

on page 206

at the age of sixty years, leaving, by his own direction, the following characteristic inscription to be engraved on his tomb. "Here lies Sylla, who was never outdone in good offices by his friend, nor in acts of hostility by his enemy." (B. C. 77.)

25. A Márian faction, headed by Sertórius, a man of great military talents, still existed in Spain, threatening to sever that province from Rome, and establish a new kingdom there. After Sertórius had defeated several Roman armies, the youthful Pompey, afterwards surnamed the Great, was sent against him; but he too was vanquished, and it was not until the insurgents had been deprived of their able leader by treachery, that the rebellion was quelled, and Spain tranquillized. (B. C. 70.) During the continuance of the Spanish war, a formidable revolt of the slaves, headed by Spar'tacus, a celebrated gladiator, had broken out in Italy. At first Spar'tacus and his companions formed a desperate band of robbers and murderers, but their numbers eventually increased to a hundred and twenty thousand men, and three prætorian and two consular armies were completely defeated by them. The war lasted upwards of two years, and at one time Rome itself was in danger; but the rebels, divided among themselves, were finally overcome, and nearly all exterminated, by the prætor Cras'sus, the growing rival of Pompey. (B. C. 70.)

IX. SERVILE WAR IN ITALY.

26. During the progress of these events in Italy, a second war had broken out with Mithridátes, (83 B. C.,) but after a continuance of two years it had been terminated by treaty. (81 B. C.,) Seven years later, Mithridátes, who had long been preparing for hostilities, broke the second treaty between him and the Romans by the invasion of Bythyn'ia, and thus commenced the third Mithridatic war. At first Lucullus, who was sent against him, was successful, and amassed immense treasures; but eventually he was defeated, and Mithridátes gained possession of nearly all Asia Minor. Manil'ius, the tribune, then proposed that Pompey, who had recently gained great honor by a successful war against the pirates in the Mediterranean, should be placed over all the other generals in the Asiatic provinces, retaining at the same time the command by sea. This was a greater accumulation of power than had ever been intrusted to any Roman citizen, but the law was adopted. It was on this occasion that the orator Cicero pronounced his famous oration *Pro lege Manilia*, ("for the Manilian law.") Cæsar also, who was just then rising into eminence, approved

X. SECOND AND THIRD MITHRIDATIC WARS.

the measure, while the friends of Cras'sus in vain attempted to defeat it.

27. Pompey, then passing with a large army into Asia, (B. C. 66,) in one campaign defeated Mithridátes on the banks of the Euphrates and drove the monarch from his kingdom; and in the following year, after reducing Syria, thus putting an end to the empire of the Seleucidæ he found an opportunity of extending Roman interference to the affairs of Palestine. Each of the two claimants to the throne, the brothers Hyrcæus and Aristobólus, sought his assistance, and as he decided in favor of the former, the latter prepared to resist the Roman, and shut himself up in Jerusalem. After a siege of three months the city was taken; its walls and fortifications were thrown down; Hyrcæus was appointed to be high-priest, and governor of the country, but was required to pay tribute to the Romans; while Aristobólus, with his sons and daughters, was taken to Rome to grace the triumph of Pompey. From this time the situation of Judea differed little from that of a Roman province, although for a while later it was governed by native princes; but all of them were more or less subject to Roman authority. About the time of Pompey's conquest of Jerusalem, Mithridátes, driven from one province to another, and finding no protection even among his own relatives, terminated his life by poison. (B. C. 63.) His dominions and vast wealth were variously disposed of by Pompey in the name of the Roman people.

28. While Pompey was winning laurels in Asia, the republic was brought near the brink of destruction by a conspiracy headed by the infamous Catiline. Rome was at this time in a state of complete anarchy; the republic was a mere name; the laws had lost their power; the elections were carried by bribery; and the city populace was a tool in the hands of the nobles in their feuds against one another. In this corrupt state of things Sergius Catiline, a man of patrician rank, and of great abilities, but a monster of wickedness, who had acted a distinguished part in the bloody scenes of Sylla's tyranny, placed himself at the head of a confederacy of profligate young nobles, who hoped, by elevating their leader to the consulship, or by murdering those who opposed them, to make themselves masters of Rome, and to gain possession of the public treasures, and the property of the citizens. Many circumstances, favored the audacious schemes of the conspirators. Pompey was abroad—Cras'sus, striving with mad eagerness

XI. CONSPIRACY OF CATILINE.

for power and riches, countenanced the growing influence of Catiline, as a means of his own aggrandizement—Cæsar, laboring to revive the party of Márius, and courting the favor of the people by public shows and splendid entertainments, spared Catiline, and perhaps secretly encouraged him, while the only two eminent Romans who boldly determined to uphold their falling country were Cato the younger, and the orator Cicero.

