, he would have saved at any Rate, and had saved him, had he not been misinformed that he was already dead. Nay, he has been known to shed Tears and utter Groans at the Execution of a just Sentence. But he was not without Superstition, being so positively confident of his own Horoscope, that he affirmed to the Senate, that "nobody but his own Sons could succeed him;" and it should seem that he was born under *Capricorn*, as well as

Pl. XXIV. 8, 9. AUGUSTUS, having the same Figure on the Reverse of two of his Silver Coins, which are here exhibited, the one struck in the fourth Year of his Reign, the other after his Death. As an Emperor, he was the Patron of Learning and Arts, and the first who granted annual Stipends to the *Greek* and *Latin* Orators. He made a compleat Collection of all Decrees, both of the Senate and People, and of all Treaties, Leagues, and Privileges, from the Building of the City. He appointed Commissioners for the Restitution of what Individuals had lost by Plunder in the Civil Wars. He bore very placidly the Freedom of his Friends, the oblique Reflections of the Lawyers, and the contumacious Spirit of the Philosophers. When *Salvius Liberalis*, in his Defence of a rich Client, ventured to say, "What

is

5

" is

“ is it to CÆSAR, if *Hipparchus* be worth a thousand  
 “ Great Sesterces?” himself commended the Ex-  
 pression; and in the Senate made it his Business to  
 encourage, as much as possible, all Freedom of  
 Speech. And to this liberal Disposition I conceive  
 that we owe one of his Coins, the Reverse of which  
 represents a Senator in the Act of speaking freely,  
 without any Legend, except what marks it struck  
 by a Decree of that illustrious Body. *Suetonius*  
 says, that he did not receive, *till late*, the TRIBU-  
 NITIAL POWER, and the Appellation of PATER PA-  
 TRIÆ; which Assertion appears to be manifestly  
 false, by the many Coins which we have produced,  
 struck in his third Consulate, which was but the  
 second Year of his Reign, on which both these  
 Titles are constantly inscribed.

VESPASIAN

Pl. XXIV. 10

There are many *Greek* Coins of him in the Cabi-  
 nets of the Curious. *Vaillant* has described nine-  
 and-twenty; some of which are before us. The  
 first, though from a *Greek* City, bears the *Latin*  
 Name of ANTIOCHIA, because struck there by the  
*Romans*, under *Mucianus*, while the Emperor was  
 yet in *Asia*, and has the Genius of the City, which  
 was the third in the whole Empire, crowned with  
 Turrets. The second, struck by the Community  
 of the Island of *Cyprus*, has the Temple of the  
*Paphian Venus*, described under the Reign of  
 TIBERIUS,

Pl. XXIV. 11

Pl. XXIV. 13

VESPASIAN. TIBERIUS, with KOINON KΥΠΡΙΩΝ ΕΤΟΥΣ Η, *The Community of the Cypriots, in the eighth Year.* A third, struck by the *Thessalonians*, has an Eagle with a Palm-Branch, and under it the Name ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΕΩΝ, inclosed in a Wreath of Olive. The fourth is obliterated in Part, but has the Emperor's laureate Head, with AVΤΟΚΡΑΤ ΚΑΙΣΑ ΟΥΕΣΠΙΑΣ..... *Imperator Cæsar Vespasianus* ..... and on the Reverse an Eagle, with a Palm-Branch before him, and the Legend ΕΤΟΥΣ Β ΝΕ ΙΕΡΟΥ, *In the second Year of the New Temple*, meaning the *Capitol*. The next was struck at *Nicomedia*, the Capital of *Bithynia*, which Province was at that Time, as appears from other Coins, under the Government of *Marcus Plancius Varus*. It has the laureate Head of VESPASIAN, and is inscribed ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΙ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΙ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΩ ΟΥΕΣΠΙΑΣΙΑΝΩ ΝΕΙΚ, *Imperatorii Cæsari Augusto Vespasiano Nicomedienses*. But it requires a Sphynx to unriddle the Reverse, which is a Tiger resting his Fore-Paws upon an Urn: the Legend says ΕΠΙ ΜΑΡΚΟΥ ΠΛΑΝΚΙΟΥ ΟΥΑΡΟΥ, *Sub Marco Plancio Varo*. Whether it has any Relation to the Reverse before us, which exhibits a raised Urn, between two Olive Branches, which was struck EX S. C. let the curious Reader judge.

TITUS



## TITUS FLAVIUS VESPASIANUS:

**T**O TITUS, before the Death of his Father, Cruelty and Haughtiness had been imputed, nor were his Hands free from Corruption. Yet his Reign, from the Time that he became sole Master of the *Roman* Empire, was without Blemish. Pity! that it proved so short, comprehending only two Years two Months and twenty Days! It is said, that neither AUGUSTUS, if he had died sooner, nor TITUS, if he had lived longer, had possessed the mighty Reputation, which the World allows to both: since the former, constrained by the Number, and the Plots, of his Enemies, had been very severe at first, and afterwards living long, the Multitude

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 TITUS.

TITUS.

titude of his Benefits had effaced the Remembrance of his Cruelty: and TITUS could not for any Length of Time have maintained his Empire by such Mildness and Innocence. But most unhappy is the State of Princes, if it cannot be supported by the strictest Virtue!

Most of the Coins that we have of this Emperor were struck in the Life-time of his Father, whose Power he shared, and with whom he was seven Times Consul. On these he bears the Title of PONTIFEX, but not of P M or *Pontifex Maximus*. Three of them have Reverses of the *Judæa capta*, figured nearly as on those of VESPASIAN. There

Pl. XXIV. 16,

17.

are two other *Greek* ones in Bronze; the one with a *Victory alate*, inscribing his Triumph on a Shield, fixed against a Palm-Tree, and resting the left Foot upon a Globe; the other with a Trophy, and a Captive bound at the Foot of it. The Legend of both is ΙΟΥΔΑΙΑΣ ΕΛΛΟΚΥΙΑΣ, i. e. *Judæa*

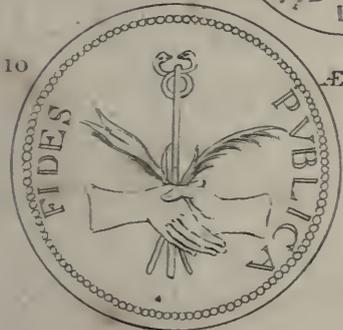
Pl. XXIV. 18.

*capta*. His *Denarius* bears his laureate Head, with TIT CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. and the Reverse, the Figure of a lamenting Female veiled, and sitting on the Ground, with a Trophy raised behind her; in the Exergue, IVDAEA. Another

Pl. XXIV. 19.

Reverse crowns him with a Diadem; his left Hand holds the *Hasta pura*, his right a *winged Victory* with a Wreath, and his right Foot treads on the

Prow





Prow of a Ship; before him is a Palm-Tree and two Captives suppliant: the Legend defaced is IVDAEA; and in the Exergue, S C. His Medal in Gold, with his laureate Head, says, T CAES IMP VESP PON TR POT; and bears on the Reverse, a *Victory alate*, holding out a Wreath, and standing on a Globe; in the Area, VICTORIA AVGVSTI. Other Reverses shew him in his quadrigated triumphal Car; in the Exergue, S C. There is also VICTORIA NAVALIS, a *Naval Victory*, recorded on one of his Reverses, struck in his second Consulship, exactly in the Manner that we have seen it on one of VESPASIAN'S, with S C in the Area. *Tristan* refers this to his Victory over the *Jews*, upon the Lake of *Genesareth*, after the Taking of *Tiberias*, which is celebrated by *Apollonius*:

TITVS.

Pl. XXV.

Pl. XXV.

Pl. XXV.

*Jam de tot lembis nullum superesse videres,  
Partem ignis, partem gurgis absumpserat altus,  
Romanæ plausit volitans Victoria classi.*

Not one remaining Vessel could you see,  
Part had the Deep devour'd, and Part the Flame,  
While Victory clapp'd her Wings to hail the Roman Name.

Another Medal of the same Year, with his laureate Head, and the Inscription T CAESAR VESPASIAN IMP \*III PON TR POT II COS II, has for its Reverse, his Brother on Horseback, with the *Hasta*

Pl. XXV.

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K

*pura,*

- T I T V S. *pura*, and the Legend CAES DOMITIAN COS  
DESIG; and underneath him, S C. And another  
Pl. XXV. 5. has *Mars* for its Reverse, armed with Helmet and  
Spear, but without any Legend, save the S C.  
The last Honour paid to him, while his Father was  
Pl. XXV. 6. yet living, is that of the *Columna Rostrata*, on  
which he stands in the military Tunic, with the  
*Hasta pura* in his right Hand, and his Head in-  
circled with the Diadem, the Legend being the  
Continuation of his Titles TR P VIII IMP XV  
COS VII PP.

- From some Inscriptions in *Gruter*, published by  
*Grævius*, at the End of his Edition of *Suetonius*,  
in Quarto, this Emperor appears to have been parti-  
cularly careful and munificent in the Restoration  
of the several Aquæducts, which conveyed the  
*Marcian* and *Claudian* Waters, and the *Anio*, into  
the City, for the Benefit of the Inhabitants. Over  
one of these Fountains he erected a META, or  
Conic Pillar, which, from its Use, was called the  
*Meta sudans*; and, by a Decree of the Senate, it forms  
Pl. XXV. 7. the Reverse of one of his Coins in Bronze. Another,  
Pl. XXV. 8. of the first Size, which was struck at the same Time,  
having his laureate Head and Titles, as we have  
annexed them to the Front of this Reign, cele-  
brates the Tranquillity of it by a Reverse of *Peace*,  
with a *Cornucopiæ* in one Hand, and an Olive-  
Branch

OF IMPERIAL ROME.

Branch in the other, entitled the PAX AVGVSTI; in the Area, S C.

TITVS

Other Inscriptions, copied by the same Author, record his extraordinary Generosity in Frumentarian Distributions, in the Conservation of Public Structures, and the Restitution of Temples. Amongst them, that noble Amphitheatre, begun by his Father, and now finished by himself, the grand Ruins of which are yet seen, redounded highly to his Honour. For it is perpetuated by one of his Medals, which represents him seated on an Heap of Arms, with the Inscription IMP T CAES VESP AVG PM TR P PP COS VIII; in the Area, S C. And on the other Side is delineated this magnificent Work itself, with a conic Pillar on each Side of it.

Pl. XXV.

Former Emperors, the last excepted, had paid no Regard to the Edicts of their Predecessors, but in the Wantonness of Power had recalled their Bounties, reversed their Privileges, and rescinded their Acts: so that no Confidence in, or Dependence on, the Government remained any longer. To remedy this Evil was worthy of the Virtue of TITVS. He fully restored the *Public Faith*, by solemnly confirming at once all Grants, Immunities, and Benefits of every Kind, on whatsoever Person, Place, or People, they had been heretofore conferred.

K 2

To

TITVS.  
Pl. XXV. 10.

To this undoubtedly was owing the Reverse before us, with two *united Hands*, which hold at the same Time, Spikes of Corn, and a *Caduceus*, intimating that from such Agreement, spring Plenty and Felicity. It is called in the Legend FIDES PVBLICA. Mr. *Addison*, therefore, seems to have mistaken the Intent of this Reverse. “The two Hands,” says he, “are Emblems of *Fidelity*.”

*Inde fides dextræque date.* OVID. Met. 1. 14.  
Thence Faith and Hands were pledg'd.

“By the Inscription we may see that they represented in this Place the Fidelity or Loyalty of the Public towards their Emperor. The *Caduceus*, rising between the Hands, signifies the Peace that arises from such an Union with their Prince, as the Spike of Corn on each Side shadows out the Plenty that is the Fruit of Peace.” It is submitted to the Judgment of the Reader, whether this learned Author has not manifestly mistaken the *good Faith* of the Government for the *Allegiance* of the Subject.

No Senator was slain by the Command of TITUS, nor did any other Person suffer Death under his Government. His Choice was “rather to perish than destroy.” The Law of Majesty was not heard of; and all Informers were banished the City.

In

In this Reign a fresh War was kindled in *Britain*, wherein *Julius Agricola* laid waste the whole Country of the Enemy; and was the first *Roman* who found *Britain* surrounded by the Sea. For when certain Soldiers mutinied, and slew their Officers, having fled to the Ships, they put to Sea. By Strefs of Weather, being driven to the West, they sailed round till they arrived at the opposite Camp of the *Romans*. After which *Agricola* sent others, who, steering the same Course, proved it to be an Island. On these Accounts *TITUS* was once more honoured with the Title of *IMPERATOR*.

A dreadful Eruption of Mount *Vesuvius* now destroyed the two Cities of *Herculaneum* and *Pompeii*; the Inhabitants of the last being assembled in the Theatre when the City was overwhelmed. This was followed by a Pestilence. And the next Year, while *TITUS* was visiting *Campania*, and effectually relieving the Sufferers there, a subterraneous Fire broke forth at *Rome*, which did much Mischief. Many public Buildings, and the Capitol among the rest, were consumed by it. The Emperor took the whole Loss upon himself. Besides the Amphitheatre already spoken of, he builded magnificent Baths, which he dedicated in his own Name; and gave pompous Sports, at which he threw wooden Balls among the People, inscribed with

TITVS.

with Eatables, Apparel, Veffels of Gold or Silver, Horses, Cattle, Slaves, &c. which whofoever took up, and carried to his Stewards, received the Things fpecified. On the laft Day he was obferved to fhed Tears. Retiring prefently into the Country, he was taken ill upon the Road, and died in the fame Villa wherein his Father had expired. A Report went, that his Days were fhortened by his Brother, who had before plotted againft him, and *Victor* is pofitive that he was poisoned by him. Before his Death he declared, that he repented of one Thing only; but what that was is yet unknown. Some will have it to have been his Familiarity with *DOMITIA*, his Brother's Wife: which is not probable; fince fhe, who abfolutely denied, would moft certainly have boasted of it: Others, that he had fpared his Brother, from whofe cruel Spirit, and abandoned Life, the *Roman* People had fo much Evil to expect.

The Remembrance of his Mother was very dear to him, fince we find the *Carpentum* decreed to her Honour, by the Senate and People, on the Reverse of one of his Coins, in the Area of which we read *MEMORIAE DOMITILLAE*, and in the Exergue *SPQR*. He married *ARRICIDIA*, the Daughter of *Tertullus*, at one Time Commander of the *Prætorian* Cohorts; and, after her Death,

MARCIA FURNILLA, of an illustrious Family, from whom he was divorced, after she had brought him one Daughter. The name of this Infant was JULIA. She was by her Father declared AUGUSTA, and married to *Sabinus*. Several Medals of her in Bronze are yet extant, bearing her Head, with this Inscription, IVLIA IMPERATORIS TITI AVGVSTI FILIA AVGVSTA: The Reverse is the Figure of those Deities whose Attributes the Empreſſes were wont to ascribe to themselves. These are, 1. VESTA, seated, the Patroness of *Chastity*, with a Spear in the left Hand, and the Image of *Pallas* in the right. This was the *Palladium*, which was kept in the most private Part of the Temple of this Goddess, under the Custody of one only of the Vestals, the View of it being forbidden to all others. A precious Deposit! for they looked upon the Empire of the World to be destined for those who kept it. 2. CERES AVGVSTA, with the *Hasta pura* and Ears of Corn. 3. CONCORDIA AVGVSTA, seated as usual, with the *Cornucopiæ* and *Patera*; the Emblems of *Plenty* and *Tranquillity*. We have her *Denarius* also, whereon she is very elegantly figured, with the Inscription IVLIA AVGVSTA TITI AVGVSTI F. On the Reverse is *Paris*, leaning his Arm on a Column, with his Crook, and the Golden Apple; who stiles her in the Legend the

VENVS

Pl. XXV. 12.

Pl. XXV. 13.

Pl. XXV. 14.

Pl. XXV. 15.

TITVS.

VENVS AVGSTA; a very high Compliment. The Munificence and Benevolence of this Emperor had not been exceeded. He not only forgave, but favoured, those who had conspired against him. One Evening, reflecting that he had bestowed no Favour on any Person that Day, "My Friends," said he, "I have lost a Day." An irrefragable Argument of his Merit was, that the Senate heaped more Thanks and Praises upon him, when dead, than they had ever paid to any other Person while living.

Pl. XXV. 16.

The *Greek* Coins of him in Bronze are less common than those of VESPASIAN. The first before us bears his laureate Head, with ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΤΙΤΟΣ ΟΥΕΣΠΑΣΙΑΝΟΣ ΥΠΑΤΟΣ Π. *Imperator Cæsar Titus Vespasianus Consul secundum.* The Reverse is a *Diana*, without Legend, and therefore probably struck at *Ephesus*; though we have the like from *Smyrna*. One Reverse has a Wreath of Laurel, inclosing ΦΛΑΟΥΙΑ ΝΕΑΠΟΛΙΣ ΣΑΜΑΡΕΙΑΣ, *Flavia Neapolis Samariæ*, meaning the City of *Sichein*, which had assumed that Name in Honour of the Imperial Family. So had the City of *Cyrene* done, which therefore we find called, upon another of his Reversees, ΦΛΑΟΥΙΑ ΚΥΡΗΝΗ, *Flavia Cyrene*, and represented by a female Head, covered with that of an Elephant, shewing the Tooth and Proboscis.

One

One Reverse has the Statue of *Semiramis*, treading on the Prow of a Ship (to intimate the maritime Situation of *Ascalon*, where the Coin was struck) the Pigeon perched near her; having, as was fabled, been nourished in her Infancy by Doves. This the *Ascalonites* made the Distinction of their City; and the Letters ALKALON are still remaining of the Legend. Another has the Figure of EIPHNH, or PEACE, with the Caduceus and Spikes of Corn, and her Lap filled, Emblems, as we have observed before, of *Felicity* and *Plenty*. And others, struck by the *Abderites* and *Samians*, shew the Head of his Brother, with the Legend ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑΝΟΣ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΣΑΜΙΩΝ, *Domitianus Cæsar Samicorum*.

TITVS.

Pl. XXV. 17

Pl. XXV. 18

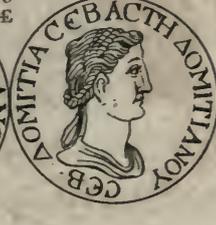
Pl. XXV. 19



T. FLAVIUS DOMITIANUS.

DOMITIAN.

**D**OMITIAN, succeeding to the Imperial Throne after so fair an Example, judged it necessary to put on at least the Appearance of Virtue. At first he seemed to have a great Abhorrence of Blood, and was scarce ever suspected of Avarice. On the contrary, he gave many Proofs both of his Abstinence and Liberality. One Speech of his was admirable: "He who does not punish Informers, encourages them." He abolished Libels, and declared the Authors infamous; was diligent in the Administration of Justice, and careful to keep the City Magistrates and Provincial Governors within Bounds. And, to render all Men secure





secure of the quiet Enjoyment of their Property and Rights, he established at once, after the Example of his Brother, all the Privileges and Grants which had been confirmed by former Emperors. For which Reason, we see on one of *his* Reverses also the Figure of PUBLIC FAITH; being that of a Woman with Branches of Laurel in one Hand, and an Imperial Crown in the other; the Legend FIDEL PVBLICAE. SC. This serves to explain another of ANTONINUS PIUS, bearing the same Figure, but without any Legend.

DOMITIAN

Pl. XXVI.

But in a short Time his very Virtues degenerated into Vices. His Expences made him rapacious, and his Fears cruel. He did allow his Brother the Honour of a Consecration, but carped at his Memory afterwards in all his Speeches and Edicts. He set aside a private Hour of every Day, in which he did nothing but kill Flies for his Diversion. His Wife DOMITIA had Intrigues with *Paris* the Player. Him therefore he condemned to Death, and her he repudiated. Yet in a short Time he took her again, pretending that the People insisted upon it. On this Occasion the following Medal was struck both

Pl. XXVI.

in Gold and Silver, bearing her Head, with the Inscription DOMITIA AVGVsta IMPeratoris DOMITIANi AVGVsti GERManici. The Reverse is a Peacock, the Bird of *Juno*, with CONCORDIA

L 2

AVGVSta,

- DOMITIAN. AVGVSTa, to exprefs *their* mutual Benevolence, and *her* high Quality. For in his Edict, he declared that he recalled her *in pulvinar suum*, to his Pallet, alluding to that Sort of Couch or Pallet on which the Images of the Gods were laid: so that while she is represented as his *Juno*, he is of Course the *Jupiter* on Earth. And indeed he arrived at that Height of Madnes, as to dictate, "Our Lord and "God commands," &c. From which Time these Titles were constantly applied to him. There are several *Greek* Coins in Bronze of this Imperial Pair.
- Pl. XXVI. 3. In one they face each other, and behind his Head we read ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑΝΟΣ ΣΕΒ, *Domitianus Augustus*, as behind hers ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑ ΣΕΒ, *Domitia Augusta*; while the Reverse exhibits the Temple, ΘΕΩΝ ΣΕΒΑΚΤΩΝ, *Deorum Augustorum*. Another, which was struck at *Smyrna*, is modester. It contains, as the former, their Heads adverse, only that of the Emperor is laureated, with ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑΝΟΣ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΣΕΒΑΣΟΣ ΓΕΡΜΑΝΙΚΟΣ. She is called again ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΗ, *Domitia Augusta*. The Reverse is an *Hercules*, with the Lion's Skin and Club, and an Apple in the right Hand (called, on another Coin of the *Smyrnæans*, ΗΡΑΚΛΗΣ ΣΩΤΗΡ, *Hercules the Preserver*). The Legend, ΕΠΙ ΔΙΜΟΣΤΡΑΤΟΥ ΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΟΥ ΣΕΜΝΕ ΣΜΥΡΝΑΙΩΝ, *Sub Dimostrato Præ-tore venerabili Smyrnæorum*. Another bears on one Side
- Pl. XXVI. 4.
- Pl. XXVI. 5.

Side his laureate Head, with KAICAP ΔOMITIANOC, *Cæsar Domitianus*; and hers on the other, with ΔOMITIA CEBACTH ΔOMITIANOY CEBACTE, *Domitia Augusta Domitiani Augusti*. A Fourth, which I suppose to have been struck in *Egypt*, has also his laureate Head, with ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΔOMITIANOY ΣΕΒΑCTOC, *Imperator Cæsar Domitianus Augustus*, and on the other Side the Head of the Empress, with ΔOMITIA ΣΕΒΑCTH, *Domitia Augusta*.

DOMITIAN

Pl. XXVI. 6

By this Lady, the Daughter of the famous *Corbulo*, he had a Son in his second Consulship, who died, and was afterwards deified. For the *Denarius* of the Empress, which shews her with the Title of DOMITIA AVGVSTA IMPERATORIS DOMITIANI, has for the Reverse a Boy seated on a Celestial Globe, and surrounded with the Planets; the Legend of which stiles him DIVVS CAESAR IMPERATORIS DOMITIANI Filius. And a Medal in Bronze, of the first Magnitude, with her Head inscribed DOMITIA AVGVSTA, calls her on the Reverse DIVI CAESARIS MATER. She is represented standing with the *Hasta pura* in her left Hand, and the *Patera* in her right, having an Altar before her, as in the Act of offering to the Deity of her Son: In the Exergue S C. Another represents her in the same Action, and with the same Title, but seated, with the Altar burning before her, and the S C in the

Pl. XXVI. 7

Pl. XXVI. 8

Pl. XXVI. 9

the

DOMITIAN.

the Exergue. But notwithstanding his Fondness for DOMITIA, and his Severity against Prostitution and Adultery, he was by no Means continent himself. For he put to Death *Sabinus*, the Husband of his Niece JULIA, and took her to himself, cohabiting with her openly. But as she was pregnant, he obliged her to procure an Abortion, which was the Cause of her Death. Her Deification ensued, as appears by the following Reverse of one of his Medals of Gold, having the Peacock, with his starry Tail expanded, the Emblem of Consecration respecting the Sex, and the Legend DIVI TITI FILIA; and the *Carpentum* was decreed to her Memory, in Compliment to him, both by the Senate and People. For we find it figured on the Reverse of one of his Coins, with the Legend DIVAE IVLIAE AVGVSTÆ DIVI TITI Filia, and in the Exergue S P Q R.

Pl. XXVI. 10.

Pl. XXVI. 11.

In his Edifices he was more than sumptuous. Very many and very noble Works, which had been destroyed by Fire, were restored by him in the most splendid Manner, particularly the Capitol, twelve thousand Talents having been expended upon the gilding of it only. He seemed desirous of turning every Thing into Gold. For even this was less splendid than several of the Apartments of his own Palace. Hence, on a Medalion of Silver, we have  
his

his laureate Head IMP CAES DOMITIAN AVG DOMITIAN.  
 PM COS VIII; on the Reverse of which the Ca- Pl. XXVI. 1  
 pitol is delineated, inclosing the Images of *Jupiter*,  
*Juno*, and *Minerva*: the Legend CAPITOLIO RE-  
 STITUTO. We have likewise on one of his *Denarii* Pl. XXVI. 1  
 his Head plain, with DOMITIANVS AVGVSTVS,  
 and the Capitol depicted in like Manner on the  
 Reverse, but without any Legend. He builded also  
 a new Temple in the Capitol to JUPITER CUSTOS,  
 or the GUARDIAN, having been concealed there all  
 Night, when the Place was taken by the *Vitellians*;  
 and the Forum, which was afterwards called NER-  
 VA'S; the Temple also of the *Flavian* Family, in Pl. XXVI. 1  
 which I conceive the Reverse before us to be the  
 particular *Sacellum* of JULIA, containing her Statue,  
 with an Altar blazing before it, and the Priestess  
 offering: To this the Poet alludes in his Epigram  
 on this Temple:

*Dum voce supplex, dumque ibure placabit*  
*Matrona divæ dulce Juliæ nomen:*  
*Manebit altum Flaviæ decus gentis.*

MARTIAL:

Long as the Roman Matron shall implore  
 Her Aid, and JULIA'S Deity adore,  
 So long inviolate and pure shall shine  
 The sacred Honour of the *Flavian* Line.

In the Area S. C.; a Music Hall, a *Cursus*, and  
*Naumachia*.

His

DOMITIAN.

His Expeditions were either voluntary or forced. Of the first Sort, was that against the *Catti*, in *Germany*, whose Country he invaded, and, having taken some Captives, made an hasty Retreat. For this he triumphed, and took the Surname of GERMANICUS, as appears from a Medal of Gold, which has his Head plain, with a Shield behind it, on which the Eagle is embossed, and the Title DOMITIANVS AVGVSTVS. The Reverse shews him in his quadrigated Car, and holding a Branch of Laurel in his right Hand; the Legend GERMANICVS. Yet this Title is omitted on his Denarius, which gives his laureate Head, with IMP CAES DOMITIANVS AVG PM, and on the Reverse an Altar, on which lies the winged Lightning, with TR P COS VII DESignatus VIII. PP: To return this Inroad, the *Catti* drove *Charimerus*, King of the *Cherufci*, and attached to the *Romans*, out of his Dominions. He implored the Emperor's Assistance; who sent him a Subsidy in Money, but no Troops. The *Lugians* also, attacked by the *Suevians*, required his Aid by their Ambassadors, and received an hundred Horsemen. But this Succour, small as it was, so irritated the latter, that they drew over the *Iäzyges* to their Party, and prepared to pass the *Danube*. A War also broke out between the *Romans* and *Decebalus*, King of the *Dacians*,

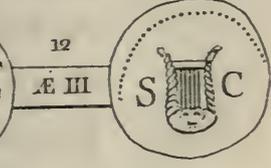
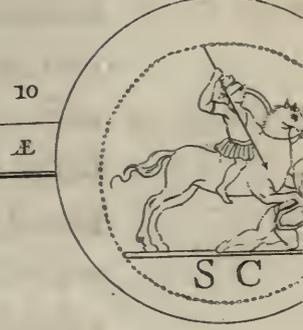
*Dacians*, which continued long with various Fortune. DOMITIAN led an Army against him, yet transacted nothing in Person. Having dishonourably lost great Part of his Forces, he sent Letters to Rome as if victorious. To punish the *Quadi* and *Marcomanni*, because they had not assisted him against the *Dacians*, he entered *Pannonia* with an Army, and put to Death some of their Deputies, who had been sent to compromise Matters. Being afterwards defeated, and put to Flight by the *Marcomanni*, he invited *Decebalus* to a Peace, though he had often refused it to his Request. *Decebalus* embraced the Offer; but not caring to trust his Person to an Interview, he sent his Brother *Diegis*, well attended, who gave up some Arms and Prisoners; all, as he pretended, that he had. This done, DOMITIAN placed a Diadem on the Head of *Diegis*, as if he had conquered, and had really the Power of giving a King to the *Dacians*. He then sent triumphant Letters to Rome, and with them the Ambassadors, and the Epistle of *Decebalus*, as he called it (for some looked upon it as forged by himself) and adorned his Triumph with many Pageants, but not of what he had taken from the Enemy. For, on the contrary, he was at great Expence to obtain a Peace, sending a vast Sum and a Number of experienced Workmen to *Decebalus*,

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M

with

- DOMITIAN. with mighty Promises of future Gratifications. A Triumph seemed to be the least Reward of these pretended Victories. So many and so great Decrees passed, that throughout the *Roman* World Statues of Gold and Silver were erected to him, and the City was crowded with triumphal Arches. But for his Success against the *Iäxyges* of *Sarmatia*, of which we have no particular Account, he was content to consecrate a Crown of Laurel to *Jupiter*.
- Pl. XXVI. 17. *Capitolinus*. We have many Reversees which are owing to some one or all of these supposed Successes. One of them in Gold and Bronze, is a Copy of an Equestrian Statue, extending the right Hand, and holding a lighted Torch in the left, erected to him in the Midst of the Forum. It was gilded, and one of the Hoofs trod upon the Hair of a Figure, which lay prostrate, and represented the *Rhine*. The Area of the Golden Coin is void,
- Pl. XXVI. 18. but that of the Bronze has the S C. Another in Gold, has the Figure of *Mars*, armed with an Helmet and Coat of Mail, with a Continuation of his Titles TR POT IMP II COS VIII DES VIII
- Pl. XXVI. 19. PP. A Second in Bronze, has him in his quadrigated triumphal Car, holding up the Scepter and Dove in his right Hand, and an Helmet with his
- Pl. XXVI. 20. left. Another has a Trophy of Arms, crowned with a laurel Wreath, a Serpent issuing from each
- Pl. XXVII. 1. Side,





Side, to denote his military Prudence : in the Area, S C. A Third has a Trophy raised on the Trunk of a Tree, and two Captives at the Foot of it : in the Area, S C. A Fourth has a *Victory alate*, touching a like Trophy with the right Hand, and holding a Palm-Branch in the left. A Fifth has a *Victory alate*, hastening forward, with a Shield in the right Hand, inscribed S P Q R : in the Area, S C. A Sixth has the same Figure treading on a Globe, a Palm-Branch in the left Hand, and a Wreath of Laurel in the right : in the Area, S C. In a Seventh, the like Figure supports with the left Shoulder an Imperial Eagle : in the Area, S C. An Eighth, which is of the first Magnitude, and has on the other Side his laureate Head and Titles, as in the Frontispiece of this Reign, shews a Trophy, with a disconsolate Female sitting at the Foot of it on *German* Shields ; hard by, a captive *German* looks back, resting his left Hand upon his Shield : the Legend is, GERMANIA CAPTA : in the Exergue, S C. Another of his Medals of

DOMITIAN

PL. XXVII.

3 4 5.

PL. XXVII. 6

M 2

and

THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

DOMITIAN.

PI. XXVII. 7.

I. XXVII. 8.

I. XXVII. 9.

I. XXVII. 10.

and Lightning of *Jupiter*. Indeed, he did every Thing for the Encouragement of the military Men, by large Donatives and Increase of Pay. His Cordiality and Affection for them is strongly expressed on the Reverse before us, whereon they appear before him with their Eagle and Ensign. He extends his Hand to one of them, and an Altar blazes between them, implying a Sort of mutual Compact or Agreement between them, of Reward and Service. Accordingly, they were infinitely disturbed at his Death, and were with great Difficulty restrained from breaking out into a Civil War. On another of his Reverses his Patroness, *Minerva*, is represented as placing her right Hand upon his Trophy. And on another, *Jupiter* himself is seated, with the *Hasta pura* in his left Hand, and holds out a *Victory*, with her Wings expanded, on the Palm of his right: the Legend IOVI VICTORI; and in the Exergue S C. A noble Medallion, in Bronze, gives the Emperor's laureate Head, inscribed IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM COS XII CENS PP<sup>III</sup>; and the Reverse represents him on Horseback, in the Act of piercing his Enemy with his Spear, who is armed, and on whom his Horse is trampling: in the Exergue, S C. From this Medallion it appears, that he had taken upon himself the Office of *Censor*, which originally continued

tinued in the same Person Five Years, or one *Lustrum* only. This Term was afterwards reduced to a Year and a Half. But by another Medallion of the same Metal, with his laureate Head, it is evident that he assumed the Title of *Perpetual Censor*: For the Inscription runs IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM COS XV CENSOR PERpetuo PP. The Reverse shews him in his military Habit, the *Hasta pura* in his left Hand, his right grasping the Thunder and Lightening, while a *winged Victory*, with a Palm-Branch in one Hand, with the other Places a Crown of Laurel on his Head: in the Exergue S C. This Title we shall find on more of his Coins by and by.

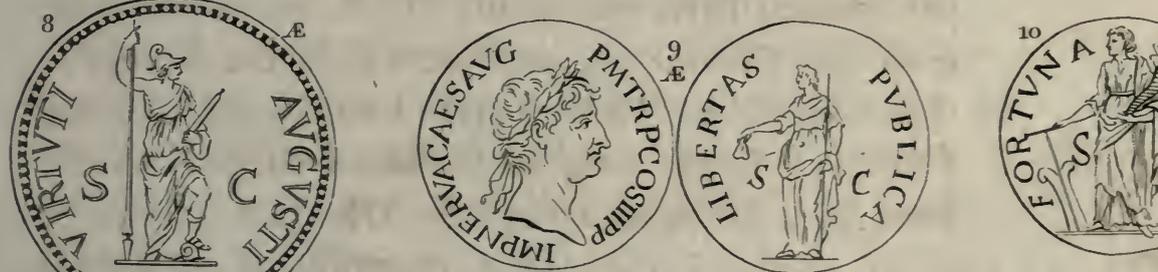
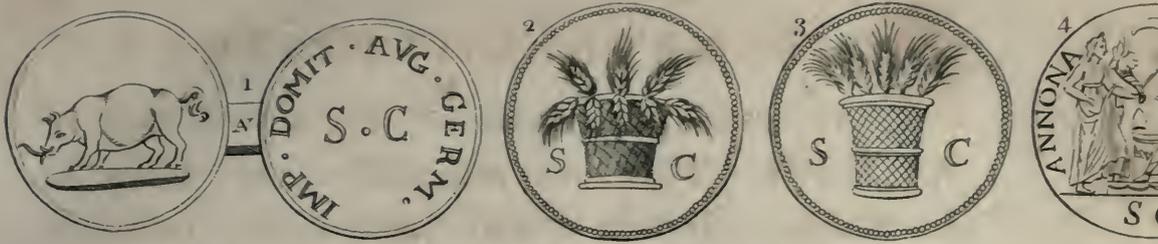
DOMITIA

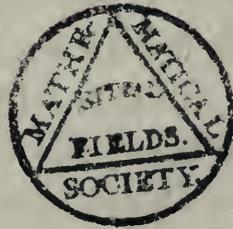
PI. XXVII.

He was fond of the Entertainments of the *Amphitheatre*, the *Circus*, and *Naumachia*. And *Minerva* being the Goddess of his Choice, he celebrated the *Quinquatria*, the Festival in Honour of her, duly every Year, with great Magnificence. He instituted also Quinquennial Sports to *Jupiter Capitolinus*, which were Musical, Equestrian, and Gymnic. The first Sort seem to be recorded on one of his *Denarii*, having his laureate Head inscribed IMP DOMIT AVG GERM COS XI; and a Lyre for the Reverse, with S C in the Area. Prose Orations were also spoken both in *Greek* and *Latin*. He celebrated also the *Secular Games*, taking his Computation,

PI. XXVII. 12

- DOMITIAN. putation, not from those of CLAUDIUS, but of AUGUSTUS. These are recorded on very many of his Coins.. It will be sufficient to insert some few of them for the Reader's Inspection. The First is a very fine Medallion, in Bronze, with his laureate Head, and IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM PM
- Pl. XXVII. 13. TR P VIII CENS = = = =. On the Reverse we see the Victim; the Altar, the Priest and his Assistant, the Musical Performers, and the Tiber, decumbent with his *Cornucopiæ*, and the S C in the Exergue: the Legend is COS XIII LVDos SAECulares
- Pl. XXVII. 14, 15, 16. FECIT. In the smaller Coins of Bronze we see some little Difference, by the Omission of one or other of the Figures, and may observe the double Flute in Use at their Theatrical Entertainments.
- Pl. XXVII. 17, 18, 19. We may remark also the several Sacrifices, and the Manner of prostrating the larger Victim: the Legend is the same in all. His Expeditions were another Fund of Entertainment. He gave a sumptuous Spectacle, in which Virgins ran for the Prize. Himself presided in the Course, with Sandals on, dressed in a purple Robe after the *Greek* Fashion, and wearing a Crown of Gold, with the Effigies of *Jupiter*, *Juno*, and *Minerva*; the Flamen Dialis, and the College of the *Flavian* Priests, sitting by him in the same Habit, except, that on *their* Crowns his own Image was also seen. In the
- Circus,*





*Circus*, besides the Chariot-Races, he exhibited a double-pitched Battle of Horse and Foot; and a Sea-Fight, in a new Place, in which, not only all who fought in a Manner perished, but many of the Spectators. For a terrible Storm, with heavy Rain arising, though he changed his own Cloaths, he suffered no Man else to do it, whence many fatal Disorders ensued. To sooth the People, therefore, he gave them a public Feast, by Night, in which the Conduits ran with Wine. His nocturnal Sports indeed were frequent, in which he sometimes introduced Women and Dwarfs. In the Amphitheatre, amidst the Combats of Gladiators, Women fought as well as Men. The wild Beasts that perished on these Occasions, it would be difficult to enumerate. Among the Rest a Rinoceros was exposed, whose Feats were so extraordinary as to furnish Matter of Conversation for the whole City, and to occasion a Decree for the Impression of it on the Public Coins. For I am persuaded that this is the Animal which we see upon a Medal of Gold, which has on the other Side IMP. DOMIT. AVG. GERM.; and in the Centre S. C. It is in the *Pembrokian* Collection, and over the Leaden Coin (for it is of this Metal also) is called the *Monoceros*, but most improperly. For this Creature is described by *Pliny* as having the Head of a Deer, the  
Body

DOMITIAN.

Pl. XXVIII. 1

DOMITIAN.

Body of an Horfe, the Tail of a Boar, the Feet of an Elephant, and an Horn in the Midft of the Forehead, of which there is fcarce any Refemblance here. For the Horn, the principal Criterion, is upon the Snout, which gives Name to the Rhinoceros. This gave Birth to feveral Epigrams of *Martial*. One of them has greatly perplexed the Commentators. *Bochart*, in his *Hierozoicon*, is for reading the fifth Line thus—*Namque gravi geminum sic extulit ursum* :— as if it were Matter of Astonishment to fee a Rhinoceros tofs two Bears, one after the other ; whereas, if you only drop the third Letter in the Word *ursum*, the Difficulty will ceafe.

*Sallicitant pavidi dum Rhinocerotæ magistri,*

*Seque diu magnæ colligit ira feræ ;*

*Desperabantur promiffi prælia Martis :*

*Sed tamen is rediit cognitus ante furor.*

*Namque gravem gemino cornu sic extulit urum,*

*Faciat ut impositas Taurus in astra pilas.* DE SPECT. Ep. 22.

While yet the fearful Keepers strove to fire  
The meek Rinoceros, and rouse his Ire,  
The promis'd Contest we despair'd to view ;  
At length his fore-known Fury came anew.  
Struck with Amazement we beheld up-borne  
The Buffal dreadful with his double Horn ;  
On high he tofs'd him, and with equal Ease,  
As Bulls the Bundles tofs, whene'er they please.

The Contest fufficienly afcertains the Reading.

“ He

“ He tofs’d the Bull with as much Eafe as the  
 “ Bull toffes the Bundle.” Thefe Bundles were  
 made up of Rags, and fomewhat refembled the  
 human Figure. They were thrown to the Bulls in  
 the Amphitheatre, to be toffed by Way of Sport  
 for the Rabble.

One of his Entertainments was too particular to  
 be omitted. He had a Part of the Palace put in  
 Mourning, the very Cieling and Floor being Black,  
 as well as the Seats for the Guests. Hither he in-  
 vited the principal Perfons of the Senatorian and  
 Equeftrian Orders. Being feated, before every one  
 was placed a Column, fhaped in the fepulchral  
 Fafhion, with his Name infcribed, from which hung  
 a fmall Lamp, as ufual in Monuments. Then a  
 Company of naked Boys, blacked over, like fo  
 many Spectres, entered, and having danced round  
 them with horrible Geftures, flood directly before  
 each of them. Laftly, every Thing made ufe of  
 in the Solemnities of the Dead, was fet before them.  
 The Guests were filled with dreadful Apprehen-  
 fions, and expected nothing lefs than Death. All  
 this while a profound Silence was kept, except that  
 DOMITIAN himfelf made a folemn Harangue, touch-  
 ing Death and Deftruction. At length he dif-  
 miffed them, and, their Slaves who waited with-  
 out having been fent off beforehand, other ftrange

DOMITIAN. Faces were provided to attend them home in their Chairs and Carriages; which did by no Means lessen their Apprehensions. As soon as they were got thither, and began to breathe a little, they were told, that certain Persons were at hand from AUGUSTUS. This they looked upon as the Sentence of Death; but were most agreeably surprized, each of them, to see before him the Youth, who had represented his Dæmon, now washed and trimmed in the most elegant Manner, with a Present of extraordinary Value. Such was their Compensation for the Terrors of the Night.

He thrice gave a Congiary to the People, of three hundred *Denarii* each Man, and in the Midst of the Spectacles a plenteous Feast. At the septimontial Solemnity, Bread-Trays were distributed to the Senators and Equestrians, and to the Populace little Baskets with Provisions. The next Day he scattered missile Balls, of all Sorts of Things; and, because the greater Part fell amongst the Populace, he ordered fifty Tickets for each Bench of the Senatorian and Equestrian Orders. These Liberalities are recorded in the four following Coins, struck by Order of the Senate. The two first have the *Congius* with Ears of Wheat. The third has *Ceres* seated with her Torch, and *Amalthæa* with her Horn of Plenty, an Altar between them: the

Legend

PL. XXVIII. 2,  
3, 4.

Legend ANNONA AVGVSTI. The fourth is somewhat injured on both Sides. The one has his laureate Head, with IMP CAES DOMIT==== VIII CENS PER PP. The other represents him enthroned, and making the Distribution in Person; the Legend is COS XIII FRVGAC.

DOMITIAN.

Pl. XXVIII.

From another Medal with his laureate Head, it is evident that a Regulation of the Coin took Place in his fifteenth Consulâte. For the Inscription is IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM COS XV CENS PER PP; and it bears on its Reverse a female Figure, with a *Cornucopiæ* in the left Hand, and a Pair of Scales in the right, with the Legend MONETA AVGVSTI, S. C.

Pl. XXVIII.

The famous *Julius Agricola*, having reduced the greater Part of *Britain*, was recalled by DOMITIAN, and rewarded for his Services with triumphal Honours. Finding the Emperor jealous of his military Fame and Reputation, he wisely retired from public Life; and had at last the unexpected Fortune of dying in Bed, though not without some Suspicion of Poison.

But *L. Antonius*, who commanded in *Upper Germany*, having prevailed upon the two Legions which were with him, and the Inhabitants of the Province, to support him, openly rebelled against DOMITIAN; and assumed the Imperial Purple. Against him the

N 2

Emperor

DOMITIAN.

Emperor made great Preparations, and began his March in Person. But in the mean Time *Antonius* was defeated and slain by *L. Maximus*. His private Cabinet was taken at the same Time, and all his Papers burned by Order of the victorious General, that his Correspondences might not be known. Notwithstanding which, the Emperor took this Opportunity of wreaking his Vengeance upon all whom he suspected. Among many others, *Metius Pomposianus* suffered Death, for no other Reason but because he had a Map of the World drawn out upon the Walls of his Bed-Chamber, and took Delight in reading and studying the Speeches of Kings and great Men, which he met with in *Livy*. *Martianus* the Sophist was executed for declaiming against Tyrants, in the Way of Exercise only. The Emperor himself attended, and instructed the Accusers and Witnesses. He ordered *Rusticus Arulinus* to be slain, for philosophizing, and saying that *Thrasea* was a divine Man; and *Herennius Senecio*, because, though he had lived long, he had never petitioned for a Magistracy since his Questorship, and had written the Life of *Helvidius Priscus*; and many others, for their philosophical Studies. The rest of this Class were all expelled the City.

As Censor, he did some Things worthy of Praise.

For

For he degraded *Cæcilius Rufnus* from the Senate for his Dancing; and delivered up *Claudius Pacatas*, though raised to the Rank of a Centurion, to his Master, as soon as it appeared that he was his Slave.

The Year before his Death, DOMITIAN raised a general Persecution throughout the *Roman Empire*, against the *Christians*, in which vast Numbers suffered Death. One of these was *Flavius Clemens* the Consul, though nearly related to him, and the Husband of his Cousin FLAVIA DOMITILLA. He suffered, according to *Dio*, for the Crime of Impiety. This was the Term usually given to Christianity. For this Cause, says he, many others were condemned, who had gone over to the *Jewish Manners*; Part of whom were executed, and Part ruined by Confiscations. DOMITILLA was only banished to *Pandataria*. *Glabrio* also, who had been Consul with TRAJAN (afterwards Emperor) was doomed to Death through the Envy of DOMITIAN, who had obliged him to fight a great Lion. This he did, and very gallantly slew him; when the Applause of the Spectators excited the Jealousy of the Emperor. Our Historian says, that he also was accused of the same Crime of Impiety. Saint *John* the Apostle was banished to *Patmos*.

He now suspected all Men, doubting the Fidelity

DOMITIAN.

lity of his Captains of Guards, and even of his own Freedmen. For the Instruction of these last, he put to Death *Epaphroditus*, the Freedman of NERO, for not having assisted his Master. But this answered no End; for the next Year he was himself slain, in Consequence of a Conspiracy entered into by *Sigerius* and *Parthenius*, two of his Chamberlains, and the last his Sword-bearer also, *Entellus* his Secretary, and *Stephanus* his Freedman. Nor were his Wife DOMITIA, nor *Norbanus*, and *Petronius Secundus*, Commanders of the Prætorian Guards, supposed to be ignorant of it. For the Names of all of them were marked down by him for Destruction: of which DOMITIA having made the Discovery, imparted it to the rest. He had lived forty-four Years, ten Months, and twenty-six Days; and reigned fifteen Years and five Days.

To this Composition of Pride, Lewdness, Cruelty, and Cowardice, did the degenerate *Romans* raise Altars, inscribed SALVTI AVGVSTI; and to their eternal Shame, recorded it on their Coins, of which the Reverse before us is a Witness; having in the Exergue the S C: and ascribed to him that Coalition of all great and good Qualities which constitutes the Hero. For on another Reverse, bearing the same Stamp of Authority in the Area, we have the Figure of VIRTUE, whose left Foot

rests upon a Casque: she is habited in a white Vesture, erect, and holds in her right Hand the *Hasta pura*, the *Parazonium* in her left, and her Head is armed with an Helmet:

————— *Stans vultus, et ore*  
*Incessuque viro propior, letique pudoris,*  
*Celsa humeris, niveæ fulgebat Stamine pallæ.* SIL. ITAL. I. 15.

With dauntless Mien aloft she rear'd her Head,  
 And next to manly was the Virgin's Tread;  
 Her Height, her sprightly Blush, the Goddess shew,  
 And Robes unfullied as the falling Snow. ADDISON.

The Legend is VIRTUTI AVGVSTI, S. C.

DOMITIAN was tall, and of a ruddy Countenance, had large Eyes, and was near-sighted, fair and comely all over in his Youth, except that his Toes were pinched in. Afterwards he grew bald, his Belly became fat and prominent, and his Legs slender. Being impatient of Labour, he was scarce ever on Foot, rarely on Horseback, and almost always in a Chair or Sedan. He was an excellent Archer, and has been seen to kill an hundred wild Beasts on one Occasion, and has purposely fixed his Arrows in the Head of them so as to resemble Horns. When one has held his Hand expanded against the Wall, he has shot his Arrows precisely between the Fingers foretold. The liberal Studies were neglected by him at first; though he restored,  
 at

DOMITIAN. at a vast Expence, the Libraries which had been consumed by Fire. Fond of Adulation, he was yet very severe against those who used, and against those who used it not. The former he punished because they flattered, and the latter because they neglected him. He never really loved any one, except a few Women. Those, whom he pretended to love, he was most desirous of destroying: and they, who were most eager to gratify him, were most suspected, and marked out for Ruin. He was Consul for ten Years together, and enjoyed that Dignity seventeen Times; was attended by four-and-twenty Lictors, and wore a triumphal Robe, as often as he entered the Senate. *September*, the Month of his Inauguration, he called *Germanicus*; and *October*, in which he was born, *Domitian*. His Death was most agreeable to the Senate, who loaded him with Curfes, pulled down his Shields and Statues, and endeavoured, as much as they could, entirely to abolish the Remembrance of him.

MARCUS



MARCUS COCCEIUS NERVA.

**T**HE Senate assembled on the Death of DOMITIAN, and with one Voice declared M. COCCEIUS NERVA Emperor. He was a Native of *Italy*, but of *Cretan* Extraction. Yet his Family had been very eminent in the State, and for three Generations had been honoured with the Fasces. Himself had enjoyed that Dignity twice before his Accession, and now took it upon him, for the third Time, at the Beginning of the new Year. *Virginus Rufus* was his Colleague, who was soon after killed by a Fall, and honoured with a public Funeral. He is the Subject of one of *Pliny's* Epistles, who speaks greatly in his Praise.

NERVA.

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NERVA.

It now appeared, that the Imperial Power and public Liberty were consistent; on the Restoration of which all Men congratulated themselves. The Æra of it was inscribed on the Capitol, and perpetuated on their Coins. For on one of them, of the first Magnitude, in Bronze, bearing the Emperor's laureate Head, with IMP NERVA CAES AVG PM TR P COS III PP, we have for the Reverse a female Figure erect, holding the *Rudis* in one Hand, and the Cap of Liberty in the other, intitled in the Legend LIBERTAS PVBLICA, with SC in the Area. We have indeed seen the same Figure on the Coins of GALBA and VITELLIUS, but with far less Propriety in the first Instance, and none at all in the latter. But NERVA was the most indulgent Father of his People, whose Liberality and Benevolence were not exceeded. His Promotion is celebrated on one of his Reverses, under the Symbol of Fortune, holding a naval *Helm* in her right Hand, and a *Cornucopiæ* in her left; and she is called FORTVNA AVGVST. But the Reverse of the Golden Medal, prefixed to this Reign, has only the sacrificial Utensils (to signify his sacerdotal Rank) the *Lituus*, the *Guttus*, the *Adspersorium*, and the *Capeduncula*, with a Continuation of his Titles, COS III PATER PATRIAE. The Denarius annexed is on both Sides nearly the same. He gave

up

up all Confiscations, relieved the several Cities in Distress, and bred up the Children of the Poor throughout *Italy* at the public Charge. He put an End to Persecution, discharging all who were accused of Impiety, and restoring the Exiles. All Slaves and Freedmen, who had informed against their Masters and Patrons, were condemned and executed. He forbade the erecting Statues of Gold or Silver to himself. He purchased Lands to a large Amount for the poorer Citizens, the Division of which he entrusted to Senators of Integrity. All Effects found in the Palace, which DOMITIAN had taken from others, were restored. As the Exchequer was drained, unwilling to burthen the People, he disposed of great Quantities of Raiment, many Vessels of Gold and Silver, Abundance of rich Furniture, both of his own private Property and belonging to the Imperial Palace, many Farms and Houses, and all Things else, such excepted as were barely necessary. Nor was he exact in the Price, but favourable to most of the Purchasers. He abolished many Sacrifices, many of the *Circensian* Entertainments, and other Spectacles. He swore in the Senate, that no Senator should suffer Death by his Orders, and kept his Oath, although a Conspiracy was formed against him. He did nothing without consulting Persons of the first Rank. With

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 N E R V A .

their Advice he published many wholesome Laws, particularly against Castration, and against the Marriage of an Uncle with his Niece. His Government, in fine, was such as permitted him to say, that "he knew no Reason why he might not safely resign, and resume his private Condition." When *Calpurnius Crassus*, with some others, conspired against him, though they knew not that their Plot was discovered; he seated them next to himself at the public Shews; and, when the Swords of the Gladiators were brought to him for Trial, as usual, gave them into their Hands, that they might see, as he said, if they were sharp enough. *Crassus* confessed his Guilt, and was with his Wife banished to *Tarentum*. This Lenity was not approved by the Senate. For his Indulgence was so extraordinary, that Men presumed upon it. The Prætorian Cohorts, with *Cæsparius Ælianus*, whom he had made their Commander, at the Head of them, beset his Palace, demanding the Heads of all concerned in the Death of *DOMITIAN*; whom he resisted so far as to offer them his naked Throat. This availed not; for they cut in Pieces *Petronius*, *Parthenius*, and others, and obliged him to return them public Thanks for what they had done. Seeing himself therefore despised for his Years and Infirmities, he entered upon a Resolution most salutary to the Commonwealth.

He

He ascended the Capitol with great Solemnity, and there with a loud Voice (praying that such his Deed might prove prosperous to the *Roman* Senate and People, and to himself) declared TRAJAN his adopted Son, by the Name of MARCUS ULPIUS NERVA TRAJANUS. This reduced the Cohorts to Order, and secured the Quiet of the State. At this Time some Advantages were obtained by the Army in *Pannonia*, for which he bore the Title of IMPERATOR. He took off the Duty upon Carriages throughout *Italy*, which was an Imposition much complained of. The Memory of this was preserved by a Decree of the Senate, on one of his Reversees, representing Ensigns, Arms, and Horses at Liberty, with VEHICVLATIONE ITALIAE REMISSA, and SC in the Exergue. Two Congiaries given by him are recorded also by the same Authority, the one being a Frumentarian Distribution, expressed by the *Congius*, with Ears of Wheat rising from it. The Legend is PLEBEI VRBANAЕ FRUMENTO CONSTITVTO. The Emperor himself is represented on the other Reverse, overseeing his own Donation, with the Distributor and Receivers before him: the Legend CONGIARium P R *Populo Romano*, S C.

Pl. XXVIII. 12

Pl. XXVIII. 13

Pl. XXVIII. 14

For the last three Months of his Reign; his adopted Son TRAJAN was his Colleague in the Consulate. He declared

NERVA. declared him CAESAR in full Senate, and wrote to him with his own Hand to this Purpose :

Thy Arms, O NERVA, should avenge our Tears.

For TRAJAN at this Time commanded in *Germany*. Thus a *Spaniard* by Birth (for such was TRAJAN) became CÆSAR, and afterwards Emperor, though NERVA had many Relations of his own. For he had more at Heart the public Emolument, than the private Advantage of his Family. This was his last Transaction of Consequence before his Death, which also was occasioned by his Care for the Republic. *Aquilius Regulus*, a noted Informer, being brought before him, roused his Indignation to such a Height, as put him in a Sweat. This was succeeded by a Rigor, which brought on a violent Fever, that proved fatal to him. Authors differ with respect to his Age, which is made sixty-five, seventy-one, and seventy-three Years. He reigned sixteen Months and ten Days.

He carried his Age but very indifferently, being of a weakly Constitution; was of a most serious Disposition, having never been known amongst his Friends to laugh, or make Use of any light Amusement. His Meekness and Lenity were carried too far; an insolent Soldiery taking Advantage of the first, and the Governors of Provinces of the last;

so that his own Peace suffered, and his People were oppressed. - But his Intentions were all directed to the public Good. And his Care for the future Well-being of his People, by the Establishment of such a Successor, rendered his Memory dear to all true Lovers of their Country. His Disinterestedness, with respect to Money, was evident from his Correspondence with *Herodes Atticus*, the Father of the Sophist of that Name. This Man had found an immense Treasure concealed within his House, and acquainted NERVA with it by Letter, desiring his Directions for the Disposal of it. The Answer was, *Use it*. He replied, that "it was too considerable for any Person of private Condition, therefore he must not use it." To which the good Emperor rejoined laconically, "*Then abuse it.*"

M A R C U S



### MARCUS ULPIUS NERVA TRAJANUS.

TRAIAN.

**T**RAJAN succeeded in the forty-second Year of his Age. He was at *Cologne*, in *Germany*, when NERVA died, and where he continued the whole Year. The Empire had been dangerously convulsed and rent by the Cruelty and Extravagance of DOMITIAN, by the Rebellion of *Antonius*, by the Inroads and Successes of the *Marcomanni*, *Quadi*, *Sarmatians*, and *Dacians* (to the last of whom was paid an annual Tribute, though softened by the Name of Stipend) and by the Insolence of the Prætorians. The State resembled a Vessel in Distress, which had been forced upon the Shallows, and the Assistance of a more than mortal Hand seemed

seemed necessary for its Preservation, This was the Idea which the *Romans* themselves entertained of it. The Mildness and Oeconomy of the last good Emperor had relieved it in Part, and the Magnanimity, Valour, and Policy of TRAJAN, now secured its Safety. This is the Explanation which Mr. *Addison* gives of the fine Medal annexed. It is one of the *Nummi Contorniati*, or Medals which are finely rimmed round with a different Metal; and has on one Side, the laureate Head of TRAJAN, with a Branch of Laurel before him, and the Inscription DIVO NERVAE ET TRAIANO. The word *Imperatoribus* is understood, and then the Sense of the Reverse naturally follows. After, therefore, premising, that different Interpretations had been made of it, which seemed to be forced and unnatural, he gives his own Opinion. “The Vessel,” says he, “is here represented as stranded. The Figure before it comes in to its Assistance, and lifts it off the Shallows. For we see the Water scarce reaches to the Knees, though it is the Figure of a Man standing on firm Ground. His Attendants, and the good Office he is employed upon, resemble those the Poets often attribute to *Neptune*. *Homer* tells us, that the Whales leaped up at their God’s Approach, as we see in the Medal. The two small Figures that stand naked among

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P

“the

TRAIAN.

“ the Waves are Sea-Deities of an inferior Rank,  
 “ who are supposed to assist their Sovereign in the  
 “ Succour he gives the distressed Vessel.

“ *Cymothoe, simul et Triton adnixus acuto*

“ *Detrudunt naves scopulo; levat ipse tridenti,*

“ *Et vastas aperit syrtes, et temperat æquor.*” VIRG. ÆN. l. 1.

“ *Cymothoe, Triton, and the sea-green Train*

“ *Of beauteous Nymphs, the Daughters of the Main,*

“ *Clear from the Rocks the Vessels with their Hands;*

“ *The God himself with ready Trident stands,*

“ *And opes the Deep, and spreads the moving Sands.”* }

DRYDEN.

“ The Interpreters of the Medal have mistaken  
 “ these two Figures for the Representation of two  
 “ Persons that are drowning. But as they are both  
 “ naked, and drawn in a Posture rather of triumph-  
 “ ing o’er the Waves than of sinking under them,  
 “ so we see Abundance of Water-Deities, on other  
 “ Medals, represented after the same Manner. I  
 “ therefore take the Thought to be this: The  
 “ stranded Vessel is the Commonwealth of *Rome*,  
 “ that, by the Tyranny of *DOMITIAN*, and the In-  
 “ solence of the Prætorian Guards under *NERVA*,  
 “ was quite run aground, and in Danger of pe-  
 “ rishing. Some of those embarked in it endea-  
 “ vour at her Recovery; but it is *TRAJAN* that,  
 “ by the Adoption of *NERVA*, stems the Tide  
 “ to

“ to her Relief, and, like another *Neptune*, shoves  
 “ her off the Quickfands. To shew that this  
 “ Construction is conformable to the Fancies of  
 “ the old *Romans*, you may observe, that *Horace*  
 “ represents at length the Commonwealth under  
 “ the Figure of a Ship, in the Allegory that you  
 “ meet with in the fourteenth Ode of his first  
 “ Book :

“ *O Navis, referent in mare te novi.*

“ *Fluctus.*”

“ And shall the raging Waves again

“ Bear thee back into the Main ?

CREECH.

“ Nor was any Thing more usual, than to repre-  
 “ sent a God in the Shape and Dress of an Em-  
 “ peror. For the Thought in general, you have  
 “ just the same metaphorical Compliment to *Theo-*  
 “ *dofius*, in *Claudian*, as the Medal here makes to  
 “ TRAJAN.

“ *Nulla relicta foret Romani nominis umbra,*

“ *Ni pater ille tuus jamjam ruitura subisset*

“ *Pondera, turbatamque ratem, certaque levasset*

“ *Nafragium commune manu.*” CLAUD. de 4to, Conf. Honorii.

“ Had not thy Sire deferr'd th' impending Fate,

“ And with his solid Virtue propp'd the State;

“ Sunk in Oblivion's Shade, the Name of *Rome*,

“ An empty Name ! had scarce surviv'd her Doom :

“ Till he sustain'd the Load, and, with sure Hand,

“ Eas'd her, half-wreck'd upon the dang'rous Strand.”

TRAIAN.

It is plain that the Medal before us was struck after the Death and Deification of NERVA. But that which Mr. *Addison* had, the Reverse of which was entirely the same, was stamped in Honour of TRAJAN, when he was only *Cæsar*, by the Title on the Face of it, .... SARI TRAIANO.

From *Cologne* he wrote to the Senate, assuring them, that no good Man should suffer Death or Ignominy by his Command, which he afterwards confirmed by Oath. *Cæperius*, and the rest of the busy Spirits among the Prætorians, who had been guilty of the late Insult, he sent for, under the Pretence of employing them, and executed that Vengeance upon them which NERVA had recommended to him. Having settled the Affairs of the Province, he took the Surname of GERMANICVS, which we find on all his Coins. On his Arrival at *Rome*, he did many Things for the Advantage of the Commonwealth in general, and of worthy Persons in particular. He gave a considerable Largeſs to the Soldiers, and a Congiary to the People. He contributed largely to the Cities of *Italy*, towards the Education of Children, on whom he conferred many Benefits. This Liberality is recorded on the

Pl. XXVIII. 16. Coin in Bronze, which represents a Mother presenting her Children to him, as he sits enthroned, who hold out their little Hands in token of Gratitude:

tude: in the Area is S C: in the Exergue, ALI-  
 Menta ITALIÆ dat: on the Verge, S P. Q R  
 OPTIMO PRINCIPI. For on these several Ac-  
 counts, the Surname of OPTIMVS, which, as it  
 expressed his Disposition, he valued more than all  
 his other Titles, was already conferred upon him.  
 His Wife PLOTINA, as she entered the Palace, turn-  
 ing upon the Steps, said to the People, " Such I  
 " enter it as I would wish to leave it." And in-  
 deed she behaved so as to be without Reprehension.  
 We have the Head of this Lady on a Medal of the  
 first Magnitude, in Bronze, with the Inscription  
 PLOTINAE AVGVSTÆ TRAIANI AVGVSTI. The  
 Reverse is the *Venus Genetrix*, with the Legend  
 VENERI GENETRICI: and in the Area, S C.  
 The Emperor's Sister, tho' deceased, was also de-  
 clared AVGVSTA, and honoured with a Confe-  
 cration, as appears from her Medal also in Bronze  
 of the like Size, having her Bust, inscribed DIVA  
 AVGVSTA MARCIANA: the Reverse is a cower-  
 ing Eagle, with S C underneath. On other Medals,  
 both in Gold and Bronze, we have the Figure of  
 his Niece *Matidia*, the Daughter of *Marciana*, who  
 was also honoured with this Title. For there she is  
 called MATIDIA AVGVSTA DIVAE MARCIANAE  
 Filia. Her Reverse is a *Piety*, rearing Children,  
 with the Legend PIETAS AVGVST.

Pl. XXVIII. 17

Pl. XXVIII. 18

Pl. XXVIII. 19

TRAJAN.

Daughter there also was, named JULIA SABINA, who was married to ADRIAN the next Year.

His Diligence in Arms, his Lenity in Civil Matters, and his Generosity to the Cities that stood in need of it, were most eminent. In excellent Princes, says my Author, we look for Sanctity in Peace, Fortitude in War, and Prudence in both. These Virtues TRAJAN blended by a certain happy Temperament, except that he was a little too much given to Wine, and the Entertainments of the Table, yet never to Intoxication. But he was guilty of a much worse Vice, which will admit of no Palliation. He was patient of Labour, a Lover of good and brave Men, the Patron of Learning, and, though not learned himself, yet moderately eloquent; liberal to his Friends, whose Society he enjoyed on Terms of Equality; deaf to Informers; not passionate, nor covetous; naturally magnificent and magnanimous, choosing rather to be loved than honoured; towards the People, humane; towards the Senate, full of Nobleness and Grace; dear to his Subjects, and terrible to his Enemies. An excellent Commander he was; for while he gained the Love of his Soldiers, he kept them under strict Discipline and Subjection. This was highly necessary, since the State was like to stand in Need of their best Service; as the Emperor could by no Means





Means brook the Payment of a yearly Stipend to the Dacians. TRAJAN.

*Decebalus*, therefore, crossing the *Danube*, ravaged all the Country as he passed. But **TRAJAN** quickly drove him back, took many of his Cities, and obliged him to submit to his own Terms; which were, to surrender his Arms, the Deserters, his Machines, and the Artificers of them; to quit the neighbouring Country, which he had taken Possession of; to have the same Enmities and Alliances with the *Romans*; and to admit no Subject of the *Roman Empire* into his military Service. This Convention settled, *Decebalus* was admitted to his Presence, and prostrated himself before him. He sent Ambassadors also to *Rome*, to have the Peace ratified by the Senate. **TRAJAN** then, leaving Garrisons in the principal Places of *Dacia*, returned to *Rome*. This Success was obtained by the Emperor in his fourth Consulate, and is recorded on a Medal of Gold, the Reverse of which shews him in the military Habit, with the *Hasta pura* in his right Hand, and a *Victory alate*, holding a Palm-Branch in her left Hand, and with her right placing a Wreath of Laurel on his Head: the Legend P. M. TR. P. COS. IIII. P. P. It is probable that he repaired the Temple of *Cybele* this Year, since, on the Reverse of one of his contorniated Medallions

PL. XXIX. I.

TRAJAN.  
Pl. XXIX. 2.

lions in Bronze, she appears drawn by Lions. Her Head is turrated, and she holds the *Hasta pura* in her Hand; and close to her is one of the *Corybantes*, distinguished by his Whip or Scourge.

But the next Year the War broke out again with fresh Fury. For *Decebalus*, discontented with the hard Conditions imposed upon him, invited the neighbouring Powers to his Assistance, collected Arms, received Deserters, repaired his Castles, and had already seized upon the adjacent Territory of the *Iazyges*. He was, therefore, again declared an Enemy by the Senate, and TRAJAN took the Field against him, but narrowly escaped an Assassination, by some Deserters commissioned for that Purpose; one of whom, being suspected, was put to the Torture, and discovered the Whole. Meantime, *Longinus*, who commanded under TRAJAN, was by *Decebalus*, who pretended all Submission, inveigled to an Interview, and treacherously imprisoned. For from him he hoped either to learn the Designs of the Emperor, or to make him the Price of a Reconciliation. But his Hopes deceived him; for *Longinus* dispatched himself by Poison; and TRAJAN advancing, laid a Bridge over the *Danube*, a Work of extraordinary Magnificence; of which *Dr. Brown*, in his Travels, says, “there are still  
“ some Ruins, not far from *Severin*, about twenty  
*Hungarian*

“ *Hungarian Miles from Belgrade.* This Bridge  
 “ consisted of twenty Piles of square Stone, of an  
 “ hundred Feet high, besides the Foundation :  
 “ of sixty Feet in Breadth, and the Distance be-  
 “ tween each of them one hundred and seventy  
 “ Feet, and conjoined by Arches : upon the which  
 “ was this Inscription, singular for the Pun in the  
 “ Word *Pontificis* :

PROVIDENTIA AVG.

VERE PONTIFICIS VIRTUS ROMANA  
 QUID NON DOMAT? SVB IVGVM ECCE  
 RAPITVRET DANVBIVS.

“ And as a Memorial hereof, many *Roman Coins*  
 “ were stamped, and some in Silver, not yet rare  
 “ among us, with this Inscription, DANVVIVS.”

One of these is now before us, having on the Face  
 of it the Emperor's laureate Head, with IMP  
 TRAIANO AVG GER DAC PM TR P. The  
 Reverse is the Genius of the River decumbent,  
 resting the left Arm upon his Urn, and having an  
 Helm in the right Hand, to denote its being navi-  
 gable : in the Exergue DANVVIVS. The Legend  
 says, COS V PP S P Q R OPTIMO PRINC.  
 Having passed the River, he subdued the *Dacians*,  
 though not without much Difficulty. *Decebalus*,

PL. XXIX. 3.

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seeing

TRAIAN.

seeing his Capital in the Hands of his Enemy, put an End to his own Life. His Head was conveyed to *Rome*, and his Kingdom made a *Roman* Province, as appears from the Reverse subjoined, in which we see the Genius of the Country seated upon a Rock, and holding in her left Hand the Standard of the *Roman* Eagle, and extending her right Hand to the Emperor, who is crowned with Laurel, and raised upon the Shoulder of a Captive, and bears a *Cornucopiæ* in his left Hand. The Legend is DACIA AVGVSTI; and in the Exergue PROVINCIA. S C. Here TRAJAN settled a Colony. The Royal Treasures were recovered, though concealed in the Bed of the River *Sargetia*, the Stream of which *Decebalus* had turned with that View, and afterwards restored to its former Channel. About the same Time *Palma*, the Prefect of *Syria*, reduced that Part of *Arabia* which borders on *Petra*: on which Occasion the Senate decreed Medals, which have for their Reverse a female Figure, loosely dressed, with a Sprig of Frankincense in the right Hand, and in the left the *Calamus odoratus*, with a Camel standing by. “The Dress that *Arabia* appears in,” says Mr. *Addison*, “on this Coin, brings to my Mind the Description that *Lucan* has made of these Eastern Nations:

Pl. XXIX. 4.

