ROMAN SECTION

ATLAS
OF
CLASSICAL
PORTRAITS

WITH BRIEF DESCRIPTIVE
COMMENTARY BY

W.H.D. ROUSE, MA
RUGBY SCHOOL

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Classical Portraits
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Roman

With Brief Descriptive Commentary by

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Preface

THIS Album is meant to be used as a companion to school histories, and to classical or Scripture reading.

Many teachers do not realise how much not only the imagination, but the memory, may be helped by the use of pictures. A boy beginning Roman or Greek history is confronted by a mass of names, none of which he has ever heard before, and the result of his labours is often an extraordinary jumble. But if, while he reads the story of any man, he has a picture of that man before him, he will not only keep the stories of different men apart with greater ease, but he will take more interest in the stories themselves. No boy who uses this Album is likely to confuse Socrates with Sophocles; and there are very many of the faces here given, which are in themselves so striking, as to arouse a keen curiosity to learn who they were and what they did. Moreover, the portraits teach at a glance much about the character of the man (compare together the two portraits of Nero); and it would be an interesting exercise to let a pupil guess from the face of what manner the man was, and then to see how near that guess hits the truth. It is suggested that the Album be always kept at hand, like a dictionary, and that any name of importance be looked up in it, until
the pupil is well acquainted with the portraits; questions might occasionally be asked about them to make sure that this is being done. The portraits of the first sixteen Roman emperors have been included, in the hope that they may fill a gap in the pupil's historical knowledge, since this part of Roman history, in some respects the most interesting of all, is not included in ordinary school work. These will also illustrate Tacitus, Juvenal, and Martial; and some are of importance for Scripture history—Nero, for example, and Titus. Lastly, Severus has been added for his bearing on English history, and Constantine for his support of Christianity.

The biographical notes are necessarily short. The facts of each life are given in the barest outlines, as these may easily be found elsewhere. But I hope that interest will be excited by the addition of happy criticisms of ancient or modern writers, and some of the characteristic sayings of the persons themselves.

A word is needed as to the authenticity of the portraits. By far the greater number of these are genuine beyond all doubt; but there is no room here to discuss the evidence. Those who wish to go further into the matter can easily do so by looking up the books cited below, particularly Friedrichs-Wolters' *Gipsabgüsse* and Bernoulli's *Iconographie*. References are given to the books only where there is some special reason; but they are provided with full indices, where most of the other names may be easily found. The Greek portraits are, as a whole, less certain than the Roman, for a Roman may often be identified with certainty by the help of coins. No fault will be found, I trust, for the inclusion of a few imaginary portraits, such as that of Homer; this face,
for instance, is in every line the inspired seer, and excellently realises the impression made upon the reader of Homeric poetry. And if the probabilities are not violated, it is better to have an imaginary or dubious portrait than none at all.
Books referred to in Roman Section

A.–B. *Griechische und Römische Porträts*. Heinrich Brunn and Paul Arndt. Published by Friedrich Bruckmann, München. In progress. (Cited by number of plate.)


H. *Die öffentlichen Sammlungen Klassischer Alterthümer in Rom*. Wolfgang Helbig. Leipzig: Karl Baedeker, 1891. (Cited by paragraph.)

Portraits

   Dates, 63–12 B.C. M. Vipsanius Agrippa, an able soldier. Consul 37; defeated Sex. Pompey 36; aedile 33, when he spent large sums in public works; in command of Augustus' fleet at Actium 31. He built the Pantheon at Rome, which still stands.


   Dates about 14 B.C.–33 a.d. Daughter of M. Vipsanius Agrippa, and Julia, daughter of Augustus. She was wife of Germanicus, mother of the Emperor Caligula, and of Agrippina, the mother of Nero.

   Tac., *A. i.* 33: “Agrippina paullo commotior, nisi quod castitate et mariti amore quamvis indomitum animum in bonum vertebat.”

3. **Agrippina the Younger (?)**: Munich. From B., vol. ii. i, pl. xx.; see p. 379.

   Dates about 15–59 a.d. Daughter of Germanicus and Agrippina the elder (No. 2); wife of (1) Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus, by whom she was mother of Nero, and (2) the Emperor Claudius, whom she murdered. She was herself murdered by Nero.

   Domitius, on hearing of Nero's birth, *negavit* quicquam ex se et Agrippina nisi detestabile et malo publico nasci potuisse (Suet., *N. 6*).


   Dates about 36 B.C.–after 37 a.d. Daughter of M. Antonius and Octavia, and thus niece of Augustus. She was wife to Nero Drusus, and mother of Germanicus (hence grandmother of Caligula), Livilla, and the Emperor Claudius.
1. AGrippa.

Agidt-Bruckmann Portraits.

