

Anno 4431. Jul. Period, unno 4713. (e) Joseph. b. 18. ch. 15. b. 17. ch. 8. & 15.

ed the Tetrarchy of of Judæa by request from Augustus, and was cast out from the same in the tenth year. Nine whole years being deducted from 51, the 42 Julian year is left, wherein Herod dyed, (e) whose death, an eclipse of the Moon went before, Josephus being witness; which in the same year is beheld March 13. almost the third hour from Mid-night.

The End of the Fourth Book.

THE

Anno 1. of Chr^{ti}, to the 34.



THE Latter Section or Division OF Dionysius Petavius, Jesuite, OF THE Account of Time.

The Fifth Book.

Containing Tears from the first of CHRIST, to the Thirty fourth.

CHAP. I.

Of the death of Augustus Cæsar, and the Government and death of Tiberius Nero. And also of the Birth and Death of CHRIST; and the things which happened in those first Christian times.

IN the year of Christ 14. at Nola in Campania, Augustus dyed, on the fourteenth of the Calends of September, in the year of his age 76. when he had lived 56. years from the first entrance into office: from the death of Antonius, forty and three, full: A Prince most excellent, and needful for the Roman Commonwealth. Which, labouring with too much happiness, nor capable of its own fortune, but running headlong into ruine, he supported; and both with the best Laws, and also riches, and all plenty of things, he so furnished it, the City it self also being adorned with stately works, that he might rightly be called, the second builder

Sueton. August. 100. Dio 56. Augustus.

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the 34.

Tiberius.

(b) Sueton.
Tiber. 5.

a) Tacit. 2.

b) Tacit. 16.
Dio 17. Suet.
In Caio. 1. & 2.
c) Tacit. 5.
Seianus.
d) Tacit. 4.
Dio 58.

f) Tacit. 5.
Dio 58.
g) Tac. 4. Dio.
58.

The death of
Tiberius.

builder of it, and father of his country, and [Augustus] that is, Magnificent, royall, or renowned.

Of which, cruelty and filthinesse increased a desire of Tiberius that was great of it self, whom he had his succeder. This man, his father Nero, Livia his Mother, was born the 16th Kalends of December, in the year of the City built 714. the 4th Julian year, (b) after the Philippian War. Being in the 5th year of his age, in that very year in which Augustus dyed; he reigned, the most sorrowfull of mortall men, and through cruelty, robbery, lust, and arrogancy, was hated of all; which vices notwithstanding, about the beginning of his chief rule, he dissembled with wonderful cunning, through fear of Germanicus whom he by the cunning of his brother, had adopted the son of a Father in law, flourishing both in all the praise of virtues and famous warlike deeds, and because he was fitter for Government, very greatly mistrusted. This man when he had dispatched successfully the greatest wars, he passed over out of Germany into the East, and he (a) opposed the Parthians, in the year of the City built 769. Cneius Piso, at the same time an ordinary Lievtenant, being sent into Syria: with whom, & Germanicus there were great enmities. Therefore Germanicus was put out, not without suspicion of poyson given him by him, (b) in the year of the City built 772 in the fifth of Tiberius. For that crime, he being required to Rome for judgment, (c) Piso, prevented the sentence by a voluntary death.

And then (d) Elius Seianus, carried up by Tiberius in the Knight order, after many wickednesses, now determining all the highest things in his mind, one letter of Tiberius being delivered to the Senate against him, he is cast down from that top or pitch, and by the hand of the Executioner, was killed with all his flock.

Two years before this time, that is, the 16. of Tiberius, the 29 of Christ, Livia the mother of Tiberius deceased, in (f) the year of her age 86. (g) Tiberius was then in the Island Caprea, whither about the thirteenth year of his reign, of Christ 26. he had departed, never to return afterwards to the City. Where the Judges being removed, he wallowed himself in all kinds of detestable acts. Among these disgraces, not more to all others, than cursed to himself, he died the seventeenth Kalends of April, of his reign the 23d year, of Christ 37. being in the 78 year of his life.

Augustus enjoying the affairs, Jesus Christ, the Son of God is born of the Virgin Mary, under the 194 Olymp. Tiberius reigning, when he had fulfilled the thirty fourth year, for the recovering the salvation of man-kind, he suffered voluntary pains, with the punishment of the Crosse. Tiberius Varro, and Seianus Consuls on the 23 of March. After that, on the third day, rising from the dead, on the fourtieth after he had revived, he was carried back into Heaven, before the eyes of his Disciples.

After the death of Christ, and the Holy Spirit having fallen on the

the Disciples boldly, they professing what they had seen, and openly; the Jews waxed bitterly cruell against them. (a) Stephen one of the seven, who were chosen to perform profane and holy services in the company of the Christians, because he more fervently employed himself, in publishing the glory of Christ, being laid hold of by contentious, envious persons, was overwhelmed with stones.

From that time the chief of the Jews endeavoured to blot out the name of the Christians, by what means they could: but especially, (b) Saul burned against them, who, the largest power being made over to him from the High Priest, when as he bended to Damascus, that he might oppresse them, he is affrighted, and being struck down, he suddenly applyed himself wholly unto his worship. That happened on the third year from the death of Christ. For those thirty five years, wherin the Antients affirm Paul to have served Christ, as we have before taught, from the 13 of Nero; of Christ 67, numbred backward; end into that which is the third from the year of Christ's suffering.

CHAP. II.

Of Caius Caligula, Claudius, and Nero: whose deeds are sharply touched.

From the 37. of Christ, to the 68.

Caius Caesar Caligula, so called from a warlike shoe or sock, which being a boy he was wont to use in the Camps (Germanicus his father, his Mother Agrippina, the daughter of Marcus Agrippa, and Julia) succeeded Tiberius, in the same year in which he died, in the year of Christ 37. (d) Who now ending his life is said to have hit or struck against his Jaws with his own hand. He was then entering the twenty fifth year of his age, for he was born saith Suetonius, at Antium the day before the Kalends of September, saith (e) Suetonius, his father and Capito being Consuls, which is of the Christian account, the twelfth year. Aflon as he attained the Empire, there was great gladnesse of the people, nor lesse hope of the Diviners, that he would be like to his father Germanicus, (f) to whom it is delivered to memory, all vertues of the mind and body came. And indeed, as there are wont to be for the most part, the best beginnings of the worst Princes, he brought forth not a few signes of a moderate and civill mind; but a little after, as if he had put off Man, he overcame the very wild beasts in cruelty, striving for the slaughters of all ranks of men: he killed (a) Macro Lievtenant of the Prætorians, by whose endeavour he had been made Emperour. Also he accustomed to commit whoredome with his sisters. Infinite riches being exhausted, and

Z 2

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Christ, to
the 68.

What things
happened a
little after the
year of suffer-
ing.
a) Act. 6. & 7.

b) Act. 6.
The convelli-
on of Paul.

d) Suet. Caius
12.
Caius Caligula.

e) Suet. ch. 8.

f) Suet. in the
same 3.

a) Dio 59.
Suet. 26.

tearce

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Christ, to
the 34.

scarce a year turning about, that whole twenty and seven thousand *H. S.* the which *Tiberius* had gathered together, being consumed, the which amount almost to 72561500 Crowns of Gold, he turned his mind unto banishments, and robberies. Amongst other tokens of cruelty, this word was taken: Would the people of *Rome* had one neck! In his buildings, he covered to effect no works so much, as what was denied could be effected. (c) He joynd together the middle space of the City, *Baia* in *Campania*, and the heaps or water-dams of *Putcoli*, three miles, and six hundred paces, with a bridge, in the year of *Christ* 39. (e) The same commanded, if he could, to be worshipped for a God throughout the whole world, and Temples to be built for him. At last the 9th Kalends *Febr.* he was killed by *Chereas Cassius* a Tribune of the *Pretorian* band, and other conspirators, in the year of *Christ* 41, when he had reigned three years, and ten Moneths, and eight daies as (e f) *Suetonius* Writeth, but he lived twenty and nine years.

(c) Suet. 19.
Dio. 9.

(a) Suet. Philo
of Legat.
Joseph. 19.
Anr. ch. 2.
Suet. 58.

(e) Chap. 59.
Dio 59.

(f) Suet.
Claud. Dio 59.

(g) Tacit. b.
11. Suet.
Dio 60.

(i) *Claudius Nero* the Uncle of *Caius Caligula*, the son of *Drusus* was chief after *Caius*, a man very little evill by nature, but foolish and blockish: Therefore he was not so much cruell of his own nature, as through others leading, and will, especially of freemen and wives, to whose power he committed himself, and all things. (g) He had first of all *Messalina* to wife, whose whoredomes and unheard of wickednesses unknown to none, he alone knew not, untill she daring openly to marry *Silius* a Knight, by his command she is killed with the adulterer, *Narcissus* constraining him, who with *Pallantes* another freeman, could do all things with him. That happened in the eighth year of his reign, of *Christ* 48. *Dio* and *Tacitus* being witnesses. Another token of foolishness was, that *Messalina* being slain, of whom he had begotten *Britannicus*, a son, and *Osavia*; he married *Agrippina* the daughter of his brother *Germanicus*, the Mother of *Nero* by *Domitian*, in the ninth year of his reign, of *Christ* 49. And that at the perswasion of *Pallantes*: whose son (*Nero*) also by the intreaties of *Agrippina*, he adopted in the tenth year of his reign, and *Britannicus* being passed by he ordained him his successor. The same drove away the Jews from *Rome*, in the year of *Christ* forty and nine, the

(a) Tacit. 12.
Suet.

(b) Dio 60.

(c) Suet. Dio.

(d) Suet. Dio.

62.
(e) Suet. Nero.
8.

(a) Mathematicians from *Italy*, in the year fifty and two. An expedition being made into the Island *Britain*, within sixteen dayes he subdued the whole, as saith (b) *Dio*, in the third year of his Empire. He dyeth, *Marcellus* and *Aviulus*, being *Consuls*, 3. Ides *October*, in the year of *Christ* fifty four, when as poison was given him in a Mushrome by *Agrippina*. He (c) reigned thirteen years, eight Moneths, and twenty dayes; he lived sixty four years.

God being angry with the *Romans*, after the death of his father, in law, *Domitius Nero* took the Empire, being (e) seventeen years old, the which in the beginning he so carried on, that he might have

have been accounted the best of Princes: to wite, as long as he obeyed the precepts of his Master *Seneca*. Afterward, being corrupted through the liberty of age, and flattery, he was more like a Monster than a Man. He (f) beat back the *Parthians*, robbing or spoiling, *Armenia* being taken by *Corbulo*, a stout Captain, both of ancient vertue and severenesse. Who also received *Armenia* in (g) seventh year of *Nero*, of *Christ* sixty, and compelled *Tiridates* the brother of *Vologes*, King of the *Parthians*, to come to *Rome*, and to ask the Crown of *Nero*. Which was done, in the (h) year of *Christ*, sixty six, of *Nero*, thirteen, in which year also he compelled *Corbulo* honourably called back to dye. Presently as he began to reign, he took away *Britannicus* by poison. His mother (i) *Agrippina* being first spoiled of all honour, and driven out of her Palace, at last he commanded to be killed. Which Parricide least any thing should be wanting to the unhappinesse of those times, the Senate approved of. That fell out in the year of *Christ* fifty and nine, of *Nero* six. (l) After these things *Poppaea* being brought in, which he had taken away from *Otho*, *Osavia* sent a far off, he slayeth. The (m) conspiracy of *Piso* and others against him, being disclosed he punished with death *Lucan*, the Poet, *Seneca* the Philosopher, with very many others in the year of *Christ* sixty and five, and in the same year he killed *Poppaea* being great with child, with a stroak of his heel. He added to this cruelty, the reproach of a most shamefull disgrace, because he feared not to come forth on the Stage among Stage-players, or to play and sing among Harpers, and to ride about *Horses*, in the *Circian* or *Circle*-sports. Moreover that he might set forth the likeness of burning *Troy*, as it were by pastime, he set the City on fire, in the (a) year of *Christ* sixty four, by which detestable acts, when he had come into the hatred and contempt of his subjects, being forsaken of all, and sought out for punishment, he played the part of an Executioner on himself in the 14. year of his Empire, of the account of *Christ*, 68. (b) on that day wherein he killed *Osavia*.

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(f) Tac. 15.
Dio 62. Corbulo an excellent Captain.
(g) Tac. 14.

(h) Tac. 16.
Dio 63.

(i) Suet. 34.
Dio 61.