Pl. XXIX. 5.

*Quicquid*

“ *Quicquid ad Eoos tractus mundique tepore*

“ *Labitur, emollit gentes clementia cæli.*

“ *Illic et laxas vestes, et fluxa virorum*

“ *Vèlamenta vides.*

LUC. lib. 8.

“ While *Asia's* softer Climate, form'd to please,

“ Dissolves her Sons in Indolence and Ease.

“ Here silken Robes invest unmanly Limbs,

“ And in long Trains the flowing Purple streams. ROWE.

“ She bears in one Hand a Sprig of Frankincense,

“ ——— *Solis est thurea virga Sabæis.*

VIRGIL.

“ The Sprig of Incense *Saba's* Sons alone

“ Can boast.

“ In the other Hand you see the perfumed Reed,

“ as the Garland on her Head may be supposed to

“ be woven out of some other Part of her fragrant

“ Productions :

“ ————— *Sit dives amomo*

“ *Cinnamaque, costumque suam, sudataque ligno*

“ *Thura ferat, floresque alios Panchaia tellus.* Ov. Met. lib. 10.

“ Let *Araby* extol her happy Coast,

“ Her Cinnamon and sweet Amomum boast,

“ Her fragrant Flow'rs, her Trees with precious Tears,

“ Her second Harvests, and her double Years. DRYDEN.

“ The Camel is the Beast of Burden there, which

“ helps to carry off its Spices. We find it men-

“ tioned in *Perfius*, on the same Account ;

TRAIAN.

“*Tolle recens primus piper e sitiente Camelo.*

PERS. Sat. 5.

“ ————— the precious Weight

“ Of Pepper and *Sabean* Incense take

“ With thy own Hands from the tir'd Camel's Back. DRYDEN.

“ He loads the Camel with Pepper, because the

“ Animal and its Cargo are both the Productions.

Pl. XXIX. 6. “ of the same Country.” The Legend is S P Q R.

OPTIMO PRINCIPI: in the Area S C; and in

the Exergue ARABIA ADQVISITA. This is in

Bronze; but there are some *Greek* Coins in Silver,

Pl. XXIX. 7. which celebrate this Event, having the Emperor's

laureate Head, with ΑΥΤΟΚΡ ΚΑΙΣ ΝΕΡ ΤΡΑΙΑΝΟC:

ΑΡΙCΤΟC CΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ ΔΑΚ, *Imperator Cæsar Nerva*

*Trajanus Optimus Augustus Germanicus Dacicus*; and

a Camel only for the Reverse, with ΔΗΜΑΡΧΙΩΝC

ΕΞΕCΙΑC ΤΡΙΑΤΟC, *Tribunitia Potestate, Consul.*

But it was the Reduction of *Dacia*, and the

Death of *Decebalus*, which brought to him Am-

bassadors with Congratulations from all Quarters,

even from *India*. From this Time the Surname of

*Dacicus* appears on all his Coins; many of which

were struck on this Occasion. One of them shews

the Conqueror in his triumphal quadrigated Car,

holding a Sceptre and a Branch of Laurel: the Le-

gend S P Q R OPTIMO PRINCIPI: in the Exergue

Pl. XXIX. 8. S C. Another has the Emperor on Horseback,

trampling on the Foe, with the same Legend. A

third

third gives the Figure of Peace, treading on her Enemy, with a Branch of Laurel in one Hand, and a *Cornucopie* in the other; with the same Legend. TRAJAN.  
Pl. XXIX. 9

A fourth exhibits the same Figure, setting Fire with a Torch to an Heap of Arms, as in the Reign of VESPASIAN; the Legend still the same. Pl. XXIX. 10.

A fifth has a Captive, sitting melancholy on an Heap of Arms, at the Foot of a Trophy erected upon them. Pl. XXIX. 11.

A sixth shews two Trophies, to intimate his two Victories over the same Foe: in the Exergue S C; and the Legend at length, SENATVS POPVLVS-QVE ROMANVS. Pl. XXIX. 12.

Besides these and many more, Columns, Statues, and Arches were erected, to perpetuate the Memory of this important Conquest. But we must not omit the Mention of one Medal more, because it is particularly taken Notice of by Mr. Addison. “ You see on it the Figure of TRAJAN, “ presenting a little *Victory* to *Rome*. Between “ them lies the conquered Province of *Dacia*. It “ may be worth while to observe the Particularities “ in each Figure. We see Abundance of Persons “ on old Coins, that hold a little *Victory* in one “ Hand, like this of TRAJAN, which is always the “ Sign of a Conquest. I have sometimes fancied “ *Virgil* alludes to this Custom in a Verse that “ *Turnus* speaks;

“ Non:

TRAIAN.

“ *Non adeo has exosa manus Victoria fugit.* ÆN. lib. II.

“ If you consent, he shall not be refus'd,

“ Nor find a Hand to Victory unus'd. DRYDEN.

“ The Emperor's standing in a Gown, and making  
 “ a Present of his *Dacian* Victory to the City of  
 “ *Rome*, agrees very well with *Claudian's* Character  
 “ of him :

“ ————— *Victoria feretur*

“ *Gloria Trajani ; non tam quod, Tigride victo,*

“ *Nostra triumphati fuerit provincia Parthi,*

“ *Alta quod inuestus stratis Capitolia Dacis :*

“ *Quam patriæ quod mitis erat.*

“ Thy Glory, *Trajan*, shall for ever live :

“ Not that thy Arms the *Tigris* mourn'd, o'ercome,

“ And tributary *Parthia* bow'd to *Rome* ;

“ Not that the *Capitol* receiv'd thy Train

“ With shouts of Triumph for the *Daci* slain ;

“ But for thy Mildness to thy Country shewn.

“ The City of *Rome* carries the Wand in her Hand,  
 “ the Symbol of her Divinity :

“ *Delubrum Romæ (colitur nam sanguine et ipsa*

“ *More Deæ)*—— PRUDENT. cont. Sym. l. I.

“ For *Rome*, a Goddess too, can boast her Shrine,

“ With Victims stain'd, and sought with Rites divine.

“ As the Globe under her Feet betokens her  
 “ Dominion over all the Nations of the Earth,

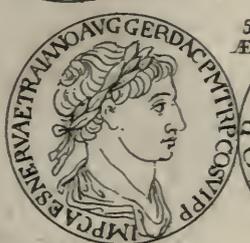
“ the Heap of Arms she sits on, signifies the  
 “ Peace that the Emperor had procured her. On  
 “ old Coins we often see an Emperor, a *Victory*,  
 “ the City of *Rome*, or a Slave, sitting on a Heap  
 “ of Arms; which always marks out the Peace that  
 “ arose from such an Action as gave Occasion to  
 “ the Medal. The Posture of the Province here is  
 “ what we often meet with in the Slaves and Cap-  
 “ tives of old Coins: among the Poets too, sitting  
 “ on the Ground is a Mark of Misery or Cap-  
 “ tivity.

“ *Outinam ante tuos sedcam Captiva penates.*      PROPERT. l. 4.

“ O might I sit a Captive at thy Gate!”

On this Occasion TRAJAN exhibited Spectacles, which lasted an hundred and twenty-three Days; on which sometimes a thousand, and sometimes even ten thousand Beasts, wild and tame, were slaughtered, and five thousand Pair of Gladiators fought. At the same Time he paved the *Pontine Marshes* with Stone, raising Buildings by the Ways, and most magnificent Bridges, where wanted. This was the old *Appian Way*, which was carried on to *Capua*, and afterwards continued to *Brundisium*. The Restoration of it by this Emperor is celebrated on Coins, which have for the Reverse a female Figure Pl. XXIX. 14. decumbent, with a Palm-Branch in the left Hand;  
 to

- TRAIAN. to denote that this was one Consequence of his late Atchievement; and in the other a measuring Wheel, to signify the public Road, and the Extent of it. The Legend is the common one of SPQR OPTIMO PRINCIPI; but the Exergue explains the Whole, by giving us the new Name, which the Road now assumed, of VIA TRAIANA. He now caused all the adulterated Coins to be melted down; and set on Foot many Works of extraordinary Magnificence: he enlarged the Temple of
- Pl. XXIX. 15. *Janus*, which is probably represented in the Reverse before us. Another Temple is also recorded
- Pl. XXIX. 16. on his Coins by a Senatorial Decree, but to what Divinity erected, is uncertain. He built the Port of *Ancona*, which upon his Coins has a Sort of theatrical Aspect, with a Tower at each End of
- Pl. XXIX. 17. it. It is shut in by a Chain, within which a Vessel rides in Safety. It has the S C, and the same Legend as above. For the making of this Port, a triumphal Arch was erected to him at the same Place, which is yet entire. Mr. *Addison*, in his Travels, says, that “ it looks very white and  
 “ fresh, as being exposed to the Winds and Salt-  
 “ sea Vapours, that, by continually fretting it, pre-  
 “ serves itself from that mouldy Colour which  
 “ others of the same Materials have contracted.”  
 The Body of it is inscribed to TRAJAN, in his sixth  
 Consulate.





Confulate. It was therefore erected the Year after the Port was made; for the Face of the Medal just mentioned calls him COS V. One End of the Arch is inscribed DIVAE MARCIANAE AVG. SORORI AVG.; and the other PLOTINAE AVG. CONIVGI AVG. The Whole may be seen in *Gruter* and *Patin*. He diverted a Part of the AQVA MARTIA, or *Martial Water*, as it was called, to Mount *Aventine*, for the Benefit of that Quarter of the City; which Stream was thenceforward called the AQVA TRAIANA: the Utility of which was recognized by the Senate on his Coins, which have for their Reverse the Genius of the Stream decumbent, and leaning upon his effluent Urn, with a Reed in one Hand, and the Legend AQVA TRAIANA underneath; that around the Verge being almost entirely obliterated. The grand Hall, which he erected for the Administration of Justice, deserved also to be commemorated on his Coins; on several of which we have two different Views of it: and from the Number of its Columns and Decorations, it appears to have been a Work of extraordinary Magnificence: in the Exergue we read BASILICA VLPIA. S C. and around is the usual Legend. But on some of his Coins, which

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Pl. XXIX. 18.

Pl. XXIX. 19.

Pl. XXX. 1.

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naments.

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naments. This might be taken for one of the Entrances of this Emperor's Forum, "on the Pediments of which," says *A. Gellius*, "around, and on every Side, were the gilded Figures of Horses and Ensigns, and underneath was subscribed EX MANVBIIS, *from the Spoils*;" and *Lipsius* doubts not, that there were also gilded Statues. But in the Work before us, instead of the *ex manubiis*, we see I O M, *Jovi Optimo Maximo*, which persuades me, that it was intended for the Vestibulum, or Porch of the Capitol, decorated by TRAJAN. "Therefore we behold," says *Pliny* in his Panegyric, "one or two Statues of you, and of Brass only, in the Vestibule (*in vestibulo Jovis Optimi Maximi*) of JOVE OF INFINITE GOODNESS AND POWER." The *Circus Maximus*, the two Sides of which had been greatly damaged by Fire, was repaired and enlarged by him with the Materials of DOMITIAN's *Naumachia*. An Inscription upon it said, that "he had made it large enough for the Roman People." Yet one would have thought that it had scarce needed any Enlargement before, since it was then three Furlongs in Length and one wide. It even makes a considerable Figure upon his Coins. Mr. *Addison* says, that he saw one of them in the Hands of Monseigneur *Strozzi*, Brother to the Duke of that Name. "It  
" has

“ has on it,” says he, “ besides the *Circus Maxi-*  
 “ *mus*, a View of the Side of the Palatine Moun-  
 “ tain that faces it, on which are seen several Edi-  
 “ fices, and among the rest the famous Temple of  
 “ *Apollo*, that has still a considerable Ruin stand-  
 “ ing. This,” he observes, “ is a very curious  
 “ Medal, as large as a Medallion.” One of them  
 is also in the *Pembrokian* Collection, and inserted  
 here for the Satisfaction of the curious Reader. It  
 has the usual Legend, and in the Exergue, S C.  
 But the most magnificent of all his Works was, the  
 Forum, called by his Name. The superb Entrances  
 of it, particularly the grand Portico, were asto-  
 nishing. It is represented on the Medal before us.  
 On the Top of it he appears in his triumphal  
 Car, crowned by *Victory*, with Trophies on each  
 Side. The Niches are filled with the Statues of  
 those who had distinguished themselves in the  
*Dacian* War. In the Exergue, FORVM TRAIANI.  
 In the Area of this Portico was his Equestrian  
 Statue. When CONSTANTIUS visited *Rome*, *Am-*  
*mianus*, lib. xvi. c. 10. describes him as lost in  
 Amazement when he beheld this Forum, which he  
 calls “ the singular Work under Heaven, which the  
 “ Gods themselves would confess to be wonderful, so  
 “ enormous was the Contexture of the Whole, in-  
 “ effable, inimitable.” That Emperor despaired of

TRAIAN.  
Pl. XXX. 2.

Pl. XXX. 3.

Pl. XXX. 4.

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being able to attempt any Thing like it, but the Horfe “ he both could and would copy.” *Hormisda*, the *Persian*, who stood by, said, “ But first build “ such a Stable for him, if you can.” In the Center of the Forum stood a vast Column of Marble, which, including the Base, was one hundred and forty-four Feet high. There was an Ascent by winding Stairs within; and on the Summit of it was the Statue of the Emperor, twenty Feet high, with a Scepter in the left Hand, and a Globe of Gold in the right, which was intended to receive his Ashes hereafter. The Exploits of the Emperor in the *Dacian* War were wrought upon it. These were published at the Expence of *Francis* the First, King of *France*, in one hundred and thirty Copper Plates. And the Figures were so curiously done, that *Raphael Urbin* confessed, that whatsoever Elegance might be discerned in his Drawings, he was indebted for to these. The Pillar is still existing, with an Inscription, importing that the Mountain had been dug away, and levelled to a Depth equal to the Height of the Column. It is figured upon his Medals, with the usual Legend, and in the Area S C.

Pl. XXX. 5.

Pl. XXX. 4.

In the short Interval of Peace, which he enjoyed this Year, he distributed a Congiary to the *Roman* People. The Reverse of the Medal in Bronze, which

which commemorates it, is much injured, both in the Legend and the Figure: but enough of both remains to assure us of the Intent of it. He is represented as making the Distribution in Person, with several Petitioners around him; and the Letters CONG == with S C in the Exergue, are yet plain. At the same Time some Medals in Gold were struck in Honour of PLOTINA, having her Bust inscribed PLOTINA AVG. IMP TRAIANI. For the Reverse, *Vesta* seated, with the *Hasta pura* in her left Hand, and holding out the *Palladium* on her right: the Legend CAES AVG GERMA. DAC. COS VI PP. There is likewise a Denarius, entirely resembling this, both in the Face and Reverse. I find also two of the Emperor's Denarii struck this Year, the Reverse of the one being his own Equestrian Statue, with the usual Legend; of the other, his Predecessor NERVA seated, with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and the *Patera* in the other: the Legend being DIVVS PATER TRAIANI.

TRAIAN.

Pl. XXX. 6.

Pl. XXX. 7.

Pl. XXX. 8, 9.

He must have set out very early this same Year on his Expedition against the *Armenians* and *Parthians*; because we have several Medals of the same Date, which record the Success of his Operations. The pretended Ground of the Quarrel was, that the Monarch of the former had received his  
Crown

TRAIAN.

Crown from the latter: but the real Motive was Glory. At *Athens*, the Ambassadors of *Chosroes* met him with Presents from their Master, and a Request of Peace, and of the Crown of *Armenia*, for *Parthamasiris*, who was also the Son of *Pacoras*. He refused the Presents; answering, that Friendship was to be proved by Deeds, not Words: and that, when he came into *Syria*, he would do what was fitting. On his Arrival at *Antioch*, he received an Ambassy and Presents from *Abgarus*, of *Osroene*, who, lying exposed both to the *Romans* and *Partians*, was desirous of pleasing both. Having marched to the Borders, the Satraps and Kings of those Parts waited upon him with rich Gifts. He took all, and marched on to *Satala* and *Elegia*, Cities of *Armenia*, did Honour to the King of the *Heniochi*, but punished *Parthamasiris*, the Monarch of the *Armenians*, making himself Master of the whole Country. Those Princes, who submitted, he held in the Number of his Friends, and took the rest Prisoners without Resistance. At *Elegia*, *Parthamasiris* laid his Diadem at his Feet, hoping to receive it again at his Hands, but was disappointed. He was however dismissed in Safety with his Attendants. **TRAJAN**, planting Garrisons in convenient Places, marched on to *Edessa*, where he first saw *Abgarus*. This Prince had sent several Ambassadors

Ambassadors with Presents, and Excuses for his Non-appearance. But his Son *Arbandes*, a Youth of great Beauty, having gained the Favour of TRAJAN, who was supposed to be too familiar with him, he ventured to shew himself, and obtained Pardon. In *Mesopotamia*, he took *Singara*, with other strong Holds. These Successes gave Birth to many Senatorial Decrees: and on the Surrender of *Nisibis* and *Batna*, he received the additional Surname of *Parthicus*. We find it on one of his Coins in Gold this Year, the Reverse of which has the orient Sun, the Legend PARTHICO PM TR P COS VI PP S P Q R. This points out the East for the Scene of these great Actions. But another of his Reverses shews the Emperor himself, standing, in his military Habit, with a Spear in one Hand, and a Sword in the other. At his Foot is a female Captive, representing *Armenia*; and on one Side the *Euphrates*, on the other the *Tigris*, decumbent, and leaning upon their Urns: the Legend is ARMENIA ET MESOPOTAMIA IN POTESTATEM P R REDACTAE.

Pl. XXX. 10.

Pl. XXX. 11.

A dreadful Earthquake happened during his Stay at *Antioch* this Winter, in which City was a vast Concourse of People from all Parts, so that the Damage was general. Vast Numbers lost their Lives, and a Multitude of the Survivors were bruised and mangled in a shocking Manner. The Emperor himself

TRAIAN.

himself escaped through the Window of the Room where he was. In Spring he once more entered the Enemy's Country. He had builded Vessels at *Nisibis*, which were now conveyed in Carriages to the *Tigris*. With these he laid a Bridge over that River, at the Foot of Mount *Cardynus*, and passed it in the Face of the Enemy. He then reduced *Assyria*; and began to execute his Purpose of joining the *Euphrates* and *Tigris*. This seems to be expressed

Pl. XXX. 12.

in the Reverse before us, the two Figures representing the *Euphrates* in Conjunction with the *Tigris*, with the usual Legend; and in the Exergue S C. However, finding the former of these Rivers to be much higher than the latter, he dropped his Design, lest he should ruin the Navigation of it. On the Reduction of *Ctesiphon*, he was saluted *Imperator* the ninth Time, and confirmed in the Sur-

Pl. XXX. 13.

name of *Parthicus*. To this was owing the Reverse annexed, on which the Soldiers, Horse and Foot, with their Ensigns, appear before him, as he sits on his Tribunal, attended by his two principal Officers: in the Exergue IMPERATOR VIII. S C.

Pl. XXX. 14.

Another of his Reverses in Gold exhibits a Trophy, with two Captives; male and female, sitting at the Foot of it; and in the Exergue PARTHIA CAPTA: the Legend is PM TR P COS VII SPQR. From this Medal it is evident that the  
Emperor

Emperor TRAJAN was seven Times Consul, notwithstanding the Silence of Authors respecting this Point. For *Dio Cassius* admits of no more than six Consulships; nor do we meet with more in *Alme-loocen's* Fasti; nor in *Goltzius's* Catalogue of Consuls, or in his Enumeration of *Titles* from Coins and Inscriptions. The Senate now passed many Decrees to do him Honour, and principally that he should have as many Triumphs and Festal Days as he should judge proper. He now determined to sail down the *Persian* Gulf, and took Possession of *Messana*, an Island of the *Tigris*, in which *Athambylus* reigned. Here he incurred great Danger, from the Severity of the Weather, the Rapidity of the *Tigris*, and the high Tides. Thence he came to the Ocean; and having observed the Nature of it, and seen a Ship pursuing its Voyage to *India*, he said, that if he was a young Man, he would himself pass thither. The Senate, informed of these Things, decreed for him a triumphal Arch in his own Forum, and made great Preparations for his Reception: but he returned no more. Nor was the End answerable to the Beginning. What he had gained with so much Toil and Hazard, was on a sudden lost. For while he was sailing towards the Ocean, and returning thence, a general Defection took place; and his Garrisons were either ejected, or put

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to the Sword. Apprised of this, he dispatched *Lusius* and *Maximus*, his Generals, against the Rebels. This last was defeated and died. But *Lusius* recovered *Nisibis*, and sacked and burned *Edeffa*. *Seleucia* was also stormed and burned by other Commanders. TRAJAN, fearing lest the *Parthians* also should raise Disturbances, determined to give them a Native for their King. He therefore came to *Ctesiphon*, and assembling the *Romans* and *Parthians* in a spacious Plain, ascended his Tribunal; and after recounting his Exploits, declared *Parthamaspates* their King, placing the Diadem on his Head. The very curious Medal in Bronze, which celebrates this Transaction, gives on its Reverse the whole Ceremony; with the Legend REX PARTHIS DATVS: in the Exergue S C. But in the Course of the Expedition, several Scepters were disposed of by him. Two are given to Persons, who, on the fine Reverse before us, are raised upon Thrones, and receive them on their Knees: himself is represented in the Act of conferring them, while a *Victory alate* descends from Heaven, and crowns him with a Wreath of Laurel. Another fine Medal in Bronze, with his laureate Head, inscribed IMPeratori CAESari NERvae TRAIANO OPTIMO AVGVsto GERmanico DACico PARTHICO P M, Pontifici Maximo, shews on its Reverse

verse three Kings together, receiving their Domi-  
nions at his Hands, having the Legend REGNA  
ADSIGNATA.

After this he marched into *Arabia* against the  
*Hagarens*, who had also revolted. Their City was  
neither large nor wealthy, and the Country around  
mostly desert, through the Want of Wood and  
wholesome Water, and parched with continual  
Heat. He sent forward his Cavalry to the Walls,  
but they were repulsed with much Loss. He fol-  
lowed himself, and had a narrow Escape, an  
Horseman being slain close by him. Storms of Wind  
and Hail, with Thunder and Lightning, drove  
them back at every Assault; so that he was forced  
to raise the Siege, and soon after fell into an in-  
curable Disease. Meantime the *Jews* about *Cyrene*  
rose upon the *Greeks* and *Romans*, whom they mas-  
sacred, feeding upon their Flesh like Beasts of Prey.  
Many they sawed afunder, threw many to the wild  
Beasts, and obliged many to kill one another in  
Combat, destroying two hundred and twenty thou-  
sand Persons. The same Confusion they created  
in *Egypt* and *Cyprus*, slaying there two hundred and  
forty thousand, but were subdued principally by  
*Lusius*. TRAJAN had Thoughts of leading his Army  
into *Mesopotamia* once more, but his Malady in-  
creasing, he began his March for *Italy*, leaving *Ha-*  
*drian* at the Head of his Forces in *Syria*. He thought

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himself poisoned; but others judged his Disorder to be owing to a Suppression of the Hæmorrhoidal Flux. He was seized with a Stroke of the Palsy, and had a confirmed Dropsy, which carried him off at *Selinus*, a City of *Cilicia*, after a Reign of nineteen Years six Months and fifteen Days.

He was a Prince of boundless Ambition, and raised the *Roman* Empire to the highest Pitch of Dominion which it ever obtained. But he had another Sort of Ambition, which was much more noble, that of engaging the Affection of his Subjects by continued Acts of Generosity and Mercy. Hence, when he appointed a Commander of the Prætorian Cohorts, and gave him the Sword as usual, he held it out to him drawn, "Receive this," said he, "for me, if I govern well; if not, against me." His great Failings were Viciousness and unnatural Lust: but he endeavoured to prevent any ill Effects from the first, by charging those about him to execute no Commands that he should give after drinking largely; and the last was scarce deemed a Vice amongst them. He was a Bigot to the Idolatry of his Country; and, notwithstanding his boasted Clemency, permitted the Persecution to proceed against the *Christians*; and, while he was at *Antioch*, in Person condemned *Ignatius* to the wild Beasts. His Resolution on this Head was inconsistent and contradictory. For  
 though,

though, after *Pliny's* candid Representation of them, and their Religion, he forbid any Enquiry after them, yet he directed that they should be punished when formally accused. "A strange Perplexity this," says *Tertullian*, "between Reasons of State and Justice! He declares them innocent, by forbidding them to be searched after, and at the same Time commands them to be punished as Criminals." His Ashes were brought to *Rome*, and deposited under his Pillar, and himself was deified. We have the Heads of himself and his Predecessor on the same Medal of Gold, with DIVI NERVA ET TRAIANVS PAT. There are Abundance of *Greek* Medals of him. *Vaillant* enumerates more than one hundred and twenty. Few of them have any Thing worth Notice. We shall insert only one or two of the more curious. The first, which gives his laureate Head, with TPAIANOC CEBACTOC, *Trajanus Augustus*, may be called a Consecration Medal, as it shews him on the Reverse placed in the Center of the Zodiac, surrounded by the Constellations. Another, struck undoubtedly at *Alexandria*, in *Egypt*, is very fine, having his laureate Head, with TPAIANOC CEBACTOC, *Imperator Trajanus Augustus*; and, on the Reverse, the Genius of the River *Nile*, seated on a Sphynx, with a *Cornucopiæ* in one Hand, and the *Papyrus*:

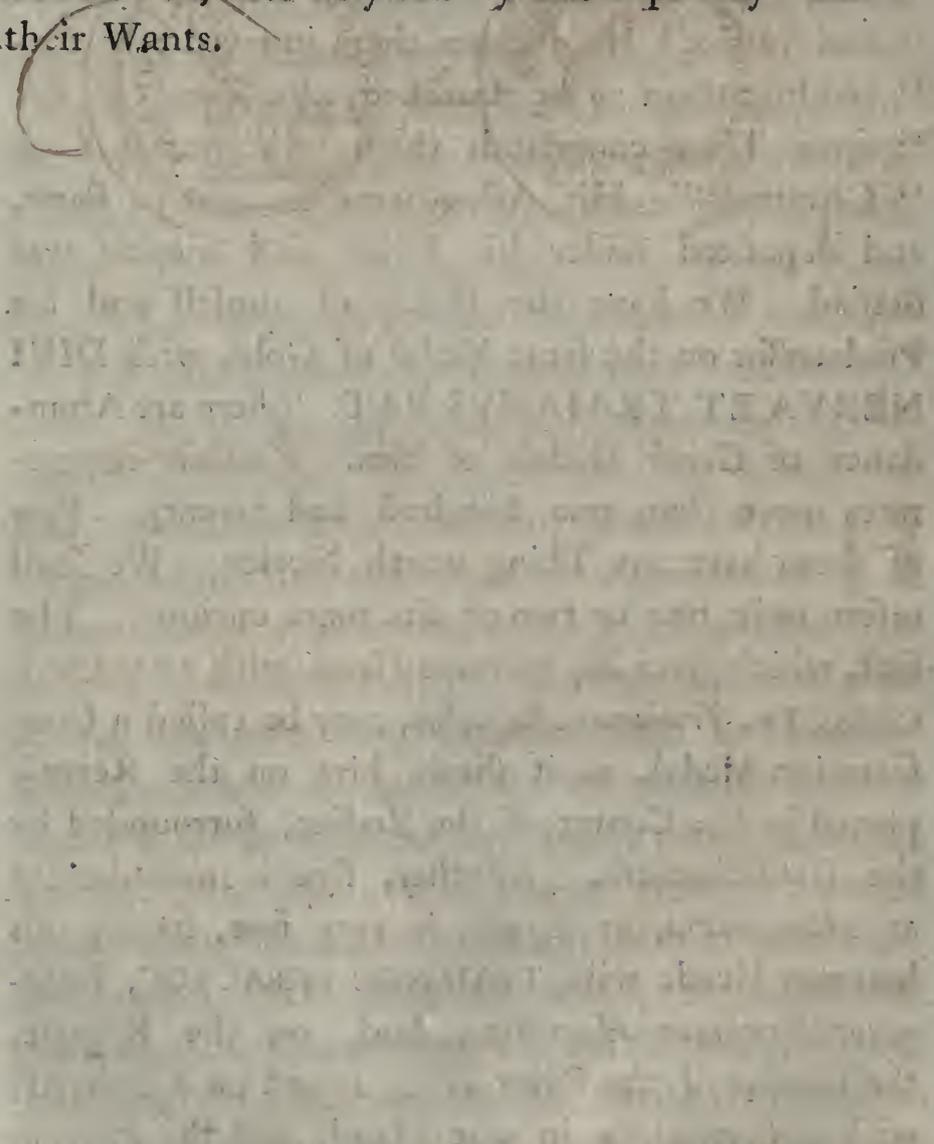
Pl. XXX. 19.

in

THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

TRAIAN.

in the other: several little Figures of Men are in Motion round about; and in the Area, **IV**, *anno* 17°. It was probably struck in Gratitude for his Munificence; who, on a Failure of the usual Inundation, had very readily and copiously relieved their Wants.



PUBLIUS



PUBLIUS AELIUS HADRIANUS.

**H**ADRIAN was the Kinsman of TRAJAN, and had married his Niece SABINA. He succeeded to the Empire in Consequence of a supposititious Adoption, managed by PLOTINA, whose Favourite he was. Of this, Letters were dispatched to the Senate, signed by her. He was, therefore, acknowledged Emperor ; and we see him on the Reverse before us, rising as the orient Sun, and assuming the Titles of PM TR P COS II ; and underneath, ORIENS. The late-conquered Nations were now in Arms ; the *Moors* discontented, the *Sarmatians* in open War, the *Britons* impatient of the Yoke, *Egypt* troubled with Seditions, and *Lycia* and *Palestine*:

HADRIAN.

PL. XXX. 20.

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*Palestine* evidently disposed for Rebellion. He, therefore, wisely resolved to quit *Parthia*, *Armenia*, *Assyria*, and *Mesopotamia*, and make the *Euphrates* the Boundary of the *Roman* Empire. He, therefore, gave some neighbouring Dominions to the Prince whom *TRAJAN* had set over the *Parthians*, withdrew his Troops, doubled the usual Largeſs of the Soldiers, and ſet out from *Antioch*, for *Rome*, by the Way of *Illyricum*. *Tatianus*, *Plotina*, and *Matidia*, with the Remains of *TRAJAN*, took their Paſſage by Sea. On his Route he wrote to the Senate, required divine Honours for *TRAJAN*, and aſked Pardon in the gentleſt Manner for having aſſumed the Purple without their Conſent, having been haſtily ſaluted Emperor by the Army. His Arrival at *Rome* is celebrated on his Medals. The

Pl. XXXI. 1. Reverse of one of them in Gold has a Figure representing *Rome*, armed, with an Helmet, ſeated on a Trophy, having the *Hæſta pura* in the left Hand, and with the right taking hold of *HADRIAN*'s, in Token of a friendly Reception; in the Exergue, COS III. The Senate decreed to him the Triumph due to *TRAJAN*, but he reſuſed it for himſelf, and carried the Statue of the deceaſed Emperor in the triumphal Car. The Title of *PATER PATRIAE*, though preſſed upon him once and again, he deferred for a Time. His Bounties





Bounties were immense. He remitted the coronary Gold to *Italy*, and lessened it to the Provinces, notwithstanding the known Difficulties of the Treasury. He exceeded TRAJAN himself in the Provision which he made for the Education of Children. This is recognized on the Reverse, which shews him enthroned, while a *Roman* Matron presents her Children to him, to whom he graciously extends his Hand. The Legend is PONT MAX TR POT COS III: in the Area, S C; and in the Exergue LIBERTAS RESTITVTA. He cancelled the Arrears due to the Treasury for sixteen Years past, whether from private Persons in the City, in *Italy*, or the Provinces, publicly burning the Bonds in TRAJAN'S Forum. In this Act he is represented on the Reverse before us, with a Torch in his Hand, setting Fire to the obligatory Instruments; while the *Romans* before him hold up their Hands in the Fulness of Admiration. The Legend runs RELIQA VETERA HS NOVIES MILLIES ABOLITA. S C. The Debts thus abolished amounted to no less than seven millions two hundred sixty-five thousand six hundred and twenty-four Pounds of our Money. He forbid the Effects of condemned Persons to be returned into his private Exchequer, and ordered them into the public Treasury. To the poorer Senators, he allowed

Pl. XXXI. 2.

Pl. XXXI. 3.

HADRIAN.

Stipends, proportioned to the Number of their Children. He exhibited a Shew of Gladiators for six Days together; and on his Birth-day exposed a thousand wild Beasts, when an hundred Lions, and as many Lionesses, were killed. At the Theatre and Circus he gave Presents to the Men and Women separately, in missile Balls. These Things restored that Joy and Chearfulness to the City, which is

Pl. XXXI. 4.

represented on one of his Reverses, under the Figure of a Woman, with her Lap gathered, and a *Cornucopiæ* in her Hand, to intimate that Plenty which breeds Hilarity. Before her is a Palm-Branch, the Symbol of Success: the Legend HILARITAS PR: in the Area S C; and in the Exergue COS III. His own Felicity, in the Happiness of the People, is expressed on another of his Reverses, in much the same Manner; only here the Figure has a Branch of Laurel in the right Hand, and a *Caduceus* in the left: the Legend FELICITAS AVG; and in the

Pl. XXXI. 5.

Area S C. But on another of his Medals, of the first Magnitude, in Bronze, the same Figure has the *Caduceus* in her right Hand, and a *Cornucopiæ* in her left. And it is to be remarked, that on the

Pl. XXXI. 6.

Obverse or Face of this Medal, the Emperor takes the Title of PP, or *Father of his Country*. His Promotion to this Dignity he imputes to the Providence of the Gods, being described on one of his

7

Reverses,

Reverse, with an Air of Devotion, reaching out his Hand towards the Sceptre, which is brought to him by the Eagle of *Jupiter*, in his Talons: the Legend PROVIDENTIA DEORVM; and in the Area S C. But Mr. *Addison* has given us a Reverse, inscribed by the Senate to the Felicity of this Emperor, the Device of which is a Ship carried on by Sails and Oars at the same Time:

“ *Sive opus est, minimam velis bene currit ad auram,*

“ *Sive opus est remo remige carpit iter.* OVID.

“ The light Breeze carries her, if Sail she needs;

“ If Oars, with Rowers then her Way she speeds.

“ It is an Emblem of Happiness:

“ *En ego non paucis quondam munitus amicis,*

“ *Dum flavit velis aura secunda meis.* OVID.

“ Guarded with Friends I was, while Fortune's Gales

“ Wanton'd auspicious in my swelling Sails.

“ The Metaphor is the same in the Verses as in  
 “ the Medal; only the one is in Words, the other  
 “ in Figures. The Idea is alike in both, though  
 “ the Manner of representing it is different. Several  
 “ Ships made Choice of some God or other for  
 “ their Guardians, as among the *Roman Catholics*  
 “ every Vessel is recommended to the Patronage of  
 “ some particular Saint. The Figure of him was

T 2

“ placed

HADRIAN.

“ placed on one End of the Vessel that it patronized.

“ *Hammon numen erat Libycæ gentile carinæ,*

“ *Cornigerâque sedens spectabat cærulea fronte.* Sil. Ital.

“ The Poop great *Ammon*, *Libya's God*, display'd,

“ Whose horned Front the nether Flood survey'd.”

The Vessel, figured on his Coin, bears the *Triton*; and the Legend FELICITATI AVG. is on the Sail. But on the Medal before us, it is over it upon the Margin: in the Area is the S C; and in the Exergue COS III PP. *Neptune* is the Guardian Deity, who is seated on the Poop, with the Trident in his Hand. Behind him is an Ensign rear'd, and at the Foot of it the Pilot sits, holding the Helm. At the other End is the Emperor, looking down upon the Vessel, and the Rowers underneath him. The Figures and their several Places are no where more distinct.

PL. XXXI. 8.

On the Declaration of War with the *Sarmatians* and *Roxolanians*, who had invaded *Illyricum*, he sent the Armies forward, and then set out for *Moësia*, appointing *Martius Turbo* temporary Governor of *Pannonia* and *Dacia*. This Expedition is signified on two Reverses, which shew him on Horseback: the Legend of one being PM TR P COS III S C; and underneath, EXPEDITIO AV-

PL. XXXI.

9, 10.

Gusti:

*Gusti*: of the other, COS III PP; and underneath, HADRIAN.  
 S C. In *Moësia* he defeated the Enemy on their  
 Return, who in their Flight swam across the *Dan-*  
*nube*. The *Roman* Cavalry in the Pursuit took the  
 River after them. This so terrified them, that they  
 sued for Peace, and had it granted. His Review  
 of, and Adlocution to, the *Dacian* Army on this  
 Occasion is represented on two Reverses also. On  
 the one he appears on Horseback with three Sol-  
 diers and their Eagles before him, representing so  
 many Legions, and they are called EXERCITVS  
 DACICVS. S C. On the other he is on Foot,  
 haranguing them from the Suggestum. But here  
 the Figures are four; the one on the Side repre-  
 senting the Auxiliaries. His Success is intimated  
 by a Reverse of Gold, whereon he appears armed  
 with Helmet, Spear, and Shield, with the Legend  
 PM TR P COS III: and by another of the same  
 Metal, with a Victory alate, with a Palm-Branch on  
 the Shoulder, and holding out a Wreath of Laurel  
 with the right Hand; and by a *Denarius*, the Re-  
 verse of which exhibits the Goddess ROMA, seated,  
 with a *Victory* in one Hand, and an Olive-Branch  
 in the other, to intimate the Peace which ensued.  
 He now escaped a Plot laid for his Life by *Nigri-*  
*nius*, which was to have been executed while he was  
 sacrificing. In this Plot, *Palma*, *Celsus*, and *Lusius*,  
 were

PL. XXXI.  
11, 12.

PL. XXXI. 13.

PL. XXXI. 14.

PL. XXXI. 15.

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were Accomplices, concerning whom he wrote to the Senate, who immediately condemned them all to die. This caused Murmurings; and the Emperor, to clear himself, swore that they had not suffered by his Orders. He now returned to *Rome*; and, to wipe off all Aspersions, gave a double Congiary to the People, who had already received three Pieces of Gold a Head. This Liberality is celebrated on some of his Medals of Silver by a female Figure pouring Coins in great Plenty from her *Cornucopiæ*, with the Legend LIBERALITAS AVG. COS III.

Pl. XXXI. 16.

He now took a Journey into *Campania*, conferring Benefits wherever he passed. He next went into *Gaul*, relieving every where the distressed. His Arrival there is celebrated on one of his Medals; the Legend of which is ADVENTVI AVG GALLIAE S.C. *Gallia*, or "*France*, has a Sheep " by her," says Mr. *Addison*, " not only as a Sa- " crifice, but to shew that the Riches of the Coun- " try consisted chiefly in Flocks and Pasturage:

Pl. XXXI. 17.

———— *pinguia Gallicis*

" *Crescunt vellera pascuis.*

HOR.

" Fat Fleeces in the *Gallic* Pastures grow.

" She carries on her Shoulders the *Sagulum*, or " small Cassock, that *Virgil* speaks of as the Ha- " bit of the ancient *Gauls*.

" *Aurea*

“ *Aurea cæsaries ollis, atque aurea vestis :*

“ *Virgatis lucent sagulis.* VIRG.

“ The Gold dissembled well their yellow Hair;

“ And golden Chains on their white Necks they wear;

“ Gold are their Vests. DRYDEN.

“ She is drawn in a Posture of sacrificing for the safe Arrival of the Emperor. We find on the several Medals struck on HADRIAN'S Progress through the Empire, that at his Arrival they offered a Sacrifice to the Gods for the Reception of so great a Blessing.” He then passed into *Germany*, where he inured the Soldiers to Hardiness and Discipline by his own Example, marching on Foot, with his Arms, for twenty Miles together at a Time, leading altogether a military Life amongst them, and sustaining himself with fat Bacon, Cheese, and *Posca*, or Water-Wine, a Liquor made by an Infusion of Water upon the Grapes after the first Expression. This Strictness is acknowledged on his Medals of Gold and Bronze. On the first he is represented in the *Toga* or Civil Gown, PI. XXXI. 18. marching before them, three Soldiers with their Ensigns marching after him in Order: in the Exergue, DISCIPLINA AVG. On the latter he is in the military Habit, and is followed by four; the foremost representing his Legate or Lieutenant: the Legend is the same, with the Addition of the S C.

HADRIAN.

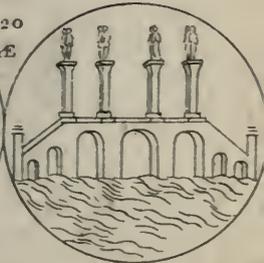
S C. His next Visit was to *Britain*, where JULIUS SEVERUS commanded. *Camden* remarks, that “the  
 “ *Britons* had certainly freed themselves from the  
 “ *Roman Yoke*, if HADRIAN had not come hither  
 “ in Person, who seems to have defeated them.

Pl. XXXI. 19.

“ For in a Coin of his we see a General with three  
 “ Soldiers, which I suppose to represent the three  
 “ Legions of *Britain*, with this Inscription, EXER-  
 “ *citus BRITANNICVS*; and another, with this  
 “ Inscription, RESTITVTORI BRITANNIAE;”

Pl. XXXI. 20.

and another, whereon we see BRITANNIA with her right Foot upon a Trophy, a Spear in her Hand, and leaning her left Arm upon a Shield. For here he made many Regulations, and raised a Wall eighty Miles in Length, to check the Incurfions of the Barbarians. Here he displaced *Septimius Clarus*, his Captain of the Guards, and *Suetonius Tranquillus* the Historian, his Secretary, for using the Empress SABINA with too little Reverence, *without his Orders*. This seems to be an Intimation, that she was rarely used with proper Regard by himself, or those about him. Indeed she complained much of the Bitterness of his Behaviour towards her; which, *Victor* says, induced her to put an End to her own Life. Yet we have her Head in Gold, with the Inscription SABINA AVGVSTA HADRIANI AVG PP; and on the Reverse, a CONCORD seated,





seated, with the *Patera* in her Hand, and around HADRIAN.  
 CONCORDIA AVGVSTÆ. But this is no more  
 than the usual Compliment. But one of her Me-  
 dals in Bronze of the first Magnitude celebrates her Pl. XXXII. 1.  
 Chastity, the Figure of the Goddess PVDICITIA  
 being exhibited on the Reverse, seated and veiled,  
 having her long Garments drawn around her in  
 close Modesty: the Legend PVDICITIA; and in  
 the Exergue, S C. We see the same Figure on a  
 Reverse of the younger FAUSTINA. Temples were  
 erected to this Deity:

*Templa Pudicitæ quid opus statuisse puellis,  
 Si cuivis nuptæ quidlibet esse licet?* TIBULL.

Since Wives, whate'er they please, unblam'd can be,  
 Why rear we useles Fanes to *Chastity*? ADDISON.

How her Posture and Dress become her, you may  
 see in the following Verses:

*Ergo sedens velat vultus, obnubit ocellos;  
 Ista verecundi signa Pudoris erant.* ALCIAT.

She sits, her Visage veil'd, her Eyes conceal'd;  
 By Marks like these was *Chastity* reveal'd. ADDISON.

*Ite procul vittæ tenues, insigne Pudoris,  
 Quæque tegit medios insita longa pedes.* OVID.

Hence the smooth Fillets on the Forehead bound,  
 Whose Bands the Brows of *Chastity* surround,  
 And her coy Robe that lengthens to the Ground. }

ADDISON.

HADRIAN.

Lastly, she is represented in the Habit of a Roman Matron, and

*Matronæ præter faciem nil cernere possis,  
Cætera (ni Catia est) demissâ veste tegentis.* HOR.

The modest Matron's Face is seen alone,  
For all the rest is cover'd with a Gown. CREËCH.

Pl. XXXII. 2. Her Denarius, inscribed SABINA AVGVSTA, has for its Reverse the *Venus Genetrix*, with a Branch of Myrtle in one Hand, and the Golden Apple in the other: the Legend VENERI GENETRICE. Here the Figure is erect, and shews itself freely; the Countenance is open, the Neck bare, the Feet in View, and the Robe loose and flowing; forming a Sort of Contrast to the preceding. But how far it is applicable to this Empress must be left to others; since she confessed the Endeavours which she used to prevent her being with Child by one of so morose and sour a Disposition. This Imputation, however, was mutual, and there seems to have been a Want of Complacency on both Sides.

From *Britain* he returned hastily into *Gaul*, on Account of a Sedition at *Alexandria*. This was occasioned by the Eagerness of the Inhabitants to have, every one, the new-found *Apis* in their own Possession. He now raised a Basilic of wondrous Workmanship, at *Nemausus*, in Honour of PLO-

5.

TINA.

TINA. Thence he proceeded to *Spain*, and wintered at *Tarraco*, where he restored the Temple of *AUGUSTUS*, at his own Expence, and held an Assembly of the State. His Presence and Munificence here is recorded on two of his Reverses. The first has the Genius of *Spain* decumbent, with an Olive-Branch in her Hand, and crowned with a Wreath of the same, as described by *Claudian*: HADRIAN.  
Pl. XXXII. 3.

————— *Flavis dum prima Minervæ  
Nexa caput foliis.*

*Minerva's* Leaves enwreath'd around her Head.

At her Foot is a Rabbit, an Animal with which this Province abounded. *Catullus* therefore calls it *Cuniculosa Celtiberia*, *Rabbit-bearing Celtiberia*. We read of a whole Town in *Spain* undermined by them; and the learned *Bochart* is of Opinion, that from them the Country took its Denomination; the Word *שפן*, *Sepan*, signifying a Rabbit in the *Phœnician* Language, to which the *Greeks* adding their usual Termination, called it *Σπανια*, whence the Word *HISPANIA*, surrounding the Figure. In the second she is on her Knees, with the same Animal at her Feet, and is graciously raised by the Emperor, who extends his Hand for that Purpose: the Legend *RESTITVTORI HISPANIAE*. While here, he gave the *Germans* a King, and repressed Pl. XXXII. 4.

HADRIAN. the Motions of the *Moors*. Supplications were now made for his Return, which are recorded on a Silver

Pl. XXXII. 5. Coin by an Altar, before which stands an officiating Priest, with a *Patera* in his Hand, having the Legend VOTA PVBLICA. After this he went through the lesser *Asia*, and traversed the Islands to *Achaia*. Here he was initiated in the *Eleusinian* Mysteries, and his Beneficence was such that the *Greeks* reared his Statue of *Parian* Marble in the Temple of *Jupiter*. It is acknowledged also on the Reverse before us, where *Achaia* is on her Knees before the Emperor. "She has an Urn before her," says Mr. *Addison*, "with a Sprig of Parsley rising out of it. This alludes to the *Numæan* Games, in which a Garland of Parsley was, the Victor's Reward. One Reason for it was, doubtless, because it always preserves its Verdure; and is therefore called by *Horace* the *vivax apium*, or long-lived Parsley." Thence he sailed to *Sicily*, and ascended Mount *Ætna*, to see the Sun rise there, as various, as he was said to do, in his Colours as the Rainbow. This Island too

Pl. XXXII. 6. appears on his Coins, in the same Attitude, and is raised by him in the same Manner. She holds out an Handful of Wheat, and is crowned with a Garland of it. For she abounded with this Commodity, and was therefore called the Granary of *Rome*. Here the

the Legend is RESTITVTORI SICILIAE. He HADRIAN.  
 now returned to *Rome*, but quickly after set Sail  
 for *Africa*. On his Arrival there it rained, after a  
 Drought of five Years. This exceedingly endeared  
 him to the People of those Provinces, who also  
 shared his usual Munificence. Hence we have, on  
 several of his Coins, the Figures representing *Africa*  
 and *Mauritania*. On that before us, the former is Pl. XXXII. 7.  
 decumbent, and quoiffed (as Mr. *Addison* calls it)  
 with the Head of the Elephant, to shew that this  
 Animal is the Breed of the Country.

*Et vastos Elephantes habet, sævosque leones,  
 In pænas fæcunda suas, parit horrida tellus.*

MANIL.

Fruitful in its own Plagues, the desert Shore  
 Hears Elephants and frightful Lions roar.

The Scorpion is also proper to the Country, for  
 which Reason she holds it in her Hand: and the  
 admirable Fertility of it is pointed out in the *Cor-*  
*nucopiæ* which she bears, and the Basket of Wheat  
 which stands before her.

*Frumenti quantum metit Africa.*

HOR.

And Corn as much as *Afric* measures out.

*Mauritania* is described by a *Moor*, holding his Pl. XXXII. 8.  
 Horse, without a Rein, and having in his Hand the  
 Wand

HADRIAN. Wand with which they were used to direct and govern them, according to *Claudian*;

————— *Sonipes ignarus habenæ:*

*Virga regit.*

A Wand directs their Coursers, which disdain  
The servile Usage of the curbing Rein.

No Prince ever travelled over so many Countries with like Expedition. Returning to *Rome* again, in the Year of the City eight hundred and seventy-four, he erected and dedicated a most magnificent Temple to the *Fortune of the City*. This Ceremony was performed on the 21st of *April*, or the Eleventh of the Calends of *May*, which was the Birth-day of the City, formerly called the *Parilia*, or *Palilia*, now *Romana*. The Rejoicings were extraordinary; and the *Circensian* Sports exhibited by Decree of

Pl. XXXII. 9. the Senate. All this is expressed on one of his Medals of Gold, by a female Figure, representing the *Fortune* of the City, and distinguished by her *Wheel*, who is seated at the Foot of the *Meta*; or Obelisk of the *Circus Maximus*: the Legend is ANN DCCCLXXIIII NAT. VRB R. CIR CON; i. e. *Natali urbis Romæ Circenses Concessi*. (Vide *Ammian. Marcellin. Gronov. p. 103, ad Notam, f.*)

He now passed thence into the East, taking *Athens* in his Way. Here he discharged the Office  
of

of *Archon*, cloathed in the Habit of the Country, and celebrated the Feast of *Bacchus* magnificently. He now dedicated the Works begun by him before (as the Temple of *Olympian Jove*, in which he placed a Serpent brought from *India*, and an Altar to himself;) permitted the *Athenians* to build their Temple called *Paphellenion*, instituted Sports on that Occasion, and presented them with a large Sum, an annual Supply of Corn, and the whole Territory of *Cephalenia*. In *Asia* he consecrated many Temples, denominated from himself *Hadriana*. His Arrival in *Capadocia* is signified by a Soldier, in the Habit of the Country, with a Standard in his Hand: the Legend CAPADOCIA. Here he purchased a Number of Slaves, for the Service of the Camp; and gave a friendly Invitation to the Kings and Rulers of those Parts, and to *Cosrobes* among the rest; whose Daughter, formerly taken Prisoner by *TRAJAN*, he released. To those who came, he behaved so generously, as to make the rest regret their Absence. He severely punished the Procurators and Governors in Fault. The Levity, Dicacity, and Petulance of the *Antiochians*, he could not bear with; and had Thoughts of disjoining *Phœnicia* from *Syria*, that their City might not continue the Metropolis of so many others. He now passed through *Judæa*, in his Way to *Egypt*. On one of his

PI. XXXII. 10.

HADRIAN.

Pl. XXXII. II.

his Coins this Province is represented as sacrificing to the Gods on his Behalf, and to congratulate his Arrival. The Altar is before her, and on each Side of it a naked Child, with Palm-Branches (the usual Symbol of the Country) in their Hands. The Emperor himself is in the Attitude of one who is giving a serious and strict Charge to the Person sacrificing. For at this Time he forbade them to sacrifice to any other than the Gods of the Nations, and to circumcise their Children: the Legend is ADVENTVS AVG IVDAEAE S C. He restored *Jerusalem*, in which he planted a Colony, and called it *Ælia Capitolina*. Where the Temple of *Solomon* had stood, he raised another to *Jupiter*. All this exasperated the *Jews*, and laid the Foundation of a dreadful War. They repaired their Forts and Cities, and made subterraneous Passages for their Defence, with surprising Industry. At length their Numbers became extremely formidable. SEVERUS, afterwards Emperor, was recalled from *Britain*, to command against them; who, by attacking them in separate Bodies, and intercepting their Convoys, at length entirely ruined them. Fifty of their Castles, and nine hundred and eighty Towns, were utterly destroyed. In Excursions and Engagements, five hundred and eighty thousand of them were slain, besides an infinite Number that perished by Fire, Sicknefs,

Sickness, and Famine; so that *Judæa* was in a Manner desart. HADRIAN.

When he came to *Pelusium*, he sacrificed to *Pompey*, and repaired his Monument. Here in the Practice of his Magic Rites, standing in Need of a voluntary Life, his favourite Pathic *Antinous* offered himself to Death; whom he therefore held in such Honour afterwards as to build a City on the Spot, which he called by his Name. Statues and Temples he erected to him almost all the World over, and affirmed a new Star, which appeared, to be the Soul of *Antinous*. No wonder then that Medals of the several Metals were struck to perpetuate his Memory. Those of Gold have his Head alike on both Sides, without any Inscription. In Bronze there are many of him, and of all Sizes. Some of them give his Head plain, with ANTINOOC HPΩC, *Antinous Heros*, having a Bull (the Animal sacrificed to him, as to *Jupiter* and *Augustus*) for the Reverse, with ΝΕΙΚΟΜΗΔΕΙΑ Η ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ, *Nicomedia Metropolis*. Others, his Head crowned with the *Lotus*, *Egypt* having been the Scene of this Action, with ANTINOOT HPΩOC, *Antinoi Herois*; while the Reverse shews him on Horseback, with the *Caduceus* in his Hand. For he is sometimes represented as *Mercury*, as *Bacchus* sometimes, and sometimes as *Pan*.

- HADRIAN. His Arrival in *Egypt* is intimated on several  
 Pl. XXXII. 14. Coins, some of which have for their Reverse the  
*Nile* decumbent, leaning on his effluent Urn,  
 crowned with Reeds, and holding a *Cornucopiæ*, to  
 intimate the Fertility and Plenty flowing from him,  
 Pl. XXXII. 15. or distinguished by an Anchor. In others, *Isis* sits  
 leaning on a *Canopus*, having the *Sistrum* in her  
 Pl. XXXII. 16. Hand, and the *Ibis* before her. In others, the *Nile*  
 is described as before, having the Word *NILVS*  
 Pl. XXXII. 17. over him, but with the *Crocodile* resting upon his  
 Knee: for this Animal, which abounded in the  
*Nile*, was even worshipped by the *Egyptians*.

*Egyptus portenta colit, Crocodilon adorat.* Juv.

Mad *Egypt* worships Monsters, and adores  
 The *Crocodile*.

- In others we have the Symbol of *ALEXANDRIA*,  
 Pl. XXXII. 18. with Ears of Corn in her Hand, and the Harvest  
 before her. In the *Museum* of this City he spent  
 his Time agreeably, proposing and expounding  
 Questions in Philosophy. And having now tra-  
 velled over all the *Roman* World, he was compli-  
 mented as the Restorer of it, by Medals struck at  
*Rome*, by Order of the Senate, on which a female  
 Figure kneels before him, with an Imperial Crown  
 upon her Head, and a Globe on her Lap, whom  
 he raises from the Ground. The three Divisions

of the Globe, *Europe, Asia, and Africa*, are separately before her; and the Legend is RESTITVTORI ORBIS TERRARVM. For he had raised some Structure, and exhibited Games in almost every City. But though his public Works were infinite, and in all Places, he inscribed his Name no where but on the Temple of TRAJAN. At Rome he repaired the *Pantheon*, the *Septa* where the Suffrages were taken, the Basilic of *Neptune*, many Temples, the Forum of AUGUSTUS, and the Baths of AGRIPPA. He erected the *Ælian* Bridge, which is figured on the Reverse before us (but we must not omit to inform our Readers, that the Genuineness of both this, and the *Meta Sudans* of NERVA, is questioned by the Antiquaries of Rome) and his own intended *Mausoleum*, near the *Tiber*. He removed the Temple of the *Bona Dea*, as he did the huge *Colossus* of NERO, standing and suspended as it was, with the Assistance of twenty-four Elephants; and emptied the Lake *Fucinus*, by deepening the Canal of CLAUDIUS.

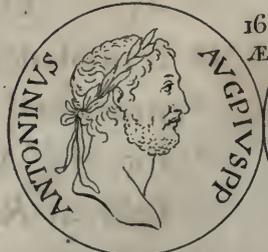
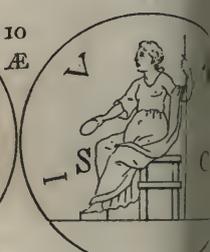
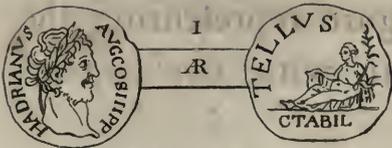
In this Reign an Inundation of the *Tiber* happened, and Famine, Pestilence, and Earthquakes, were frequent, which the Emperor remedied to the utmost of his Power. The last, he supposed that his Piety and Sacrifices (for he was exceedingly superstitious) had at Length got the better of. For

HADRIAN. which Reason we find a Figure representing the  
 PL. XXXIII. 1. Earth on some of his Denarii, with the Legend  
 TELLVS STABILITA.

For his public Works, and his Munificence, which had extended to all Countries, but was particularly manifest at *Rome*, he was flattered as the Restorer of the Golden Age. This imputed Revolution of Time is described upon one of his  
 PL. XXXIII. 2. Medals of Gold in a very extraordinary Manner, by the Figure of a venerable Person standing within a great Circle or Wheel, which, with the Constellations thereon, he has brought round with his right Hand, while he holds the Globe in his left, with a *Phoenix* perched upon it. The Legend is a Continuation of his Titles PM TR P COS III; and underneath, SAECulum AVReum. Mr. Addison has taken particular Notice of this. "It was," says he, "an Opinion among the Ancients, that  
 " the *Phoenix* renewed herself at the Beginning of  
 " the Great Year, and the Return of the Golden  
 " Age. The Person in the Midst of the Circle is  
 " supposed to be *Jupiter*, by the Author that has  
 " published this Medal, but I should rather take it  
 " for the Figure of *Time*. I remember to have  
 " seen at *Rome* an antique Statue of *Time*, with a  
 " Wheel or Hoop of Marble in his Hand, as  
 " *Seneca*



THE MEDALLIC HISTORY



“ *Seneca* describes him, and not with a Serpent, as HADRIAN.  
 “ he is generally represented :

“ ————— *properat cursu*

“ *Vita citato, volucrique die*

“ *Rota præcipitis volvitur anni.* Herc. Fur.

“ Life posts away,

“ And Day from Day drives on with swift Career

“ The Wheel that hurries on the headlong Year.

“ As the Circle of Marble in his Hand represents  
 “ the common Year, so this that encompasses him  
 “ is a proper Representation of the Great Year,  
 “ which is the whole Round and Comprehension  
 “ of Time. For when this is finished, the hea-  
 “ venly Bodies are supposed to begin their Courses  
 “ anew, and to measure over again the several  
 “ Periods and Divisions of Years, Months, Days,  
 “ &c. into which the Great Year is distinguished :

“ ————— *Consumpto, magnus qui dicitur, anno*

“ *Rursus in antiquum venient vaga sidera cursum :*

“ *Qualia dispositi steterant ab origine mundi.* AUSON.

“ When round the Great Platonic Year has turn'd,

“ In their old Ranks the wand'ring Stars shall stand,

“ As when first marshall'd by the Almighty's Hand.

“ To sum up, therefore, the Thoughts of this  
 “ Medal. The Inscription teaches, that the whole  
 “ Design must refer to the Golden Age, which it  
 “ lively

HADRIAN. “ lively represents, if we suppose the Circle that  
 “ encompasses *Time*, or *Jupiter*, to signify the  
 “ finishing of the Great Year; and that the *Phœnix*  
 “ figures out a new Series of Time. So that the  
 “ Compliment on this Medal to HADRIAN is in all  
 “ Respects the same that *Virgil* makes to *Pollio’s*  
 “ Son, at whose Birth he supposes the *Annus*  
 “ *Magnus*, or Platonical Year, run out, and re-  
 “ newed again with the Opening of the Golden  
 “ Age.”

“ *Magnus ab integro sæclorum nascitur ordo:*

“ *Jam redit et Virgo, redeunt Saturnia regna:*

“ *Et nova progenies cælo demittitur alto.* Ec. 4.

“ The Time is come the *Sibyls* long foretold,

“ And the blest Maid restores the Age of Gold, }  
 “ In the great *Wheel* of *Time* before enroll’d.

“ Now a new Progeny from Heav’n descends.”

LAUDERDALE.

We see the *Phœnix* also on three Medals of the  
 Pl. XXXIII. 3. Emperor CONSTANS, on one of which she stands on  
 the Cælestial Globe, with the Legend FELIX  
 TEMPORUM REPARATIO. As they had thus the  
 Art of restoring what Part of Time they judged  
 proper, we shall be the less surprized to see the  
 Foundation of the City brought round again, by  
 finding the old Story of the Wolf giving Suck to  
 Pl. XXXIII. 4. *Romulus* and *Remus* on one of his Medals of Gold,  
 with

with COS III; or, a Soldier with his Accoutrements, on the March, upon his *Denarius*, inscribed HADRIAN. PL. XXXIII. 5.  
ROMVLO CONDITORI.

The Fatigues of HADRIAN had brought upon him a tedious Illness, which was rendered extremely dangerous by an extravagant Bleeding at the Nose, from which a Dropsy ensued. He therefore adopted *L. Ceionius Commodus*, to whom he gave the Name of *ÆLIUS CÆSAR*; though he also was troubled with an Evomition of Blood. We have his Head impressed on Gold, with *L AELIVS CAESAR*, and a *Concord* for the Reverse, seated, with a *Patera* in her Hand, and a *Cornucopiæ* fixed near her: the Legend *TR POT COS II.*; in the Exergue *CONCORDIA*, to express their perfect Union and Agreement. But his *Denarius* bears a *Piety* in long Robes, veiled, with a *Patera* in her Hand, and an Altar before her, distinguished by the Word *PIETAS* in the Area, intimating his filial Duty towards his adopting Father. He was sent to govern *Pannonia*, and in that Station behaved well. There is a Medal of him in Bronze, of the first Magnitude, the Reverse of which exhibits the Figures of *Fortune*, with her Helm resting upon a Globe, to signify his unexpected Exaltation to the Empire of the World; and of *Hope*, cloathed in her white Robe, but having a Crown upon her Head, as fulfilled, and

PL. XXXIII. 6.

PL. XXXIII. 7.

PL. XXXIII. 8.

HADRIAN.

and holding her Emblem, the Lilly, in her Hand. The same Figure (the Crown excepted, which in that Place would have been improper) has been already given on a Medal of CLAUDIUS. This Deity, for such she was,

*Hæc Dea, cum fugerent sceleratas numina terras,  
In Dis invisâ sola remansit humo.* OVID.

When other Deities hence wing'd their Way,  
On Earth this only Goddess deign'd to stay.

had two Temples erected to her at *Rome*; one just without the *Porta Carmentalis*, and the other in the *Olitorium*, or Herb-Market. And she is robed in White,

*Te spes et albo rara Fides colit  
Velata panno.* HOR. Od. l. i. 35.

Thee, Fortune, Hope, and Faith, alas! how rare!  
Enrob'd in White, attend with duteous Care.

because all Petitioners for Dignities were so cloathed: whence they were said to be *Candidati*. The Image of *Hope* on this Medal, paying her Regard to *Fortune*, seems to have been copied from this Passage of the Poet. Another of his Reverses has the Figure of PANNONIA, holding a Banner, with the same Legend, TR POT COS II. There is a Medal of the same Size and Metal, of his Wife LVCILLA, having a Crown upon her Head, whereon

whereon she is stiled AVGVSTA, as he was invested with the *Tribunitial Power*: on the Reverse of which she is seated as IVNO, the Consort of *Jupiter*, with S C. But her *Denarius* has the VENUS VICTRIX, resting her left Hand upon a Shield; and holding a *Victory* in her right.

HADRIAN.

Pl. XXXIII. II.

But however grievous the Sickness of HADRIAN was, his intended Successor died before him. He then adopted ARRIUS ANTONINUS, on Condition that he also should adopt two others, ANNIUS VERUS, and MARCUS ANTONINUS VERUS, whom HADRIAN pleasantly and deservedly called *Verissimus*. After this, his Disorder became so troublesome, that he earnestly wished for Death, and called for Poison or a Sword in vain. He had before put *Servianus*, and his Grandson *Fuscus*, who was also his own great Nephew, to Death, though the one was ninety Years of Age, and the other but eighteen: and the Pains of his Disease now rendered him more cruel; so that many illustrious Persons were ordered to be executed, who were in general saved by the more merciful Disposition of his Successor. At length, by an improper Regimen, he hastened his own End, having lived seventy-two Years, five Months, and seventeen Days, and reigned twenty-one Years and eleven Months. The Senate so deeply regretted the Loss of their worthy Members, who had been cut

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off

ADRIAN.

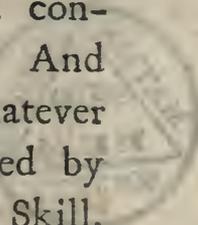
XXXIII. 12.

off by him, that it was with great Difficulty they consented at last to his Deification, at the earnest Request of ANTONINUS. This Ceremony is implied on one of his Reverses, which represents him holding the Sun and Moon in his Hands, as being, in the Language of Medallists, *fideribus receptus*, or taken up to Heaven, the starry Mansions, and the Seat of Gods: the Legend ÆTERNITAS AVGVSTI. S C.

His Person was tall and genteel, and his Hair curled. He was the first of the *Roman* Emperors that wore his Beard long, to conceal some natural Escars in his Face. His Habit of Body was robust; but nothing was ever so various as his Disposition, austere and joyous by Turns, gay and grave, lascivious and cold, sparing and liberal, a most artful Dissembler, naturally cruel, yet merciful. He gave every Thing to his Friends, yet listened to every Whisper against them; so that at last he held them, even those whom he loved best, as his Enemies. It is strange that, though he was himself a good Orator and Poet, and versed in all the Arts and Sciences, he looked upon the Professors of them with Derision and Contempt, yet rewarded them at the same Time. His dying Verses, translated by Mr. *Pope*, are well known. He was greatly beloved by the Soldiers, for his Care of and Liberality to-

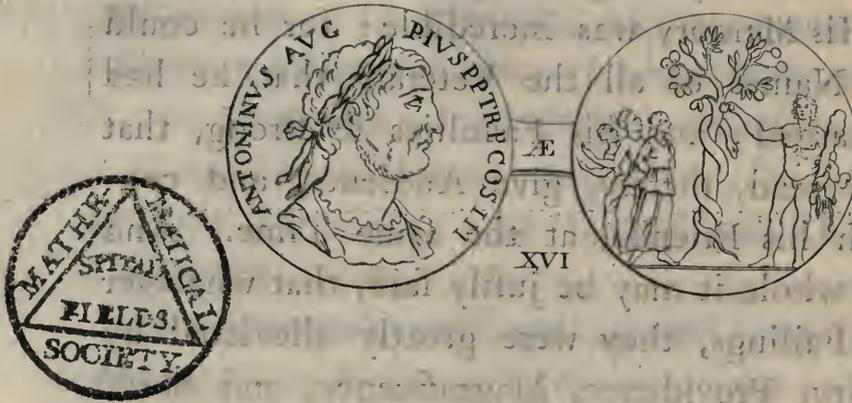
wards.

wards them. He officiated as *Pontifex Maximus*, which few Emperors had done, notwithstanding the Title, and very diligently patronized the *Roman Rites*. His Memory was incredible; for he could give the Names of all the Veterans that he had ever discharged; and his Faculties so strong, that he would read, dictate, give Audience, and converse with his Friends, at the same Time. And upon the whole it may be justly said, that whatever were his Failings, they were greatly alleviated by his Sedulity, Providence, Magnificence, and Skill. His last Settlement of the Succession upon ANTONINUS, evidenced his cordial Regard for the Commonwealth, and was the richest Blessing that he could confer upon it.



ANTONINUS was chosen by the Senate, and had the honor of being adopted by the Emperor Hadrian, who had no natural issue. He was a man of a liberal and generous mind, and was distinguished by his talents and his virtues. He was a great lover of the arts and sciences, and was particularly fond of the study of the Greek language. He was also a great patron of the liberal professions, and was distinguished by his wisdom and his justice. He was a man of a mild and easy temper, and was distinguished by his clemency and his lenity. He was a man of a great and noble mind, and was distinguished by his greatness of soul and his magnanimity. He was a man of a great and noble mind, and was distinguished by his greatness of soul and his magnanimity.

ANTONINUS  
P. I. V. S.



T. AURELIUS FULVIUS BOIONIUS  
ANTONINUS PIUS.

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

**A**NTONINUS was furnamed Pius, either for having saved the many eminent Persons, whom HADRIAN, in the Torture of his Illness, had doomed to Death; or from the immense and infinite Honours which he paid to the Memory of his adopting Father; or for the extreme Care and Diligence with which he prevented his making away with himself; or for his own Clemency and extraordinary Sweetness of Disposition; or it may be for all these concurring Reasons, as well as his Strictness in the Exercise of religious Duties; for he performed no Sacrifice by a Substitute, while himself

himself was in Health. But there is a Medal of him, struck in or after his third Consulate, which seems to hint that his filial Piety had laid the Foundation of this amiable Title. It bears his Head plain, and is well executed, with ANTONINVS AVG PIVS PP; and on the Reverse, *Æneas* carrying his Father on his Shoulders, and leading *Jūlus* in his Hand: the Legend TR P COS III. He had been the last Year, on his Adoption, invested with the Proconsular and Tribunitial Authority, and was now the second Time Consul, when his first Care was to confirm the Acts of his Predecessor. We therefore see the FIDES PVB- LICA on the Reverse of one of his earliest Coins, with the Legend TR POT COS II S C. This Figure has been already taken Notice of in the Reign of DOMITIAN. Another ascribes his Imperial Power, which is symbolized by the Thunder and Lightning of *Jupiter*, TO THE PROVIDENCE OF THE GODS; and another, intimating also his Establishment, has his laureate Head, with ANTONINVS AVG PIVS PP, and the Wolf on the Reverse, giving suck to *Romulus* and *Remus*, with TR POT COS S C. This Surname of PIVS, as it seemed to draw the Veneration of the People, was from him assumed by the succeeding Emperors, with the Addition of FELIX, which two Words are

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

Pl. XXXIII. 13.

