

subject to Egypt, when a large Egyptian army marched to his assistance, but the Egyptians experienced so complete a defeat that few of them ever returned to their own country. We find that the next Egyptian king, Amásis, married a Cyrenean.

26. Soon after the defeat of the Egyptians, the tyranny of the Cyrenean king, Agesiláus, led to a revolt among his subjects, who being joined by some of the neighboring tribes, founded the city of Bar'ca, about seventy miles to the westward of Cyréne. In the war which followed, a great battle was fought with the allies of Bar'ca in which Agesiláus was defeated, and seven thousand of his men were left dead on the field. The successor of Agesiláus was deposed from the kingly office by the people, who, in imitation of the Athenians, then established a republican government, (543 B. C.,) under the direction of Demónax, a wise legislator of Mantinéa. But the son of the deposed monarch, having obtained assistance from the people of Sámos, regained the throne of Cyréne, about the time that the Persian prince Camby'ses conquered Egypt. Both the Cyrenean and the Barcan prince sent their submission to the great conqueror. Soon after this event the Persian satrap of Egypt sent a large force against Bar'ca, which was taken by perfidy, and great numbers of the inhabitants were carried away into Persian slavery.

27. At a later period, Cyréne and Bar'ca fell under the power of the Carthaginians—they subsequently formed a dependency of Egypt; and in the year 76 B. C., they were reduced to the condition of a Roman province. Cyréne was the birth-place of the poet Callim'achus; of Eratos'thenes the geographer, astronomer, and mathematician; and of Carnéades the sophist. Cyrenean Jews were present at Jerusalem on the day of pentecost: it was Simon, a Cyrenean Jew, whom the soldiers compelled to bear the Saviour's cross; and Christian Jews of Cyréne were among the first preachers of Christianity to the Greeks of Antioch. (Matthew, xxvii. 32: Mark xv 21: Acts ii. 10: vi. 9: xi. 29.)

CHAPTER V

ROMAN HISTORY:

FROM THE FOUNDING OF ROME, 753 B. C., TO THE CONQUESTS OF GREECE AND
CARTHAGE, 146 B. C. = 607 YEARS.

SECTION I.

EARLY ITALY: ROME UNDER THE KINGS: ENDING 510 B. C.

ANALYSIS. 1. ITALY—names and extent of.—2. Mountains, and fertile plains.—3. Climate.—4. Principal States and tribes.—5. Our earliest information of Italy. Etruscan civilization [The Etruscans. The Tiber.]—6. Southern Italy and Sicily colonized by Greeks. The rise of Rome, between the Etruscans on the one side and the Greeks on the other.—7. Sources and character of early Roman history.—8. The Roman legends, down to the founding of Alba.—[Lavin'ium Látium. Alba.]—9. The Roman legends continued, down to the saving of Rom'ulus and Remus.—10. To the death of Amu'lius.—11. Auguries for selecting the site and name of a city.—12. THE FOUNDING OF ROME [Description of Ancient and Modern Rome.]—13. Stratagem of Romulus to procure wives for his followers. [Sabines.]—14. WAR WITH THE SABINES. Treachery and fate of Tarpéa.—15. Reconciliation and union of the Sabines and Romans. Death of Tullius. [Laurentines.]—16. The intervening period, to the death of Rom'ulus. Death of Rom'ulus.

17. Rule of the senators. Election of NUMA, the 2d king. His institutions, and death. [Jánus.]—18. Reign of TUL'LIUS HOSTIL'IVS, the 3d king, and first dawn of historic truth.—19. Legend of the Horáti and Curiáti.—20. Tragic death of Horátia. Submission, treachery, and removal of the Albans. Death of Tul'lius.—21. The reign of AN'CUS MAR'TIVS, the 4th king. [Ostia.]—22. TARQUIN THE ELDER, the 5th king. His origin. Unanimously called to the throne. [Tarquin'ii.]—23. His wars. His public works. His death.—24. SER'VIUS TUL'LIUS, the 6th king. Legends concerning him. Wars, &c.—25. Division of the people into centuries. Federal union with the Latins. Administration of Justice, &c.—26. Displeasure of the patricians, and murder of Servius.—27. The reign of TARQUIN THE PROUD, the 7th king. His reign disturbed by dreams and prodigies.—28. The dispute between Sextus, his brothers, and Collatinus. How settled. [Ardea Collátia.]—29. The story of Lucretia, and banishment of the Tarquins.