2. AGrippina.

3. AGrippina the Younger.

4. Antonia.
5. ANTONINUS PIUS: Naples, Museum.

Dates 86-161 A.D. Fifteenth Roman Emperor, 138-161, adopted by Hadrian. He was "one of the best princes who ever mounted a throne," preserved peace, and subdued the rebellious savages on the frontier.

A column was erected in his memory by his two sons, the pedestal of which now stands in the gardens of the Vatican.

He was "a second Numa," with the same love of religion, justice, and peace (Gibbon, chap. iii.).

6. AUGUSTUS: Rome, Vatican. For text see No. 8.

There is a replica of this bust in the British Museum.

5. **ANTONINUS PIUS**
*Sommer Photo.*

6. **AUGUSTUS.**

7. **AUGUSTUS.**
*Arndt-Bruckmann Porträts.*

Dates 63 B.C.—14 A.D. Nos. 6, 7, and 8 are three portraits done at different ages.

C. Octavius, the founder of the Roman Empire, over which he ruled from 31 B.C. to 14 A.D. Son of C. Octavius, and grand-nephew of Julius Caesar, who made him his heir; after which he took the name C. Julius Caesar Octavianus. The title Augustus, by which he is known, was given him by the people in 27 B.C. After Caesar’s murder, he succeeded in defeating Antony, and making himself master of Rome. He was a patron of art and literature, and a consummate statesman. He filled Rome with magnificent buildings. The shell of the Mausoleum of Augustus (built 27 B.C.) still stands, and the ruin of the Portico of Octavia.

Augustus used to boast, Urbem marmoream se relinquere, quam latericiam acceptisset (Suet., Aug. 28). When on his deathbed, he asked, Ecquid eis videretur minimum vitæ commode transegisse? (Suet., Aug. 99).
B. AUGUSTUS.
Semmer Photo.

Dates 42–55 A.D. Son of the Emperor Claudius and Messalina; poisoned by Nero.
9. BRITANNICUS.

The head somewhat resembles a coin with a portrait of L. Junius Brutus, struck some hundreds of years after his day. But the Romans were careful to keep portrait masks of their ancestors, so there is just a possibility of its being authentic. L. Junius Brutus expelled the Tarquins, and founded the Roman Republic.

Epigram affixed to statue of Julius Caesar:—

Brutus quia rege sic eiecit consul primus factus est:
Hic quia consules eiecit rex postremo factus est.


Dates 85-42 B.C. The murderer of Caesar. After the defeat of Philippi, he fell upon his own sword.

"This was the noblest Roman of them all.
His life was gentle; and the elements
So mixt in him, that Nature might stand up
And say to all the world—This was a man."

—Shakespeare, J. C., Act v. sc. 5.


Noteworthy in the head are the thinness of the jaw, which suggests the artist rather than the conqueror; and deep depressions upon the temples, often seen in a great musician (as Beethoven).

13. Caesar, Julius, as augur, with head veiled.

Dates 100-44 B.C. The famous Dictator; orator, statesman, soldier, and man of letters. In his youth he was wild and extravagant. Though he had seen service before, his first serious military achievements were done when he was nearly forty. His seven campaigns in Gaul made his reputation; and when they were ended, he "crossed the Rubicon," marched on Rome, and made himself Dictator. During his short rule he effected many important reforms; and had he lived to organise a constitution, Rome might have been spared a century of misrule. He was murdered by Brutus and other conspirators in 44 B.C.

Sulla said of him, Caesari multos Marius inesse (Suet., J. 1). At his birth, it was reported, responda esse data per totem orbem nasci invictum imperatorem (Suet. ap. Serv. ad Aen., 6. 799). Quintilian (Inst. Or. x. i. 114): "Si foro tantum vacasset, non alius ex nostris contra Ciceronem nominaretur."

Caesar's famous summary of his Pontic campaign is given by Suetonius (§ 37), Veni, vidi, vici. He said of himself, when Dictator, Non tam sua quam rei publicae interesse uti salutus esset (86). Of his oratory, Tacitus says (Ann. xiii. 3), "Dictator Caesar summis oratoribus aemulus;" and again (Or. 25), "Adstrictior Calvus, numerosior Asinius, splendidior Caesar, amarius Caelius, gravior Brutus, vehementior et plenior et valentior Cicero."

When asked what kind of death was the best, Caesar replied, "Death unforeseen"; and he had his wish.

"Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world,
Like a Colossus."

—Shakespeare, J. C., Act i. sc. 2.
10. L. BRUTUS.
SOMMER PHOTO.

11. M. BRUTUS.

12. JULIUS CAESAR.

13. JULIUS CAESAR.

Dates 12–41 A.D. Caius Caesar, third Emperor of Rome, 37–41 A.D., son of Germanicus and Agrippina, was born in camp, and nicknamed Caligula, because he wore little soldiers' boots (caligae). He was suspected of murdering Tiberius. He began his rule well, but soon became a monster of cruelty and vice. He was murdered by conspirators. It was said of him, Nec servum meliorem ullam, nec deteriorem dominum fuisse (Suet., Cal. 10). Sayings of Caligula's are: Oderint dum metuant (id. 30); Utinam Populus Romanus unam cervicem haberet! (ibid.).