Pl. XXXIII. 14.

Pl. XXXIII. 15.

Pl. XXXIII. 16.

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

- are expressed on their Coins by the Initials P F. His Regard for all good Men, and particularly for the Senate, was most cordial, and that illustrious Body looked up to him as the Restorer of *Rome*.
- Pl. XXXIII. 17. On the Coins decreed to him, he is represented as their *Good Genius*; or tutelary Deity, like *Apollo*, with the *Lyre* and *Patera*; or as the Genius of the Senate particularly, with the Sceptre in one Hand, and Ears of Corn, the Emblem of their Plenty, in the other. For whereas, by a Law of CALIGULA, a Moiety of their Estates devolved to the Emperor on their Demise, ANTONINUS granted them the Power of disposing of the Whole as themselves should judge proper. With a View to him as their Restorer, they have marked out upon his
- Pl. XXXIII. 18. other Coins the Circumstances of their Origin; as the Sow, with her numerous Brood, having just farrowed beneath the Oaks. The Story is told by *Dionysius* of *Halicarnassus*, and by *Virgil* in the eighth *Æneid*.
- Pl. XXXIII. 19.

*Litoreis ingens inventa sub ilicibus sus,*  
*Triginta capitum fœtus enixa, jacebit;*  
*Alba, solo recubans, albi circum ubera nati.*  
*Hic locus urbis erit, requies ea certa laborum:*  
*Ex quo ter denis urbem redcuntibus annis*  
*Afcanius clari condet cognominis Albam.*

Which line the Shore, beneath yon Oaks reclin'd,  
A Sow, with thrice ten young ones, shalt thou find,

All





All white and spotless, stretch'd upon the Soil;  
 That be the City's Spot, the Rest from Toil:  
 Hence, in the Space of thrice ten circling Years,  
 Fair *Alba* there, of fairest Name, appears,  
 And the fam'd City young *Ascanius* rears.

ANTONINVS  
 PIVS.

One of them contains the sacred Shields of NUMA, PL. XXXIII. 20. with the Legend IMPERATOR II. S. C.; and underneath ANCILIA. Another has the Genius PL. XXXIV. 1. of the River, leaning on his Urn, near the Stump of a Tree, with a Reed in one Hand, and a Sceptre in the other: the Word TIBERIS over it; and in the Exergue S C. And another shews Mars, dis- PL. XXXIV. 2. tinguished by his Attributes, descending naked upon *Ili*a, for the Production of *Romulus*.

*Mars videt hanc, visamque cupit, potiturque cupitâ,  
 Et sua divinâ furta fefellit ope.* OVID. Fast.

*Mars* with a Lover's Eye her Charms survey'd,  
 And, by his Pow'r divine, deceiv'd the sleeping Maid.

The Assessment of the Duty usually paid on these Promotions, and called the *Coronary Gold*, he remitted entirely to *Italy*, and one Half of it to the Provinces. He made it his Business, indeed, to moderate all Impositions upon the People, and render them as light as was consistent with the Exigences of Government. To this End he spared not his own Fortune, which was immense, while he husbanded the Imperial Revenues, so as to leave the public

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

public Treafury full, and his private Coffers empty. Those, who had been preferred by HADRIAN, he continued in their Places, fo long as they behaved well; infomuch that some Governors prefided in their Provinces for feven, others for nine Years together; some Officers at home continued fuch for twenty Years, and some for their whole Lives. But all thefe were of exemplary Behaviour in their refpective Departments; nor did he elevate any, whose Characters would not bear the niceft Scrutiny. In the next Year he was a third Time Consul, and had for his Colleague his adopted Son M. AURELIUS.

Pl. XXXIV. 3.

This is evident from the *Denarius*, which bears on one Side his laureate Head, infcribed ANTONINVS AVG PIVS PP TR P COS III; and on the other the plain youthful Head of AVRELIVS. CAESAR. AVG. P II. F. COS. Between this and his fourth Confulate many important Events occurred; which are mentioned in no Order, or not at all, by the Historians. Such is that of a King appointed by him over the *Quadi*, in *Germany*, which is celebrated on

Pl. XXXIV. 4.

the Reverse before us, the Legend of which is REX QVADIS DATVS S C. In this Interval the *Brigantes* in *Britain* revolting, fell upon the *Genunians*, who were Allies of the *Romans*; but were defeated by *Lollius Urbicus*, with the Lofs of a great Part of their Country. Hence we fee the

Genius

Genius of the Island, seated upon a Rock, and weeping, with her Shield laid by, and named BRITANNIA, in the Emperor's third Consulute. The same Commander made a new Wall of Earth, by which he removed the *Barbarians* still farther northward. For this ANTONINUS, on another Reverse, is stiled IMPERATOR II, a *Victory alate* holding a Shield, inscribed BRITAN. Several other Wars were finished by his Legates; none of which were begun by himself, though many were prevented by his Virtue and Authority. Hence the Reverse of a like *Victory* driving a quadrigated Car, and in the Exergue VICTORIA AVG. His Care of the military Establishment for these Services is intimated by the *Adlocution* in the Reverse here copied, with IMP VI COS III; and in the Exergue PROVIDENTIA AVG: and by another, exhibiting a Soldier on the March, with all his Furniture on his Shoulder, and a double-armed Spear in his Hand, with TR POT COS III S C. A Medal, struck about the same Time, exhibits a fine Description of *Italy*, taken Notice of by Mr. *Addison*. It is symbolized under the Figure of a Woman, "having a *Cornucopiæ* in her Hand to denote her Fruitfulness:

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.  
Pl. XXXIV. 5.

Pl. XXXIV. 6.

Pl. XXXIV. 7.

Pl. XXXIV. 8.

Pl. XXXIV. 9.

Pl. XXXIV. 10.

" ——— *Magna parens frugum Saturnia tellus.* VIRG.

" Great Parent of the Fruits, *Saturnian Land*.

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" and

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

“ and a Crown of Towers on her Head to figure  
“ out the many Towns and Cities that stand upon  
“ her. *Lucan* has given her the like Ornament :

“ *Turrigero canos effundens vertice crines.*

“ A tow’ry Crown her hoary Temples bound.

“ She holds a Sceptre in her other Hand, and sits  
“ on a Globe of the Heavens, to shew that she is  
“ the Sovereign of Nations, and that all the In-  
“ fluences of the Sun and Stars fall on her Domi-  
“ nions.

“ *Orbem jam totum victor Romanus habebat,*

“ *Quâ mare, quâ tellus, quâ sidus currit utrumque.* PETRON.

“ Now *Rome* sole Empress reigns from Pole to Pole,

“ Wherever Earth extends or Oceans roll.”

The Legend is TR POT COS III: in the Area  
S C. ; and underneath ITALIA.

As M. AURELIUS had shared the Emperor’s third  
Consulate, so was he intended to be the Partner of  
his fourth. This Designation is expressed on a Sil-  
PI.XXXIV.II. ver Medal, which bears the Head of him; with  
AVRELIVS CAESAR COS II D, *Consul iterum  
designatus.* The same Reading is on the Reverse,  
with the Figure of PEACE, having a *Cornucopiæ*  
in one Hand, and an Olive-Branch in the other.  
Therefore, in the seventh Year of his Reign, ANTO-

NINUS PIUS, for the fourth Time, was Consul with M. AURELIUS, who now enjoyed that Honour the second Time. He had married ANNIA GALERIA FAUSTINA, the Aunt of M. AURELIUS, who had been declared AUGUSTA: With this Title she appears upon her Medals of Gold, having a beautiful Aspect, and the Hair braided round upon the Crown of her Head; whereas that of the younger FAUSTINA is tied behind. The Inscription is FAUSTINA AUG. ANTONINI AUG. P. P. The Reverse is a CONCORD seated, holding a *Patera* in her right Hand; the Legend being CONCORDIA AVG. Behind the Figure of the Goddess stands the Statue of her Daughter upon a Pedestal, as the Pledge of their Agreement. She was very liberal in the Education of female Children. For which Virtue the Piety of the Emperor is also celebrated on two of his Reverses: on one of which this Piety is impressed, with a Globe in one Hand, a Child in the other, and two more underneath: and on the other, with two in Arms, and a like Number below. The Legend of both is the same, PIETATI AVG. COS. IIII. S C. The Emperor also continued the Education of the Girls, in Honour of the Empress, calling them the *Faustinian* Maidens. By her he had four Children, two of each Sex. Of the two Sons, History is silent. But we have the Head

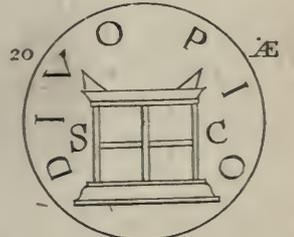
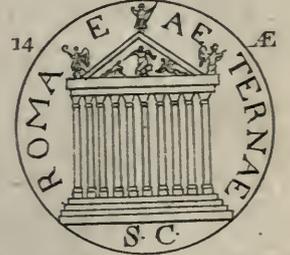
ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

Pl. XXXIV. 12.

Pl. XXXIV. 13.

Pl. XXXIV. 14.

ANTONINVS PIVS.  
 Pl. XXXIV. 15. of one of them on a Reverse of his Mother, with  
 M. ΓΑΛΕΡΙΟΣ ΑΝΤΟΝΙΝΟΣ ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΟΣ ΑΝ-  
 ΤΟΝΙΝΟΥ ΥΙΟΣ. *Marcus Galerius Antoninus Im-*  
*peratoris Antonini Filius.* This was first published  
 by *Tristan*, from whom *Patin* copied it. But there  
 is also one in the *Pembrokian* Collection. Both the  
 Sons undoubtedly died young. One of the Daugh-  
 ters was given in Marriage to *Syllanus*, but lived not  
 long. And the other, named ANNIA FAUSTINA,  
 was now married to M. AURELIUS. The Empress  
 FAUSTINA the Elder died in the third Year of her  
 Husband's Reign. Her dissolute Life had occasioned  
 great Sorrow to the good Emperor. Notwithstand-  
 ing which, she was deified by him, honoured with  
 a Temple and Priests, and with Statues of Gold  
 and Silver. Many are the Testimonies of her Con-  
 secration. On her Medals of Gold she is called  
 Pl. XXXIV. 16. DIVA FAUSTINA, having on the Reverse of some  
 a *Ceres* veiled, with two Torches, and the Title  
 Pl. XXXIV. 17. AVGVSTA: on others, a *Piety* standing before an  
 Altar, who is termed the PIETAS AVGVSTÆ: on  
 Pl. XXXIV. 18. others, an *Eternity* veiled, holding a *Patera* in the  
 right Hand, and in the left an Helm, placed on a  
 Cælestial Globe; which is saying, that she had ex-  
 changed her earthly for an heavenly Diadem, which  
 she would enjoy for ever. But the Reader will  
 find this *Eternity* differently described on Coins,  
 though.





though the several Designs have the same Intention. On a fine Medal of Bronze, of the first Magnitude, she is veiled, with DIVA AVGVSTA FAVSTINA; the Reverse of which exhibits the Goddess *Cybele*, crowned as usual, and enthroned, with a *Patera* resting upon the Knee, and a Lion on each Side, with the Legend MATRI DEVM SALVTARI. Again, she is represented as *Ceres*, with Ears of Corn, seated on her Car, and drawn by two Elephants. Another has a different *Eternity*, with a Phoenix in her Hand, and the Word AETERNITAS. S C: while a fourth gives us the magnificent Temple erected to her, with her Statue in the Center of it, and the Legend AETERNITAS. S C.

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

Pl. XXXIV. 19.

Pl. XXXIV. 20.

Pl. XXXIV. 21.

Pl. XXXIV. 22.

Pl. XXXV. 1.

This Marriage was celebrated with general Joy. On one of the Emperor's Reverses in Gold we see the elder FAUSTINA, as *Ceres*, with Ears of Corn, endowing her Daughter with the Empire of the World, the Globe of which she has put into her Hand. This is suitable to the Answer, which M. AURELIUS afterwards gave to those who advised him to repudiate her. "If so," said he, "we must return her Fortune, and that is the *Roman Empire*." The Legend is LAETITIA COS IIII. He gave a Congiary to the People, and a Donative to the Soldiers, on this Occasion. This Generosity is

- ANTONINVS PIVS. is recorded on several Coins, by a female Figure, distinguished as LIBERALITAS, having the Lap gathered, and holding in one Hand a Banner, marked VI, for the Soldiery, intimating the Number of Pieces of Gold given to each; and in the other a *Tessera*, marked :: signifying the Congii of Corn distributed *per* Head to the People. Others
- Pl. XXXV. 2. shew her standing by the Side of the Emperor, with her *Cornucopiæ*, while he from his Throne is making the Distribution: the Legend LIBERALITAS IIII. S C. Public Spectacles were exhibited in the Amphitheatre, in which Elephants, Rhinoceroses, Crocodiles, River-Horses, Tygers, and strange Beasts from all Parts of the World, were let loose, and an hundred Lions at once. This Sort of Generosity is properly distinguished as *Munificence*, from its Etymology; and is also represented as a Goddess, with a Sceptre in one Hand, and a *Patera* in the other, having a Tyger standing by her, with MVNIFICENTIA AVG. S C. COS IIII. On a different
- Pl. XXXV. 4. Coin, we have the same Legend, with the Figure of an Elephant only.
- Pl. XXXV. 5.

Soon after this the *Moors* rebelled, but were driven to a Corner of Mount *Atlas*; and many Nations, the *Jews* particularly, were defeated by his Governors and Lieutenants. Rebellions were suppressed also in *Egypt* and *Achaia*. On which of these

these Accounts we see him with a Torch in his Hand, in his quadrigated triumphal Car, with COS IIII S C in the Exergue, cannot be said. The same Uncertainty remains, with respect to the triumphal Arch, which appears on one of his Medals, the Columns of which are crowned with each a *Victory*; at the Entrance of which is placed his Statue, with the *Roman Eagle* in his Hand, having the Legend COS IIII S C. But a celebrated *Victory* there was, as is further evident from another Coin in Bronze, on which this Deity herself is driving the quadrigated Car; and around her TR. POT. COS IIII: in the Exergue of which we read VICTORIA AVGVSTI. S C. We have also on one Reverse a peculiar *Fortune*, representing this fickle Goddess as constant and obsequious to him in all Things. She is decorated with the *Cornucopiæ*, and has in her right Hand the Helm and Prow of a Ship, intimating the past Success and prosperous Return of the Legions. She is here entitled the FORTVNA OPSEQVENS; and has in the Exergue the Senatorian Sanction S C. The Orthography of that Age in the Epithet is remarkable, and appears also in *Gruter's* Inscriptions.

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

Pl. XXXV. 6.

Pl. XXXV. 7.

Pl. XXXV. 8.

In the ninth Year of his Reign, he invested his Son-in-law with the Tribunitial Power, whose Morals were most engaging, and whose Fitness for  
Government

ANTONINUS Government was most conspicuous. And the  
 P R V S. same Year, M. AURELIUS had a Daughter born to  
 him, who was named LUCILLA; and in Process of  
 Time became the Wife of L. VERUS. FAUSTINA  
 brought him several other Daughters afterwards, and  
 five Sons, the two eldest of whom, COMMODUS and  
 ANTONINUS GEMINUS, were Twins. These two last  
 accordingly, inserted each in his *Cornucopiæ*, form  
 Pl. XXXV. 9. one of the Reverses of ANTONINUS in Bronze, of  
 the first Magnitude, with the Legend TEMPORVM  
 FELICITAS, and S C in the Area.

In his fourteenth Year, we find such Peace and  
 Plenty reigning, as to give Occasion for the striking  
 Pl. XXXV. 10. of a new female Figure on one of his *Denarii*; who  
 stands in a comely Attitude, and decently arrayed,  
 with Ears of Corn in the left Hand, and resting  
 the right upon the Helm of Government: under  
 neath she is entitled TRANQUILLITAS; and round  
 the Verge is TR. POT. XIII. COS III. It would  
 have spoken a Sort of Insensibility in them, if the  
*Christians* had not taken Advantage of this calm  
 Interval, and excellent Disposition of the Emperor,  
 to bring their Cause before him. Therefore *Justin*,  
 who afterwards received a Surname from his Mar-  
 tyrdom, presented his Apology for them. This  
 was graciously received, and procured a general  
 Letter in their Favour, which suspended the Rage  
 of

of Persecution for some Time. His Goodness and Vigilance were such as repaired, in less Time than can be well imagined, the Damages sustained by those distressful Events which happened in his Reign. So that an Inundation of the *Tiber*; a Fire, which consumed 340 Houses at *Rome*; a Scarcity there of Wine, Oil, and Corn; the Fall of the *Circus*; an Earthquake, which destroyed several Towns in *Asia*, and in the Island of *Rhodes*; with the Conflagrations, which laid in Ashes the best Part of the Cities of *Antioch*, *Narbonne*, and the Forum of *Carthage*; seem to have fallen out rather for the Illustration of his unbounded Generosity, and paternal Tendernefs, than for the Punishment of the Sufferers. Hence were Coins struck in Honour of him by the *Rhodians*, bearing the Head of their *Colossus*, with the Word ΠΟΔΙΩΝ; and by the *Antiochians*, with the Figure of their God *Lunus*. For the Ancients had their masculine as well as female Moon. Behind his Shoulders we see the *Crescent* for his Attribute. And as this Deity was supposed to preside over Child-bearing, a Cock is placed at his Feet; which Animal was thought to facilitate it. In one Hand he bears a Wand, as the Ensign of his Divinity; and in the other a Victory, in Honour of the Emperor. In the Legend he is called MENSIS, the Name, as Pa-

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

PL. XXXV. 11.

PL. XXXV. 12.

ANTONINVS *tin* alledges, by which *Strabo* makes Mention of  
 PIVS. him.

His public Works were many. For he finished the *Mausoleum* of HADRIAN, restored the Amphitheatre, the *Pons sublicius*, the *Pharos*, the Havens of *Cajeta* and *Terracina*, the Baths of *Ostia*, the Aquæduct of *Antium*, and the Temple of *Juno Sispita* at *Lanuvium*. He erected the *Græcostadium*, or Hotel for the Ambassadors of *Greece*; a magnificent Temple to his Predecessor; another to his Wife FAUSTINA, which appears upon the Coins struck to her Memory, with the Legend AETER-  
 Pl. XXXV. 13. NITAS; another to the *Fortunate Venus*, occasioned probably by the happy Marriage of his Daughter,  
 Pl. XXXV. 14. inscribed VENERI FELICI. S C; and another to the Divinity of the City, inscribed ROMAÆ AETERNAE.

The Wisdom of his Government was held in such Admiration by the barbarous Nations, that they laid aside their Ferocity, and submitted their Differences to his Arbitration. This is justly celebrated on a *Greek Medal*, which pays the highest Compliment to his Reign. It exhibits his Head plain, with the Inscription ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΑΙΛΙΟΥ ΑΔΡΙΑΝΟΥ, ANTONINOC CEBASOC, *Imperator Cæsar*

Pl. XXXV. 15. *Ælius Adrianus Antoninus Augustus*. The Reverse is *Orpheus*, crowned with Laurel, and taming the wild.

wild Beasts by the Power of his Harmony. The ANTONINVS  
Bard is here, as the Poet has placed him; Pivs.

*Inque ferarum  
Concilio medijs, turbæ volucrumque, sedebat.* OVID.

seated in the Midst, among  
The Beasts and Birds, that listen'd to his Song:

The natural Enmity of the several Animals is sus-  
pended, and they are all Attention.

*Quondam funera Conjugis  
Vates Threicius gemens,  
Postquam flebilibus modis  
Sylvas currere mobiles,  
Annes stare coegerat,  
Junxitque intrepidum latus  
Sævis Cerva leonibus,  
Nec visum timuit lepus  
Jam cantu placidum canem.* BOETHIUS.

When once the widow'd Bard of Thrace  
With solemn Airs his hapless Case  
Sweetly bewail'd; the list'ning Grove,  
Enchanted with his Strains, could move;  
The liquid Floods forgot to flow,  
Such was the charmful Power of Woe!  
The spotted Hind enjoy'd the Song,  
Fearless her brinded Foes among;  
And Hares, attentive to the Sound,  
Sat dauntless by the placid Hound.

Mild and applauded as his Government was, all  
were not contented with it. For we read of one

A 2 2

*Attilius*

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

*Attilius Tatianus* proscribed for Treason by the Senate; the Emperor forbidding all Enquiry after his Accomplices, and shewing signal Grace and Favour to his Son: and of *Priscian*, under a like Charge, who put an End to his own Life. Nor was any Senator capitally punished under him. Even one, who was a Parricide by his own Confession, was only exposed upon a desert Island, as unfit to converse with Men. For he used to say, with *Scipio*, that "the Preservation of a Citizen was more to be esteemed than the Destruction of a thousand Enemies."

On the Completion of the twentieth Year of his Reign, we find the promised Vows and Sacrifices paid for his second *Decennalia*. This is expressed on  
 Pl. XXXV. 16. his Coins, by a Priest veiled, and standing before the Altar, with a *Patera* in his Hand, and the Legend VOTA SOLuta DECennalia II. COS IIII. At the same Time fresh Vows were made for the like prosperous Term to ensue. These are expressed in  
 Pl. XXXV. 17. the same Manner, only the Legend here is VOTA SVSCEPTA DEC III, with the Addition of the S C.

All continued peaceable, nor do we meet with any Thing particular till his twenty-third Year, when M. AURELIUS a third Time, and L. VERUS for the second Time, were Consuls. And then it was

was that this most excellent Prince was seized with his last Illness. On this, or some such like Occasion, Vows were made, and Sacrifices offered, for his Recovery by many People. An Inscription found upon a Column at *Messina*, quoted by *Patin*, evidences the Concern of that Island, of which it was one of the principal Cities; as the Coins before us do of the *Pergamenians* and *Niceans*. The first has the Figures of *Æsculapius*, and of his Daughter *Hygeia* or *Sanity*. She is employed in feeding a Serpent in a *Patera*: the Emblem of Light, and Health, and Prudence. Of the latter particularly, says my Author, who was himself of the Faculty, “because the Practice of Physic is the Art of catching the Instant of Healing, which, as it swiftly flies away, requires an acute and prudent Man.” The Origin of this Emblem he refers to the *Mosaic* Serpent, raised in the Wilderness. *Æsculapius* has the same entwined upon his Rod. But in the Legend, *Patin* differs from *Vaillant*. For, according to the last, it should run thus: ΕΠΙ ΣΤΡΑΤΗΓῆΣ ΠΟΛΛΙΩΝΟΣ ΠΕΡΓΑΜΗΝΩΝ ΝΕΩΚΟΡΩΝ, *Sub Præfeto Pollione Pergamenorum Templi-Curatorum*. The *Niceans* also, in the second, have im-

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

PI. XXXV. 18.

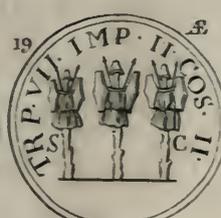
PI. XXXV. 19.

to.

ANTONINVS  
PIVS.

to other Cities, with the like Impressions. But neither Vows nor Sacrifices could avert the Doom, which brought upon the *Roman* Empire a Loss which it long and bitterly deplored. For, after a short Illness, he died in the seventy-fourth Year of his Age, and twenty-third of his Reign. On his Death-bed he recommended M. AURELIUS, and his Daughter, to all present, and ordered the Golden FORTUNE, usually kept in the Bed-chamber of the Emperor, to be removed to his. To the Tribune he gave the Word *Æquanimity*; and then turning round, as to rest, expired.

He was ingenious, of a noble Aspect and Deportment, placid, eloquent, learned, sober, chaste; fond of Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishing; cheerful and liberal; and all this with Measure, and without Ostentation. His Person was tall and comely, his Voice deep and sonorous, yet pleasant. At his Table was Opulence without Reprehension, and Frugality without Meanness. He loved not State, but lived as when a private Person; nor made any Journies, except to his own Lands in the *Campania*, saying, that “the Train of the Prince, however moderate, was too burdensome to the People.” Shedding of Blood was his Aversion; and he might well be compared to NUMA, whose Felicity, Piety, Security, and Religion, he made





made his own. He was consecrated by the mourn- ANTONINVS  
ful Senate, with the Applause of all good Men, PIVS.  
and all such Honours were paid to his Memory,  
as had at any Time been conferred upon the best  
of Princes. In Testimony of which we have for  
one Reverse a large Altar, inscribed DIVO PIO Pl. XXXV. 20.  
S C: for another, the Funeral Pile and Act of Pl. XXXVI. 1.  
CONSECRATION; and for another, the Pillar and  
Statue erected DIVO PIO S C. I shall mention  
but one Reverse more, which was struck in the Pl. XXXVI. 2.  
twenty-second Year of his Tribunitial Power, and  
consequently towards the latter End of his Reign,  
which illustrates the general Felicity of it. It  
shews us four Persons, who seem delighted with  
their respective Employments, and represent the dif-  
ferent Seasons of the Year. Three of them are  
naked; one having a Basket of Flowers upon his  
Head; a second, with his Reap-Hook ready for  
the Harvest; and a third, with the Fruits of the  
Vintage. These need no Clothing in the Sunshin  
of *Italy*. But the fourth is warmly covered up and Pl. XXXVI. 3.  
guarded against the Inclemency of Winter: in the  
Exergue, COS III. The same Device however is  
better expressed upon a rich Medallion, which the  
Reader will meet with in the Reign of COM-  
MODUS.

M. A. R. C. U. S.



### MARCUS AURELIUS ANTONINUS.

M. AVRELIVS.

PL. XXXVI. 4.

**M.** AURELIUS was a third Time Consul, and in the fifteenth Year of his tribunitial Power, at the Death of ANTONINUS PIUS, when he was declared Emperor, to the entire Satisfaction of all Men. All the *Roman* Coins, which bear his Image, had been hitherto struck off in the Style of AVRELIVS CAESAR AVGVSTI PII Filius, or ANTONINI AVG PII F, with the Head plain. But now we see them with the Head laureated, as in his *Denarius* annexed, and the Inscription IMP M AVREL ANTONINVS AVGVSTVS : the Reverse attributes his Exaltation to the Divine Providence, by an emblematic Figure, with a *Cornucopiæ* in the left Hand, and

and the Globe in the right, denominated *PROVidentia DEORum* TR P XV COS III. He had from his Childhood applied himself, with unwearied Diligence, to the Study of Philosophy, of which he had practised all the Austerities, and thereby weakened his Constitution. The Doctrine of the Stoics, which took most with him, was the severest of all. In this he made most eminent Proficiency, of which his Writings, yet extant, are Testimony sufficient. He wore the Habit of one, and is commonly distinguished by the Name of *Antoninus the Philosopher*. He embraced however the Profession, without the Vanity of it, and well understood one of its leading Principles, the Knowledge of himself. Conscious, therefore, of his own Infirmities, immediately on his Accession, he took L. VERUS, his Colleague in the Consulate, to be his Partner in Empire also, as being young, robust, and fitter for military Service; to whom he contracted his Daughter LVCILLA. On this Account we find a Reverse in Gold of VERUS, with the two Emperors joining Hands, inscribed *CONCORDIAE AVGVSTORum* TR P COS II. The same is in Bronze also, and of the first Magnitude. We have also the Figure of the Lady impressed on Gold, with LVCILLAE AVGVSTÆ ANTONINI AVGVSTI *Filiæ*: the Reverse of which is a VENVS, with

M. AVRELIVS.

PI. XXXVI. 5.

PI. XXXVI. 6

PI. XXXVI. 7.

VOL. II.

B b

the

M. AVRELIVS. the Wand or *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and the Golden Apple or Globe in the other. We have also the Head of the present Empress on the same precious Metal, with FAVSTINAE AVG PII AVG  
 Pl. XXXVI. 8. FIL, shewing the same *Venus* on the Reverse, except that, instead of the Golden Apple or Globe, she holds in her right Hand the connecting Band, or Zone, which the Husband only was to loose.

*Felices ter et amplius*

*Quos irrupta tenet Copula.* HOR.

Thrice happy they, whom Love in pure Delights  
 With his unbroken Band unites!

But this may refer either to her own or her Daughter's Marriage; though neither were eminent for their Fidelity. The Legend is LAETITIAE PVBLICAE.

Thus Rome, for the first Time, saw two Emperors jointly reigning. On several Coins, therefore,  
 Pl. XXXVI. 9. we observe the Heads of both, as on that before us, laureated: both have the Title of AVGVSTVS; and both have the Imperial Eagle, the Ensign of Majesty and Power, standing by them. This particular Coin was struck by the Colony of *Berythus*, in *Phœnicia*, to record the mutual Agreement and fraternal Dominion of the two Emperors. Indeed their Union, their Authority, their Wealth, and

an unexampled Generosity, were necessary towards their obviating the Calamities of the Times. For in the very next Year an Inundation of the *Tiber* did infinite Damage to the City, and the Country round about. A Famine ensued. Earthquakes were felt in divers Places. The Air was rendered unwholesome. The *Parthian* made open War upon them; having already destroyed the Army at *Elegia* in *Armenia*. A War in *Britain* also was unavoidable; and the *Catti* now broke into the Province in *Germany*. The natural Evils were mitigated, as much as might be, by a seasonable Supply of Grain, and an immediate Reparation of Damages. Against the *Britons*, *Calpurnius Agricola* was sent to command, and was attended with great and speedy Success. For on a Medal of this very Year, I find around the laureate Head of the elder Emperor, M AVREL ANTONINVS PIVS AVG BRITannicus. On the Reverse is the *Circus*, which was now restored by him, with PM TR P XVI IMP II: in the Exergue COS IIII PP. S C. But in the Exergue the Copier of the Medal has been guilty of an Error, by adding a Figure extraordinary to the COS. Such Errors are not infrequent in the Copiers of Coins; and sometimes excuseable, from the strange Alterations which the Injuries of Time have made upon the Coins themselves. This Emperor was never Consul

M. AVRELIVS.

.IVXXXI

Pl. XXXVI.

10.

M. AURELIUS. a fourth Time. A more pardonable Mistake occurs in another, which bears the same Head and Inscription, and was probably struck at the Beginning of the ensuing Year. The Reverse is a *Victory alate*, inscribing the Success upon a Trophy, near which stands a disconsolate *Briton*, with a Child upon the Ground: the Legend, as my Author gives it, is VICTORIA PM TR P XIII COS III PP. S C. The Mistake is here in the Figures after the TR P, which, I conceive, were originally XVII; but the Bottom or Angle of the V being worn away, was taken by the Transcriber for U. For in the fourteenth Year of his Tribunitial Power, he had not been three Times Consul. These Medals demonstrate that AURELIUS had already assumed the Title of *Father of his Country*, contrary to the Assertion of Historians, who say that he declined it till the Return of VERUS from the *Parthian War*. *Ausdius Victorinus* was to command against the *Catti*, and restrain the Enemy till the Troubles in the East should subside, and allow more Leisure for their effectual Chastisement. But against the *Parthian* it was judged necessary that one of the Emperors at least should march in Person.

L. VERUS therefore set out for this Service, whom M. AURELIUS attended as far as *Capua*. He had scarce left him, when the other was taken ill at *Canusium*.

*Canusum*. Vows were made in the Senate for his Recovery; and Coins struck, with a Serpent, the Emblem of Health, rising from an Altar, whom *Hygeia*, the Daughter of *Æsculapius*, is feeding from her *Patera*: the Legend SALVTI AVGVSTORUM TR P XVII. COS III. This Medal of AURELIUS is in Gold, who flew to visit him. Those Vows were paid when he came back, and it was known that VERUS had failed. This latter, now finding himself at a convenient Distance, and no longer awed by the superior Virtue of AURELIUS, gave himself up to Luxury and Debauchery, so that it was late in the Season before he arrived at *Antioch*. His March, and the Date of it, is described on the Coin before us, by a Representation of him on Horseback, with PROPECTIO AVG TR P III. S C. Having here collected his Forces, he committed them to the Care of his Lieutenants, whom he sent against the Enemy; but stayed behind himself, immersed in the most shameful Pleasures. But those brave Officers, it is probable, performed more real Services, because they were not interrupted by his Presence. *Stattus Priscus* drove the Enemy out of *Armenia*, and made himself Master of all the strong Places in it: and *Martius Verus*, who succeeded him in that Charge, prevailed so far as to oblige them to receive *Sobemus* for their King, by the

M. AVRELIUS.

Pl. XXXVI.

12.

Pl. XXXVI.

13.

- M. AVRELIVS. the Appoinment of L. VERUS, who at the same Time assumed the Surname of ARMENIACVS, and was saluted IMPERATOR a second Time. All this appears upon some curious Medals, which were struck of him, both in Gold and Bronze. As they vary in some Respects, it may not be amiss to give both. The former have his laureate Head very fair, with L. VERVS AVG ARMENIACVS. On the Reverse is VERUS enthroned, attended by two of his Officers, and the destined Monarch standing before him: around the Verge TR P IIII IMP II COS II: in the Exergue REX ARMENiis DATus. The latter also have his laureate Head very fair, inscribed L AVRELius VERVS AVGuustus AR-
- Pl. XXXVI. 14. MEN *iiii*. On the Reverse he has three Attendants, and the King before him: around the Verge REX ARMENIIS DATVS IMP II TR P IIII COS II; and in the Exergue S C. On another of his Reverses, an *Armenian* Captive sits upon an Heap of Arms, at the Foot of a Trophy, and underneath ARMEN: the Legend as the first, with S C. On another, he is on Horseback, bearing down his Enemy; with the same Legend. On his *Denarius* he appears also with the Title of ARMENIACVS, though with the Head plain; the Reverse of which shews him in the military Habit, armed with an Helmet, resting his left Hand upon his Shield, and having
- Pl. XXXVI. 15.
- Pl. XXXVI. 16.
- Pl. XXXVI. 17.
- Pl. XXXVI. 18.

having the *Hasta pura* in his right: the Legend the same as on the first. The like Title was conferred by the Senate on M. AURELIUS, who had at least an equal Right to it. M. AVRELIUS.

Meantime *Avidius Cassius*, who commanded against the *Parthians* in *Syria*, defeated *Vologeses*, though at the Head of a very numerous Army, and made himself Master of *Seleucia* and *Ctesiphon*. The former he sacked, and burned; and the Palace of the *Parthian* Monarchs in the latter he levelled with the Ground. But on his Retreat he lost a great Number of Men by Sicknes and Famine: this Success produced several Medals. On one Reverse of VERUS we have no fewer than three Trophies, with TR P VII IMP II COS II; and in the Area, S C. On another we see a *Parthian* seated upon Arms, at the Foot of a Trophy, with his Hands bound behind him, and an Altar before him, with TR POT VI IMP III COS II. S C. The Heap of Arms and the Altar intimate the same Thing, namely, the Peace that ensued. And it may not be amiss to remark, with Mr. *Addison*, once for all, that on old Coins we often see an Emperor, a Victory, the City of *Rome*, or a Slave sitting on an Heap of Arms, which always marks out the Peace that arose from such an Action as gave Occasion to the Medal. The Captive here answers to the

Pl. XXXVI.  
19.

Pl. XXXVI.  
20.

THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

M. AVRELIUS. the Figure of *military Fury* in the Temple of *Janus*.

————— *Furor impius intus*  
*Sæva sedens super arma, et centum vinctus abenis*  
*Post tergum nodis.*— VIRG.

————— Within remains  
Imprison'd Fury, bound in brazen Chains;  
High on a Trophy, rais'd of useless Arms,  
He sits. DRYDEN.

Pl. XXXVII. 1. On another of AURELIUS, a Shield is fixed against a Tree, on which a *Victory alate*, with a Palm-Branch in one Hand, has inscribed VICTORIA PARTHICA: the Legend is TR POT XX IMP IIII COS III S C.

In the Midst of this War, *M. Aurelius* sent his Daughter LUCILLA, with an honourable Retinue, into *Asia*, for the Completion of her Marriage with L. VERUS, to whom she had been before contracted. On this Occasion we have her *Denarius*, with her Head, inscribed LVCILLAE AVGVSTÆ ANTONINI AVG F. and a CONCORD on the Reverse, seated, with a *Patera* in her Hand. This Lady is said to have been a Dæmoniac, till dispossessed by *Abertius*, the Bishop of *Hierapolis*; to which City the two Emperors were great Benefac-

Pl. XXXVII. 3. tors on that Account. On one of her Reverses we have a PIETAS standing before the Altar, veiled, and





and in a religious Attitude, with S C: on another, M. AVRELIVS. PI. XXXVII. 4.  
 a VESTA standing, but depicted in a very unusual Manner, with a *Bill* or Reap-Hook in the Hand, having an Altar with the eternal Fire burning before her. It appears from other Coins that she had Children by VERUS; for a very noble one in Bronze, of the first Size, has a very fair Busto of her, with LVCILLA AVG ANTONINI AVG, with a *Juno Lucina* seated on the Reverse, bearing a new-born Child upon her left Arm, and holding up a Lilly, the Symbol of *Hope*, in her right Hand. PI. XXXVII. 5.  
 The Legend is IVNONI LVCINAE; and in the Exergue, S C. And we have one Reverse, struck by Authority of the Senate also, whereon she is represented as the Mother of three Children, having one in her Arms, and two standing near her, with the Legend FECVNDITAS.

The Storm being over in the East, VERUS rewarded and confirmed the neighbouring Kings, whose Fidelity he was assured of: amongst these we find on some of his Reverse, as well as on PI. XXXVII. 6.  
 others of M. AURELIUS, the Figure of *Abgarus*, King of *Osrobene*, crowned with the Eastern Tiara, with the Legend ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΑΒΓΑΡΟC, *Rex Abgarus*; and on one of his Denarii, Mention is made PI. XXXVII. 7.  
 of one *Mannus*, an *Arabian* King, devoted to the *Romans*. For the Legend is ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΜΑΝΝΟC

M. AVRELIUS. ΦΙΛΟΡΩΜΑΙΟΣ, *Rex Mannus Romanorum Amicus.*

His next Care was to enrich his Friends with Governments, of whom *Avidius Cassius* was the most deserving. Him he left Commander in Chief of all the Forces in *Asia*. On his Return to *Rome* he desired to share his Honours with M. AURELIUS. A Triumph was therefore decreed to both Emperors jointly; whose Heads are therefore adverse on the same Coins, with AVTOKPATOPΩN CE-BACTΩN, *Imperatorum Augustorum*; and a *Victory alate*, with a Wreath and Palm-Branch, on the Reverse: and each of them was honoured with the additional Surname of *Parthicus Maximus*. This is

PI. XXXVII. 8. evident, from a most beautiful Medallion of M. AURELIUS, inscribed Marcus ANTONINVS AVGVSTVS ARMENIACVS PARTHICVS MAXIMVS TRIBVNTIA POTESATE XXIII. The Reverse is also a *Victory alate*, resting the left Arm upon a standing Column, having a Palm-Branch in the same Hand, and a Wreath in the other: the Legend COS III.

But while VERUS was in the East, *Victorinus* must have gained very signal Advantages over the *Germans*, notwithstanding the Silence of Historians; since we find the good Emperor at Home assuming, even in the nineteenth Year of his Tribunitial Power, which was but the fifth of his Reign, the Title of *Germanicus*. This appears from an old Inscription,

quoted by *Goltzius*, in his Titles, which runs thus: M. AVRELIVS.  
 IMP. CAESARI. M. AVREL. ANTONINO.  
 PIO. FELICI. AVG. PARTHICO MAX. BRIT.  
 MAX. GERMAN. MAX. PONTIF. MAX. TRIB.  
 POT. XVIII. COS. III. IMP. III. PP. PROCOS.  
 NVMINI MAIESTATIQUE EIVS. Yet upon his  
 Coins we meet not with it till the twenty-ninth  
 Year of his Tribunitial Power. Further Prepara-  
 tions, however, for the happy Conclusion, were  
 most certainly at this Time made; since M. AV-  
 RELIVS appears on one of his Reverse, supporting  
 himself the Imperial Eagle, with two Ensigns, on  
 each Side of him; the Legend being TR POT  
 XIX IMP II COS III.

In an evil Hour did VERUS arrive at *Rome*. For  
 he brought the Plague with him from the East,  
 which spread itself over the whole *Roman* World,  
 and over all Nations which held Communication  
 with it. To this were added Inundations, Earth-  
 quakes, and the most dreadful War that *Rome* had  
 for several Ages been engaged in. The Infection  
 made such Havock, that they were forced to carry  
 out the Dead in Carts and other Vehicles; and the  
 poorer Sort were interred at the public Charge.  
 However, as the *Marcomanni* had taken the Field,  
 and drawn to their Party all the neighbouring King-  
 doms, as far as to *Illyricum*, and there was an im-

M. AVRELIUS. mediate Necessity for marching against them, notwithstanding the Pressure of the public Calamity, it was first judged proper to invest the two Sons of M. AURELIUS, COMMODUS and ANNIUS VERUS, with the Title and Dignity of CÆSAR. As such they appear upon the Medal before us, where the eldest is distinguished by the Style of COMMODVS CAES. ANTONINI AVG. FIL. and the youngest by that of ANNIVS. VERVS CAES. ANTONINI AVG. FIL.

Pl. XXXVII.  
10.

In providing for this important War, the City was filled with Lustrations and Rites of every Kind and Country; and, what was peculiar to the Romans, the *Lectisternia* were practised for seven Days together. On these Occasions an Entertainment was made for the Gods themselves, whose Statues were brought out and placed upon sumptuous Beds or Couches, as Guests, at Tables richly furnished, with each his *Pulvinar* or Pillow, on which he seemed to rest. In this Manner we see the Statue of FORTVNE set out on the Reverse of one of M. AURELIUS's Coins. Of this Custom the Poet speaks, when he says,

Pl. XXXVII.  
11.

————— *Nunc Saliaribus*  
*Ornare pulvinar Deorum*  
*Tempus erat dapibus, Sodales.*

HOR.

Now

Now be the Pillows of the Gods array'd  
 With Pomp, and let their sacred Feasts be stor'd.  
 With all the Dainties of a *Salian* Board.

M. AVRELIVS.

All Things being now ready, the two Emperors advaced to *Aquileia* together. The March and Expedition are recorded on two different Reversees of M. AURELIUS, which shew this Emperor on Horseback, with his Spear in his Hand, and attended by a military Train: in the Exergue of the one is the Word PROTECTIO; of the other, EXPEDITIO AVG. S. C. Mr. *Addison* thought that he had found a Copy of the famous Equestrian Statue of this Emperor on a Reversee of LUCIUS VERUS, the Horse and Man in the Medal and the Statue being in the same Posture, and a Resemblance of Face, as he thought, to be distinguished. How far Fancy may have misled that excellent Author, I cannot say; having never seen either of the Medallions which he speaks of in his Travels, p. 203. But *Patin* has given us a Coin of VERUS, with a Reversee, probably of the same Sort; the Legend of which is PROTECTIO AVG. TR. P III. But here there is certainly no Resemblance of Face; whereas in the former there is a real Likeness, as far as one may judge of such Profiles in Miniature. However that be, here their Alacrity and Proximity affected the Enemy with Dread. Some of them:

Pl. XXXVII.  
 12, 13.

M. AURELIUS.

them retired beyond the *Danube*, and others sent deprecatory Ambassies: so that the Emperors returned to *Rome* for the Winter, though M. AURELIUS suspected that they meant only to amuse and deceive him. And so it happened; for in the succeeding Summer the War raged; and the *Marcomans*, assisted by the *Iazyges*, the *Quades*, and *Dacians*, were routed; and M. AURELIUS was saluted IMPERATOR for the third, as VERUS was for the fourth, Time. But this seemed only to exasperate the Foe, which made it necessary for the Emperors to return to *Aquileia* early in the Spring following. Yet the Violence of the Plague drove them homeward again; and VERUS died of an Apoplexy upon the Road, on their Return. M. AURELIUS attended the Body to *Rome*, and interred it with great Solemnity. He even prevailed upon the Senate to deify the deceased; of which the Reverse before us is a Proof, which contains his Figure, drawn in a Car by four Elephants, with the Word CONSECRATIO. S C. All the Good that can be said of him is, that he had no Dissimulation or Cruelty; and was a kind Master to his Freedmen and Servants, who were the Ministers of his Vices. His Character in other Respects much resembling that of CALIGULA or NERO. He died in the ninth Year of

of his Tribunitial Power, and the fortieth of his Age. M. AVRELIVS.

Some Advantages were gained over the Enemy, while MARCUS was absent from the Army, sufficient to invest him with the Title of IMPERATOR for the fourth Time; though the next Campaign proved, upon the Whole, unfavourable to the *Romans*. For they were defeated with great Loss, and pursued by the victorious Enemy, even to the Gates of *Aquileia*. This filled all *Italy* with Consternation; insomuch that, the Troops being very much thinned with the Plague, it was judged necessary to admit Persons of every Condition into the Army, and to engage a Body of *German* Mercenaries to assist them. But the Sinews of War were shrunk; and the Emperor would not hear of any further Burden upon the People in this Time of general Calamity. He therefore exposed to Sale all the rich Furniture of the Palace; not only the Pictures, Plate, and Jewels, but the very Robes of the Empress were sold. By which Means a sufficient Sum was obtained, and a formidable Army set on foot. Before he marched at the Head of it, he disposed of his Daughter LUCILLA once more in Marriage to *Pompeianus*, a young Equestrian, of most excellent Character. And about this Time 'tis probable that the Medals were struck, which represent FAUSTINA, loosely

M. AVRELIUS.

loofely attired, as another *Venus*, endeavouring to withhold her *Mars* from the Toils and Dangers of the Field. The Legend is VENERI VICTRICI.

Pl. XXXVII.

14.

S. C. “This unluckily brings to Mind,” says Mr. *Addison*, “*FAUSTINA*’s Fondness for the Gladiator, and is therefore interpreted by many as an hidden Piece of Satire. But, besides that such a Thought was inconsistent with the Gravity of a Senate, how can one imagine that the Fathers would have dared to affront the Wife of *AURELIUS*, and the Mother of *COMMODUS*; or that they could think of giving Offence to an Empress, whom they afterwards deified, and to an Emperor who was the Darling of the Army and the People?” The Emperor now lost his second Son, *ANNIUS VERUS*, who died of an Abscess under the Ear, unskilfully managed. He now marched against the Enemy, and carried on a continual War for several Years against the *Marcomanni*, the *Castobochi*, the *Quadi*, the *Iazyges* of *Sarmatia*, and the *Wandals*, whom we now hear of for the first Time. Having gained a famous Victory, it was observed that many female Bodies lay dead in Arms. After the Defeat of the *Marcomanni*, he took the Surname of *GERMANICUS*; and this Success is celebrated on several Medals. On one we have

Pl. XXXVII.

15.

VICTORIA GERMANICA IMP VI COS III S C. in-  
closed

closed in a Wreath of Laurel. On another, a Shield fixed against a Tree, and a <i>Victory alate</i> , inscribing upon it VIC GER; the rest of the Legend as on the other. A third has a Trophy, with a Captive at the Foot of it; the Legend GERMANIA SVBACTA IMP VI COS III; and in the Area, S C. A fourth has a melancholy female Captive alone, sitting upon an Heap of Arms, with the same Legend. A fifth has a Trophy with two Captives at the Foot of it, and in the Exergue DE GERMANIS. And a sixth has the <i>Rhine</i> decumbent, with a Reed in his left Hand, which he rests upon his effluent Urn, as he does the right upon the Prow of a Vessel, to signify the Navigation of his Stream.	M. AVRELIVS. PI. XXXVII. 16. PI. XXXVII. 17. PI. XXXVI. 20. PI. XXXVII. 18. PI. XXXVII. 19.
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Meantime an Infurrection happened in *Egypt*, at the Head of which was one *Ifidorus*, said to be the strongest Man of his Time; but this, which rose to a considerable Height, was quelled at length by the Prudence of *Avidius Cassius*, who marched against the Insurgents. The Provinces of *Spain* were not less harrassed by the *Moors*, who invaded and plundered a great Part of the Country, but were at last expelled by the Commanders in those Parts.

*Germany* having been cleared of the Enemy, the Emperor now drove them from the two *Pannonias*, which they had seized. In the Course of this Suc-

M. AVRELIVS.

cefs he was very near being cut off with his whole Army by the *Quadi*. The *Romans* were inclosed amidst barren Mountains, and wonderfully preserved, when perishing with Disease and Wounds, and Heat and Thirst. A dreadful Tempest of Thunder, Lightning, and Hail, fell upon the Enemy, while a refreshing Shower of Rain revived their own fainting Spirits, and gave them Strength and Courage to resist and defeat the Multitudes that attacked them. This Deliverance is by some ascribed to the Power of Magic; by others, to the Piety of the Emperor; and by others, to the Prayers of the *Christians* in the twelfth Legion, called *The Thundering Legion*. The Thunder and Lightning, which is figured on one of his Reverses, struck by the *Macedonians*, is judged by several Writers to allude to this. The Legend is KOINON MAKEΔONΩN, *Commune Macedonum*. "He extorted by his Prayers," says *Julius Capitolinus*, "Thunder and Lightning from Heaven against his Enemies, and obtained Rain for his own People when perishing with Thirst."

PL. XXXVIII.

I.

*Nam flammeus imber in hostem.*

*Decidit, hunc dorso trepidum fumante ferebat:*

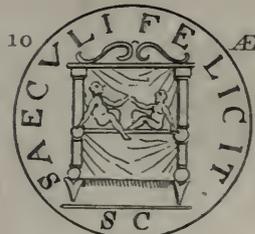
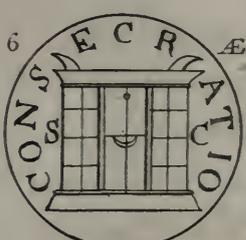
*Ambustus sonipes; hic tabescente solutus*

*Subsedit galeâ, liquefactaque fulgure cuspis.*

*Canduit, et subitis fluxere vaporibus enses.*

*Tunc, contenta polo, mortalis nescia teli*

*Pugna*





*Pugna fuit. Chaldæa mago seu carmina ritu  
Armavere deos; seu, quod reor, omne Tonantis  
Obsequium Marci mores potuere mereri.* CLAUDIAN.

M. AVRELIUS.

For, with descending Show'rs of Brimstone fir'd,  
The wild Barbarian in the Storm expir'd.  
Wrapt in devouring Flames, the Horseman rag'd,  
And spurr'd his Steed, in equal Flames engag'd:  
Another, pent in his scorch'd Armour, glow'd,  
While from his Head the melting Helmet flow'd;  
Swords by the Lightning's subtle Force distill'd,  
And the cold Sheath with running Metal fill'd.  
No human Art its weak Assistance brought,  
But Heav'n, offended Heav'n, the Battle fought.  
Whether dark Magic, and *Chaldean* Charms,  
Had fill'd the Skies, and set the Gods in Arms;  
Or good *Aurelius*, as I more believe,  
Deserv'd whatever Aid the Thunderer could give. ADDISON.

This Victory gained him the Salutation of IMPERATOR the seventh Time, and FAUSTINA, who was with him, the Title of MATER CASTRORVM, or *Mother of the Camp*. For this Denomination appears upon some of her Coins quoted by *Goltzius*, but which the Author has not had the good Fortune to meet with. Upon this the *Quadi* delivered up their Prisoners, and submitted to his Terms, but broke through them almost as soon as made. They called in the *Sarmatians* to their Assistance, and induced the *Marcomanni* to join them again. Several other Nations likewise took Arms in their Behalf. They attacked the Emperor with their united

D d 2

Forces,

M. AVRELIVS.

Forces, who gained over them a compleat Victory. Their King *Ariogeses* was taken Prisoner, and banished to *Alexandria* in *Egypt*. The *Marcomans* now sued in Earnest for Peace, and obtained it. The Chiefs of the *Sarmatian Iäzyges*, with their King at the Head of them, waited upon him, and implored his Mercy, giving Liberty to one hundred thousand Captives, whom they had taken. They also delivered up eight thousand of their Cavalry; five thousand five hundred of whom were transported to *Britain*. On this Account he is denominated IMPERATOR the eighth Time, on one of his Reverses, which is filled with a mighty Heap of Arms: the Legend being IMP VIII COS III PP; and in the Exergue, DE SARMATIS. There is another of the same Kind, and with the same Legend, except in the Exergue, where it is DE GERMANIS. The rest of the Nations also, on their Application, obtained favourable Terms, and these were the more readily granted, because *Avidius Cassius* had revolted in the East, and set up for himself. He was a *Syrian* by Nation, and the Son of one *Heliodorus*, who for his Eloquence had been promoted to the Government of *Egypt*. But while the Emperor was preparing to go against him, *Cassius* was slain by his own Soldiers. He nevertheless marched into all the Countries that had concurred in the Rebellion,

Pl. XXXVIII.

2.

lion, which he treated with all Humanity, putting no one Person to Death, and burning all intercepted Letters without reading them. For he had such an Aversion to Cruelty and Bloodshed, that he obliged even the Gladiators to make use of Foils instead of Swords. At a Village named *Halala*, near *Mount Taurus*, he lost his Wife *FAUSTINA*, who died there of the Gout, and whose Death he passionately lamented. She had been a Lady of very loose Character, but her Lewdness the good-natured Emperor either did not, or would not, see. He was indeed so far blind to her Failings, as to require her Deification of the Senate; so that we have several Proofs of her Apotheosis. On one Reverse she is represented as *Ceres*, holding her Torch, and adorned with a Crescent, with the Legend *SIDERIBVS RECEPTA. S C*: or, as translated to Heaven in a bigated Car, with the same Legend. A third Reverse bears the Peacock with his Tail displayed, and the Word *CONSECratio*. *S C*. A fourth has an Altar, with the same Inscription. And on a fifth she is seated, as in the Act of Conveyance to Heaven, and supported by a Goddess on each Side: the Legend *AETERNITAS. S C*. There are several other Coins of her, which were struck in her Life-time: one of which has for its Reverse a female Figure, with a Child in one Hand,

M. AVRELIVS.

Pl. XXXVIII.  
3.

Pl. XXXVIII.  
4.

Pl. XXXVIII.  
5.

Pl. XXXVIII.  
6.

Pl. XXXVIII.  
7.

Pl. XXXVIII.  
8.

- M. AVRELIVS. Hand, and the *Hasta pura* in the other, with the  
 PI. XXXVIII. Legend FECVNDITAS. S C. On a second, she  
 9. appears with two Children in her Arms, and four  
 more standing by her: the Legend TEMPORum  
 PI. XXXVIII. FELICITAS. S C. On a third, we see two small  
 10. Children laid upon a little Bed or Couch, with the  
 Legend SAECVLI FELICITAS. This alludes to  
 the Custom of presenting their new-born Children  
 in this Manner, in the Temple of *Juno Lucina*.  
 And it should seem, both by the Impression and  
 the Legend, as if the Birth of Twins had given  
 PI. XXXVIII. Occasion to the striking of it. On a fourth, a very  
 11. curious one, of the first Magnitude, she is cele-  
 brated in the Character of VENVS, with the Golden  
 Apple in one Hand, and the *Hasta pura* in the  
 other; a Compliment due to her exquisite Beauty,  
 and which bears the Sanction of the Senate. A  
 PI. XXXVIII. fifth shews her as the Spouse of the terrestrial *Ju-*  
 12. *piter*; for she is veiled, and has the *Hasta pura*  
 in her left Hand, and a *Patera* in the right: at her  
 Feet is her favourite Bird the Peacock; and the  
 Legend is IVNONI REGINAE. And as the Mo-  
 PI. XXXVIII. ther of Gods on Earth, she appears on a sixth in  
 13. the Character of *Cybele*, seated, with her Head tur-  
 rited, a *Patera* resting on her Knee, and a Lion on  
 each Side; and it is inscribed MATRI MAGNAE.  
 S C. In the Village where she died, the Emperor  
 erected.

erected a Temple to her, which was afterwards dedicated to *Heliogabalus*, transplanted a Colony thither, and named the Place *Faustinopolis*. He also made Provision for a new Set of *Faustinian* Maidens, in Honour of her. The Senate decreed Statues of Silver, both to her and the Emperor, to be placed in the Temple of *Venus* at *Rome*; and an Altar to be raised, at which all Virgins, when they married; were, together with their Spouses, to offer Sacrifice. They placed also her Statue of Gold in her usual Seat in the Theatre, around which the Emperor was to see the principal Ladies seated, as often as he came thither, as in her Life-time.

He was greatly offended with the *Antiochians*, who had sided with *Cassius*, their Countryman. At first, therefore, he disfranchised them, and deprived them of the public Sports, in which they delighted; yet soon after he not only forgave them, but visited their City. Hence the Coins struck there to his Honour, with an Eagle for the Reverse, and

ANTIOCHIAE COLONIAE. Marching thence into *Egypt*, he reformed the Rites of *Serapis* at *Pelufium*, taking them out of the Hands of the Multitude, and committing them to the Care of the Priests and principal Persons. On this Account it may be, that the Reverse before us was struck, which bears the Head of *Serapis*, crowned with a *Congius*

M. AVRELIVS.

PI. XXXVIII.

14.

PI XXXVIII.

15.

OR

M. AVRELIVS. or Measure. When he came to *Alexandria*, he behaved as their Citizen, and as a Philosopher, in all their public Places: and though the Inhabitants had been the Well-wishers of *Cassius* too, yet he pardoned all, and even left his Daughter amongst them. He had also erected a Temple at *Rome* to their God *Serapis*; so that his Figure, and that of *Isis*, is frequent on his Coins. Many Cities in the East were restored and embellished by him, particularly *Ephesus*, *Nicomedia*, and *Cyzicus*, which had been ruined by Earthquakes. To express their Gratitude, we have Coins of him, published by the *Ephesians*, with a Stag for the Reverse; by the *Nicomediensians*, with the Figure of their Temple; and by the Inhabitants of *Cyzicus*, with a black Heifer, being the usual Sacrifice to *Proserpine*, to whom their Island was sacred. *Vaillant* describes another, of the first Size, which we have not seen, struck by the *Perinthians*, with a *Victory* in a bigated Car, holding the Reins in her right Hand, and a Palm-Branch in the left, with the Name of ANTEICVS for their President or Governor. When he came to *Athens*, on his Return, where he was initiated in the *Eleusinian* Mysteries, he paid great Honours to the *Athenians*, and settled annual Stipends upon the Professors of the several Sciences.

On his Arrival at *Rome*, when, speaking to the  
 People,

People, he observed to them, that he had been absent several Years, the Multitude immediately ingeminated the Word *Eight*, at the same Time holding up the four Fingers of each Hand. The Emperor, conceiving their Intention, smiled, “ ’Tis true,” said he, “ the Number is *Eight* ;” and afterwards accordingly distributed eight Pieces of Gold to each Person : a Liberality which they had never before experienced. He remitted moreover all Debts to his own or the public Exchequer for forty-six Years past, without taking the sixteen Years of HADRIAN into the Account, and ordered all the Bonds relating to them to be burned in the Forum. And thus, though in the Management of his private Affairs he was very frugal, yet in necessary Articles he spared no Expence. Some Advantage gained by his Lieutenants now gave him the Title of IMPERATOR the eighth Time.

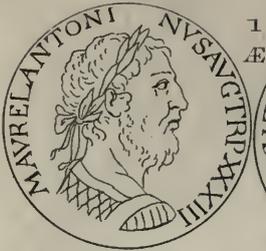
He permitted his Son COMMODUS to share with him the magnificent Triumph which he had obtained on his Return, gave him the Title of IMPERATOR, and destined him Consul for the ensuing Year, conferring upon him also the Tribunitial Power.

The Affairs of *Scythia* once more requiring his Presence in the Field, he married CRISPINA, the Daughter of *Bruttius Præfens*, to his Son with

M. AVRELIVS. Speed, and then marched with him against the Enemy. His Success was such as merited the Salutation of IMPERATOR the ninth Time, as we find by one of his Medals in Bronze, of the first Size, whereon his laureate Head appears, with the Inscription M. AVREL. ANTONINVS AVG. TR

Pl. XXXIX. 1. P XXXIII. The Reverse bears the Figure of *Felicity*, with the Lap gathered, implying Plenty, the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and a *Caduceus* in the other: the Legend FELICITAS AVG. IMP VIII COS III PP. S C. Another Coin, of the same Year, is quoted by *Goltzius*, which calls him IMP X. For a Battle was fought, which continued the whole Day, when the *Romans* obtained a complete Victory. Had he lived longer, he might probably have reduced all *Scythia*, but on the seventeenth of the Calends of the *April* following he died; not of his Disease, it is said, but of his Physicians, who by his Death made their Court to his Successor. However, in his last Moments, he recommended *COMMODUS* to the Officers; and to the Tribune, who came for the Word, said, "Go to the Rising Sun, for I hasten towards my Setting." It is said, that he wished to die, seeing the incorrigible Depravity of his Son. He died in the eighteenth Year of his Reign, and the sixty-first of his Age. His Ashes were conveyed to *Rome*, and





on the Day of his Funeral no Tears were shed, no Lamentation uttered, all Men being convinced that he was returned to the Gods, who had only lent him for a Season. The Senate and the People therefore, of every Sex and Condition, decreed to him a Temple, Priests, and every sacred Circumstance; which is also evident from the Reverse before us, with an Eagle having his Wings expanded, and a Globe in his Talons, around which is the Word CONSECRATIO. M. AVRELIVS.  
Pl. XXXIX. 2.

He had no Art, but was at all Times the same undisguised good Man. In all Things relating to good Government he was most attentive and diligent, neither speaking, writing, nor doing any Thing negligently. By his considerate Prudence he commonly foresaw the Schemes of his Enemies, and by his Vigilance and Activity defeated them, notwithstanding his natural Weakness and Infirmities. These Excellencies, which were observed inherent in him even before the Death of his Predecessor, are represented under the Figure of a Sphynx, Pl. XXXIX. 3. on which the Emperor, according to *Tristan* and *Walker*, or *Minerva*, according to Mr. *Addison*, is mounted. "The *Athenians*," says this last, from *Pausanias*, "drew a *Sphynx* on the Armour of *Pallas*, by Reason of the Strength and Sagacity

"of this Animal. The Sphynx therefore signifies

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" the

M. AVRELIVS. “ the same as *Minerva* herself, who was the Goddess of Arms as well as Wisdom, and describes the Emperor, as one of the Poets expresses it,

“ *Studiis florentem utriusque Minervæ.*

“ ——— Vers’d in Arts and Arms.

“ He will have it, that the *Romans* joined both De-  
 “ vices together, to make the Emblem the more  
 “ significant; as indeed they could not too much  
 “ extol the Learning and military Virtues of this  
 “ excellent Emperor, who was the best Philosopher  
 “ and greatest General of his Age.”

In legal Proceedings he was most assiduous, adding to the *Fasti* the judiciary Days, amounting to 230 in the Year. He took especial Care of the Ways and public Roads. No Prince paid more Deference to the Senate, or more Regard to the Wants of his People. Nothing was blamed in him but his too great Lenity. For being without Fault himself, he did not chuse to enquire into the Faults of others, that he might not punish them. He was only unhappy in leaving such a Son behind, for whose Instruction and Improvement all his unwearied Endeavours proved fruitless. And from this Time the Iron Age of Imperial *Rome* commences; so great was the Change that ensued in the Circumstances of the Empire. His Image of  
 Gold

M. AURELIUS.

Gold was erected in the Senate-House. And the Man who kept not a Statue of him in his House (whose Circumstances might afford it) was held to be a sacrilegious Person. His Reign was so much admired, and his Name for that Reason so speciously assumed by some of his Successors, that it is somewhat difficult to distinguish many of their Coins and Medals. *Mercury* seems to have been the favourite Deity of this Emperor, by whom we find a superb Temple erected to him, on four *Termini*, having the God with his proper Attributes in the Center of it. Amongst the Decorations above, Mr. *Walker* observes, that there are the Figures of a Dog, a Cock, and a Tongue, as the Emblems of Fidelity, Vigilance, and Persuasion, necessary to a Pontifex. The Legend is IMP VI COS III; in the Area, S C; and in the Exergue, RELIGIO AVGVSTI.

Pl. XXXIX. 4.

The *Greek* Coins of M. AURELIUS are common of every Size: but those of the younger FAUSTINA, which bear the Name of ANNIA, are rare.

L. AELIUS



L. AELIUS AURELIUS COMMODUS  
ANTONINUS.

COMMODVS.

**C**OMMODUS began to shew the Cruelty of his Disposition at the Age of twelve Years. For, the Water of his Bath being over-heated, he commanded the Waiter to be thrown into the Furnace; nor would be pacified, till convinced by the fœtid Smell of a Sheepskin, thrown in to deceive him, that his Commands had been executed. At the Age of fourteen he was received into the Sacerdotal College, and, on taking the manly Gown, was declared PRINCE OF THE YOUTH, and presented with a Shield and Spear of Gold by the Equestrian Order. This is recorded on his Coins, in the same  
Manner

Manner that we have seen it on the *Denarius* of COMMODOVS.  
 NERO, with the Mark of a Shield, with EQVESTER Pl. XXXIX. 5.  
 ORDO PRINCIPI. IVVENT<sup>utis</sup>. The Pieces  
 which come out cross-wise from behind the Shield  
 are the Ends of the Spears. So *Virgil* of *Mar-*  
*cellus* :

——— *Juvenis, pura qui nititur hasta.*

The Youth, who leans upon his unarm'd Spear.

In the Year of the City DCCCCXXVII, when  
*Calpurnius Piso* and *Salvius Julianus* were Consuls,  
 he was advanced to the Tribunitial Power, and the  
 next Year was complimented with the Surnames of  
 GERMANICVS, SARMATICVS, and triumphed  
 with his Father. It appears from the Legend of  
 the Coin before us, that he was then Consul, and Pl. XXXIX. 6.  
 had the Title of PATER PATRIAE conferred  
 upon him. It exhibits a Trophy, with two Cap-  
 tives at the Foot of it; and in the Exergue, DE  
 GERMANIS: around the Verge, TR P II COS PP;  
 and in the Area, S C. The next Year we find  
 him entitled AVGVSTVS, his Head being lau-  
 reated, with the Inscription L AVREL COMMO-  
 DVS AVG. On the Reverse he is seated or en- Pl. XXXIX. 7.  
 throned, holding a Rosebud in his Hand, with an  
 Altar burning before him, the Legend being TR  
 P III IMP II COS PP. In DCCCCXXXI he was  
 Consul

COMMODVS.

Consul the second Time; and in the following Year his Father died. Thus, in the fifth Year of his Tribunitial Power, he became sole Emperor, and assumed the Prænomen of MARCVS, which we shall find continued upon his Coins till the eleventh Year of his Reign. Notice has been taken already of the last Words of his Father to the Tribune, "Go to the rising Sun," &c. This Expression probably gave Occasion to the striking of a

PI. XXXIX. 8. Medal at this Time, whereon *Phœbus* is represented as beginning his Course. "His four Horses," as Mr. *Addison* observes, "are breaking through the Clouds, in their Morning Passage;

"*Corripuere viam, pedibusque per acra motis.*

"*Obstantes scindunt nebulas.* OVID.

"Their Way they urg'd, and with swift Feet through Air  
"Cleave the resisting Clouds.

"The Woman underneath is the Earth; as *Ovid*  
"has drawn her, sitting, in the same Figure:

"*Sustulit omniferos collo tenus arida vultus,*

"*Opposuitque manum fronti, magnoque tremore*

"*Omnia concutiens paulum subsedit.*

"————— The Earth at length

"Uplifted to the Heav'ns her blasted Head,

"And clapp'd her Hand upon her Brows, and said,

"(But first, impatient of the sultry Heat,

"Sunk deeper down, and sought a cooler Seat.)

"The

“ The *Cornucopiæ* in her Hand is a Type of her COMMODVS.  
 “ Fruitfulness. So much for the designing Part  
 “ of the Medal: as for the Thought of it (says he)  
 “ the Antiquaries are divided upon it.” But had  
 any of them adverted to this Circumstance in the  
 Death of M. AURELIUS, there had been no room  
 for any such Difference of Opinion. Some very  
 fine Medallions were also struck, having on one  
 Side the laureate Head of the Emperör, with IMP  
 COMMODVS AVG GERM SARM; and opposite  
 to him that of the Empress, with CRISPINA  
 AVGVSTA; and on the Reverse, a Representation PL. XXXIX. 9.  
 of the Marriage, with the Legend VOTA PVB-  
 LICA. Other Memorials of this Lady shew her in  
 the Character of *Venus*, as her Medal of Gold  
 particularly, which gives her Head on the obverse  
 Side, with CRISPINA AVGVSTA, represents her PL. XXXIX. 10.  
 on the other as *Venus* seated, with the *Hasta pura*  
 in her left Hand, and a *Victory alate* in the right,  
 with the Legend VENVS FELIX; or of *Juno*, as  
 does the Reverse of her *Denarius*, which has that PL. XXXIX. 11.  
 Goddess standing, with the *Hasta pura* in one  
 Hand, and a *Patera* in the other, with the Peacock  
 before her, and the Legend IVNO REGINA; or  
 of the Deity of Health, under the Figure of *Hygeia*,  
 enthroned, and feeding the Serpent, with the Le-  
 gend SALVS, and in the Area S C, on a Medal of PL. XXXIX. 12.

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Bronze,

COMMODOVS. Bronze, of the first Magnitude. One of her Denarii gives her Head, with the same Inscription, and on the Reverse an Altar blazing, DIS GENITALIBVS. Whence we may conclude that there were Children by this Marriage, however short-lived.