29. While the storm which Catiline had been raising was threatening to burst upon Rome, and every one dreaded the arch-conspirator, but no one had the courage to come forward against him, Cicero offered himself a candidate for the consulship, in opposition to Catiline, and was elected. An attempt of the conspirators to murder Cicero in his own house was frustrated by the watchful vigilance of the consul; and a fortunate accident disclosed to him all their plans, which he laid before the senate. Even in the senate-house Catiline boldly confronted Cicero, who there pronounced against him that famous oration which saved Rome by driving Catiline from the city. Catiline then fled to Etrúria, where he had a large force already under arms, while several of his confederates remained in the city to open the gates to him on his approach; but they were apprehended, and brought to punishment. An army was then sent against the insurgents, who were completely defeated; and most of them, imitating Catiline, fought to the last, and died sword in hand. (B. C. 63.) Cicero, to whom the Romans were indebted for the overthrow of the conspiracy, was now hailed as the Father and Deliverer of his country.

30. Soon after the return of Pompey from Asia, the jealousies between him and Cras'sus were renewed; but Julius Cæsar succeeded in reconciling the rivals, and in uniting them with himself in a secret partnership of power, called the First Triumvirate. (60 B. C.) These men, by their united influence, were now able to carry all their measures; and they virtually usurped the powers of the senate, as well as the command of the legions. Cæsar first obtained the office of consul, (B. C. 59,) and, when the year of his consulship had expired, was made commander of all Gaul, (B. C. 58,) although but a small portion of that country was then under the Roman dominion. Cras'sus, whose avarice was unbounded, soon after obtained the command of Syria, famed for its luxury and wealth; while to Pompey were given Africa and Spain, although he left the care of his provinces to others, and still remained in Italy.

XII. THE
FIRST TRI-
UMVIRATE.

31. In the course of eight years Cæsar conquered all Gaul, which consisted of a great number of separate nations—twice passed the Rhine¹ into Germany—and twice passed over into Britain, and subdued the southern part of the island. Hitherto Britain had been known only by name to the Greeks and Romans; and its first invasion by Cæsar, in the year 55 B. C., is the beginning of its authentic history. The disembarkation of the Romans, somewhere on the eastern coast of Kent,^a was firmly disputed by the natives; but stern discipline and steady valor overawed them, and they proffered submission. A second invasion in the ensuing spring was also resisted; but genius and science asserted their usual superiority; and peace, and the withdrawal of the invaders, were purchased by the payment of tribute. In the meantime Cras'sus had fallen in Parthia,² (B. C. 52,) thus leaving but two masters of the Roman world; but Pompey had already become jealous of the greatness of Cæsar's fame, and on the death of Julia, the wife of Pompey and daughter of Cæsar, the last tie that bound these friends was broken, and they became rivals, and enemies. Pompey had secured most of the senate to his interests; but Cæsar, though absent, had obtained, by the most lavish bribes, numerous and powerful adherents in the very heart of Rome. Among others, Mark Antony and Quintus Cassius, tribunes of the people, favored his interests.

32. When Cæsar requested that he might stand for the consulship in his absence, the senate denied the request. When or-
XIII. CIVIL
WAR BE-
TWEEN CÆSAR
AND POMPEY.
 dered to disband his legions and resign his provinces, he immediately promised compliance, if Pompey would do the same; but the senate peremptorily ordered him to disband his

1. The *Rhine* rises in Switzerland, only a few miles from the source of the Rhone—passes through Lake Constance—then flows west to the town of Basle, near the borders of France, thence generally north-west to the North Sea or German Ocean. It formed the ancient boundary between Gaul and the German tribes, and was first passed by Julius Cæsar in his invasion of the German nation of the Sicambri.

2. *Parthia* was originally a small extent of country, south-east of the Caspian Sea. After the death of Alexander the Great a separate kingdom was formed there, which gradually extended to the Indus on the east and the Tigris on the west, until it embraced the fairest provinces of the old Persian monarchy. By the victory over Crassus the Parthians obtained a great increase of power, and during a long time after this event they were almost constantly at war with the Romans. The Parthian empire was overthrown by the southern Persians 226 years after the Christian era, when the later Persian empire of the *Sassanida* was established. "The mode of fighting adopted by the Parthian cavalry was peculiar, and well calculated to annoy. When apparently in full retreat, they would turn round on their steeds and discharge their arrows with the most unerring accuracy; and hence, to borrow the language of an ancient writer it was victory to them if a counterfeit flight threw their pursuers into disorder."

a. The place where Cæsar is believed to have landed is at the town of Deal, near what is called the South Foreland, sixty-six miles south-east from London.

army before a specified day, under the penalty of being declared a public enemy. (B. C. 49.) The tribunes Antony and Cassius fled to the army of Cæsar then at Raven'na,¹ bearing with them the hostile mandate of the senate, and by their harangues inflaming the soldiers against the measures of the senatorial party. Cæsar, confident of the support of his troops, now passed the Rúbicon in hostile array, an act deemed equivalent to an open declaration of war against his country. The senate and Pompey, alarmed at the rapidity of his movements, and finding their forces daily deserting them, fled across the Adriat'ic into Greece; and in sixty days from the passage of the Rúbicon, Cæsar was master of all Italy.