(l) Suet. Dio.
62. Tac. 14.

(m) Tac. 15.
Dio 62. Suet.

(a) Tac. 15.
Suet. Dio. 63.

(b) Suet.

CHAP. III.

Jewish and Christian affairs under Caius Claudius and Nero.

From *Christ* 37. unto 68.

Agrippa the son of *Aristobulus*, the Nephew of *Herod*, the Elder, being bound by *Tiberius*, because endeavouring for *Caius Caligula*, he had intreated for him the Empire; straightway as soon as *Tiberius* died, he was loosed by *Caius* from bonds, and was endowed with the Tetrarchies of *Philippi*, and *Lysania*, with the title of King, (c) *Josephus* being author; and the year following

See b. 11. of
doct. times,
ch. 10. & foll.
King *Agrippa*.

(c) *Josephus*, 18.
Anr. 8.

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lowing, the second year of *Caius*, as the same man sheweth, he layed unto his Kingdome, after whose imitation, his sister *Herodias*, who, her husband *Philip* being left, had joyned an incestuous marriage with his brother *Herod Antipater*, Tetrarch of *Galilee*, she contrained this very man to go unto *Rome*, to obtain the Kingly grace. But there, by the letters of *Agrippa*, he finds *Caius* to be offended with him, (d) and he changed his hoped-for honour of King, for banishment, and was sent away to *Lugdunum*, and *Agrippa* increased his Tetrarchy, the which to have happened in the third year of *Caius*, or the fourth entring, will be a little after manifested. At which time *Petronius* was granted successour to *Vitellius* Lieutenant of *Syria*, to whom it was commanded by *Caius*, that he should place his Image, in the Temple of *Jerusalem*, but *Petronius* prolonging it, in the (e) mean time *Caius* dyed. The Jews also of *Alexandria* being unworthily used by *Flaccus Aulius* the Governour, they sent (f) *Philo*, a noble and discreet man of their own nation, in embassage unto *Caius*, by whom he was shifted off and cast out. Moreover in the same year, *Pilate* weary of his life, as we have learned (a) out of *Eusebius*, brought death on himself.

Caius taken from the living, *Claudius* who succeeded him in the year of Christ 41. (b) in that very year he enlarged the Kingdome of *Agrippas* *Judea*, and *Samaria* being added. So the Kingdome of *Herod*, after his death being divided into pieces, *Agrippa* first possessed the whole of it. Who presently going unto *Jerusalem*, he began to persecute the Christians, whereby he might make the Jews friends unto him, and first of all he (c) killed *James*: and then cast *Peter* into Prison: from whence he was snatched forth by the Angel. Neither forbare heavenly anger long, the cruell and ambitious Prince. After three years that he was made King of all *Palestina*, when he was at *Cesarea*, which is called *Strato's* Tower, (d) and made a speech at the Tribunall seat, suffering them to cry him up as it were a god, by the sudden wrath of God he was dispatched by a consumption of worms, issuing out of his body. You shall find the relation of his death in *Iosephus*, a little differing from *Luke*. But of the time, that we have spoken he affirmeth; He affirmeth, that he reigned four years, *Caius* being Emperour, three under *Claudius*, in the whole seven years, afterward *Judea* was given to *Syria*, and ceased to have Kings of their own.

In the mean while Christian Godliness began to be increased through *Judea* and *Syria*, and farther also, the Disciples diligently employing themselves in that matter, and especially *Peter* and *Paul*, of whom, the first travelling over *Syria*, is believed to have fastned the Bishop-seat of *Antiochia*, the seventh year after the suffering of Christ, the 37. of the common account, over which he was chief six whole years; from thence (e) about the second year of *Claudius*, he travelled to *Rome*, as *Eusebius* writeth in his Chronicle, who also sheweth, that *Peter* was Bishop of the City 25 years. *Dionysius Alexandrinus*, with *Eusebius*, is Author, that *Peter* preach-

(d) Ioseph. in the same ch. 13.

(e) Ioseph. ch. 11.

(f) Phil. b. of Embassad. Ioseph. in the same, ch. 10. (a) In his Chr. & 2. Hist. 7.

(b) Ioseph. b. 19. ch. 4.

(c) Act. 9.

(d) Act. 12. Ioseph. 19. ch. 7.

The increase of Christian affairs.

(e) Euseb. 2. Hist. ch. 14.

ed first of all the Faith at *Rome*, or there founded a Church. The beginning of this seat falls into the third year of *Claudius*, of Christ 43, which is the next year from his going thither, when as *Paul* had not as yet come thither, 3 who in the mean time purely administered the Gospell in *Asia* and *Greece*, and *Macedonia*: and in the 25. year after the suffering of Christ, of *Nero* the second, he was brought bound to *Rome*, (f) as *Jerome* writeth, which is the year of Christ 56. Therefore *Peter* came to *Rome* long before *Paul*.

Paul was heard before *Nero*, and was freed. But when through the endeavour of both Apostles, as appeareth, the Christian faith increased, *Nero* first persecuted it: who when he had set fire on the City, as was above said, in the 11 year of his reign, of the Christian account, 64. he falsly turned away the envy of his wickedness on the Christians. Therefore many were laid hold of, and afflicted with fearfull punishments, so that (a) some being smeared over with Tallow, fat and Pitch, burned like Torches for the use of night-light. Almost at the same time, *Simon Magus*, (b) who, *Philip* carrying the Christian Religion to *Samaria*, had given him that name, and had afterwards returned to mischievous arts, came to *Rome*, and deluded the *Romans* by his impostures. (c) Whom *Peter*, he being carried up into the Ayre, and flying, cast down by his praying. For that thing, by the command of *Nero*, as well he as *Paul*, were condemned of their life, the 3 Kalends of July, in the year of Christ, 67. the thirteenth of *Nero* going out. (d) *Peter*, the soles of his feet being turned inward, was fastned to a Crosse. (e) *Paul* the same day was beheaded with a sword.

No acts almost of the other Apostles are certain, and worthy credit, they lye hid comprehended in History in the dark. Of *Matthew*, (f) *Irenem* writeth the Gospell to be written by him, when *Peter* appointed the *Romane* Church. Also *James* the Lords younger brother, who was ordained the first chief ruler at *Jerusalem* by the Apostles, (g) in the thirtieth year of his seat, the seventh of *Nero*, the Jews slew, which beginneth on the 61 year of Christ. *Simon* succeeded *James*, *Linus*, *Peter*, who hitherto is thought to have been Bishop of some Region.

The time of either chair is supported with Authority. But the *Roman* intervall hath more witnesses than the *Antiochian*. For *Eusebius* alone is the assertor of this, in his Chronicle, who sets down its beginning at the last year of *Tiberius*, from the which in the seventh year after, he marks *Peter* to have gone to *Rome*. But that first rent from the *Antiochian* Seat, is not proper, seeing it neither appeareth in old books; and he teacheth absurdly, *Peter* to have remained 25. years at *Antioch*. Of the *Roman* seat the ancients speak more certainly, whose end was made in *Peters* death, in the year of Christ 67. the 13 of *Nero*, as yet sliding, and the fourteenth at hand, but that fourteenth year is reckoned by *Jerome*, who writeth both the Apostles to have dyed in that very year, and numbred 37 after the suffering of Christ. a) Moreover

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Peters seat at Rome.

(f) Jerome Writ of the Church.

The first persecution under Nero.

(a) Tacit. Ann. 13. Suet. 16. (b) Act. 8. (c) Amob. 2. Cyrill. Cat. Chrysol. Scr. 47. 6. Sulp. b. 2. Chryl. Hon. 18. on acts Ephr. Ser. of heret. 803. and others.

The death of Peter and Paul.

(d) Ambr. on 118. Pl. Oat. 21. Euseb. 3. of Dem. p. 75. Aug. Ser. 28. of Sanct.

(e) Jerome of Scrip. Chryl. hom. 2. on Ep. Rom. (f) Iren. b. 2. ch. 1. James the younger.

(g) Jerome of Writ. of the Church.

Euseb. Chron. The Roman seat is demonst. strated. See the 11. of Doctr. of times, chap. 13.

(a) Jerome of famous men.

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of Christ,
to 96.

he saith, *Peter* obtained the Roman seat 25 years. Whence it may seem that he made his beginning the 43 year of Christ, but of the seat of *Antioch* six years before, of Christ 37. Neither truly do the Ancients deliver the Roman Church only to be founded by *Peter*. But also *Innocent* the first, in his first Epistle, it is manifest, saith he, into all *Italy, France, Spain, Africa, and Sicily*, and the Islands lying between them, none to have ordained Churches, but those Priests whom the reverend Apostle *Peter*, or his successors have appointed: If there be another Apostle, saith he, in these Provinces, they either send him as a Deputy, or he is chosen to have taught.

CHAP. IV.

Of Galba, Otho, Vitellius, Vespasian, Titus, Domitian; and of the destruction of Jerusalem.

From the 68 of Christ, to 96.

(b) Suet. Ner. ch. 40. & 41. Xiph.

A Little before the death of *Nero*, (b) *Caius Julius*, a redresser of things, who governed *France* as a Prætor, openly falling off, instantly perswaded *Sergius Galba*, governing *Spain*, to take the Empire; the which, he, the redresser being a little while after killed with his own hand, continued steadfastly to do. (c) Thus, *Nero* being taken away, he reigned about seven moneths, already of a great age: and the year following, the 69 of Christ beginning, he perished with *Piso*, him whom he had adopted: when as now *Marcus Sylvius Otho* was proclaimed Emperour. But to this man, there was a very short space of reigning, as of three moneths.

(d) Tac. i. hist. & 2. Suet. in Otho & Vitell. Plut. in Otho. Xiphil.

In the mean time, (d) *Vitellius*, through the boldness of the *Germane* Legions, over whom, as the Consuls Embassadour, he was chief, usurps the name of Emperour; and at *Bebricum* by an easie battel he overcomes the Army of *Otho*, who being weary of Civil arms, killed himself about the moneth of *April*, in the 37th year of his age.

(a) Suet. Tac. Xiphil.

(a) *Vitellius* after *Otho* bare the Empire almost eight moneths in the same year of Christ 69; which space of time he fulfilled not alone. For *Flavius Vespasian*, who was sent by *Nero* to suppress the Jews, *Alexander* Lieutenant of *Egypt*, and *Mucianus* President of *Syria*, helping him, as it were, floring in the slaughter of three Princes, and he undertook an uncertain Empire. (b) First *Tiberius* in the Kalends of *July*, of the year of Christ 69, forced the Legions to an oath in his words: and he, the first day of his principality being celebrated the next day after, saith *Tacitus*,

(b) Tac. hist. 2.

(c) governed the Empire ten years with the greatest equity and clemency. He suffered the freedom of slanderers, and especially of Philosophers, most patiently. Yet he banished *Helvidius Priscus* the

(c) Suet. XI. phil.

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the son in law of *Thraseas*, by sect a Stoick, and Prætor, being constrained by his too much insolency, and commanded him to be killed, and also he removed the Philosophers, one *Masonius* excepted; from the City, in the year of Christ 73. He embraced Wits and Learning with great liberality. He appointed an hundred pounds yearly to Latine and Greek Rhetoricians, out of his Exchequer. Onely covetousness of money was blamed in him; the which notwithstanding he was wont to excuse with the scarcity of the money-treasury, affirming, That there was four hundred thousand needful, that the Common-wealth might stand. That sum being reduced to our money, will make about 107500000 Crowns of gold.

The Jewish War was finished by that Emperour; unto which being as yet a private man, he was sent by *Nero*, as I have taught above. That had its beginning from some seditious persons; of whom (d) the Captain was *Eleazar* the son of *Asanias* the High Priest; who through shew of Religion raised arms against the *Romans*. Afterwards through the slaughter of their own Country-men, that were slain by the *Cæsarians*, and them of *Scythopolis*, and others here and there, the mad Nation contended the more fitly against the *Romans*. *Cestius Gallus* the Embassadour of *Syria*, besieging *Jerusalem*, with a great slaughter of his Army is put to flight, in the (e) 12th year of *Nero*, in the moneth of *Novemb.* of Christ 65. The Conquerours returning to *Jerusalem*, as they choose both other Captains of the War, and also *Josephus* the son of *Matthias*, in the (a) year of Christ 67. *Vespasian* coasting about through *Galilee* and *Judea* with weapons, he reduced *Josephus* himself a Captain of the War, into his power: by whom also the Empire was foretold unto him. Last of all setting upon *Jerusalem*, the head of the Nation; straightway being now Emperour, he reneweth the siege by his son *Titus*, that was interrupted by the slaughter of *Nero* and others, in the second year of his reign, of Christ the 70, at the dayes of unleavened bread. And at length; on the (b) 10th of *Lois*, or the 5th day of *August*, the Temple being set on fire, the City was wholly taken, the (c) 8th of *Gorpiaus*, which answers to *Septemb.* 1. the 7th resting day, as *Xiphilinus*, hath declared out of *Dio*.