COMMODOVS, on the Death of his Father, was with much Persuasion prevailed upon to continue for a while in *Pannonia*, that he might not seem to desert the War. This had a good Effect. For the Success which attended his Arms against the *Quadi*, gave him the Title of IMPERATOR the third Time, and induced both them and the *Marcomanni* to sue for Peace, which was granted. This is celebrated as the Effect of his military Prowess and Prudence, by Medals, which have his laureate Head,

PL. XXXIX. 14. with AVREL COMMODVS AVG; and on the Reverse a *Pallas*, armed with Helmet and Shield, holding a *Patera* in her right Hand, and an Altar before her; the Legend of which is IMP III COS II PP. S C. He was now saluted IMPERATOR the fourth Time, entered upon his third Consulate, and, returning to *Rome*, triumphed once more. All

PL. XXXIX. 15. this is commemorated on the Reverse, which shews him in his quadrigated Triumphal Car, with the Legend TR P VI IMP III COS III PP. S C. The next Year the Success of his Generals abroad honoured him with the Title of IMPERATOR the fifth

fifth Time; and in the following he became a COMMODOVS.  
fourth Time Consul.

It had been usual aforetime to bring Corn to Rome from the opposite Coast of *Africa*. But *COMMODOVS* appointed a Fleet, with proper Curators, for the regular and constant Conveyance of it from that Quarter; that in case the expected Convoy from *Alexandria* should at any Time fail, a Supply might not be wanting. This Providence is commemorated on a Coin, which represents him with a *Cornucopiæ* PL. XXXIX. 16. in his left Hand, and the Figure of *Ceres* in his right. At his Feet is a Measure of Wheat, and behind him a Ship with Rowers: the Legend *ANNona. AVGusti TR P VIII IMP VI COS* "".

The Northern *Barbarians* now broke through the Wall in *Britain*, and made dreadful Ravages in the Province, having cut off the *Roman* General and his Army. Against them *Ulpus Marcellus* was commissioned, a Commander brave, abstemious, and vigilant. The Particulars of his Success we are not acquainted with. That it was great, is evident, from the Reverse struck the next Year, which exhibits a *Victory alate*, and seated, with a Shield before her, whereon the Success is supposed to be inscribed. The Legend is *PM TR P X IMP* PL. XXXIX. 17.  
*VII COS IIII PP*: in the Area *SC*; and in the Exergue *VICTis BRITannis*. Hence it appears

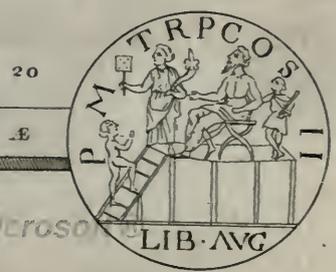
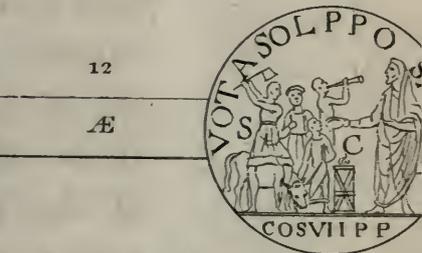
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that

COMMODOVS. that he had been saluted IMPERATOR for the seventh Time on this Occasion; as it will, from other Coins, that he took upon him the Surname of BRITANNICUS.

While Things were thus proceeding abroad, COMMODOVS at home discarded his Father's Friends, and bade adieu to all salutary Counfels. His Cruelty and Debauchery were such as made him odious to all Men. This encouraged his Sister LUCILLA, and several Senators, to conspire against him; and who, on the Discovery, were all put to Death. The Empress *Crispina* also, for imitating his Lewdness, was first banished to *Capreae*, and there executed. Some of the most eminent Persons of the Republic were condemned to Death, and others to Exile, under pretended Charges of Treason.

The Emperor now entered on his fifth Consulate, when we find his Care of the Frumentarian Supply again celebrated on his Coins. The Inscription around his laureate Head is unusual, if it be faithfully copied. I suspect, therefore, that in the AV a Stroke is wanting to the last Letter, and that it should be AN, and the Whole thus read, *Marcus COMMODOVS ANtoninus FELIX AVGustus BRi-*  
 Pl. XXXIX. 18. *tannicus.* The Reverse is a Ship under full Sail, with S C in the Area, and underneath PROVIDEN-  
 tia





*tiæ* AVGVSTI: the Legend PM TR P XI IMP VIII COMMODOVS.  
 COS V PP. Another Reverse represents him as  
*Hercules* with his Club, having his right Foot on  
 the Prow of a Ship. *Egypt*, with her *Sistrum*,  
 presents to him an Handful of Corn; and before  
 the Prow is the Head of an old Man, supposed to  
 be *Africa*: the Legend also PROVIDENTIAE  
 AVG. For this Emperor was proud of being called  
 the *Roman Hercules*: Statues were erected, and  
 Sacrifices offered, to him in this Character. As  
 such he is figured on one of his Reverses, with a Pl. XXXIX. 19.  
*Patera* in his Hand, and an Altar before him; and  
 this bears the S C. On a Medal in Bronze, of the  
 first Magnitude, his Head is covered with the Lion's  
 Skin, and around it L AEL AVREL COMM AVG  
 P. FEL. The Reverse bears the *Herculean* Club, Pl. XXXIX. 20.  
 Bow, and Quiver; the last being inscribed HO-  
 NORI: underneath S C: the Legend HERCVLI  
 ROMANO AVGVSTO. Two other Reverses have,  
 the one, the Club, surrounded by a Wreath of Lau- Pl. XL. 1.  
 rel; the other, *Hercules* himself, with his right Pl. XL. 2.  
 Hand upon a Trophy; the Legend of both being  
 the same with the former. At this Time some  
 Coins were struck of him, which have for the Re- Pl. XL. 3.  
 verse the Figure of *Janus*, under an Arch, with  
 the *Hasta pura* in his right Hand, and the Legend  
 PM TR P XI IMP VIII COS V PP S C. What  
 particular

COMMODOVS. particular *Janus* this was which COMMODOVS erected or restored, can only be surmised. For, besides those in his two Temples, there were several Figures of him in *Rome*. *Horace* makes Mention of the *highest*, the *middle*, and the *lowest Janus*. There was another before the Entrance of the Senate-House, to which, as *Dio Cassius* says, DIDIVS JULIANUS was going to offer Sacrifice, when he was disturbed by the Exclamations of the People. And the Erektion or Restitution of this was probably the Occasion of the Coin in Bronze before us. Another very curious Reverse was now struck, in Compliment to the supposed Steadiness of the Emperor's *Fortune*. For it shews the Figure of this Deity, as *Apelles* used to paint her, seated, with a *Cornucopia* in her left Hand. Her right she holds out in a soothing Manner to an Horse that is passing by, who placidly turns back his Head to her. The Legend is FORTVNAE MANENTI: in the Exergue COS V PP. S C. It is extraordinary, that amongst the three-and-twenty different *Fortunes*, enumerated by *Alexander ab Alexandro*, there is no Mention of the *Fortuna manens*; and we can only conjecture it to have been one of the three, of doubtful Name, at the *Porta Collina*. Yet the Lyric Poet had probably an Eye to this particular Deity, in the 29th Ode of his third Book,

Pl. XL. 4.

Fortuna

Fortuna leto sæva negotio et  
 Ludum insolentem ludere pertinax,  
 Transmutat incertos honores ;  
 Nunc mihi, nunc alii, benigna :  
 Laudo MANENTEM. si celeres quatit  
 Pennas, resigno quæ dedit, et meâ  
 Virtute me involvo, probamque  
 Pauperiem sine dote quero.

HOR.

But Fortune, ever-changing Dame,  
 Indulges her malicious Joy ;  
 Constant she plays her haughty Game,  
 Proud of her Office to destroy.  
 To-day to me her Bounty flows,  
 Instant on others she the Bliss bestows.

The FORTUNE REMANENT I praise ;  
 But if she shake her rapid Wings,  
 I can resign, with careles Eafe,  
 The Gifts her worthless Favour brings,  
 Then folded lie in Virtue's Arms,  
 And honest Poverty's undower'd Charms.

FRANCIS.

He gave to the several Months of the Year the Names which he assumed himself ; beginning with *January*, which he called *Amazonius*, *Inviçtus*, *Felix*, *Pius*, *Lucius*, *Aelius*, *Aurelius*, *Commodus*, *Augustus*, *Herculeus*, *Romanus*, *Exsuperatorius*. Of the first and last of these Names he was, according to *Dio Cassius*, particularly fond. And we find on one of his Denarii his laureate Head, with M COMM ANT PIVS FEL AVG BRIT ; and on the Reverse the Figure of *Jupiter the Pre-eminent*, seated, with the *Hasta pura* in his left Hand, and a *Patera* in the right ;

COMMODOVS. right; the Legend being IOVI EXSVP PM TR P XII IMP VIII COS V PP. It may be that the *Janus* also, which we have just now taken Notice of, may bear some Relation to himself, as the Regulator of the Year. From some Coins struck in the Course of the succeeding Year, it seems that either the pestilential Disorder, which had long raged, began now to subside, or that they were owing to the Recovery of the Emperor himself from some Malady. For we are informed by *Galen*, that he had cured him of a troublesome Disorder of his Jaws. And it might be to express his Gratitude to this Physician that the Figure of *Esculapius*, seated, and feeding the Serpent, was stamped upon some of his Reverses, with PM TR P XIII IMP VIII COS " " " S C. Another has the Figure of *Hygeia* seated, and employed in the same Office, with SALVS in the Exergue. On another is the Figure of *Apollo*, the supposed Arbiter of the Fate of Man, not armed with his Bow as such, but having in one Hand his Harp, resting on a Column, and his *Plectrum* in the other, as heightening the general Joy. He is here called the *Palatine Apollo*, as the Guardian of the Imperial Palace, in which he had a Temple dedicated to him by AUGUSTUS, with a magnificent Portico and Library; whence *Propertius*,

Pl. XL. 5.

Pl. XL. 6.

*Musa, Palatini referamus Apollinis ædem.*

COMMODOVS.

Sing we the *Palatine Apollo's* Dome.

And,

*Scripta Palatinus quæcunque recepit Apollo.* Hor.

What Works soe'er

Became the *Palatine Apollo's* Care.

And on another we read, inclosed in a Wreath of Laurel, P. P. S. P. Q. R. LAETITIAE C. V. *Patris Patriæ Senatus Populus Que Romanus Lætitiæ Consulis Quintum.* PI. XL. 7.

Several extraordinary Occurrences had lately passed. *Perennis*, the favourite Minister, had, by his oppressive and iniquitous Practices, incurred the public Odium; and was, upon a general Charge of aspiring to the Empire, cut off, with all his Family. He was succeeded in that dangerous Post by *Cleander*, one of the Emperor's Freedmen, who, far from profiting by the Fate of his Predecessor, rather exceeded him in Haughtiness, Venality, and Cruelty. His Authority was therefore short-lived. The Emperor was forced to deliver him up, in Consequence of a popular Insurrection, which could not otherwise be quelled; and his guiltless Family, as was usual, perished with him. It is remarkable, that in this his last Year, no fewer than twenty-five Consuls were created, by the arbitrary Pleasure

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of

COMMODOVS. of this Minister. Meantime a large Body of Deserters, headed by one *Maternus*, wrought great Distraction in the Provinces of *Gaul* and *Spain*. Finding themselves at last hard pressed by *Niger*, who marched against them with an Army, they divided, and in separate Parties entered *Rome*, with Design to assassinate the Emperor, and seize the Government. But a timely Discovery being made, the Scheme was defeated, by the Execution of their Leaders. To which Deliverance it may be, that the last-mentioned Coin may be more applicable.

Great Discontents had arisen amongst the Troops in *Britain*, which *PERTINAX* was sent thither to appease, and which he accomplished, at the extreme Hazard of his Life. *SEVERUS* was now recalled from *Pannonia*, and made Governor of *Sicily*. He was accused at the same Time of consulting the Astrologers with ambitious Views, but was acquitted by his Judges, and his Calumniator crucified. The Plague now broke out afresh, and made great Havock, especially at *Rome*. And Abundance of People perished in every Part of the Empire, by small Needles, infected with Poison, which were artfully cast at them by malicious Persons, or such as were hired for the Purpose; an Evil which had been complained of also in the Days of *DOMITIAN*.

The sixth Consulate of COMMODOVS. was deeply stained with the Blood of his own Kindred, and of the most illustrious Persons, both in the Provinces and at Home. The superb Temple of *Peace*, with all its rich Contents, was reduced to Ashes by a Fire, which sprung out of the Earth. Not only the adjoining Buildings, but the Temple of *Vesta*, and a Part of the Palace, were consumed by it. After having raged impetuously for several Days, it was extinguished by a Flood of Rain, which the People looked upon as providentially sent from Heaven on Purpose. And on this Occasion the Emperor himself was recorded as an Example of Piety. For he is figured on his Coins, in an Attitude of Devotion, with the Altar burning before him, with the Legend AVCTOR PIETATIS P M TR P XIII IMP VIII COS VI PP. S. C. For this Compound of all Iniquity, who did not scruple to profane the Places held most sacred, with his Murders and Impurities, yet made great Pretensions to Piety and Religion. For he made many Additions to the *Circensian* Games, which was considered as an Act of Piety. In the Zeal of his Devotion, he would frequently, in the Habit of the Victimarian, slay the Beast himself; and was so observant of the *Isiac* Rites, as to shave his Head, as the Priests did,

Pl. XL. 8.

G g 2

and

COMMODOVS. and bore the Statue of *Anubis* himself, in their public Processions.

- Pl. XL. 9. The great Ambition of COMMODOVS was to have every Thing called by his own Name. Accordingly, not the Months of the Year only, but the Age, the Senate, the People, and *Rome* itself, he was desirous of having so distinguished. Hence the City is represented on his Coins as his proper Colony, by a Husbandman driving a Yoke of Oxen at Plough, with the Legend *COLonia Lucii ANnii COMmodi TR P XV IMP VIII. COS VI. S C.* And these mad Counfels he pretended to have received from *Apollo*, whom, from his advising, he denominates *Moneta* on his Coins. For there we behold him naked, leaning his left Arm on a Column, with his right Hand upon his Head, and the Legend *APOLLini MONETAE PM TR P XV IMP VIII. COS VI. S C.* The next Year *Minerva* seems to have been his favourite Deity, as she forms the Reverse of one of his Medals of Gold then struck, armed with Helmet and Shield, having the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and a Branch of Laurel in the other, and being called the *MINerva AVGuſti PM TR P XVI COS VI.* In that which followed, he assumed the Fasces a seventh Time, and chose for his Colleague *HELVIUS PERTINAX*, who became his

COMMODVS.

Pl. XL. 12.

Pl. XL. 13.

his Successor, and was then Governor of the City. And now Vows were paid for the Health of the Emperor, with the usual Pomp of Processions and Sacrifices, as expressed upon the Medal before us, which presents his laureate Head, inscribed IMP C M AVR COMM AVGVST, *Imperator Cæsar Marcus Aurelius Commodus Augustus*. The Reverse has the whole Apparatus of a Sacrifice, with the proper Ministers and Music attending, and the Occasion is expressed on the Margin by VOTA SOL PRO SAL PR, *Vota soluta pro Salute Principis*. In the Exergue COS VII PP, and in the Area S C. This is the last Coin on which the Prænomen of *Marcus* appears: for he had now resumed that of *Lucius*, which properly belonged to him. On the next, therefore, struck the same Year, for it was the last of his Life and Reign, we read L AEL AVREL COMM AVG P FEL. The Reverse of this Medal is only a Confirmation of his incorrigible Folly, as it exhibits *Hercules* with his Club, and a Yoke of Oxen before him, as the Founder of a Colony, being appropriated in the Legend HERCuli ROMANO CONDITORI. *Walker*, in his Explanation of a Coin, which we have not met with, observes, that *Rome* was anciently composed of four Villages, *Romula*, *Velia*, *Germalum*, and *Forum*: that the Quarter of *Germalum*, *Germanum*, *Cermanum*, and *Cermenum*,

COMMODOVS. *Cermenum*, for so it is differently written, being desolated by the Plague, and re-peopled by COMMODOVS, gave him some Colour for stiling the City his Colony, or the *Colonia Commodiana*. He was now chiefly employed in exemplifying the *Herculean* Character which he had taken upon him. His Skill in Archery was wonderful, for which that Hero had been also famous; at the Sword he had few Equals, and to the Exercise of the Club his Strength was well adapted. He was therefore continually shewing his Address at these Weapons, either in the Amphitheatre or the Palace. While a Panther was seizing a Man, he pierced him with an Arrow so seasonably and dextrously, that the Beast fell dead, and the Man remained unhurt. A Number of infirm Persons were gathered together, and disguised as Monsters, that he might destroy them with his Club. He fought amongst the Gladiators as one of their Number; and slew an incredible Multitude of People, being more delighted with his Success this Way than if he had gained a Victory in the Field. It were tedious, and at the same Time very disagreeable, to recount the many Instances of his wanton Cruelty, in which he equalled or exceeded the most infamous of his Predecessors. On the last Day of the Year, he resolved upon the Death of the two Senators, whom he had appointed  
to

to the Fasces, intending to appear himself the next Morning in the double Character of Consul and Gladiator, attended in Procession by Gladiators only. This Scheme he discovered to *Marcia*, his favourite Mistress, to *Lætus*, the Captain of the Guards, and *Ecleetus*, his Chamberlain. All these most earnestly dissuaded him from the Execution of his Purpose, insomuch that he grew violently enraged; and, when he left them, wrote down their Names, and the Names of many other Persons of Distinction, as destined to Slaughter. The Tablet, containing these Names, *Marcia* observed soon after in the Hands of a Boy, with whom he would sometimes divert himself; and, after reading the Contents, presently made the other two acquainted with their common Danger, who naturally enough determined to prevent him. This they attempted by Poison, which not answering their Purpose immediately, they strangled him, with the Assistance of *Narcissus*, the noted Wrestler.

COMMODOUS was of proper Stature, and of a fair and manly Aspect; but his Eyes twinkled like those of a drunken Person, and his Speech was confused. His Custom was to singe his Beard, either to avoid the Danger of a Barber, or to make the Hair spring up the softer. Notwithstanding his Achievements in the Amphitheatre, he was afflicted with a Rupture,

COMMODOVS. ture, the Tumor of which was evident enough through his filken Robes. His Liberality to the Public was expressed in frequent Congiaries; at one of which he distributed 725 Denarii to each Person; which Sum is computed at 70 Gold Ducats. In other Respects he was avaricious, his Extravagancies keeping the Treasury very low. He murdered all his Relations, and 24 of the most illustrious Persons of the Empire. And his Lust was as fierce as his Cruelty: for he violated his own Sisters, and the Vestal Virgins, and kept a Seraglio of 300 Women, and an equal Number of Cata-mites. Yet this unnatural Tyrant, of execrable Memory, was afterwards deified by the Emperor SEVERUS. For the present, however, the Senate with one Voice declared him the Enemy of his Country, of the Gods, and of the Senate; ordered his Statues to be pulled down, his Name to be erased from all Inscriptions, his Body to be dragged by the Hook, and cast into the *Tiber*, and the Months of the Year to be restored to their ancient Names. But his Body was privately buried by Night, and afterwards removed by his Successor to the Monument of HADRIAN. There are many Colony Coins of him; both *Greek* and *Latin*, which are trite and common; but all those of CRISPINA are rare and valuable.

PUBLIUS



PUBLIUS HELVIUS PERTINAX.

COMMODUS being dead, *Eclētus* and *Lætus* waited on PERTINAX, and with Difficulty persuaded him to attend them to the Prætorian Camp, where, on the Recommendation of *Lætus*, and the Promise of a Donative, he was declared Emperor ; it being given out amongst them, that COMMODUS had been carried off by an Apoplexy. He then hastened to the Senate, which was assembled in the Night, and was received with great Applause. All the Imperial Honours were conferred upon him, and he was stiled *Prince of the Senate*, according to ancient Usage. The Title of AUGUSTA was decreed to his Wife, as was that of CÆSAR to his

PERTINAX.

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Son.

PERTINAX.

Son. But he rejected both, and would gladly have relinquished the Authority vested in himself. His Son he judged too young; and his Wife was a pe-  
 tulant Woman, whose Fondness for a Musician gave him no room to assure himself of her Fidelity. Yet we find her acknowledged by this Title in some Provincial Coins. In that before us she is a graceful Figure, with the Inscription TITIANH ΣΕΒΑΚΤΗ, *Titiana Augusta*. The Reverse is one mounted on Horseback, the common Symbol of the *Heliopolitans*; but whether the Coin was struck at *Heliopolis* in *Egypt*, or a City of the same Name in *Cælo-Syria*, as I rather judge, is uncertain; but that it was at one of them, the ΗΑΙ, *Heli*, leaves us no room to doubt.

PERTINAX was a *Ligurian* by Birth, and of mean Extraction. For his Father, *Helvius Successus*, was a Woodman, and had been commonly called *Pertinax* from his obstinate Continuation of that laborious Employment for many Years; which Name he was so far from being ashamed of, that he gave it to his Son. He found Means, however, to procure for him a good Education, and he afterwards earned a scanty Maintenance by instructing others. At length, betaking himself to the Army, his Merit by Degrees recommended him to the highest Commands; so that he was appointed to the Consulship,

PERTINAX.

ship, and enjoyed that Dignity in Absence, and was now Consul the second Time, as well as Governor of the City, at the Death of COMMODUS. The excellent Management of his private Concerns, and his Experience in public Affairs, added to his unwearied Diligence, gave all Men the justest Hopes of a most happy Administration. And indeed, for the short Time that he continued it, their Expectations were fully answered. For his Justice, Equity, and Moderation, endeared him to all good Men, and were worthy to be recorded, as they are, on Medals of Gold, made much more estimable by the Impression of his laureate Head, inscribed IMP CAES P HELV PERTIN AVG. His Equity appears personified on the Reverse, with her *Cornucopie* and an *equal Balance*, termed in the Legend AEQVITAS AVGVSTI TR P. COS II. His Advancement from the lowest to the highest Estate, he piously ascribed to the *Providence of the Gods*, which we see on one of his Reverse holding up a Globe for his Acceptance, with the Legend PROVIDENTIAE DEORVM COS II. S C. The *Divine Assistance*, which he thus acknowledged, is expressed on another of his Coins by a female Figure, seated, and holding out Ears of Corn, with OPI DIVIN. TR. P. COS II. S C. This divine *Ops* was the same with *Cybele* or *Rhea*, and signified *the Earth*,

Pl. XL. 14.

Pl. XL. 15.

Pl. XL. 16.

H h 2

which

PERTINAX. which was deemed the Mother of the Gods, and which, as frugiferous, is depicted with Ears of Wheat. The general Joy which it occasioned is also represented by the Symbol of an youthful Goddess, with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand; and a Wreath in the other, entitled in the Margin LAETITIA TEMPOR. COS II. S C. For the public Rejoicing, according to *Zonaras*, was so great on this Occasion that the People strewed the very Streets of the City with Wreaths or Garlands. In the Capitol he offered the usual Sacrifices, and his Vows to the Gods, for an happy Decennial Government, as is expressed in the Frontispiece of this Reign, on one of his Medals of Gold also, and his Pl. XL. 17. Denarius; on the Reverse of which he is veiled, and offering, with the Altar before him, and VOTIS DECEN<sup>n</sup>alibus TR. P. COS II. S C.

At his Accession the Treasury was so exhausted, that he found in it no more than a Million of Sesterces; yet by the Sale of his Predecessor's Effects, he collected as much more as enabled him to discharge his Promise to the Prætorian Cohorts, and to distribute to the People an hundred Denarii per Man. This is recorded in the usual Manner. The Emperor is enthroned, and attended by his Captain of the Guards, and his Minister, who makes the Distribution, with a *Cornucopiæ* in one Hand, and the

the Tesseræ duly marked in the other, while one is ascending to receive it. In the Margin he is stiled PM TR P. COS II; and in the Exergue we have LIBeralitas AVGuſti. About the ſame Time an immense Quantity of Gold was recovered from ſome Barbarian Deputies, who were ſeized upon the Road and brought back, as they were conveying it to their own Country, being the Price of their Friendſhip. This was done by Order of *Lætus*, who diſmiſſed them with a Charge that they ſhould acquaint their Principals, “ that PERTINAX was “ Emperor,” to whoſe Reputation they were no Strangers. But neither was *Lætus* ſatisfied with the Power that he enjoyed, nor they of the Imperial Houſhold with the Juſtice and Oeconomy, nor the Prætorians with the Frugality, Strictneſs, and Activity of the Emperor; nor conſequently did the firſt of theſe find it difficult to engage the laſt in a Conſpiracy againſt him. About two hundred of them broke into the Palace with their drawn Swords, to whom PERTINAX, ſaying that “ Flight “ did not become an Emperor,” too confidently expoſed himſelf, upbraiding their undutiful Behaviour in ſuch convincing Terms, that moſt of them, aſhamed of their Purpoſe, were ſheathing their Swords, when one of them, a *Tungrian*, whoſe Name was *Tauſius*, more inſolent than the reſt, darted

PERTINAX.

Pl. XL. 20.

PERTINAX. darted his Spear at his Breast: "This," said he, "the Soldiers send you:" on which others rushed forward and dispatched him. *Eclectus* died by his Side, after having slain two of the Soldiers in his Defence. Thus fell PERTINAX, in the sixty-eighth Year of his Age, after a short Reign of eighty-seven Days only. He was afterwards deified, and his Son was made the Flamen or Chief Priest of his Father.

He was a venerable old Man, with a long Beard and curled Hair; of full Habit, and a Belly somewhat prominent; of stately Height, moderately eloquent, and rather gracious than liberal. He was accused of Avarice, but his Virtues were many; and, had he lived longer, might have restored the Empire to its ancient Lustre. His Death was therefore much lamented by the Senate and People.

M. DIDIUS



M. DIDIVS SEVERVS JULIANVS.

**T**HE Soldiers, who flew PERTINAX, stuck his Head upon a Pole, and carried it to the Camp. The Cohorts, seeing this, and not knowing whom to pitch upon for a Successor, determined to set the Imperial Authority to Sale, and proclaimed from the Ramparts that they would dispose of it to the highest Bidder. *Sulpicianus*, the Father-in-law of PERTINAX, and Governor of *Rome*, was then in the Camp, whither he had been sent on the first News of the Mutiny, and offered himself. But DIDIVS JULIANVS, the wealthiest Man in *Rome*, hastening thither, and greatly outbidding him, was declared Emperor, and attended to the Senate in the

DIDIVS  
IULIANVS.

DIDIVS  
IVLIANVS.

the Evening by a numerous Escorte of them, with their Ensigns displayed. Being confirmed by the Senate, he repaired to the Palace, and gratified at once his Ambition and Appetite with a princely Entertainment. His imperial *Fortune*, distinguished by the *Helm* in her right Hand, and the *Cornucopiæ* in her left, is honoured on the Reverse of the Frontispiece. But the Concord of the Prætorian Cohorts, to which he really owed his Advancement, is celebrated on his Medal of Gold; the Obverse of which shews his laureate Head, with IMP CAES. M. DID. SEVER. IVLIAN. AVG. while she appears on the Reverse with an Eagle in one Hand, and an Ensign in the other, entitled CONCORDIA

Pl. XLI. 1.

Pl. XLI. 2.

MILITUM. His Denarius corresponds with this, except that the Name of SEVER. is omitted in the Inscription. At the same Time the Title of AUGUSTA was decreed both to his Wife MANLIA SCANTILLA, and his Daughter DIDIA CLARA, by whom his own Ambition was too inconsiderately stimulated.

Pl. XLI. 3.

Accordingly we have the Head of the former in Bronze, of the first Magnitude, with MANLIA SCANTILLA AVG; the Reverse of which is the *Queen of Heaven*, with the Sceptre, *Patera*, and Peacock, called IVNO REGINA. S C; and of

Pl. XLI. 4.

the latter, with DIDIA CLARA AVG. having for the Reverse a female Figure; with a long Palm-Branch





Branch in the right Hand, and a *Cornucopiæ* in the left, expressive of her own internal Satisfaction, denominated *HILARITAS TEMPORUM*. S. C. Their Denarii agree with these. Nothing prevailed with the Prætorians so much, his Money only excepted, in Behalf of *JULIANUS*, as his Promise to renew, on all Occasions, their Remembrance of *COMMODUS*, whose Name therefore they gave to him; and it is found on one of the Coins mentioned by *Goltzius*, in his *Index*.

*DIDIVS  
IVLIANVS.*

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On the next Day the Senators waited on him with much Diffimulation. But the People in general were under great Concern, and took no Care to conceal it, infomuch that, while he was sacrificing, they exclaimed aloud against him, calling him "Parricide," and saying, that "he had stolen the Empire;" and when he endeavoured to pacify them with Promises of Money, they were the more vehement, crying out, that "they would have none of it." He then ordered the Soldiers to fall upon those who were nearest. This did but exasperate the Multitude, who took Arms, and flocked from all Quarters to the *Circus*. Here they passed the Night and the next Day fasting, till, wearied out with Toil and Watching, they departed to their own Homes. His Behaviour after this was mean. He soothed and flattered the Senate, and the great

VOL. II. I i Men,

DIDIVS  
 JULIANVS.

Men, promised and gave largely, became exceedingly obsequious to all he met, frequented the Theatres, gave many Entertainments, and omitted nothing which might conciliate the Affections of others. But to Men of Experience, this immoderate Assentation looked suspicious.

At this Time there were at the Head of the *Roman* Armies three Persons, very eminent; SEVERUS, who commanded in *Illyricum*; NIGER, in *Syria*; and ALBINUS, in *Britain*. The first was the most potent and the most prudent. Foreseeing what would happen on the Death of JULIANUS, he made it his first Care to engage the Friendship of ALBINUS, who was nearest. This done, with six hundred select Men, he set out for *Rome*, travelling Night and Day, being followed by the rest of his Forces with all Diligence. His Intentions being known, JULIANUS obliged the Senate to declare him a public Enemy. He then made great Preparations for his Defence, and fortified the Palace. *Lætus* and *Marcia* were put to Death by his Orders. Several Youths were slain by him for Magical Purposes. Many Persons were hired to assassinate SEVERUS, who had now entered *Italy*, and made himself Master of *Ravenna*. They who guarded the Passes went over to him. And the Prætorian Cohorts, on whom the Emperor chiefly depended,

funk

funk under their Labours, and were dreadfully frightened at the Rumor of his Approach. A Senate was therefore convened; and, at the Request of JULIANUS, SEVERUS was declared his Partner in the Empire. Meantime the Prætorian Cohorts, to whom SEVERUS had by his Letters offered Indemnity on their Submission, and the delivering up all those concerned in the Death of PERTINAX, seized the Assassins, and gave Notice of what they had done to *Messala* the Consul, who immediately summoned the Senate to meet in the Temple of *Minerva*. The Fathers, without Delay, passed Sentence of Death on JULIANUS, who was beheaded in the Palace; declared SEVERUS Emperor; and decreed Divine Honours to PERTINAX. He suffered in his sixty-first Year, after having reigned sixty-six Days; and his Body was delivered to his Wife and Daughter for Interment.

DIDIVS  
IULIANVS



## LUCIUS SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS.

SEVERVS.

**S**EVERUS, now Emperor, instantly took Vengeance on the Murderers of PERTINAX. On his Approach to the City, he ordered the Prætorian Cohorts to attend him without their Arms. He upbraided them in the bitterest Terms with their mutinous Disposition, their heinous Rebellion and Cruelty to their most excellent Emperor. After which he banished them an hundred Miles from *Rome*. He then advanced to the City, at the Head of his Troops, armed, and on Horseback. When he came to the Gates, he alighted, and put on the peaceful Garb of a Citizen, in which he entered, the whole Army following. Our Historian calls it the

the most magnificent Sight that he had seen. The whole City was adorned with Flowers, and Wreaths of Laurel. The richest Vestments of the Citizens were exposed. The Splendor of the Illuminations, the Odour of the Incense every where dispersed, and the Acclamations of the People, were such as cannot easily be described. His Arrival is celebrated on one of his Coins, which shews him mounted, and pointing to the City, being conducted by a Soldier, representing his Army: the Legend ADVENTVI AVGVSTI FELICISSIMO. The Fidelity of his Legions is represented with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and a *Victory* in the other, with FIDEI LEGIONUM TR P COS. He swore that no Senator should suffer Death by his Command; and recommended a Decree, that both the Emperor, and they who should assist in taking away the Life of a Senator, should, together with their Children, be declared public Enemies. But how frequently himself offended against this Law, is too notorious.

S. SEVERVS.

Pl. XLI. 5.

Pl. XLI. 6.

One of his first Cares was to raise a Monument to PERTINAX, whose Name he assumed, and to confer upon him all the Honours which could be paid to a deceased Emperor. In the next Place, to keep *Albinus* quiet, he named him CÆSAR, and appointed him his Colleague in the Consulate for the second Time,

- S. SEVERVS. Time, the next Year. As such he appears on his  
 Pl. XLI. 7. Denarius, with *Decimus* *CLODIUS* *SEPTIMIUS* *AL-*  
*BINUS* *CAESAR*; with the *MINERVA* *PACIFICA* on  
 the Reverse, inferring the Prudence of *SEVERUS* in  
 giving, and his own in accepting, this Title. She is  
 armed with Helmet, Spear, and Shield, and holds a  
 Branch of Laurel in her right Hand. On a Medal of  
 Bronze, of the first Size, he bears the same Title;  
 Pl. XLI. 8, 9. but on the Reverse is the *FELICITAS* *COS* *II*. *S*. *C*.  
 holding out the *Caduceus*. Another has the same  
 Figure treading on a Globe, with a *Cornucopiæ* and  
 Pl. XLI. 10. *Patera*, having the same Legend. Others are de-  
 dicated *FORTUNÆ* *REDVCI* *COS* *II*, seated, and  
 distinguished by her *Cornucopiæ* and *Helm*. And  
 Pl. XLI. 11. others are inscribed *SAECVLO* *FRVGIFERO*  
*COS* *II*, with the *S* *C* also, having the Figure of  
*Mercury* with a radiated Crown, the *Trident* in one  
 Hand, and the *Caduceus* in the other. This Deity  
 was particularly worshipped in *Gaul*, as the Genius  
 of the World, the Author of Wealth, Felicity, and  
 Fecundity of every Kind; therefore stiled *Frugifer*:  
 and bearing the *Trident*, as well as the *Caduceus*,  
 to point out the prolific Nature of Fishes, the  
 Wealth of the Sea, and the Security of Commerce.
- SEVERUS* was an *African* by Birth, for which  
 Reason we find the usual Symbol of that Country  
 Pl. XLI. 12. on his Coins, crowned with the Head of the Ele-  
 phant;

phant; the Lion stalking by her. His Indulgence to *Carthage* on this Score, which he presented with all the Privileges of an *Italian City*, is particularly celebrated on his Coins; which exhibit the Genius of that City wearing a radiated Crown, mounted on a Lion, and bearing the Thunder in her Hand: the Legend INDVLGENTIA AVGVSTI Cæsaris IN CARTHAGINEM. He now marched against NIGER, who had assumed the Purple in *Syria*; around whose laureate Head we read IMP. CAES. C. PESCENNIVS NIGER IVSTVS AVG; having a *Justice* on the Reverse, in Allusion to his Name, entitled IVSTITIA AVG, with a *Cornucopiæ* and an *equal Balance*. Another is inscribed FORTVNAE REDVCI, with her usual Attributes. There are several *Greek Medals* of NIGER, with the Name of IOYCTOC, *Iustus*, one of them very fine, in the *Pembrokian Collection*; but *Vaillant* will have it, that all these are fictitious, while those that have the  $\Delta$  or  $\Delta IK$ , for  $\Delta I\kappa\alpha\iota\omicron\varsigma$ , are allowed to be genuine. In this Contest, after various Turns of Fortune, the Army of NIGER was entirely defeated, and *Antioch* surrendered. Himself fled thence towards the *Euphrates*, but was overtaken by his Pursuers, and his Head carried to SEVERUS. This Success is perpetuated on some Silver Medals, having a *Victory*

S. SEVERVS.

Pl. XLI. 13.

Pl. XLI. 14.

Pl. XLI. 15.

Pl. XLI. 16.

VICTORIA

S. SEVERVS. VICToria AVG. TR P II COS II PP; and on  
 Pl. XLI. 17. others, with the Figure of *Mars the Avenger*, having the  
 Legend VIRTUTE AVG. Of all the Cities which  
 took Part with NIGER, none distinguished them-  
 selves so much as the *Byzantines*; who obstinately  
 refused to submit, even after the Death of NIGER.  
 They sustained a three Years Siege, and were re-  
 duced to the eating of human Flesh, before they  
 would surrender. SEVERUS was then in *Mesopotamia*;  
 but by his Orders, all its strong Fortifications and  
 superb Edifices were destroyed, its Privileges taken  
 away and transferred to the *Perinthians*, its Garri-  
 son massacred, and its Inhabitants sold into Sla-  
 very. While the Siege was carrying on, SEVERUS  
 led his Forces against the *Osbroenians*, *Adiabeni-  
 ans*, and the neighbouring *Arabians*. His Success in  
 these Quarters is recorded on a Medal of Gold,  
 whereon his laureate Head is inscribed L SEPT  
 SEV PERTinax AVG IMP IIII; having on the  
 Pl. XLI. 18. Reverse a Trophy, with two Captives at the Foot  
 of it, and on their Heads the Caps which distin-  
 guish the Eastern Nations on Medals: the Legend  
 is PARTA ARABIA PARTA ADIABENE: in the  
 Exergue, COS II PP. It was gained, as other of  
 his Coins would persuade us, under the Auspices of  
*Hercules* and *Bacchus*, the first the Subduer of Ty-  
 rants, the last the Conqueror of the East. These

two





two Divinities therefore appear upon his Coins with their proper Attributes; *Hercules* with his Club in the right Hand, and the Lion's Skin upon his left Arm; *Bacchus* with his *Thyrſus*, and *Cantharus* or Jug, and a Panther ſtanding by him, with the Legend DIS AVSPICIBVS TR P III COS II PP.

S. SEVERVS

Pl. XLI. 19.

SEVERUS was a Stranger to Mercy. The Wife, Children, and Relations of NIGER, were firſt baniſhed, and then put to Death. All of Senatorian Rank, who had borne Arms, ſuffered the ſame Fate, beſides a vaſt Multitude of common People. Others of Rank were baniſhed, and their Eſtates confiscated. The City of *Antioch* was ſtripped of its Dignity and Privileges, and ſubjected to *Laodicea*. The reſt of the Cities, which had declared for him, were puniſhed with heavy Fines.

Having thus diſpoſed of NIGER, he determined to get rid of ALBINUS at any Rate. This he attempted by the baſeſt Treachery, ſending Perſons to aſſaſſinate him, yet pretending the tendereſt Friendſhip. On the Diſcovery of this, ALBINUS took the Title of AUGUSTUS. On his Denarius therefore his Head is laureated, with the Title of IMP CAES D CLOD SEP ALB AVG, having on the other Side his Figure in the military Habit, with the *Haſta pura* and *Herculean Club*, inſcribed VIRTVTI AVG COS II. Another in Silver gives

Pl. XLI. 20

Pl. XLII. 1

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K k

him

SEVERUS. him the same Title, with the GENIVS COS II on its Reverse, holding the *Hasta p̄ura* in one Hand, and a *Cornucopiæ* in the other, with the Imperial Eagle standing by him. When he had made the necessary Provision, he passed into *Gaul*, and his Proceedings were at first so favourable as to alarm SEVERUS greatly. This Emperor immediately left the East, and hastened to meet him. Both Armies came to a decisive Action in the *Lyonois*, where ALBINUS was defeated, and slew himself. His whole Family suffered, as NIGER's had done before; as did all his Partizans of any Note, and their Effects were seized by the Conqueror. His Friends and Correspondents at *Rome* were now in dreadful Consternation. SEVERUS produced in full Senate the Letters which had been written to his Competitor. In his Speech he extolled the Severity of *Sylla*, *Marius*, and *Augustus*, as the wisest Provision for their own Security, and condemned the Humanity and Moderation of *Pompey* and *Cæsar* as destructive Weakness; highly cried up the Virtues of *Commodus*, whom he obliged them to deify, and reprovèd them sharply for defaming so excellent an Emperor. Notwithstanding this, he absolved thirty-five principal Senators of the Party, at the same Time that he condemned nine-and-twenty others; and, amongst them, *Sulpicianus*, the Father-

in-law of PERTINAX. In the Spring of the succeeding Year, which was the sixth of his own Reign, he conferred upon his eldest Son, *Bassianus Caracalla*, the Tribunitial Power, with the Title of AUGUSTUS, obliging him to assume the Name of M. AURELIUS ANTONINUS; and on *Geta*, the youngest, the Pontifical Dignity, and the Title of CÆSAR. On a Medal of Gold we have therefore the laureate Head of the former, with M. AVRELIVS ANTON. AVG. and the plain Head of the latter on the Reverse, with P SEPT. GETA CAES PONT. He then set out for the East once more, taking them both with him: for during his Absence the *Parthians* had invaded *Mesopotamia*, and laid Siege to *Nisibis*. On his Approach they retired; yet he marched forward, and made himself Master of *Seleucia* and *Babylon*, which the Enemy had deserted, and afterwards of *Ctesepbon*, which he gave up to Plunder. Here the Slaughter was dreadful, and one hundred thousand Persons were made Slaves. This gained him the Surname of PARTHICVS MAXIMVS; whence we see on the Reverse of his Denarius PART MAX PM TR P X, surrounding a Trophy, with two Eastern Captives at the Foot of it, as before; and on a Medal of Gold, the laureate Heads of the two Emperors (for he was willing that his Son should share the Honour) entitled IMPP

S. SEVERV

PI. XLII.

PI. XLII.

PI. XLII.

K k 2

INVICTI

## THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

SEVERVS.

Pl. XLII. 5.

Pl. XLII. 6.

Pl. XLII. 7.

INVICTI PII AVGG; and on the other Side a *Victory*, with a Palm-Branch and Wreath, called VICTORIA PARTHICA MAXIMA. In this Expedition he was assisted by *Abgarus* King of the *Edeffenians*, whose Head is therefore on the Reverse of one of his *Greek* Coins, whereon he is stiled BACIAEVΣ MEΓAC ABΓAPOC, *Rex Magnus Abgarus*. Returning from the *Parthians*, to whom he granted Peace, and a Part of *Armenia*, he laid Siege, once and again, to the little City of *Atra* in *Arabia*, which baffled all his Attempts. While he was thus engaged, he put to Death *Lætus* and *Crispus*, two of his chief Officers. He now came back to *Palestine*, where he published an Edict, prohibiting the Propagation of the *Jewish* and *Christian* Religions; which kindled the Flame of a general Persecution. Thence he passed into *Egypt*, visiting all the Curiosities of that Country. On his Arrival at *Rome* he triumphed with his eldest Son; on which Occasion the Coin may have been struck, which bears a *Victory* driving a bigated Car, with VICTORIAE AVGG. We find the same Reverse on the Coins of both his Sons. The next Year they shared the Consulship also; and then it was that the Medal of Gold was struck, which bears on the one Side the Head of SEVERVS radiated, and of his Empress JULIA DOMNA, with CONCORDIAE AETERNAE; and

and on the other, that of CARACALLA, laureated, with ANTONINVS PIVS AVG. PON TR P IIII. The Congiary, which he gave to the new Prætorians and the People, consisting of ten Pieces of Gold to each Person, took up an immense Sum, and is recorded on one of his Coins, which shews the *Imperial Family* concerned in the Exercise of this Liberality, which is called the FELICITAS SAECVLI. The like Reverse is on the Coins of both his Sons also. The magnificent Shews, likewise, which had been exhibited on his Return, in which an hundred wild Beasts were slaughtered every Day, for seven Days together, and on one of them an Elephant, deserved to be commemorated in the same Manner. Hence on a Silver Medal we have the Figure of this Animal, with MVNIFICENTI *mm.* Dio Cassius tells us, that on this Occasion a Machine was erected in the Midst of the Amphitheatre, in the Fashion of a Ship, which contained within its Cavity four hundred wild Creatures, and was so contrived as to let them out all at once; so that, on the sudden Opening of it, out rushed Lions, Panthers, Ostriches, Wild Asses, and Buffaloes, to the great Diversion of the Spectators. This also was so singular as to be represented on a Coin of Silver, which has his laureate Head, inscribed SEVERVS PIVS AVG; with the

S. SEVERVS

PI. XLII. 8.

PI. XLII. 9.

Figure

S. SEVERVS.

PL. XLII. 10.

Figure of the Machine itself on the Reverse, and the wild Animals running from it; the Legend of which is LAETITIA TEMPORVM.

PL. XLII. 11.

The next Year the Honour of the Fasces was conferred on his great Favourite *Plautianus*. This Man betrayed the Meanness of his Extraction by his fastidious Carriage in his Exaltation. He became as absolute a Minister as *Sejanus* himself had been, and made a worse Use of his Power. He even castrated an hundred *Roman* Citizens of Birth, to fit them for the Service of his Daughter *PLAUTILLA*, whom the Emperor made choice of as a Wife for his Son *CARACALLA*. She does not appear to have been a Lady of extraordinary Beauty by her Medal of Gold, with *PLAVTILLA AVGVSTA*, and a Concord seated for the Reverse, with a *Patera* and double *Cornucopiæ*, denominated *CONCORDIA AVGG*.

PL. XLII. 12.

But the Reverse of her Denarius shews her giving her Hand to the young Emperor, with the Legend *PROPAGO IMPERI*. In Bronze, she is the *VENVS VICTRIX*, with the Palm-Branch and Shield, holding the Golden Apple in her Hand. On the Shield is figured a Lion, speaking the Importance of her Conquest; and before, is a *seeing Cupid*, to intimate the Judgment of his Choice. Men swore by the Fortune of her Father, and Statues without Number were erected to him.

PL. XLII. 13.

But

But the Haughtiness and Perverseness of his Daughter was such at last, that the young Emperor vowed Destruction to them both. He suffered accordingly the Fate of most great Favourites, being put to Death, by his Orders, even in the Presence of his Father. *PLAUTILLA* was banished to *Sicily*, and perished also, by his Command, soon after the Death of *SEVERUS*.

S. SEVERUS.

The Sæcular Games were now celebrated the eighth Time with the usual Solemnities, and are recorded on a Reverse, which has the Figures of *Hercules* and *Bacchus*, his auspicious Deities, distinguished as before, supporting a Table, on which we read *COS III LVDos SAECularis FECit. S. C.* For the Worship of these Deities, he afterwards raised a very large Temple, a Part of which appears on one of his Coins, with the Figure of *Hercules* resting on his Club, between two Serpents, having around it *PM TR P XV COS III PP.* Many other Edifices he founded or restored; amongst which, the *Septizonium*, and Baths called by his Name; taking great Pains to decorate and adorn the City: so that on one of his Coins is the Figure of *Roma* seated, armed with Helmet, Spear, and Shield, and holding a *Victory* in her right Hand, in the Legend of which the Emperor is complimented with the Title of *RESTITVTOR VRBIS. S. C.*

Pl. XLII. 14.

Pl. XLII. 15.

Pl. XLII. 16.

At

S. SEVERVS.

At this Time the Coin, which had been lessened in Value under some of the preceding Emperors, underwent a new Regulation, as appears from a Reverse of the Emperor, on which three Persons are seen, with a *Cornucopiæ* in their left Hands, and *Scales* in their right, with the Legend *MONETA AVG COS III. S C.*

Pl. XLII. 17.

On the Fall of *Plautinus*, the young Emperor, and his Brother *GETA*, who were Consuls together in the following Year, like Boys just freed from the Tyranny of a severe Master, rushed into all Manner of Licentiousness. Their Violation of Chastity, their iniquitous Exaction of Money, and their Familiarity with Gladiators and Charioteers, gave a sad Prefage of future Misery. Yet in all their Proceedings, they were ever at Variance. If one of them took a Fancy to this Man, the other joined his Adversary. Even in their common Exercises, their Emulation was remarkably contentious and fierce. After an Interval of two Years, they were Consuls again together; when *GETA* also received the Tribunitial Power, and the Appellation of *AUGUSTUS*. For *SEVERUS* judged it necessary to take them with him, thus invested with equal Power, as his Assistants in *Britain*, where the *Roman* Forces had of late Years suffered greatly, and had even been obliged to purchase of the Natives a Cessation

of Hostilities. But first it was necessary to promote a Reconciliation between the two Brothers, and it was supposed to be effected. Public Vows and Sacrifices were also offered for their future Agreement. Hence we have the laureate Heads of both adverse, with *CONCORDIA AVGVSTORVM*; and the public Devotion represented in the Temple of *Concord* on the Reverse, while a Wreath is placed on the Head of each of them, as they are offering. The same desirable Event is figured on two Reversees of *GETA*; on the first of which the Emperor joins their Hands; and on the last they appear also with their Hands joined, and are crowned in that Action by *Hercules* and *Bacchus*.

S. SEVERVS.

Pl. XLII. 18.

Pl. XLII. 19.

Pl. XLII. 20.

On their Arrival in the Island, *GETA* was left to govern the southern Part of it, already under the Dominion of *Rome*, and somewhat less than a Moiety of the Whole, assisted by the famous *Papinian*; while *SEVERUS* and *CARACALLA* marched against the *Mæatæ* and *Caledonians*. But these, without coming to a pitched Battle, so harrassed the *Romans* with continual Skirmishes, cutting off all Stragglers, and watching all Opportunities, that they lost no fewer than fifty thousand Men. *SEVERUS*, however, marched to the Extremity of the Island, and on his Return obliged the Enemy to come to a Treaty with him, whereby they surrendered a Part of the Country;

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and

S. SEVERVS. and he built a Wall from Sea to Sea, in order to secure the *Roman* Frontier. In this Expedition he had employed himself mostly in cutting down the Woods, levelling Hills, making the Fens passable, and building Bridges. One of these last, it is presumed, may be intended in the Reverse before us; for it has all the Appearance of a Bridge railed on both Sides, over which the Soldiers are passing, defended by Towers at each End. But *Patin* is positive that it is a Port or Harbour, from the Likeness of it to that which is on *TRAJAN'S* Coins, and the little Vessel before it, and from its consisting of a single Arch; whence he concludes it to be the Harbour of *Cæsarea*, in *Palestine*, which *SEVERVS* restored. To which may be answered, that the Harbour on *TRAJAN'S* Coin is shut up with a Chain, to, and within, which the Vessel is moored; but that here there is no Chain, but the Boat, agitated by the Rowers, seems to be passing underneath it, to intimate the Depth of the Stream; that the Haven of *Cæsarea* must have been opened long before; and that, by the Date of this Legend, it is evident that the Coin must have been struck in Consequence of this very Expedition. But that, if, in the Opinion of accurate Judges, it can only be designed for an Harbour, it should rather be looked for at one End of the Isthmus, between the Friths  
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of *Forth* and *Clyde*, at the Place called *Camelot*, where (as *Camden* says) there are the Vestigia of a little City, and where the common People believe there was formerly a Road for Ships, and where an Anchor was found some Years ago. The Success of SEVERUS here is commemorated on several Coins, which call him SEVERVS PIVS AVG BRITANNICUS, having the usual *Victory* on the Reverse, with VICTORIAE BRITANNICAE. Others have two *Victories* holding a Shield against a Tree, under which are two Captives bound. The same *Victory* we meet with, as above, on a Reverse of CARACALLA. And as GETA had kept his Part of the Island in Peace, and assisted his Father with the necessary Supplies, we read on his Coins also, around his laureate Head, IMP CAES P SEPT GETA PIVS AVG BRIT, and see on the Reverse the same *Victory*, treading on a Globe, and inscribing, on a fixt Shield, the same Legend. But on one he wears a radiated Crown, and the inscribing *Victory* on the Reverse sits upon a Trophy; with a small round Shield under Foot, such as, according to *Tacitus*, the *Caledonians* made use of.

In this Expedition, nothing grieved SEVERUS so much as the licentious Behaviour of his eldest Son, who would, he feared, be the Murderer of his Brother, whenever it should be in his Power; and who

S. SEVERVS.

had lately attempted the Life of his Father. It should seem, however, from the Frontispiece of this Reign, and the Date on the Reverse, that he had at this Time brought about at least a pretended Reconciliation between them. However that be, he had scarce rested from his Toils, before the Enemy, in Contempt of the late Treaty, committed fresh Hostilities. This so enraged him, that he strictly charged his Troops to spare neither Sex nor Age. But, in the Midst of his further Preparations for the War, he died at *York*, of the Gout, after once more recommending Union to his Sons, and causing the Speech of *Micipsa*, in *Sallust*, to be read to them. He was then near sixty-six Years of Age, and had reigned seventeen Years, eight Months, and three Days. He was married to his second Wife before he came to the Empire. This was JULIA DOMNA, sometimes inscribed JULIA simply, sometimes JULIA PIA, and at others JULIA PIA FELIX AUGUSTANA. Being much given to judicial Astrology, and understanding that this Lady was, by her Horoscope, to be the Wife of a King, he was not easy till he obtained her. She was a Lady of Beauty and great Parts, but haughty, libidinous, and cunning. Her Figure upon her Medal of Gold, intituled IVLIA DOMNA AVG, is agreeable enough. On the Reverse

Pl. XLIII. 5.

verse she is the VENVS GENETRIX, seated, with S. SEVERVS  
the *Hasta pura*, *Patera*, and a *Cupid* before her.

On her Denarius she is IVLIA AVGVSTA; and  
the Reverse bears the Figure of HILARITAS, with PI. XLIII. 6  
a long Palm-Branch, and the *Hasta pura*. There

is a fine Reverse of her explained by Mr. *Addison*: PI. XLIII. 7

“ Her Head is crowned with Towers, in Allusion  
“ to *Cybele*, the Mother of the Gods, and for the  
“ same Reason that *Virgil* compares the City of  
“ *Rome* to her :

“ *Felix prole virum, qualis Berecynthia mater*

“ *Invebitur curru Phrygiæ turrata per urbes,*

“ *Leta Deum partu.*

“ High as the Mother of the Gods in Place,

“ And proud, like her, of an immortal Race :

“ Then when in Pomp she makes a *Phrygian* Round,

“ With golden Turrets on her Temples crown'd. DRYDEN.

“ The Vine issuing out of the Urn speaks the same

“ Sense as that in the Psalmist, *Thy Wife shall be*

“ *as the fruitful Vine on the Walls of thy House.*

“ And the four Stars on the Globe represent her

“ four Children.” For she had two Daughters, as

well as two Sons, by SEVERUS. On several more

she is also complimented as *Cybele*, the Mother of

the Gods; on others, as the parturient *Juno*, who

is also the Patroness of Childbed Women, seated, PI. XLIII. 8

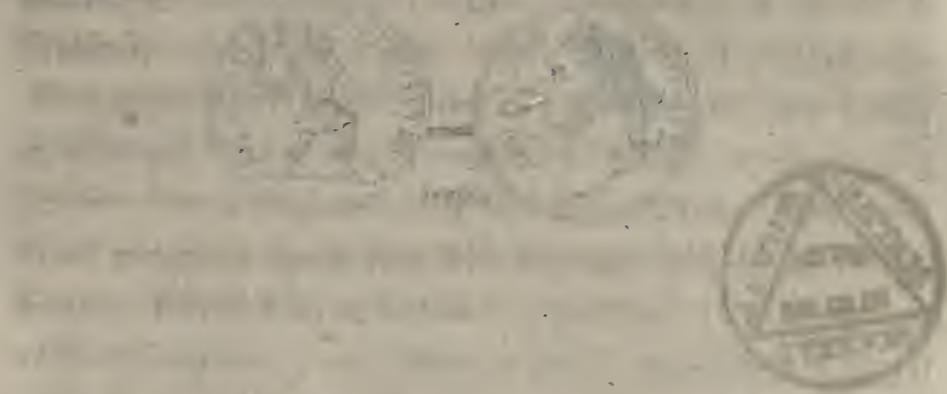
with a new-born Child on her Arm, and the Flower

of

- S. SEVERVS. of the Lotos in her Hand, a Tree of great Antiquity, which grew in the Area of her Temple at *Rome*, and was visited with great Veneration: the
- Pl. XLIII. 9. Legend is IVNONI LVCINAE. S C. On others she is the LVNA LVCIFERA; as they compared the Emperor to the Sun. As such she shines upon the *Roman* World with reflected Light, and is
- Pl. XLIII. 10. sometimes drawn by Horses, as here; and sometimes by Steers, as on a Reverse of CARACALLA, to denote her Influence over the fruitful Earth. And
- Pl. XLIII. 11. on others she is offering Sacrifice before the Ensigns, and denominated MATER CASTRORVM, *the Mother of the Camp*.

SEVERUS was a Lover of the liberal Arts, and had himself an excellent Understanding; strict in the Administration of Justice, and rigidly punishing all Offences, for he knew not how to pardon; cruel and avaricious, yet destroying no Man for his Wealth; kind to his Friends, most bitter to his Enemies, and careless of what the People said of him. Having corrected many Abuses, and enacted many wholesome Laws, he was better spoken of when dead than living: so that what was said of AUGUSTUS, was also applied to him, that he ought not to have been born, or not to have died. His Coins are very numerous, and most of them trite and common. Dr. *Mosgrave*, in his *Belgic Antiquities*,

quities, reckons them at eighty. But *Vaillant* has S. SEVERVS. produced a Catalogue of his *Greek* Coins only, which exceed that Number by upwards of two hundred.



BASSIANUS CARACALLA  
M. AURELIUS SEVERUS ALEXANDER  
CARACALLA was the fourteenth year of his Imperial reign, and had been three years when he father died. Though Caracalla was four hundred to two hundred and thirty years of age, he was full of vigor and strength, and distinguished the Romans by his boldness and courage. He was a cruel and tyrannical prince, and his reign was marked by bloodshed and oppression. He was assassinated in the year of his age.

BASSIANUS

# THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

SEVERUS

... which turned that ... by upwards of ...



## BASSIANUS CARACALLA,

OR

## M. AURELIUS SEVERUS ANTONINUS.

CARACALLA.

CARACALLA was in the fourteenth Year of his Tribunitial Power, and had been thrice Consul, when his Father died. Though GETA was Joint-Emperor, he took the whole Administration upon himself, made Peace with the Enemy, and deserted all the Fortifications which his Father had raised. The Father's Death seems to have been Matter of Joy to the Elder, and perhaps to both; since the FORTVNA REDVX seated, with her usual Attributes, which we see on the first-struck Coins of CARACALLA, with FORT. RED PM TR

XLIII. 12.

BASSIANUS

P XIII

P XIII COS III PP. forms also a Reverse of GETA, CARACALLA with TR P III COS II PP. Others were intended to publish their Fitness for Empire, as we see the former enthroned, and musing upon the Branch of Laurel, which he holds, with the most considerate Thoughtfulness; and the Prudence of the latter celebrated under the Symbol of *Minerva*, feeding a Serpent entwined around her Olive-Tree, with the Owl perched upon her Shield, and a Sphinx at her Feet. What I have termed a Sphinx, Dr. *Mosgrave* calls a Griphon; and thence conjectures that Animal to have been sacred to *Minerva*. *Patin* has passed over this Figure unnoticed, though he has fully evinced the Mistake of *Tristan* with respect to this Coin. But whosoever shall with Attention consider the last Coin but one, which we have produced under the Reign of M. AURELIUS the Philosopher, will see the Propriety of the Sphinx on that which is before us, and that all the Figures of it are strong Emblems of Wisdom. But CARACALLA shewed little Wisdom in the early Dismission of his old Domestics, the most eminent of whom he put to Death. He would readily have dispatched his own Brother too, but that he feared the Army, to whom GETA was dear. Yet the two Brothers expressed a mutual Benevolence, while they acted with all Contrariety. They had separate Bodies of

CARACALLA. Guards, which looked upon each other as declared Enemies, and on their Arrival at *Rome* divided the Palace between them. The eldest, therefore, finding all his Schemes abortive for the Destruction of his Brother, pretended a vehement Desire of being sincerely reconciled to him by the Mediation of their Mother, entreating her, that to this End they might have a Meeting in her Presence, and in her Bedchamber; which was appointed accordingly. Here *GETA* met him, and was slain in the Arms of his Mother, by some Soldiers placed in Ambush for the Purpose. 'Tis even affirmed, that he embrued his own Hands in his Brother's Blood. This Tragedy completed, he ran towards the Prætorian Camp, crying out all the Way, that "there was a Conspiracy against him." When there, he was out of Breath with the same loud Complaint; and, before he gave them any Particulars, took Care to assure them, that he came thither with a full Resolution to live and die and share all his Treasures with them. And he did indeed distribute an immense Donative amongst them, making two thousand five hundred Denarii to each Man. It is probable, that to carry on the Diffimulation, he erected a Temple on this Occasion to *Jupiter the Preserver*; for such we find delineated on his Coins, with *IOVI SOSPITATORI*. The

Pl. XLIII. 15.

next Day in the Senate he spake but little, and to the same Purpose; but at his Departure declared all the Exiles restored, whatever their Crimes might be. Thus, though he cleared the Islands of Villains, he soon filled them again with more innocent Persons, and slew in a short Time no fewer than twenty thousand Men and Women, of the Domestics and Soldiers of GETA, as he met with them in the Palace, many illustrious Persons besides, and *Papinian* amongst the rest. It was instant Death but to mention the Name of GETA. He next, to keep the People in Good-humour, applied himself to the public Sports, in which an Elephant, a Rhinoceros, and other wild Creatures, were slaughtered. And these are commemorated on his Coins by the Figure of the first of these Animals, with PM TR P XV COS III PP. S C. But he was chiefly delighted with the Blood of the Gladiators, one of whom he obliged to fight three different Antagonists, and, when he fell by the last, honoured with a pompous Funeral.

CARACALLA

Pl. XLIII. 16

The next Year he entered upon the Consulate for the fourth Time, and triumphed over the *Britons*, as is expressed in the Reverse before us with the quadrigated Car, wherein he stands, displaying the Sceptre and Eagle, while a *Victory* places the Wreath upon his Head, having the Legend PM TR

Pl. XLIII. 17.

M m 2

P XVI

CARACALLA.

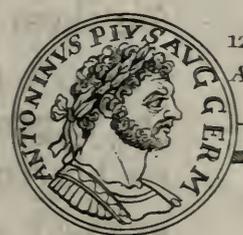
Pl. XLIII. 18.

P XVI IMP II COS IIII PP S C. He had before taken upon him the Surname of *Britannicus*, which we find on his *Denarius* of the same Year; the Title round his laureate Head being ANTONINVS PIVS AVG BRITANNICVS. The Reverse has the Figure of his favourite Deity *Serapis*, standing, with PM TR P XVI COS IIII PP. He pretended to emulate the Glory of *Alexander the Great*, using the same Arms and Furniture, erecting many Statues of him, and collecting a Body of sixteen thousand *Macedonians*, which he called the Phalanx of *Alexander*. The *Macedonians*, pleased with the Distinction, struck Coins in Honour of him, at the Charge of the Community, with an *Alexander* and *Bucephalus* on the Reverse, inscribed KOINON MAKEDONON ΝΕΩΝΟΡΩΝ B. To the Soldiers he was kind; cruel and oppressive to all others. For, besides innumerable other Exactions, he compelled the Senators, who attended him, to build Houses and sumptuous Inns for him on the Road, at their own Expence, and even Amphitheatres and Circos, where he wintered or expected to winter, many of which he never saw. His first Excursion was into *Gaul*, where his Cruelties were such as rendered him truly detestable. Here recovering from a grievous Fit of Sickness, he imputed his Return of Health to the Benignity of *Esculapius*, whose Image

is

is impressed upon his Coins, in the Act of raising CARACALLA.  
 him, with the Legend SALUS GEN<sup>E</sup>ris HV<sup>M</sup>ani; Pl. XLIII. 19  
 but punished with Death the Physicians who at-  
 tended him. Being pleased with the Dress of the  
 People, he assumed the long Vest usually worn by  
 them, and known by the Name of *Caracalla*; which  
 Fashion he carried with him to *Rome* the next Year,  
 and was thence commonly spoken of by the same  
 Name. He had scarce returned, before he found it  
 necessary to march against the *Cenni*, a *Celtic* Na-  
 tion; of whom at last he shamefully purchased the  
 Liberty of a quiet Retreat through *Germany*. Yet  
 on this Occasion he assumed the Title of *Germa-*  
*nicus*, as the Reader may observe on the Frontif-  
 piece of this Reign; the Reverse of which is a  
 Compliment to his Mother, representing her as the  
 LVNA LVCIFERA, drawn by Steers. We have Pl. XLIII. 20.  
 his *Adlocution* to the Army in this Expedition,  
 wherein he displayed Courage enough, but no Ge-  
 neralship. His Coin, as all Things else belonging  
 to him, was adulterated. For, instead of Silver and  
 Gold, he provided for us (says *Dio*) Lead silvered  
 over, and Brass gilded. With the pure Metals he  
 purchased the Forbearance of the Barbarians. From  
*Germany* he marched through *Dacia* into *Thrace*,  
 and crossed the *Hellepont*. He had a sickly Habit  
 of Body, and a disturbed Imagination, being haunted  
 with

- CARACALLA. with dreadful Visions of his Father and Brother. But at *Pergamus*, a City famous for the Worship of *Esculapius*, he hoped for a Cure of all his Maladies. His present Regard for this Deity is expressed on several of his Coins. One of them has the Figure of the God with his knotty Staff, on one Side, intimating the Difficulties of the Medical Practice; and the Serpent, the Emblem of Light and Health,
- Pl. XLIV. 1. on the other: the Legend "" TR P XVIII COS. III PP. S C. Another has the same Figure, with the Serpent entwined around his Staff, and the little *Telesphorus* standing by, the Son of *Esculapius* and
- Pl. XLIV. 2. *Salus*, wrapped in a warm Cloak, to intimate the Necessity of keeping Convalescents warm, and treating them as Children. This little Deity was also held in great Veneration by the *Pergamenians*: the Legend is the same with the former. He is said on his Arrival at *Ilium* to have personated *Achilles*, as much as he did *Alexander* before. But I should rather judge this to be a Mistake; for, besides the Improbability of it, we have Coins struck by the *Iliensians* at this Time, which compliment him under the Character of their *Hector*, the professed Enemy of *Achilles*, as this was of the reputed Ancestors of the *Romans*. These have his laureate Head, with ΑΥτοκρατωρ ΚΑΙσαρ Μαρκος ΑΥρηλιος
- Pl. XLIV. 3. ΑΝΤΩΝΙΝΟC; and for the Reverse, *Hector* armed with





with Helmet, Shield; and Spear, attacking the Navy of the *Greeks*, and stiled. ΕΚΤΩΡ ΙΑΙΕΩΝ. He passed the Winter at *Nicomedia*, where he exercised his *Macedonian* Phalanx, and in the Spring marched thence for *Antioch*. The Privileges of this last City had been transferred by his Father to the *Laodiceans*; who, to court the Favour of the Son, struck some fine Medallions, expressing the Devotion of the whole Community of *Asia* to the Person of the Emperor. These have his laureate Head, with ΑΥΤ. ΚΑΙ Μ. ΑΥΡ. ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙΝΟC CEB. The Assembly of the Community of *Asia* forms the Reverse, wherein *Lælius Pigres*, the principal *Asiarch*, is crowning those who conquered at the solemn Games which were performed in Honour of it. The Legend is ΛΑΙΑΙΟC ΠΙΓΡΗC ΑCΙΑΡΧΙΕΡΕΥC ΑΝΕΘΗΚΕΝ, *Lælius Pigres, principal Asiarch, published or consecrated it*. Another Reverse has the Mother of the Gods, the Great Deity of *Asia*, crowned with Towers, and seated between two female Figures, representing *Phrygia* and *Caria*: in the Exergue of both, ΛΑΟΔΙΚΕΩΝ ΝΕΩΚΟΡΩΝ. The *Laodiceans* are called ΝΕΩΚΟΡΟΙ, as having the honourable Charge of these devotional Solemnities.

CARACALLA.

Pl. XLIV. 4.

Pl. XLIV. 5.

The *Antiochians* received him with all possible Honour, and he stayed amongst them for some Time, enjoying the Delights with which that Place abounded.

CARACALLA. abounded. The Coins, which they struck of him, have, some of them, for the Reverse the Genius of the Colony, with a double *Cornucopiæ* and *Patera*, stiled the GENIUS COLONIAE ANTIOCHENSIS; others, the God *Lunus*, as described in the Reign of ANTONINUS PIUS. The Reason given by *Casaubon* for the Moon's being worshipped as a Male Deity is, because in the oriental Languages it is both Male and Female. But the *Greeks* also had their ΜΗΝ, *Mensis* or *Lunus*, as well as ΣΕΛΗΝΗ, *Luna*; and *Orpheus* calls it *ἄρσεν* τε καὶ *θηλυ*, *Male* and *Female*. The Cock on the Coin was sacred to this Deity, as a Time-keeper by his Crowing. The Account which *Spartian* gives of this Matter is pleasant. "It is," says he, "a received Opinion amongst the People of *Carrhæ*," (where was a famous Temple of this God) "that they, who look upon the Moon as Female, are doomed to be the Slaves of Women; but that they, who regard it as a Male Deity, will be Masters of their Wives, and superior to all female Arts." A Crescent appears behind the Shoulders of *Lunus*, and the *Victory* in his Hand holds out a Wreath. The Legend is COLONIA CAESAREA ANTIOCHIA. From this Place he dispatched his Favourite *Theocritus*, the Son of a Slave, at the Head of an Army,

to

to make War upon the *Armenians*, by whom he CARACALLA. was soundly beaten.