Dates 106–43 B.C. M. Tullius Cicero, greatest of Roman orators, was also a philosopher and man of letters. He had much to do with politics, and in 63 was Consul, when his vigour crushed the conspiracy of Catilina. He took the side of Pompey against Caesar, but Caesar pardoned him. The Triumvirate proscribed Cicero, and by Antony's orders he was put to death.

Roma patrem patriae Ciceronem libera dixit (Juv. viii. 244). A verse of Cicero's own is: Cedant arma togae, concedat laura linguae. Quintilian's judgment is (Inst. Or. x. 1): "Mihi videtur M. Tullius . . . effinxisse vim Demosthenis, copiam Platonis, iucunditatem Isocratis."


Dates 10 B.C.–54 A.D. Tiberius Claudius Drusus Nero Germanicus, fourth Roman Emperor, 41–54, was a fool. He was a learned antiquarian, but weak in character; he was made Emperor by the soldiers almost as a joke, and murdered by Agrippina, his fourth wife, who was also his niece. Juv. v. 147: Boletus . . . quales Claudius edit ante illum uxoris, post quem nil amplius edit.

His mother Antonia said he was portentum hominis, nec absolutum a natura, sed tantum incohatum (Suet., Cl. 3).

Dates 272–337 A.D. Emperor of Rome, 306–337; son of Constantius Chlorus and Helena. He served in Britain against the Picts; and on his father’s death, declared himself Emperor at York. He removed the capital of the empire to Byzantium, which he named, after himself, Constantinople, and he was converted to Christianity, which he made the State religion.

He was in his early life chaste and temperate, but afterwards much degenerated. Gibbon calls him a "consummate general" (chap. xviii.).


Cn. Domitius Corbulo, a most distinguished general under Claudius and Nero, and a stern disciplinarian. Nero rewarded him by condemning him to death, on which he stabbed himself, 67 A.D.
17. CONSTANTINE.

18. CORBULO.

Dates 51–96 A.D. T. Flavius Domitianus Augustus, eleventh Roman Emperor, 81–96, was the younger son of Vespasian, and brother of Titus. He probably compassed his brother’s death. He began his reign well, but soon became a cruel tyrant, and was finally murdered, with the connivance of his own wife.

Juvenal speaks of the time *cum calvo serviret Roma Neroni* (iv. 38), and says of him, *Sed periit postquam cerdonibus esse timendus coeperat* (iv. 153). Tacitus, *Agr.* 45: “Nero tamen subtraxit oculos, iussitque scelera, non spectavit: praecipua sub Domitiano miseria rum pars erat videre et aspici, cum suspiria nostra subscriberentur, cum denotandis tot hominum palloribus sufficeret saevus ille voltus et rubor, quo se contra pudorem muniebat.”
19. DOMITIAN.

17

Dates 38 B.C. – 9 A.D. Nero Claudius Drusus was son of Tiberius, and Livia, afterwards wife of Augustus. He was a brilliant soldier, and inflicted dire destruction on the Germans. He was enthusiastically beloved by his soldiers, and a favourite with the people, and a faithful and devoted husband.

Tacitus, *Ann.* i. 33: "Drusi magna apud populum Romanum memoria, credebaturque, si rerum potitus foret, libertatem redditurus."


Drusus Caesar was son of the Emperor Tiberius. He was husband of Livia, the sister of Germanicus. At the suggestion of Sejanus, he was poisoned by his wife, A.D. 23.

Tacitus, *Ann.* i. 29: "Promptum in asperiora ingenium Druso erat."

22. **Galba**: Rome, Capitol.

Dates 3 B.C. – 69 A.D. Ser. Sulpicius Galba, sixth Roman Emperor, 68–69, was, as Tacitus said, *Omnium consensu capax imperi, nisi imperasset* (*Hist.* i. 49). He was a strong man, and had had great experience both as general and as governor, when he rebelled against Nero, because Nero had given orders to murder him. Perhaps he was too old to rule; be that how it may, he got under the thumb of favourites, was severe and avaricious, and was finally murdered.

Tiberius prophesied of him (Tac., *Ann.* vi. 20), "Et tu, Galba, quandoque degustabis imperium." His character is vividly sketched by Tacitus (*Hist.* i. 49), who says, "Ipsi medium ingenium, magis extra vitia quam cum virtutibus."
20. NERO DRUSUS.