1. ITALY, known in ancient times by the names *Hespéria*, *Ausónia*, *Satur'nia*, and *Cenótria*, comprises the whole of the central peninsula of southern Europe, extending from the Alps in a southern direction nearly seven hundred and seventy miles, with a breadth varying from about three hundred and eighty miles in northern Italy, to less than eighty near its centre.

2. The mountains of Italy are the Alps on its north-western boundary, and the Apennines, which latter pass through the peninsula nearly in its centre, and send off numerous branches on both sides. They are much less rugged than the Alps, and abound in rich forests and

pasture land. But though for the most part mountainous, Italy has some plains of considerable extent and extraordinary fertility. Of these the most extensive, and the richest, is that of Lombardy in the north, watered by the river Po and its numerous branches, embracing an area of about two hundred and fifty miles in length, with a breadth varying from fifty to one hundred and twenty miles, and now containing a vast number of cities. The next great plain stretches along the western coast of central Italy about two hundred miles, from the river Arno in Tuscany, to Terracina, sixty miles south-east from Rome. Although this plain was once celebrated for its fertility, and was highly cultivated and populous, it is now comparatively a desert, a consequence of the prevalence of *malaria*, which infects these districts to such an extent as to render them at certain portions of the year all but uninhabitable. The third great plain (the Apulian) lies along the eastern coast, towards the southern extremity of the peninsula, and includes the territory occupied by the ancient Daunians, Peucetians, and Messapians. A great portion of this plain has a sandy and thirsty soil, and is occupied mostly as pasture land in winter. The plain of *Naples*, on the western coast, is highly fertile, and densely peopled.

3. The climate of Italy is in general delightful, the excessive heats of summer being moderated by the influence of the mountains and the surrounding seas, while the cold of winter is hardly ever extreme. In the Neapolitan provinces, which lie in the latitude of central and southern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, snow is rare, and the finest fruits are found in the valleys throughout the winter. At the very southern extremity of Italy, which is in the latitude of Richmond, Virginia, the thermometer never falls to the freezing point. From a variety of circumstances it appears that the climate of Italy has undergone a considerable change, and that the winters are now less cold than formerly; although probably the summer-heat was much the same in ancient times as at present.

4. The principal States of ancient Italy were Cisalpine Gaul, Etruria, Umbria, Picenum, Latium, Campania, Samnium, Apulia, Calabria, Lucania, and Bruttium, the situation of which, together with the names of the principal tribes that inhabited them, may be learned from the map of Ancient Italy accompanying this volume. (See Maps Nos. VIII. and X.)

5. The earliest reliable information that we possess of Italy represents the country in the possession of numerous independent tribes

many of which, especially those in the southern part of the peninsula, were, like the early Grecians, of Pelasgic origin. Of these tribes, the Etrurians or Etruscans, inhabiting the western coasts above the Tiber, were the most important; as it appears that, before the founding of Rome, they had attained to a considerable degree of power and civilization; and two centuries after that event they were masters of the commerce of the western Mediterranean. Many works of art attributed to them still exist, in the walls of cities, in vast dikes to reclaim lands from the sea, and in subterranean tunnels cut through the sides of hills to let off the lakes which had formed in the craters of extinct volcanoes.

6. It appears that during the height of Etruscan power in Italy, the southern portions of the peninsula, together with Sicily, first began to be colonized by Grecians, who formed settlements at Cumæ and Neapolis, as early as the tenth or eleventh century before the Christian era, and at Tarentum, Crotona, Naxos, and Syracuse, in the latter part of the eighth century; and such eventually became the number of the Grecian colonies that all southern Italy, in connection with Sicily, received the name of Magna Græcia. (See p. 115.) But while the old Etruscan civilization remained nearly stationary, fettered, as in ancient Egypt, by the sway of a sacerdotal caste, whose privileges descended by inheritance,—and while the Greek colonies were dividing and weakening their power by allowing to every city an independent sovereignty of its own, there arose on the western coast, between the Etruscans on the one side and the Greeks on the other, the small commonwealth of Rome, whose power ere long eclipsed that of all its rivals, and whose dominion was destined, eventually, to overshadow the world.