He now set his Face towards *Egypt*. For, having heard that the *Alexandrians* derided him on many Accounts, but chiefly for having slain his Brother, he marched thither, pretending great Affection for them; and when the principal Citizens in solemn Procession attended him in the Suburbs, he received them graciously, invited them to an Entertainment, and there slew them. He then entered the City with his Troops prepared for Action. The Inhabitants were forbidden to stir out of their Houses, the Soldiers were properly stationed, and the Carnage began. Besides the *Alexandrians*, a vast Number of Strangers were put to the Sword, as well as of those that came with him, who could not be distinguished. The Bodies of the slain were thrown into deep Pits dug for the Purpose. All Strangers, known to be such, were expelled the Place, Merchants excepted, whose Effects were pilaged. The Wealth of the City was partly plundered, and partly lost. All this while he continued in the Temple of *Serapis*, whence he issued his Orders. But this was a trifling Profanation, when we consider that in this Temple, and to this God, he consecrated the very Sword with which he slew his Brother. It was, perhaps, in Consequence of

CARACALLA. his Familiarity with this *Egyptian Jupiter*, that the neighbouring Colony of *Ptolemæis* chose it for the Reverse of one of his Coins, crowned with a Bushel, and wielding the Scepter, with COLONIA PTOLEMAÏS. This done, he abolished all their Diverſion and Fraternities, divided the City into two Parts with a Wall and Towers, and cut off the Communication between them by a Garrison planted in each. Such, at *Alexandria*, were the Feats of this *Italian* wild Beast: for by this Name, the Oracle is ſaid to have ſpoken of him. And he was ſo well pleaſed with the Appellation, that it became the Device of one of his Reverses, on which he is ſymbolized by the Figure of a Lion, with a radiated Crown upon his Head, and Thunder in his Jaws: the Legend being PM TR P XVIII PP. S C.

PI. XLIV. 8.

PI. XLIV. 9.

He next made War upon the *Parthians*, becauſe their King *Artabanus* refuſed him his Daughter in Marriage, by making a ſudden Irruption into the Country bordering upon *Media*, which he laid Waſte, demolished ſeveral Caſtles, took Poſſeſſion of *Arbela*, where he deſtroyed the Sepulchres of the *Parthian* Kings, and ſcattered their Bones. He met with little or no Reſiſtance, for the Inhabitants fled to the Mountains, and acroſs the *Tigris*, to prepare for their Defence. Of this he gloried, as a

mighty Exploit; remarking, in his Letters to the Senate, that a Lion descending from the Mountains had fought for him. This might be a further Reason for the Device last mentioned. He was therefore gratified with the Title of PARTHICVS, an Honour which he much coveted; and this pretended Success was commemorated on Medals of Gold, by a Trophy, with two Captives at the Foot of it, and a *Victory* seated, who is inscribing upon a Shield *Votis XX*, the Legend being PM TR P XX COS IIII PP; and in the Exergue *VICTORIA PARTHICA*. Hence it appears, that the twentieth Year of his Tribunitial Power being now brought round, the *Vota Vicennalia*, public Sacrifices, and Supplications, were made for the further and prosperous Continuation of his Reign. CARACALLA.  
Pl. XLIV. 10.

He took great Delight in Chariot-driving, saying, that he imitated the Sun in his Manner of doing it. Hence he is figured on a Reverse in Bronze, in a radiated Crown, as driving furiously the four Horses of the Sun, with the Legend PM TR P XX PP S C: and upon one in Gold, he shines as the orient Sun, radiated, and pointing forward in like Manner with one Hand, while he holds the Whip in the other. Yet not wholly content to personate *Apollo*, we find him on another Reverse in Gold, struck about the same Time, as bearing the same Legend, Pl. XLIV. 11.  
Pl. XLIV. 12.  
Pl. XLIV. 13.

CARACALLA. reminding the World that he was still the Substitute of *Jupiter*, whose Image is enthroned, with the *Patera* in his right Hand, and the *Hasta pura* in his left.

The *Parthians* were making the necessary Preparations to revenge the late Insult, when CARACALLA was slain by one of his own Soldiers. He had perfidiously deprived King *Abgarus* both of his Liberty and Dominions, which he made a *Roman* Province, and settled a Colony at *Edeffa*, the Capital; for on one of his Coins the *Genius* of that City is represented as a Queen, with her Head turrated, and the Legend ΚΟΛωνια ἘΔῚCCA. From this Place he was journeying towards *Carrhæ*, to pay his Devotions to their God *Lunus*, when his Fate overtook him. An *African* had foretold that MACRINUS (who was then joint Captain of the Prætorian Guards with *Adventus*) and his Son DIADUMENIANUS, were destined to be Emperors. The Man was sent to *Rome*, where he declared the same Thing before *Maternianus*, Commander of the City Guards, who wrote an Account of it to the Emperor, which was delivered to the Empress JULIA, at *Antioch*. But a like Account was forwarded directly to MACRINUS, from his Friend *Ulpus Julian*, then Censor. So that MACRINUS, having received his Advices first, saw the Necessity of perishing, or preventing it by  
the

the Death of the Emperor. He therefore engaged two of the Tribunes, and some Soldiers, one of whom was *Martialis*, a discontented Veteran, in a Conspiracy against him. On the sixth of the Ides of *April*, then, as he rode, having been obliged, by a Call of Nature, to dismount, *Martialis* advanced forward, as to speak to him, and with a small Dagger gave him the mortal Stab. Thus fell CARACALLA, in the thirtieth Year of his Age, after having reigned, since the Death of his Father, six Years, two Months, and as many Days.

MARCUS



### MARCUS OPELIUS SEVERUS MACRINUS.

MACRINUS.

**T**HE late Emperor, bad as he was, and no Tyrant could well be worfe, was yet exceedingly beloved by the Soldiers in general; to enrich whom he had impoverished all the *Roman* World beside. One of them had pierced *Martialis* with an Arrow, and slain him. This prevented all Discovery; otherwise MACRINUS had scarce succeeded. As it was, they spent two whole Days in Deliberation, and then declared him Emperor. In Return he made them a very large Donative, as did his Son DIADUMENIANUS, to whom was given the Name of ANTONINUS, with the Title of CÆSAR, and PRINCE OF THE YOUTH. As such he appears

on

on his *Denarius*, with *Marcus OPELIus ANTONI- nus DIADVMENIANus CAESar*. On the Reverse he stands between an Eagle and two Ensigns, with *PRINCEps IVENTVTIS*. The same we have in Bronze. But on one Reverse, with the same Legend, an Eagle and Ensign are fixed behind him, and there is the S C in the Exergue; for this Dignity was confirmed to him by the Senate. Himself took the Name of SEVERUS; and on one of his Coins, mentioned by *Goltzius*, is that of AURELIUS also. On the Reverse of his *Denarius*, where he stands with an Ensign in one Hand, and a Manipulus in the other, we find him invested with the Titles of *PONTIFex MAXimus TRibunitiæ Potestatis CŌsul, & PP Pater Patriæ*. And in the Frontispiece, copied from his Medal of Gold, which calls him *IMPerator Caesar Marcus OPELIus SEVerus MACRINVS AVGustus*, doing grateful Justice to the *Fidelity of the Army*, which had raised him to that envied Height; who on the Reverse rests her Foot upon a Casque or Helmet, while she holds fast an Eagle and an Ensign, and is termed the *FIDES MILITVM*. On another Reverse in Bronze, as on a *Denarius* likewise, we see his Acknowledgments to *Jupiter the Preserver*, who is figured standing, with the *Hasta pura* in his left Hand, while the Emperor stands safely shielded under his right Arm, the

MACRINVS  
Pl. XLIV. 15

Pl. XLIV. 16

Pl. XLIV. 17

Pl. XLIV. 18

Pl. XLIV. 19

MACRINVS.

the Hand of which grasps the Thunder; and the Legend is IOVI CONSERVATORI. Being a Person of much Good-Nature, he wrote kindly to the Empress JULIA, then at *Antioch*, and in no Respect abridged her of her State, till informed of her Attempts upon the Soldiery. She was then ordered to leave the Place. This she could by no Means brook, but beat her Breast so as to aggravate a Cancer there; by the Spreading of which, and her own Wilfulness, she died starved. His Predecessor he deified, to please the Army. The Inscription of his Consecration-Medal in *Goltzius* is, DIVO ANTONINO MAGNO.

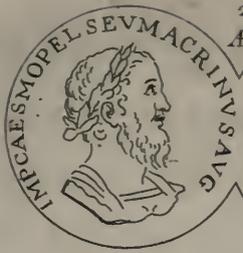
The Senate readily confirmed the Choice of the Army, not so much considering who should succeed, as whom they were delivered from. For they judged any Emperor preferable to the last. They conferred upon him, therefore, the usual Honours, declared his Family Patrician, his Son CÆSAR, and his Wife NONIA CELSA, a Woman of lewd Character, AUGUSTA.

The *Parthian* Monarch was now advancing to the *Roman* Territories. To him MACRINUS sent Ambassadors, informing him of the Death of CARACALLA, to whom only the late Hostilities were to be imputed. But that Prince insisted upon the Reparation of all that had been demolished, the Sur-  
render

render of the Country as far as to the *Euphrates*, and the Indemnification of his Subjects. As these Terms could not be complied with, both Sides made Haste to finish the Dispute by the Sword, and the *Parthians* were superior in two Encounters. Their King, however, who thought to have carried all before him, grew cooler from the Resistance which he met with, so that a Peace was granted to, or rather purchased by, MACRINUS; for it cost him an immense Sum to *Artabanus* and his principal Courtiers. Yet this was looked upon, and perhaps justly enough, as equivalent to a Victory. In Consequence of it, the Surname of PARTHICUS, and a Triumph, were decreed to him. Hence on one of his Reverses we have a *Victory*, seated upon an Heap of Arms, with a Shield resting upon her Knee, and the Legend VICToria PARTHica PM TR P II PP S C; and his Triumph on another, which shews him in his quadrigated triumphal Car, with a Branch of Laurel in his Hand, and a *Victory* behind him, with a Palm-Branch in one Hand, and with the other placing a Wreath upon his Head; although Circumstances did not admit of his enjoying that Honour at *Rome*.

This done, he repaired to *Antioch*, where he made many excellent Regulations, but seems to have been somewhat too severe in the Punishment

- MACRINVS. of Crimes. Yet merciful he was; and even favourable, to several who conspired against himself. His great Failing was, that, being of mean Descent, he paid too little Regard to Persons of Rank and Family, though of transcendent Worth; and preferred chiefly such as were of low Degree and little Merit. And, to conceal in some Measure his original Meanness, he affected now an extraordinary Delicacy and luxurious Way of Life; for he had some Reason to think himself established, being at Peace with the *Parthians*, respected by the Senate, and having no Competitor. Several Coins were therefore struck, recording the *Security* and *Felicity of the Times*. Of the first Sort is the following, with his laureate Head, and IMP CAES M OPEL SEV
- Pl. XLV. 1. MACRINVS AVG, having on the Reverse a Goddess, standing, with the *Hasta pura*, and resting her left Arm upon a standing Column. We have the same Figure upon another Reverse, and there it is explained by the Legend SECVRITAS TEMPO-
- Pl. XLV. 2. RVM. But on another, this imaginary Deity is crowned with the Diadem and enthroned. Of the latter Sort is that which bears the Figure of this
- Pl. XLV. 3. *Felicity*, with the *Hasta pura* in her left, and the *Caduceus* in her right Hand, being named the FELICITAS TEMPORVM. But this supposed Felicity and Security bred Danger; for, in Confidence
- Pl. XLV. 4. thereof,
- Pl. XLV. 5.





thereof, he grew extremely rigid to the Soldiers in Point of Discipline, resolving to reduce them to the ancient Pay, by admitting no new ones upon other Terms; obliging them to encamp in Winter, and inuring them to Hardships, such as CARACALLA had estranged them to. This raised a Spirit of Discontent and Mutiny amongst them, which was much heightened by Whispers, that he had contrived the Death of his Predecessor. Of this Spirit, MÆSA, the Sister of the late Empress JULIA, took Advantage. Her Wealth, Experience, Address, and Intrepidity, were all extraordinary. She now lived at *Emesa*, in the Neighbourhood of the Camp, with her two Grandsons, *Avitus* about fourteen Years old, and *Alexianus* about ten. Here was a magnificent Temple of the Sun, called in the Language of the Country *Elagabalus*, to whom the eldest of them was constituted Priest. He had a most graceful Person, and was viewed with much Regard by the Soldiers, who frequented the Temple. But their Devotion for him rose immensely, when they were informed that he was the Son of their late Emperor, by her Daughter SOÆMIAS, and that she had both the Power and Will to reward liberally all those who should distinguish themselves in his Favour. This was sufficient. She and her Grandson were conveyed to the Camp, where he

MACRINUS. was proclaimed Emperor, and immediately assumed the Name of MARCUS AURELIUS ANTONINUS.

Against these Revolters, MACRINUS dispatched JULIANUS, a Captain of the Guards, with a chosen Body of Troops; who murdered their Commander, and went over to the Enemy. On this he declared his Son DIADUMENIANUS AUGUSTUS, and endeavoured to confirm his Troops by a fresh Largeſs. The young Man was now twelve Years of Age, well made, of exquisite Beauty, and a moſt engaging Aspect. On the Reverse before us, he appears as the *Public Hope*, holding out the Lilly in his right Hand, and tucking up his Robe with the left, as making Haſte to gratify the general Expectation. The Legend is SPES PVBLICA. But alas! this was but decorating the Victim. For it was ſcarce done, before the Camp at *Apamea* declared alſo for *Avitus*; who, with this Acceſſion of Strength, marched inſtantly for *Antioch*, and was met by MACRINUS, at the Head of the Prætorians. In this Action the Revolters were upon the Point of being defeated; but the Battle was quickly reſtored by the aſtoniſhing Courage of the young *Avitus*, and of his Mother and Grandmother, who ſhared the Danger, and by their Behaviour ſtrangely inſpired the Troops. On this Turn, MACRINUS was defeated by his own Timidity. He turned his Horſe  
and

and fled; and his Forces, seeing themselves deserted, and being courted at the same Time with large Promises, declared at length for *Avitus*. *MACRINUS* and his Son, being soon after discovered, were put to Death, and their Heads presented to the Conqueror. From his Election by the Army, to this fatal Battle, was an Interval of one Year, two Months, and three Days. His Coins of the smaller Size are pretty common, but the larger very valuable, as are all those of *DIADUMENIANUS*. This Emperor has not had common Justice done him by his Biographer, *Julius Capitolinus*.

MACRINUS

VARIUS



VARIUS AVITUS BASSIANUS ELAGABALUS,

O R

MARCUS AURELIUS ANTONINUS.

ELAGABALVS.

**A**VITUS, the Day after his Victory, entered *Antioch*, and wrote to the Senate, promising to conform, in all Things, to the Example of AUGUSTUS and MARCUS ANTONINUS, whose Name he had assumed. From them therefore he received the usual Honours, and appears accordingly on Medals of Gold, with his Head laureated, and the Inscription IMP CAES M AVR ANTONINVS AVG, having on the Reverse a *Victory*, entitled VICTORIA ANTONINI AVG. The Battle was gained

on

Pl. XLV. 7.

on the seventh of *June*; and on the first of the next Month he took upon him the Office and Dignity of Consul. As such he entered *Nicomedia*, where he wintered, in his triumphal Habit, on the Day of the votive Games. His Arrival at *Rome* is celebrated on the Reverse before us, which shews him on Horseback, pointing to the City, with ADVENTVS AVGVSTI. S C. He had promised, and he kept his Word, entirely to forget what had passed at *Rome* before the Death of MACRINUS, where himself and his Family had been declared public Enemies. But he was not so favourable to those, who in the East had scrupled to submit at first to his Authority; since, for this Reason, he had put to Death the Governors of *Arabia*, *Syria*, and *Cyprus*. The City of *Tarsus*, which had sided with MACRINUS, was divested of its Honour as a Metropolis, and its Privileges were transferred to *Anazarbus*, as appears by a Reverse of JULIA CORNELIA PAULA, one of the Wives of this Emperor. AUGUSTUS had been particularly favourable to this City, for which Reason the Inhabitants for some Time called it *Dio-Cæsarea*; and, to shew their Gratitude, impressed upon this Coin the Sign *Capricorn*, with a *Globe* beneath it; which was the Device of *Augustus* himself, who thought that he was born under this Sign to the Government of the

ELAGABALVS.

Pl. XLV. 9.

World. The Legend, which has greatly perplexed the Medallists, is ANAZAPBEΩN MHTPOΠOΛITΩN AMK; which *Vaillant* in one Place reads ἀπαση μονη Κιλικιας, and renders *Prima Sola Cilicia*, as having the sole Primacy of *Cilicia*: but this is not Medallitic Language, nor is the Word ἀπασα any where used in this Sense. But in his Epochs he seems to consider it, not as an Initial, but as a Numerical, and reads it *Primæ*; which is contrary to all Medallitic Rule and Method. It is better, therefore, to concur with *Tristan*, and *Patin* after him, who read it ΑΜανικης Κιλικιας; and so it is the Coin of *the Anazarbites, the Metropolitans of Cilicia Amanica*. But there is a further Knot, which these two last Antiquarians have declared themselves unable to untie. For in the Area are the Letters Γ Β, which *Vaillant* reads Γραμματι Βελης, explaining it *Senatus Consulto*. But I believe it will not be possible to bring one Instance, from the whole Treasury of ancient Coins, to justify this Reading. But if we will but allow the Γ to be an L inverted, the Explanation then is ready, and it is *the second Year of the Emperor's Reign*.

He introduced the Worship of his God at *Rome*, as is expressed on one of his Silver Coins, which exhibits the Deity, seemingly no other than a Globe or Disc, or, according to some, a black Stone,  
round

round on one Side, and fashioned gradually thin on the other, like a Wedge, surrounded with Standards, in a quadrigated Car, with the Legend SANCTO DEO SOLI; and in the Exergue, ELAGABAL. The Deity thus denominated was the SUN, to which the Orientalists imputed the Creation of the World.

*Jamblichus* says of him, that ἐποίησε τὰς κοσμοὺς, he made the Worlds; and on the Egyptian Obelisc, interpreted by *Ammianus*, he is called the ὁ κτίστης τῆς οὐρανόθεν, Conditor Mundi. This agrees perfectly

with the Name here given, which *Herodian* says is Phœnician, and therefore must be the אֵל-גַּבַּל, *El Gabal, Deus Creator*; whence the Emperor himself came to be denominated ELAGABALUS; by which Name we shall henceforth speak of him. Of this Deity he ordered himself to be confirmed the Priest by a Decree of the Senate. In this Habit and Office we see him upon several of his Coins. In that before us, he is sacrificing to this Luminary, which appears above the Arm that holds the Patera.

The Reader is desired to remark, that the Legend of this is PM TR P V COS IIII PP. His *Denarius*, which was struck the Year before, has the same Figure; except that, instead of the *Herculean Club* in the first, he bears in this a Branch of Laurel in his left Hand. In another *Denarius* there is the same Figure, with a Bull at the Foot of the

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Altar,

ELAGABALUS.

Pl. XLV. 10.

Pl. XLV. 11.

Pl. XLV. 12.

ELAGABALVS. Altar, as in the first-mentioned, only here the Legend is INVICTVS SACERDOS AVG. One in Bronze  
 Pl. XLV. 13. accords with this, only the Victim is wanting, and the Legend is SACERDOS DEISOLIS ELAGAbali, with the S C. To the Temple which he erected for his God he conveyed, or endeavoured to convey, the *Palladium*, the eternal Fire, the *Ancilia*, and all that was held sacred in *Rome*; as he did also the Statue of *Urania*, the Goddess of the *Carthaginians*, which he sent for on Purpose. For, pretending that his God wanted a Wife, he made Choice of this Mate for him, and made this fantastic Marriage the Occasion of exacting nuptial or dotal Contributions throughout all the Dominions of the Empire.

Contributions he had need of; for his Extravagancies were unexampled. His Apparel was the richest that could be procured, and loaded with Jewels, yet never twice put on. The Apparatus of his Table, and his Furniture in general, was pure Gold; and the former was commonly presented to his Guests at their Departure after Supper. Every Thing that appeared about him was answerable to this; and Invention itself was racked to contrive the most chargeable and costly Viands, not only for himself, but even for his Horses, Dogs, and other Animals. It were tedious to relate the

several Particulars of his boundless Prodigality, and hard to believe them, as they are recounted at length by *Lampridius*. ELAGABALVS

His Extravagancies of another Sort were equal to these. For he introduced his Grandmother into the Senate, had her Name inrolled as one of their Number, and she assisted at their Debates. She was declared AUGUSTA, and Coins were struck of her, inscribed IVLIA MAESA AVG; on the Reverse of which she represents *the Felicity of the Age*, with a *Caduceus* in one Hand, and a *Patera* in the other, with an Altar before her, the Legend being SAECVLI FELICITAS S C. On this, as on most of the Coins relating to him, the Sun appears in the Area. To do Honour to his Mother SOÆMIAS, he instituted a Senate of Women for her to preside in, where the several Points of Fashion, Equipage, and Ceremony, proper to the Ladies, were deliberated and settled. She appears on her *Denarius*, with the Title of IVLIA SOAEMIAS AVG; and on the Reverse, in the Character of the VENVS CAELESTIS, standing, with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, a Globe in the other, and the Sun behind her. But on one of her Reverses in Bronze, she is seated, with a *Cupid* before her, who seems in play to catch at the Ball or Globe which she holds in her right Hand. Pl. XLV. 14.

ELAGABALVS.

His first Wife was ANNIA FAUSTINA, the Wife of *Pomponius Bassus*, and the Grand-daughter of MARCUS AURELIUS. She was a Lady of great Beauty; for which Reason chiefly her Husband was put to Death by ELAGABALUS. On her Coins she is ANNIA FAUSTINA AVGVSTA; and on the Reverse their Hands are joined, with the Legend CONCORDIA. This was soon repudiated, and JULIA PAULA taken in her Stead. She also is IVLIA PAVLA AVG S C; and her CONCORD is seated, with a double *Cornucopiæ* in the left Hand, and a Globe in the right, over which is the Sun. But this too was soon obliged to give Place to one of the Vestal Virgins, called on her Medal IVLIA AQUILIA SEVERA AVG S C, whose CONCORD is fashioned as the other, but is standing, and has an Altar with Fire burning before her, as a Vestal, and the Sun behind her. The Coins of all these Ladies, MÆSA excepted, are rare. But her he retained not long, marrying a fourth, and after that another and another, and then again returning to AQUILIA.

On his Marriage with PAULA he made Presents to the Senatorian and Equestrian Orders, and to the Wives of the Senators, and gave a Congiary to the People and the Soldiers, which on one of his Silver Medals is called the LIBERALITAS AVG III, who has





has a *Cornucopiæ* in the left Hand, with a *Tessera* in ELAGABALVS the right, and the Sun underneath. Gladiatorial Shews were also given, at which he appeared in a purple Robe as a triumphant Conqueror. He had no foreign War, and could therefore have no real Triumph. To some one of these Appearances we must therefore impute the Reverse before us, struck PL. XLVI.-I. in his second Consulate, into which he entered on the first Day of the new Year after his Accession: On the Car we may distinguish the Gems, and other brilliant Ornaments, with which he was fond of distinguishing his Carriages. In the Amphitheatre many wild Beasts were slain, particularly an Elephant, and one-and-fifty Tigers; a greater Number than ever had been killed before at one Time.

His Cruelty was equal to that of his pretended Father; for he put to Death his best Friends, and those who, under MÆSA, had been the principal Instruments of his Exaltation, for giving him good Advice. He is even said to have used magical Arts, and offered human Sacrifices, employing Agents throughout *Italy* to pick up young Persons for this diabolical Purpose. Yet he was not ashamed to publish himself to the World as the Restorer of Liberty, by having Coins decreed to him, which represent this Blessing under the Symbol of a Goddess, with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and with the other

ELAGABALVS. other holding out the Cap of Liberty, entitled LIBERTAS AVGVSTI. The Sun is seen in the Area of this also.

But Lust was the predominant Vice of ELAGABALVS. He not only frequented the public Stews, but made a Brothel of the Palace, in which he appeared publicly naked, acting the Strumpet, and with effeminate Voice inviting those that passed; while his Mother played the Prostitute in a different Part of it. The Historians commonly call him *Sardanapalus*; too good a Name for such a Monster. For the *Affyrian* Monarch only wasted his Time, like other Eastern Princes, amongst his Women: but this polluted Wretch was the abandoned Pathic of his own vile Slaves. In Fact, he made himself to be called a Woman, was saluted by the Names of Lady and Queen, and as such took an Husband, called *Hierocles*, a Slave and Chariot-Driver. This Fellow was in such high Favour, that his Power was absolute; and his Mother, who was but a Maid-Servant, was brought to *Rome* with a military Guard, and ranked among the Consular Matrons. He determined even to make him *Cæsar*, maugre the Opposition of the Soldiers, and bitterly menaced his Grandmother for thwarting him in this Project. By her, however, he was at length and with Difficulty persuaded to adopt his Cousin  
*Alexianus*;

*Alexianus*; which he pretended to do at the Instigation of his God ELAGABALUS, who also had charged him (as he said) to give him the Name of *Alexander*. But afterwards, seeing the Eyes and Affections of all Men directed to the young *Cæsar*, he repented of this Adoption, and attempted his Destruction several Times, though not without Danger to himself; for he was exceedingly beloved by the Soldiers, and most carefully watched by his Mother. The Prætorians were so enraged, that they obliged him to deliver up most of his profligate Favourites; and were hardly induced to spare *Hierocles*, though he begged him off with many Prayers and Tears, offering them his own Throat. But still proceeding to practise against his Cousin, fresh Tumults arose; and, when both of them were in the Camp together, broke out into actual Violence between the two Parties. Most of his Attendants were slain; and himself fled, with his Mother, to the filthiest Part of the Camp for Safety, where they were both found, and slain together. Their dead Bodies were dragged naked through the Streets; and his own, with a Weight fastened to it, was afterwards thrown into the *Tiber*. *Dio Cassius* gives him a Reign of only three Years, nine Months, and four Days, and is herein followed by others. But *Victor* says that he was slain in the thirtieth

Month

ELAGABALVS.

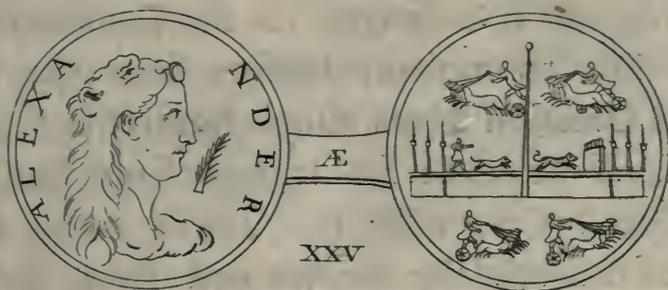
ELAGABALVS.

Month of his Reign. But *Herodian* is nearer the Truth, when he gives him a Reign of six Years; as some of his Coins are dated TR P V. He was a Devil, says Mr. *Walker*, in the Shape of an Hermaphrodite, a Prodigy of Impiety, Villainy, Lust, Debauchery, Gluttony, and Cruelty. His Coins are distinguished from those of CARACALLA by the youthful smooth Aspect, by the IMP prefixed to his Inscriptions, and by the \* which is commonly seen upon them.

*[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

MARCUS

Month



MARCUS AURELIUS SEVERUS  
ALEXANDER.

ON the Death of ELAGABALUS, the Soldiery and Senate were unanimous in declaring ALEXANDER his Successor. The Fathers, who conferred upon him at once all the Imperial Honours, would have dignified him also with the Surnames of ANTONINUS and MAGNUS, both which he refused; the first, because it had been so polluted by that filthy Beast, as he called him, whom he succeeded; and the last, as by no Means worthy of it. He was content however to prefix to that of ALEXANDER the Names of MARCUS, AURELIUS, and SEVERUS, which appear on one of his first Medals of Gold,

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

Pl. XLVI. 2.

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which

- ALEXANDER SEVERVS. which has for its Reverse *Jupiter* with the *Hasta pura* in his left Hand, his right grasping the Thunder, with PM TR P COS PP. For he was the late Emperor's Colleague in the Consulship of this Year. His triumphant Passage from the Senate on this Occasion forms also a Reverse in Gold, with the same Legend: for it represents him in his quadrigated Car, with the *Hasta pura*, and a Branch of Laurel, the Scepter and Eagle being only proper to Conquerors. *Zosimus* observes of him, that, being yet a Youth, and of an excellent Disposition, he so behaved that all Men conceived well-grounded Hopes of his Government; which were therefore made by the Senate the Device of some of his Coins, with IMP ALEXANDER PIVS AVG, and a Female-Figure holding up a Lilly, with her Robe tucked up for Expedition, as on the Reverse of DIADUMENIANUS. His Life had been so much in Danger, that one of his Reverses is properly consecrated to *Jupiter the Preserver*; who is figured as on the first-mentioned Medal, with an Eagle before him, and the Legend IOVI CONSERVATORI. The Fidelity of the Soldiers too, who had been the Instruments of his Safety, deserved to be commemorated at the same Time, so that, while he is offering Sacrifice to *Jupiter*, one of them is represented crowning him with a Wreath
- Pl. XLVI. 3.
- Pl. XLVI. 4.
- Pl. XLVI. 5.
- Pl. XLVI. 6.

of Laurel, and the Legend is FIDES MILITVM. The Tranquillity of the Time was also celebrated by the Figure of *Peace*, with the Olive-Branch in one Hand, and the *Hasta pura* in the other, entitled the PAX AVGVSTI S C; but she is in quick Motion, as not likely to stay long under a Prince who professed to emulate the Glory of the *Macedonian* Hero, at the same Time that he condemned his Intemperance and Cruelty to his Friends. In Consequence of this Profession, he is figured like him on several of his Coins, sometimes with his Head covered with an Helmet, and sometimes with a Lion's Skin, as in the Frontispiece. But for the present, all his Diligence was necessary to reform the Evils which had crept into the Civil Government. Freedmen and Slaves, Buffoons and Eunuchs, Catamites and Gladiators, had of late Days engrossed all the Power and Honours of the Commonwealth. These were not only banished the Court and City; but most of the Governors of Provinces, preferred by ELAGABALUS, were removed, and replaced by Persons of Courage, Integrity, and Wisdom. In the second Year of his Reign, he married Sulpicia Memmia, stiled on her Coins AUGUSTA, whose Father was of Consular Rank: on which Occasion, Medals of Gold were struck, having for the Reverse a *Venus Victrix*, with the *Hasta*

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

Pl. XLVI. 7.

Pl. XLVI. 8.

Qq 2

*pura,*

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

*pura*, and a Branch of Laurel, with PM TR P II  
COS PP. It appears from another Reverse in

Pl. XLVI. 9.

Silver, that he was, at least for some Part of this  
Year, Consul for the second Time; for it has the  
Figure of *Pallas* holding out a *Victory*, in Compli-  
ment to the young Emperor's military Prudence,  
and the Legend PONTIF MAX. TR P II COS II  
PP. His Piety to his Mother and Grandmother  
was most exemplary, whose Counsel was of the  
greatest Use to him. The first had as much Pru-  
dence, and the last as much Probity (which is Pru-  
dence too in the best Sense) as any Women of the  
Age. We see the Head of the former joined with  
his own on some Coins, struck in Honour of the  
Emperor by the Inhabitants of *Tucca Terebentina*,  
in the Neighbourhood of *Carthage*, which have

Pl. XLVI. 10.

for the Reverse, ΑΓαθή Ὀυχή ΤΕΡΕΒΕΝΤΙΝΩΝ  
ΚΑΡΧΕΔΩΝΙΩΝ, *the Good Fortune of the Carthaginian*  
*Terebentines*; and of the latter, with IMP SEV

Pl. XLVI. 11.

ALEXAND AVG behind the one, and IVLIA  
MAMMAEA AVG behind the other, and subscribed  
MATER AVGVSTI. Other Coins of this Empress  
have a Group of Figures on the Reverse. That  
which is seated, *Patin* supposes to have been in-  
tended for MAMMÆA, and observes her Form to be

Pl. XLVI. 12.

so well copied, that one Drop of Water is not more  
like another; that behind, he adjudges to MÆSA;  
and

and those which stand by to MEMMIA, and the Emperor's Sister *Theoclia*: the Legend FELICITAS PERPETVA. But on her *Denarius*, which is beautiful, there is only one female Figure, leaning on a standing Column, and holding a *Caduceus*, which is stiled the FELICITAS PVBLICA. By their Advice he chose a standing Council of fifty Persons (the Number required for a legal Senate) nor ever published any Constitution without the Approbation of at least twenty of the most eminent Lawyers, nor discussed any military Business without the Presence of the ablest and most deserving Officers, and the best acquainted with Places, Camps, and Action. Sixteen of the gravest and most experienced Senators were always of this Council: and *Ulpian*, the celebrated Civilian, was made Commander of the Prætorian Guards.

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

Pl. XLVI. 13.

Many ancient Buildings he restored, and founded many new, particularly the magnificent Baths, called by his Name, of Porphyry and *Lacedæmonian* Marble: a Part of which appears on the Reverse before us, with PM TR P V COS II PP. At this Time *Artaxerxes* had restored the *Persian* Empire, and entered *Mesopotamia* with an Army; but laying Siege to *Atra*, a City which had heretofore baffled all the Endeavours of TRAJAN, he found himself so weakened by a tedious and unsuccessful Siege, that

Pl. XLVI. 14.

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

that he was obliged to retreat to his own Dominions.

One principal Care of *Alexander* was the Restitution of the ancient Discipline; of which the Soldiers were so impatient, that they murdered their Commander *Ulpian*, even in the Presence of the Emperor. But Vengeance was speedily taken for this Insolence. Much Discontent also reigned in the Armies abroad. In the East great Numbers deserted to the *Persian*, after having slain *Heracleo* their General. They even attempted to set up another Emperor, who fled from them, and was drowned in the *Euphrates*. Another was defeated and taken. And another, whom the Prætorians intended to raise, made his Escape from them, and was not heard of afterwards. These Distempers were only to be cured by Action, which some Troubles in *Germany* called for. At the same Time another Pretender to the Empire started up. This was *Ovinus Camillus*, a Senator of high Rank, whom the Emperor treated with unexampled Humanity. Instead of punishing, he caressed, honoured, and professed Obligations to him for intending to share with him the weighty Business of the Empire; allotted him a Part of the Palace, and his Guards, as his real Copartner. And now that an Expedition was necessary, he offered him the sole  
Command,

Command, and on his Refusal, requested his Assistance. They began their March on Foot, but at the End of five Miles *Camillus* was tired, and unable to proceed. At the Entreaty of ALEXANDER he mounted his Horse, but bore not for more than two Days the Fatigue of this. A Chariot was then provided, but his Ambition was now cured. He resigned his Pretensions, and retired into the Country unmolested. This Expedition was successful; since in his third Consulship, in which *Dio Cassius*, the Historian, was his Colleague, we find him passing to the Capitol in his triumphal quadrigated Car. But instead of an Eagle rising from the Sceptre as usual, a Trophy is held up, and the Legend is PM TR P VIII COS III PP S C.

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

Pl. XLVI. 15.

The *Persians* now meditated a fresh Invasion, and ALEXANDER determined to take the Field against them. On this Occasion his *Denarius* was struck, with IMP ALEXANDER PIVS AVG around his laureate Head, which has for its Reverse the MARS VLTOR armed, and moving to Action. All was done, that human Foresight could judge necessary, to ensure Success. Fresh Musters were made in all the Provinces, great Store of Military Engines were got ready, Magazines of Provisions and Arms established, and a vast Number of Carriages, Horses, and Mules collected, to render the Marches expeditious and easy.

Pl. XLVI. 16.

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

Pl. XLVI. 17.

easy. Hence his Reverse, which is called the PROVIDENTIA AVGVSTI, with a *Cornucopiæ*, and adding Ears of Corn to a Magazine which is before her. He fixed the Day for his Departure, when public Sacrifices were offered; and he left *Rome*, the Senate and all the People attending him without the Gates to take a solemn Leave of him. He parted from them, looking back upon the City with Tears in his Eyes; nor was there one of that vast Multitude that beheld his Departure without Sorrow.

Pl. XLVI. 18.

On one of his Reversees he is on Horseback, with the Spear in his Hand, beginning his March, and it is termed the PROFECTIO AVGVSTI S. C. His Army was numerous and well disciplined. Part had their Shields glittering with Gold and Silver, in Imitation of the *Argyraspides* of *Alexander the Great*. He had his Phalanx too, consisting of six incorporated Legions, making an impenetrable Body of thirty thousand Warriors: so that the Number in a Legion at this Time was five thousand. While he rested at *Antioch*, some of the Soldiers were confined for their dissolute Behaviour with the Prostitutes of *Daphne*; on which the whole Legion mutinied. The intrepid Emperor exposed his Person to their Rage, and assured them of his fixed Resolution to maintain, at all Events, the ancient Discipline. Their repeated Clamours, and Menaces with drawn Swords,

Swords, were most violent and furious. "If," said he, "ye are brave indeed, exert yourselves thus against the Enemy; ye cannot terrify me. Should ye kill me, single as I am, ye cannot escape Vengeance, while there is a Commonwealth, a Senate, or a *Roman* People existing." When, nevertheless, the same horrible Outrage continued, he cried out, with a Tone of Authority, "Citizens, be gone, and lay down your Arms." This acted like a Charm. They instantly threw down their Arms and Uniforms, and retired to different Inns, instead of the Camp. They were, however, on the Intercession of many, and their own Repentance, reinstated before he set forward, and atoned for this Disobedience by their future Fidelity and Bravery: but their principal Officers were punished with Death for their Negligence and Connivance. *Artaxerxes* met him with a far more numerous Host. Of the Event the Emperor informed the Senate, when he triumphed on his Return, in these Words: "Conscript Fathers, we have conquered the *Persians*: there needs no Eloquence. 'Tis sufficient to inform you what their Arms and Apparatus were; seven hundred Elephants having Towers filled with Archers. Of these we took three hundred, eighteen of which we have brought with us. Two hundred were slain. Eighteen

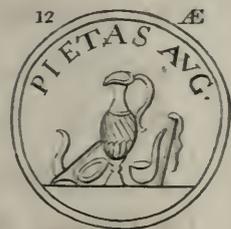
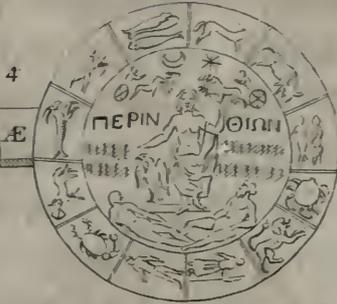
ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

“ hundred Chariots, armed with Scythes; of which  
 “ we could have brought with us, had it been ne-  
 “ cessary, two hundred whose Horses were slain.  
 “ We have defeated one hundred and twenty thou-  
 “ sand Cavalry, and have cut in Pieces ten thou-  
 “ sand Cuirassiers, with whose Armour we have  
 “ covered our own Troops. A Multitude of *Per-*  
 “ *sians* have we taken and sold. *Mesopotamia*, neg-  
 “ lected by that polluted Beast, we have recovered.  
 “ *Artaxerxes*, the most potent Monarch in Reality,  
 “ as well as Name, we have vanquished and put  
 “ to Flight. *Persia* has seen him flying, and where  
 “ our Ensigns were taken, there he fled and lost  
 “ his own.” On this Occasion the *Circensian* Sports  
 were exhibited, as expressed in the Reverse of the  
 Frontispiece, and a Congiary was given to the  
 People. Four Times did he exercise this Liberality,  
 as is intimated on different Coins. On one of them  
 a female Figure stands, with the Lap gathered, a  
*Cornucopiæ* in the left Hand and a *Tessera* in the  
 right. On a second, the Distribution is made in the  
 Emperor's Presence. The Legend of both is the  
 same, LIBERALITAS AVGVSTI IIII SC. This  
 Pl. XLVII. I. Success is celebrated on a Silver Medal by a *Victory*  
*alate*, resting one Foot upon a Globe, entitled VIC-  
 TORIA AVGVSTI, and inscribing on a Shield  
 VOT X. For his first Decennial Term was now  
 completed.

Pl. XLVI.  
19, 20.

Pl. XLVII. I.



THE LIBRARY BOARD

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completed. *Herodian* has endeavoured to cloud the Glory of this Transaction, and throughout this whole Reign hath shewn himself a partial Historian, from Prejudice to this most excellent Emperor.

He now continued at *Rome* for some Time, cultivating the Arts of Peace. Amidst other Regulations, that of the Finances was a principal Concern. And the Oeconomy of his Household was such, and he so wisely disposed the Civil and Military Establishments, as to reduce the Taxes to a thirtieth Part of what was paid before. For they who paid ten *Aurei* under his Predecessor, now paid only the third Part of a single one. But this was done gradually. First of all *Semi-Aurei* were coined, and after that, when the Payment was reduced to a third Part of the *Aureus*, Pieces of that Value, called *Tremisses*, were stamped; the Emperor declaring that he would, if possible, bring it down to a Quarter-Piece. And such indeed were coined by his Orders. But as the Exigencies of the State would not admit of any further Reduction, they were again melted down. The *Aureus*, or *Solidus* of Gold, was worth two Ounces of Silver. Six of them made an Ounce of Gold, and seventy-two a Pound of twelve Ounces. The Pound of Silver weighed a *Mina*, and contained ninety-six *Drachms*, or ninety-four *Denarii*. It

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was

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

was divided also into twelve Ounces; the Ounce into two *Staters*; the *Stater* into two *Sicilici*; and the *Sicilicus* into two *Drachms*. The Ounce of Silver was worth ten Pounds of Brass; so that twenty Pounds of Brass Money were equal to the *Aureus* in Value. ELAGABALUS had coined larger Pieces of Gold, from the Value of two, three, four, and even ten *Aurei*, to an hundred and upwards; but all these were now called in and melted down, to be recoined in the smaller Forms. This Regulation

Pl. XLVII. 2. gave Birth to two Reverses; on one of which we see the Goddess *Moneta*, with her *Cornucopiæ* and the Scales, from which the Gold showers copiously, with the Legend *MONeta RESTITVTA*; on the other, the Emperor himself crowned with Laurel, with the *Hasta pura* in his Hand, and called the *RESTITVTOR MONetæ S. C.*

He was learned himself, and the Patron of the Learned; frequenting their Lectures and Disputations, and settling Stipends on the Professors. Of the Prosaic Writers, *Plato* and *Tully* were his favourite Authors; of the Poetical, *Virgil* and *Horace*. This spoke his excellent Taste and Judgment. But that he studied, and encouraged the Study of, judicial Astrology, was owing to the Weakness of the Times, when the *Romans* were generally addicted to it, though it cost the Lives of many brave Men, through

through the Jealousy of the Emperors. One cannot then wonder that the *Perinthians* should strike to his Honour that extraordinary Medallion, with his laureate Head, and *ΑΥτοκρατωρ Καισαρ Μαρκος ΑΥρηλιος Σενηρος ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ*; which has for the Reverse the twelve Signs of the Zodiac; in the Center of which Orb is *Jupiter* with the Eagle at his Feet; in his right Hand, a *Patera*; in his left, the *Hasta pura*; above him are the Chariots of the Sun and Moon in Opposition, performing their Courses, the one distinguished by a Star, the other by a Crescent; underneath are the Figures of a Man and Woman, the Representatives of Mankind, as placed upon the Earth by *Jupiter*, under the Influence of the heavenly Bodies. Why *Vaillant* should take these to be intended for two Rivers, no Reason in the World can be given, but that they are decumbent; for there is neither Urn nor Reed, but the Face of the one is bearded, and that of the other smooth. The Legend in the Area (in great Part obliterated) is *ΠΕΡΙΝΘΙΩΝ ΙΩΝΩΝ Β ΝΕΩΚΟΡΩΝ*.

ALEXANDER SEVERVS.

Pl. XLVII. 4.

His second Wife was *SALLUSTIA BARBIA ORBIANA*; whose elegant Figure we have, with the Title of *AVGVSTA*, and a *CONCORD* on the Reverse, with a double *Cornucopiæ* and *Patera*, filed the *CONCORDIA*.

Pl. XLVII. 5.

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

CORDIA AVGVSTORVM S. C. Her *Denarius* differs in nothing from this.

The *Germans* being again in Motion, ALEXANDER marched into *Gaul*; but the Enemy, on his Arrival, repassed the *Rhine*. Not content to have cleared the Province of them, he determined to repay their Visit, and ordered a Bridge to be built over the River; but lost his Life in the mean Time by the Treason of one of his own Officers. This was MAXIMIN, a Barbarian of mean Extraction, born on the Confines of *Thrace*, his Father being a *Goth*, and his Mother an *Alan*. In his younger Days he had been a Shepherd. He was above eight Feet high, comely, and well-proportioned. His great Strength and Activity had recommended him to SEVERVS. The present Emperor at his Accession had preferred him to the Command of a Legion. He was afterwards put over the Troops in *Pannonia*. For some Misdemeanour in the *Persian* War he had been sharply reprov'd by ALEXANDER; and his vindictive Spirit, stimulated by Ambition, induced him to engage a Body of his *Pannonians*, by large Promises, in a Conspiracy against him. He was resting in his Tent at Noon when the Conspirators attacked the Guard. The Captains of the Guard, with MAMMÆA, ran out to learn the Occasion of  
the

the Tumult, and were instantly slain. The Assassins then rushed into the Tent with their bloody Swords, which the Emperor seeing, wrapped his Mantle around him, and fell decently, as the first CÆSAR had done, in the thirtieth Year of his Age, after a Reign of thirteen Years and nine Days.

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

His Person was tall and graceful; his Manners gentle and affable. He suffered no Day to pass without Instances of his Clemency, Civility, and Piety. He was impartial in the Administration of Justice; and, in Cases of Venality and Corruption, inexorable. His great Rule was, DO AS YOU WOULD BE DONE BY; a Præcept which he learned from his Mother MAMMÆA, who is supposed to have been a *Christian*, converted by *Origen*. This Sentence was frequent in his Mouth, inscribed upon his Palace, and other public Buildings, and proclaimed aloud when public Punishments were inflicted. He had Thoughts of erecting a Temple to CHRIST; but was told, as from the Oracles, that then all would become *Christians*, and the other Temples be deserted. Every seventh Day, while in the City, he constantly attended the religious Ceremonies at the Capitol. His Aviary was his principal Amusement, which was a very large and curious Collection. Himself and his Mother were very improperly charged with Avarice, considering how largely their Frugality contributed

ALEXANDER  
SEVERVS.

contributed to the Relief and Ease of the Public. A great Number of Children of both Sexes were educated by them, who were called the Children of ALEXANDER and MAMMÆA. He was temperate, chaste, and prudent; and by his Firmness and Courage wonderfully restored the Empire, which had been sadly weakened by the Cruelty and Extravagance of his Predecessors. His own Coins *in general* are common; those of MAMMÆA more valuable: but those of his Empreses extremely rare and precious. MÆSA at her Death was deified, as was MAMMÆA afterwards. The Apotheosis of the former appears on the Coin before us, having her Head on one Side, with IVLIA MAESA AVG; and on the other, the Peacock with expanded Wings, bearing her to Heaven; with the Legend CONSECRATIO.

Pl. XLVII. 6.

CAIUS



CAIUS JULIUS VERUS MAXIMINUS.

**T**HE Assassins of ALEXANDER were instantly seized and put to Death by the rest of the Army. But MAXIMIN, whose Part in the Conspiracy was not suspected, being first saluted AUGUSTUS by the *Pannonians*, was soon after acknowledged as such by the Troops in general, and his Son declared CÆSAR, and Prince of the Youth. Hence we have the Head of the former laureated, with

ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΓΑΙΟΣ ΙΟΥΛΙΟΣ ΟΥΗΡΟΣ ΜΑΞΙΜΕΙΝΟC;  
 and of the latter plain, with ΓΑΙΟΣ ΙΟΥΛΙΟΣ ΟΥΗΡΟΣ ΜΑΞΙΜΟC ΚΑΙΣΑΡ;  
 the Reverse of which shews Neptune seated, with his *Trident* and *Patera*, whose Throne is supported by two *Tritons*, bearing in

VOL. II. S f their

MAXIMIN.

PL. XLVII. 7.

MAXIMIN.

their Hands Offer Baskets filled with Pearls; the Legend ΒΡΟΥΖΗΝΩΝ, as being struck by the People of *Prusa* in *Bithynia*, complimenting them with the Sovereignty and Wealth of the Ocean as well as Land. In the latter Capacity, and with the Title of GERMANICVS, the Son also appears, on a fine Medal of Bronze, of the first Size, the Title being MAXIMVS CAES GERM; with his Figure at length on the Reverse, and two Standards by him, inscribed PRINCIPI IVVENTVTIS. S. C. For the Senate, incapable of resisting, found it necessary to add their Approbation. His *Denarius* bears the same Impression. But the Emperor, on his own *Denarius*, is called IMP MAXIMINVS PIVS AVG, with the PROVIDENTIA AVG for the Reverse, bearing the Sceptre and *Cornucopia*.

He had quickly the Address, by his Donations and Rewards of every Kind, to attach the Soldiers to his Person. Yet his Cruelty to others was such, that the People of *Rome* were filled with dreadful Apprehensions. For, without Regard of Dignity or Person, those whom he disliked were crucified, or thrown to the wild Beasts, or sewed up in Cattle newly slain. This was done to force Respect from the Nobility; and, to conceal the Meanness of his Origin, he put to Death all who could attest it, and with them his principal Benefactors. For there

II .10 was

was not a more cruel Beast on Earth, as who presumed upon his own Strength, and thought himself superior to all Attempts upon his Person. He became the more outrageous from a Conspiracy, real or pretended, fomented by one *Magnus*, a Person of Consular Rank. All who were said to be conscious of it, to the Number of four thousand, suffered Death, without Accusation, Trial, or Defence. The *Ostroenian* Archers also revolted, and chose one *Tycus*, whom *Herodian* calls *Quartinus*, for their Emperor, whom MAXIMIN had discharged from the Service; but he was slain by one of his own pretended Friends, who received Thanks for a while, and was afterwards put to Death for this treacherous Service.

After this, entering *Germany* with all his Forces, he had several Engagements with the Enemy, whom he defeated as often, and plundered, burned, and laid waste the whole Country for three or four hundred Miles together, taking the Name of GERMANICUS, which he gave also to his Son. This we see on the Frontispiece: and he had Reason for celebrating the *Fidelity of his Soldiers* on the Reverse of it. For, sticking fast in a Marsh with his Horse, he had been slain by the Enemy, had not his own Troops rescued him. This Service is also intimated by another Reverse, whereon he stands laureated,

MAXIMIN. laureated, and surrounded with Standards crowned with Wreaths, with PM TR P PP. S C. The Success of this Campaign is recorded on several Medals.

Pl. XLVII. 9. On one we have a *Victory* holding up a Wreath,

Pl. XLVII. 10. styled the VICTORIA AVG. S C. On another, *Victory*, holding a Palm-Branch, crowns him with a Wreath, and a Captive lies bound at his Feet, with the Legend VICTORIA GERMANICA S C;

Pl. XLVII. 11. while on a third we behold him in his quadrigated Car, with a Wreath in his Hand, and *Victory* placing another on his Head, with PM TR P II COS PP. S. C.

Having settled Affairs in *Germany*, he marched to *Sirmium*, where he wintered, intending to make War upon the *Sarmatians* in Spring: against whom his Arms proved equally successful. The same Year he honoured his Son with the Tribunitial Power, and the Title of AUGUSTUS. For which

Pl. XLVII. 12. Reason we see one of his Reverses filled with sacrificial Utensils, having the Legend PIETAS AVGVSTI. A Serpent is said to have entwined himself round the Head of MAXIMUS, while he was an Infant, and sleeping. This was looked upon as an Omen of his future Exaltation. And it was perhaps in Allusion to this, as well as to express their Prayers for his Health and long Life, that the *Sardians* have

Pl. XLVII. 13. figured on one of his Reverses a Serpent rising from a Vase,

Vase, with an Ear of Wheat on one Side, and a MAXIMIN. Poppy on the other, with the Legend ΕΠΙ ΣΕΠ. ΜΕΝΕΤΡΑΤΙΑΝΟΥ ΑΡΧ. ΚΑΡΔΙΑΝΩΝ ΝΕΩΚΟΡΩΝ. *Sub Septimio Menestratiano Archonte Sardinorum Neocororum.* His Mother was named PAULINA. She was a Woman of good Disposition, who endeavoured all she could to soften the Ferocity of her Husband. But such Endeavours were no Way pleasing to him, who in return is said to have hastened her Death; yet was he kind enough to allow her the usual Deification, as is evident from the very curious Medal; on which she appears Pl. XLVII. 14. veiled, with DIVA PAVLINA; and transported to Heaven, on the Reverse, by the usual Conveyance of the Empresses, on a Peacock, with his Wings expanded, and the Legend CONSECRATIO S C.

But with such Cruelties, added to the most insatiable Avarice and Oppression, the People were now wearied out, and every where ripe for Rebellion. The Defection began in *Africa*, where they slew his Procurator, and proclaimed their Proconsul GORDIAN Emperor, venerable for his Age and Virtues. He withstood their Desires as much as was possible, throwing himself on the Ground with earnest Deprecations. But with drawn Swords, and Menaces of instant Death, they obliged him to assume the Purple. This done, he immediately associated

MAXIMIN.

ciated his Son, declaring him AUGUSTUS also, and entered *Carthage* with Imperial Pomp. Thence he wrote Letters to *Rome*, which were received with great Joy, and in Consequence of which *Vitalian*, MAXIMIN's Commander of the Prætorian Cohorts, was slain, and the two GORDIANS, Father and Son, were declared AUGUSTI by the Senate.



MARCUS



MARCUS ANTONIUS GORDIANUS AFRICANUS.

MARCUS ANTONINUS GORDIANUS AFRICANUS.

**I**N the Tumult of the Joy at *Rome*, occasioned by the Exaltation of the two GORDIANS, all Informers, Accusers, and the Friends of MAXIMIN, were slain. *Sabinus*, Governor of the City, underwent the same Fate. MAXIMIN and his Son were declared public Enemies. Letters were dispatched to all the Provinces, requiring their Aid in Vindication of Liberty and the common Safety. The Friends and Officers of MAXIMIN, Civil and Military, were in most of the Cities put to Death. The Honour of the Prætorship was decreed to the youngest GORDIAN, Grandson of the eldest, the

TWO  
GORDIANS.

TWO  
GORDIANS.

- Pl. XLVII. 15. Destination to the Consulate, and the Title of CÆSAR. The eldest and his Son had assumed that of AFRICANUS; for we read on the Denarius of the first, around his laureate Head, IMP M ANTONIUS GORDIANVS AFRICANVS AVG. On the Reverse he stands, with a Branch of Laurel displayed in his Hand, and P M TR P COS PP. That of the Son also shews his Head laureated, with IMP M. ANTONIUS GORDIANVS AFR. AVG. On the Reverse he stands in the Character of Mars, and holds the *Hasta pura* and *Shield*; and the Legend is VIRTVS AVGG. for *Augustorum*, as in the Frontispiece. But the Head of the Grandson is plain, and he is called M. ANT. GORDIANVS CAES: and on his Reverse appear the *Secespita*, the *Sympulum*, the *Adspersorium*, and the *Patera*, the *Guttus* and the *Lituus*, with PIETAS AVGG. S C.

MAXIMIN, receiving the News of all this, became frantic with Rage, and was by his Friends conveyed to his Chamber. As he grew cooler, he called for Wine, in which he drowned his Senses. The next Day he held a Council of his Friends, and afterwards harangued the Soldiers, exhorting them to revenge their common Injuries; and having given them an immense Donative, began his March towards *Rome*. In the mean Time one *Capelian*, a Senator,

Senator, whom GORDIAN had divested of his Govern-  
 ment of *Mauritania*, raised fresh Disturbances in  
*Africa*. Against him young GORDIAN marching,  
 was defeated and slain; and the Father, weighing  
 the Strength of MAXIMIN, and the Weakness and  
 Perfidiousness of the *Africans*, in a Fit of Grief  
 and Despair hanged himself. He was upwards of  
 fourscore, of a sanguine Aspect and full Habit, in  
 Stature, Voice, and Carriage much resembling AU-  
 GUSTUS, and of Life and Manners irreproachable.  
 He had a fine Poetical Talent, and celebrated in  
 Verse the Reigns of ANTONINUS PIUS and MARCUS  
 AURELIUS, calling his Work the *Antoninad*. He  
 was possessed of a larger real Estate than any Man  
 in the Empire. His Reign lasted five Weeks only.  
 His Son fell in the forty-sixth Year of his Age.  
 His Father had given him the Surname of ANTONI-  
 NUS. His Genius also was brilliant, and he was  
 well versed in the Civil Law; of a generous and  
 engaging Disposition, but fond of Pleasure; a Lover  
 of medicated Wines, but no great Eater, making  
 short Meals. He delighted much in Baths, and  
 the Amenity of Groves and Gardens: was very de-  
 licate in his Apparel, and was given to Women;  
 for he kept a Seraglio of two-and-twenty, by every  
 one of whom he had three or four Children, being  
 therefore called the *Priamus*, and jestingly the

TWO  
GORDIANS.

*Priapus*, of his Time. Yet he was public-spirited, courageous, and exceedingly beloved; so that the Senate with great Readiness consented to his Advancement. The youngest GORDIAN is said by some to have been his Son, but by the more creditable Historians the Son of his Sister. The Coins of the two eldest are extremely valuable. There is one of the Father, not yet mentioned, which has for its Reverse ROME, habited like *Pallas*, with Helmet, Spear, and Shield, holding out a *Victory* on her right Hand, and inscribed ROMAE AETERNAE.

Pl. XI.VII. 20.

MARCUS



MARCUS CLODIUS PUPIENUS MAXIMUS.  
DECIMUS CAELIUS BALBINUS.

**T**HE Senate, informed of the Death of the two GORDIANS, having gone too far to recede, or hope for Mercy, immediately made Choice of these two to succeed them. The first was Seventy-four Years old, meanly born, but very brave, and of great Experience in Action; prudent, temperate, a Lover of Justice, and feared for his Severity, yet easily entreated. The latter about sixty, noble, wealthy, generous, and affable, but a Lover of his Ease and Quiet. These were declared AUGUSTI; the youngest GORDIAN being at the same Time ac-

P V P I E N V S  
AND  
BALBINVS.

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knowledged

## THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

PVPIENVS  
AND  
BALBINVS.

knowledge'd CÆSAR. Nothing could be so serviceable to the Commonwealth, as the mutual Confidence and Agreement of these two Emperors. This they jointly profess'd for the present, as appears from their *Denarii*. In these they have both radiated Crowns, which now became common to the living Emperors, though heretofore the Decoration of those only who were deified. That of

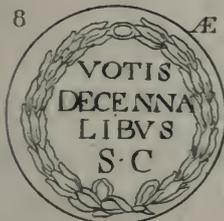
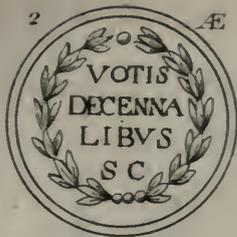
Pl. XLVII. 18. MAXIMUS is inscribed IMP CAES PVPIEN. MAXIMVS AVG.; and has *joined Hands* for the Reverse, with AMOR MVTVVS AVGG. The Title of that of BALBINUS is IMP CAES D. CAEL.

Pl. XLVII. 19. BALBINVS AVG., and has the same Device for its Reverse, with CONCORDIA AVGG. We find

Pl. XLVIII. 1. the same Legend also on a Reverse of PUPIENUS MAXIMUS, in Bronze, where the Goddess CONCORD is seated, with a *Patera* and double *Cornucopiæ*.

The Vows or Supplications decreed by the Senate for a prosperous *Decennialia*, form a Reverse of BALBINUS of the same Metal, the Words VOTIS DECENNALIBVS S C. being inclosed in a Wreath of Laurel.

The Charge of the War against MAXIMIN was unanimously recommended to PUPIENUS. Care had been taken to convey all the Provisions within the walled Towns, that the Tyrant and his vast Army might be distressed for Want of Subsistence. Accordingly,





Accordingly, when he came to *Hemona*, he found the Place deserted. Thence crossing the Mountains, he proceeded to *Aquileia*. Being now in *Italy*, his Troops, which expected Plenty there, being disappointed, began to murmur; and the more he endeavoured by Severity to curb the Spirit of Discontent, the more it was exasperated. The Gates of the City were shut against him, and the Walls covered with armed Men. They were headed by *Menophilus* and *Crispinus*, both of Consular Rank, who encouraged the Inhabitants with Assurances of Victory from their Tutelar Deity, *Belinus* or *Apollo*. The Attacks of the Enemy were violent; but they defended themselves with Fire, Sulphur, and every mischievous Device, uttering bitter Taunts against the Tyrant and his Son. As the Siege advanced slowly, the Rage of MAXIMIN grew hot against his Officers; several of whom he put to Death. This aggravated the Distemper in his Army, which was now, through Scarcity of Provisions, rather in the Condition of a Body besieged, than besieging. It was also bruited amongst them, that the whole World was unanimous in its Disaffection to MAXIMIN. The Soldiers therefore, whose Families were at *Albano*, fearing for them and for themselves, watching their Opportunity, slew both the Father and the Son, as they lay sleeping in their Tents at

Noon-

PVPIENVS  
AND  
BALBINVS.

P V P I E N V S  
 A N D  
 B A L B I N V S.

Noon-day; fixed their Heads upon Poles, and exposed them to the View of the *Aquileians*. Thus MAXIMIN met with the Fate which he merited, after a Reign of little more than three Years. But that of the Son was pitiable, an handsome and accomplished young Man, but whose good Qualities were somewhat obscured by his Pride and Loftiness. Presently their Statues and Images were demolished, and their Captain of the Guards slain. The Heads were dispatched to *Rome*, and the Soldiers, after adoring the Images of MAXIMUS, BALBINUS, and GORDIAN, received within the Walls. MAXIMUS was then at *Ravenna*, making great Preparations for Action; but hearing what had passed at *Aquileia*, he sent laureated Letters to *Rome*, which occasioned incredible Joy. The Temples and Altars were thronged with People, returning Thanks to the Gods. BALBINUS, who used to tremble at the Name of MAXIMIN, was so overjoyed, that he offered an Hecatomb, and ordered a like Sacrifice in every City. His Reverse is still existing, with *Jupiter* holding the *Hasta pura* in his left Hand, and grasping the Thunder in his right, inscribed IOVI CONSERVATOR I S C. The deceased GORDIANS were deified; *Sabinus* made Governor of the City; and *Valens*, the Uncle of PUPIENUS MAXIMUS, Commander of the Prætorian Cohorts. MAXIMUS himself, to whom

Pl. XLVIII. 3.

whom *Crowns, Equestrian Statues,* and a *Victory* were decreed, on his Arrival at the Head of a numerous Body of *Maximin's* Army, received the Compliments of the Senate; and then, with **BALBINUS** and **GORDIAN**, retired to the Palace with infinite Satisfaction. The *Victory* decreed to **MAXIMUS** we find, however, on the Reverse of both Emperors, and entitled on each the **VICTORIA AVGG S C.** So the Congiary given on this Occasion, which forms a Reverse of **BALBINUS**, is also stiled the **LIBERALITAS AVGVSTORUM S C.** And the ensuing Peace, which we find seated on the Reverse of **PÚPIENUS**, and denominated **PAX PVBLICA S C,** we see also standing upon that of **BALBINUS**, with the Branch of Olive in her Hand. Legend **P. M TR. P. COS. II. PP.**

**PVPIENVS  
AND  
BALBINVS.**

Pl. XLVIII. 4.

Pl. XLVIII. 5.

Pl. XLVIII. 6.

Pl. XLVIII. 7.

The Moderation of the two Emperors, in the Exercise of their Power, gave the highest Satisfaction to the People: but the Troops, which had submitted and returned with **MAXIMUS**, had still their Discontents. They looked with an evil Eye upon Emperors, in whose Election they had no Share, and considered the general Acclamations as so many bitter Reflections on their own Conduct. When therefore in the East the *Persians* invaded *Syria*, and in the West the *Germans* were in Motion,

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tion,

P V P I E N V S  
AND  
BALBINVS.

tion, and it was resolved that MAXIMUS should march against the former, and BALBINUS against the latter, while GORDIAN should remain at *Rome*, they watched for an Occasion of venting their Displeasure. This was too soon afforded, by the Grudgings between the two Emperors; which, however silent, were yet perceived. BALBINUS now looked down with Disdain upon the Meanness of MAXIMUS, who also despised the Weakness of BALBINUS. During the Representation, therefore, of the *Capitoline* Sports, while most of the Soldiers and Attendants of the Court were busied elsewhere, they broke into that Quarter of the Palace where MAXIMUS was. Those around him urged the Necessity of calling instantly for the *German* Guards. But these were in another Part of the Palace, where BALBINUS resided; and when sent for, were withheld by him, who was jealous of his Colleague. This brought on a Dispute, which ended in the Destruction of both. For the Conspirators, coming up in the Heat of it, stripped them of their Imperial Robes, and were hurrying them to the Camp, when, hearing that the *Germans* were advancing to their Rescue, they slew them, and left their Bodies in the Midst of the Way. While this was doing, young GORDIAN was taken up by another Party of them, conveyed

veyed to the Camp with loud Acclamations, and proclaimed Emperor. These two had but a short Reign of fourteen Months. Their Coins are exceedingly rare and precious.

PVPIENVS  
AND  
BALBINVS.



Vol. II.

U u

MARCUS



XXIX

## MARCUS ANTONIUS GORDIANUS PIUS.

YOUNGEST  
GORDIAN.

THE Election of the Soldiers was confirmed by the Senate with great Alacrity, the young Prince, for his Family's Sake, being very dear to all the *Roman* People; and Decennial Vows were decreed for the Prosperity of his Reign. They are inclosed in a Civic Wreath, and expressed by VOTIS DECENNALIBVS. S C. Thus all were for the present united, and lost the Remembrance of past Evils in the diffusive Plenty of the present Season, when GORDIAN exhibited and re-established the quinquennial Games, first introduced by NERO. But the very next Year an Infurrection was made in *Africa* to dethrone him, which was however effectually

Pl. XLVIII. 8.

tually suppressed by the Governor of *Mauritania*. YOUNGEST GORDIAN.  
 This gave Occasion to the striking of the Reverse, Pl. XLVIII. 9.  
 which shews us the *returning Fortune* of the Fa-  
 mily, seated, as we have seen her in the Reign of  
 CARACALLA, with FORTVNA REDVX S C; as  
 well as to the Medal of Gold, which shews him Pl. XLVIII. 10.  
 laureated, with IMP CAES M. ANT GORDIA-  
 NVS AVG; and on the other Side a *Victory*, with  
 a Palm-Branch and Wreath, inscribed VICTORIA  
 AVG; and to another, on which *Mars* appears Pl. XLVIII. 11.  
 compleatly armed, as his Defender, with the Title  
 of MARS PROPVGNATOR S C. On other Me-  
 dals, both of Gold and Silver, he is complimented for Pl. XLVIII. 12.  
 his *Equity*, by the Figure of that Virtue, stamped,  
 with her usual Attributes, the *Balance* and *Cor-  
 nucopiæ*, and honoured as the AEQVITAS AV-  
 Gusti. This was certainly due to him for the  
 Kindness with which he treated the penitent Rebels,  
 who expressed deep Sorrow for the Troubles which  
 their Folly had occasioned: though it must be con-  
 fessed, that, through the Influence of his Freedmen  
 and Eunuchs, who took Advantage of his tender  
 Years, Venality and Injustice were much too bold  
 for a Time: for which he afterwards expressed his  
 Sorrow. The Year after this he entered on his  
 second Consulate, and married the Daughter of  
*Mistheus*. This Engagement was doubly happy for

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him,

- YOUNGEST  
GORDIAN.
- him, as it gave him the Possession of an amiable and virtuous Lady, and secured to him the Counsels of a brave and prudent Man, whose Character was superior to all Reproach. On her Medals she is stiled SABINIA TRANQVILLINA AVG; and has for the Reverse her *Concord*, seated, with the *Patera* and double *Cornucopiæ*, and the Legend: CONCORDIA AVGVSTA. S C. Her Denarius resembles this. But on some *Greek* Coins, struck at *Tomos* and *Anchialus* in *Pontus*, we have the Heads both of the Emperor and Empress adverse, with ΑΥΤ. Κ. Μ. ΑΝΤ ΓΟΡΔΙΑΝΟC ΑΥΓ, *Imperator Cæsar Marcus Antonius Gordianus Augustus*, and underneath ΤΡΑΝΚΙΑΛΕΙΝΑ. These have for the Reverse, one of them, the *Dea Salus*, with ΤΟΜΕΩΝ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΩΝ ΠΟΝΤΟΥ, *Of the Tomeans, the Metropolitans of Pontus*; the other, the Figure of *Serapis*, the supposed Author of the Plenty which blessed his Reign, with ΟΥΛΠΙΑΝΩΝ ΑΓΧΙΑΛΕΩΝ, *Of the Ulpian Anchialites*; their City being called *Ulpia* in Honour of TRAJAN. But a Medallion struck by the *Seleucians*, contains by far the finest Heads of this illustrious Pair, that of GORDIAN having a radiated Crown, and over it, Μ. ΑΝΤΩΝΙΟC ΓΟΡΔΙΑΝΟC CΕΒ, *Marcus Antonius Gordianus Augustus*; and between both, ΤΡΑΝΚΥΛΑ CΕΒ, *Tranquillina Augusta*. On the other Side are the Heads adverse of *Apollo*, and

of the Genius of their City, with a *Cornucopiæ* behind her, and the Legend  $\text{C}\epsilon\lambda\epsilon\tau\kappa\epsilon\omega\text{N}$   $\text{N}\epsilon\omicron\kappa\omega\text{P}\omega\text{N}$   $\text{I}\text{P}\omega\text{T}\omega\text{N}$ , *Seleucensium Neokororum Primorum*. YOUNGEST  
GORDIAN.

The excellent Fruits of this Alliance immediately appeared. His Eunuchs and Freedmen were discarded; and all, who had imposed upon his Youth and Inexperience, banished the Court. No Man conceived more Joy than himself from this Turn. "Thanks to the Gods," says he, in one of his Letters to *Mistheus*, "that, through your Insinuations, I am acquainted with those Things which, shut up as I was, I could not know. Wretched is the Prince from whom Truths are concealed; who, unacquainted with what passes in public, is obliged to act by the Information of others!"