21. DRUSUS JUNIOR.
Avudt-Bruckmann Portraits.

22. GALBA.

Dated 15 B.C.-19 A.D. Germanicus Caesar was son of Nero Claudius Drusus and his wife Antonia. He served against the Germans, finally defeating Arminius (17 A.D.). He was a favourite with the soldiers, who offered to make him Emperor, but he would not. He died, poisoned, as it was believed, by Piso, when in command in Asia Minor.

Tacitus (Ann. ii. 73) compares him with Alexander the Great, adding of Germanicus, “Sed hunc mitem erga amicos, modicum voluptatem, uno matrimonio, certis liberis egisse, neque minus praeliatorem.” Both, he observes, were “corpore decoro, genere insigni.”
28. GERMANICUS.

Edizione Brugi.
24. **Hadrian**: Rome, Vatican. H. 298. This portrait was found in the Mausoleum built by Hadrian for himself, now the Castle of St. Angelo.

Dates 76–138 A.D. P. Aelius Hadrianus, fourteenth Emperor of Rome, was a distinguished statesman. The empire had power in his days, and he devoted himself chiefly to legal reforms and to building magnificent works. He visited all parts of the empire, and was a patron of learning and the arts.

"By turns an excellent prince, a ridiculous sophist, and a jealous tyrant" (Gibbon, chap. iii.).

25. **Hannibal**: Naples, Museum. Uncertain. We know that copies of Hannibal's bust were preserved at Rome and elsewhere; and this is a warrior, and certainly not a Roman; it resembles, moreover, an inscribed medallion with portrait of Hannibal. The rapt and almost inspired expression suits Hannibal's character. The bust was found at Capua.

Dates 247–183 B.C. A Carthaginian, son of Hamilcar Barca, and one of the great captains of the world. He was trained by his father in Spain, whence he set out in 218 for Italy. He crossed the Alps, and defeated the Romans at the Trebia, 218; Lake Trasimenus, 217; Cannae, 216. He kept his grip on Italy until 203, when he was compelled to cross to Africa; and in 202 Scipio defeated him at Zama.

Livy says of him, in his youth (xxi. iv.), *Equium peditumque idem longe primus erat: princeps in praelium ibat, ultimus conserto proelio excedebat.* Of his plan for invading Italy, Napoleon said (Corr. xxxi. 349), "No more vast, more far-reaching plan has ever been carried out by man." See also the remarkable criticism in Corr. xxxii. 307.


Dates 114–50 B.C. Q. Hortensius, a Roman orator, and a stout antagonist of Cicero.

27. **Livia**: Naples, Museum. B., vol. ii. 1, pl. v. and p. 90. Along with this statue an inscription is said to have been found: *Augustae Juliae Liviae Drusi Fil. Augusti dd.* If true, this should set doubt at rest as to the portrait.

Dates about 56 B.C.–29 A.D. Livia Drusilla, wife of (1) Tib. Claudius Nero, and (2) Augustus, who forced her first husband to divorce her. She was the mother, by her first husband, of the Emperor Tiberius. She had great influence over Augustus, and was beloved by him until his death.

Tacitus (*Ann. v. i.*) says of her, "Sanctitate domus priscum ad morem, comis ultra quam antiquis feminis probatum, mater impotens, uxor facilis, et cum artibus mariti, simulatione filii bene composita."

Dates 43–23 B.C. M. Marcellus was son of C. Claudius Marcellus, and Octavia, sister of Augustus. He was adopted by Augustus in 25, and married to his daughter Julia. He died, or was poisoned, in 23, and buried in the Mausoleum of Augustus. He was a lad of great promise, and his death was mourned by the whole people as a calamity. He is immortalised in Vergil, *Aen.* vi. 860–886.

"Heu miserande puer! si tu fata aspera rumpas, Tu Marcellus eris."—*Aen.* vi. 883.

29. **Marcus Antonius**: Rome, Vatican.

Dates about 83–30 B.C. Marcus Antonius the Triumvir, a partisan of Caesar and personal enemy of Cicero. He saw a good deal of military service, being with Caesar in Gaul, and in command of the left wing at Pharsalia, 48. After Caesar's murder, Antony, Octavianus, and Lepidus made themselves a Triumvirate, and they won the battle of Philippi. Antony became enamoured of Cleopatra, and degenerated quickly. Octavianus (Augustus) finally crushed him at Actium, 31; and he fled to Egypt, the next year putting an end to his own life.

See Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*, Act i. sc. 1.

30. **Marcus Aurelius**: Naples, Museum.

Dates 121–180 A.D. M. Aurelius Antoninus, sixteenth Roman Emperor, was no mean soldier, but was more philosopher than anything else. He was a man of most estimable character, and merciful as well as upright; yet he instituted two persecutions of the Christians. His *Meditations*, written in Greek, are still widely read. A column erected by him in 176 after his victories over Germans and Dalmatians is still standing.

"His life was the noblest commentary on the precepts of Zeno" (Stoicism): Gibbon, chap. iii.