1. The Etrurians, or Etruscans, were the inhabitants of Etruria, a celebrated country of Italy, lying to the north and west of the Tiber. They were farther advanced in civilization than any of their European contemporaries, except the Greeks, but their origin is involved in obscurity, and of their early history little is known, as their writings have long since perished, and their hieroglyphic inscriptions on brass are utterly unintelligible. (Maps Nos. VIII. and X.)

2. The river Tiber, called by the ancient Latins *Albula*, and by the Greeks *Thymbris*, the most celebrated, though not the largest river of Italy, rises in the Tuscan Apennines, and has a general southerly course about one hundred and thirty miles until it reaches Rome, when it turns south-west, and enters the Mediterranean by two mouths, seventeen miles from Rome, terminating in a marshy pestiferous tract. Its waters have a yellowish hue, being discolored by the mud with which they are loaded. Anciently the Tiber was capable of receiving vessels of considerable burden at Rome, and small boats to within a short distance of its source, but the entrance of the river from the sea, and its subsequent navigation, have become so difficult, that the harbor of Ostia at its mouth has long been relinquished, and *Civita Vecchia* is now the port of Rome, although at the distance of thirty-six miles north, with which it is connected merely by a road. (Maps Nos. VIII. and X.)

7. What historians have related of the founding of Rome, and of the first century, at least, of its existence, has been drawn from numerous traditionary legends, known, from their character, to be mostly fabulous, and has therefore no valid claims to authenticity. Still it is proper to relate, as an introduction to what is better known, the story most accredited by the Romans themselves, and contained in their earliest writings, while at the same time we express the opinion that it has little or no foundation in truth.^a

8. The Roman legends state that, immediately after the fall of Troy, Ænéas, a celebrated Trojan warrior, escaping from his devoted country, after seven years of wanderings arrived on the western coast of Italy, where he established a colony of his countrymen, and built the city of Lavin'ium.¹ From Latinus, a king of the country, whom he had slain in battle, and whose subjects he incorporated with his own followers, the united people were called *Latini* or *Latins*, and their country *Látium*.² After the lapse of thirty years, which were occupied mostly in wars with neighboring tribes, the Latins, now increased to thirty hamlets, removed their capital to Alba,³ a new city which they built on the Alban Mount, and which continued to be the head of the confederate people during three centuries.

9. The old Roman legends go on to state, that, at an uncertain date, Prócas, king of Alba, left two sons at his death, and that Númítor the elder, being weak and spiritless, suffered Amúlius the younger to wrest the government from him, to murder the only son, and to consecrate the daughter of his brother to the service of the temple, in the character of a vestal virgin. But the attempts of Amúlius to remove all claimants of the throne were fruitless, for Syl'via, the daughter of Númítor, became the mother of twin sons

1. *Lavin'ium*, a city of *Látium*, was about eighteen miles south of Rome. The modern village of *Practica*, about three miles from the coast, is supposed to occupy the site of this ancient city. (*Maps* Nos. VIII. and X.)

2. Ancient *Látium* extended from the Tiber southward along the coast about fifty miles, to the Circean promontory. It was afterwards extended farther south to the river Liris, and at still later period to the Vulturinus. The early inhabitants of *Látium* were the *Latins*, (also a general term applied to all the inhabitants of *Látium*), Rutulians, Hernicians, and Volscians. (*Maps* Nos. VIII. and X.)

3. *Alba* appears to have been about fifteen miles south-east from Rome, on the eastern shore of the Alban lake, and on the western declivity of the Alban Mount. The modern villa of Palazzuolo is supposed to mark the site of the ancient Alban city. (*Map* No. X.)

a. "The Trojan legend is doubtless a home sprung fable, having not the least historical truth, nor even the slightest historical importance."—Niebuhr's *Rom. Hist.*, i. p. 107.

"Niebuhr has shown the early history of Rome to be unworthy of credit, and made it impossible for any one to revive the old belief."—Anthon's *Class. Dict.*; article Rome.

Rom'ulus and Rémus, by Mars, the god of war. Amúlius ordered that the mother and her babes should be drowned in the Tiber; but while Syl'via perished, the infants, placed in a cradle of rushes, floated to the shore, where they were found by a she wolf, which carried them to her den, and nursed them as her own offspring.