At this Time there was an Earthquake, so dreadful that whole Cities with their Inhabitants were swallowed up; on which Account solemn Sacrifices and Supplications were offered, not through *Rome* only, but throughout the World. When this Alarm was over, the Emperor threw open the Temple of *Janus*, agreeably to ancient Usage, and marched against the *Persians*. In his Way through *Mæsia* and *Thrace* he entirely cleared the Country of Enemies. His Passage over the *Hellepont* is celebrated on a fine Medal in Bronze, having his laureate Head, with IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FELIX  
AVG; PI. XLVIII. 17.

YOUNGEST  
GORDIAN.

AVG; and, for the Reverse, the Imperial Vessel filled with Soldiers and Ensigns; and around the Verge, TRAIECTVS AVGVSTI. Arriving in *Syria*, he again took Possession of *Antioch*, which had been seized by the Enemy, with whom he had several successful Engagements. He recovered also *Carrhæ* and *Nisibis* by his Detachments, and struck *Sapor* with such Terror, that he hastily withdrew his Garrisons without Injury to the Inhabitants. This was chiefly owing to the wise Conduct of *Misitheus*, who commanded under him. The Senate, therefore, decreed a quadrigated Car, to be drawn by Elephants, at his future *Persian* Triumph; and another, to be drawn by Horses, to *Misitheus*, with the magnificent Titles of *Father of the Princes*, and *Guardian of the Commonwealth*. These Successes are recorded on many Coins. The first Campaign

Pl. XLVIII. 18. is celebrated by one which exhibits ROME, habited like *Minerva*, presenting a Globe to the Emperor; near her is a Standard-bearer; and behind him, *Misitheus*: the Legend PONTIFEX MAX TR P

Pl. XLVIII. 19. III COS II. A second represents him as *Hercules*, with the Lion's Skin, and is dedicated VIRTVTI

Pl. XLIX. 1. AVGVSTI. On a third he is seated on Spoils, Ensigns are displayed around him, *Victory* crowns him with a Wreath, and *Misitheus* presents the Palm to





to him: the Legend here too is VIRTUS AVGVSTI.

YOUNGEST  
GORDIAN.

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In his second Campaign he passed the *Euphrates* over a Bridge of Boats, which Passage is described on the Reverse before us. Here also he is crowned by *Victory*, and attended by *Minerva*; after whom passes *Mistheus*, with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and the *Parazonium* in the other, as Captain of the Prætorian Cohorts; and a Soldier is returning back to carry the News of it: this is termed the FELICITAS AVGVSTI. *Abgarus*, who had been dethroned by *Artaxerxes*, was now restored to his Dominions. This Act is signified on the Coin, which exhibits him with the *Tiara* or Mitre, paying his Devotion, after the Eastern Manner, to the Emperor, who is covered with the Imperial Mantle, crowned with a Diadem, and, holding a Globe in one Hand, extends the other towards him in token of Amity: behind him, ΑΥΓ ΓΟΡΔΙΑΝΟΣ; and behind the other, ΑΒΓΑΡΟΣ ΒΑCΙΑΕΥC. On another he stands in his quadrigated Car, crowned also by a *Victory*, and holding out a Branch of Laurel, with PONTIFEX MAX TR P IIII COS II PP. The next Year we behold him likewise in Action, having the military Habit, with Spear and Globe, and the Legend PM TR P V COS II PP. And on another, he is once more crowned by a *Victory*, and a Victim is sacrificed

Pl. XLIX. 2.

Pl. XLIX. 3.

Pl. XLIX. 4.

Pl. XLIX. 5.

YOUNGEST  
GORDIAN.

sacrificed for his Success, to a Deity who appears within the Temple.

But this Felicity was soon interrupted, by the Death of *Misitheus*; who made the *Roman* People his Heirs, and whose Civil and Military Character was not inferior to the most renowned. Some say, that his Death was purely natural; but others, that it was hastened by the Arts of PHILIP, who succeeded to his Command, and began to plot the Destruction of GORDIAN also. The Store-Ships were kept at a Distance, and the Army led into Places where no Provision could be had. The famished Soldiers grew discontented, and imputed the Whole to GORDIAN. Rumours were industriously spread, that the Youth of GORDIAN was unequal to the Weight of Empire, which required an able Commander and experienced Governor. He corrupted the principal Officers, who demanded PHILIP for their Sovereign. The Friends of GORDIAN at first opposed these Proceedings. The Affair at last was compromised, and PHILIP admitted as Joint-Emperor, to be his Guardian and Director. But his haughty and overbearing Disposition in this Character was so displeasing to GORDIAN, that he complained of it from his Tribunal, but found his Interest in the Army far inferior to that of PHILIP. He then requested that he might at least have an  
equal

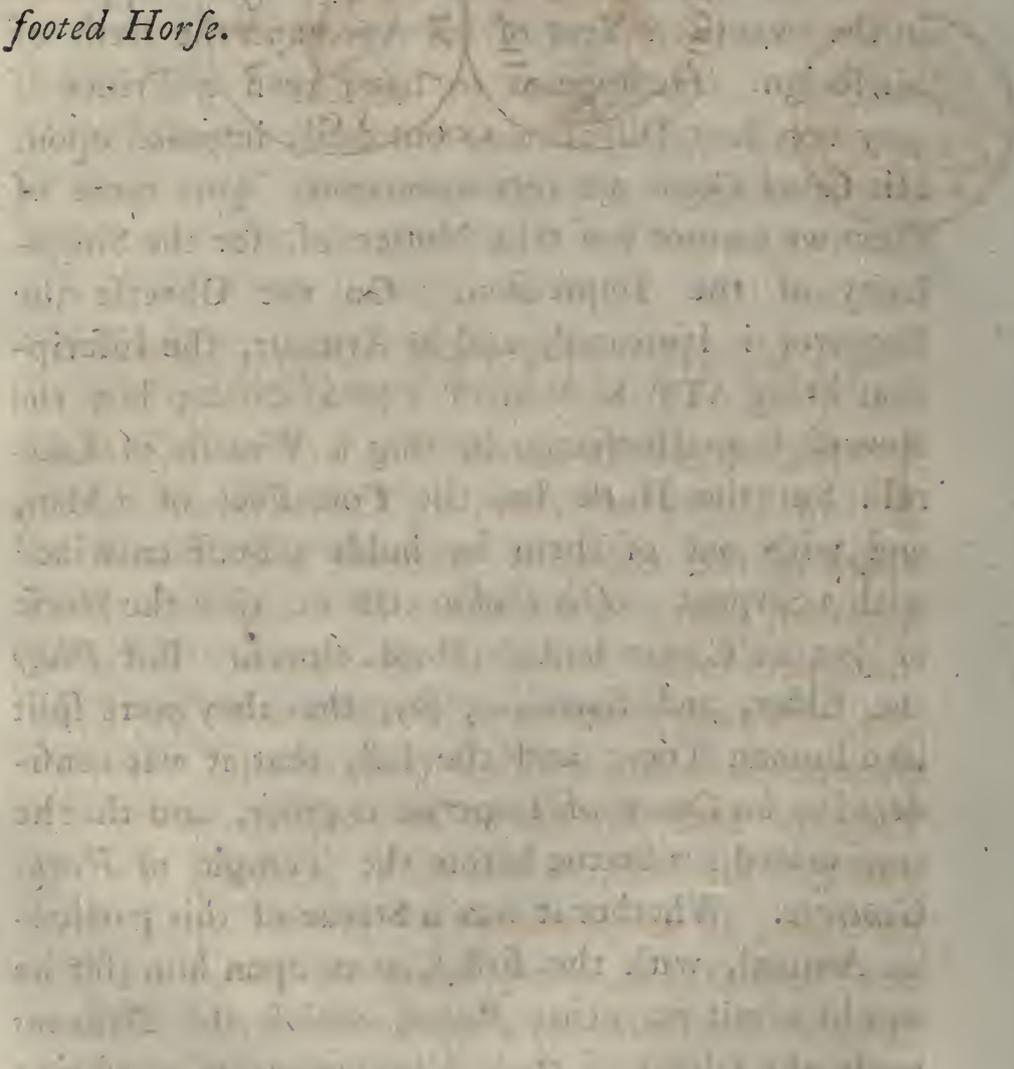
equal Authority. But this too was refused by the Faction. He even condescended to entreat that he might be considered as CAESAR only, or as Commander of the Guards, or lastly, as an inferior Officer. But all these Motions were rejected. He was ordered away, and seen no more. This happened in the twentieth Year of his Age, and the sixth of his Reign. He appears to have been a Prince of very excellent Disposition, but easily imposed upon. His *Greek* Coins are very numerous. One more of them we cannot but take Notice of, for the Singularity of the Impression. On the Obverse the Emperor is laureated, and in Armour, the Inscription being ΑΥΤ Κ Μ ΑΝΤ ΓΟΡΔΙΑΝΟΣ; but the Reverse is an Horseman bearing a Wreath of Laurel: but the Horse has the Fore-Foot of a Man, and with one of them he holds a Staff entwined with a Serpent. *Dio Cassius* tells us, that the Horse of JULIUS CÆSAR had his Hoofs cloven. But *Pliny* the Elder, and *Suetonius*, say, that they were split like human Toes; and the last, that it was considered as an Omen of Imperial Dignity, and that he consecrated his Statue before the Temple of *Venus Genetrix*. Whether it was a Statue of this particular Animal, with the first CÆSAR upon him (for he would admit no other Rider) which the *Niceans* made the Object of their Veneration, as presaging

YOUNGEST  
GORDIAN.

PL. XLIX. 6.

YOUNGEST  
GORDIAN.

the perpetual Empire of the *Cæsars*, must be left to the more intelligent Reader. But the *Æsculapian Staff*, without Doubt, insinuates their good Wishes for the Health and Safety of the Emperor. The Legend is ΠΙΠΙΟΝ ΒΡΟΤΟΠΟΔΑ ΝΙΚΑΙΕΩΝ (πολις σεβεται, understood) *The Niceans venerate the human-footed Horse.*



M A R C U S



MARCUS JULIUS PHILIPPUS.

FROM the Death of GORDIAN to the Reign of VALERIAN, there is a Chasm of nine or ten Years in the *Augustan* Writers: but *Zonaras* informs us, that, on the News of GORDIAN'S Death, the Senate made Choice of one MARCUS to succeed him, a Senator studious of Wisdom and Philosophy. *Goltzius* mentions a single Coin of him, with the Title of IMP CAES M MARCIVS AVG PM TR P. He died, or was slain, presently after his Election; in whose room they pitched upon SEVERUS HOSTILIANUS, who, being let Blood for some Disorder, died instantly after the Operation. We have, in *Goltzius*, the Inscription of a single Coin of him

PHILIP.

X x 2 also,

PHILIP.

also, IMP CAES L AVR. SEV. HOSTILIANVS  
AVG PM TR P. But PHILIP had been pro-  
claimed AUGUSTUS by the Army in *Syria*, and was  
now recognized by the Senate. His Medal of Gold  
therefore calls him IMP PHILIPPVS AVG, and

Pl. XLIX. 7.

has for the Reverse ROME seated, with the *Hasta  
pura* in the left Hand, and in the right a *Victory*,  
holding out a Wreath, with the Legend ROMAE  
AETERNAE. His *Denarius* bears the same Title,

Pl. XLIX. 8.

the Reverse of which celebrates the Fidelity of the  
Army to himself (to which his Advancement was  
owing) by the Representation of a legionary Eagle,  
two Ensigns, and a *Manipulus*. His Son, then  
seven Years old, was declared CÆSAR, and *Prince*

Pl. XLIX. 9.

*of the Youth*. For the Medal of Gold, with his  
plain Head, calls him M IVL PHILIPPVS CAES,  
and shews him, standing, on the Reverse, with a  
Globe and armed Spear in his Hand, inscribed  
PRINCIPI IVVENTVTIS.

PHILIP, having made Peace with the *Persians*,  
returned to *Rome*, where his Courtesy and excellent  
Government gained him the Good-will of all  
Ranks. The next Year beheld him Consul. After  
which he undertook an Expedition against the  
*Carpi*, who had invaded the *Roman* Territories.  
He gained two Victories, and prescribed to the  
Enemy the Terms of Peace. This done, he entered  
upon

upon his second Consulate, and took his Son for his Colleague in that Dignity: nor rested here, but conferred upon him the Tribunitial Power also; and the Title of AUGUSTUS; by which he became, young as he was, the Partner of his Sovereignty. The next Year also they retained the Fasces; so that the Father was then Consul a third, and the Son a second Time, when the *Sæcular Games* were once more celebrated, in the thousandth Year of *Rome*, for three Days and Nights together. Several Medals record this Event, and the Imperial Munificence on the Occasion. On one of them appears the Temple of *Jupiter*, then resorted to with much Solemnity, as usual; and the Legend SAECVLVM NOVVM. S C. On a second it is distinguished as the MILLIARIVM SAECVLVM; and a Column in the Center of the Reverse bespeaks him COS III, with the S C in the Area. A third, with a like Column, refers to the Games, calling them the SAECVLARES AVG. We have also the SAECVLARES AVGG, with the Column inscribed COS II, on a Coin of young PHILIP; on the obverse Side of which is his laureate Head, with the Titles of IMP. and AVG. The same we have, as well as the MILLIARIVM SAECVLVM, on Reverses of the Empress also. A Congiary ministered additional Joy to the Season; for on one

Pl. XLIX. 10.  
Pl. XLIX. 11.  
Pl. XLIX. 12.  
Pl. XLIX. 15.  
Pl. XLIX. 14.

of

PHILIP. of his Coins we see the two Emperors and the Em-  
press seated, as Witneffes of the Distribution, with  
Pl. XLIX. 13. LIBERALITAS AVGG. On another, the Father  
and Son are seated, as attending to the magnificent  
Shews then exhibited. Of those proper to the  
Amphitheatre, we have a Kind of Bill of Fare:  
for at the Death of GORDIAN, there were in *Rome*  
two-and-thirty Elephants, ten Elks, ten Tygers,  
fixty tame Lions, thirty tame Leopards, ten Hyænaæ,  
one River-Horse, and one Rhinoceros; ten fierce  
Lions, ten Camelopards, twenty wild Asses, forty  
wild Horses, with a vast Number of other Beasts;  
all which were either now slain, or exposed to the  
Direption of the People. To which we must add  
a thousand Pair of Gladiators, to compleat the public  
Entertainment.

But far more praiseworthy and superior to all  
Pomp was the Edict which he published, strictly  
prohibiting the Practice of unnatural Lust. ALEX-  
ANDER SEVERUS had Thoughts of making this Re-  
gulation, but it was reserved for the Reign of  
PHILIP. This Crime had disgraced the Government  
of the most virtuous Emperors; and from the rest  
had received all Manner of Encouragement, to the  
Dishonour of Humanity. It is to be lamented, that  
the Insinuation of this Practice is too much inter-  
woven with the Learning of our Schools; and it  
were

were to be wished, that no Editions of the Classics should be admitted there, but such as shall have undergone a proper Expurgation in this Respect. It was, probably, with an Eye to this Prohibition, that the *Antiochians* of *Caria* struck Coins in Honour of the Imperial Family, having the *three Furies* for the Reverse, which also contained a Lesson to the same Purpose. We have them on those of the Empress and the Son; and they were, without Doubt, on those of the Father also. These Avengers of Wickedness are *Alecto*, *Tisiphone*, and *Megæra*. Their Objects are *Rage*, *Avarice*, and *Lust*. Their Station is before the adamantine Gates of *Tartarus* :

*Carceris ante fores clausas adamante sedebant.* OVID.

Their Heads are tutulated, they are girt under the Paps, and their black Robes descend as low as their brazen Feet. They are armed with their respective Instruments of Punishment; one of them holding a Serpent in one Hand, and a Key in the other, as *the Portress of Hell Gates*; another brandishes her burning Torches; and the third displays the Scourge and Ponyard: Pl. XLIX. 16.

*Verbera torta dabunt sonitum, nexæque colubris  
Conscia fumabunt semper ad ora faces;  
His vitæ Furiis agitabere, mortuus iisdem.* OVID.

Mad shalt thou hear the sounding Lash, and dread  
 The Brands and Serpents hissing round thy Head ;  
 These Furies shall be thine, alive and dead. }

At their Feet are two Dogs ;

——— *Viseque canes ululare per umbras.* VIRG.

And obscene Bitches howl'd along the Gloom.

This reminds me of a beautiful Passage in our most excellent *Shakespeare* ;

And *Cesar's* Spirit, ranging for Revenge,  
 With *Ate* by his Side, come hot from Hell,  
 Shall in these Confines, with a Monarch's Voice,  
 Cry Havoc, and let slip the Dogs of Hell.

The next Year the Eastern Provinces, discontented with the Government of *Priscus*, the Emperor's Brother, set up one *Iotapianus*, whom *Zosimus* calls *Papianus*, for Emperor; who was quickly dispatched by his own Creators. The *Moesians* and *Pannonians* at the same Time promoted *Carvilius Marinus*. *Goltzius* mentions a Coin of this Mock-Emperor, inscribed IMP C P CARVILIUS MARINVS AVG, and another *Greek* one to the same Purpose: and it should seem, by a third, produced by *Seguinus*, with the Inscription ΘΕΩ ΜΑΡΙΝΩ, *Deo Marino*, that he must have been afterwards deified by *Decius*, from Prejudice

to

to PHILIP. To put an End to these Disturbances, the Emperor obliged *Decius* (for he was unwilling) of whose Courage and Experience he had the highest Opinion, to take upon him the Government of *Pannonia*; whither he was no sooner come, than the rebellious Soldiers, to avoid the Punishment due to their Demerits, and engage the Favour of a new Emperor, slew *Marinus*, and compelled *Decius* to assume the Purple. Such is the Account of *Zosimus*, the Enemy of PHILIP, for his Affection to Christianity, and the Admirer of *Decius*, for his violent Persecution of it. *Decius* immediately collected all the Forces that he could, and marched against PHILIP, who, in the Action that ensued, was defeated and slain. And the Prætorian Guards at *Rome*, with whom he had left his Son, receiving Intelligence of this, put an End to *his* Life also.

PHILIP was born at *Bostra* in *Arabia*, and is said in his Youth to have been the Chief of one of their prædatory Gangs, which was esteemed a most honourable Post in that Nation. He is said to have been afterwards a Convert to Christianity, and to have done Penance for his Treason against GORDIAN. His Wife was MARCIA OTACILIA SEVERA, so named on her Medals, with the Title of AUGUSTA. A *Piety* is the Reverse of one of them in Gold, and a *Gbaftity* of another, which is very elegant, in Bronze. Pl. XLIX. 17. Pl. XLIX. 18.

VOL. II.

Y y

The

PHILIP.

The last is on her *Denarius* also. These were in Character, being due to her Religion and Modesty, which were such as became that Christianity which she professed. The young Emperor had also been baptized; and was of so serious a Countenance, as to be never seen to laugh. And when his Father, at the Sæcular Games, once laughed aloud, he was observed to turn away his Face with manifest Displeasure. The Father was scarce more than six-and-forty Years old when he fell, after a Reign of between five and six Years: and his Son was slain in the thirteenth Year of his Age. His Government had been so agreeable to the Senate, that, maugre the Offence which it might give to his Successor, they decreed to him and his Son the Compliment of Deification. This is evident, from a Silver Medal, which has on one Side his Head, with a radiated Crown, and IMP PHILIPPVS AVG; and for the Reverse an Elephant, with his Rider, and the Legend AETERNITAS AVGG. We must not dismiss this Reign, without taking Notice of a curious Medallion, which has given Occasion to a particular Treatise, written in Vindication of it, being considered by the Author, Mr. *Bryant*, as a traditional Evidence of the *Mosaic* Flood. On the Face of it is the laureate Head of the Emperor  
 PHILIP,





PHILIP.

PHILIP, with ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΙΟΥΛΙΟΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΣ ΑΥΓΟΥΣΤΟΣ, *Imperator Julius Philippus Augustus*. For the Reverse we see an Ark upon the Waters, containing two Persons, a Man and a Woman, the latter being veiled. The same Persons are also represented as being just landed, and with uplifted Hands witnessing some extraordinary Emotion. On the Roof of the Ark sits a Dove, and another is in the Air, upon the Wing, with a Branch in its Bill. In the Front of the Ark, and under the Man, are the Letters ΝΩΕ. The Legend is ΕΠΙ ΜΑΡΧΩ ΑΥΡΕΛΙΩ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Β ΑΡΧΙΕΡΕΩΣ ΑΠΑΜΕΩΝ, *Sub Marco Aurelio Alexandro iterum Archifacerdote Apamensium*. A Reverse of SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS has the same Device, except that the Woman is not veiled. The Medallion before us is in the *Pembrokian* Collection, and needs no further Explanation. The Reading is authenticated by the Legend of another Reverse of the *Apameans*, which runs ΕΠΙ Μ ΑΥΡ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Β ΒΕΛΤΙΣΤΩ ΑΡΧΙ ΑΠΑΜΕΩΝ, *Sub Marco Aurelio Alexandro iterum Optimo Archifacerdote Apamensium*. The *Apamea*, where the Coin was struck, was the City of that Name, on the *Meander*, in *Phrygia*, the Region in which they supposed the Ark to have rested. It was also called *Κιβωτος*, which is the Name of the Ark itself. And here, as indeed throughout

Pl. L. I.

Y y 2 that

THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

PHILIP.

that whole Region, Rites and Ceremonies were practised, as Memorials of the Flood, and of the Deliverance of the Patriarch and his Family, for the Renovation of Mankind.



CNEUS



CNEUS MESSIUS QUINTUS TRAJANUS  
DECIVS.

**D**ECIVS was now acknowledged Emperor by the Senate and People, and hastened to *Rome*. Yet he justly enough ascribed his Promotion to the Genius of the Army in *Illyricum*; which, therefore, became the Reverse of the Coin prefixed. On his Medal of Gold he is laureated, with IMP TRAIANVS DECIVS AVG, and gives for the Reverse his *Victory*, with a Palm-Branch and Wreath, terming it the VICTORIA AVGVSTI. His *Denarius* covers him with a radiated Crown, and IMP C M Q TRAIANVS DECIVS AVG; celebrating his Arrival on the Reverse, with the usual Representation

DECIVS.

Pl. L. 2.

Pl. L. 3.

DECIVS.

presentation of himself on Horseback, with the *Hasta pura* in his left Hand, and holding out his right towards the City, with ADVENTVS AVG.

Pl. L. 4.

That a Congiary succeeded his Arrival is manifest from his Reverse, which shews a female Figure with a *Cornucopiæ* in her left Hand, and a *Tessera* in the right, marked with six Dots, who in the Legend is called the LIBERALITAS AVG. S C.

Pl. L. 5.

His Wife was HERENNIA ETRUSCILLA, entitled, on her Medal of Bronze, AVGVSTA, with a *Chastity* veiled for the Reverse; who is seated, and holds a Torch in her left Hand, with PVDICITIA AVG. S.C.

There is the same Device on her Medal of Gold and *Denarius*. But an Inscription in *Gruter* calls her, GNAEA SEIA HERENNIA SALLVSTIA BARBIA ORBIANA; and on the Coin before us, she is SALLVSTIA BARBIA ORBIANA AVG.: the Reverse of which is a *Concord*, with a *Patera* and double *Cornucopiæ*, stiled the CONCORDIA AVGG. She had a Daughter, who became the Wife of *Volusianus*, who also on some Coins is named CN. SEIA SALL. BARBIA ORBIANA AVG; and on others, HERENNIA ETRVSCILLA AVG. By her he had four Sons, who were all declared *Cæsars*; and the two eldest, at least, *Princes of the Youth*. These are distinguished on Coins by the Names of *Herennius*, *Hostilianus*,

DECIVS.

Pl. L. 6.

Pl. L. 7.

Pl. L. 8.

Pl. L. 9.

*Etruscus*, and *Quintus*. The first appears on a Medal of Silver, with a radiated Crown, and is called HERENNIVS ETRV MES QVINTVS DECIVS CAESAR; and bears for his Reverse the Symbol of *Pannonia*, the native Country of the Family, with an Ensign in one Hand, and in the other a wild Boar, with which Animal the Country abounded. His *Denarius* is also radiated, and inscribed QHER ETR MES DECIVS NOBILIS Cæsar; and on the other Side is the Figure of *Mercury*, with a Purse in one Hand, as the God of Gain or Merchandize, and the *Caduceus* in the other; and here the Legend is PIETAS AVGG: for they were proud of being called the Patrons of Heathenism or Idolatry, which they miscalled *Piety*, as they degraded Christianity with the Appellation of *the Impiety*. A third Medal of this Prince has his Head plain, with the same Inscription; and exhibits him standing, on the Reverse, with an armed Spear and Horseman's Rod, and the Legend PRINCIPI IVVENTVTIS S.C. The second Son is also seen on his *Denarius*, with a radiated Crown, and CN. VALENS HOSTILIANVS MESIVS QVINTVS CAESAR; but the Device of the Reverse is borrowed from the late Reign, being the Temple of *Jupiter*, with SAECVLVM NOVVM. But a Medal with his plain Head, and C. VALENS HOSTIL MES QVINTVS

DECIVS.

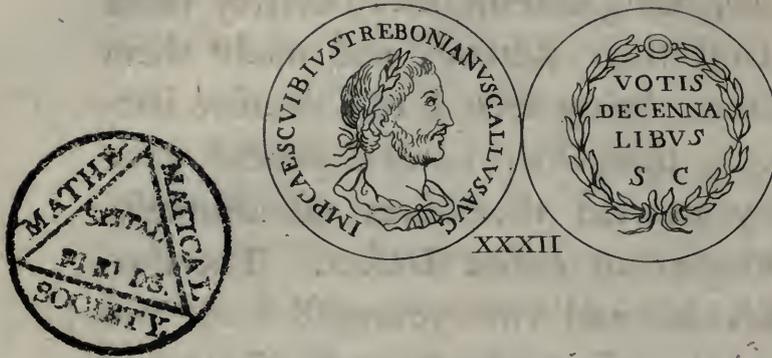
Pl. L. 10.

Pl. L. 11.

QVINTVS AVGVSTI, has him seated on the Reverse, and the Legend there is PRINCIPI IVVENTVTIS. The Heads of the two youngest appear on one Coin, and are both radiated, with the Inscription ETRVSCVS ET QVINTVS CAESS. Yet only one of them stands on the Reverse, in the military Habit, with the *Hasta pura*; and the Legend informs us, that the Coin was struck at *Jerusalem*, which was now a *Roman Colony*, and known by the Name of the COLONIA AELIA KAPITOLINA.

The first Year of this Reign was marked with a most unmerciful Persecution of the *Christians*, in which the Bishops of *Rome*, *Antioch*, and *Jerusalem*, suffered Martyrdom: in the Heat of which, the *Goths* and the *Carpi* invaded the Lower *Mæsia*. Against them the Emperor's eldest Son marched with a powerful Army, and gained some Advantages at first, but soon after received a most dreadful Overthrow, himself hardly escaping. The Barbarians were encouraged and supported by PRISCUS, who assumed the Purple in *Macedonia*. This brought the Emperor into the Field in Person; and at this Time probably he conferred upon his Son the *Tribunitial Power*. For a Coin is spoken of by *Goltzius*, inscribed IMP CAE QHER ETR MESS DECIVS AVG. PRISCUS, who was the Brother of the late Emperor,

Emperor, was soon after slain, and DECIVS, if we may believe his Panegyrist *Zosimus*, defeated the Enemy in several Engagements, and recovered all the Plunder; but, being determined to destroy them utterly, he cut off their Retreat, and made them desperate: so that, being forced to a decisive Battle, and knowing that their Lives depended upon the Issue, they exerted themselves astonishingly, and gave the *Romans* an entire Defeat. The Emperor, with his eldest and two youngest Sons, was slain: and to this fatal Event his Successor GALLUS is said to have contributed not a little by his Treachery. Be that as it will, he was honoured with an Apotheosis by the Senate: for one of his Coins is inscribed DIVO DECIO AVG. He reigned little more than two Years, and was near sixty when he perished.



### CAIUS VIBIUS TREBONIANUS GALLUS.

TREB. GALLVS.

ON Advice of DECIUS' Death, PERPENNA was declared AUGUSTUS by the Senate, with the great Good-will of the People. There is one Coin of him existing, according to *Goltzius*, inscribed IMP. CAES AVFidius PERPENNA LICINIANus AVG PM TR P PP. But this Emperor died presently after his Inauguration. Therefore GALLUS, who commanded a separate Army on the *Danube*, and made haste to succour those who escaped the late Carnage, being, by the Consent of all the Troops, proclaimed Emperor, was acknowledged such at home. His Medal of Gold is inscribed IMP CAE C VIB TREB GALLVS AVG; and on the other Side,

Side, the *Providence* that raised him is delineated, holding a Globe and Torch, and is stiled the PRO-VIDENTIA AVGVSTI. Vows were made for a happy *Decennium*, as we see on the Frontispiece; and his Son *Volusianus* was honoured with the Titles of *Cæsar*, and *Prince of the Youth*. As such we see him wearing a radiated Crown, with IMP CAE C VIB VOLVSIANO AVGVSTI; and seated on the Reverse, with a Laurel-Branch in his Hand, and PRINCIPi IVVENTutis. We find his Empress recorded on one *Greek* and one *Roman* Medal, by the Name and Title of HOSTILIA SEVERA AVG. He married his Son to HERENNIA ETRUSCILLA, the Daughter of the late Emperor. On the Coin before us she bears the Title of AUGUSTA; and has a *Chastity*, seated, for the Reverse, but much more loosely figured than we have hitherto observed it; on one Side is a Goddess, resting on a *standing Column*, with a *Caduceus* in her Hand, the Emblem of *Security* and *Felicity*; and on the other stands *Hygieia*, with her *Serpent*, the Symbol of *Health*: the Legend is PVDICITIA AVGVSTAE. Hostilian was the only remaining Son of DECIUS. Him, with the Consent of the Senate, GALLUS adopted, conferring upon him the *Tribunitial Power*, and the Title of AUGUSTUS. Therefore on his Medal of Bronze we see him laureated, with IMP

TRES. GALLVS.

Pl. L. 12.

Pl. L. 13.

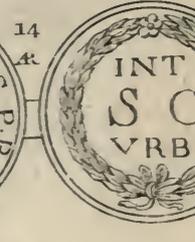
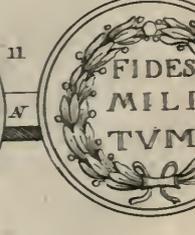
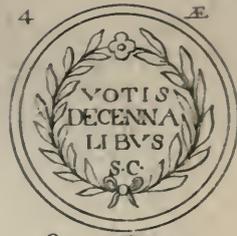
Pl. L. 14.

Pl. L. 15.

Z z 2

CAE

- TRIB. GALLVS. CAE C VAL HOS MES QVINTVS AVG; and for his Reverse *Security*, leaning on a *standing Column*, with SECVRITAS AVGG. But on his Medal of Gold he wears a radiated Crown, with C VALENS HOSTIL MES QVINTVS AVG.;
- Pl. L. 16. the Reverse of which claims the God *Mars* for his Protector, with the Legend MARTI PROPVG-NATORI. Certainly these were indubitable Testimonies of his profound Regard for the Memory of the late Emperor, and weigh down the Testimony of *Zosimus*: for which Reason we give Credit to those who say that HOSTILIAN really died of the Plague the following Year, as was given out, and not by the Treachery of GALLUS; at which Time *Volusianus*, then Consul with his Father, was declared AUGUSTUS, and invested with the *Tribunitial Power*. So that we now behold his curious Medal of Bronze laureated, and inscribed IMP CAE C
- Pl. L. 17. VIB VOLVSIANO AVG; on the Reverse of which is the CONCORDIA AVGG, with the *Patera* and double *Cornucopiae*. His *Denarius*, with a radiated Crown, has the same Title, with a Temple and
- Pl. L. 18. Deity for the Reverse, inscribed IVNONI MARTIALI. But his Medal of Gold, with the Head laureated, and inscribed in the same Manner, has
- Pl. L. 19. for the Reverse a *Piety*, veiled, with the Hands held up, and PIETAS AVG. Amongst the *Greek Coins*  
of





of this Reign, there are some which have the Heads TREB. GALLVS. of both the Father and the Son laureated: over the former, AVTOK K Γ OYIB TPET ΓAΛΛOC CEB, *Imperator Cæsar Caius Vibius Trebonianus Gallus Augustus*; and over the latter, OTOAOYCIANOC CEB, *Volusianus Augustus*. The Reverse is the GENIUS of the City of *Antioch*, with a Swimmer underneath, representing the *Orontes*, and the Legend ANTIOXEQN MHTPOKOΛQN, *Antiochiensium Metropolitanorum Colonia*. Pl. I. 20.

GALLUS made Peace with the *Goths*, and even suffered them to retire with their Booty and Prisoners of Rank, promising withal an annual Stipend, if they kept the Peace. For this he is censured, probably without Reason; for, considering the Weakness of the Empire, from the Loss of two such considerable Armies as had been lately cut off by the same Enemy, it seems to have been necessary for him to close with such Terms as could be obtained. To add to the public Calamity, the late Edict against the *Christians* was enforced with all Severity; and the Plague raged with unremitting Violence. The common Wish that it might cease is expressed on his *Denarius*; on the Reverse of which is the Goddess *Hygieia*, holding out her *Patera* to the Serpent, arising from his Repository or Chest, with the Legend

Pl. LI. 1.

TREB. GALLVS. Legend SALVS AVGG. Great Part of the Empire was at the same Time distressed with Famine; and some of the Barbarians passed the *Danube*, while others invaded *Asia*. The *Persians* too crossed the *Euphrates*, plundered *Syria*, and made themselves Masters of *Antioch*, its Capital. All the Sense that GALLUS entertained of these Invasions was expressed in the Restitution of the Temple of *Mars* at *Rome*,  
 Pl. LI. 2. which forms one of his Reverses, with the Legend DEO MARTI. But *Aemilianus*, Governor of *Moesia*, collecting what Strength he could, ventured a Battle, obtained a Victory, and cleared his Province of the Enemy. He was in Consequence proclaimed AUGUSTUS by the Troops, and instantly marched for *Italy*. The Emperor, advised of this, gave Directions for the *Gallic* and *German* Legions, under the Command of *Valerian*, to move to his Assistance. But *Aemilianus* advanced too hastily to admit of it. The two Emperors, therefore, with all the Power they could assemble, met him at no great Distance from *Rome*. But their Troops, observing their own Inferiority, prevented a Defeat by slaying their own Emperors, and joining *Aemilianus*. Thus the Reign of GALLUS was of eighteen Months Duration only. Both the Father and the Son were afterwards deified, as is evident from the Medal of  
 Silver,

Silver, which bears the Head of the former radiated, TREB. GALLVS.  
 with IMP C III REB GALLVS AVG; and on the  
 Reverse a Goddess, with a Globe in her right Hand, Pl. LI. 3.  
 on which a *Phœnix* rests, with AETERNITAS  
 AVGG.



CAIUS



## CAIUS JULIUS AEMILIUS AEMILIANUS.

AEMILIANVS.

**A**EMILIANUS, on his Arrival at *Rome*, was received with all Veneration. The Decree, which had declared him an Enemy, was rescinded. He was invested with the Imperial Power and Honours. Vows were made for an happy *Decennium*, as appears from the Reverse, with VOTIS DECENNALIBVS S C. inclosed in a Wreath of Laurel, as well as by the Act itself, expressed upon a different Coin, by the Priest veiled, with a *Patera* in his Hand, and an Altar before him; as was the general *Hope* of an auspicious Government, by the SPES PVBLICA, holding out her *Lilly*. According to some Writers, it was moderate and mild; according to

Pl. LI. 4.

Pl. LI. 5.

Pl. LI. 6.

to others, military and tyrannical. On the fine Medal prefixt, he is laureated, and celebrates his Victory. On another of Silver, he ascribes it AEMILIANVS. Pl. LI. 7.  
 DIANAЕ VICTRICI, and the Goddeſs is armed with her Bow and Arrow, and buſkin'd for the Chace. On this he wears a radiated Crown, with IMP AEMILIANVS PIVS FEL AVG; as on his Denarius alſo, which is inſcribed MARTI PRO- Pl. LI. 8.  
 PVGna Tori. One of his Coins is impreſſed with Pl. LI. 9.  
 the Figure of the *Peace* which he hoped for, having a *Cornucopiæ* in her Hand, and a *Globe* at her Feet. But this was Self-Adulation; for the *Gallic* and *German* Legions had now proclaimed their Leader, *Valerian*, Emperor, whoſe Character was ſuperior to that of any Perſon in the *Roman* Empire. When, therefore, the Forces at home were aſſured of this, they fell upon AEMILIANVS, and ſlew him in his own Palace at *Spoletum*, after a ſhort Reign of three Months. He was a *Moor* by Birth, and had raiſed himſelf to the firſt Employments by his perſonal Bravery.

# THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

to others, military and tyrannical. On the fine  
 Medal prefix, he is laureated, and celebrates his  
 Victory. On another of Silver, he ascribes it  
 DIANA VICTORIS and the Goddess is armed



PUBLIUS LICINIUS VALERIANUS.  
 PUBLIUS LICINIUS GALLIENUS.

VALERIAN  
 AND  
 GALLIENVS.

“ THE Life of VALERIAN is a Censure. Let  
 “ him judge of all, who is worthier than  
 “ all. Let him be Cenfor of the Senate, who is  
 “ faultless himself; whose Prudence; Modesty, and  
 “ Gravity become the Senator; the Friend of good  
 “ Men, the Foe of Tyrants, the Enemy of Vice,  
 “ illustrious by Descent, of correct Life, eminent  
 “ for Learning, singular in Morals, the Example  
 “ of Antiquity.” Such was the universal Cry of  
 the Senate, when DECIUS recommended to them  
 the Election of a Cenfor. And had all the Subjects  
 of the *Roman* World been vested with the Power of  
 choosing

choosing an Emperor, VALERIAN had been the Man, without one dissenting Voice. Such was his established Character and Popularity when he succeeded to the Imperial Dignity. Immediately he took his eldest Son GALLIENUS as his Colleague, both in the Consulate and Sovereignty. On his Medal of Gold he is laureated, with IMP C P LIC VALERIANVS P F AVG; and inscribes the Reverse IOVI CONSERVATORI, *To Jupiter the Preserver*; who in his left Hand holds the *Hasta pura*, and grasps the Thunder in his right. But the Head of his Son is radiated, with IMP GALLIENVS P F AVG; and he bears for his Reverse the FIDES MILITVM inclosed in a Wreath of Laurel. This Fidelity of the Soldiers is celebrated on several Reverses of the latter; on one of which appear an Eagle, Ensign, and *Manipulus*, with FIDEI PRAETORIANORVM; and on another he stands, having a *Patera* in one Hand, and a *Cornucopiae* in the other, with an Ensign fixt by him, and the same Legend. But on a third, which has the Figure of *Neptune* with his *Trident*, and a Dolphin, it is particularly applied to the thirtieth and sixth Legions, distinguished as the LEGIO XXX VLPia, and the VI Pia VI Fidelis; though this be the only Instance that I have seen of the sixth Legion distinguished either as the *Pia*, *Fidelis*, or *Felix*. For GALLIENUS a Statue was

VALERIAN  
 AND  
 GALLIENVS

Pl. LI. 10.

Pl. LI. 11.

Pl. LI. 12.

Pl. LI. 13.

VALERIAN  
AND  
GALLIENVS.

contrived, resembling the Sun, but which doubled the usual Size of a Colossus. The Hint of this was probably taken from a Coin struck on his Arrival, by Order of the Senate; which, according to *Patin*, has the exact Lineaments of his Face, surrounded by the Solar Rays, turrated, and stiled the GENIVS P R *Populi Romani*: the Reverse is a Wreath, inclosing INTrans VRBem S C. This Notion of a *Genius*, particularly as applied to the City of Rome, is finely ridiculed by *Prudentius contra Symmach.* lib. 2, l. 442.

*Romam dico viros, quos mentem credimus urbis;*  
*Non Genium, cujus frustra simulatur imago:*  
*Quanquam cur Genium Romæ mihi fingitis unum?*  
*Cum portis, domibus, thermis, stabulis, soleatis*  
*Adsignare suos Genios, perque omnia membra*  
*Urbis, perque locos, Geniorum millia multa*  
*Fingere, ne propriâ vacet angulus ullus ab umbrâ.*

The Men, who dwell there, make the City's Mind;  
No *Genius*, with a Form in vain design'd:  
And why to Rome a single *Genius* give?  
Since to the different Quarters where ye live,  
To Gates, and Domes, the Mansions of each Tribe,  
And Baths, a several *Genius* ye ascribe;  
With thousand *Genii* thus the Town endow,  
And scarce a Corner wants its *Genius* now.

GALLIENUS was the Fruit of a former Marriage. The present Empress was MARINIANA, who, after her Death, received the Honour of Consecration.

For we have her curious Medal in Bronze, with VALERIAN AND GALLIENVS. veiled; with a Peacock, having his Tail displayed, for the Reverse, and the Word CONSECRATIO. Pl. LI. 15.

But on her *Denarius* her Head is supported by a *Crescent*, and the same Bird is on the Wing, bearing her to Heaven. By her, VALERIAN had several Children, the eldest of whom was called by his own Name; and to him the usual Distinctions were now decreed by the Senate: since on one of his Medals we read P LIC VALERIANVS CAESAR; Pl. LI. 17.

on the Reverse of which he stands, in the military Habit, with Spear and Globe, having the Legend PRINCIPI IVVENTutis, and in the Area S C. His *Denarius* shews him radiated, with VALERIA- Pl. LI. 18.

NVS CAES: the Reverse is inscribed IOVI CRESCENTI; who is mounted on the Goat that nourished him. And this young Prince did indeed live to be Emperor. On other Coins he is stiled NOBilis CAESAR.

VALERIAN, on his Accession, studied to justify the great Opinion which the World had conceived of him. His Deference to the Senate secured to him the Esteem of that venerable Body, and his Care to alleviate the public Burdens won the Affections of the People; which were also promoted by their joint Liberality to them and to the Soldiers, which is recorded.

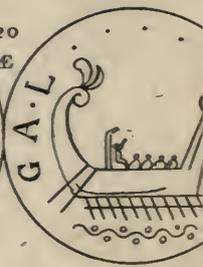
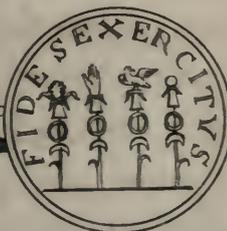
VALERIAN  
AND  
GALLIENVS.

Pl. LI. 19.

Pl. LII. 1.

recorded on two several Coins, bearing their Heads aduerse, with *CONCORDIA AVGVSTORVM*, with the *LIBERALITAS AVGG* expressed on the one by *Liberality* treading on a Globe, with her *Cornucopiæ* and *Tessera*, and on the other by the usual Form of a Distribution or Congiary. Persons of Merit only were preferred. Disorders were no sooner known than regulated, and the wisest Provisions made for their future Prevention. But the Arts of Peace were too sadly depressed, by the Interruption of Enemies on the *Rhine*, *Danube*, and *Euphrates*. Against the first, *Aurelian* distinguished himself. But it was judged necessary for *GALLIENVS*, who was then Consul the second, as his Father was the third, Time, to take the Field in Person; and he gave the *Germans* an entire Defeat; so that we now read around his laureate Head impressed on Gold, *IMP. GALLIENVS P F AVGGERMANICVS*. Here one Hand is lifted up to engage your Attention to the Importance of the Occasion, and he holds a Globe in the other. On the Reverse he appears in the Character of the *Orient* or rising Sun, in the same Attitude, with *ORIENS AVGG*. On another he is stiled *GERMANICVS MAXVIVS*. The Advantages which he gained over them the next Year were still more considerable. In the same Quarter *Postumus* acquired great

Pl. LII. 2.





VALERIAN  
AND  
GALLIENVS.

Pl. LII. 3.

Pl. LII. 4.

great Reputation. At home the Plague still raged, though all Endeavours were used to keep down the Infection. And these Endeavours are celebrated on a *Denarius* of VALERIAN by the usual Figure of *Hygieia*, with the *Patera* and Serpent, who is called the SALVS AVGG; as it is on several Coins of GALLIENVS also, the Legend of one being OB CONSERVATIONEM SALVTIS.

In the following Year the *Chriftians*, who had hitherto lived quietly under VALERIAN, and even met with Encouragement, were, at the Instigation of *Macrianus*, persecuted with all Acrimony. And this Affliction continued so long as the Authority of VALERIAN did. *Probus*, afterwards Emperor, now pushed the Enemy across the *Danubé*, acquiring Laurels from the *Quadi* and *Sarmatians*; at the same Time that *Aurelian*, who had been removed to the Government of *Illyricum*, drove the *Goths* before him with great Slaughter; and VALERIAN himself marched against the *Persians*, who had widely extended their Arms, and made *Cyriades* Governor of the conquered Countries. This Man, born of a noble and wealthy Family, had, by his abandoned Luxury and Extravagance, incurred the Displeasure of his Father, whom he robbed of an immense Treasure, and then fled into *Persia*, where he was entertained by *Sapor*. Being well acquainted with

VALERIAN  
AND  
GALLIENVS:

with the Country, he became the Conductor of the *Persian* Armies; which, under his Guidance, overran *Syria*, *Cappadocia*, and *Cilicia*. On their Return they had left him behind in full Command, when he assumed the Purple, and the Title of AUGUSTUS. He had murdered his Father in the Plenitude of his Power; and was now, on the Approach of VALERIAN, slain by the Treachery of his own People. He is the first of those who are commonly called the Thirty Tyrants. There is Mention made of a *Greek* Coin of him, with ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΚΥΡΙΑΔΗΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ, and of a *Roman*, with the same Title, IMP C CYRIADES P F AVG.

The *Scythians* had passed the *Bosphorus*, and made great Ravages in *Asia*, whom VALERIAN pursued, to no Purpose; for they retired with their usual Celerity, and carried off their Plunder with them. He marched forward, however, recovering *Cæsarea* and *Tarsus*; and, proceeding to *Syria*, regained Possession of *Antioch*, driving the *Persians* before him.

Pl. LII. 5. This Success is recorded on the Medal, which bears the radiated Head of the Emperor, with IMP VALERIANVS P F AVG; and a *Victory* for the Reverse, with an Eastern Captive at her Feet, and VICTORIA PARTA, or *Parthica*. Thence he advanced into *Mesopotamia*, where some crowned Head was restored to his Dominions by him, whom

we

we see graciously raised from the Ground by the Emperor, in his military Habit, who is honoured with the pompous Title of RESTITVTOR ORBIS. But this was followed by the greatest Dishonour which, since the Misfortune of *Crassus*, had befallen the *Roman* Empire; for, either led into an iniquitous Situation, by the treacherous Advice of *Macrianus*, he was defeated and taken Captive (for the Story is differently told) or, in the Midst of a Conference with *Sapor*, he was perfidiously carried off, and detained a Prisoner.

VALERIAN  
AND  
GALLIENVS.  
PI. LII. 6.

What was the Behaviour of GALLIENUS on this Occasion? Did he instantly dispatch Ambassadors to treat of a Ransom for his Father? Or did he summon the whole Power of the Empire to his Rescue? Neither of these. His Father's Cenforial Authority had been irksome to him; and he was well pleased on these Terms to be rid of such a Monitor. Absorbed in Luxury and Dissipation, he gave himself no Concern about it, nor made the least Provision for the Defence of that Quarter; while the barbarous Nations, who despised his thoughtless and dissolute Life, encouraged by this Event, broke in on every Side. He was in *Gaul* when he received the News of his Father's Captivity. Other Tidings arriving at the same Time, obliged him to hasten his March homewards. For

GALLIENVS. the *Germans* from *Rhætia* had passed the Mountains, and were advancing towards *Rome*; but now hearing of his Return to *Italy*, they judged it Prudence to retire. With the *Goths* and *Sarmatians*, who had passed the *Danube*, *Regillianus*, Governor of *Illyricum*, had several Engagements in one Day; and was busied in the Pursuit of them, when *Ingenneus*, who commanded in *Pannonia*, was proclaimed Emperor by the Troops there. He was a General of established military Character; yet was defeated by GALLIENUS; and, after the Action, either put an End to his own Life, or was slain by his own Soldiers. Some Coins of him are mentioned, with IMP C INGENNVVS AVG; others with IMP C Decimus INGENNVVS P F AVG; and others with IMP C D LAELIUS INGENNVVS P F AVG. GALLIENUS used his Victory with great Cruelty, ordering a general Massacre of the Males in *Moësia*, who had espoused the Interest of *Ingenneus*. On which the Malecontents proclaimed *Regillianus*; but soon after, repenting of what they had done, and dreading the Vengeance of GALLIENUS, they slew him, and submitted. He is stiled on his Coins IMP C Quintus NONIUS REGILLIANUS P F AVG.

But the Revolt of *Postumus* in *Gaul* was of longer Duration. When GALLIENUS was last in that Province,

vince, he left his Son *Saloninus* there, under the Care of one *Sylvanus*; who, when *Postumus* had by a signal Victory delivered the Province from the *Germans*, who invaded it, demanded the whole Spoil in the Name of the young Prince. This so enraged the Troops, that they immediately proclaimed their General. *Sylvanus* and his Pupil were soon after delivered up to him, and put to Death. He was of such Reputation, that *Spain* and *Britain* readily submitted to him. He appears on a Medal of Gold, with a radiated Crown, and the Title of POSTVMVS PIVS AVG. His Reverse, with an Eagle, *Manipulus*, and two Ensigns, is a Compliment to the Army which chose him, having for its Legend FIDES EXERCITVS. His Medals of large Bronze call him IMP Cæsar Marcus CASsius LATIENUS POSTMVS P F AVG; on the Reverse of which he is represented as haranguing the Troops on Horseback, with EXERCITVS A\*\*\*\*. But we have the very same Figures in a smaller Form, and there the Inscription is EXERCITVS ISC, which *Patin* lengthens into *Ischanicus*, and understands by it the Roman Army in *Monmouthshire*, in *Britain*, which gave Name to the *Urbs Legionis ad Iscam*, City of *Caer-Leon-ar-Usk*; by the Assistance of which he is supposed to have gained a Victory. For in the Course of the seven Years that his Authority

GALLIENVS.

Pl. LII. 7.

Pl. LII. 8.

- GALLIENS. lasted, he obtained so many over the *Germans*, that on one of his *Reverses* *Victory* is said to be his Attendant; for she walks familiarly by the Side of his Horse, and with the Wreath in her Hand seems to direct his Way; the Legend being VICTORIA COMES AVG.; but, which is extraordinary, we see the S. C. in the Exergue. Hence it should seem that he had constituted a Senate of his own; for many of the Fathers had fled to him from *Rome*.
- Pl. LII. 9. Another Reverse has a Shield fixed against a Tree, by two *Victories*, with two Captives at the Foot of it, and VICTORIAE AVG. Another has a triumphal Arch, with a Trophy and two Captives on the Top, and FELICITAS AVG.; and here again we meet with the S. C. Another calls him *the Restorer of Gaul*, having before him the Genius of the Province, whom he raises with his Hand; and the Legend is RESTITVTOR GALLIAE. Another, which is singular in its Kind, bears his Head radiated, with MASS LAT POSTVMVS PP AVG.; and has for the Reverse two Captives, at the Foot of a Trophy, which is decorated with Roses; and the Legend (a little injured) GERMANICVS MAXImus. On one of his *Denarii*, on which he is radiated, with IMP. POSTVMVS PIVS AVG, the *Rhine* is decumbent for the Reverse, and the Legend is SALVS PROVINCIARVM; while another
- Pl. LII. 10.
- Pl. LII. 11.
- Pl. LII. 12.
- Pl. LII. 13.
- Pl. LI. 14.

other shews him surrounded with the solar Rays, and stiled the PACATOR ORBIS. Thus was the Roman Empire preserved in the West by his Prudence and Vigour, and restored to its ancient State of Security. Hence Coins were struck by particular Districts, which claimed him as their *Hercules*; so that some, with his Head armed, and VIRTUS POSTVMI, are inscribed HERCVLI DEVSONI-ENSI, as *Patin* supposes, by the People of *Duix*, or *Deutsche*, near *Cologne*; others, HERCVLI MACVSANO, probably by the Inhabitants of *Maesick*, in the Principality of *Liege*; others, HERCVLI INVICTO. On one Reverse he is figured as *Mars*, with PM TR P COS II; and in the Area S C. He had a Son, who for his Bravery and Eloquence bade fair for being the Rival of his Father's Fame, whom he first declared CAESAR, and afterwards AVGVSTVS. He appears with a radiated Crown, like his Father, and with the same Title. His Reverse is a Row-Galley, with a mutilated Legend GAL... FA. He perished at last with his Father, by the Conspiracy of *Lollianus*.

GALLIENVS.

Pl. LII. 15.

Pl. LII. 14.

Pl. LII. 16.

Pl. LII. 17.

Pl. LII. 18.

Pl. LII. 19.

Pl. LII. 20.

In the East, *Sapor* was not wanting to himself, but became Master of *Antioch* once more; and committed dreadful Devastations, not only in *Syria*, but in *Cilicia* and *Cappadocia*. Amongst those who set up for themselves amidst these Distractions,

Zosimus

GALLIENVS.

*Zosimus* speaks of *Aureolus*, *Antoninus*, and many others; who were nearly all cut off, except *Aureolus*. This is undoubtedly the *Antoninus*, whose Memory is preserved on the fine Medal in Bronze before us. His Head is laureated, and he is stiled ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΚΟΥΑΝΙΝΙΟΣ ΑΝΤΩΝΙΝΟΣ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΣ, *Imperator Sulpicius Antoninus Augustus*. The Reverse is a magnificent Temple, with the Figure of *Elagabal*, or the Sun-Image, described already, in the Reign of *Heliogabalus*; and the Legend ΕΜΙΣΩΝ ΚΟΛΩΝΙΑ, *the Colony of Emisa*. What is intended by the Letters in the Exergue, must be left to the Conjecture of others. All that can be said at present is, that *Emisa* was the Scene of his Exaltation, and that he soon died a violent Death, probably by the Hands of his own People; but of the Manner of it History is silent.

The remaining Forces in the East assembled themselves under *Macrianus* and *Balista*, and declared the former Emperor, by the Persuasion of the latter. But he pleading his Inability from Age, they readily joined with him his two Sons, *Macrianus* and *Quietus*, conferring upon them the same Power and Titles. They were of considerable Rank in the Army at this Time; and their Father was possessed of immense Wealth. He is said to have studied Magic; and was probably an *Egyptian*.

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GALLIENVS.

The Coins struck of him there, give him a radiated Crown, and the Title of ΑΥΤ. Κ. Μ ΦΟΥΛΒΙΟΥ ΜΑΚΡΙΑΝΟΥ ΑΥΓΟΥΣΤΟΥ, *Imperator Cæsar Marcus Fulvius Macrianus Augustus*; having for the Reverse the Genius of *Alexandria*, turrited and veiled, with ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΕΙΑ. His two Sons are represented in the same Manner; the first with IMP C FVL MACRIANVS P F AVG; having for the Reverse, *Jupiter the Preserver*, seated, holding a *Patera* and *Hasta pura*, with IOVI CONSERVATORI, as on his *Denarius* also: the last with IMP C FVL QUIETVS P F AVG; and the *Orient Sun* for his Reverse, stretching out one Hand, and holding a *Globe* in the other, with SOLI INVICTO. But on the Reverse of his *Denarius* a female Figure is seated, and inscribed INDVLGENTIAE AVG. These, with the Assistance of *Balista*, who was Captain of the Guards, as he had been to *Valerian*, marched from Province to Province, attacking the *Persians*: where they were least expected; and put great Numbers of them to the Sword. At the same Time *Odenathus*, Prince of *Palmyra*, turned his Arms against them, and they retired with Precipitation. As they passed his Territories, he fell upon their Rear, and did great Execution; so that to secure themselves a quiet Passage over the *Euphrates*, they were forced to purchase it of the *Edeffans*.

Pl. LIII. 2.

Pl. LIII. 3.

Pl. LIII. 4.

GALLIENVS. *Edeffans* with the most valuable Part of their Plunder.

During these Proceedings, *Manius Acilius Aureolus*, Governor of *Illyricum*, assumed the Purple, and marched against *GALLIENUS*, whom he obliged to come to a Treaty with him, that they might join their Forces against *Postumus*. On his Coins he is stiled IMP C AVREOLVS P F AVG, and IMP C M ACIL AVREOLVS P F AVG.

*P. Valerius Valens* was at this Time Proconsul of *Achaia* for *GALLIENUS*, against whom *Macrianus*, desirous of extending his Authority, sent *Piso*, with what he thought a sufficient Number of Forces. But *Piso*, finding himself too weak to cope with him, took up his Quarters in *Thessaly*, where he also assumed the Titles of AVGVSTVS and THES-SALICVS, and where he was soon after slain by the Emiffaries of *Valens*; who shortly after underwent the same Fate himself, from his own Officers. There is a *Greek* Coin of *Valens*, inscribed ΑΥΤ Κ ΠΟΥΒΛΙΟΣ ΟΥΑΛΕΡΙΟΣ ΟΥΑΛΕΝΟΣ; *Imperator Cæsar Publius Valerius Valens*; and another of *Piso*, stiling him ΑΥ Λ ΚΑΛΠΟΥΡΝΙΟΣ ΠΕΙΣΟΝ, *Imperator Lucius Calpurnius Piso*. But the Character of this last was so unexceptionably great, that the Senate, confident of the Approbation even of *GALLIENUS*, decreed his Consecration, together with a triumphal

triumphal Statue, and a quadrigated Car, as Memorials of him. There was another *Valens*, named *Superior*, Great Nephew of him now spoken of; who, after him, set up for himself in *Illyricum*; and, after a Reign but of a few Days, was slain by the Army.

The next Year, while *Odenathus*, having taken in *Mesopotamia*, passed the *Tigris*, and laid Siege to *Ctesiphon*, the Capital of *Sapor*, *Macrianus* and his eldest Son marched against GALLIENUS; and, having crossed the *Hellepont*, were encountered in *Illyricum* by *Domitian*, the Lieutenant of *Aureolus*, by whom they were defeated and slain. *Odenathus*, on this Event, immediately declared for GALLIENUS, and besieged *Quietus* and *Balista*, in the City of *Emesa*. But the Inhabitants, to make their Peace, cut off the Head of *Quietus*; and, throwing it over the Walls, surrendered. This is said to have been done by the Advice of *Balista*, who therefore received his Pardon; and, continuing there with the Troops, was by them soon afterwards declared AUGUSTUS. This produced a dreadful Slaughter of the Inhabitants, who were backward to admit his Title. He was afterwards slain as he lay in his Tent, by one of the common Soldiers of *Odenathus*. Some Coins there are of him, which call

GALLIENVS. him IMP C SERgius ANICius BALISTA P F  
AVG.

All this while Heaven and Earth seemed to concur in heaping Afflictions upon the *Roman* Empire. The *Scythians* invaded *Asia* afresh, destroyed several Cities in *Bitbynia*, and sacked and burned the Capital. A Body of them plundered the Temple of *Diana*, at *Ephesus*. A Sort of Servile War was kindled in *Sicily*, by a numerous Body of Banditti, who were with Difficulty suppressed. A most dreadful Earthquake, and Darkness which continued for many Days; heightened the general Dread. Subterraneous Thunders were heard; and many Buildings, with their Inhabitants, were swallowed up. Many Persons died through Fear. But the Calamity was more terrible in *Asia*. The Shock was felt in *Rome*, and even in *Lybia*. The Sea overwhelmed many Cities, and the Plague made dreadful Ravages. The *Sibylline* Books were inspected, and a Sacrifice decreed to *Jupiter the Salutory*. The *Goths*, occupying *Thrace*, laid waste *Macedonia*, and besieged *Theffalonica*; and *Aemilianus*, who commanded in *Egypt*, usurped the Imperial Purple, seizing upon the Granaries. But *Theodotus*, coming to an Engagement with him, took him alive, and sent him to GALLIENUS, by whose

whose Order he was strangled. On his Coins we read GALLIENVS.  
 IMP C TI CEST ALEX AEMILIANVS  
 AVG.

GALLIENUS now, with *Aureolus* and *Claudius*, afterwards Emperor, began his Expedition against *Postumus*. This last was strongly supported by the *Gauls* and *Franks*, and had admitted *Victorinus* to a Participation of his Power, an Officer of great Activity and Bravery, equal in Valour to *TRAJAN*, to *ANTONINUS* in Clemency, in Gravity to *NERVA*, in Oeconomy to *VESPATIAN*, in Discipline to *PERTINAX* or *SEVERUS*. But these Excellencies were all corrupted by his immoderate Love of Women, which cost him his Life at last. This War was carried on with various Fortune, and drawn out to a considerable Length. In the present Campaign *Postumus* was superior in the first Encounter, and *GALLIENUS* in the second, but it was not decisive.

The Behaviour of *GALLIENUS* at *Byzantium*, whether he marched in the following Year, and which should rather redound to his Praise, is by most Historians turned to his Discredit. But the Fact was, even according to *Trebellius Pollio*, that the Soldiers of *GALLIENUS*, in Garrison there, had sacked the Place, and utterly destroyed the Inhabitants; that he went thither to avenge the Cause of the *Byzantines*, and, not expecting otherwise to

GALLIENVS.

be received within the Walls, promised Pardon to the Soldiers, whom, on his Admission the next Day, he surrounded and put to the Sword contrary to his Engagement. This done, he returned hastily to *Rome*, and celebrated the Conclusion of his first *Decennium*, and the Entrance of his second, with extraordinary Pomp and Magnificence.

At this Time another Commander, by Name *Saturninus*, usurped the Imperial Honours, which he maintained with Dignity for some Time, and was then slain by those who raised him. *Goltzius* takes Notice of one Coin of him, with the Title IMP C SEXtius IVLIus SATVRNINVS AVG. This was in *Egypt*. But *Trebellianus* did the like in *Isauria*. On his Coins he is complimented with the Title of IMP C Caius ANnius TREBELLIANus P F AVG, and was put to Death two Years after. The Example was presently imitated by CELSUS in *Africa*: One of his *Greek* Medals is spoken of, with the Inscription ΑΥΤΟΚ ΤΙΤΟΣ ΚΟΡΝΗΛΙΟΣ ΚΕΑΚΟC ΕΥσεβης ΣεΒασος, *Imperator Titus Cornelius Celsus Pius Augustus*. But his Ambition presently proved fatal to him.

The most popular Act of this Reign was the Investiture of *Odenathus* with the Imperial Purple, to whose Fidelity and Gallantry was principally owing that the *Persians* were not Masters of all *Asia*.

For

For his Activity had been unwearied, and the Enemy was constantly defeated by him in every Engagement. He had sent to *Rome* a great Number of noble Captives; and the Emperor, seizing the Opportunity, demanded a Triumph, of which they were the chief Ornaments. Thus *Odenathus* conquered, and GALLIENUS triumphed. The same Year CENSORINUS, a Man of high Quality, who had gone through all the great Offices of State, and was now far gone in Years, and very lame from a Wound which he had received in VALERIAN'S *Persian* War, and lived peaceably in his Country-house, was proclaimed Emperor by some of the Troops in *Italy*; but being a strict Commander, and suffering no Relaxation from the ancient Discipline, he was presently destroyed by the same Hands that raised him. The Inscription upon his Coin is IMP C APPius CLAVDius CENSORINVS AVG.

The Year following, the brave *Odenathus* was slain by his near Relation *Mæonius*, who usurped his Sovereignty, and presently underwent the same Fate himself. There is one *Greek* Coin of him, with ATT KAIC MOIQNIOC ETC CEB, *Imperator Cæsar Mæonius Pius Augustus*. With *Odenathus* perished, by the same Conspiracy, his eldest Son by a former Wife, whom *Pollio* calls *Herodes*, but who, on some Coins that remain of him, is stiled HERODIANVS.

GALLIENVS. RODIANVS IMPERATOR AVG. Those of his Father run IMP ODENATHVS P F AVG, having Reversees representing the *Persians* taken captive by him. We meet with a *Denarius* of the Conspirator, whereon he wears a radiated Crown, with

Pl. LIII. 5. IMP C MAEONIVS: and has for his Reverse a VENVS *victrix*; for she holds a Spear in one Hand, probably in Compliment to *Zenobia*, who is said to have encouraged his Treason from her Dislike of *Herodian*. This Lady, who was the second Wife of *Odenathus*, is one of the most celebrated of Antiquity. She boasted her Lineage from *Cleopatra* and the *Ptolemies*. After the Death of her Husband, she put on the Imperial Mantle, and a Crown of Gold adorned with Gems, administering the Government in the Name of her Sons *Herennianus* and *Timolaus*. She imitated the Pride of the *Persian* Court, and was adored after their Fashion, but her Entertainments were given in the *Roman* Manner. In the military Assemblies she appeared with an Helmet upon her Head, and a Sword in her Hand, with her Arm bare. In Complexion she was a Brunette. Her Eyes were black, full of Life and Spirit, and of incredible Sweetness. Her Teeth were of such lucid Whiteness, that many judged them to be rather Pearls than Teeth. Her Continnence never admitted the

Embraces

Embraces of her Husband when once she had Reason to conclude herself with Child. She was sometimes seen abroad in her Carriage, but commonly on Horseback, and would frequently go three or four Miles on Foot. Tho' sober, she would drink with her Officers, and with the *Persians* and *Armenians*, in order to fift them to her Advantage. Coins there are of her in the Cabinet of *Versailles*, inscribed *CЄPTIMIA ZHNOBIA CЄBacη*; with *Hope* holding out her Lilly for the Reverse, and *L Ɛ*, *Anno quinto*. Others of the same Date have the Figure of *Abundantia*, or *Plenty*, standing, with the right Hand extended, and a double *Cornucopiæ* in the left. There is one in the *Pembrokian* Collection, the Reverse of which is much injured by Time, both in the Figures and the Legend; but two Caps are to be seen, with a Star over each, for *Castor* and *Pollux*, the Sons of *Jupiter*, in Allusion to her own two Sons above-mentioned. The Letters discernible are, *ΑΠΟΛΛ Γ*. She was so far from paying the same Deference to *GALLIENUS*, which her Husband had done, that she engaged and defeated, this very Year, the Troops which he sent against the *Persians*.

At the same Time another Competitor for Empire started up on the *Rhine*. This was *L. Aelianus*, who commanded in that Quarter under *Postumus*,  
 I and

GALLIENVS.

Pl. LIII. 6.

Pl. LIII. 7.

Pl. LIII. 8.

GALLIENVS. and had done good Service againſt the *Germans*. Him *Postumus* beſieged in *Mentz*, and, the Place being taken, put him to Death. We have a *Denarius* of him, whereon he is covered with a radiated Crown, and around it, IMP C *Lucius AELIANVS P F AVG*; having a *Victory* bearing a Wreath and Palm-Branch for the Reverse, with VICTORIA AVG. The Troops, which took *Mentz*, expected to have been gratified with the Plunder of the City, which being refused them, at the Inſtigation of *Lollianus* (who alſo uſurped the Imperial Authority) they broke out into Mutiny, and deſtroyed both *Postumus* and his Son. *Goltzius*, from one of his Coins, has tranſcribed his Title, IMP C *SPurius SERVILIUS LOLLIANVS P F AVG*. *Lollianus*, who was of mean Extraction, had raiſed himſelf to the higheſt Commands in the Army by his Merit, and hoped by his uſual Bravery to maintain his aſſumed Dignity. But *Victorinus* made Uſe of his own Arts, inciting his own Soldiers againſt him. They complained of the Drudgery and Hardſhips which he made them ſuffer, in repairing the ſeveral Camps and Fortifications which the *Germans* had deſtroyed immediately on the Death of *Postumus*.

*Victorinus* was now ſole Emperor in *Gaul*, ſeveral of whoſe Coins have reached us. One of his Medals

dals in Gold shews him laureated, and cased in GALLIENVS.  
 Armour, with his Spear resting on his Shoulder.  
 On his Shield are depicted two Combatants; the  
 one prostrate, and at the Mercy of his Adversary.  
 The Title is IMP VICTORINVS P F AVG. On  
 the Reverse is a youthful Head laureated, and over Pl. LIII. 10.  
 against it a female Figure with a Bow; probably  
 representing his Mother in the Character of *Diana*,  
 and his Son, who was first made CÆSAR, and after-  
 wards AUGUSTUS: the Legend VOTA AVGVSTI.  
 Another of the same Metal has for its Reverse  
 two Lions, and a female Head, covered with the  
 Skin of an Elephant, representing *Africa*: the  
 Legend is LEGIO IIII FLAVIA Pia Felix. His  
*Denarius* has *Ceres*, with her Foot on the Beak of Pl. LIII. 11.  
 a Ship, and holding up her Son *Plutus*, who rests  
 upon the same Knee; and on the other Side of her  
 is a Grasshopper: proper Emblems of that *Wealth*  
 and *Plenty* which form the SAECVLI FELICI-  
 TAS. One of his Medals in Bronze has the SALVS Pl. LIII. 12.  
 AVG, as usually figured; another, the *orient* Sun  
 hastening, with the Whip in his Hand, to denote  
 the Rapidity of his Motions, with INVICTVS.  
 There is a Coin of his Son, with IMP C PIavonnius  
 VICTORINVS AVG; and a Female standing on  
 the Reverse, with a *Cornucopiæ*, called the AEQVI-  
 TAS AVG. The Father's ungovernable Lust  
 VOL. II. 3 D brought

- GALLIENVS. brought on the Ruin of both ; for, having debauched the Wife of one *Attitianus*, a Scrivener, he fell a Sacrifice to the Vengeance of the injured Husband, and some of the Soldiers at the same Time dispatched the Son. He was however honoured by his Officers with an Apotheosis, as appears from three Medals with an Eagle, and the
- Pl. LIII. 13. Word CONSECratio, one of which is annexed. These had borne the Name of Emperors, but it was the Mother VICTORINA (sometimes called VICTORIA) who ruled with absolute Authority. Her immense Wealth and Generosity had rendered her extremely popular ; so that in *Gaul* she made Emperors at Pleasure. There is a Coin of her,
- Pl. LIII. 14. whereon she is armed like *Pallas*, which has the very singular Inscription IMPERATRIX VICTORINA AVGUSTA, and an Eagle for the Reverse. On the Death of her Son and Grandson, her Influence was exerted in Favour of *M. Aurelius Marius*, who had been at first an Armourer, but had distinguished himself both in *Gaul* and *Britain*. He wears a radiated Diadem, with IMP C MARIVS P F AVG ;
- Pl. LIII. 15. and the Reverse, with *joined Hands*, celebrates the Unanimity of the Army in his Election by the
- Pl. LIII. 16. CONCORDIA MILITVM. The Reverse of his *Denarius* is the SAECVLI FELICITAS, with a *Caduceus* and *Cornucopiæ*. We have the same in
- IQ. Bronze ;

Bronze; and another with a *Victory*, holding out a Wreath in one Hand, and a Palm Branch in the other, with VICTORIA AVG. His Reign is said to have lasted but three Days; which is not probable; there being scarce Time for gaining a Victory, or recording the Felicity of it. He was slain by a Soldier, who had been formerly one of his Workmen; who assured him, that he fell by a Sword of his own making.