From his *Meditations* : γεγόναμεν γὰρ πρὸς συνεργίαν, ὡσ τοῖς, ὡς χεῖρες, ὡς βλέφαρα, ὡς οἱ στοῖχοι τῶν ἁνω καὶ κάτω ὀδοντων· τῷ οὖν ἀντιπρώστειν ἀλλήλους παρὰ φύσιν (ii. 1). ὡς ἡ δύνατον ὦντος ἐξείναι τοῦ βίου, οὕτως ἐκαστα ποιεῖν καὶ λέγειν καὶ διανοεῖν (ii. 11).

31. **Messalina (?)**: uncertain. See No. 32.
28. MARCELLUS.

29. MARCUS ANTONIUS.

30. MARCUS AURELIUS.
   Sommer Photo.

31. MESSALINA.
32. Messalina and the young Britannicus: Paris, Louvre. See

Valeria Messalina, third wife of the Emperor Claudius, mother
of Britannicus and Octavia. She was a byword for profligacy
and cruelty in a cruel and profligate age. Put to death in the
name of Claudius, by his freedman Narcissus,

Indulsit Caesar cui Claudius omnia, eius
Paruit imperii uxorem occidere nissus.

32. MESSALINA AND BRITANNICUS.
33. **Nero as a Child**: Florence, Uffizi.

The comparison of these two portraits is instructive, and in the whole series of Nero's portraits it is easy to trace the degeneration of his character.


Dates 37-68 A.D. L. Domitius Ahenobarbus, son of Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus, adopted by the Emperor Claudius. He took the name of Nero Claudius Caesar Drusus Germanicus. Fifth Emperor of Rome, 54-68. For five years he governed well, then broke out into all sorts of excesses, and indulged his cruelty and greed unchecked. He it probably was that caused Rome to be burnt. He was absurdly vain, and cared more about being thought a poet, musician, or dancer, than being a strong and just ruler. When the world grew weary of him, and Galba revolted, Nero died like a coward, uttering the words, "*Qua/is artifex pereo!*" (Suet., *N.* 49).

Juvenal says of him, *Cuius supplicio non debuit una parari simia nec serpens unus nec culleus unus* (viii. 213); this was the punishment of parricide, which Nero had earned more than once. Tacitus calls him *incredibilium cupitor* (*Ann.* xv. 42). In his days *inertia pro sapientia fuit* (Tac., *Agr.* 6).
38. NERO.

Edizione Brogi.

34. NERO.

Dates 32–98 A.D. M. Cocceius Nerva, twelfth Roman Emperor, 96–98, was a just and virtuous ruler, but lacked vigour. Perhaps the best act of his short reign was his choice of Trajan as his successor.
86. NERVA.


Octavia was daughter of C. Octavius, and of Atia, the sister of Augustus. She married (1) C. Marcellus, to whom she bore the ill-fated M. Marcellus, and (2) M. Antonius, who deserted her for Cleopatra. She was famed for her beauty and goodness.

38. Otho.

Dates 32–69 A.D. A profligate dandy, and a boon-companion of Nero, and seventh Emperor of Rome, 69. When Galba had overthrown Nero, Otho got up a conspiracy against Galba, and made the soldiers proclaim him Emperor. But he only remained so for three months; when, being defeated by Vitellius's army, he committed suicide.

He said of himself. Nihil referre ab hoste in acie an in foro sub creditoribus caderet (Suet., Otho 5). Tacitus says of him (Hist. i. 22), "Non erat Othonis mollis et similis corpori animus."
39. **Ovid (?)**: Florence, Uffizi.

Dates 43 B.C.—18 A.D. A polished versifier, who wrote amatory verses, poetical epistles, and poems on traditions and mythology.

Quintilian (*Inst. Or.* x. i. 88): “Lascivus quidem in herois quoque Ovidius et nimium amator ingenii sui, laudandus tamen in partibus.”

40. **Pompeius**: Naples, Museum.

Dates 106–48 B.C. Cn. Pompeius Magnus was a very successful military leader. He took part with Sulla against Marius, but after Sulla’s death he played the part of a popular hero. In 67 he was invested with supreme command against the pirates, whom he swept off the seas in three months, and destroyed their strongholds. He was one of the Triumvirate with Caesar and Crassus, and married Julia, the daughter of Caesar. He afterwards became Caesar’s rival, and was conquered by Caesar at Pharsalia, 48.

Tacitus, after speaking of Marius and Sulla, adds (*Hist.* ii. 38): “Post quos Cn. Pompeius occultior, non melior.”
39. OVID.

Edizioni Brogi.

40. POMPEIUS.

Dates 75–35 B.C. Sex. Pompeius Magnus, son of Cn. Pompeius (No. 40), took up his father’s cause after his death in 48. He gathered a fleet and took Sicily. Agrippa defeated this fleet, and Sextus fled to Asia, where he was captured and put to death.
41. Sextus Pompeius.