10. After awhile the children were discovered by the wife of a shepherd, who took them to her cottage on the Palatine hill, where they grew up with her twelve sons,—and being the stoutest and bravest of the shepherd lads, they became their leaders in every wild foray, and finally the heads of rival factions—the followers of Rom'ulus being called Quinetil'ii, and those of Rémus Fábii. At length Rémus having been seized and dragged to Alba as a robber, the secret of the royal parentage of the youths was made known to Rom'ulus, who armed a band of his comrades and rescued Rémus from danger. The brothers then slew the king Amúlius, and the people of Alba again became subject to Númítor.

11. Rom'ulus and Rémus next obtained permission from their grandfather to build a city for themselves and their followers on the banks of the Tiber; but as they disputed about the location and name of the city, each desiring to call it after his own name, they agreed to settle their disputes by auguries. Each took his station at midnight on his chosen hill, Rom'ulus on the Palatine, and Rémus on the Aventine, and there awaited the omens. Rémus had the first augury, and saw six vultures flying from north to south; but scarcely were the tidings brought to Rom'ulus when a flock of twelve vultures flew past the latter. Each claimed the victory, but the party of Rom'ulus, being the stronger, confirmed the authority of their leader.

12. Rom'ulus then proceeded to mark out the limits of the city by cutting a furrow round the foot of the Palatine hill, which he inclosed, on the line thus drawn, with a wall and ditch. II. FOUNDING OF ROME. But scarcely had the walls begun to rise above the surface, when Rémus, still resenting the wrong he had suffered, insultingly leaped over the puny rampart, and was immediately slain, either by Rom'ulus or one of his followers. His death was regarded as an omen that no one should cross the walls but to his destruction. Soon the slight defences were completed, and a thousand rude huts marked the beginning of the "eternal city ROME," within whose

1. See description of Rome page 582 and Map. No. X.

limits strangers from every land, exiles, and even criminals, and fugitives from justice, found an asylum. The date usually assigned for the founding of the city is the 753d year before the Christian era.

13. But the Romans, as we must now call the dwellers on the Pal'atine, were without wives; and the neighboring tribes scornfully declined intermarriages with this rude and dangerous horde. After peaceful measures had failed, Rom'ulus resorted to stratagem. He proclaimed a great festival; and the neighboring people, especially the Lat'ins and Sábines,² came in numbers, with their wives and daughters, to witness the ceremonies; but while they were intent on the spectacle, the Roman youths rushed in, and forcibly bore off the maidens, to become wives of the captors.

14. War followed this outrage, and the forces of three Latin cities, which had taken up arms without concert, were successively defeated. At last the Sábine king, Titus Tátius, brought a power-

ful army against Rome, which Rom'ulus was unable to resist in the open field, and he therefore retreated to

the city, while he fortified and garrisoned the Capitoline hill, over against the Pal'atine on the north, intrusting the command of it to one of his most faithful officers. But Tarpéia, the daughter of the commander, dazzled by the golden bracelets of the Sábines, agreed to open a gate of the fortress to the enemy on condition that they should give her what they bore on their left arms—meaning their golden ornaments. Accordingly the gate was opened, but the traitress expiated her crimes by her death; for the Sábines overwhelmed her with their shields as they entered, these also being carried on their left arms. To this day Roman peasants believe that in the heart of the Capitoline hill the fair Tarpéia is still sitting, bound by a spell, and covered with the gold and jewels of the Sábines.

15. The Sábines next tried in vain to storm the city, and Rom'ulus made equally fruitless attempts to recover the fortress which he had lost. While both parties thus maintained their positions, the Sábine women, now reconciled to their lot, and no longer wishing for revenge, but for a reconciliation between their parents and husbands, rushed in between the combatants, and by earnest supplications in-

1. The territory of the Sábines lay to the north-east of Rome. At the time when its limits were most clearly defined it was separated from Látium on the south by the river Anio, from Etruria by the Tiber, from Umbria by the river Nar, and from Picenum on the east by the Apennines. (Maps Nos. VIII. and X.)

duced them to agree to a suspension of hostilities, which terminated in a treaty of peace. The Sábines and Romans were henceforth to form one nation, having a common religion, and Rom'ulus and Tátius were to reign jointly. Not long after, Tátius was slain by some Laurentines' on the occasion of a national sacrifice at Lavin'ium, and henceforward Rom'ulus ruled over both nations.