The destruction of Jerusalem.
(d) Joseph. b. 2. of destruct. ch. 17. &c.

(e) Joseph. b. 2. ch. 24. Josephus the Historian.

(a) Joseph. b. 2. of destruct. ch. 14. Suet. Xiph.

(b) Joseph. b. 10. of destruct. ch. 26. (c) The same; book. 6. 47.

That slaughter brought destruction on the Jewish Nation and name, and so great a force of calamity, and such a manifold kind of evils was there, that it did appear for the most unworthy death of that Son of God, those punishments were thoroughly paid them. (d) For both horrible hunger enforced, those that were flur up within the walls into that madness, that they did eat man's flesh, and also mothers consumed the bodies of their children; and eleven hundred thousand, which was scarce given credit to being spoken, perished in that one siege. Last of all, the City it self being made equal to the ground, (e) over which also the Conquerour thrust in the plow, in the third year of his reign, of Christ 71. (f) *Vespasian* with his son *Titus* triumphed over the Jews;

(d) Joseph. b. 7. of destruct. Dio 68.

(e) Jerome on 8. of Zach.

(f) Joseph. 7. ch. 24. or 47.

A a

and

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(g) The same booke, ch. 30. or 31.
(h) Suet. V. sp. ch. 14. Dio. 65.

(i) Suet. Xiphil.

(a) Xiphil. Plin. Jun. b. 6. Ep. 16.

(b) Sueton.

(c) Suet. Xiphil.

and then he shut up the Temple of *Janus*, and began to build a Temple of Peace. In the same year, the Jews making tumults at *Alexandria*, (g) *Lupus* the Governour stopped up their Temple *Onion*, so called from *Onias* the high Priest, who had founded it. Moreover, in his ninth Consulship, which he bare with *Titus* his son, (h) he deceased, of a disease, while he answered or heard Embassages, affirming; It behoveth an Emperour to dye standing. This was the 79th year of Christ, the eighth day of the Calends of July, when he had lived 69 years, one month, seven dayes; he reigned ten years.

(i) Among the best Emperours, *Titus*, who was put in the place of his father *Vespasian*, is by right numbered; although before he reigned, he was mistrusted of cruelty, covetousnesse, and lust. But whatsoever were his manners, in his chief rule he so turned for the better, that he deserved to be called, *The Love and delight of Mankind*. There was an especial fame of meeknesse and readinesse in him. Being wont to deny any thing to none, he said, None ought to depart sorrowfull from his Prince. When after Supper, he had remembered, that he had performed nothing for any one that day; On friends, said he, I have lost a day. He being Emperour, in the year of Christ 80, a great force of flames of fire, and straightway ashes, brake out of the Mountain *Vesuvius*. (a) But it passed through into *Africa*, *Syria*, and even to *Egypt*. Two Towns perished, of *Pompey* and *Hercules*. He dedicated the Amphitheatre or Play-house, and hot Baths, with his own name.

He dyeth in the year of Christ 81, in the Ides of September after two years, and as many months, and 20 dayes after he had succeeded his father, (b) in the forty and first year of his age, not without suspicion of poyson given him by *Domitian* his brother.

Titus dying, had left a great lack of him to the Senate and people. (c) *Domitian* increased that desire, his brother and succeeded, the most naught of almost all Princes, who hitherto had, and afterwards lived. But among the beginnings of his principality, some shew of clemency and justice utter'd it self. But straightway he betrayed his disposition, and shewes himself an imitator of *Nero*, in cruelty, robbery, and riot. Being lavish in gifts and spectacles, he, among other things, appointed a five years game, a three-fold, on the Capitol of *Jupiter*, a musical riding, and exercising game, in the year of Christ 86. He first would be called Lord, and God. When he had made a beginning of reigning in the year of Christ 81, he was quenched by the conspiracy of his Subjects, in the year 96, the fourteenth of the Kalends of *October*. the 45 year of his age, when he had commanded 15 years, fix dayes.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

Of Christian Affairs, from the death of Nero, unto the last year of Domitian; or from the year of Christ 68, unto 96.

Anno 68 of Christ, to 96.

CHRISTIAN Affairs of that time, are conversant in no great light: it was rather through the scarcenesse of Writers, than because there was nothing which might have been committed to letters. For it is to be believed, the Apostles and Disciples of Christ to have carried on neither small matters, nor things unworthy to be known: but many things are sprinkled with fables and uncertain tales. And also we have decreed to commit to this booke, not an exact history of all things, but only some chief heads of things.

Peter being slain by *Nero*, *Linus* undertook to govern the Roman Church, as (a) ancient Writers affirm, by whom is given by voyce an old table of the Roman Bishops, framed together in the time of *Librius*, the which we have in our possession. They assign to this man 11 years, two moneths, and some dayes; that he deceased in the year of Christ 78, whom *Cletus* afterwards succeeded, whom *Ireneus* calls *Anacletus*, as also many of the Greeks; and he sate twelve years, and seven moneths; and suffered Martyrdom in the year of Christ 91, and had *Clement* his successour. Furthermore, in the (b) 13th of *Domitian*, or 14th, a persecution began to wax hot against the Christian name; in which, *Saint John* the Apostle being banished into the Isle *Patmos*, (c) wrote the *Revelation*, (d) about the death of *Domitian*; when as before at *Rome*, being overwhelmed in burning oyl, he had come forth unhurt; the which (e) *Jerome* approveth of, out of *Tertullian*. Also *Flavius Clemens*, Consul, couzen of *Domitian*, and his Wife *Flavia Domitilla*, kinswoman of the same Emperour, suffered; on whom the crime of ungodlinesse and Judaisme was cast, as (f) *Dio* writeth; *Eusebius* saith, or *Jerome* in his Chronicle, *Domitilla* was the Nephewess of *Clement* the Consul by his sister; and he nameth the same Virgin, a famous Roman Martyr.

Moreover, there were many Hereticks in the same space of time; but the chief, *Simon Magus*, cast down from on high by the Apostle *Peter*: *Nicolas*, from whom the Sect of the *Nicolaitans* flowed forth. (g) *Hymenæus*, *Philetus*, *Phygellus*, *Alexander*, of whom the Apostle makes mention. (h) *Ebion*, after the destruction of *Jerusalem*, spread the poysons of his heresie, as *Epiphanius* writeth. *Menander* also, and *Cerinthus* lived in those dayes.

The Roman Bishops.
(a) Iren. b. 5. ch. 3. Terr. Carm. against Mar. b. 3. Euseb. Chron. Epiph. haz. 28.

(b) Euseb. Chron.

(c) Jerome of Writ. of the Church.
(d) Iren. b. 5. ch. 30.
(e) Jerome. l. 1. in Jovin.

(f) Dio. b. 67.

(g) 2 Tim. 1. 24.
(h) Epiph. haz. 30.

A a 2

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Of Men excelling in the praise of Learning, who flourished from the birth of Christ, to the death of Domitian, almost a whole Age.

Anno 96. of Christ, to 138.

(a) Phil. of Embaf.

(b) Sen. Ep. 63.

(c) Strabo. 13. Famous Poets.

(d) Joseph. in End of 10. book.

(e) Phot. b. 35.

(f) Plin. Jun. b. 6. Ep. 6.

The Eloquence, and likewise the wisdom of Philo the Jew, made famous this Age; (a) who performed an Embassage for the Jews of Alexandria, with Caius the Emperour. As also *Misvrius Tyrrhenus* sprung from the *Vulvians*, by Sect a Stoick, who lived in Nero's time, as saith *Suidas*. *Apollonius Tyanens*, a familiar friend of *Musonius*. *Demetrius* the Cynick much (b) praised by *Seneca*. But *Seneca* himself, the Stoick, was accounted far more famous, and the Master of *Nero*, and compelled by the same to dye. Under *Tiberius* flourished (c) *Strabo* a Philosopher, and likewise a Geographer. Under *Nero* famous Poets, were *Lucan Silius* an Italian, who being Consul, *Nero* dyed. *Persius* a writer of Satyrs. A little after, under *Domitian*, *Martial*, *Valerius Flaccus*, *Statius Juvenal*. Historians, *Suetonius*, *Tacitus*; Among the Jews (d) *Josephus*, who in the 13th year of *Domitian*, about the 93 of Christ finished the Jewish Antiquities, in the 56 year of his age, as he professeth. So he should be born in the 37th year of Christ, the first of *Caius Caligula*, the which he himself witnesseth in his life. His equal and imitator was *Iustus Tiberiadensis*, of whom (e) *Photius*. Also, *Vespasian* being Emperour, *Quintus Curtius*, a most polished or fine Historian is reported to have lived. Under *Tiberius*, *Appio* a Grammarian, born at *Alexandria*, bare the conquest of divers kinds of Learning; *Plinius* the elder, who, in the second year of *Titus*, while he beholdeth the flame of the Mountain *Vesuvius* nearer than was safe, he was (f) quenched in the 80 year of Christ. Likewise *Pliny* the younger born of his sister, was famous under *Domitian* and *Trajan*, and *Quintilian* at the same time. *Asconius Pedianus*, a most noble Interpreter of *Cicero*, in the 7th year of *Vespasian*, as *Jerome* writeth in his Chronicle, being 73 years old, he was taken blind, he lived afterward twelve years.

CHAP. VII.

Of Nerva, Trajanus, and Hadrianus, and what things most remarkable have been done by them, and in their times.

From the 96 year of Christ, unto the 138.

(a) Dio. 68. Aur. victor. Burr. 5.

(a) *Coecium Nerva*, born in the Town of *Narney*, being already full of years, took the Empire after *Domitian*, in the 96 year of Christ's Nativity, and reigned one year, four moneths, and eleven dayes, a very good Prince, but despised by reason of his

age.

age; he revoked *Domitian's* Acts, and restored those that by violence and injustice had been nullified. He said, That he had so lived in the Throne, that he nothing feared to live securely, if he should be a private man again. But he wanted authority for to keep the Souldiery under: Therefore they that had slain *Domitian*, of whom he had received the Empire, he himself opposing to it, were killed by the Pretorian bands; wherefore he adopted for his son, *Trajanus*, then governing *Germany*, (b) with whom he lived three moneths; he dyed the 6th of February-Kalends, (c) having lived 65 years, 10 moneths, and 10 dayes: *Eutropius* saith, he lived 72 years.

Then *Ulpus Trajanus* took the Empire upon him in *Collen-Agrippina*, the 98 year of Christ, being then 42 years old, born in the City *Tudertina*, as *Vitor* (d) writeth. *Eutropius* saith, that he was born in *Spain* near *Italy*; he was strong and expert in military affairs, wife, moderate, and courteous; so that by the general consent of all, he deserved the name of *Very good*. *Eutropius* saith, That his friends blaming him, because he was too familiar and courteous to all sorts of persons; he answered them, That He was such an Emperour to private persons, as when he was a private person he did desire Emperours to be towards him. He added to the Roman Provinces *Dacia* of *Schythia*, having conquered *Decebalus* the King, who dyed by his own proper hands the 102 year of Christ. (e) Being gone into the East, he subdued the *Armenians*, *Iberians*, the *Colchians*, the *Sarmates*, the *Osrhoenes*, the *Arabians*, and the *Bosphorians*. Falling upon the *Parthians*, he brought under his power *Seleucia*, *Ctesiphon*, and *Babylon*, and several other Cities. But while he sails into the red-Sea, most of these people revolted from him, whom soon both in his own person, and by his Commanders he subdued again. (a) A huge Earthquake, whilest that he swayed the Scepter, overthrew *Antioch*, in the year of Christ 115; by which were stricken *Mesala* and *Pedo*, of whom *Pedo* was on a sudden smothered in the ruine, *Trajanus* being drawn out through a window, escaped hardly. The *Cyrenian* Jews also with much cruelty against the *Romans* and *Grecians* did over-run *Egypt* and *Cyprus*, whom *Trajanus* defeated with a great slaughter, by *Martius Turbo*. At length the *Parthians* rebelling, who had chafed away the King given to them by the Roman Emperour, disposing himself to war against them, he fell sick, and of that disease, being carried into the City *Selinuntus* of *Cilicia*, there he dyed the 4th of August, the 117 year after Christ's birth, and from him was the City called *Trajanopolis*, he lived, as *Vitor* Records, 64 years; and *Eutropius* saith 63; he ruled the Empire 19 years, 6 moneths, and 15 dayes, as (b) *Diod.* saith.