Dates about 235 to about 183 B.C. P. Corn. Scipio Africanus stormed New Carthage in 210, Gades, 206; and then crossing over to Africa, defeated Hannibal at Zama, 202. His family was old and famous. The family tomb has been discovered on the Appian Way, within the modern gate.

His answer to a public impeachment was: “On this day I conquered Hannibal: now, therefore, I will ascend the Capitol to sacrifice. Let him who will record his vote against me.” He used to say: Numquam se minus otiosum esse quam cum otiosus, nec minus solum quam cum solus esset (Cic., Off. iii. 1).

43. Seneca(?): Naples, Museum. There is no ground for calling this bust Seneca, but that the face suits the character closely. There are several replicas.

Dates (?) 10 B.C.–65 A.D. L. Annaeus Seneca was a Spaniard, like several other literary contemporaries. He was a Stoic philosopher, and acted as tutor to Nero; but he had no good influence over Nero—indeed, he rather encouraged his vices than otherwise. He was rich, and Nero found an excuse for sentencing him to death. He wrote Letters, and many philosophical works. He left behind him a biting satire upon the Emperor Claudius, called the Apocolocyntosis, or Pumpkinification, in ridicule of the Apotheosis (Deification) of these brutal beings after their death. Gallio, the “prefect of Achaia” (Acts xviii. 12), was Seneca’s brother.

Quintilian (Inst. Or. x. i. 129): “In philosophia parum diligens, egregius tamen vitiorum insectator. Multae in eo claraeque sententiae, multa etiam morum gratia legenda; sed in eloquendo corrupta pleraque atque eo perniciosissima, quod abundant dulcibus vitis.”

Montaigne (Essays, iii. ch. 8): “I deem Tacitus more sinewy, Seneca more sharp.”

44. Severus: Paris, Louvre.

Dates 146–211 A.D. Septimius Severus was Emperor of Rome, 193–211. Campaigns in the East, 194–202. In 208 he went to Britain, fought against the Caledonians, built the Wall of Severus from the Solway to the mouth of the Tyne, and died at York.

Dates 138–78 B.C. L. Corn. Sulla Felix in his youth lived a wild life; but he served with success in Africa under Marius, and elsewhere. Sulla and Marius became deadly enemies, and each conquered in turn, each proscribing the leaders of the other party, who were ruthlessly murdered. Sulla represented the aristocracy, Marius the plebeians. After Marius’ death, Sulla was made Dictator, and carried out a number of legal reforms. He then retired from public life for ever.

Tacitus calls him (*Hist. ii. 38*) *nobilium saevissimus*. His epitaph declared that no man had ever outdone him either in doing good to his friends or in doing mischief to his enemies (Plut., *Sulla*, s. fin.).

“Sulla potens Mariusque ferox et Cinna cruentus.”

—Lucan, iv. 822.
46. Tiberius: Rome, Vatican. The attitude of this statue recalls that of Augustus, No. 8.

Dates 42 B.C.–37 A.D. Tiberius Claudius Nero Caesar, second Roman Emperor, 14–37 A.D., son of T. Claudius Nero, and Livia, who afterwards married Augustus. He was handsome in person, but in character crafty, jealous, and full of suspicion. He saw some military service in Armenia (B.C. 20), with his brother Drusus, against the Rhaeti (15), in Dalmatia and Pannonia, Germany (A.D. 4), and Illyricum (A.D. 9), and in 12 A.D. he enjoyed a triumph. He showed great cruelty in his rule, and it was believed that he had Germanicus removed by poison, as a possible rival, and this although Germanicus had been loyal when the soldiers would have tried to make him emperor. For nine years he gave all real power in the state to Sejanus; but finally being convinced of his treachery, had Sejanus put to death. The last years of his life he spent in seclusion at Capreae, near Naples (now Capri), in unrestrained debauchery.

Tacitus describes him thus (Ann. iv. 57): "Illi praegracilis et incurva proceritas, nudus capillo vertex, ulcerosa facies."

He was so fond of carousing that on his first campaign the men called him Biberius Caldius Mero (Suet., Tib. § 42). Augustus said of him, Miserum populum Romanum qui sub tarn lentis maxillis erit (§ 21). An epigram made of him during his reign is this (§ 59):

"Fastidit vinum, quia iam sitit iste cruorem:
Tam bibit hunc avide quam bibit ante merum."

At his death the street cry was Tiberium in Tiberim! (§ 75).
46. TIBERIUS.
47. Titus: Naples, Museum.

Dates 40–81 A.D. Titus Flavius Sabinus Vespasianus, tenth Roman Emperor, 79–81. He took Jerusalem, 70, and the Arch of Titus at Rome, built to commemorate the capture, has representations of the Golden Candlestick and Table of Shewbread. He completed the Colosseum begun by Vespasian. His rule was happy, perhaps because he had no time to degenerate.