16. At this point in Roman history, remarks Niebuhr, the old Roman legend, or poetic lay, is suspended until the death of Rom'ulus; while the intervening period has been filled by subsequent writers with accounts of Etrus'can wars, which find no place in the ancient legend, and which are probably wholly fictitious. Just before the death of Rom'ulus, who is said to have ruled thirty-seven years, the poetic lay is resumed. It relates that, while the king was reviewing his people, the sun withdrew his light, and Mars, descending in a whirlwind and tempest, bore away his perfected son in a fiery chariot to heaven, where he became a god, under the name of Quirinus.^a (B. C. 716.)

17. The legend further relates that after the death of Rom'ulus, the chosen senators, or elders of the people, who were also called patres, or *fathers*, retained the sovereign power in their hands during a year; but as the people demanded a king, it was finally agreed that the Romans should choose one from the Sábine part of the population. The election resulted in the choice of the wise and pious Numa Pompil'ius, who had married the daughter of Tátius. After Numa had assured himself by auguries that the gods approved of his election, his first care was to regulate the laws of landed property, by securing the hereditary possession of land to the greatest possible number of citizens, thereby establishing the most permanent basis of civil order. He then regulated the services of religion, pretending that he received the rituals of the law from the goddess Egéria: he also built the temple of Janus;² and

1. The *Laurentines* were the people of *Lauren'tum*, the chief city of *Látium*. *Lauren'tum* was eighteen miles south from Rome, on the coast, and near the spot now called *Paterno*. (Maps Nos. VIII. and X.)

2. *Janus* was an ancient Italian deity, whose origin is traced back to India. He was represented sometimes with two faces looking in opposite directions, and sometimes with four. He was the god of the year, and also of the day, and had charge of the gates of heaven through

a. Niebuhr deals severely with those writers who, in attempting to deduce historic truth from this poetical fiction, have made the supposition that, instead of an eclipse, there was a tempest, and that the senators themselves tore Rom'ulus to pieces. (See Niebuhr, i. 127 & also Schmitz' Rome, p. 20.)

after a quiet and prosperous reign of forty-two years he fell asleep full of days and peaceful honors. (673 B. C.) The legend adds that the goddess Egéria, through grief for his loss, melted away in tears into a fountain.

18. The death of Numa was followed by another interregnum after which the young and warlike Tullus Hostilius was chosen king. A gleam of historic truth falls upon his reign, and the purely poetic age of Roman story here begins to disappear in our confidence that such a king as Tullus Hostilius actually existed, and that during his reign the Albans became united with the Romans. Still, the story of the Alban war, and of subsequent wars during the life of Tullus, retain much of legendary fiction, destitute of historic certainty.

19. A tradition of the Alban war, preserved by the early poets, relates, that when the armies of Rome and Alba were drawn up against each other, their leaders agreed to avert the battle by a combat between three twin brothers on the one side, and three on the other, whose mothers happened to be sisters, although belonging to different nations. The Roman brothers were called Horatii, and the Albans Curiatii. Meeting in deadly encounter between the two armies, two of the Horatii fell, but the third, still unwounded, resorted to stratagem, and, pretending to flee, was followed at unequal distances by the wounded Curiatii, when, suddenly turning back, he overcame them in succession.

20. A mournful tragedy followed. At the gate of the city the victor was met by his sister Horatia, who, having been affianced to one of the Curiatii, and now seeing her brother exultingly bearing off the spoils of the slain, and, among the rest, the embroidered cloak of her betrothed, which she herself had woven, gave way to a burst of grief and lamentation, which so incensed her brother that he slew her on the spot. For this act he was condemned to death, but was pardoned by the interference of the people, although they ordered a monument to be raised on the spot where Horatia fell. By the terms of an agreement made before the combat the Albans were to submit to the Romans; but not long after this event they showed evidence of treachery, when, by order of Tullus, their city

which the sun passes; and hence all gates and doors on earth were sacred to him. January, the first month in the religious year of the Romans, was named after him. His temples at Rome were numerous, and in time of war the gates of the principal one were open, but in time of peace they were closed to keep wars within.

was levelled to the ground, and the people were removed to the Cælian hill, adjoining the Palatine on the east. After a reign of thirty-two years, Tullus and all his family are said to have been killed by lightning. (642 B. C.)