(c) *Elis Hadrianus*, *Trajan's* Cousen-german and his Country-man, (for he was an Italian) by *Plotina's* favour, which was *Trajan's* Wife, began to reign in the 117 year of Christ; A man of much Wit and great sagacity, and fit for vertue, as well as for vice: he applyed his mind almost to all sorts of Arts, both

Anno 96. of Christ, to 138.

(b) Vitor.

(c) Dio.

(d) Dio. 1. 68.

(e) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(f) Dio. 1. 68.

(g) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(h) Dio. 1. 68.

(i) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(j) Dio. 1. 68.

(k) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(l) Dio. 1. 68.

(m) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(n) Dio. 1. 68.

(o) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(p) Dio. 1. 68.

(q) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(r) Dio. 1. 68.

(s) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(t) Dio. 1. 68.

(u) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(v) Dio. 1. 68.

(w) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(x) Dio. 1. 68.

(y) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(z) Dio. 1. 68.

(aa) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(ab) Dio. 1. 68.

(ac) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(ad) Dio. 1. 68.

(ae) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(af) Dio. 1. 68.

(ag) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(ah) Dio. 1. 68.

(ai) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(aj) Dio. 1. 68.

(ak) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(al) Dio. 1. 68.

(am) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(an) Dio. 1. 68.

(ao) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(ap) Dio. 1. 68.

(aq) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(ar) Dio. 1. 68.

(as) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(at) Dio. 1. 68.

(au) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(av) Dio. 1. 68.

(aw) Vitor. Eutrop. 8.

(ax) Dio. 1. 68.

Anno 96. of
Christ, to
138.

of the exquisitest and smallest, the masters whereof, as emulators with him, he was wont to put down; he had an excellent memory, and he was careful and diligent in his Government of the Provinces, and therefore did no man travel so many Countreys as he did. After Trajan's death, he left *Parthia*, *Armenia*, *Assyria*, and *Mesopotamia*, he had also forsaken *Dacia*, had he not feared the loss of many thousand Roman Citizens that were in it.

(d) Spart.
Dio. 69.
Xiphil. Euseb.
Chron.
Orat. 7.
c. 13.

(d) The Jews rising up in arms, were first suppressed under him by *Martin Turbo* in the second year of his Empire. After this, he repaired *Jerusalem*, which he called *Alia Capitolina*, and brought a Colony to it; and in the very same place where the Temple had been, toere he built another to *Jupiter*. The which deed moved the spirits of the Jews, that having taken up arms more fiercely than ever afore under their General *Barcocheba*, against whom *Hadrian* sent *Severus*, whom he had sent for from the *Britains*, with other chief Officers, by whom the Jews being by little and little suppressed, were at last utterly defeated, and in that battel were killed the Jews fourscore thousand men, as *Diod.* saith, beside an infinite number that were devoured by famine, by sickness, and fire, so that all *Palestine* was almost reduced to a desert. From that time the Jews were forbidden to return to *Jerusalem* under pain of death, except for one day in the year to lament their great loss. This War was put to a period in the 135 year of Christ, at which time *Hadrian* was going into the twentieth year of his Empire.

Greg. Naz.
Orat. 12.

(b) Spart.
Dio. 69.
Eutrop.
Vist.

(b) At last, growing ancient, and sickly, having no children, he adopted *Ceionus Commodus Verus* for his son, whom he named *Elim Verus*, and created him *Cesar*, in the 137 year of Christ; But he dyed in January-Kalends on the very next year, as *Spartianus* writeth. Thereupon *Hadrian* being sick, he adopted *Arrius Antoninus*, who afterwards was called *Pius*, upon those terms, that he should adopt two others to himself, viz. *Annius Verus*, *Elus Verus* his son; and *Marcus Aurelius Antoninus*. At length, having killed *Servianus*, his sisters husband, a man of 90 years of age, having with vexation and weariness of his life several waies attempted to dispatch his life, he at last dyed at *Baia* the 6th of July, in the year of Christ 138, in the presence of *Antoninus Pius*, having lived 62 years, five moneths, and 17 dayes; and having reigned 22 years, and 11 moneths.

Dio. 69.
Xiphil. Spart.
vide 11. de
Doct. Temp.
c. 21.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

Of Antoninus Pius, M. Aurelius, Verus, Commodus.

Anno 138 of Christ, unto 192.

Anno 138.
of Christ, to
the 192.

Antoninus Pius, adopted by *Hadrian*, governed the Roman Empire in the year of Christ 138, with so much virtue and goodnesse, that he excelled all other examples. For he governed the Common-wealth rather by a fatherly, then Princely affection; and he governed the whole World by his sole authority, without any war, all the time of his Empire: therefore was he compared with *Numa*. The Forrain and far distant Princes and people did so dread him, that they would make him the Arbitrator of their differences, he forbid enquiry to be made after them that had conspired against him. He dieth in the year of his age 70, and of his Empire twenty four, *Vistor* gives him up seventy two years, he died in the hundred sixty one year after Christs Nativity, in the Moneth of March having taken the Scepter, the fifth of July, in the one hundred thirty eighth year of Christ; so that he Governed the Empire two and twenty years, and almost eight Moneths.

Capitolinus
Victor. Eutrop.
8.

After him, ruled the Empire *M. Antoninus Verus*, Pius's son in law; For he had in marriage his daughter *Valeria Faustina*. He from his very youth being brought up and instructed in the studies of virtue, as well as of all other Arts, he had vertue no lesse in his life and manners, then in his speeches and profession. At first he made *L. Elim Verus*, to whom he had married his daughter *Lucilla*, his companion in the Government of the Empire; and then did first two Emperours by name of *Cesars* rule at once. And this thing was so full of dignity and novelty, that some of the chief Consulls, took hence their order of Consulls, saith *Spartianus*. (b) They then reigned eleven years together, as the same with *Eutropius* Records, being of a contrary manner of his life; for *Verus* was sloathfull, drowned in riot and pleasure, and of an uncivill and unmannerly disposition, which was moderated and mitigated by his brother's reverence and respect: By whom being sent against the *Parthians*, he for the space of four years, had by his chief officers prosperous successe. Therefore they both triumphed over the *Parthians*: Then, after it, they undertook the *Marcoman*-Wars. But *Verus* died in that exploit of the Apoplexy, between *Concordia* and *Alinum*, in the 171 year of Christs birth, if he attained the eleventh year of his Empire; or in the 189, if he did not exceed the ninth, for *Eusebius's* Chronicles mention both: Therefore did *M. Aurelius* alone, fight for the space of three years with the *Marcomans*, to whom the *Quades*, the *Vandalls*, the *Sarmates*, the *Suedes*, and all the other barbarous nations there-about those parts, had joyned themselves to; and at last overcame them in a most dangerous

(b) Spart. in
Veto Eutrop.
8.
Capitol.

Anno 130
of Christ,
to 192.

gerous fight: whereing his Army languishing and perishing for want of water, the Christian Legion refreshed them with that rain that by their prayers they had obtained from Heaven, the which (as *Eusebius* sheweth) was the 174 year after. The publick treasure being spent, and exhausted, lest he should burthen any one by taxes, he sold and pawned all the plates, ornaments and Jewells that belonged to his imperiall Majesty, and after his victory he repayed the price back again to them that had bought them, and were willing to render them back: *Avidius Cassius* upon a false report of his death took the Government upon himself, and, after it, was killed, within three Moneths. *M. Aurelius* having Governed the Empire 19 years, and 11 Moneths, he died in *Vienna*, of sicknesse, in the 180 year of Christ, being aged 59. years as *Victor* saith: for he was born, *Verus* his Grandfather being Consul, the Author of the Capitoll being *Augur*, which agrees with the 121 year of Christs birth.

Volcat. Gallus

Xiphil. Capitol. Herodia r. Victor. Eutrop.

To this very good father succeeded a very bad son *Aurelius Commodus Antoninus*, full of cruelty, lust, covetousnesse, and of sordid and villanous and mechanicall arts, unfit and unworthy an Emperour; very like to *Nero* for filthy life and conversation: Having quelled all in *Germany*, he triumphed in *Rome*: He killed *Lucilla* his sister, which with severall others had conspired against him. The Annuall Prefect *Prætor*, being the Judge of the fact, who himself being soon after deprehended in the same fault, had his head cut off: from that time were two invested with the Pretors office. To the perennall office succeeded *Cleander*, who for his cruelty and covetousnesse was hated of the people, who by the command of *Commodus*, was killed for having raised a sedition. He is insnared by the conspiracy of them of his own, whom he had appointed to death, and so he dieth, having swayed the Scepter twelve years, nine Moneths, and 14. dayes, as saith *Xiphilius*, after he had lived one and thirty years and four Moneths: he died the first day of January-Calends, in the year 192 after Christs birth.

Lamp.

CHAP. IX.

By whom the Christian Interest, either by their blood, or by their rights hath been defended, and under what Princes, and what were the worthy and renowned persons of that time, both of Gentiles and Hereticks for their Doctrine.

Mien. de script. ec.
Plin. l. 10.
Ep. 98. Euf.
3. Hist. c. 32.
et in Chr. es.
Tert. Apol.

Whilest that *Trajan* ruled the Roman Empire, no new persecution suddenly arose; but *Domitian's* edict once published, caused some Martyrs. Amongst whom, was that renowned Bishop of Rome, *St. Clement*, who died in the third year of *Trajan's* Empire, having been nine years and six Moneths Bishop of the Diocesse; whom *Anacleus* succeeded.

But

But in *Bythnia*, *C. Plinius*, Proconsull questioning the Christians, and finding them ordinarily accused of false crimes, having received an answer from *Trajan*, he desisted from farther enquiry; so that he punished onely those that were obstinate and refractory, being brought before him.

Again, about the tenth year of *Trajan's* Empire, was the third persecution stirred up; wherein *Simon*, *Cleophas's* son, being 120. years old, was crucified: And also *Ignatius* brought out of *Asia* to Rome, is exposed to Lions in the Amphitheater, in the 108 year of Christs birth: and *Maximus* Martyr is mistaken, to place *Ignatius's* death before that of *Domitian*, because that *Dionysius* in his 5. ch. mentions *Ignatius* amongst the divine names: *Onephorus*, also *St. Pauls* Disciple, Bishop of *Ephefus* suffers for Christs name, and Pope *Anacleus* having had the Sea of Rome, 9. years and 3. Moneths, yet *Euaristus* excepts him.

Trajan's successor, viz. *Hadrian*, increased the persecution, and shewed himself very cruell towards many Martyrs. Pope *Euaristus* being by him put to death, left the seat to *Alexander*, which he by his Marryrdome in the 15. year of *Hadrian's* Empire left to *Sixtus*, *Fausinus*, and *Jovita*, both of *Brixia* in *Italy*, by his command having been put to death, about the fourth year of his Empire.

Under *Antonius Pius's* Empire, *Iustine Martyr* made his first Apology and defence; and the other he made under *M. Aurelius*, and *L. Verus*; at the beginning of whose Empire, he underwent a most famous Marryrdome.

And these Roman Bishops suffered Marryrdome for Christs cause, *Sixtus* in the second year of *Antoninus* Empire, having officiated in the place near upon ten years. *Telephorus* in the 14 year of his Empire. *Haginus* in the 18. And *Pius* in the 5. year of *Aurelius*: To *Pius* succeeded *Anicetus*, who also suffered Marryrdome, in the 13 year of his Empire. Then to Rome went *Polycarpus*, the Bishop of the Church in *Asia*, and soon after about the seventh year of *Marcus Aurelius's* Empire, he underwent a most excellent combat for Christ in *Asia*. *Pionus* suffered also the same Marryrdome in the same Province: *Soter* having possessed the See of Rome four years after *Anicetus*, filled the place of the Emperours sacrifice, and to him was subrogated *Eleutherius*, about the 17 year of *M. Aurelius's* Empire, when in the *Gauls* and *France* many Christians suffered Marryrdome by the Emperours cruell edicts, amongst whom the Martyrs at *Lions* were the eminentest, chiefly, the Bishop *Photinus*, *Aitalus*, *Alexander Medicus*, *Blandina*: "And then were those the first Marryrdoms that were seen in *France* (saith *Severus*) Gods Religion being seriously received, and sincerely entertained beyond the Alps.