He used to say, *Non oportere quemquam a sermone principis tristem dicedere* (Suet., *Tit.* § 8); and *periturum se potius quam perditurum* (§ 9). Tacitus thus describes him (*Hist.* ii. 1): “Augebat famam ipsius Titi ingenium quantaecunque fortunae capax, decor oris cum quadam maiestate.”
47. TITUS.
Sommer Photo.

Dates 52-117 A.D. M. Ulpius Trajanus, thirteenth Roman Emperor, 98-117, adopted by the Emperor Nerva. He assisted Nerva during the latter years of his reign, and succeeded on Nerva’s death. A distinguished soldier; he subdued the Dacians, 101-106, and his title Dacicus was assumed therefore. Conquered Parthia in two campaigns, 115-116, and died on the way home. Built the Forum Trajanum, and the Column of Trajan in it to commemorate his victories over the Dacians. This column still stands, and is inscribed with names of visitors, the list beginning twelve hundred years ago.

His goodness was proverbial; and 150 years after his death the Senate uttered a wish that the new Emperor might be “felicior Augusto, melior Traiano” (Eutrop., viii. 5).

“He was more
Than a mere Alexander, and unstain’d
With household blood and wine, serenely wore
His sovereign virtues: still we Trajan’s name adore.”

48. TRAJAN.

Dates 70–19 B.C. P. Vergilius Maro, born at Mantua. Epic and didactic poet: wrote *Aeneid, Georgics, Eclogues;* and a few other poems are ascribed to him. He was famed, not for genius only, but for his beautiful character, which gave him at Naples the pet name Parthenias (Donatus, *Life of V.*, 57). Horace speaks of his *anima candida* (*Sat. i. 5. 41*). From the time of Hadrian down through the Middle Ages his works were used for inquiring into the future; they were opened at random, as is done by some with the Bible, and omens taken from the line first seen (*Sortes Vergilianae*). Vergil is a prominent figure in mediaeval legend.

"Princeps carminum Vergilius" (*Vell. Paterc. ii. 37*).


Dates 9–79 A.D. T. Flavius Sabinus Vespasianus, of humble birth, ninth Roman Emperor, 69–79; founder of the Flavian Dynasty, 69–96; was a distinguished soldier. Served in Germany, and in Britain, when he reduced the Isle of Wight, 43. Conducted the Jewish War, 66–69; but returned on being proclaimed Emperor, and left Titus to finish the war, 70. Vespasian and Titus triumphed in 71. Under his orders Agricola conquered N. Wales and other parts of Britain, 78–85.

His character is sketched by Tacitus (*Hist. ii. 5*) in these words: "Acer militiae, ... cibo fortuito, veste habituque vix a gregario milite discrepans: prorsus si avaritia abesset, antiquis ducibus par." He rose from his seat to die, in accordance with a favourite saying of his: *Imperatorem stantem mori oportet* (Suet., *Vesp. § 24*).

51. **Vitellius: Rome, Capitol.**

Dates 15–69 A.D. A. Vitellius, eighth Roman Emperor, for about one year, 69. He had no military talent, but his great talent was for eating and drinking. The soldiers made him Emperor on the death of Otho.

His character may be estimated from a saying of his: *Optime olere occisum hostem, et melius civem* (Suet., *Vitell. § 10*). Tacitus calls him *adulatione promptissimus* (*Ann. xiv. 49*), *inpar curis gravioribus* (*Hist. ii. 59*), and speaks of his *inexplebiles libidines* (*Hist. ii. 95*).
49. VERGIL

50. VESPASIAN.
Sommer Photo.

51. VITELLIUS.
Coins and Gems
ROMAN COINS

* * * The legends of the coins are printed in capitals: where part of any such legend is in small letters this fills up an abbreviation.

   M · AGRIPPA · Lucii · Filius · COS · III. (Consul for the third time, when he built the Pantheon.)

   ANTONINVS · AVGVSTVS · PIVS.

   Coin of Macedonia, struck when Brutus was Quaestor.

   DIVOS JVLIVS. Struck after his death.

   Magnesia. ΜΑΡΚΟΣ ΤΥΛΛΙΟΣ ΚΙΚΕΡΩΝ. Struck when Cicero was Proconsul.

   Engraved gem. This head bears a strong likeness to the portrait No. 15 above.

Antonia Britannicus, and Octavia. LIBERIS AVGusti COLonia Augusta Aroe Patre[n]sis (P[atrae] in Achaia). The cornucopiae, or horns of plenty, signify the fruitfulness of the royal house.

8. *Cleopatra*: I.–B. (Greek Section), viii. 15.