21. We find the name of Ancus Martius, said to have been a grandson of Numa, next on the list of Roman kings. He is represented both as a warrior, and a restorer of the ordinances and rituals of the ceremonial law, which had fallen into disuse during the reign of his predecessor. He subdued many of the Latin towns—founded the town and port of Ostia¹—built the first bridge over the Tiber—and established that principle of the Roman common law, that the State is the original proprietor of all lands in the commonwealth. The middle of his reign is said to have been the era of the legal constitution of the plebeian order, and the assignment of lands to this body out of the conquered territories. He is said to have reigned twenty-four years.

22. The fourth king of Rome was Tarquinius Priscus, or Tarquin the Elder. The accounts of his reign are obscure and conflicting. By some his parents are said to have fled from Corinth to Tarquinⁱⁱ,² a town of Etruria, where Tarquin was born: by others he is said to have been of Etruscan descent; but Niebuhr believes him to have been of Latin origin. Having taken up his residence at Rome at the suggestion of his wife Tanaquil, who was celebrated for her skill in auguries, he there became distinguished for his courage, and the splendor in which he lived; and his liberality and wisdom so gained him the favor of the people that, when the throne became vacant, he was called to it by the unanimous voice of the senate and citizens. (617 B. C.)

23. Tarquin is said to have carried on successful wars against the Etruscans, Latins, and Sabines, and to have reduced all those people under the Roman dominion; but his reign is chiefly memorable on account of the public works which he commenced for the security and improvement of the city. Among these were the embanking of

1. *Ostia*, the early port and harbor of Rome, once a place of great wealth, population, and importance, was situated on the east side of the Tiber, near its mouth, fifteen miles from Rome. *Ostia*, which still retains its ancient name, is now a miserable village of scarcely a hundred inhabitants, and is almost uninhabitable, from Malaria; the fever which it engenders carrying off annually nearly all whom necessity confines to this pestilential region during the hot season. The harbor of *Ostia* is now merely a shallow pool. (*Maps Nos. VIII. and X.*)

2. *Tarquinii*, one of the most powerful cities of Etruria, was about forty miles north-west from Rome, on the left bank of the river Marta, several miles from its mouth. The ruins of *Tarquinii* mark the site of the ancient city. (*Maps Nos. VII. and X.*)

the Tiber; the sewers, which yet remain, for draining the marshes and lakes in the vicinity of the capital; the porticos around the market-place, the race-course of the circus, and the foundations of the city walls, which were of hewn stone. It is said that Tarquin, after a reign of thirty-eight years, was assassinated at the instigation of the sons of Ancus Martius, who feared that he would secure the succession to his son-in-law Servius Tullius, his own favorite, and the darling of the Roman people. (579 B. C.)

24. Notwithstanding the efforts of the sons of Ancus Martius, the senate and the people decided that Servius should rule over them. The birth of this man is said, in the old legends, to have VIII. SERVIUS TULLIUS. been very humble, and his infancy to have been attended with marvellous omens, which foretold his future greatness. Of his supposed wars with the revolted Etruscans nothing certain is known; but his renown as a law-giver rests on more substantial grounds than his military fame.

25. The first great political act of his reign was the institution of the census, and the division of the people into one hundred and ninety-three *centuries*, whose rights of suffrage and military duties were regulated on the basis of property qualifications. The several Latin communities that had hitherto been allied with the Romans by treaty he now incorporated with them by a federal union; and to render that union more firm and lasting, he induced the confederates to unite in erecting a temple on Mount Aventine to the goddess Diana, and there unitedly to celebrate her worship. He also made wise regulations for the impartial administration of justice, prohibited bondage for debt, and relieved the people from the oppressions with which they already began to be harassed by the higher orders.

26. His legislation was received with displeasure by the patricians; and when it was known that Servius thought of resigning the crown, and establishing a consular form of government, which would have rendered a change of his laws difficult, a conspiracy was formed for securing the throne to Tarquinius, surnamed the Proud, a son of the former king, who had married a daughter of Servius. The old king Servius was murdered by the agents of Tarquin, and his body left exposed in the street, while his wicked daughter Tullia, in her haste to congratulate her husband on his success, drove her chariot over her father's corpse, so that her garments were stained with his blood. (535 B. C.)