This came to passe in the 177 year after Christ, *St. Beatrice* also with her seven sons, suffered under *Aurelius*: Many excellent persons in that age, did defend the Christian faith against the Gentiles and Hereticks, as *Agrippa Castor*, who in *Hadrian's* time

Bb

writ

Anno 96. of
Christ, to
the 192.

Trajan's Persecution.
Euseb. Chron. and 3. Hist. c. 32. & following.

Acta. 5. s. Faust. et Jov.

Justin. Martyr. Euseb. b. 4. Hist. c. 16. Nic. 1. de script.

Polycarpus. Iren. b. 5. c. 3. Euf. b. 4. Hist. c. 14. and following. and Chron.

Euseb. l. 5. Hist. c. 1. and following.

Lib. 2.

Martyrol. Rom. Euseb. 4. Hist. Hier. de script.

Anno 96. of
Christ, to
the 192.

Scriptores Ec-
clesiastici, Pa-
pias.

Xiphil. et Eu-
seb. Chron.

Capitol. Euf.
Chron.

Ptole. b. 7.
270. Gre.

Philoftr. Euf.
Chron. Suid.

Suid.

Suid.

Capitol.

writ against *Basilides* the Heretick, *Quadratus* and *Aristides* the *Athe-
nian*, who made the Christian Religion's Apology and defence,
the same being Emperour.

Also like to them was *Papias*, *John's* Disciple, and *Hegeffippus*
who is recorded by *Hieronymus*, to have lived at Rome under *Anti-
cetus*, and *Eleutherus*; that is, *Marcus Aurelius* and *Commodus* being
Emperours, when *Melito* of *Sardis*, and *Apollinaris* the Hierapoli-
tan, and *Dionysius* the Corinthian being Bishops, and *Athenagoras*
the Athenian Philosopher, did spread abroad the fame of Godli-
ness and Orthodox doctrine.

Amongst the Gentiles under *Trajan*, *Plutarchus* the *Cheronæan*
was esteemed a notable and renowned Philosopher: so was also
Dio, the *Prusæna*: under *Hadrian*, *Favorinus*, *Euphrates* the *Stoick*,
who charged with age and sicknesse ended his dayes, with a
draught of poyson, by *Hadrian's* leave. Also *Sextus*, *Agathobolus*,
Oenomaus, under *Antoninus Pius*, did *Taurus Berisius* the *Platonick*
live. Likewise *Arrianus* the *Nicomedian* Philosopher and Histo-
rian. *Maximus Tyrius*, *Apollonius Chalcidicus* the *Stoick*, and *Basi-
lides* the *Scythopolitan*; who were all *M. Aurelius's* tutors, in whose
time *Peregrinus* the Philosopher, surnamed *Proteus*, burnt himself
in the fire that was made at the Olympick-play in *Pisat*, in the
236 Olympiad, as *Eusebius* writeth in his Chron. *Lucius* mentions
him in a particular book that he made of his death. *Menelaus* the
Mathematician first observed in the first year of *Trajan*, the Moon
in the sign of *Virgo*, in the 98 year after Christ, and a little after
Ptolemy the Prince of *Astronomers* appeared under *Hadrian* and
Antoninus.

For witty learning, and excellent speech, under *Trajan* the
Emperour were esteemed *C. Plinius* the younger; *Dio Prusæus*
whom *Trajan* did wonderfully honour *Polemo*, of *Laodicea*, near *Ly-
cus* the Rhetorician, and Sophista *Aristides's* Master who flourished
under *Hadrianus*, *Fronto* that famous Oratour, *Philostratus* of
Lernius; *Herodes*, the *Athenian*, who was renowned in the time of
these Emperours, *Trajan*, *Hadrian*, and *Antoninus*; *Hermogenes*
the *Tarsian*, whom *Suidas* mentions to have been professed in
Rhetorick with great admiration, when he was but 18. years old,
and at the 24. year of his age, to have utterly forgotten all; no
discontentment nor sicknesse appearing, to have waxed old in an
extream folly and ignorance. *Phlegon*, *Hadrian's* servant, who
produced his work unto the two hundred twenty ninth Olympiad,
that is, unto *Hadrian's* death, and unto the hundred thirty seventh
year after Christ. In the same age flourished *Galenus*, who was
esteemed the Prince of Physicians.

These set forth Historicks; *Pausanias*, *Herodes's* equal, *Appianus*,
Justinus, *Alianus Prænestinus*, who for his own eloquence was pre-
ferred to the *Grecians*; Also *Lucianus*, and *Apuleius* who followed
him, all gallant Historiographers, are esteemed to have lived
about this time. And of great Doctors at Law, these, in *Trajan's*
and *Antoninus's* time, are esteemed most remarkable, *Neratius*
Priscus,

Priscus, *Domitius Laber*, *Salvius Julianus*, *Volusius Matianus*. Gram-
marians, *Aper*, *Pollio*, *Eutychius*, *Proculus Siccensis*, *Aulus Gel-
lius*.

(d) The Hereticks under *Trajan* and *Hadrian*, most memorable,
were these; *Elxais*, who, as *Epiphanius* saith, joyned himself to the
Offenes, *Saturninus Antiochenus*, *Basilides Alexandrinus*, *Carpocrates*,
of whom issued that unlucky sect of the *Gnosticks*. *Prodicus* and
Marcio Ponticus, whom we find to have spread his poysonous
doctrine about the 134th year of Christ, which was in the latter
end of (c) *Hadrian's* life, came to Rome: *Cerdo*, *Tatianus*, *Justin*
Martyr's disciple, the heresie of the (f) *Cataphrygians*, whereof
Antonianus was Author, and *Priscilla* and *Maximilla*, two mad and
silly women, sprung up under *Aurelian's* Empire, as the *Annals*
do testifie.

Amongst the Hereticks must these two Interpreters of the Bible
be reckoned who lived in that Age, *Aquila*, a man half a Jew,
and half a Christian, who, as (g) *Epiphanius* relates, lived unto
Hadrian's time; and *Symmachus*, who writ under *M. Aurelius*.
Theodotus was not far from these, as we have already observed.

CHAP. X.

Of *Commodus*, *Pertinax*, *Julian*, *Severus Caracalla*, *Geta*, *Macrinus*,
Alagabalus, *Alexander*.

Anno 193. of Christ, unto 235.

Commodus being slain in the beginning of the 193 year after
Christ, *Helvius Pertinax* was made Emperour by them
who had destroyed *Commodus*; who when he intended to govern
the Common-wealth with good Lawes, and to crush the military
ambition and rudenesse, was cut off the 88th day of his Empire,
at whose death *Didius Julianus* did presume to aspire to the govern-
ment of the Empire, then floating and tottering. But two months
and five dayes after, he is forsaken by the same persons; because
he could not give them the whole gratuity and recompence that
they expected, he is slain by *Septimius Severus's* command.

For this man being born in *Africk*, and Governour of *Pannonia*,
through a shew of avenging *Pertinax*, he violently took the Empire
upon himself. And first he discharged the Pretorian bauds cir-
cumvented by his own servants for murdering *Pertinax* unwor-
tily; then he went against *Pescennius Niger* Governour of *Syria*,
and *Clodius Albinus* Governour of *Brittain*, and both competitors
of the Empire. *Niger* being the first overcome, (*Antioch*, where
he had fled, being taken) flying to *Euphrates*, was killed, as saith
Herodianus. *Spartianus* saith, That he was killed near *Cyzicum*:
Niger being suppressed, *Severus* took *Byzantium*, which persisted
still in his obedience, after three years siege: and having deposed

Bb 2

it

Anno 193
of Christ,
to 235.

(d) Euseb. 4.
h. st. Epiph.
Hær. 19. & 27.
&c.

(c) Vide
animad. ad
Epiph. p. 83.
Iren. 1. 3. c. 4.
Euf. 4. hist.
c. 10.

(f) Euf. Chr.
Epiph. hær.
48.

The Greek
Interpreters
of the Scrip-
ture.

(g) Epiph. de
pond. ec
pand.
In animad. ad
Epiph. p. 399.

Herod. 2. Xi-
phil. Capitol.
Euf. Victo.

Spart. & alii
superiores.

Byzantium
taken.

Anno 193
of Christ,
to 235.

Lions destroy-
ed.

Spart.

Xiph.

Spart. Herod.
4. Xiphil.
Eutr. Vict.

it both of walls and of freedom, made it tributary to the *Perinthians*, near upon the fifth year of his Empire.

Having quieted all things in the East, he turned his arms against *Clodius Albinus*, whose friendship hitherto he had procured to himself, by offering him the dignity of *Cæsar*: encountering him with his Army near *Lions* in *France*, many being slain on both sides, and amongst the rest, *Albinus* himself, he alone enjoyed the Government. The City was burnt and demolished, and *Albinus's* head sent to Rome, and much cruelty was used towards those of his party and his friends.

Thence again being gone into the East, he subdued the *Parthians*, the *Assabians* and the *Arabians*, he granted a Charter of Corporation to the *Alexandrians*. *Plautianus* in the mean while governing all things at Rome, whose daughter *Plautilla* he had betrothed to his son *Antoninus*, and their wedding was solemnized about the tenth year of *Severus's* Empire, and she had as much for her portion, as would have been a sufficient dowry for fifty Queens. But not long after, near upon the 204th year of Christ, *Plautianus* himself conspiring against the General, is slain by *Antoninus* his son in law, and many more were put to death after him, who were his Confederates in the Conspiracy.

Severus went to *Britain* in the 15th year of his Empire, with his two sons; *Basianus*, whom he surnamed *Antoninus*, and had made *Augustus* in the seventh year of his Empire; and with *Geta*: There, having had a prosperous success of his affairs for four years space, he retired himself, and fortified it with a wall all round about the Island, and there at length he dyeth at *York* the ninth of *February*, in the year of Christ 211, his eldest son having often plotted against him, after he had governed the Empire 17 years, eight months, and three days. At his death he left in store seven years revenues and provisions; so that every day might be spent seventy five thousand bushels of corn, and of oyl as much as might suffice all *Italy* in five years.

Antoninus Caracalla, and *Geta*, *Severus's* two sons, by equal right obtained the Government of the Empire, after their father's death, in the year as I have said, 211 of Christ, who by reason of their contrary nature, had daily and continual dissention and difference together: *Geta* was of a meek and civil nature; the other was a turbulent and fiery man: by whom in the second year of his Empire was his brother, aged 23 years, slain, in the very bosom of their Mother, under a shew of a particular discourse, in the 212th year after Christ, as *Xiphilinus* doth record, and soon upon it was an infinite number of his favourites and friends put to death, amongst whom was that great Doctor in the Law *Papinianus*, because he would not by Law excuse his murder. After this *Antoninus* went into the East, and there he made a great slaughter of the *Alexandrian* Citizens, because they had once spoken some words against him, he deceitfully invaded *Artabanus* King of the *Parthians*, and spoiled his Kingdom, at length, six years and two months

months after his father's death, he is slain by a Marshal Centurion, or Captain, by the order of *Opilius Macrinus* the Pretor, between *Edeffa* and *Carras* the sixth of April, as *Xiphilinus* saith in the year of Christ 217, and in the 29 of his age; but *Spartianus* gives him 43.

Macrinus, a year and two months after he had usurped the Empire, being slain by his Souldiers, *Aurelius Antoninus Alagabalus Varius*, together with *Diadumenus*, descended of *Jupiter's*, or *Sol's* Priest, commonly thought, though falsely, *Caracalla's* son, took the Empire. He was the vilest of all men, in so much, that having cast off all manhood, he disformed himself into a woman, and did suffer any thing in his body. Therefore having ruled three years and nine months, by the consent of the Souldiers, he was slain with his Mother *Semiamira* or *Julia*, in the 222 year of Christ, his corps being dragg'd in the channel, and thence drawn into the River *Tiber*, in the 18th year of his age. Most Authors attribute to his Empire, two years and some months; and to his age 16 years: but we rather adhere to *Xiphilinus*, whose account is given in another place, where mention is made of *Alexander*.

In the year of Christ 222, *Aurelius Severus Alexander* obtained the Empire, having been made *Cæsar* the year before. A Prince far surpassing all in goodness; and most excellent and valiant, both in peace and war. He was wonderfully diligent either in giving judgment, or in requiring justice of the Judges, he reprehended and corrected those who by favour or bribes did exceed the bonds of Justice and right; he banished out of his Court all flatterers, scoffers, and shames of the Court. He forbade the Magistrates Offices to be bought, asserting, That it could not be, but what one had bought, he would sell it again for hire-sake: Therefore he did give a Salary out of the Treasury to the Governours of the Provinces, lest they should be burthen some to the people.