ΒΑΣΙΛΙΣΣΑ ΚΛΕΟΠΑΤΡΑ ΘΕΑ ΝΕΩΤΕΡΑ. M. Antony, the Triumvir, appears on the reverse.

Dates 68–30 B.C. Daughter of Ptolemy Auletes, and beloved by Caesar (to whom she bore a son, Caesarion) and Antony. She was famous as the most beautiful woman of her day.

“Whom everything becomes: to chide, to laugh,
To weep: whose every passion fully strives
To make itself in thee fair and admir’d.”

—SHAKESPEARE, *Ant. and Ch.*, Act i. sc. i.


CVNOBELINVS. He was King of the Catuvellauni, and his chief city was Colchester, where he ruled after the departure of Caesar from Britain.


CAESar DIVI AVGusti VESPasiani Filius DOMITIANus COS VII. (Consul seventh time.)


DRVSVS·CAESAR·TIberii·AVGusti·Filius·DIVi·AVGusti·Nepos.


IMPerator SERvius GALBA AVGustus TRibunicia Potestate.

**IMPerator** • **SERvius** • **GALBA** • **AVGustus**.


**GERMANICVS** **CAESAR** **Tiberii** **AVGusti** **Filius** **DIVI** **AVGusti** **Nepos**.


**HADRIANVS** **AVGVSTVS**.


**HORATIVS**. A “contorniate medal”; such were struck for some unknown reason in connection with public games.

Dates 65 B.C. to 8 B.C. Q. Horatius Flaccus, lyric poet and satirist, was a freedman’s son. He was well educated, and enjoyed the best society of the Augustan age. His chief friend and patron was Maecenas. His works are, *Odes*, *Epistles*, *Satires*, *Epodes*, and *Ars Poetica*. Part of his “Carmen Saeculare” has been found at Rome engraved on marble.

“Horati curiosa felicitas” (Petron., *Sat*. 118).


Marcus LEPIDVS III VIR R P C (*trium virorum rei publicae constituen
dae*: coin of the Triumvirate, 43 B.C.).


**MARCELLINVS**. Head of Marcellus, five times Consul, who conquered Sicily 214–212 B.C.; the *triquetra*, or device of three legs (like that of the Isle of Man), seen behind the head, refers to Sicily—Trinacria, as the island was often called. On the reverse is Marcellus offering in the Temple of Jupiter Feretrius the *spolia opima* he won from a Gaulish chief Viridomarus in 222 B.C.

“Aspice, ut insignis spoliis Marcellus optimis
Ingreditur, victorque viros supereminent omnes!
Hic rem Romanam magno turbante tumultu
Sistet, eques sternet Poenos Gallumque rebellem
Tertiaque arma patri suspendet capta Quirino.”


Egypt. ANTÔNIOΣ ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΑΝΔΡΩΝ: Antonius, Imperator for the third time, one of the Triumvirs.


King of Pontus 120–63 b.c.; born 131; a great soldier, who for many years successfully resisted the Romans.


NERO CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVGustus GERmanicus Pontifex Maximus TRibunicia Potestate IMPerator Pater Patriae.


NERO CLAVDIVS DRVSVS GERMANICVS IMPERATOR.


NERVA CAESAR AVGustus Pontifex Maximus TRibunicia Potestate COS II (Consul the second time) Pater Patriae.


IMPerator OTHO CASAR AVGustus.

20. Mithradates the Great.


22. Nero Drusus.

23. Nerva.

24. Otho.

NEPTVNI (filius): trident and dolphin, symbols of Neptune. This is a coin of Sex. Pompeius, who calls himself son of Neptune, in allusion to his father’s maritime victories. The head is that of Pompey the Great.


RVFVS · COS (Consul): Q. POM. RVFI. Consul 88 B.C. with Sulla.


IIOIIIHIAIA. Poppaea, wife of Otho, had unlimited influence over Nero, and persuaded him to murder his mother Agrippina, and his wife Octavia, whereupon he married Poppaea.


CN. BLASIO CN. F. (Gnaeus Blasio Gnaei filius), who struck the coin as quaestor.


SVLLA COS (Consul).


TERENTIVS. A “contorniate medal.” See under Horace.

T. CAESAR VESPASIANus IMPerator PON TRibunicia POTestate COS II (Consul second time).


Reverse has T. QUINCTI. T. Quinctius Flamininus was Consul 198 B.C.; conducted a campaign in Greece.


IMPerator CAESar NERVA TRAIANus AVGustus GERManicus DACICVS Pater Patriae.

34. *Vercingetorix of Gaul*: I.-B. (Greek Section), VIII. 22.

VERCINGETORIXS.


IMPerator CAESar VESPASIANus AVGustus Pontifex Maximus TRibunicia POTestate COS II.


A. VITELLIVS GERMANICVS IMPerator AVGustus Pontifex Maximus TRibunicia POTestate.
Ohe, iam satis est, ohe libelle.