27 The reign of Tarquinius Superbus, or the Proud, was distin-

gushed by a series of tyrannical usurpations, which made his name odious to all classes; for although he at first gratified his supporters by diminishing the privileges of the plebeians, or the IX. TARQUIN THE PROUD. common people, he soon made the patricians themselves feel the weight of his tyranny. The laws of Servius were swept away—the equality of civil rights abolished—and even the ordinances of religion suffered to fall into neglect. But although Tarquin was a tyrant, he exalted the Roman name by his successful wars, and alliances with the surrounding nations. In the midst of his successes, however, he was disturbed by the most fearful dreams and appalling prodigies. He dreamed that the sun changed its course, rising in the west; and that when the two rams were brought to him for sacrifice, one of them pushed him down with its horns. At one time a serpent crawled from the altar and seized the flesh which he had brought for sacrifice: a flock of vultures attacked an eagle's nest in his garden, threw out the unfledged eaglets upon the ground and drove the old birds away; and when he sent to Delphi to consult the oracle, the responses were dark and fearful.

28. The reverses threatened were brought upon him by the wickedness of Sextus, one of his sons. It is related that while the Romans were besieging Ardea,¹ a Rutulian city, Sextus, with his brothers Titus and Aruns, and their cousin Collatinus, happened to be disputing, over their wine, about the good qualities of their wives when, to settle the dispute, they agreed to visit their homes by surprise, and, seeing with their own eyes how their wives were then employed, thus decide which was the worthiest lady. So they hastily rode, first to Rome, where they found the wives of the three Tarquins feasting and making merry. They then proceeded to Collatia,² the residence of Collatinus, where, although it was then late at night, they found his wife Lucretia, with her maids around her, all busy working at the loom. On their return to the camp all agreed that Lucretia was the worthiest lady.

29. But a spirit of wicked passion had seized upon Sextus, and a few days later he went alone to Collatia, and being hospitably lodged in his kinsman's house, violated the honor of Lucretia. Thereupon

1. *Ardea*, a city of Latium, and the capital of the Rutulians, was about twenty-four miles south from Rome, and three miles from the sea. Some ruins of the ancient city are still visible, and bear the name of Ardea. (*Maps Nos. VIII. and X.*)

2. *Collatia*, a town of Latium, was near the south bank of the river Anio, twelve or thirteen miles east from Rome. Its ruins may still be traced on a hill which has obtained the name of *Castillare*. (*Maps Nos. VIII. and X.*)

she sent in haste for her father, and husband, and other relatives, and having told them of the wicked deed of Sextus, and made them swear that they would avenge it, she drew a knife from her bosom and stabbed herself to the heart. The vow was renewed over the dead body, and Lucius Junius Brutus, who had long concealed patriotic resolutions under the mask of pretended stupidity, and thus saved his life from the jealousy of Tarquin, exhibited the corpse to the people, whom he influenced, by his eloquence, to pronounce sentence of banishment against Tarquin and his family, and to declare that the dignity of king should be abolished forever. (510 B. C.)

SECTION II.

THE ROMAN REPUBLIC, FROM THE ABOLITION OF ROYALTY, 510 B. C.,
TO THE BEGINNING OF THE WARS WITH CARTHAGE:
263 B. C. = 247 YEARS.

ANALYSIS. 1. Royalty abolished. The laws of Servius reestablished. CONSULS elected.—2. Aristocratic character of the government. The struggle between the patricians and plebeians begins.—3. Extent of Roman territory.—4. Conspiracy in favor of the Tarquins. ETRUSCAN WAR.—5. Conflicting accounts. Legend of the Etruscan war. [Clusium].—6. The story of Mutius Scaevola.—7. Farther account of the Roman legend. The probable truth.—8. Humiliating condition of the plebeians after the Etruscan war.—9. Continued contentions. The office of DICTATOR.—10. Circumstances of the first PLEBEIAN INSURRECTION. [Volsicians].—11. Confusion. Withdrawal of the Plebeians. [Mons Sacer].—12. The terms of reconciliation. Office and power of the TRIBUNES.—13. League with the Latins and Hernicians.—14. VOLSCIAN AND ÆQUIAN WARS. Contradictory statements. [Æquians, Corioli.] Proposal of Coriolanus.—15. His trial—exile—and war against the Romans.—16. The story of Cincinnatus.—17. The public lands—and the fate of Spurius Cassius.—18. Continued demands of the people. Election and office of the DECEM VIRS.—19. The laws of the decem virs.—20. The decem virs are continued in office—their additional laws—and tyranny.—21. The story of Virginia.—22. Overthrow of the decem virs, and death of Appius.—23. Plebeian innovations. The office of CENSORS.—24. Rome, as viewed by the surrounding people. Circumstances that led to the WAR WITH VEII. [Situation of Veii].—25. Destruction of Veii, and extension of Roman territory.