He was not an enemy to Christ; for he worshipped him in his Chappel, not being suffered by the Senate to give him any public divine honour, and to build him a Temple: In ministering Justice, he made use of the industry of the chiefest and ablest Lawyers, as (a) *Ulpianus*, *Pomponius*, *Celsus*, *Modestinus*, *Paulus*, *Proculeus*, *Venuleius*. Of these, *Ulpianus* being advanced to the Pretorian dignity, he was killed in a mutiny of Souldiers, as *Zosimus* affirms. But he was a gallant Warrior, as well as an industrious Lawyer. In the fifth year of his Empire, *Artaxerxes* the Persian, having overcome the *Parthians* in three field-battels, and slain their King *Artabanus*; he re-established the *Persian* Empire in the East, by whom the Magi began to be esteemed, as *Agathias* writes. Against whom, making incursion upon the Roman Territories, when *Alexander* could not affright him away by his Letters, he went out with an Army, and overcame him; as *Lampriidius* records out of the Acts of the Senate; and triumphed the 7th of October. Although this Author relates, That *Merodianus* hath written

Anno 193
of Christ,
to 235.

Capitol.
Lampriid.
Herodianus
Xiph. Vict.
Eutrop.

(a) Lampriid.
Zosimus 1.

Herodia. 6.
Agath. 1.
p. 61.
Persians recover their Empire.

Anno 193
of Christ,
to 235.
Hier. in
Chron. & Euf.
Orof. 7. c. 5, 8.
Lamprid. in
Alexander.
Herod. 6.
Zofim. 1.

written concerning this, far otherwise. Having performed this Expedition, he undertook another against the *Germans*, wherein by the conspiracy of a few Souldiers, he is killed with his Mother at *Moguntiacum*, who as long as he lived, shewed himself obedient, even unto envy itself; so say *Lampridius*, *Herodianus*, and *Zofimus*, by *Maximinus*, who had usurped the Empire, having betrayed him with his Mother. These things were done in the 235th year of Christ. He governed the Empire a little more then 13 years, and lived 29, and 3 moneths.

CHAP. XI.

Of the Christian Affairs in the time of those Emperours; and of the most famous Persons for Piety and Doctrine.

Euf. 5. hist.
c. 27.

IN the same year that *Commodus* was slain, Pope *Eleutherus* dying, had *Vistor* of *Africa* for his Successour; who, excommunicated from the Church, *Theodotus*, a Tanner of *Byzantium*, having an erroneous opinion of Christ; then he pacified and composed the Controversie touching Easter, both in *Rome* and in other places by assembly of Synods: And he also intended to separate from the communion the *Asians*, who continued to celebrate it after the Jewish custom; but (a) *Ireneus* dissuaded him from this resolution: In the time of his Papacy, was the tempest of persecution very grievous upon the Christians, which *Eusebius's* Chronicles record to have been in the tenth year of *Severus*, and in the 202 of Christ. In this persecution, *Leonides*, *Oigen's* Father, of *Alexandria*; and *Ireneus* of *Lions*, with almost all his people, did suffer Martyrdom. This persecution extended so far as to *Africa*, first under the government of *Saturnius*, then of *Scapula*, in that Province.

(a) Euseb. 6.
hist.

Martyr. Rom.
Jun. 28.

Tertul. in
Scap.

Under *Alexander* the Emperour the Church did enjoy peace; for he is said to have been friendly to the Christians; yet taking into his counsel those, who, as they were best learned in the Law, so likewise were the bitterest and cruellest against Christians, there also were some few Martyrs put to death; amongst whom *Cecilia* was eminent; with *Tuburtius* and *Valerianus*; the sword did also at that time cut off *Urbanus*, who had been Pope seven years, being succeeded by *Zephyrinus*.

Martyr.
S. Cecilia.

Hier. de
Script.

These times were made more illustrious and memorable both by the excellent holiness, and also admirable learning of *Pantenus*, who of a Stoick became a Christian; who having been Rector of the School in *Alexandria*, went to the *Indies*, there to preach the Gospel, and flourished under *Severus* and *Caracalla*: *Ajanus*, *Tatianus's* disciple, flourished at *Rhodes*, under *Commodus* and *Severus*, *Clemens* of *Alexandria*, *Pantenus's* Auditor, and *Origen's* Master: *Miltiades* and *Apollonius*, who writ against *Montanus Priscilla* and *Maximilla*, *Apollonius* the Senatour, who made

an

an Apologie in the Senate, in the defence of the Christian faith, and by the Senates decree had his head cut off, *Commodus* then being Emperour. *Polycrates*, the Bishop of *Ephesus*, who resisted with much vehemency *Vistor* the Pope of *Rome*, for the Lent. *Tertullian* in *Africa*, and *Minutius Felix* at *Rome*, flourished under *Severus* and *Caracalla*. *Origen* in *Alexandria*, who was born in the sixth year of *Commodus's* Empire, and about the 185th year of Christ; he was 17 years old when his Father *Leonides* suffered Martyrdom, as *Eusebius* relates. In that time was *Julius Africanus* eminent, to whom *Origenes* writ under *Alexander*. *Gregorius Thaumaturgus*, *Heracles* Bishop of *Alexandria*, *Ammonius* the Christian Proficour in *Philosopher* in the same City, of whom *Plotinus Lycopolitanus* was a hearer, as *Porphyrius* records in his life. Concerning these and others, whom for brevities sake we omit, you may further consult *Hieronymus*.

Anno 195
of Christ,
to 276.

Euf. 6. hist.
c. 3. & in
Chron. Hier.
de Script.
Ecd.

CHAP. XII.

Of Maximinus, the Gordians, Philip, Decius, Gallus and Volustianus, Valerianus, Gallienus, Claudius, Aurelianus, Tacitus; of the 30 Tyrants, and also of Odenetus and Zenobia.

From the 235 of Christ, to 276.

Maximinus, *Gothus's* and *Alanus's* son, either having slain *Alexander*, as *Herodianus* will have it, or after his death, by no plot of his own contrived and attempted, was made Emperour 135 years after Christ's birth, who having prosperously put an end to the Wars of *Germany*, he wintered at *Sirmium*, and in the mean while by his Governours and Deputies, used much cruelty in *Rome*, and put many of the Nobles to death. In the midst of these things, the *Gordians*, both father and son, usurp the Empire in *Carthage*. The *Romans* by the order of the Senate forsake *Maximinus*, and Embassadors are sent every where to keep the Provinces under the power and command of the Senate, and 20 men are chosen for to keep and defend *Rome*. The *Gordians* within a year and few dayes being slain in *Africa* by *Capelianus*, *Maximinus's* General. *Balbinus* and *Maximinus Pupienus*, out of the 20 Governours of *Rome*, were by the Senate advanced to the Imperial dignity, in the year of Christ 237; wherein *Maximinus*, whilest he besieges *Aquileia*, is slain, with his son yet a boy, by his Souldiers; having lived two years and some moneths in great power and authority.

Lampr. Herod.
dia. 7. Euf.
Vistor.

(b) *Balbinus* and *Pupienus*, with *Gordianus* a youth, Nephew to that *Gordianus*, who with his son was slain in *Africa*, as saith *Capitolinus*; but *Eutropius* saith his son; governed a full year the Common-wealth. Then they, desiring to put down *Gordianus*, because he obtained the favour more then they; were slain by the Souldiers;

(b) Capitol.
Herod. 8.
Euf. 9.

Anno 235
of Christ,
to 276.

(c) Zof. 1.

Souldiers, 238 years after Christ; since which time, (c) *Gordianus* alone enjoyed the Empire with the favour of all, being either 11, or 13, or 16 years old, (for it is ambiguously recorded) a child of a very good nature, made and fitted for all sorts of virtues which the discretion of *Misitheus*, a most discreet and learned person, whose daughter he had married, did moderate and direct; with whom both *Janus's* gates being opened, he went with a puissant Army in the fifth year of his Empire against the *Persians*, and regained from them *Carras*, *Nisibis*, and other Towns, and compelled them into their own Country. The next year following *Misitheus* being murdered by the snares and plot of *Philippus the Arabian*, soon after *Gordianus* is also murdered by those numerous Souldiers, whom *Philippus* had stirred up to such a villanic by bribes and gifts, in the 244th year of Christ, having ruled five years, whose dignity this very murderer did succeed; who having concluded a peace with *Sapor*, returned to *Rome*, in the 4th year of his Empire. At what time he had been Consul the third time, and his son *Philip, Cesar* the second time, were celebrated in *Rome* the secular Playes, being a thousand years after the building of the City, and 248 after Christ, about harvest-time, as we may gather out of (c) *Zosimus*. At length, having ruled 5 years the Empire; at the beginning of the sixth, the elder *Philip* hath his throat cut at *Verona*; the younger at *Rome*, by the Souldiers, in the year of Christ 249; having before taken to himself the purple Robe.

Viâ. Euf.
Zofim. 1.

Wide 1. 1. de
Doâ. Temp.
c. 25.
(c) Zof. 2.

(d) Viâ. Zof.
sim. Eurp.

(d) *Decius* born in the lower *Pannonia*, a man of excellent virtue, and well exercised in *Varr*, as *Vidor* setteth him forth; he ruled, as the same Author saith, two years and a half, and fighting against the *Barbarians*, he dyed in the promiscuous crowd of the Souldiers, by the floud of a sluice of a pond, opened upon them by the *Barbarians*; in so much, that his corps could not afterwards be found. By *Gallus's* treachery, as *Zosimus* writes, secretly conspiring with the *Barbarians*. This slaughter wherein *Decius's* son dyed, was in the 251 year of Christ.

(e) Viâ. Euf.
step. Zof. 1. 1.
Orôf. 7. c. 21.

(e) Hence *Gallus Hostilius* the chief Commander of the Army that defended the frontiers in *Mæsia*, being by the suffrage and general voyce of the Souldiers created Emperour; and having associated to himself *Volusianus* his son, two years and 4 months after he is slain, together with him, by the Souldiers, near *Interamna*, as he pursued *Emilianus* then raising new broyls in *Mæsia*. This came to passe in the 254 year of Christ. (f) In the time of his Government such a pestilential sicknesse did rage almost all over the World, as before that never was seen the like, in the year 252 after Christ, wherein the charity of Christians did marvelously shine even towards their persecutors.

(f) Euf. 7.
hist. c. 17.
Cyp. de Mor.
sal.

But the *Persians* invading the borders of the East with an Army destroyed *Antioch*: The *Scythians* being passed over into *Asia*, spoiled and destroyed the Country far and near, whom *Emilianus* valiantly resisted; and having suppressed them, he by the general voyce

voyce of the Souldiers obtained the Imperial dignity, *Gallus*, as we have said, being slain: (a) Then, *Emilianus* being cut, off three months after, *Valerian* with *Galienus* his son enjoyed the Empire, with whom he governed seven years the Empire; and in this space of time the Roman power and dominion was much diminished and torn to pieces by the *Barbarians*. *St. Augustine* in his 80 Epistle saith, That in the time of *Galienus's* reign, the impressions, incurfions, and cruelties were such, that they could have wished for the end of the World. In this time also did many Tyrants rise up, in several parts of the world; who are reckoned 30 in number by *Trebellius Pollio*: *Valerian* then being gone against the *Scythians* who had taken *Chakedon*, burnt *Nicea*, and the Temple of *Diana* at *Ephesus*. Thence being gone against *Sapor*, then spoiling the East borders; and taken by him, and used in manner of a base slave, that as often as he got up his horse's back, he layed his foot upon his head, making him to bow down to the ground; (b) At length he commanded him to be fled alive and salted, as *Eusebius* records. This overthrow was in the 260th year of Christ. About what time *Odenatus* the Governour of the *Palmyrenians*, who had married *Zenobia*, did valiantly repulse and drive back the (c) *Persians*, who had far entred the Roman Empire, and defended the Roman power, having taken the title of King upon himself.

Anno 235
of Christ,
to 276.

(a) Trebell.
Eurp. Viâ.
Zof. 1. Orôf. 7.
c. 22.

(b) Euseb.
Orat. Constan.
ad San. 2. c. 24.
Agath. 1. 4.
p. 129.

(c) Trebell.