GALLIENVS.  
Pl. LIII. 17.

The next Choice of *Victorina* fell upon *C. Pivesus Tetricus*. His Son was also declared CÆSAR, and soon after AUGUSTUS. The Army too expressed their Veneration of the Person of *Victorina*, by declaring her the MATER CASTRORVM, or *Mother of the Camp*, as she is stiled in an ancient Inscription. *Tetricus* was a Senator of Consular Rank, and at that Time Commander of the Troops in *Aquitane*. His Authority was acknowledged both in *Spain* and *Britain*, and his Reign continued to the fourth Year of *Aurelian*. His Coins are common amongst us. On those of Gold his Head is laureated, with IMP C TETRICVS P F AVG: on the Reverse he appears in his military Habit, with an *armed Spear* in one Hand, and a Globe in the other, with PM TR P II COS PP. But his *Denarius* gives him a radiated Crown, and bears for its Reverse the SALVS AVGG. He has the

Pl. LIII. 18.

Pl. LIII. 19.

- GALLIENVS. same Device in Bronze. Others celebrate the FIDES MILITVM, holding an Ensign in each Hand: others have the SPES PVBLICA: others, *Fortune* with her *Helm*, and holding out a Wreath, inscribed LAETITIA AVGG. We have also the
- Pl. LIV. 1. *Denarius* of his Son, with a radiated Crown, and C. PIVESus TETRICVS, with the SPES AVGG for the Reverse. The same is expressed in Bronze.
- Pl. LIV. 2. Another has the PIETAS AVGG, with sacrificial
- Pl. LIV. 3. Instruments: another, the PAX AVG, with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and an Olive-Branch in the other.

GALLIENUS, (though a great Part of the Empire was rent from him, by the Power of *Zenobia* in the East, and of *Tetricus* in the West, while the *Goths* were preparing for a fresh Invasion, both of the *European* and *Asiatic* Provinces) behaved with amazing Unconcern, as if all Things proceeded to his Wish. He pretended to the People, that all was Peace. That they might believe so, they were soothed with Games, and Shews, and Festivities of every Kind. Coins were struck to confirm the Plenty and the Peace of which he boasted. On one of his *Denarii*, accordingly, we see the Figure of *Abundance*, with her *Cornucopiæ*, and a *Cap*, the Emblem of Liberty, in her Hand, with VBERITAS AVG; and another, of the Empress SALONINA AVGVsta, bears

Pl. LIV. 4.

Pl. LIV. 5.



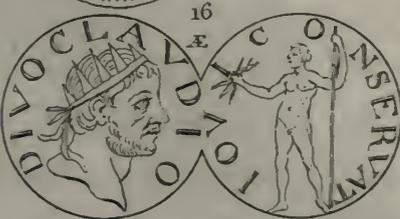


bears the Temple and Statue DEAE SEGETIAE, GALLIENVS.  
*Of the Goddess of the Corn yet growing.* One of his  
 Coins in Bronze has GALLIENVS AVG. around  
 his radiated Head; and for its Reverse a Trophy  
 with two Captives, alluding to the late Advantage  
 gained over *Postumus*, with PAX FVNDATA. Pl. LIV. 6.  
 Another, in Gold, gives his laureate Head on one  
 Side, and on the other, a *Victory* driving a bigated  
 Car, with VBIQVE PAX. Pl. LIV. 7.  
 One of the Empress's  
 Coins again shews her enthroned, and holding out  
 a Wreath, with AVGVSTA IN PACE. These have  
 been taken for satirical Coins; but whoever will be  
 at the Trouble of consulting the Elder *Victor*, may  
 be convinced of the Seriousness of their Intention.  
 For Raillery on Coins, as *Mr. Addison* observes, is  
 of a modern Date. And, to convince them of his  
 Security, he gloried in the Protection of every pre-  
 tended Deity in Heaven; for we have of his Coins,  
 dedicated to *Jupiter his Preserver*, IOVI CON-  
 Servatori AVGVSTI, with the *Amalthean Goat* that  
 nursed him; to the Sun, SOLI CONS AVG, sym- Pl. LIV. 9.  
 bolized by the winged Horse *Pegasus*; and to the Pl. LIV. 10.  
 same, by the *Ox*, his Assistant in the Production of  
 Corn; to *Apollo*, APOLLINI CONS AVG, by Pl. LIV. 11.  
 the *flying Gryphon*; and to the same, by the *Centaur*, Pl. LIV. 12.  
 with a Globe and Arrow; to *Neptune*, NEPTVNO Pl. LIV. 13.  
 CONS AVG, by the *Sea-Horse*; to *Bacchus*, Pl. LIV. 14.  
 LIBERO

GALLIENVS. LIBERO Patri CONS AVG, by the *Tiger*; and to  
 Pl. LIV. 15. *Diana*, DIANAЕ CONS AVG, by the *Stag*.

But these Pretences could last but a little while; for the *Goths* were now in Motion, and obliged him to take the Field in Person. On the Side of *Thrace*, they were opposed with good Success by *Cleodemus* and *Athenæus*. Their Fleet also was defeated by *Venerianus*, though himself perished in the Engagement. Yet they afterwards plundered *Cyzicus*, and the proper *Asia*, and then landed in *Achaia*, where they were again defeated by the *Athenians*, under *Dexippus* the Historian. The Remnant made their Way through *Epirus*, *Acarmania*, and *Bœotia*, and in *Illyricum* were encountered by GALLIENUS, who cut many of them in Pieces, and took their Leader captive.

While he was thus employed, *Aureolus* marched towards *Rome*, intending to make himself sole Emperor; so that GALLIENUS, leaving the Pursuit of the Barbarians to the Care of *Martianus*, hastened back into *Italy*. He now declared VALERIAN, his Brother, to be AUGUSTUS. In that Character he appears on a *Greek Coin*, with his Head laureated, and A. K. II. AIK. ΟΥΑΛΕΡΙΑΝΟC, *Imperator Cæsar Publius Licinius Valerianus*. On the other Side is the Genius of *Clazomene*, a City of *Ionia*, where the Coin was struck, with the Statue of the *Ephesian Diana*





*Diana* in her Hand. Coming to a Battle with *Aureolus*, he defeated him, and forced him to shut himself up in *Milan*, where he besieged him. During this Siege, his principal Commanders, *Martianus*, *Heracianus*, *Cecrops*, *Aurelian*, and *Claudius*, who succeeded him, entered into a Conspiracy for his Destruction; to accomplish which they gave him the false Alarm of an Eruption made by the Enemy about Midnight. He immediately mounted his Horse, and, issuing out unarmed, and without his Guards, was mortally wounded by *Cecrops*. His Son and Brothers were slain at the same Time. Finding his End to be near, he ordered the Insignia of the Imperial Dignity to be carried to *Claudius*, as most worthy to succeed him; who, in Return, protected his remaining Friends and Relations; and did him the Honour of a Consecration. On a *Greek* Coin, struck by the Citizens of *Prusa*, on the River *Hypius*, and bearing on one Side his laureate Head, and on the other the plain Head of his Brother *VALERIAN*, he is called ΠΟΥΛΙΚ. ΙΓΝΑ. ΓΑΛΛΙΗΝΟC, *Publius Licinius Ignatius Gallienus*. Of his Empress *CORNELIA SALONINA AUGUSTA* we have several Medals, besides those already mentioned; a very fine one, particularly, in Bronze, with a *IVNO REGINA* for the Reverse: and two *Denarii*, the one with a *VENVS FELIX*, enthroned,

GALLIENVS.

Pl. LIV. 17.

Pl. LIV. 18.

Pl. LV. 1.

- GALLIENVS. enthroned, and the other inscribed VESTAE  
 Pl. LV. 2. AETERNAE, having the Goddess standing, with  
 the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and the *Palladium* in  
 Pl. LV. 3. the other. There is likewise one in Bronze, having  
 a VENVS GENETRIX for the Reverse, with a  
*Cupid* before her; and two *Greek* Coins, valuable  
 for having preserved the Maiden Name, *Chryfogone*,  
 Pl. LV. 4. of this Empress. One of them bears her Head upon  
 a Crescent, with  $\text{CA}\Lambda\omega\nu\nu\alpha \text{XPYCOFONH CE}\beta\alpha\sigma\eta$ ;  
 the Reverse a *Diana*, the Coin having been struck  
 Pl. LV. 5. by the *Ephesians*. The Inscription of the other is  
 $\text{CA}\Lambda\Omega\text{N}\nu\alpha \text{XPYCOFONH}$ , and was struck by the  
*Sardians*; having the Genius of their City, turrited  
 and enthroned, for the Reverse. The first of these  
 was already thrown into a Brazier's melting Pot,  
 when *Patin* redeemed it; who warmly congratu-  
 lates himself on his good Fortune in the Recovery  
 Pl. LV. 6. of it. There is a *Vesta* also for the Reverse of the  
*Denarius* of CORNELIA SVPERA AVGVSTA, the  
 Wife of his Brother VALERIAN.

From the disregarded Captivity of his Father, and the many Tyrants that started up in his Time, Historians have taken Occasion to blacken the Memory of GALLIENUS very deeply. Yet there have been many Emperors incomparably worse, who have been better spoken of. His Coolness upon his Father's Misfortune was, without Doubt, highly criminal,

criminal, and basely dishonourable. But this was but one Instance of that strange Indifference which he shewed in all Cases, which did not immediately concern his Life and very Being as an Emperor. Thus, when told of the Revolt of *Egypt*, "What then," said he, "can we not live without the Linen of *Egypt*?" So when informed of the Desolation of *Asia*, by Enemies and Earthquakes, "Well," he cried, "we can do without Saltpetre." This was a Proof of his being deeply plunged in Sensualities: since he was neither stupid, nor puffed up; for he was a Master of Elocution, a good Poet, and versed in all the fine Arts. *Pollio*, to evince the Brilliancy of his Genius, says, that when he married his Cousins, and the most eminent *Greek* and *Latin* Poets of the Age spoke their several Epithalamia, his own extemporaneous Lines exceeded all their laboured Compositions. For, taking the young Princes by the Hands, he thus addressed them:

*Vos ite, o Pueri, pariter, sudate Medullis  
Omnibus inter vos; non murmura vestra columbæ,  
Brachia non hederæ, non vincant oscula conchæ.*

Go meetly pair'd, fond Youths, and fear no Foil,  
Strain every Nerve, and urge the tender Toil,  
Nor yield, amidst the softer Feats of Love,  
In amorous Murmurs to the cooing Dove;  
As clasping Ivies let your Arms entwine,  
Nor Conchs kiss closer, when your Lips shall join.

GALLIENVS.

The Verses are indeed elegant in their Kind (however small the Merit of it) the Images being strong, and the Language pure and expressive. Of his Intrepidity and Bravery, the Actions of his Reign yield sufficient Testimony. But they were only Flashes of Valour; and he was eager to return to the Life of Pleasure and Dissipation, which he inordinately affected. It was this indolent Disposition which gave Occasion for the many Usurpations which disgraced his Reign, as well as to the repeated Incurfions of the prædatory Barbarians. He governed fifteen Years: seven in Conjunction with his Father, and eight from the Time that he was taken Prisoner.

MARCUS



MARCUS AURELIUS CLAUDIUS.

ON the Death of GALLIENUS, the Army was in Flame, calling for Vengeance; and was with Difficulty appeased by the Officers, on the Distribution of twenty Pieces of Gold to each Man; for the late Emperor always carried a great Treasure with him. The Commotion being over, they proclaimed CLAUDIUS Emperor, who immediately wrote an Account of what passed to the Senate; which, with much Chearfulness, confirmed the Election. His Character was worthy of it; for, if we may believe his Historian *Pollio*, his Panegyrist rather, all the Virtues and great Qualities of all the ancient Heroes of *Rome* were united in him. He

CLAUDIUS.

CLAVDIVS. is said to have been the natural Son of the third GORDIAN, begotten, according to *Victor*, upon a *Dalmatian* Lady, by the young Emperor, just before his Marriage, by Way of Instruction and Experiment. (Vide Hist. Aug. Lugd. Bat. 1671, Not. 4 & 5, ad pag. 375.) His Gravity, Probity, and Chastity were exemplary. He was an hearty Feeder, but drank little Wine. His Person was tall, his Eyes sparkling, and his Countenance full and broad. He had such Strength in his Fingers, that with a single Blow he would beat out the Teeth of Horses or Mules. His Feats of this Sort, in the Exercises of the Camp, had been such as deserved now to be recorded on his Coins, by the Representation of *Hercules*, with his Club, and the Lion's Skin depending from his Arm; explained by the Legend. *IVVENTVS AVGVSTI*. His Advancement is signified by the *FORTVNA REDUX*, with her usual Attributes; as his Arrival at *Rome* is also by his Equestrian Statue, with the Hand held up, which is called the *ADVENTVS AVGVSTI*. His Liberality on this Occasion is expressed on his *Denarius*, which bears his radiated Head, with *IMP C CLAVDIVS AVG*; and the Figure of *LIBERALITAS AVGVSTI*, standing, for the Reverse, with the *Tessera* and *Cornucopiæ*. We have the same Figure in Bronze, but without her *Cornucopiæ*.

The

The proper Dispositions were now made for the Depression of *Aureolus*; who came to an Engagement in the open Field, was defeated, taken Prisoner, and slain; though *Zosimus* says that he submitted, and was slain by the Soldiers around. CLAUDIUS; and *Victor*, that he fell by his own Men. However that be, his Troops joined CLAUDIUS; who, with that Reinforcement, fell upon the *Alemans*, who had entered *Italy*, near the Lake *Benacus*, whom he routed, with such Slaughter that scarce one Half of them survived the Carnage. For which Reason we meet, on some of his Coins, with the Surname of GERMANICVS.

The next Year he was Consul the second Time with *Ovinius Paternus*. And now it was that the *Goths* or *Scythians*, with the *Heruli*, the *Peuceni*, the *Virtingui*, *Sigipedes*, and many other Nations, instigated by those who had escaped the Sword of GALLIENUS, assembled on the Banks of the *Tyras*, to the Number of three hundred and twenty thousand Men. They had provided for their Expedition two thousand, *Zosimus* says six thousand, Vessels. With these they entered the *Euxine* Sea; and, after attempting *Tomos* and *Marcianopolis* in vain, proceeded with a fair Wind to the Streights of *Propontis*, where the Rapidity of the Stream drove their Vessels foul upon one another, so that some were  
funk,

CLAVDIVS. funk, and others driven on Shore, to their great Loss. Sailing on, however, and refitting under Mount *Atbos*, they put to Sea again; and landing, laid Siege to *Cassandria* and *Theſſalonica*. But hearing that the Emperor was advancing againſt them, they marched further inland, and plundered the Territory of *Doberus* and *Pelagonia*. Here the *Dalmatian* Cavalry cut off three thousand of them. Engaging the Emperor, their Numbers obliged the *Romans* to retreat; who nevertheleſs, coming upon them afterwards by Surprize, and through unknown Ways, deſtroyed no fewer than fifty thouſand of them. One Body, ſailing by *Theſſaly*, and round *Greece*, laid waſte the maritime Coaſts, and carried off the People from the open Country; but could make no Impreſſion upon any fortified Place.

While the *Scythians*, thus diſperſed, were mouldering away, *Zenobia* ſent her Generals, *Zabdas* and *Timagenes*, to invade *Egypt*, at the Head of ſeventy thouſand Men. They defeated the *Egyptian* Army, which was fifty thouſand ſtrong, and took Poſſeſſion of the Country, leaving behind them a Body of five thouſand Men to ſecure their Conqueſt. Theſe were ſoon after defeated by *Probus*, to whom the Emperor had given the Charge of clearing the Sea of Pirates, with his own Forces, and ſuch *Egyptians* as continued firm to the *Roman* Intereſt; and who, after

after his Victory, intrenched himself on an Eminence near *Babylon*, in order to cut off their Retreat. But *Timagenes*; who was himself an *Egyptian*, and perfectly acquainted with the Country, came upon him unexpectedly, with two thousand *Palmyrenians*, and put his little Army to the Rout. *Probus* himself was taken, and put an End to his own Life.

Meantime the conquered *Scythians*, fortifying themselves with their Chain of Carriages, marched for *Macedonia* in melancholy Plight, Numbers of them perishing for Want of Provisions; and the *Roman* Cavalry coming up with them, and destroying many more, forced them to turn towards Mount *Hæmus*. Here they were surrounded, and suffered no small Loss. But the *Roman* Cavalry and Infantry disagreeing, through Jealousy of each other, they gained a considerable Advantage over the latter, though the Damage was presently repaired by the former, who flew to their Relief: so that, not being able to proceed, and the Plague breaking out amongst them, many surrendered, and many more were disposed of by Disease, Famine, and the Sword. Those at Sea, after circumnavigating the Islands of *Crete* and *Rhodes*, retired as well as they could, without doing any thing worthy of Record. This Success was honoured with Reverses of VICTORIA.

- CLAVDIVS. TORIA (one of which is in the *Pembrokian* Collection, but so badly executed, that it would disgrace the Plate) and with the Surname of GOTHICUS, by which this Emperor is commonly distinguished. His own Protection, amidst these Dangers, he ascribes, on some of his Coins, to *Hercules* and
- Pl. LV. 11. *Vesta* (as we conceive); there being, over the former, CONSERVATORI, and over the latter, CONSERVATORI AVGVSTI: on others, to the *Queen of Heaven*,
- Pl. LV. 12. distinguished by her *Peacock*, and the Legend IVNO REGINA. This Device we have seen already, forming a Reverse of MANLIA SCANTILLA; but it will be difficult to find it on the Coin of any other Emperor. The Spoil recovered from these vagrant Armies was immense, insomuch that *Pollio* says he did not only provide for the *Security* of the Commonwealth, but *overloaded* it with Opulence, *opulentiae nimicitate donavit*. Hence we cannot wonder
- Pl. LV. 13. that *Abundantia* or *Plenty* should appear upon his Coins on this Occasion, with her double *Cornucopiæ*. The short Remainder of his Reign was employed to the great Advantage of the Empire, regulating Abuses, and enacting wholesome Laws. His *Equity* is therefore, with Propriety, enthroned on the Reverse before us, with her *Cornucopiæ* in one Hand, and her *even Scales*, or *Balance*, in the other. Amidst other Cares, the Coinage merited his Re-
- Pl. LV. 14. gard.

gard. This we judge from one of his Reverseſes; inſcribed REGI ARTIS, meaning *Vulcan*, who is figured with his *Hammer* and *Forceps*, the Inſtruments principally made Uſe of in that Buſineſs.

CLAVDIYS.

Pl. LV. 15.

On the fourth of *February*, of the next Year, which was the third of his Reign, he died, according to ſome, of the *Plague*, at *Sirmium*, much lamented; according to others, he was ſlain in a Mutiny of the Soldiers; but, as others ſay, he had devoted himſelf, as the *Decii* did, to enſure Succeſs to the *Roman Arms*. It is not ſtrange that one of this Turn ſhould perſecute the *Chriſtians* for being ſuch.

We have ſeveral Medals of his Conſecration; one with his radiated Head, and DIVO CLAVDIO,

with the Reverse inſcribed IOVI CONSERVATORI, who is figured ſtanding, with the *Hæſta pura* in his left Hand, and the *Thunder* in his right; others with an *Altar* blazing, and the Word

Pl. LV. 16.

CONSECRATIO; and others with an *Eagle*, and

Pl. LV. 17.

the ſame Legend. He died Childleſs, but left behind him two Brothers, *Quintillus*, who ſucceeded him, and *Criſpus*, the Father of *Claudia*, who was married to *Eutropius*, by whom ſhe became the Mother of *Conſtantius Cæſar*. He had alſo Siſters, one of whom was called *Conſtantina*. And this is the firſt Mention that we find made of the Name. A Golden Shield, with his Image engraven on it, was placed

CLAUDIUS.

in the Senate-House, as a Memorial of him; as was his Statue of Gold, ten Feet high, near that of *Jupiter*, in the Capitol; and another of Silver, weighing fifteen hundred Pounds, in the Forum. We have only to add, that neither was GALLIENUS, as *Spanheim* asserts, nor CLAUDIUS, as others, the last on whose Coins the Titles of *Pontifex Maximus*, and the *Tribunitial Power*, are recorded.

MARCUS



MARCUS AURELIUS CLAUDIUS  
QVINTILLVS.

WE are not to expect from Medals much Information of a Reign of seventeen Days. QVINTILLVS.  
Yet there are, in the Cabinets of the Curious, some five or six different Coins of QVINTILLVS; who resembled his Brother in his excellent Qualities, both of Body and Mind, and was therefore unanimously chosen by the Senate to succeed him. One of them has for the Reverse a Soldier standing, with the Legend VIRTVS AVGVSTI. One is inscribed MARTI PACIFICO: and another has the FIDES MILITVM between two Ensigns. Of a Piece with this last, is the CONCORDIA AVGVSTI, with her

Pl. LV. 18, 19.

3 F 2

*Cornucopiæ,*

QVINTILLVS. *Cornucopiæ*, and a military *Ensign* in her right Hand. These are Proofs that the Army at least concurred in his Election. His *Denarius* bears his Head radiated, with IMP C M AVREL QVINTILLVS; the Reverse of which is inscribed FORTVNAE REDuci, who appears standing, with her usual Attributes. But a *Victory*, in so short a Reign, was scarce to be expected. Yet such we have, with her Wreath and Palm-Branch, denominated the VICTORIA AVGusti. A Body of the *Gotbs* or *Scythians*, who had separated from the rest, in their Way home plundered *Anchialus* in *Thrace*, and made an Attempt upon *Nicopolis* in *Mæssa*, but were defeated by the Provincial Troops. This was the Victory here celebrated: and this was the only memorable Event of his Reign. *Pollio* says, that he was slain by the Soldiers, for the same Reason that GALBA and PERTINAX had so perished before him, because they could not bear his Gravity and Severity: while others affirm, that he opened a Vein and bled to Death, when he found that the Army had proclaimed *Aurelian*, to whom he knew himself unequal.

LUCIUS







LUCIUS DOMITIUS AURELIANUS.

THE Services of AURELIAN to the Empire had AURELIAN.  
 been very eminent. The Senate, therefore,  
 readily confirmed his Election, on the Death of  
 QUINTILLUS. The Reverse, which celebrates his Pl. LV. 22.  
 Arrival, shews two Enemies prostrate beneath his  
 Horse's Feet, with ADVENTVS AVG. The  
 Name of his Empress was SEVERINA. As such, the  
 IVNO REGINA makes one of her Reverses. She Pl. LVI. 1.  
 had one Child, a Daughter, by him, which appears  
 in the Hand of the VENVS FELIX. Most of the Pl. LVI. 2.  
 Medals, which we have seen, recording the Consent  
 of the Soldiers in his Advancement, are of the  
 Empress. On one of her Reverses this Concord is Pl. LVI. 3.  
 enthroned,

AVRELIAN.

Pl. LVI. 4.

enthroned, bearing a *Cornucopiæ* and *Patera*, with

CONCORDIA MILITUM; on another she is figured standing, with an Ensign in each Hand, and CON-

Pl. LVI. 5.

CORDIAE MILITVM; and on a third, the very PROVIDENTIA DEORUM is derived to him from

the SUN, through her Mediation. This Luminary was his favourite Deity, his Mother having been

Priestess of the Sun at *Sirmium*, in *Pannonia*, where he was born. For this Reason, when he returned

Thanks to VALERIAN for the great Honours conferred upon him, he ended his Speech thus: "May

"the Gods grant, and that undoubted God the "Sun (*Deus certus Sol*) that the Senate may judge

"of me in like Manner!" We see the ORIENT also on several of the Emperor's Medals; who erected a

magnificent Temple to him at *Rome*, which he enriched with the Spoils of the East. At the Time

that he was thus honoured by VALERIAN, and destined to the Consulship, he was also adopted by

*Ulpius Crinitus*, a Consular of great Wealth and Merit.

He had scarce looked round him from the exalted Height to which he was now raised, before the

*Scythians*, desirous of revenging the late Defeat, invaded *Pannonia*; against whom he marched immediately.A drawn Battle ensued; which, however, obliged the Enemy to repass the *Danube*, and

accept of Terms. His Interval of Rest was very AVRELIAN.  
short; for the *Suevians*, the *Marcomans*, and other  
*German* Nations, were in Arms, over whom he  
obtained a signal Victory. But having cut off their  
Retreat, they took up the desperate Resolution of  
marching for *Rome*: At *Placentia* he came up  
with, and attacked, them again; but was rudely  
received, and repulsed: after which they laid waste  
the *Milanese*. But receiving a strong Reinforce-  
ment, he once more tried his Fortune with them at  
*Fano*, where they were totally defeated. He pur-  
sued the Fugitives back to *Placentia*, and cut Num-  
bers of them in Pieces there. The Remainder were  
put to the Sword in the Neighbourhood of *Pavia*.  
On this Occasion *Rome* seated, in the Habit of  
*Minerva*, and the Emperor, who presents a *Victory*  
to her, with the Legend ROMAE AETERNAE,  
seem to congratulate each other on the Reverse be-  
fore us. He had no sooner compleated this im-  
portant Business, than he found himself obliged to  
march against the *Vandals*, who had passed the  
*Danube*; whom he constrained to deliver up Hof-  
tages for their peaceable Behaviour, and a Part of  
their Youth to be incorporated in the *Roman* Army.  
These great Atchievements were owing to the un-  
relaxing Severity of his military Discipline; on  
which Account he merited the Title of RESTI-  
TVTOR.

PL. LVI. 6.

PL. LVI. 7.

AVRELIAN.

TVTOR EXERCITI on his Medals; in which Legend the Reader will remark the ancient Usage of the Genitive *Exerciti*.

But his Cruelty on his Return stained the Lustre of his military Glory: for he did not only reform Abuses with the necessary Severity, but put to Death Persons of the highest Quality, on very insufficient Testimony. At this Time, with the Advice of the Senate, he enlarged the Walls of the City, inclosing a Compass of near fifty Miles. But this vast Undertaking was not finished till some Years after. He also cleansed the Bed of the *Tiber*, lining the Sides of it with Brick a good Part of the Way to *Ostia*.

His next Expedition was aimed at *Zenobia*, who had hitherto maintained her Sovereignty in the East, extending her Empire even to the *Hellepont*; her two Sons, *Herenianus* and *Timolaus*, all this while bearing the Title of Emperors; for on some Greek Coins we read ΑΥΤ Κ ΗΡΕΝΙΑΝΟC CΕΒ Λ Β, *Imperator Cæsar Herenianus Augustus. Anno secundo*: on others, ΑΥΤ Κ ΤΙΜΟΛΑΟC CΕΒΑCΤ, *Imperator Cæsar Timolaus Augustus*, of the same Date. Others of *Timolaus* have the Addition of ΕΥCεβης *Pius*, with Λ Γ, *Anno tertio*. But AURELIAN, on his March, met with more Obstructions than he was aware of: for both in *Illyricum* and the two *Thracæ* he encountered

countered and defeated the Barbarians. *Cannabās*, or *Cannabaud*, a Leader of the *Goths*, he cut in Pieces, with five thousand of his Men. From *Byzantium* he passed into *Bitbynia*, which submitted without a Stroke. He was so exasperated against the Citizens of *Tyana*, for having shut their Gates against him, that he declared “ he would not leave a Dog alive in the Place.” His Rage, however, is said to have been disarmed by a Night-Vision of *Apollonius*, the Philosopher, a *Tyanean* by Birth, who charged him to spare the Place of his Nativity: so that when it was taken by the Treachery of *Heraclammon*, one of its wealthiest Inhabitants, he gave the Soldiers a Commission to kill every Dog within it. And the Humour of the Thing so pleased them, that they did not regret the Loss of their expected Plunder. But the Traitor *Heraclammon* received his proper Reward, being the only Person that suffered Death. Marching on, he had a short Skirmish at *Daphne*; after which, *Antioch* submitted, on a Promise of Impunity. At *Emesa*, he came to a pitched Battle with the *Palmyrenians*, whom he defeated. This done, he instantly paid his Vows to the Deity of the Place, to whom he ascribed his Victory, and whose Temple he honoured with magnificent Presents. On the Way to *Palmyra*, his Troops suffered much from

AURELIAN.

the frequent Attacks of the *Syrian* Banditti. On his Arrival, he laid Siege to the City, which was gallantly defended. At length, wearied with the Tedioufness of it, he offered Terms to *Zenobia*, who answered him arrogantly. Her Answer was penned by the famous *Longinus*, and it cost him his Life. In it she reminded him of the Losses which he had already sustained, and of the mighty Succours expected by her from the *Persians*, *Saracens*, and *Armenians*. This irritated AURELIAN, who pushed the Siege with extraordinary Vigour. He intercepted the *Persian* Auxiliaries; and had the Address, by Menaces, Persuasion, and Rewards, to draw over the *Saracenic* and *Armenian* Succours. So that *Zenobia*, seeing her Affairs desperate, left the City privately, and fled, mounted on a Dromedary, towards *Persia*; but was taken by the *Roman* Horse sent in Pursuit of her, on the Bank of the *Euphrates*, and brought to AURELIAN. Her principal Ministers and Advisers were put to Death by him, and her Secretary *Longinus* amongst the rest. When he asked her, “how she had dared to insult the Roman Emperors?” “You (said she) my Conqueror I acknowledge to be an Emperor; but *Gallienus*, *Aureolus*, and the rest, I never looked upon as such.” On the Surrender of the City, AURELIAN left *Sandarion* in it, with six hundred Archers,

Archers, and marched back to *Europe*. Repassing the *Hellepont*, he subdued the *Carpi*, who had broken into *Thrace*, and settled a Part of them on the *Roman Side* of the *Danube*, as *DIOCLESIAN* did the rest afterwards.

AVRELIAN.

Information was now brought to him, that the *Palmyrenians* had put *Sandarion* and his Garrison to the Sword, and set up one *Achilleus*, whom *Zosimus* calls *Antiochus*, a Kinsman of *Zenobia*, for Emperor. Instantly he turned back in a Rage, and by hasty Marches came again to the Place, which he destroyed with extreme Cruelty. For the Soldiers spared neither the Aged and Infirm, nor the Women and Children, nor the Peasants in the Fields. Yet the City was not then reduced to the ruinous Heap in which it now lies: for the Temple of the Sun, the Emperor's favourite Deity, particularly, which had been plundered by the Officers of the third Legion, was by his express Order restored to its former Beauty and Magnificence; three hundred Pounds Weight of Gold, eighteen hundred Pounds Weight of Silver, and the Royal Jewels, being applied to that Purpose. Hence on one of his *Denarii*, with his radiated Head, and IMP AVRELIANVS AVG, we have for the Reverse the Figure of the Sun, with a Globe in his left Hand, and a Spear in his right, pointed against the Breast

PL. LVI. 2.

AURELIAN.

Pl. LVI. 9.

of an Enemy, who lies prostrate before him: the Legend ORIENS AVGVSTI. Another Reverse in Bronze has the same Figure, pointing forward with his right Hand, and holding the Whip in his left, with two Eastern Captives at his Feet, and the same Legend; in the Exergue of which, the XXIst and the Vith Legions are particularly honoured.

In this Expedition he was assisted by *Vabalathus*, the second Son (most probably) of ODENATHUS by his first Wife. On the Murder of his Father and Brother he had fled, and since looked upon *Zenobia* and her Children as Usurpers of the Sovereignty due to himself. He was in Return permitted by AURELIAN to bear the Title of IMPERATOR, as his Deputy. For on a *Greek* Coin we have the laureate Head of AURELIAN, with ΑΥΤ Κ Λ Δ ΑΥΡΗΑΙΑΝΟC C. L A. *Imperator Cæsar Lucius Domitius Aurelianus Augustus. Anno primo*, meaning the first Year of AURELIAN'S Sovereignty in the East; and for the Reverse, the Head of *Vabalathus* wearing the Diadem, with ΑΥΤ ΕΡΜΙΑC ΟΥΑΒΑΛΛΑΘΟΥC ΑΘΗ. Γ Δ. *Imperator Ermias Vabalathus Atbe. Anno quarto*, calling this the fourth Year of his Reign. Mr. *Edmund Halley's* Explanation of the ΑΘΗ is ingenious, and more than probable. "They  
" might be the first Letters of the Name ΟΔΗ-  
" ΝΑΘΟΥC, which in *Syriac* began with an *Aleph*,  
" and

AVRELIAN.

“ and the  $\Delta$  was by those People used instead of  $\Theta$ ,  
 “ as we see the Month  $\Xi\alpha\nu\delta\iota\omega\varsigma$  written  $\Xi\alpha\nu\delta\iota\omega\varsigma$  in  
 “ many of the *Palmyrenian* Inscriptions; which  
 “ doubtless was pronounced like *D blæsum*, or the  
 “ *Saxon*  $\mathfrak{D}$ . In this appears also the great Utility  
 “ of Coins to illustrate Matters of History; for by  
 “ them alone it is made out, that there was such a  
 “ Prince as *Wabalathus*, *Vopiscus* singly mention-  
 “ ing him by the Name of *Balbatus*.” On one of  
 the Emperor’s *Denarii* the Head of this young  
 Prince is laureated, and inscribed VABALATHVS  
 VCRIMOR. “ *Aurelian* (says the same learned Pro-  
 “ fessor) would not suffer the Title of *Augustus* in  
 “ this Family, though he was contented that they  
 “ should hold under him as *Vice Cæsaris*, as plainly  
 “ appears by the *Latin* Coins of *Aurelian* on the  
 “ one Side, and *Wabalathus* on the other, with  
 “ these Letters, V C R I M O R; which *P. Harduin*  
 “ has most judiciously interpreted *Vice Cæsaris*  
 “ *Rector Imperii Orientis*.”

Pl. LVI. 10.

*Zenobia* had kept Possession of *Egypt* till the  
 Death of *CLAUDIUS Gothicus*. About which Time  
 it must be that *Domitius Domitianus*, who had  
 been the Lieutenant of *Aureolus*, was proclaimed  
 Emperor by the opposite Party in *Egypt*. For that  
 he was so, is evident from the Medal before us,  
 and from that only. On it he is laureated, with

Pl. LVI. 11.

AURELIAN. the Title of IMP CLaudius DOMITIVS DOMITIANus AVG: the Reverse is inscribed GENIO POPVLI ROMANI, who is represented with his Head turrited, a *Cornucopiæ* in the left Hand, and a *Patera* in the right, with an Eagle before him. It appears also from the Exergue, that he continued these Titles to a third Year, by the Numerical Γ, and that ALEXandria was the Scene of his Exaltation. It is therefore probable that he was put to Death when AURELIAN first marched into the East. And when, after his Return, the *Palmyrenians* revolted, then did the *Alexandrians* also rebel, acknowledging one *Firmius* for Emperor, a Man of prodigious Strength of Body, and of vast Wealth acquired by Trade. He is laureated on his Coins, with ΑΥΤ Μ ΦΙΡΜΙΟC ΕΥC C, *Imperator Marcus Firmius Pius Augustus*; and an *Abundantia* seated for the Reverse, with L A, *Anno primo*. AURELIAN therefore now marched against, overcame, and having taken him, made him suffer Death with Torture.

His Stay at *Rome* on his Return was short, being invited into *Gaul* by *Tetricus* himself, who could no longer bear the mutinous Disposition of his own Troops. When, therefore, the two Armies met, *Tetricus*, with all those in whom he had Confidence, went over to AURELIAN, presenting him with

with an easy Victory. Being now Emperor of the whole *Roman* World, he was complimented as the Restorer of it, and is accordingly entitled RESTITUTOR ORBIS on a Reverse, which exhibits a *Victory* holding out a Wreath to him. He now bent his March to *Rome* for the last Time, and entered it in Triumph. In the Procession was drawn the Chariot of *Odenathus*, glittering with Silver, Gold, and precious Stones. This was followed by one equally superb, which had been presented to him by the *Persian* Monarch. A third came after, which had been *Zenobia's* Chariot of State. Last of all came the Emperor, in one which he had taken from a King of the *Goths*, drawn by four Stags, which he sacrificed to *Jupiter* in the Capitol, in Consequence of a Vow that he had made. But just before him marched a numerous Band of Captives, *Blemyes*, *Ethiopians*, *Arabians*, *Indians*, *Bactrians*, *Iberians*, *Persians*, *Goths*, *Alans*, *Roxolanians*, *Sarmatians*, *Franks*, *Swevians*, *Vandals*, *Germans*, *Palmyrenians*, and *Egyptians*, with their Hands bound behind them. Amongst these was *Tetricus* and his Son, whom he had declared Emperor in *Gaul*, both clad in Purple, and *Zenobia*, loaden with Gems, and in Chains of Gold, which were supported by others. For some Days after the People were gratified with all the Entertainments

AVRELIAN. ments of the Theatre, the Amphitheatre, the Circus, and Naumachia. He also distributed Bread and Pork to the Populace, which Bounty was continued; made many salutary Laws, regulated the Priesthoods, founded the Temple of the Sun and endowed it, granting considerable Emoluments both to the Architects and Ministers of it. He called in all the Coin, which had been greatly adulterated by the Officers of the Mint, giving out pure Money in lieu of it. Some of the smaller Pieces in Bronze are preserved, with the Emperor's plain Head, the Reverses recommending the Metal of which they are composed; one of them having, in a Wreath, METAL<sup>lis</sup> AVRELIANIS; another, a Stag, with METAL<sup>lis</sup> DEL<sup>maticis</sup>. But the Officers of the Coinage, and the People under them, concerned in this Iniquity, were so numerous and resolute, that it became difficult to call them to an Account; for they assembled themselves in Arms under their Procurator *Felicissimus*, and were not subdued without the Loss of seven thousand of the Imperial Troops.

This Business over, he marched to the Relief of the *Vindelici*, who were hardly beset by the neighbouring Barbarians; and thence into *Illyricum*. Here having collected rather a great than a vast Army, he declared War against the *Persians*. He was

was advancing towards them, and near *Byzantium*, AVRELIAN, when he let fall some threatening Expressions against *Mnestheus*, his private Secretary, who had offended him. He, knowing the vindictive Disposition of the Emperor, and that he never menaced in vain, wrote down a List of principal Names, some obnoxious, and others not, adding his own to the rest, as of Persons doomed to Destruction; to whom he made this pretended Discovery. All these, associating for their common Safety, fell upon the Emperor on the March, and slew him, in the sixth Year of his Reign, and the sixty-third of his Age.

Such was the End of AURELIAN, rather an useful than a good Emperor. He was a Prince of great Bravery, having raised himself from the Condition of a private Soldier by his Courage. Being not the only one of the Name, he was commonly distinguished in the Army as the *fighting Aurelian* (*manu ad ferum.*) He was by no Means deficient in Generosity, yet naturally ferocious and cruel; for which Reasons he was beloved by the People and dreaded by the Senate. They, who were guilty of Corruption or Oppression in the Provinces, found him inexorable. He withdrew both the Troops and Inhabitants from the *Ultradanubian Dacia*, and settled them in *Mæsia*, leaving the *Danube* for the Boundary of the Empire on that Side.

AVRELIAN.

He is not ranked amongst the good Princes; for he wanted that Clemency which is essential to the Character: nor amongst the bad; for he punished Vice, and strangled Faction. To use the Words of *DIOCLESIAN*, he would have made a better General than an Emperor. But his Usage of *Zenobia*, and *Tetricus* was truly noble, as well as prudent; for she was suffered to live, like a *Roman* Matron, quietly and splendidly with her Children at *Tivoli*; and *Tetricus* was made Governor of *Lucania*, and a Place in the Senate allowed to his Son: by which Means they and their Posterity continued for several Ages the illustrious Memorials of his Triumph. He was, at the Request of the Army, consecrated by the Senate, some of his Coins being inscribed **DIVO AVRELIANO.**

MARCUS



MARCUS CLAUDIUS TACITUS.

**T**HE Murder of AURELIAN threw the Army into a strange Ferment. The chief Officers had been concerned in it. They pleaded the Information of *Mnestheus*. A strict Inquisition was made, and his Villainy discovered. He was impaled upon the Spot, and left a Prey to the wild Beasts. A vast sepulchral Pile was raised by his Murderers, with a Temple and Statues to the Memory of the late Emperor; notwithstanding which, his Successor put to Death as many of them as fell into his Hands. A Letter was now written to the Senate, in the Name of the Army, desiring them to consecrate the deceased, and to appoint a new, Em-

TACITVS.

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peror;

TACITVS.

PL. LVI. 16.

peror ; for that they were determined not to elect any Person concerned in the Death of AURELIAN. The Fathers complied with the first Part of the Request, but the Novelty and Modesty of the last surprized them. They returned the Compliment, not once, but a second and a third Time ; which was bandied back as often by the Army. This took up a Space of more than six Months. And it is wonderful that, during this whole Time, Ambition seemed to be asleep, nor did the Barbarians make any Motion to disturb the public Tranquillity. At last they pitched upon MARCUS CLAUDIUS TACITUS, Prince of the Senate, seventy-five Years old. The *Providence* that raised him is figured with a *Cornucopiæ*, Scepter, and Globe, and is entitled PROVIDENTIA AVGVSTI. He erected Statues of Silver to his Predecessor in the Senate-House, the Temple of the Sun, and TRAJAN'S Forum. He intended a golden one also in the Capitol, but it was not set up. The Debasement of Metals he made capital, with Confiscation of Goods. The Evidence of Slaves against their Masters was declared inadmissible, even in Cases of Treason. He requested of the Senate the Consulate for his Brother, and was refused it. He seemed pleased with this Liberty, saying only, " the Senate knew what Sort of Emperor they had chosen."

TACITVS.

“ chosen.” All his ready Money he gave as a Donative to the Soldiers, as he did his Patrimony to the State. He now took upon himself the Consulate, having *Fulvius Aimilianus* for his Colleague. The Clemency of his Administration is particularly celebrated, and with Reason ; for they had felt the Want of this Virtue severely in the late Reign. He is drawn in the Imperial Mantle, with the Sceptre in his left Hand, and the Eagle rising from it, taking hold of *Clemency* with his right. This Deity has also the Imperial Mantle depending from the Shoulders, an Helmet on the Head, the *Hasta pura* in the left Hand, and a Star as the Mark of Divinity. The *Helmet* and the *Mantle* intimate this Virtue to be most graceful in great Commanders and Rulers : for, “ of all the Virtues,” says *Seneca*, “ none becomes “ a King or Prince more than Clemency.” This is well expressed by our inimitable *Shakespear* :

Pl. LVI. 17.

No Ceremony that to Great ones 'longs,  
 Not the King's Crown, nor the deputed Sword,  
 The Marshal's Truncheon, nor the Judge's Robe,  
 Become them with one half so good a Grace  
 As Mercy does.

The Legend is *CLEMENTIA TEMPorūm*. They had Reason, therefore, to congratulate themselves on the consequent *Felicity of the Times* ; who appears

TACITVS. Pl. LVI. 18. pears standing, with the *Caduceus* in her right Hand, and the *Cornucopiæ* in her left, having a Star also before her, and the Legend TEMPORVM FELICITAS. He shut up all the Houses of ill Fame within the City, and ordered the Baths also to be shut up before Candle-lighting, to prevent seditious Meetings. He acknowledged *Cornelius Tacitus* for his Ancestor, and ordered ten fresh Copies of his Work to be transcribed yearly, and laid up in the public Libraries. He interdicted the Use of Garments of All Silk (then worth the Weight in Gold) to all Persons; and appeared himself in the same Habit as when a private Man. He forbid also the Intermixture of Gold in wearing Apparel, and suffered not his Empress to appear in Jewels. In his Wine and Diet he was equally sober and abstemious. The Senate was so overjoyed at having recovered their Right of Election in him, that they published it to all the World, and decreed solemn Supplications. Several single Senators vowed their Hecatombs on the Occasion.

The only military Action of his Reign was with the *Goths* from the *Palus Mæotis*, who pretended to have been invited by AURELIAN to his Assistance against the *Persians*. These he defeated and obliged to return. As his Civil Government was most excellent, so this Success gave great Expectations of





his military Prowess, which are expressed on one of his Silver Coins, whereon his Head is radiated, with IMP C M. CL. TACITVS AVG. ; having a *Victory* for the Reverse, bearing a Palm-branch, and placing a Wreath upon his Head, with SPES PUBLICA. We have the same in Bronze ; and another with the VICTORIA AVG, with expanded Wings and two Shields ; and a third with a Palm-branch and Wreath, denominated VICTORIA GOTHica. At the End of a six Months' Reign he was, according to some, slain by the Soldiers ; though others say that he died a natural Death. It is, however, evident enough, that he was worn out with Chagrin, on account of the Factions which oppressed him.

TACITVS.

Pl. LVI. 19.

Pl. LVI. 20.

Pl. LVII. 1.

MARCUS



### MARCUS ANNIUS FLORIANUS.

FLORIANVS.

**T**HE *Concord of the Soldiers*, expressed in the Coin before us, was rather forestalled, than fairly obtained. For FLORIANUS waited neither for the Consent of the Armies nor the Appointment of the Senate ; but, being the Uterine Brother of TACITUS, seized upon the Empire as hereditary, immediately assuming the Imperial Ornaments. The *Providence* which he arrogated, holding a Spear and Globe, forms the Reverse of his *Denarius*, with PROVIDENTIA AVGVSTI : On the obverse Side of which he is entitled IMPERATOR Cæsar Marcus ANnius FLORIANVS Pius AVGVSTUS. For his Authority was acknowledged westward. But the eastern Armies made

made Choice of their Commander PROBUS, who FLORIANVS. was universally beloved. Against him FLORIANUS marched, and pitched his Camp near *Tarsus* in *Cilicia*. But, on the Approach of PROBUS, he was first seized, and afterwards slain, by his own Soldiers, who joined his Competitor; thus feeling, in less than two Months, the ill Effects of his Ambition...



### MARCUS AURELIUS PROBUS.

PROBVS.

**P**ROBUS had been bred in the Service, under the Eye of his Father. He had very early merited the Favour of the preceding Emperors. At the Time of his Election, when he was forty and four Years old, he commanded all the Forces in *Phœnicia, Palestine, Syria, and Egypt*, and was held in general Admiration for his Virtue and Abilities. The Coin, which records his *Adlocution* to the Army on this Occasion, bears his Head radiated, and he holds in his Hand the Sceptre with an Eagle, the Inscription being, IMP C PROBVS AVG CONS.

Pl. LVII. 3. The Reverse, which represents the Horse and Foot assembled before him, as usual, has the Suggestum,

ARMORAM

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11. 10. 11. ON

PROBVS.

Pl. LVII. 4.

Pl. LVII. 5.

Pl. LVII. 6.

on which he stands, marked with the Donative which they received. The Senate cheerfully conferred upon him all the Imperial Honours; on Advice of which he immediately set out from *Cilicia* for *Rome*. His Arrival is distinguished in the usual Manner by his Equestrian Figure, but with the Addition of an Enemy prostrate before him, on whom his Horse is trampling: the Legend ADVENTVS AVG.; and in the Exergue R—A, for *Roma*. For he had particularly distinguished himself in *Africa*; and had there slain, in single Combat, one *Aradion*, whom, for his great Bravery and Spirit, he honoured with a vast sepulchral Tumulus of Earth, thrown up by the Soldiers to the Height of two hundred Feet. This personal Conquest was now further illustrated by a Reverse, which shews him on Horseback, bearing down the same Adversary with his Spear, who in the Fall parts with his Shield. The Legend is VIRTVS PROBI AVG. and in the Exergue KARTHAGO; the Coin having been struck in that Country, which was the Scene of the Action. Another Reverse bears the same Device, with a Victory crowning him with a Wreath, and there the Legend is VIRTVS INVICTI AVG.; and in the Exergue VIXXT, which may be read *Victoria Illustris Vicenarii Tribuni*: For he was made Tribune of a Legion while he was yet without a Beard; and this

3 I 2

Adventure

PROBVS.

Adventure may probably have taken Place in the twentieth or twenty-first Year of his Age. He had also displayed his military Talents with great Glory against the *Franks, Germans, Alemans, Sarmatians, and Scythians*, and in the East against the *Palmyrenians*, from whom he recovered *Egypt*, and smoothed the Way for the Arms of *Aurelian* in that Quarter. The Historians make *Sirmium* the Place of his Nativity; but that Honour is due to *Siscia*, the modern *Sisceck*, at the Confluence of the *Calpa* and the *Saave*, as is evident from the Reverse, which bears the Genius of the Place seated between two Rivers, with SISCIA PROBI AVG.

Pl. LVII. 7.

Seeing his Authority now confirmed, he entered on his first Consulate with *Annius Paulinus*, and took Vengeance on such of the Assassins of AURELIAN as had hitherto escaped it, as well as on those whose seditious Behaviour had given TACITUS so much Trouble, and received the Submission of the *European Armies*. At the Commencement of the new Year, he became Consul the second Time, having *Furius Lupus* for his Colleague. Some of his Coins of this Year are inscribed IMP C MAVR PROBVS AVG. PM TR P COS II. PP. He now marched at the Head of a mighty Army into *Gaul*, which had been overrun by the *Germans*. In this Expedition he recovered seventy considerable Cities from the

the *Barbarians*, and all the Spoil which they had collected. Four hundred thousand of the Enemy were slain, and the Remains of them driven beyond the *Neckar* and the *Elbe*. Nine Kings threw themselves at his Feet, delivered Hostages first, afterwards Supplies of Corn, and last of all their Flocks and Herds. Sixteen thousand of their Youth were incorporated with the *Roman* Troops. He then marched for *Illyricum*, and by the Way settled the Country of the *Rhætiens* in perfect Peace. Next he fell upon the *Sarmatians* and their Allies, obliging them to make Satisfaction for all their Depredations. Thence, bending his Way through the two *Thraces*, he so terrified the *Goths* in general, that they either submitted or entered into Treaty with him. Urging his Progress eastward, he reduced *Isauria*, which had revolted for some Time past, and settled his Veterans in the mountainous Parts of the Country, on Condition that they should send their Sons to the Army, at the Age of eighteen Years. He then marched against the *Blemyes*, whom he subdued, recovering from them *Coptos* and *Ptolemæis*. This alarmed the *Persians*, who sent Ambassadors, and accepted his Conditions of Peace. This done, he returned to *Thrace*, and settled one hundred thousand *Bastarnæ* in the *Roman* Territory. These proved faithful. But the *Gepidæ*, *Juthungi*, and

PROBVS.

and the *Vandals*, whom he favoured in the same Manner, broke out while he was engaged in civil Wars, and ranging far and wide, created no small Trouble to the Empire. These he afterwards destroyed at different Times, few of them returning home, and they glorying to have escaped his Hands. But, for the present, he returned to *Rome*, and triumphed over the *Germans*, *Blemyes*, *Goths*, *Franks*, *Sarmatians*, and *Germans*, whose Subduction had taken up the Time of his third and fourth Consulates. These Successes are celebrated on several Medals of Silver, besides that in Gold, which appears in the Front of this Reign. These all bear his

Pl. LVII. 8.

Head radiated: One with PROBVS PF AVG; having for the Reverse *Phœbus* rapidly driving the solar

Pl. LVII. 9.

Chariot, with SOLI INVICTO. A second has the Sceptre and Eagle before his Head, with IMP C MAVR PROBVS P F AVG.; and the same Device for the Reverse, but somewhat differently expressed, with SOLI INVICTO CM for *Comiti*, and in the Exergue a Compliment is paid to the XXIst

Pl. LVII. 10.

Legion, surnamed *Rapax*. His *Denarius* also shews him radiated, and armed with Helmet, Spear, and Shield, with the Title IMP PROBVS AVG; and on the Reverse, a speeding *Victory* holds out a Wreath in one Hand, and supports a Trophy with the other, and is denominated VICTORIA AVG.

There

There is Thunder in the Exergue, between the Letters R S, for *Romæ Signatus*, stamped at Rome. On this Occasion the Roman People were gratified with all the usual Entertainments; but that of the Circus was extraordinary. Large Trees in full Verdure were taken up, and, when removed thither, fixed with Beams extending from each to each, and Earth thrown upon the Roots, so that the whole Circus resembled a Wood or Forest, into which were let a thousand Ostriches, a thousand Stags, a thousand Boars, as many Does, wild Sheep, and other grazing Animals without Number, which the Populace were to hunt, and to whom was granted a plenary Indulgence of Direption, so that every Man might get what he could for his own Use. Coins in Bronze were also struck, with the TEMPORUM FELICITAS for the Reverse, having a *Caduceus* in one Hand, and a *Cornucopie* in the other.

Pl. LVII. 11.

The Regulation of AURELIAN, respecting the Coinage, had been either imperfect, or not duly observed; since it required the Care of the present Emperor. Of this the very curious Medal before us is a demonstrative Proof. It contains his laureate Head, with IMP PROBVS P F AVG. He is in Armour, with his Spear before him. Upon his Shield he is represented on Horseback, scattering Money.

Pl. LVII. 12.

PROBVS. ney. *Victory* marches before him, and he is followed by a Soldier. Three Nymphs, with each her *Cornucopiæ* and *Scales*, form the Reverse; and underneath their Scales lie Heaps of Money. The Legend is *MONETA AVGVSTI*.

Some Time ago, one *Saturninus*, a Native of *Gaul*, had been declared *Augustus* at *Alexandria*. His Services in *Gaul*, *Africa*, and *Spain*, had been very meritorious; and he had been made Governor of the eastern Limit by *AURELIAN*, who, well acquainted with the *Gallic* Ambition, and the seditious Spirit of the *Egyptians*, had forbidden him to visit that Country. But now, no longer under Restraint, and desirous of seeing the Curiosities of it, he went thither, and; on his Appearance with a great Train, was immediately saluted with the Imperial Titles. This so alarmed him, that he left the Place precipitately, and retired to *Palestine*. There the Consideration of what had passed, and of the Offence already given, made him desperate; so that he assumed the Purple, at the same Instant lamenting with Tears the Necessity of it. Some of his Coins are still extant, inscribed *IMP C Publius SEMPronius SATVRNINVS AVG*. He was at last besieged by the Body of Forces commissioned to reduce him, taken, and put to Death. But by a Greek Medal,

Medal, with ATT KAI ΠΟΥ, CΑΤΤΡΝΕΙΝΟC CΕΒ. ΛΔ, it appears, that this Færcē must have continued to the fourth Year.

PROBUS had reigned three Years, when *Proculus* in *Gaul* was, by the People of *Lyons*, and the Troops under his Command, proclaimed Emperor. He was a *Ligurian* by Birth, and had been bred up amongst the Banditti of that Country, and afterwards distinguished himself in the Army by his great Bravery. His Disposition was strangely libidinous, of which *Vopiscus* gives an extraordinary Instance. His Wealth now enabled him to arm two thousand of his own Slaves. To this Madness he was incited by the Ambition of his Wife *Sampso*, a Woman of masculine Spirit. His usurped Authority was for a little Time serviceable to the *Gallic* Provinces; for he defeated the *Alemans*, who had invaded them, with great Slaughter. PROBUS pursued him with Celerity, from Place to Place; so that at last he put himself under the Protection of the *Franks*, from whom he pretended to derive his Descent, and was by them delivered up. Some of his Coins have reached us, with IMP C T AEL PROCVLVS P F AVG.

But the Rebellion of *Bonofius*, which happened about the same Time, was more formidable. He was born in *Spain*, but of *British* Extraction by the

PROBUS.

Father, his Mother being a *Gaul*. From a common Soldier, he had raised himself to the highest Commands, and was now Governor of the *Rhætian* Limit. He was the greatest Drinker of his Time; yet always sober, having the Faculty of parting with his Liquor by Urine as copiously as he imbibed it. On this Account he was employed by AURELIAN to sift out the Secrets of the Barbarians in their Cups: in which Charge he acquitted himself well, being represented more discreet in his Wine than at other Times. Having suffered the *Germans*, by his Negligence, to burn the *Roman* Fleet under his Command upon the *Rhine*, he saw no Safety for himself but in Rebellion, which he carried on with Courage and Resolution. At last, after a long and sharp Contest, seeing his Affairs desperate, he put an End to his own Life by the Halter; when the Soldiers jestingly said, "It was a Cask, and not a Man, that was hanging there." On some of his Coins he is stiled IMP C Q BONOSIVS P F AVG; and there are others without the P F. He left two Sons, whose Lives the Emperor spared, and settled a Pension upon his Widow *Hunila*, who was a *Gothic* Lady, of excellent Character and Royal Birth.

These Troubles at an End, PROBUS resolved upon an Expedition against the *Persians*; but was slain by

by his own Soldiers on his March through *Illyricum*. He was afterwards honoured with a Consecration, one of his Medals being inscribed DIVO PROBO PIO. He had never suffered his Soldiers to be idle, saying, that “they ought to earn their Maintenance.” In Times of Leisure, they were busied in planting Vineyards, in building and repairing Cities, and other public Works. They were now employed in digging a Canal for draining the Marshes around *Sirmium*, with which hard Toil they had been much incensed. He had also been heard to say, that “in a short Time, he hoped there “ would be no Need of Soldiers.” These Things inflamed their Spirits to a general Mutiny against the Emperor; who fled for his Life to an Iron Tower, from which he had been wont to observe their Works, where he was slain in the seventh Year of his Reign. He was, in civil and military Virtue, superior to most, and equal to any, of his Predecessors. His Assassins immediately repented of their own Temerity, and raised to his Memory an enormous Barrow, with the following Inscription engraven on Marble: “Here  
 “ lies the Emperor PROBUS, of real Probity, victo-  
 “ rious over all the barbarous Nations, and the  
 “ Conqueror of Tyrants.” Amongst his other nu-

PROBVS.

merous public Works, he had rebuilt or repaired the magnificent Temple in the City, which had been erected to *Eternal Rome*, as appears by the

Pl. LVII. 13.

Reverse before us, with the Legend ROMAE AETERNAE.

*[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

MARCUS



MARCUS AURELIUS CARUS.

CARUS, who commanded the *Prætorian* Guards, was presently declared Emperor by the Army, and failed not to execute immediate Vengeance on the Murderers of *PROBUS* ; who, in his Life-time, had highly honoured him with his Recommendation to the Senate, with an Equestrian Statue and a magnificent House erected at the public Charge. The Fathers paused a little on his Election, through Fear of the evil Disposition of his eldest Son *Carinus*, and then recognized his Title. The *Providence* that raised him is acknowledged on the fine Medal of Gold prefixed. As his Predecessor had made the necessary Preparations for a War with

CARVS.

*Persia,*

CARVS.

*Perſia*, the Troops were unanimous for proceeding on that Expedition. They were now ſo quiet and obedient to Command, that the Peaceableneſs of the Army was, for the firſt Time, judged worthy of being celebrated on the Imperial Coins. Some *Denarii* were ſtruck accordingly, with IMP CARVS P F AVG. around his radiated Head; with the PAX EXERCITI for the Reverse, having an Enſign in one Hand, and an Olive Branch in the other. We have the ſame Figure in Bronze, but without the Exergue. He now inveſted his two Sons with the Dignity of *Cæſars* and *Princes of the Youth*, and treated the People with theatrical Entertainments and Circenſian Sports, in which were a Number of very extraordinary Exhibitions, that coſt immense Sums. *Carinus*, the eldeſt, was alſo made Conſul, with his Father the ſecond Time, and in *July* following was ſucceeded in that Office by his Brother *Numerianus*, and both were honoured with Proconſular Authority. This is evident from an Inſcription in *Gruter*, to the Emperor and the young Princes, as follows :

VICTORIOSISSIMO	FORTISSIMO ATQUE	VICTORIOSISSIMO
PRINCIPI IVVENT	CLEMENTISSIMO	PRINCIPI IVVENT.
M. AVRELIO CARINO	IMP. CÆS. M. AVRELIO	M. AVR. NUMERIANO
NOBILISS. CÆSARI	CARO INVICTO AVG.	NOBILISS. CÆSARI
Cos. PROCOS.	P. M. TR. P. II. Cos. II.	PROCOS.
M. AVRELIUS VALENTINIANVS V. C. LEG. AVGG. PRO. PR. PROVINCIÆ		
HISPANIÆ CITERIORIS D. N. M. Q. EORVM.		

CARVS.

We have also a *Denarius* of the last, struck at *Kassandria* in *Macedonia*, with his radiated Head, and M. AVR. NUMERIANVS Cæsar; with his Figure in the military Habit for the Reverse, and PRINCIPI IVVENTutis, and the same in Bronze. There are others of *Carinus* of the same Sort.

Pl. LVII. 15.

The *Sarmatians*, on the Death of *PROBUS*, had invaded the *Roman* Territory, and threatened *Italy* itself; whom he now marched against and defeated, slaying sixteen thousand of them, and taking twenty thousand Prisoners of both Sexes. On this Success he declared his two Sons *AUGUSTI*; as appears from a Reverse of *NUMERIANUS*, where on the two young Emperors are represented as holding a *Victory* (with a Star over it, to intimate the Divinity of their Father, which he even now arrogated) between them, with the Legend *VIRTUS AVGGG*, as sharing with their Father the Honour of the late *Victory*, and the Imperial Authority, signified by the Triplication of the Letter *G*. In the Area *A*, for *Anno Primo*, and in the Exergue *XXI*, as doing Honour to the Fidelity and Bravery of the Legion of that Number. He then sent back *CARINUS* to *Rome*, to take Care of *Africa* and the western Empire; while himself proceeded with *NUMERIANUS* against the *Persians*,

Pl. LVII. 16.

CARUS.

*Persians*, who quitted *Mesopotamia* on his Approach.

He passed the *Tigris*, made himself Master of *Ctesiphon*, and merited the Surname of *PARTHICUS*, which is found on some of his Coins. On others,

Pl. LVII. 17.

he is dignified with the Title of *RESTITVTOR ORBIS*, a venerable Figure placing a Wreath upon his Head, while he holds a *Globe* in one Hand, and the *Hasta pura* in the other. On others we see the *Orient Sun* with his Whip, as representing *the Eternity of the Empire*; and on others the *VICTORIA AVGG.* intending himself and *NUMERIANUS*. But here, as if *Ctesiphon* had been the destined Limit which none of them were to overpass, as some of the Historians intimate, *CARUS* was carried off, either by Disease or the Stroke of Lightning, after a Reign of about sixteen Months. There was at the Time of his Death a remarkable Obscurity of the Air, occasioned by dreadful Storms of Thunder and Lightning, in the Midst of which he breathed his last, when suddenly a Cry was heard, "The Emperor is dead!" Presently after which his Chamberlains, distracted with Grief, set fire to the Pavilion. This occasioned the Rumour of his having been slain by Lightning. His Apotheosis

Pl. LVII. 18.

followed: for round his radiated Head we have *DIVO CARO PARTHICO*, with an Altar blazing;

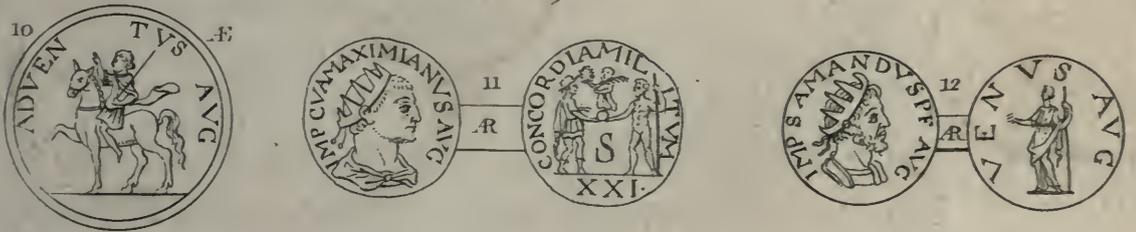




MARCUS AURELIUS CARINUS.  
MARCUS AURELIUS NUMERIANUS.

CARINVS  
AND  
NUMERIANVS.

ALL this while CARINUS was giving the Reins to a most depraved Disposition of his own, sending his best Friends into Exile, destroying the Innocent by false Accusations, debauching the Wives of the Nobility, and raising his Pimps, Pandars, and Catamites to the first Preferments in the State. When CARUS heard of his Behaviour, he cried out, "He is not mine;" and had determined to cut him off, and raise *Constantius*, then Governor of *Dalmatia*, and of unexceptionable Character, to the *Cæsarian* Dignity in his Room; but when he received the News of his Father's Death, he looked upon himself





CARINVS  
AND  
NUMERIANVS.

---

himself as superior to all Controul, rejected the Advice of all Persons of Probity and Prudence, and abandoned himself wholly to the Conversation of the dissolute and worthless. Such were invited to all his Entertainments, and no Deference was paid to any other Character. He had nine Wives in all, several of whom he repudiated while pregnant by him. Thus was the Court filled with Vice and Voluptuoufness. Aware that the Fathers could not approve of such Proceedings, he wrote most haughtily to the Senate, and even promised the Wealth of the Order to the very Rabble of *Rome*. But as the worst Princes are flattered most, and like it best, so we find the *Æquity* even of CARINUS celebrated and described in the usual Manner on one of his *Denarii*, struck at *Kassandra* in *Macedonia*. His Brother, indeed, who well deserved the whole Compliment, is admitted to a Share of it, the Legend being AEQVITAS AVGG. We have also the PIETAS AVG on another of his Reverses, around the Figure of *Mercury*, whom, therefore, we may conclude to have been his favourite Deity. There is one of NUMERIANUS, which perfectly resembles it. Another has the VIRTVS AVGG round the Figure of CARINUS in his military Vest, armed with an Helmet, having the *Parazonium* in one Hand, and the *Hasta pura* in the other. But

Pl. LVIII. 1.

Pl. LVIII. 2.

Pl. LVIII. 3.

CARINVS  
AND  
NUMERIANVS.

Pl. LVIII. 4.

the VIRTVS AVGVSTOR<sup>um</sup> furrounds a very different Device. In the Center stand the two Emperors, in the military Tunic and Imperial Mantle, facing each other. CARINUS is crowned with a Wreath by *Hercules*. NUMERIANUS holds the *Hasta pura* in his left Hand, and a Globe in his right, which he offers to his Brother, and is at the same Time crowned by the *Orient*.

Pl. LVIII. 5.

But this last Prince was possessed of more amiable Talents, and a very different Disposition. He had a fine poetical Genius; his Eloquence was exceedingly powerful; and his Morals without Reproach: So that the CLEMENTIA TEMPORVM, holding the *Hasta pura*, and presenting a *Victory* to him, forms, with great Propriety, one of his Reverses:

Pl. LVIII. 6.

As the MARS VICTOR of another was also due to his distinguished Bravery. On this Account he was very dear to the Army; whose *Fidelity*, holding a Globe, and seated in the Midst of Ensigns, is

Pl. LVIII. 7.

justly celebrated on his Coins, the Legend of which is FIDES EXERCIT. AVG. But his Piety was excessive, and cost him his Life. For he lamented the Death of his Father without ceasing, till his Eyes became so weak, that they could not bear the Light, so that he was forced to be shut up and carried in a close Litter. Of this *Arrius Aper* (whose Daughter he had married, and whom he had made  
Captain

Captain of the *Prætorian* Guards) aspiring to the Empire, took Advantage, and slew him; hoping to conceal his Death till he should have gained over the Army; but it was, too soon for him, discovered by the cadaverous Smell. He was immediately haled before the Ensigns, where a grand Council and Tribunal was held. *Diocles*, Commander of the Household Troops, was unanimously proclaimed *Augustus*. He ascended the Tribunal, and enquired into the Circumstances of his Predecessor's Death. Then drawing his Sword upon *Aper*, and saying, "This was the Murderer of NUMERIANUS," he passed it through his Body, adding "I have slain "*(Aprum fatalem)* the destined Boar at last." For while he was in *Gaul*, and yet a subaltern Officer, a Druides had foretold him; that he would be Emperor after having killed *(Aprum)* a Boar. He therefore hunted frequently, and slew many, complaining on every Change of Emperors, that "he killed the Boars, but others feasted on the Brawn." This gave Occasion to the Action and Expression just mentioned, which he performed and uttered purely to fulfil the Prophecy and confirm his Election. This Event took Place in *August*, about eight Months after the Death of CARUS, when NUMERIANUS had reached the *Hellepont* on his Return homeward. And *Diocles* now softened his  
Name

CARINVS  
 AND  
 NUMERIANVS. Name into **DIOCLETIAN**, and spent the rest of the Year in preparing to meet **CARINUS**.

And **CARINUS**, on the other Side, however deficient in Probity, wanted not Courage for the Vindication of his Right. When apprised of what had passed, he marched from *Gaul*, where he then was, into *Italy*; and, on the Plains of *Verona*, encountered and slew *Sabinus Julianus*, Governor of the *Veneti*, who, on the Death of **CARUS**, had set himself up for Emperor. Thence he turned to *Illyricum*, and, at *Margum* in *Moesia*, had divers Engagements with **DIOCLETIAN**. In the last, some Authors say, that he was victorious, and slain in the Pursuit by a Tribune of his own, whose Wife he had debauched; others, that he was overcome, and fell in the Action; others again, that he was betrayed by his own Men, delivered up, and put to Death by his Rival. However that be, **DIOCLETIAN**, by his Death, became sole Master of the *Roman* Empire.