26. GALLIC INVASION. Circumstances of the introduction of the Gauls into Italy. [Cisalpine Gaul].—27. The Roman ambassadors. Conduct of Brennus.—28. The Romans defeated by the Gauls. General abandonment of Rome. [The Allia. Roman Forum].—29. Entrance of the Gauls into the city. Massacre of the Senators. Rome plundered and burned.—30. Vain attempts to storm the citadel. The Roman legend of the expulsion of the Gauls. The more probable account. [The Venetians].—31. The rebuilding of Rome.—32. Renewal of the PLEBEIAN AND PATRICIAN CONTESTS. Philanthropy and subsequent history of Manlius.—33. Continued oppression of the plebeians.—34. Great reforms made by Licinius Stolo and Lucius Sextus. The office of PRÆTOR.—35. Progress of the Roman power. The Samnite confederacy [The Samnites].—36. FIRST SAMNITE WAR. [Capua.] League with the Samnites. LATIN WAR.—37. SECOND SAMNITE WAR.—Defeat of the Romans, and renewed alliance. [Caudine

Forks].—38. The senate declares the treaty void. Magnanimity of Pontius.—39. The THIRD SAMNITE WAR. Fate of Pontius. [Um'bria].—40. WAR WITH THE TARENTINES AND PYRRHUS.—41. First encounter of Pyrrhus with the Romans.—42. Pyrrhus attempts negotiation. His second battle.—43. Story of the generosity of Fabricius, and magnanimity of Pyrrhus. Pyrrhus passes over to Sicily—returns, and renews the war—is defeated—and abandons Italy Roman supremacy over all Italy. [Rubicon. Arnus. Tuscan Sea].—44. Alliance with Egypt Sicilian affairs. Widening circle of Roman history.

1. As narrated at the close of the previous section, royalty was abolished at Rome, after an existence of two hundred and forty years. The whole Roman people took an oath that whoever should express a wish to rule as king should be declared an outlaw. The laws of Servius were reestablished, and, according to the code which he had proposed, the royal power was intrusted to two consuls,^a annually elected. The first chosen were Butus and Collatinus.

2. From the expulsion of the Tarquins, and the downfall of monarchy, is dated the commencement of what is called the *Roman Republic*. Yet the government was at this time entirely aristocratic; for all political power was in the hands of the nobility, from whom the consuls were chosen, and there was no third party to hold the balance of power between them and the people. Hence arose a struggle between these two divisions of the body politic; and it was not until the balance was properly adjusted by the increased privileges of the plebeians, and a more equal distribution of power, that the commonwealth attained that strength and influence which preëminently exalted Rome above the surrounding nations.

3. The territory possessed by Rome under the last of the kings is known, from a treaty made with Carthage in the first year of the Republic, to have extended at least seventy miles along the coast south of the Tiber. Yet all this sea-coast was destined to be lost to Rome by civil dissensions and bad government, before her power was to be firmly established there.

^a The *consuls* had at first nearly the same power as the kings; and all other magistracies were subject to them, except the tribunes of the people. They summoned the meetings of the senate and of the assemblies of the people—they had the chief direction of the foreign affairs of the government—they levied soldiers, appointed most of the military officers, and, in time of war, had supreme command of the armies. In dangerous conjunctures they were armed with absolute power by a decree of the senate that "they should take care that the republic receives no harm." Their badges of office were the *toga prætexta*, or mantle bordered with purple, and an ivory sceptre; and when they appeared in public they were accompanied by twelve officers called *lictors*, each of whom carried a bundle of rods, (*fasces*), with an axe (*securis*) placed in the middle of them;—the former denoting the power of scourging, or of ordinary punishment—and the latter, the power of life and death.