(d) In the mean while, *Galienus*, a man altogether given to lust and wickednesse suffered the Empire to be torn to pieces every where, both by the *Barbarians*, and also Tyrants. To whom when *Odenatus* having taken *Nisibis* and *Carras*, conquered *Mesopotamia*, pur to flight the King of the *Persians*, slain many thousands, sent the Princes and chiefest of them bound; he, without any shame, as though he had conquered them himself, triumphed in *Rome*: This victory of *Odenatus* is ascribed by *Trebellius*, to be in the 262 year of Christ, when *Galienus* and *Saturninus* were Consuls. A few years after, *Odenatus* being declared Emperour by *Galienus*, he is murdered by conspiracy of his Cousen-german, together with *Herod's* son, whose wife *Zenobia*, a woman of a manly spirit, took the Empire upon her self. *Galienus* is slain near *Millan* by *Martianus* and *Cecropius*, both Generals of the Army that went against *Aureolus* the Tyrant, together with his brother *Valerian*; he governed almost seven years with his father, and eight alone.

(d) Trebell.
Viâ. Eurp.
Orôf. 7. c. 22.

Therefore in the 268. year after Christ, *Claudius*, about the 9th of April, as by *Trebellius* appears, began to rule, a providential and moderate man, and a Prince of great advantage to the Commonwealth, who having destroyed *Aureolus* the Tyrant, he fought gallantly against the *Goths*; it appears that he with his Army destroyed and killed 300020. of them, and defeated and destroyed two thousand ships of theirs; and them that remained of these *Barbarians*, the Famine and the Plague destroyed them, near about *Hæmimontum*; *Atticianus*, or *Antiochianus*, and *Orphius* being

Trebell. Viâ.
Eurp. Zof.
1. 1. Orôf. 7.
c. 20.

Asno 235.
of Christ, to
276.

ing Consuls, which doth agree with the year of our Lord, 270. *Claudius* soon after, being infected of the plague, dyeth; having ruled a year, and a little more then nine Months, as *Eusebius* and *Cassiodorus* do record, but being that *Trebellius* asserts that he dyed in the two hundred seventieth year of Christ, it seems that he did near upon fill the two years; otherwise he died in the latter end of the 269 year.

His brother *Quintillus* having usurped the Empire, within sixteen dayes after, he was beheaded by the Souldiers: by whom was chosen *Aurelianus*, born of inferiour Parents, but reckoned by the Heathens amongst the most worthy and laudable Princes, unless that he inclined too much to cruelty. By him were subdued the *Alemans*, and the *Marcomans*, who had given a great defeat to the Romans, for which *Aurelianus* thought that it was expedient to go to the books of the Sybills, which happened the 3. day of January, in the year of Christ 271, as *Papiscus* saith. Coming to Rome after this his Victory, he put to death many of the Senators, he amplified the walls of the City, being gone into the East he overcame *Zenobia*, and led her in his triumph with *Tetricus* the Tyrant, who having received of the Catalonians at their yielding, he recovered France. Then suffering both to live afterwards, he made him the Correctour of *Lucania*, and kept her in the City. *Hieronymus* writes that from her did the Zenonian family propagate. *Aurelius Victor* saith, that he was the first amongst the Roman Emperours that wore a Diadem upon his head, and that was seen clothed with a garment of embroidery and jewels. He gave order that Swines-flesh might freely be distributed amongst the people; he died in the beginning of the fifth year of his Empire, in the beginning of the 275th year of Christ, by the conspiracy of *Mnesibius*, Secretary Generall, near *Cænophrum*, betwixt *Bizantium* and *Heraclæa*: After his death, there was an interregnum some seven Months, because that in the Election of an Emperour there was risen a great contest and contention between the Senate and the Souldiers, both attributing to themselves the right of Election: At length the 7. of October, he was created Emperour by the Senate.

Tacitus, a person of excellent breeding, and gifted for the Government of the Common-wealth, who had his pedigree of *Tartus* the Historian. But he died on the two hundredth day after, at *Tartus* of a Fever, to whom *Florianus* his brother succeeding, *Probus* was made Emperour by the greatest part of the Souldiers, *Flavianus* cutting his own veins died within 60. dayes of his own accord, in the 276 year of Christ.

CHAP.

Vopiscus.
Victor. Europ.
Zof. Orol. 7.
c. 13.

Zenobia taken
with Tetricus.

Hier. Chron.

Victor.

Vopisc. Europ.
Zof. Victor.

Victor.

CHAP. XIII.

Of the Christian affairs and persecutions: and of the Hereticks; as also of those Men who were Illustrious and renowned for their Piety, Holinesse, and Learning, who lived from Maximinus's time, unto Aurelianus.

Maximinus, as soon as he enjoyed the Empire, exercised great cruelty against the Christians, and, as its thought, he began the sixth Persecution, wherein died of Martyrdome *Pontianus*, a Pope of Rome, to whom succeeding *Anicetus*, after the enjoyment of it for a Moneth, he obtained also the Title of Martyr.

But *Decius*, in the beginning of his Empire, in the year of Christ 258. stirred up the seventh Persecution, in which was slain *Fabianus*, the Bishop of Rome, the 20 of January, having held the seat 15 years. *Origines* being comprehended in this persecution, rather then to suffer abominable things, he would offer incense to the Idols, and thence retiring himself to *Tyrus*, five years after he died under *Valerian* and *Galienus* the sixty ninth year of his age, as it may be gathered out of *Eusebius*; and *Hieronymus* records that he suffered death in *Tyrus*: In the last year of *Decius*, being the 251 of Christ, the Roman Sea having been vacant above one year, *Cornelius* succeeded to *Fabianus*, against whom *Novatianus* blowed up a schisme, and division, being chosen by some few of his own party. To whom *Novatus* the Bishop coming out of Africa, joynd himself, who by many is indifferently taken for *Novatianus*. Under *Decius* among many others, suffered *Agatha*, in Sicilia, and *Apollonia* of Alexandria, which cheerfully cast her self into the burning Scaffold, as *Eusebius* writes.

In the first or second year of *Decius's* reign being the 250 of Christ, when *Decius* and *Gratus* were Consuls, as *Gregorius Turonensis* saith, *Saturninus* Bishop of Tolose went to Rome; with whom were sent *Gratianus* Bishop of Turine, and *Dionysius* Bishop of Paris, and that they together with *Rusticus* and *Eleutherius* suffered their Martyrdome.

To whom agreeth the author of *St. Omers* life, who relates that *Euscianus* and *Vilforinus*, *St. Denys* companions, preached at the same time the faith of Christ. That *St. Quintins* did the same amongst the Ambianians, but they suffered the 11th of November under the Emperour, *Maximianus*; then *Denys* dyed not long before *Maximianus* time; that is, about 50. years.

Decius's followers, viz. *Gallus* and *Volusianus* prosecuted this same slaughter of the Christians: therefore *Cornelius* Pope of Rome within two years and two Moneths, suffered at Rome. And *Lucius* supplied his place, who being put to Martyrdome under *Valerian* and *Galienus* left the See to *Steven*.

C c 2

About

Asno 235.
of Christ,
to 276.

Maximinus's
Persecut. on.
Euf. l. 6. Hist.
c. 28. et in
Chron. Orol.
7. c. 19.

Decius's Per-
secution.
Euf. 6. Hist.
c. 32. Orol. 6. c.
Origines facti-
ficeth to Idols.
Epiph. har.
64. See our ob-
servations.
Euf. Hist. 7.
c. 1. Epist. 55.
ad Pammach.
Cyp. Ep. 55.
Epiph. Hæz.
59.

Novatianus's
Schisme.

Vide Euf. 26.
Hist. c. 41.

Greg. Tur. l.
1. Hist. c. 30.
S. Dionysius
parisienus
Episcopus.

W About the same time flourished that light of the Church of *Africa* St. *Cyprian*, Bishop of *Carthage*; Who when *Philip* was made *Augustus* the third time, and his son *Cesar* Consul the second time, that is, in the year of Christ 248. was advanced to the office of Bishop. For he writes, that four years after he was invested with the office, there arose a Schism of one *Feliciſſimus*, when *Cornelius* was first made Pope of Rome, which was upon the 251. year of Christ.

When *Steven* possessed the Roman-See in the 256th year of Christ, *Cyprian* held a councell of Bishops at *Carthage*, wherein the Hereticks Baptisme was adjudged false, and to be done again anew: this very same thing did *Firmilianus* in *Cappadocia*, and *Dionysius* of *Alexandria* decree. But *Steven* by his Apostolick Authority resisted them all: But *Cyprian* not long after washed away this spot with his own blood under the Emperours *Valerian*, and *Galien*: By whom was revived the persecution about the 4th year of their Empire, which was the 257 year of Christ, that is, when *Valerian* was Consul the 4th time, and *Galien* the third, as *The Acts of Saint Cyprians sufferings* do witness; For being banished that very year, he for Christs sake ended his life the next year after, being the 258th year of Christ, the 18th of October, so he performed the office of a Bishop tenne full years, and some Moneths.

In this same persecution of *Valerian*, *Steven* having officiated in the Roman-See two years and three Moneths, suffered Martyrdom: And so likewise *Sixtus* his successour, having enjoyed the Papall office one year, and almost two Moneths, was put to death for the name of Christ the 8th of August of the 258 year of Christ, and four dayes alter, *St. Laurence* and *Hippolitus*, with divers others.

But *Valerian* payed at last very dear for this his cruelty, for being taken by the Persians and constrained to do the fordid and base services of a slave, he was at length flea'd alive, and salted, as we have above observed: *Galienus* being taught by his fathers example, forbade that Christians should be further persecuted.

The Churches outward storm ceasing, then began the inward: *Paul Samosene*, Bishop of *Antioch*, æmulating *Sabellius*, who had divulged a little before, a most pernicious doctrine against the holy Trinity at *Ptolemais*, begins to oppose and deny the divine nature of the Son, against whom was the first Synod held at *Antioch*, in the year of Christ 260. wherein were *Firmilianus* of *Cæsarea*, *Gregorius* of *Neocæsarea*, and his brother *Athenodorus*. But when *Paul* by his deceitfull tergiverſation mocked and shifted away the writings of the Fathers; yet in the next Council held at *Antioch*, he was condemned and turned out of his office; which he not willing to deliver up, *Aurelian* the Emperour being petitioned, turned him out per-force, in the two hundred seventieth year of Christ: for then *Aurelian* was somewhat well affected towards the Christians. But two years after, being the two hundred seven-

seventieth year of Christ, he stirred up the ninth persecution, as many do reckon, wherein an infinite number of Martyrs did suffer, to which *Tacitus* did put an end, as the AGs of *Chariton* the Martyr do testify:

Paul the Hermite was a great splendour to that age: who, when *Decius* afflicted the Christians, by reason of escaping death retired himself into a cave, wherein he embraced a solitary life, the 23 year of his age, and of Christ 250. which year brought also forth *Antonius* the Great, as we may gather out of *Hieronymus*, also *Dionysius* of *Alexandria* died in the thirteenth year of *Galien's* reign, as *Eusebius* saith, and so likewise *Gregorius Thaumaturgus*: of the Gentiles, *Plotinus* the Philosopher, died in the beginning of *Aurelian's* reign, being the 270 year of Christ, as may be gathered out of *Porphyrius*, upon his life.

Suidas saith, that he was very old under *Galien*, and that *Amelius* was his hearer, and that *Porphyrius* was *Amelius's* hearer, and *Jamblicus* the hearer of *Porphyrius*; and that *Porphyrius* flourished under *Aurelian*, and that he attained the dayes of *Dioclesian's* Empire. But *Eunapius* makes *Amelius* to be *Porphyrius's* School-fellow, and not his Master. He together with *Origenes Aquilinus*, and *Porphyrius* lengthened his dayes unto the time of *Aurelian's*, and *Probus's* Empire: at which time also lived *Dexippus* the Historian, *Longinus* is also reckoned amongst the learned ones of that age, by whom *Porphyrius* was taught and furnished, being before that called *Malchus*: but *Zemobia* making use of *Longinus* for to teach her Greek, *Aurelian* therefore caused him to be put to death, as writes *Vopiscus*.

CHAP. XIV.

Of *Probus*, *Carus*, *Numerianus*, *Carinus*, *Diocletian*, *Maximian*, *Constantius*, *Chlorus*, and *Armenianus*.

Anno 276 of Christ, unto 304.