CAIUS



CAIUS VALERIUS DIOCLETIANUS!

**D**IOCLETIAN now hastened to *Rome*, being acknowledged by the Senate and the Armies. The Consent of the last is expressed on the Reverse before us, where the **CONCORDIA MILITVM**, arrayed in the Imperial Mantle, with the *Hasta pura* in the left Hand, presents to the Emperor with the right a Globe, with a *Victory* mounted thereon, who holds out the laurel Wreath to him. He was now Consul for the second Time, and undertook an Expedition against the *Alemans*, who had entered *Gaul*. His Success was such as warranted the Appellation of **GERMANICVS** upon some Inscriptions, though the Author has not found it upon

DIOCLETIAN.

Pl. LVIII. 8.

THE MEDALLIC HISTORY

DIOCLETIAN.

Pl. LVIII. 9.

upon his Coins, any more than that of BRITANNICVS, which was given him for the Advantages obtained by his Commanders in this Island. On this Occasion, probably, the Coin was struck, which has for its Reverse *Jupiter* wearing a radiated Crown, with a Globe and *Victory* in his right Hand, and an Eagle at his Feet, inscribed IOVI INVICTO AVG; which was agreeable to the early Pride and Presumption of this Emperor, who, though sprung from the Dregs of the People, took the Name of *Jovius*, nor was ashamed of being saluted by the Titles of LORD and GOD, and of being adored as such.

Seeing now that the Condition of the Empire required a Ruler of great Activity and Courage, and being indolent himself, and not fond of exposing his Person; and having no Son; he made Choice of his Friend *M. Aurelius Valerius Maximianus* for his Assistant, adopting and declaring him CAESAR, and in the following Year conferred upon him the Tribunitial Power, with the Title of AVGVSTVS.

M A R C U S



MARCUS AURELIUS VALERIUS  
MAXIMIANUS.

**T**HIS new Emperor was of mean Descent, and no commendable Morals, but of tried Valour and approved Experience in War. The Rebellion of *Aelianus* and *Amandus*, who had put themselves at the Head of the discontented Peasants in *Gaul*, and usurped the Imperial Titles, seems to have forwarded his Appointment. But before he went against the Revolters, both Emperors made their public Entrance into *Rome* with the usual Solemnities; which is expressed on one of MAXIMIAN'S Reverses, by the Figure of *Africa* (because there it was coined) holding a Banner in one Hand, and

DIOCLETIAN  
AND  
MAXIMIAN.

DIOCLETIAN AND MAXIMIAN. Pl. LVIII. 10. an Elephant's Tooth in the other, having a Lion at her Feet, as abounding with that Animal, with the Legend FELIX ADVENT AUGG NN for *Adventus Augustorum nostrorum*. There is the like Reverse and Legend on one of DIOCLETIAN, with a Dragon at her Feet, as being the Nurse of Serpents. The Consent of the Army to his Advancement is also signified by one of his Medals, with his radiated Head, and IMP C VA MAXIMIA- Pl. LVIII. 11. NVS AVG; on the Reverse of which *Jupiter* presents him with a Globe and a *Victory* holding out a Wreath, with CONCORDIA MILITVM.

MAXIMIAN now marched against the Revolters, whom he subdued in a short Time, notwithstanding their obstinate Resistance. We have a Coin of one of their Chiefs, with the Title IMP S AMAN- Pl. LVIII. 12. DVS P F AVG, having a *Venus* for the Reverse, styled VENVS AVG; and of the other with the Pl. LVIII. 13. Head radiated, and IMP CL AELIANVS P F AVG, the Reverse being a *Victory* holding out a Wreath with VICTORIA AVG; an Argument of his having at first gained some Advantage over the Provincial Troops. *Cambden* is altogether of Opinion, that he was called AVGVSTVS in *Britain*; because (as he avers) his Coins are found only in this Island; in which Assertion we fear that he is mistaken. In this War, *Carausius*, so distinguished

guished himself, that the Provision of a large Fleet, which was found necessary, and the Defence of the Sea-coasts, which were ravaged by the *Franks* and *Saxons*, was committed to his Charge.

DIOCLETIAN  
AND  
MAXIMIAN.

While this was doing, DIOCLETIAN passed into the East, who, by his Presence and Preparations, obliged *Narses*, the *Persian* Monarch, to submit to his Terms. The Year after this, the two Emperors were Consuls together; DIOCLETIAN for the third, and MAXIMIAN the second, Time; when the *Burgundians*, the *Alemans*, the *Chaibones*, and the *Heruli*, broke into *Gaul* in such Numbers, as threatened utter Destruction to the Provinces there. But MAXIMIAN, with a few Cohorts only (if we may believe his Panegyrist) defeated the united Force of the two last-mentioned Nations, while the two former, in consequence of his military Prudence, were destroyed by Famine and the Pestilence. For this he seems to have been honoured with an Equestrian Statue; for we see it on one of his Reverses in Gold, with COS II. He also took the Surname of *Herculius*, as another *Alcides*, being represented as such upon his Coins, and frequently spoken of under this Denomination. On one of his Medals of Gold, which bears his Laureate Head, with MAXIMIANVS P F AVG, the Reverse is *Hercules* seizing the sacred Hind, with Feet of

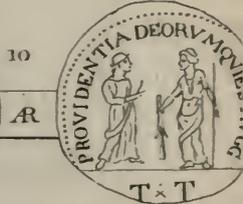
Pl. LVIII. 14.

3 M 2

Brass

DIOCLETIAN AND MAXIMIAN.  
 Pl. LVIII. 15, 16. Brads and Horns of Gold, after his Year's Chace. Behind him is the Lion's Skin, and the Legend is VIRTUS AVGG; in the Exergue P R, for *Percussa Romæ*. On other Reverses he is represented as strangling the *Nemean* Lion, his Club standing behind him as useless, and on one of them a *Victory* (without Wings, as permanent) crowns him with a Wreath. We have the same Device on one of DIOCLETIAN, except that the *Victory* is there alate or winged. The Legend is alike on both, VIRTVTI AVGG.

In the Interim, DIOCLETIAN was watching the Motions of the Barbarians, on the Side of *Pannonia*; and, when MAXIMIAN, after his Victory, passed the *Rhine*, he also entered *Germany*, through *Rhætia*. Their Arms struck such Terror, that two of the *German* Kings, with all Humility, made their Submission to MAXIMIAN, and the Limits of the Empire were greatly extended. One of these Kings, named *Genabod*, was restored to his Dominions, through the Piety of the Emperors, as it is called: For on one of MAXIMIAN's Coins, with his radiated Head, and MAXIMIANVS P F AVG, he is on the Reverse kneeling to him, with the Offering of his *Cornucopiæ*, the Type of his abundant Wealth; while the other lays hold of his right Hand, to raise him from the Earth; and this in the Legend is the





the PIETAS AVGG: the P T R in the Exergue says that it was struck at *Treves*, which was probably the Scene of the Ceremonial. All this while the Agreement of the two Emperors was such as deserved to be recorded: the Reverse of one of DIOCLETIAN's Medals of Gold is therefore dedicated CONCOR- DIAE AVGG NN, shewing a *Victory* with expanded Wings, who crowns them both with Laurel as they sit, having each a Globe in his Hand. DIOCLETIAN  
AND  
MAXIMIAN.  
Pl. LVIII. 20.

The next Year they were Consuls together once more, DIOCLETIAN for the fourth, and MAXIMIAN for the third, Time. And this Dignity is recorded on Medals of Gold, which bear their Heads laureated, with DIOCLETIANVS AVGVSTVS, and MAXIMIANVS AVGVSTVS, while the Reverses shew each its respective Emperor with a Globe in his Hand: but the first is seated, and has a *Victory* on his Globe, with a Palm-Branch in the left Hand, and in the right a Wreath, with which she crowns him; but the last is standing. The Legend of the one is CONSVL IIII PP PROCOS, of the other CONSVL III PP PROCOS. Great naval Preparations were now made for a Descent upon *Britain*. For *Carausius*, who commanded the *Roman* Fleet, and had taken great Spoils from the *Franks* and *Saxons*, which he had converted wholly to his own Use, had thereby incurred the deep Displeasure of Pl. LVIII. 21.  
Pl. LIX. 1.

DIOCLETIAN  
AND  
MAXIMIAN.

of MAXIMIAN, who ordered him to be put to Death. But *Carausius*, having gained Intelligence of this, retired to *Britain* with his Fleet. He had also the Address to win the Legions there to his Interest, and they proclaimed him AVGVSTVS. With all Speed he augmented his Fleet and Army, and strengthened himself by the Accession of Numbers from the Sea Coasts of the Continent, whom he invited to his Service, and made himself Master of *Boulogne*. He is said by some to have been a Native of the Low Countries, by others of *Ireland*. However that be, for seven Years he sustained with great Bravery the Character which he now assumed. His Arrival in the Metropolis of the Island is celebrated on Coins in the usual Manner, by his Equestrian Figure, with ADVENTVS AVG. Against him MAXIMIAN fitted out a most powerful Navy, which *Carausius*, by the Address of his People in maritime Affairs, utterly defeated; insomuch that MAXIMIAN was obliged to enter into Treaty with him, by which his Sovereignty in Britain was acknowledged, on the Condition, which followed of Course, that he should defend it against the Barbarians.

C A R A U S I U S.



XLV

C A R A U S I U S.

HERE then we have a new Emperor in *Britain*; and this Agreement is celebrated, as above, by the Figure of *Peace* on one of his Reverses, with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and an Olive-Branch in the other, stiled PAX AVG. It is not strange, therefore, that we should read around his laureate Head IMP CARAVSIVS P F INVICTUS AVG, or that he should appear on the Reverse, having an armed Spear and Globe in his Hands, with VIRTUS INVICTA AVG. In the Exergue are the Letters Q L, which I read *Quæstor Londinii*. For *London* was at this Time an Emporium of the most considerable Note, and CARAVSIUS probably considered

DIOCLETIAN,  
MAXIMIAN,  
CARAVSIUS.

PI. LIX. 2.

- DIOCLETIAN, considered it as the rising Capital of a new *Roman*  
 MAXIMIAN, Empire. For on a fine Medal of Gold, which shews  
 CARAVSIVS. him in compleat Armour, with a Spear resting on  
 his Shoulder, and the Inscription VIRTVS CA-  
 Pl. LIX. 3. RAVSI, we have the Wolf suckling *Romulus* and  
*Remus* for the Reverse, and the extraordinary Le-  
 gend ROMA *NOstra* RENOVATA: In the Exergue  
 R S R, which may stand for *Rationalis Sacrarum*  
*Rationum*, an Officer answering to our *Chancellor of*  
*the Exchequer*. These Letters are repeated in the  
 Exergue of one of his *Denarii*, which on the ob-  
 Pl. LIX. 4. verse Side has his laureate Head, with IMP CA-  
 RAVSIVS P F AVG, and for the Reverse a Galley  
 with Rowers, and around it FELICITAS. On  
 Pl. LIX. 5. another Reverse, inscribed VBERITAS AVG, *Neptune*  
*tune* takes hold of his Hand, as ensuring *Plenty* to  
 his Reign; and in the Exergue of this we have  
 R S Q, *Rationum Sacrarum Quæstor*. Others give  
 Pl. LIX. 6. us the SALVS AVG, as usual, and others the  
 PROVIDENTIA AVG, with her *Cornucopiæ*, and  
 a Globe at her Feet.
- About this Time, DIOCLETIAN defeated the  
*Sarmatians*, and their Allies, recovering the Pro-  
 vince of *Dacia*, and reannexing it to the Empire.  
 For this he assumed the Name of SARMATICVS,  
 Pl. LIX. 7. and his Victory is celebrated on one of his *Denarii*,  
 which has his laureate Head with DIOCLETIA-  
 NVS

DIOCLETIAN,  
MAXIMIAN,  
CARAVSIUS.

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NVS AVG, and a fortified Camp for the Reverse, before which he is offering Sacrifice, attended by his Officers, and the Legend is VICTORIA SARMATICA. This Success produced a temporary Peace throughout the whole Empire. Coins were struck with the radiated Head of IMP DIOCLETIANVS AVG, with the Eagle before him; the Reverse of which were inscribed IOVI AVGG, with the Figure of *Jupiter* bearing the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and in the other, a Globe, on which stands *Victory*, and the Eagle at his Feet. Others in Gold are inscribed IOVI CONSERVATORI, as in the Frontispiece, and here the Deity grasps his Thunder; as others, with the same Device, are IOVI TVTATORI AVGG. Some of MAXIMIAN, of the baser Silver, on this Occasion bear an uncommon Title, DN MAXIMIANO FELICISSIMO SENIORI AVG, who holds before him an Olive-Branch; and the Reverse contains two female Figures, the one representing the PROVIDENTIA DEORVM, and the other, the QVIES AVGG. This seems to be the proper Season for that Regulation which we judge the Coin to have undergone by the Authority of MAXIMIAN. For on a fine Medallion, which shews him in Armour laureated, having his Horse in his Hand; and on his Shield, the Wolf suckling the two Founders of *Rome*, with

Pl. LIX. 3.

Pl. LIX. 9.

Pl. LIX. 10.

DIOCLETIAN,  
MAXIMIAN,  
CARAVSIVS.

Pl. LIX. 11.

VIRTUS MAXIMIANI AVG; three female Figures form the Reverse, with each her *Cornucopiæ* in the left Hand, and an *even Balance* in the right, with Heaps of Money underneath, and the Legend MONETA AVGG. This Sunshine of Peace invited the two Emperors to an Interview at *Milan*, where they held some private Conferences with great Appearance of Friendship and Cordiality. And here, it may be, was laid the Foundation of that Scheme, which was carried into Execution the following Year. For the Clouds beginning again to gather, they judged it Time to look out for Assistants and Successors. The *Persians* passed the *Tigris*. And the *Five Nations* in *Africa* united against the *Romans*. In *Egypt*, *Achilleus* at *Alexandria* usurped the Imperial Purple, which he held to the sixth Year; for some of his Coins run ΑΥΤ Κ ΑΧΙΛΛΑΕΟC ΕΥC ΕΥΤCΕΒ L S. And *Julianus* did the same in *Italy*. We have his *Denarius*; with IMP C M AVR IVLIANVS P F AVG, with a Reverse, IOVI CONSERVATOrI, as commonly figured. What is intended by the Letters in the Area must be left to the Conjecture of the Reader; but the Numbers in the Exergue seem to intimate, that he was supported by the twenty-first Legion. For these Reasons two *Cæsars* were created, *Galerius Maximian* by DIOCLETIAN, and *Constantius*;

*Chlorus*;

*Cblorus* by MAXIMIAN. Hence we have GAL VAL MAXIMIANVS NOB C, with a Reverse GENIO POPVLI ROMANI. They were at the same Time invested with the Tribunitial and Proconsular Authority, for the Head is laureated. They were also declared *Princes of the Youth*; for on one of his *Denarii*, with MAXIMIANVS NOB CAES, he is figured with a Globe and *Hasta pura*, having the Legend PRINCIPI IVENTutis. To bind them the more strongly to their Interest, they obliged them to part with their former Wives, and to marry, *Galerius* the Daughter of DIOCLETIAN, named *Valeria*, and *Constantius* the Daughter-in-law of MAXIMIAN, called *Theodora*. A Partition of the Empire was likewise made. All that lay on the other Side the *Alps* was committed to the Government of *Constantius*; *Africa* and *Italy* to HERCULIUS MAXIMIAN; *Illyricum*, and all the Provinces to the *Euxine* and the *Hellespont*, to *Galerius*; and all the rest to DIOCLETIAN, to whom the others looked up as to their common Father. This Division threw most grievous Burdens upon the Subject, as each of them had his separate Court and Army, attended with the same Expence as when there was but a single Emperor. *Galerius* was dispatched into *Mesopotamia* against the *Persians*, by whom he was at first roughly handled; but in the

DIOCLETIAN,  
MAXIMIAN,  
CARAVSIVS.

Pl. LIX. 13.

Pl. LIX. 14.

DIOCLETIAN, next Campaign, attacking them on the Side of  
 MAXIMIAN, *Armenia*, he gained a compleat Victory, taking  
 CARAVSIUS. Prifoners the Wives and Children of *Narfes*, and a  
 great Number of his Nobility. *Persia* might have  
 been reduced to a *Roman* Province; but a Peace  
 was granted, and the *Tigris* made the Boundary of  
 the two Empires. The Valour of the Army in  
 this Action is complimented on his *Denarius*; on  
 the obverse Side of which, is the laureate Head of  
*Galerius*, with MAXIMIANVS NOB C; the Re-  
 verse being a strong Camp, before which he is of-  
 fering Sacrifice, with the Legend VIRTVS MI-  
 LITVM.

Pl. LIX. 15.

All this while DIOCLETIAN was engaged in *Egypt*,  
 where he defeated and punished *Achilleus*, reducing  
 the whole Country. HERCULIUS MAXIMIAN was  
 equally successful against the *Moors* in *Africa*,  
 amongst whom *Julianus* had taken Refuge, who  
 now put an End to his own Life. And *Constantius*  
 recovered *Boulogne* from CARAVSIUS, subdued the  
*Franks* who had taken Possession of *Batavia*, and  
 over-ran a great Part of *Germany*, meriting the Sur-  
 name of GERMANICUS. On this Occasion he paid  
 the same Compliment to the Bravery of the Sol-  
 diers, which we have seen paid by *Galerius Maxi-*  
*mian*. For on the *Denarius*, which bears his lau-  
 reate Head, with CONSTANTIVS NOB C, a  
 strong

strong Camp forms the Reverse, before which the Sacrifice is offering, and the Legend is also VIRTVS MILITVM. Soon after, CARAUSIUS was assassinated by the treacherous *Allectus*, his prime Minister, and the Captain of his Guards, whom the Troops proclaimed Emperor in his stead. We have therefore a *Denarius*, with his Head laureated, and around it, IMP C ALLECTVS P F AVG. The Reverse is the *Dea* SALVS AVG, figured in the usual Manner. The M L in the Exergue is the *Moneta Londinii*. There is another Coin with his radiated Head and the same Inscription, having for the Reverse a Ship with Rowers, the Emblem of his maritime Power, and VIRTVS AVG. The Letters in the Exergue are here Q L for *Quæstor Londinii*. In his third Year, *Asclepiodotus*, the General of *Constantius*, landed with an Army in *Britain*, having escaped in a Fog the Vigilance of the *British* Fleet. *Allectus* instantly attacked him with his Forces in a tumultuary Manner, and was slain. Thus was the Island reannexed to the Empire, into which CONSTANTIUS passed, and settled the Affairs of it in such a Manner as greatly endeared him to all the Inhabitants.

DIOCLETIAN,  
MAXIMIAN,  
CARAUSIUS.

Pl. LIX. 16.

Pl. LIX. 17.

Hitherto the Affairs of the Empire had proceeded prosperously under the Auspices of DIOCLETIAN. But now commenced the Tenth Persecution

of:

DIOCLETIAN,  
 MAXIMIAN,  
 CARAVSIVS.

---

of Christianity, and the most dreadful which the Professors of it had yet experienced. This took Place at the Instigation of *Galerius*. DIOCLETIAN withstood his Persuasions for some Time, but being overcome by some of those around him, and by the Response of the *Milesian Apollo*, whom he consulted, Edicts for the Suppression of it were published. Not content with this, *Galerius* had Fire put privately to the Palace in *Nicomedia*, where they were, and accused the *Christians* as the Incendiaries. He tried the Experiment a second Time, but the Mischief was quickly prevented. On this he took his Leave, though in the Depth of Winter, declaring that he fled from the Place through Fear of being burned alive. The Flame of Persecution therefore raged without Respect of Persons. *Prisca* and *Valeria*, the Wife and Daughter of DIOCLETIAN, who had been converted, were compelled to sacrifice. The most powerful Eunuchs of the Court were put to Death. Those of every Sex and Age were hurried to the Stake, or thrown into the Sea; and Tortures, before unheard of, were inflicted. Letters were written to *HERCULIUS* and *Constantius*, recommending to them the same Measures. The former was ready enough, for it suited his Morals and Disposition. And the latter, that he might not seem to oppose their united

Resolution, suffered some Churches to be pulled down, but touched no Man's Life.

DIOCLETIAN,  
MAXIMIAN,  
CARAVSIUS.

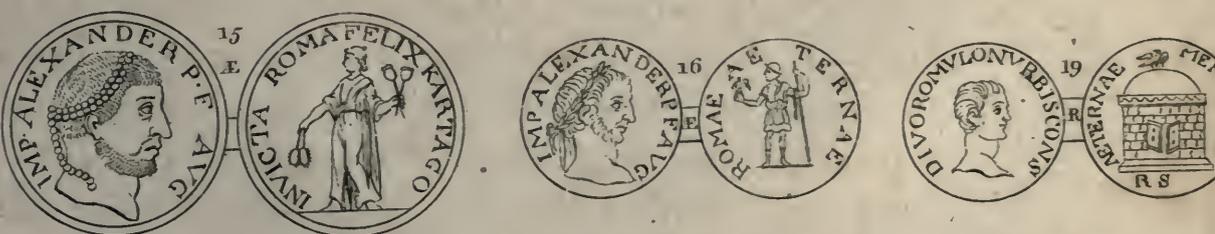
At this Time, *Eugenius* was proclaimed Emperor by a Body of Men whom he commanded, in the City of *Seleucia*, who marched suddenly to *Antioch*, which he took Possession of. But as soon as the *Antiochians* were apprized of his Intentions, they rose upon him in the Evening, and massacred both him and his Attendants. Notwithstanding which, the principal Magistrates, both of *Antioch* and *Seleucia*, without further Enquiry, suffered Death by the positive Orders of DIOCLETIAN.

The next Year the two Emperors and their two Cæsars assembled at *Rome*. Here they triumphed for the Victories which they had severally obtained; and here the *Vicennalia* of DIOCLETIAN, who had now seen the twentieth Year of his Reign, were celebrated. There are two Reverses in Gold which record this Event. Each of them is a Wreath of Laurel inclosing; the one, XX DIOCLETIANI AVG S M T, *Vicenalia Diocletiani Augusti Signata Moneta Treviris*; the other, VOT XX SIC XXX, *Votis Vicenalibus Sic Tricenalibus*, intimating that, as the Vows for his *Vicenalia* completed were now paid, so those for another prosperous Term of ten Years to make up his *Tricenalia* were now made. But as the *Roman* People taxed him with Avarice,  
and.

Pl. LIX. 18,  
19.

DIOCLETIAN,  
MAXIMIAN,  
CARAVSIUS.

and were free in their Speeches at this Solemnity, he quitted *Rome* in a *Pet*, even in the Middle of *December*, and retired to *Ravanna*, where on the First of *January* he assumed the *Fafces* for the ninth Time, in Conjunction with *HERCULIUS MAXIMIAN* the eighth Time. This unseasonable Journey brought on a Fit of Sicknefs, which was nearly fatal, and did great Injury to his Faculties. However, in the Course of the Summer, by slow Journeys, and in a Litter, he once more reached *Nicomedia*; and early in the Spring of the succeeding Year, was well enough to appear in public. But the Ambition of *Galerius* judged him now too weak to hold the Reigns of Government. This Prince insisted upon his immediate Resignation, to which *DIOCLETIAN* seemed not much averfe. He wrote also to *HERCULIUS MAXIMIAN* to the same Purpose: and, to avoid a civil War, for which *Galerius* was too well provided, it was at last concluded, that the two old Emperors should abdicate, that *Constantius* and *Galerius* should be declared *AUGUSTI*, and two new *Cæfars* be made Choice of. For this Dignity, *DIOCLETIAN* proposed *Maxentius*, the Son of *HERCULIUS MAXIMIAN*, who had married *Magnia Urbica*, the Daughter of *Galerius*, and *Constantine* the Son of *CONSTANTIUS*. But *Galerius*, who carried every Thing with an  
high





high Hand, insisted upon the Nomination of *Severus*, who was to succeed *HERCULIUS* in the Government of *Italy* and *Africa*, and *Daza* his own Nephew, to whom he gave the Name of *Maximin*, who was to supply the Place of *DIOCLETIAN* in the East. We have therefore the laureate Head of the former, with *FLAVIUS VALERIUS SEVERVS NOB C*; and for the Reverse, *Mars Victor*, armed with Helmet and Spear, and bearing a Trophy on his Shoulder, with the Legend *VIRTVS AVGG ET CAESS NN*; *Virtus Augustorum et Caesarum Nostrorum*: and of the latter, with *MAXIMINVS NOB CAESAR*, and the same *Mars* for the Reverse, armed with Helmet, Sword, and Spear, and underneath *P T*, for *Percussa Treviris*.

DIOCLETIAN,  
MAXIMIAN,  
CARAVSIVS.

Pl. LX. 1.

Pl. LX. 2.



FLAVIUS CONSTANTIUS.

GALERIUS VALERIUS MAXIMIANUS.

CONSTANTIUS  
AND  
GALERIUS.

CONSTANTIUS CHLORUS and GALERIUS MAXIMIAN now appear on their Medals, as above, with the Title of AUGUSTUS. *Herculius Maximian*, little pleased with his private Condition, retired into *Lucania* for a Season. *Diocletian* took up his Residence at *Salona*, his native City in *Dalmatia*, now called *Spalato*. Here he erected for himself a most magnificent Palace, the stately Ruins of which excite Admiration to this Day, and amused himself with the Cultivation of his Garden. Being some Time after invited by *Herculius* and his Friends

Friends to resume the Imperial Dignity, he rejected the Proposal with Contempt. His Behaviour to the Ambassadors on this Occasion is well described by our most excellent *Cowley* :

Methinks I see great *Diocletian*, walk  
In the *Salonian* Garden's noble Shade,  
Which by his own Imperial Hands was made :  
I see him smile, methinks, as he does talk  
With the Ambassadors, who came in vain,  
T' entice him to a Throne again ;  
If I, my Friends (said he) should to you shew  
All the Delights which in these Gardens grow ;  
'Tis likelier much, that you should with me stay,  
Than 'tis that you should carry me away :  
And trust me not, my Friends, if every Day,  
I walk not here with more Delight,  
Than ever after the most happy Fight  
In Triumph to the Capitol I rode,

To thank the Gods, and to be thought myself almost a God.

From the Time that *CONSTANTIUS* took this Title, the Persecution ceased in the West. Both Emperors held the Fasces together in the two succeeding Years, at the End of which *CONSTANTIUS* died at *York*. His first Wife was *HELENA*, whom he parted with for Reasons of State, and married *THEODORA*, the Daughter of *Eutropia* (the Wife of *Herculius Maximian*) by a former Husband, by whom he had three Sons, *Dalmatius*, *Constantius*, and *Annibalianus* ; and three Daughters, *Constantia*,

3 O 2

*Eutropia*,

CONSTANTIVS  
AND  
GALERIVS.

Pl. LX. 3.

*Eutropia*, and *Anastasia*. Her *Denarius* is inscribed FLAVIA MAXIMIANA THEODORA AVGVSTA. On the Reverse she is represented as giving suck to one of her Children under the very proper Title of PIETAS ROMANA. At her Feet is a Branch of Laurel, and in the Exergue TR, P for *Treviris Percussa*. On her Death he received again his first Wife HELENA with great Satisfaction. She is also honoured with the Imperial Title on her *Denarius*, being there stiled FLAVIA HELENA AVGVSTA.

Pl. LX. 4.

The Reverse is a female Figure veiled and standing (the Emblem of Religion) with a Branch of Laurel in her Hand, denominated the SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE: in the Exergue, P TR *Percussa*.

Pl. LX. 5.

*Treviris*. On one of her Coins in Bronze she is attired in the same Manner; and called FL IVLIA HELENA AVGV, with PAX PVBLICA for the Reverse, holding a Branch of Laurel in one Hand, and the *Hasta pura* in the other. She bore to him two Sons; the youngest of whom died, and the eldest was afterwards *Constantine* the Great. This young Prince had been detained first in the Court of *Diocletian*, and afterwards in that of GALERIUS, being little better than an Hostage for the peaceable Behaviour of his Father, who had often reclaimed him in vain. At last, when GALERIUS could no longer withstand his Sollicitations, he

seemed to consent to his Departure, but dispatched a Messenger to *Severus* in *Italy* to intercept him. But *Constantine*, who was expected to take a formal Leave of *GALERIUS* the next Day, setting out in the preceding Evening, and hamstringing all the Post-Horses as he went, to prevent a Pursuit, outwent the Express, and arrived in *Britain* time enough to receive his Father's last Embraces, was solemnly appointed to succeed him as Emperor, and was with much Alacrity acknowledged by the Army and People. The Consecration of *CONSTANTIUS* immediately took Place, who accordingly appears veiled upon his Coins, with *DIVO CONSTANTIO PIO PRINCIPi*, with a Lion for the Reverse, and the Legend *MEMORIAE AETERNAE*: in the Exergue, *R S, Romæ Signata*. Other Reverses are the Eagle, or an Altar blazing between two Eagles, with *MEMORIA FELIX*, and *P TR, Percussa Treviris*. His Name always occurs before that of *GALERIUS* on Account of his illustrious Descent, being of the Family of *CLAUDIUS GOTHICUS*. He was not learned, yet possessed a Fund of good Sense, which enabled him to see the Vanity of Paganism, and induced him to profess himself the Worshipper of the One God, the Creator of Heaven and Earth; whence he first protected, and afterwards patronized, the *Christians*.

*CONSTANTIUS  
AND  
GALERIUS.*

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PL. LX. 6.

PL. LX. 7.

His

CONSTANTIUS  
AND  
GALERIUS.

His Gravity was such as became the Ruler of a great Empire, and his Modesty and Mildness were truly amiable. He loved his Subjects as his Children, and took high Delight in their Content and Welfare, depending, with Reason, upon their reciprocal Gratitude and Affection; for when *Diocletian*, by his Messengers, reproached him for his Moderation, and the Poverty of his Exchequer, he detained them a few Days, till he had intimated to the wealthiest of his People, how acceptable their Assistance would be at this Time; after which he invited them to a view of his Treasures, when they were astonished at the immense Heaps of Gold and Silver which they found accumulated. This done, he repaid his Friends the several Sums sent in.

FLAVIUS



FLAVIUS CONSTANTINUS.

**H**IS Son CONSTANTINE, now Emperor by the Disposition of his Father, met with no Obstruction to his Pretensions on this Side the *Alps*. But when GALERIUS received his Image arrayed in the Imperial Ornaments, as usual, he did not acknowledge him till after much Hesitation, and then only favoured him with the Title of CÆSAR. Therefore, on one of his Coins, struck at *Treves*; we read around his laureate Head CONSTANTINVS NOB CAES; on the Reverse of which he is *Mars* completely armed, with the Legend PERPETVA VIRTVS. And he deserved this Eulogy; for his Affability, Generosity, and Gallantry, had rendered him

GALERIUS  
AND  
CONSTANTINE.

PL. LX. 8.

2.

the

GALERIUS  
AND  
CONSTANTINE.

PL. LX. 9.

the Theme of every Tongue. Another, with the same Title, and a much better Impression, has the same Deity for the Reverse; but the Legend is MARTI PATRI PROPVGnatori. But when the like Image arrived at *Rome*, it raised both the Indignation and Ambition of *Maxentius* beyond all Bounds. He was the Son of *Herculius*, and the Son-in-Law of GALERIUS MAXIMIAN, and considered himself as equally entitled to the Empire, though he had not been honoured with the Title of CÆSAR. For neither of those Emperors entertained the least Affection for him; the Deformity of his Body, and the Depravity of his Mind, having rather excited their Aversion. He therefore found Means, by the Assistance of *Marcellinus* and *Marcellus*, two military Tribunes, and *Lucianus*, who had the Charge of distributing Flesh to the People, to engage both the Commonalty and the Prætorian Guards in his Interest. Being proclaimed Emperor by them, the Senate came into the Measure. At the same Time he made himself Master of the City, by the Murder of *Abellius* the Governor. Hence we have his laureate Head, with IMP C MAXENTIVS P F AVG, and *Castor* and *Pollux* for the Reverse, with AETERNITAS AVG, which now began to be one of the Imperial Titles.

MAXENTIUS.



## M A X E N T I U S.

**B**UT his Father-in-Law GALERIUS was so far from recognizing his Authority, that he urged *Severus*, whose Province he had usurped, to march against him, which he did with a sufficient Strength, advancing to the Walls of *Rome*. But MAXENTIUS had invited his Father *Herculius* thither, who readily attended him, being desirous of turning the Confusion of the Times to his own Advantage; for which Reason he endeavoured (but without Success) to persuade *Diocletian* to join him. He had the Address, however, to prevail upon his Son and the Senate to consent to his Resumption of the Imperial Dignity. Hence on a Golden Medal, having round

GALERIUS,  
CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIUS,  
MAXIMIAN.

GALERIUS,  
CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIVS,  
MAXIMIAN.

Pl. LX. 10.

the laureate Head MAXENTIVS P F AVG, we read on the Reverse, which bears the Figure of *Hercules*, armed with his Bow and Club, HERCVLI COMTI AVGG, and CAES N P R. This by the P R was struck at *Rome*, and by the CAES N, or *Cæsaris Nostri*, it appears that his Son *Romulus* had now received that Appellation. And now by Dint of Money, and large Promises, they prevailed upon the greater Part of the Forces of *Severus*, with *Anulinus*, his Captain of the Guards, to desert their Leader; so that he found himself obliged to retreat to *Ravenna*, where he was besieged by MAXIMIAN, who, with most solemn Oaths and Assurances of Safety, decoyed him thence; and at a Place called *The Three Taverns*, on his Return towards *Rome*, put him to Death. This Success is recorded on several Coins of MAXENTIVS, which have for the Reverse the Temple of *Romulus*. In one a *Victory* is offering a Wreath to the Deity of the Place, who has a Captive at his Feet. On a second, one of the Emperors kneels before him, while the other holds out the Wreath of Laurel. The Legend is the same on all, CONSERVatori VRBis SVAE. They now had Reason to dread the Resentment of GALERIUS, and therefore made it their first Care to fortify the City in the most effectual Manner. After which HERCVLIUS set out for *Treves*, in order to engage

Pl. LX. 11.

Pl. LX. 12.

the Friendship of CONSTANTINE, whom to this End he acknowledged as AUGUSTUS, and gave to him his Daughter *Fausta* in Marriage, his first Wife *Minervina*, the Mother of *Crispus*, being dead. On her Coins she is therefore stiled FLAVIA MAXIMIANA AVGVSTA, and has for the Reverse the SPES REIPUBLICAE: in the Exergue S M T S P, which *Patin* reads *Sacra Moneta Treviris Percussa*. On this Occasion 'tis probable that the Reverse in Gold was struck in the same Place, which shews CONSTANTINE as in the Act of distributing a Congiary, with the Legend FELICITAS REIPUBLICAE P TR.

GALERIUS,  
CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIUS,  
MAXIMIAN.

Pl. LX. 13.

Pl. LX. 14.

While Matters were thus proceeding in the West, GALERIUS marched to *Rome*, with Menaces of exemplary Vengeance: but on his Arrival, finding himself unable to carry the City, and seeing some of his Forces already debauched by the Artifices of MAXENTIUS, he retreated with Shame. About the same Time the Troops in *Africa* revolted, chusing one *Alexander*, a Person of mean Birth and Character, for their Emperor; who held that State and Title to his fourth Year, for one of his *Greek* Coins is dated L Δ, *Anno Quarto*; when he was overcome, taken, and strangled, by the Generals of MAXENTIUS. On one of his Coins, in Bronze, he is crowned with a Wreath of Pearls, and entitled

3 P 2

IMP

GALERIUS,  
CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIUS,  
MAXIMIAN.

IMP ALEXANDER P F AVG. The Reverse is the Genius of *Carthage*, with Poppies in one Hand, and Ears of Corn in the other, and the Legend

Pl. LX. 15.

INVICTA ROMA FELIX KARTAGO. On another he is laureated, with the same Inscription;

Pl. LX. 16.

but the Reverse is a military Figure, representing *Rome*, with the *Hasta pura* in one Hand, and a *Victory* in the other, and the Legend ROMAE AETERNAE.

HERCULIUS MAXIMIAN having now gained, as he thought, an Ally and Protector, on whom he could depend, returned to *Rome*, with a Resolution to supplant and dethrone his Son MAXENTIUS. He used every Art to bring over the Troops to his separate Interest; and when he judged his Plot ripe, harangued them from the Tribunal whereon his Son was seated with him. His Speech was entirely a Declamation against the Measures and Behaviour of his Son, whom he degraded on the Spot, drawing from his Shoulders the Imperial Mantle. But MAXENTIUS, leaping down, implored the Protection of the Soldiers; and by the Piteousness of his Entreaties, and the Immensity of his Promises, turned their Resentment against his Father, whom they threatened with immediate Death. The old Emperor saved his Life with Difficulty, by declaring, that “ the whole Scheme was intended  
“ purely

“ purely for a Trial of their Fidelity to his Son,  
 “ the Assurance of which gave him the highest Sa-  
 “ tisfaction, and which could not be sufficiently  
 “ commended.” Presently after this he quitted  
 the City, and returned to CONSTANTINE, whom  
 not finding so eager to support him, as he wished  
 and expected, he left him as suddenly, and flew to  
 GALERIUS, in *Pannonia*, where *Diocletian* also then  
 was. Here he met with little Consolation, being  
 only a Witness of the Exaltation of *Licinius*, whom  
 GALERIUS had before made CÆSAR in the room of  
*Severus*, and now declared AUGUSTUS. All the  
 Merit of this new Emperor consisted in his being a  
 good Officer, and strict Disciplinarian: for he was  
 of mean Descent, proud, unlearned, debauched,  
 unmerciful, and avaricious. The Coins which  
 speak of him in his first Capacity, shew him in  
 Armour, with DN VAL LICINianus LICINIUS  
 NOB C, and have the Reverse inscribed IOVI  
 CONSERVATORI, with S M K in the Exergue,  
*Signata Moneta Karnunti*. But the following is one  
 of those in Gold which record him as Emperor, and  
 the Compliment of the Reverse is paid to his mili-  
 tary Prowess only.

GALERIUS,  
 CONSTANTINE,  
 MAXENTIVS,  
 MAXIMIAN.

PL. LX. 17.

V A L E R I U S



## VALERIUS LICINIANUS LICINIUS.

**H**IS Jurisdiction was to comprehend the Provinces of *Rhætia* and *Pannonia*, with *Italy* and *Africa*, when they should be recovered from **MAXENTIUS**. Soon after, *Maximin* was acknowledged **AUGUSTUS**, by his Uncle **GALERIUS**, who on that Occasion found himself obliged to do the same by **CONSTANTINE**.

GALERIUS,  
CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIUS,  
MAXIMIAN,  
LICINIUS.

MAXIMINUS.



## M A X I M I N U S.

THIS strange Number of Emperors bred Dis- traction in the Commonwealth, and could not last long. And as the Number of Emperors, so that of Consuls, was enlarged. At *Rome*, MAX- ENTIVS and his Son *Romulus* sustained that Dignity. This young Prince was born of MAGNIA URBICA, the Daughter of GALERIUS, of whom we have several Coins, and amongst the rest a curious Medalion, with her Busto in a Crescent, inscribed MAGNIA VRBICA AVGVSTA: the Reverse is a Temple, with the Legend GLORIA ROMANorum. By the COM in the Exergue, it may have been struck at *Comum*, in the Milanese. Other Reverses of this Empress

GALERIVS,  
CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIVS,  
MAXIMIAN,  
LICINIVS,  
MAXIMIN.

Pl. LX. 18.

GALERIUS,  
 CONSTANTINE,  
 MAXENTIVS,  
 MAXIMIAN,  
 LICINIUS,  
 MAXIMIN.

Empress are the VENVS CELESTIS and the VENVS GENETRIX, but figured alike, with the *Hasta pura* and the Golden Apple. *Romulus* probably died before his Father, and while he discharged this Office. For on one of his Coins we see, around his youthful Head, DIVO ROMVLO N VRIS CONS, which can be only intended, with Propriety, for *Nostræ Urbis Consuli*. The Reverse is a Temple, with an Eagle upon the Dome of it, and the Legend AETERNAE MEMORIAE: underneath R S, *Romæ Signata*.

Pl. LX. 19.

HERCULIUS MAXIMIAN, now weary of being a Witness to the superior State of GALERIUS, once more withdrew into *Gaul*, to watch for an Opportunity of deposing his Son-in-Law. With this View he made a second Resignation of the Imperial Power. The Franks were then in Arms. He persuaded CONSTANTINE, that a small Detachment of his Forces was sufficient for this Expedition, and his Authority and Experience had Weight. When therefore he marched against them, he left the main Strength of his Army with *Herculius*, who, catching the Opportunity of his Absence, on a Sudden resumed the Purple, seized upon his Treasures, and bribed the Troops to a Revolt. CONSTANTINE, informed of this, flew back, and surprized him before he was sufficiently provided for Defence. He fled, and

and shut himself up in *Marseilles*, where he was besieged and taken; and, being again stripped of the Purple, his Life was granted to the Intercession of FAUSTA. But this Mercy was ineffectual to his Cure; for he did not cease to solicit his Daughter with Obtestations, Promises, Entreaties, and Commands, to concur with him in the Destruction of her Husband, by giving him an easy Access to his Chamber in the Night. To this at last she assented, or seemed to assent; but whether from Penitence or Design, revealed the Proposal to her Lord. An Eunuch was ordered to sleep there. At Midnight *Herculius* entered, and dispatched him with a Dagger. Supposing now that he had carried every Point, he rushed out, and called aloud, glorying of the Fact. Presently appeared CONSTANTINE, surrounded by his Guards. The dead Body was produced, and the Murderer, manifestly guilty, had no Plea. The Choice of his own Death was allowed to him; in Consequence of which he was strangled. That he was honoured with a Consecration (however strange) is very evident, from the several Coins inscribed DIVO MAXIMIANO, with the Addition of SENIORI OPTIMO PRINCIPi, or FELICISSIMO SEN AVG, or SEN FORT IMP, or PATRI.

In the same Manner, and about the same Time, perished *Alexander*, the Usurper, in *Africa*, after

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having

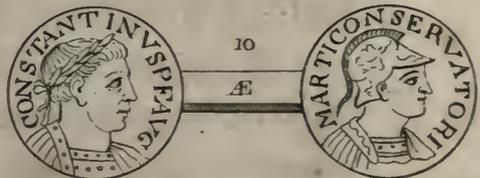
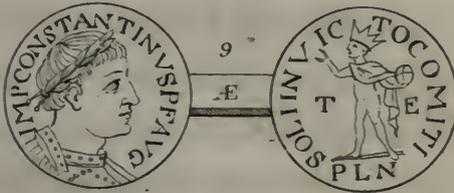
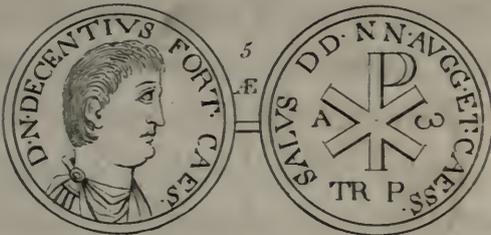
GALERIUS,  
CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIVS,  
MAXIMIAN,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

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CONSTANTINE, MAXENTIVS, MAXIMIAN, LICINIUS, MAXIMIN.  
 Pl. LXI. 1. having been defeated, and taken Prisoner by *Volusianus* and *Zena*, the Generals of MAXENTIVS. This Success is celebrated on a Medal of Gold, which bears his full Face (and it is the first full Face to be observed on the Coins of the Emperors) with MAXENTIVS P F AVG. The Reverse is a Shield, resting on a Column, on which a *Victory* is inscribing VOTIS X; and the Legend is VICTORIAE AETERNAE AVGVSTI NOSTRI: in the Exergue P OST, for *Percussa Ostiæ*. For this he also triumphed with great Pomp.

Nor was CONSTANTINE less successful on the *Rhine*, where he overthrew the Confederate *Germans* with dreadful Slaughter. On which Occasion the Medal of Gold was struck, with his laureate Head, and CONSTANTINVS P F AVG, with a *Victory*, having a Palm-Branch and Wreath for the Reverse, entitled VICTORIA CONSTANTINI AVG: in the Exergue P TR, *Percussa Treviris*. Another Reverse represents him in the military Habit, with an armed Spear and Globe, and two Captives at his Feet, being styled VBIQVE VICTOR.

Pl. LXI. 2.  
 Pl. LXI. 3. Meantime GALERIUS MAXIMIAN was struck with a strange Disease, an Ulcer in the Genitals, which baffled all the Art of the Faculty. *Apollo* and *Æsculapius* were therefore consulted to as little Purpose. The Disorder spread, and Worms bred in his





his Intestines. His Pains were excruciating, and the Stench of his Body intolerable. This Malady continued to afflict him for a whole Year, and he believed it himself to be judicial. He therefore published an Edict (which *Lactantius* has given us at Length) allowing to the *Christians* the open Profession of their Religion, and requiring their Prayers for his own Health, and the Prosperity of the Empire. A few Days after he gave up the Ghost, having first recommended his Wife and Son to the Protection of LICINIUS. He had married, as has been said, VALERIA, the Daughter of *Diocletian*, who is therefore called on her Coins GALERIA VALERIA AVG; the Reverse of which is inscribed VENERI VICTRICI, who is figured with the Golden Apple in her Hand. By the ALE, the Coin appears to have been struck at *Alexandria*. Of GALERIUS himself, nothing good can be said. He was a cruel Tyrant, and a most unfeeling Oppressor, immersed in Luxury, and leaving in every City through which he passed, most flagrant Testimonies of his Debauchery, in the Dishonour of Matrons, and the Rape of Virgins. He died in the twentieth Year of his Reign, computing from the Time that he was invested with the Dignity of CÆSAR, and was deified; for some of his Coins are inscribed DIVO GAL VAL MAXIMIANO.

CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIVS,  
LICINIYS,  
MAXIMIN.

PL. LXI. 4.

CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIVS,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

The Death of *Galerius* brought on a Contest between *LICINIUS* and *MAXIMIN*. The latter immediately marched from *Syria*, towards the *Helleſpont*, and made himſelf Maſter of the intermediate Provinces; while the former moved Eaſtward from *Pannonia*, and took Poſſeſſion of *Thrace*. ( Thus the *Helleſpont* put a Stop to their further Proceedings, and became, by Agreement, the Boundary of their reſpective Empires. *MAXIMIN* now renewed the Perſecution of the *Chriſtians*; but, inſtead of putting them to Death, commanded that they ſhould be puniſhed with Loſs of Sight, or maimed; ſo that many loſt their Hands and Feet, while others had their Noſes or Ears cut off. His Debaucheries were without Bounds; for he ſpared neither Maids nor married Women, of whatever Rank. *VALERIA*, though conſigned to the Protection of *LICINIUS*, had taken Refuge with him. He invited her to his Bed, even promiſing to repudiate his Wife to make room for her. And when ſhe excuſed herſelf, on Account of her Mourning, and the recent Death of her late Huſband, he cruelly baniſhed both her and her Mother from Place to Place, ſeized her Effects, put her Eunuchs to Death, and condemned her female Friends for pretended Adulteries. Nor could all the repeated Entreaties of *Diocletian* himſelf prevail in Behalf of his unhappy Daughter. It hap-  
pened

pened that CONSTANTINE at the same Time issued Orders for destroying the Images of the Elder MAXIMIAN; and as for the most Part the Figure of his Colleague *Diocletian* was joined in the same Piece; and the Demolition affected both, the old Emperor, overcome with these Indignities, and looking upon them as the Prelude to further Violence, pined away, and at last starved himself to Death.

CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIUS,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

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Meanwhile MAXENTIUS, though extremely odious at *Rome*, by the Multitude of his Debaucheries, Cruelties, and Oppressions, yet made mighty Preparations to revenge, as he said, his Father's Death. His Design was to march against CONSTANTINE, by the Way of *Rætia*; having at the same Time an Eye upon *Dalmatia* and *Illyricum*. CONSTANTINE did not fail to disculpate himself by Letters; but they were so ill received, that the Tyrant in a Rage destroyed his Statues and Images. This was an open Declaration of War. So that CONSTANTINE set forward against him, with an Army of ninety thousand Foot and eight thousand Horse. But MAXENTIUS had more than double the Number of Cavalry; and his Infantry amounted to one hundred and seventy thousand fighting Men; of these, more than eighty thousand were *Italians*, and enured to the Service: whereas CONSTANTINE had but twenty-five

CONSTANTINE,  
MAXENTIVS,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

five thousand *Romans* in his Army. This Expedition, therefore, excited many serious Reflexions, which shewed him the Necessity of having Recourse to some able Protector. LICINIUS indeed entered into Treaty with him, on Promise of having his Sister *Constantia* to Wife, but sent him no Troops. The miserable End of the great Persecutors of Christianity, and the continued Success and peaceable Death of his Father, who had protected that Profession, struck him forcibly. His Principles, therefore, he determined from this Time to embrace and adhere to. Accordingly he made his fervent Addresses to the ONE God of Heaven and Earth, for Support and Assistance. The Consequence of which was, the miraculous Vision of the Cross, which appeared to himself and the whole Army at Noon-day, with the Inscription EN ΤΟΥΤΩ ΝΙΚΑ, *In this conquer*. Instructed by a divine Admonition, he caused the Figure to be engraven on his Shields and Ensigns, and a rich Imperial Standard to be made in Imitation of it.

Pl. LXI. 5. The Figure is annexed, as it appears on a Reverse of *Decentius*, where the initial Letters which compose it, are explained by the A and W in the Area, and the Standard or *Labarum*, as we see it on one of

Pl. LXI. 6. CONSTANTINE'S own Coins, where it is called the GLORIA EXERCITVS; on the Obverse of which  
the

the Emperor wears a Diadem, decorated with precious Stones. We see it also on a Reverse of his Son *Constantius*, with the Legend IN HOC SIGNO VICTOR ERIS. The Event is well known. It is sufficient to say that, in the general Action which ensued, CONSTANTINE was victorious, and MAXENTIUS was drowned in the *Tiber*, the Bridge breaking under him in his Flight. *Rome* opened her Gates, and received the Conqueror as her Deliverer, with all possible Demonstrations of Joy. The Victory was recorded on Medals of Gold, which shew him in Armour, with his Helmet laureated, and the Title CONSTANTINVS AVG: the Reverse, two *Victories*, holding a Shield upon a Column, inscribed VOT X, with the Legend VICTORIAE LAETAE PRINCIPIS PERPETUI. In the Exergue P R, for *Percussa Romæ*. But on those of Bronze, the Inscription of the Shield and Column is VOT P R X, *Votis Populi Romani Decennialibus*; and there are two Captives in the Exergue. A triumphal Arch was erected, with the Inscription which occurs on the great Medallion, which we lately gave, and the Addition of LIBERATORI VRBIS. FVNDATORI QUIETIS. It is still existing, and is, says Mr. *Addison*, “ not only the noblest in *Rome*, but “ in the World. I searched narrowly into it, “ especially among those Additions of Sculpture

CONSTANTINE,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

PI. LXI. 7.

PI. LXI. 8.

CONSTANTINE,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

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“ made in the Emperor’s own Age, to see if I  
 “ could find any Mark of the Apparition, that is  
 “ said to have preceded the very Victory, which  
 “ gave Occasion to the triumphal Arch. But there  
 “ are not the least Traces of it to be met with;  
 “ which is not very strange, if we consider that  
 “ the greatest Part of the Ornaments were taken  
 “ from *Trajan’s* Arch, and set up to the new Con-  
 “ queror in no small Haste, by the Senate and  
 “ People of *Rome*, who were then most of them  
 “ Heathens. There is, however, something in the  
 “ Inscription, which is as old as the Arch itself,  
 “ which seems to hint at the Emperor’s Vision.  
 “ *Imp. Cæs. Fl. Constantino Maximo P. F. Augusto*  
 “ *S. P. Q. R. quod instinctu Divinitatis mag-*  
 “ *nitudine cum exercitu suo tam de Tyranno quàm de*  
 “ *omni ejus factione uno tempore justis rempublicam*  
 “ *ultus est armis arcum triumphis insignem dicavit.*  
 “ To the Emperor CONSTANTINE, &c. the Senate  
 “ and People of *Rome* have dedicated this triumphal  
 “ Arch, because, *through a divine Impulse*, with a  
 “ Greatness of Mind, and by Force of Arms, he  
 “ delivered the Commonwealth at once from the  
 “ Tyrant and all his Faction.” There is no Statue  
 “ of this Emperor at *Rome* with a Cross to it,  
 “ though the Ecclesiastical Historians say there  
 “ were many such erected to him. I have seen  
 “ his

“ his Medals that were stamped with it, and a very  
 “ remarkable one of his Son *Constantius*, where he  
 “ is crowned by a *Victory* on the Reverse, with  
 “ this Inscription, *in hoc Signo Victor eris. R.* This  
 “ triumphal Arch, and some other Buildings of  
 “ the same Age, shew us that Architecture held  
 “ up its Head after all the other Parts of designing  
 “ were in a very weak and languishing Condition,  
 “ as it was probably the first among them that  
 “ revived.” There are, however, some Works  
 both in Sculpture and Medalism; which would do  
 Honour to any Age; and the Author has a *Con-*  
*stantine* in Bronze, and a *Maximin* in Silver, as well  
 executed as any thing that he has seen of the  
 Kind.

For the Reason above given, and the Silence of  
 the Panegyrist on this Head, there have been found  
 some who have called the Miracle in Question; but  
 without sufficient Grounds: For the Appearance  
 was given in open Day, and in the Sight of the  
 whole Army; so that, when *Eusebius* published the  
 Account of it, which he received from the Emperor  
 himself, had it been false, it must have been dis-  
 proved by many thousands who were then living.  
 For there being no express Mention of it in the  
 Inscription, a Reason may be easily assigned: The  
 Senators in general, perhaps all of them, were

CONSTANTINE,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

Idolaters, and held Christianity in Contempt and Abhorrence. To have given, therefore, so public a Record in Favour of it, had been contrary directly to their own Principles. Yet could they not well avoid taking some Notice of it, which was done by using the comprehensive Term of *instinctu Divinitatis*. The same may be said of the Panegyrist. Yet one of them manifestly alludes to it, when he says, *Vix quartâ parte exercitus contra centum millia armatorum hostium Alpes transgressus es, ut appareret penitus considerantibus, id quod nos fugit in amore trepidantes, non dubiam te, sed promissam divinitus petere victoriam.* You passed the Alps, with scarce a fourth Part of your Army; so that, to those who thoroughly considered Things, it appeared (which escaped us who were anxious in our Affection) that you was not in quest of an uncertain Victory, but of one promised from above." To the like Purposes there are several Passages in the same Work. But Nazarius has improved it into Celestial Auxiliaries. *In ore denique est omnium Galliarum exercitus visos qui se divinitus missos præ se ferebant.* 'Tis in the Mouth of every body throughout Gaul, that Armies were seen, which declared themselves sent from Heaven, &c. with much more to the same Purpose; for he dwells upon it largely. In fact, they were content to give it any Turn, which might not seem to acknowledge

it

it as a Miracle in Favour of Christianity, which they had been taught to consider as *the grand Impiety* of the Times. Before this Expedition, CONSTANTINE had not professed himself a *Christian*, nor made the necessary Enquiries into the Nature of that Profession. For though he protected the *Christians*, as his Father had done, yet, having been bred under the Inspection of *Diocletian* and *Galerius*, we find him paying the like Honours to the Gods of the Heathen, of which there is Evidence enough upon his Coins; witness those struck at *Lyons* and *Treves*, inscribed SOLI INVICTO COMITI, and others MARTI, others HERCVLI, others IOVI—CONSERVATORI. But from the Time of the Vision, he consulted the most eminent Professors of Christianity, listened with all Attention to their Instructions, and applied himself to the Study of the sacred Writings.

CONSTANTINE used his Victory with such Moderation and Mercy as gained him the Hearts of the *Romans*. The Senate paid him all the Honours in their Power, and by a Decree declared him the principal AUGUSTUS. This gave no small Offence to MAXIMIN, who was now found to have espoused the Party of *Maxentius*, and looked upon himself as entitled to the Preference. During his Stay in the City he abolished the Prætorian Guards as an

CONSTANTINE,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

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Pl. LXI. 9, 10,  
11, 12.

CONSTANTINE,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

useless and a dangerous Body ; filled up the Senate with Persons of Rank and Wealth, Experience and Probity, and restored to the venerable Fathers their ancient Privileges and Splendor. His generous Behaviour to the People was their continual Theme and Admiration. Above all Things, he was careful to express his Gratitude to the Author of his Victory, erecting a vast Trophy in the Midst of the City, with the Figure of ⌘ in Characters which could not be erased. He raised also a Statue of himself with the same Figure in the Hand of it, and the following Inscription, HOC SALVTARI SIGNO VERO FORTITVDINIS INDICIO CIVITATEM VESTRAM TYRANNIDOS IVGO LIBERAVI ET S. P. Q. R. IN LIBERTATEM VINDICANS PRISTINÆ AMPLITVDINI ET SPLENDORI RESTITVI. *By this salutary Sign, the true Token of Fortitude, I delivered your City from the Yoke of Tyranny, and asserting the Liberty of the Senate and People of Rome, restored them to their ancient Dignity and Splendor.* He gave Orders for the Building of Churches, which he adorned and enriched, encouraged the Clergy, and honoured them with Exemptions ; and having settled all Things to his Mind, removed to *Milan*, where he gave his Sister *Constantia* to LICINIUS. Here he published an Edict, in which LICINIUS concurred,

to

to quash the Persecution; and wrote Letters to CONSTANTINE,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN. MAXIMIN also (who had renewed it presently after the Death of *Galerius*) requesting his Concurrence: in Consequence of which, it ceased throughout the Empire. Thence he returned into *Gaul*, and chastised the *Franks*, who had again passed the *Rhine* in Contempt of Treaties, and condemned his Prisoners to the wild Beasts: a Severity which, notwithstanding their repeated Violations of Faith, was by no Means consistent with his new Profession.

While this was doing, MAXIMIN, not at all pleased with the late Alliance of LICINIUS, passed the *Hellepont* at the Head of seventy thousand Men, and made himself Master of *Byzantium* and *Heraclea*. By this Time LICINIUS had collected near thirty thousand Men, and moved towards him, hoping to retard his Conquests at least. On this Occasion, MAXIMIN made a solemn Vow to *Jupiter*, that, if he gave him Victory, he would utterly exterminate the *Christian* Name. On the Night following, LICINIUS is said to have been admonished in a Dream to make his Addresses, in Conjunction with his whole Army, to the most High God, with Assurance of Victory. The particular Prayer was also prescribed, and afterwards published throughout the Army. By this the Troops were exceedingly

CONSTANTINE,  
 LICINIUS,  
 MAXIMIN.

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exceedingly encouraged; so that when MAXIMIN advanced against them, they loosened their Hel-  
 mets, threw down their Shields, and with their  
 Hands lifted up to Heaven, repeated fervently the  
 Supplication which had been taught them. Then  
 rising up with Alacrity, they fell upon their Ene-  
 mies, who seemed to be struck with Amazement,  
 and made little Resistance. Their Defeat was en-  
 tire; and of those who survived the Slaughter,  
 Part fled, and the rest submitted. MAXIMIN him-  
 self threw away his Purple, and fled in the Habit  
 of a Slave with such Celerity that in twenty-four  
 Hours he reached *Nicomedia*, which was one hun-  
 dred and sixty Miles distant from the Field of Bat-  
 tle. There joining his Wife and Children, he  
 hastened on till he came into *Cappadocia*, where he  
 stopped to collect his Followers, and was met by  
 some Troops from *Syria*. A few Days after, LICI-  
 NIUS pursued him; and entering *Nicomedia*, re-  
 turned Thanks to the God who had given him the  
 Victory, and published the joint Edi&t in CON-  
 STANTINE's and his own Name, whereby Liberty  
 of Conscience was allowed to all Men, the Churches  
 of the *Christians* restored, and a full Indemnifi-  
 cation ordered to be made to them forthwith for  
 all their Losses. This was done at *Nicomedia*, the  
 same City whence the Edi&t for the Persecution had

issued ten Years and four Months before. He then marched after MAXIMIN, who had seized and fortified the Passes of Mount *Taurus*. But LICINIUS breaking through on the right, he fled on to *Tarsus*; where giving up all Hope of Safety, he filled himself with Meat and Wine for the last Time, as he supposed, and then took Poison; the Power of which was weakened by the Fulness of his Stomach, so that he fell into a strange Disease. His Bowels seemed to be on Fire, and the Pain was excruciating, even to Madness, insomuch that for four Days together he stuffed his Mouth with Dirt, which he devoured greedily. After many and grievous Torments; while he was beating his Head against the Walls, his Eyes dropped out. Then at last he acknowledged the Justice of his Punishment for the like Miseries which he had inflicted on the *Christians*, implored the Mercy of him whom he had profaned and persecuted, and in dreadful Agonies expired, after having reigned fourteen Years and an half from the Time that he was created CÆSAR. His Wife and Children, his Relations and Friends, and the Ministers of his Cruelty, were all doomed to Death, and suffered accordingly. And all that remained of the Families of *Diocletian* and *Galerius*, underwent the same Fate by the Command

CONSTANTINE,  
LICINIUS,  
MAXIMIN.

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CONSTANTINE  
AND  
LICINIUS.

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mand of LICINIUS, as fast as the Places of their Residence could be discovered.

The Empire of LICINIUS now extended from the *Adriatic* to the *Tigris*, and yet he wanted room. But his Endeavours to alienate from CONSTANTINE the Mind of *Bassianus*, who had married *Anastasia*, another Sister of that Emperor, first opened the Breach. The political Instrument that he made use of, was *Senecio*, the Brother of *Bassianus*. Him, therefore, CONSTANTINE required to be delivered up to him, and was refused. His Statues were at the same Time demolished by LICINIUS. CONSTANTINE instantly marched against him, and the Event was favourable. But LICINIUS escaped by Flight, and soon after collected a much more numerous Body of Troops in *Thrace*, having on his Way made one *Valens* CÆSAR. Here a second Battle was fought, which lasted till Night parted the Armies. The next Day LICINIUS proposed an Accommodation, by which CONSTANTINE was to possess all the Countries behind him, leaving *Thrace* and the East to LICINIUS; and *Valens*, said to be the Author of these Troubles, was put to Death. This Peace was cemented by the Creation of Three new CÆSARS, *Crispus* and *Constantine*, the Sons of CONSTANTINE, and *Licinius* the Son of LICINIUS. We shall give the Heads of these, as

I

they

they appear thus entitled on their Coins, with one Reverse, which is common to all Three, having VOTIS V inclosed in a Wreath, with CAESARVM NOSTRORVM in the Margin.

CONSTANTINE  
AND  
LICINIUS.

Pl. LXI. 13,  
14, 15.

Not long after, the *Sarmatians*, under the Conduct of their King *Raufimodus*, passed the *Danube*, when CONSTANTINE came up with and defeated them. The King, having lost the greater Part of his Forces, repassed the River in his Boats, and was preparing for a fresh Invasion, which CONSTANTINE prevented by attacking him in his own Quarters. *Raufimodus* himself was slain in the Action with many more, a Multitude of Prisoners were taken, and the rest submitted to the Conqueror. This Success is recorded on a Reverse, where *Victory* is treading on a Captive, having a Trophy in one Hand, and a Palm Branch in the other, with SARMATIA DEVICTA: in the Exergue P TR, *Percussa Treviris*.

CONSTANTINE on his Return passed into *Macedonia*, and by making a convenient Haven, improved *Theffalonica* into a Sea-Port. Meantime the *Goths* made fresh Ravages; and, when they were defeated by him, retreated into the Dominions of LICINIUS, whither he pursued them without Hesitation. This laid the Foundation of a fresh War, LICINIUS catching at the Opportunity which he had

CONSTANTINE  
AND  
LICINIUS.

wished for. In Consequence of this, both Emperors measured their Strength by Land at *Adriana-ple*, where CONSTANTINE reared the sacred Standard, and gave the Word GOD OUR SAVIOUR. The Army of LICINIUS was routed, with the Loss of thirty-four thousand Men, and their Camp taken. LICINIUS fled to *Byzantium*, where his Fleet lay, with as many as could keep up with him. The rest submitted to the Victor, who immediately led his Forces to *Byzantium*, and besieged it, ordering his Son *Crispus* to bring up his Fleet. This produced a Naval Engagement between the young Prince, with eighty Vessels of thirty Oars each, and *Abantus* the *Licinian* Admiral, with two hundred, a Number too great for the Scene of Action. For being crowded, they injured and confounded one another, and so became an easy Prey to the regular and orderly Attack of the *Constantinians*; so that the Place was presently after compleatly invested by Sea and Land. But LICINIUS had found Means to pass over to *Chalcedon*, where, say the Historians, he declared *Martinianus*, the Commander of his Household Troops, CÆSAR. But it is clear, from the Coin referred to, that he admitted him to a Participation of the Imperial Title and Power: For his Head is radiated, with the Inscription DN N MARTINIANVS P F AVG; and the Reverse is

PL. LXI. 16.

2

*Jupiter*

*Jupiter* holding a *Victory*, with the Eagle on his *Hasta pura*, and at his Feet: the Legend IOVI CONSERVATORI. Him LICINIUS detached with a Body of Forces to *Lampsacus*, to make Head on that Side, while himself kept Possession of the Hills around *Chalcedon*. Meantime CONSTANTINE, getting together a Number of Boats, transported the greater Part of his Troops to the *sacred Promontory*, as it was called, at the Mouth of the *Euxine* Sea, and there landing them, pitched his Camp upon the Eminences. LICINIUS therefore, recalling *Martinianus*, encouraged his Forces, and marched to the Attack, but was again utterly defeated; on which *Chalcedon* and *Byzantium* opened their Gates to the Conqueror. LICINIUS fled to *Nicomedia*, and was there besieged; when, finding no Possibility of escaping, he surrendered himself, resigned the Purple, and implored Mercy; which was granted at the Entreaty of *Constantia*. *Martinianus* suffered Death, and *Licinius* was ordered to *Theffalonica*; where, endeavouring by his Emissaries to raise fresh Forces, and excite the Barbarians to his Assistance, he was also strangled.

CONSTANTINE, now sole Master of the *Roman* Empire, reinstated and indemnified all who had suffered under *Licinius* for the Cause of Christianity, restored and enlarged their Churches, pro-

hibited

CONSTANTINE. hibited the idolatrous Sacrifices, the Inspection of Entrails, Soothsaying, &c. as well as the Dedication of new Idols or Temples; and celebrated the *Vicenalia* of his Reign, the Council of *Nice* then fitting. This, with the Tranquillity which then reigned, is commemorated on one of his Coins struck at *London*, having his galeated Head with

PL. LXI. 17. CONSTANTINVS AVG, the Reverse being a Globe upon an Altar, inscribed VOTIS XX, and three Stars over it, representing his three Sons, *Crispus*, *Constantine*, and *Constantius*: the Legend is BEATA TRANQLITAS. Percussa LONdinii. The next Year he visited *Rome*, where the Inhabitants were very free in their Invectives against him, for having forsaken the Religion of his Ancestors. For this Reason his Stay was short. And this Distaste is said to have contributed not a little to the Foundation of a rival City. The Empress FAUSTA now accused her Son-in-law *Crispus*, of incestuous Attempts upon her Person; which so enraged the Emperor, that he was executed by his Orders, too hastily: for soon after the Falshood of the Accusation was detected, and the Wickedness of the Empress fully appeared, who was thereupon suffocated in an hot Bath. For the Assuagement of his own Grief, and by Way of Atonement for the Injury done to his Son, he erected his Statue of Silver,

ver, overlaid with Gold, with the Inscription CONSTANTINE. CONSTANTINE.  
 ΗΔΙΚΗΜΕΝΟC ΤΙΟC ΜΟΥ. *My Injured Son!* The  
 Ministers of her Debaucheries suffered also, as did  
 young *Licinius*, the Son of the late Emperor; for  
 whose Death no Reason is assigned. *Calocerus*,  
 Master of the Camels, endeavouring to make him-  
 self a King in *Cyprus*, was put to Death with Ig-  
 nominy. In the following Year died *HELENA*, the  
 Emperor's Mother. Soon after, the *Goths* and *Sar-*  
*matians* beginning to stir, he laid a Bridge over the  
*Danube*, and chastised them.

This done, he set himself to the Building of an  
 Imperial Seat, resolving to visit *Rome* no more. The  
 first Site that he made Choice of, was a Spot be-  
 tween *Troas* and the ancient *Ilium*, on the Coast of  
*Asia*, where he laid the Foundations, and raised a  
 Part of the Wall. But on better Consideration he  
 quitted this Design, judging it more adviseable to  
 enlarge the City of *Byzantium*. He therefore in-  
 closed the Isthmus with a Wall from Sea to Sea, to  
 the Distance of fifteen Furlongs beyond the Li-  
 mits of the City as it then stood, so that it was  
 made to occupy seven Hills. He built several Fo-  
 rums, in Imitation of those of old *Rome*, which he  
 surrounded with elegant Houses. These he made  
 Presents of to Senators, and other Persons of high  
 Quality. He laid out an Hippodrome also, which

CONSTANTINE,

he adorned with Obelisks, Columns, Statues, Fountains, Porticos, and a Senate House, conferring upon the Members the same Honours and Privileges which the Fathers enjoyed at *Rome*. The Palace which he erected was little inferior to that of the former Emperors; and the Whole was divided into fourteen Wards or Regions. In fine, he raised his new City to such an Height of Splendor and Magnificence, that it not only vied with, but, if we may believe *Sozomen*, exceeded old *Rome*, both in the Number of its Inhabitants, and its Affluence of every Kind. On the fifth of the Ides of *May*, and in the twenty-fifth Year of his Reign, in the Year of CHRIST three hundred and thirty, and in the one thousand and eighty-second Year from the Building of *Rome*, his new City was solemnly dedicated to the GOD OF MARTYRS, and by an Edict engraven on a Pillar of Stone, and publicly fixed up in the *Strategium* or Place of military Exercises, near his own Equestrian Statue, was ordered to be called NOVA ROMA CONSTANTINOPOLITANA.



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Author Cooke, Wm

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