Tacitus and *Florianus* his brother, being dead, *M. Aurelius Probus* by the Generall consent of the Souldiery, is invested with the Empire, the 276 year of Christ, born in *Pannonia Sirmiensis*, a person indued with all vertue, for he was admirables in feats of arms, and excellent in good manners, who as soon as he was created *Augustus*, he inquired after those Souldiers that had slain *Aurelian*: Thence going into *France*, he regained sixty Towns out of the Barbarians hands, and killed of them near upon seventy thousand. Having quieted all things in *France*, he went into *Slavonia*, and overcame the Nations in *Scythia*. And being gone thence into the East, he gave battell to the *Persians*, and having overcome them, and taken some of their Cities, as he was returning to *Italy*, passing through *Slavonia*, he was killed at *Sirmium* by

W Anno 276. of Christ, to 304.

W Surlus 28. Sept. St. Paul the hermit. Hier. in Paulo. Iuven. in Chro. Euf. 7. hist. c. 29.

W Anno 235. of Christ, to 276.

W St. Cyprian. Cyr. Epist. 55.

Cypr. Epist. 70. and following. Aug. de bapt. Cont. Don. Vint. Lirin. The Carthaginian Synod for the rebaptizing of Hereticks. Cyprian's Martyrdom.

Act. passio. S. Cyp. Hieron. de Script.

Euf. 7. hist. c. 13. Orof. 7. c. 22. Euf. 7. hist. c. 8. Epiph. her. 65. Paul. Samosene. Euf. 7. hist. c. 22. 23. & 24.

Aurelian's his Persecution.

Vopiscus. Victor. Eutrop. Idatius in factis Zof. 2.

Anno 276
of Christ,
to 304.

Vopiscus. Vi-
ctor. Eutrop.
9. Zosim. 2.
Or. 7. c. 14.
Caus. Carinus
and Numerianus.

by the Souldiers, who hated him for his too great severity, in the 282 year of Christ, and the 7th of his Empire, whereof he lived some four Moneths.

M. Aurelius Carus born in Narbon in France, succeeded Probus, who soon after created his sons Carinus and Numerianus, Caesars; and having sent Carinus into France to keep it in peace, and Govern it, he, with Numerianus his son, went into the East, against the Persians: There having overcome Mesopotamia, being gone as far as Ctesiphon, he was stricken dead by a Thunderbolt, having governed the Empire about a whole year, it being the 283 year of Christ. Numerianus, being exceedingly afflicted for his fathers death, by reason of too much weeping fell into an ocular distease; and as he was carried in a Litter, he was murdered by the conspiracy of Aprus his father in law, in the two hundred eighty fourth year of Christ.

Carinus, of a far other temper than his father and brother, lived full of vices, and all defiled with wickedness: For its said that he wanted no manner of mischief and baseness, and that he had no token or spark of vertue and goodness: wherefore being hated both by great and small, a while after his fathers death, he contended against the people as well as against Dioclesian, by both whom he was hated; and he attained to the year of Christ 285, that is, one year after that Dioclesian was advanced to the Imperial dignity. For then, being betrayed by his own party near Margus a town of Moesia, he was killed by Dioclesians army, which overcame him.

Then about the Month of September, in the year of Christ 284, Dioclesian who before was called Diocles, after Numerianus's death, received the Purple Robe presented to him by the Souldiers; born in Dalmatia of low Parentage, (for he is said to have been a bond-servant to Anulinus the Senatour) but a gallant warrior: He in the first Assembly, swore that Numerianus had been murdered without his consent, or knowledge, and thereupon killed the Murderer Aprus with his own hands, and by it fulfilled that Prophecy, that he had once received, That he should be Emperour, when he had killed Aper (which signifieth a Bore) with his own proper hands. Whence in his hunting as often as he lighted upon a Boor, he was wont to kill him with his own hands with a hunting staffe, but after he had slain Aper, then he boasted that at length he had found out the fatall Bore: Then the Peasants of France rising up in an uproar that were called Bacaudes, having sent Maximian Herculan to them, he quieted them in the 285 year, whereupon Maximian was made Caesar the first time: For the next year following being the 286 year, Dioclesian created him Augustus; because, saith Idatius, he might prop up and uphold the republick that was tottering and falling, what by the Barbarians incursions, what by the Tyrants oppressions. For at the same time Carausius being busied among the Britains, and Achilleus in Egypt, had both taken the purple Robe. And from the East

Victor. Eutrop.
10 Euf. Chron.
Fatti Siculi O-
ro. 7. c. 25.

Ibid.

East Narses, the King of Persia threatened hard with a puissant Army; and Africa was spoiled, and destroyed by the Quinquagenians. By which troubles and tempests was the Roman Empire tossed and agitated some years together. Therefore in the 7th year of his Empire, and the 291 year of Christ, that he might prevent and resist all these dangers, he created two Caesars, Constantius Chlorus, who is said to be the Nephew of Claudius the second by his daughter, as Eutropius records; and Galerius Maximian, born in Dacia, not far from Sardica; who was surnamed Armentarius, because he had been a herdman. Dioclesian, that he might joyn these to himself by affinity, gave to Armentarius his daughter Valeria; and to Constantius, Maximianus Herculus gave Theodora his daughter in Law: So having divided their Forces into four Armies, Dioclesian went into Egypt, Herculus into Africk, Armentarius into the East, and Constantius into Brittain. By the long, tedious, and laborious Expeditions! of them all, was the Roman world again settled in peace. About the end of the 12th year of Dioclesian's Empire, it being the 296 of Christ, as Eusebius records in his Chronicle, Alexandria after eight moneths siege being taken, together with Egypt, was brought back again unto the obedience of the Romans.

Carausius seven years after his revolt, was killed by Alaxius his Affociat in the 293 year of Christ; and so the (b) Britains were again recovered, in the tenth year after their revolt, saith Eutropius. At the same time were the Quinquagenians subdued by Maximianus Herculus, and Galerius Armentarius, being beaten by Narses, and proudly entertained by Dioclesian. (a) The year following being the 297, he revenged himself for the ignominy and reproach he had received, defeating the Persian Army, and taking prisoners Narses's Wife, his sisters, and his Children. (b) Therefore did Dioclesian receive him again with respect and honour in Mesopotamia.

(c) At length, after these two Augustus's had both magnificently triumphed at Rome for their many and great exploits of Wars, they were both made private persons again, having layd down their purple-Robes. Dioclesian lived at Nicomedia, and Maximianus at Millan: But Dioclesian did it of his own accord, or by reason of his old age, and tyred by his great labours, or being wearied and importuned about the Christian Concernments, whom he had no mind to persecute, he retired himself into a Garden in Salone. But Maximian was forced to it more by the authority of his Affociate, then by his own will. This was done in the 20th year of Dioclesian's Empire, and of Christ 304; at what time Dioclesian had been 9 times Consul, and Maximianus 8, as Idatius writes; who relates, That at that same time Constantius Chlorus, and Galerius Maximianus Armentarius were declared Augustus's; and that Severus, and Galerius Maximianus Armentarius sister's son, were created Caesars, as Victor saith also.

And so Constantius with Galerius Maximianus did enjoy the whole Roman

Anno 276
of Christ,
to 304.

Vopiscus
and Galerius
created Caesars
by Dioclesian.

(b) Eutrop.
9. Zosim. 2.
Or. 7. c. 14.
Caus. Carinus
and Numerianus.

(b) Eut. 9.
Victor.

(c) Idem e.
Zosim. Eufch.
8. hist. c. 13.
& in Chron.
Or. 7. c. 25.
Dioclesian and
Maximian lay
down their
purple Robes

Anno 276
of Christ,
to 304.

Roman Empire, parting the same between themselves: and to *Galerius Maximinus's* lot, fell Scythia, Asia, and the East; to *Constantianus's*, France, Italy, and Africk, who afterward gave Italy and Africk over to his Companion. And so *Maximian* established *Severus* over Italy, and *Maximinus* over the East. In the mean while, *Constantinus Chlorus's* son, having been delivered by his father to *Dioclesian* and *Galerius Maximianus* for his hostage and pledg; and being re-demanded by his father, having been cast upon several dangers, and having escaped privately, he flyeth to his father at *Gessoriacum*. So a certain Author of a Manuscript, without name, doth declare.

CHAP. XV.

Of the state of the Christian Religion, from the year of Christ 276, where in *Probus* first entred into the Empire, unto the death of *Constantinus Chlorus*, and the beginning of *Constantinus*; that is, unto the 303, or 306th year, wherein is spoken of *Dioclesian's* Persecution: Of the Original of the *Donatists*, and of several Pious and Learned Persons.

IN these few years, that we comprehend in this Chapter, there were very great Troubles and Persecutions against the Church. In the beginning of *Probus's* Empire, that is, in his second year, and of Christ's 277, broke forth the heresie of the *Manichees*, as we read it in *Eusebius's* Chronicles: In which time also, notices taken of the Account of the years of the Antiochenians, and *Laodiceans*, &c. (Hereticks, so called). (a) Pope *Leo* endeth this year, when *Probus* and *Paulinus* were Consuls: At which time *Archelaus* Bishop of *Caschara* in *Mesopotamia*, renowned for his holinesse and learning, resisted strongly and constantly the rage and madnesse of the *Manichees*.

But under *Dioclesian*, the persecution of the Christians was so grievous and so great, as afore this time there was never the like, at the latter end of his Empire. Although *Baronius* (c) gathereth out of *St. Sebastian's* Acts, that before this time he had already begun to exercise his cruelty; and saith, That he began in the second year of his Empire with *Tiburtius Chromatius*, and others.

But this fire of persecution did flame more vehemently in the latter end of *Dioclesian's* 18th year; or, as (d) *Eusebius* thinks, in the 19th of his Empire; which he begins to reckon from the moneth of Easter. Then it was (in those dayes of Christ's passion) that the Emperours commanded, by their Edicts, that all the Christian Churches should be demolished; and all the sacred books should be burnt; and that all those Christians that had any publick office, should be degraded and turned out, and all the others should be put to death. Thereupon an infinite number of Christians suffered Martyrdome by divers sorts of torments for

Christ

Christ's sake; of whom *Eusebius* nameth some, as *Procopius* in *Cesaria* of *Palestine*, *Alpheus*, *Zaccheus*, &c. But the Martyrdoms that are read in the Ecclesiastical Histories are innumerable; of whom were *Marcus*, and *Marcellian*; *Cosma*, and *Damianus*, two brothers; *Vincentius*, *Agnes*, *Lucia*, *Maurice*, and an infinite number of the *Thebeans*. Also Pope *Marcellinus*, in the year of Christ 304, (the Emperours being then reduced to order) suffered Martyrdome for Christ's sake, the 8th of May; and the next year after this great Persecution, both the Emperours laid down their dignity, as *Eusebius* saith.

And they who for fear and punishment did deliver their Bibles, were called in Africk *Traditores* or *Traitors*, which afterward was the seed of the *Donatist's* Schism: And first there was held a Council of Bishops, most of them infected with this crime in (e) *Cyrrha* of *Numidia*, wherein *Secundus Augustinus* the Primate of *Numidia* was President. In which for avoiding of Schism, the *Donatists* were taken in, in the year of Christ 303.

And the Church was not onely celebrate and renowned by her Persecutions, but also by the Learning of rare Persons: For (f) *Anatolius* of *Laodicea*, a man of great learning, lived in *Probus's* time; and under *Carus* and *Dioclesian*, lived *Pierius* the elder, of *Alexandria*, and *Pamphilus*, who afterwards suffered under *Maximinus*: *Lucian* put to death in the same persecution. *Methodius* of *Olympus-Licia*, and then Bishop of *Tyrus*, suffered under *Dioclesian*. Some think that he suffered under *Decius* and *Valerianus*, as *Hieronymus* saith; but the first is more likely, being he writ against *Porphyrius* and *Origen*, of whom the first attained to the dayes of *Dioclesian's* Empire; and the last lived after *Decius*. *Arnobius*, who under *Dioclesian* taught Rhetorick at *Sicca*, and afterwards became a Christian; and his disciple *Lactantius*. The chief Poets amongst the Gentiles under *Carus* and *Dioclesian*, were *Calpurnius*, *Siculus*, and *Nemesianus*; and the Historians were *Lamprius*, *Capitolinus*.

Anno 276
of Christ,
to 304.

Divers Mar-
tyrs.

(e) Opranus
l. 1. Aug. 3.
Con. Cref.
c. 16.

(f) Euseb.
Chron.
Hieron. de
Script.
The Learned
and godly
persons.

The End of the Fifth Book

Dd

THE

Divers Mar-
tyrs.