33. Cæsar soon obtained the surrender of Sicily and Sardinia after which he passed over to Spain, where Pompey's lieutenants commanded,—rapidly reduced the whole Peninsula, took Marseilles by siege on his return through Gaul, and, on his arrival at Rome, was declared by the remnant of the senate sole dictator; but after eleven days he laid aside the office, and took that of consul. Pompey had already collected a numerous army in the eastern provinces, and thither Cæsar followed him. Near Dyrrach'ium,² in Illyr'i-cum, he assaulted the intrenched camp of Pompey, but was repulsed with the loss of many standards, and his own camp would have been taken had not Pompey called off his troops, in apprehension of an ambuscade; on which Cæsar remarked that "the war would have been at an end, if Pompey had known how to profit by victory."

34. Cæsar then boldly advanced into Thes'saly, followed by Pompey at the head of a superior force. The two armies met on the plains of Pharsália,³ where was fought the battle which decided the fate of the Roman world. (B. C. 48.) Cæsar was completely victorious,

1 *Raven'na* was originally built on the shore of the Adriat'ic, near the most southern of the river Po. Augustus constructed a new harbor three miles from the old town, and henceforward the new harbor became the principal station of the Roman Adriat'ic fleet: but such was the accumulation of mud brought down by the streams, that, as Gibbon relates, so early as the fifth or sixth century after Christ, "the port of Augustus was converted into pleasant orchards; and a lonely grove of pines covered the ground where the Roman fleet once rode at anchor." Raven'na was the capital of Italy during the last years of the Western empire of the Romans, and it still contains numerous interesting specimens of the architecture of that period.

2 *Dyrrach'ium*, which was a Grecian city, at first called *Epidamnus*, was situated on the Illyrian coast of Macedonia, north of Apollonia. Its modern name is *Durazzo*, an unhealthy village of Turkish Albania.

3 *Pharsália* was a city situated in the central portion of Thessaly, on a southern tributary of the Peneus. The name of *Pharsa*, applied to a few ruins about fifteen miles south-west from Larissa, marks the site of the ancient city.

and Pompey, fleeing in disguise from the field of battle, attended only by his son Sextus, and a few followers of rank, pursued his way to Mytiléne, where he took on board his wife Cornelia and sailed to Egypt, intending to claim the hospitality of the young king Ptol'emy, whose father he had befriended. Ptol'emy, then at war with his sister Cleopátra, was encamped with his army near Pelúsi-um,¹ whither Pompey directed his course, after sending to inform the king of his approach. In the army of Ptol'emy there was a Roman, named Septim'ius, who advised the young prince to put Pompey to death, in order to secure the favor of Cæsar; and just as Pompey was stepping on shore from a boat that had been sent to receive him, he was stabbed, in the sight of his wife and son. Soon after Cæsar arrived at Alexandria in Egypt in pursuit of the fugitives, when the ring and head of Pompey, which were presented to him, gave him the first information of the fate of his rival. He shed tears at the sight, and turned away with horror from the spectacle. He afterwards ordered the head to be burned with perfumes, in the Roman method, and loaded with favors those who had adhered to Pompey to the last.

35. Cæsar, in his eager pursuit of Pompey, had taken with him to Alexandria only a small body of troops, and when, captivated by the charms and beauty of Cleopátra, the Egyptian queen, who applied to him for protection, he decided against the claims of her brother, the party of the latter conceived the plan of overwhelming him in Alexandria, so that his situation there was similar to that of Cortez in Mexico. The royal palace, in which Cæsar had fortified himself, was set on fire, and the celebrated library established there by Ptol'emy Philadelphus was burnt to ashes. With difficulty Cæsar escaped from the city to the island of Pharos,² where he maintained himself until reënforcements arrived. He then overthrew the power of Ptol'emy, who lost his life by drowning, and after having established Cleopátra on the throne he marched against Pharnáces, king of Pontus, son of Mithridátes, whose dominions he reduced with such rapidity that he announced the result to the Ro-

1 *Pelúsi-um* was a frontier city of Egypt, at the entrance of the eastern mouth of the Nile.

2 *Pharos* was a small island in the bay of Alexandria, at the entrance of the principal harbor, one mile from the shore, with which it was connected by a causeway. The celebrated "Tower of Pharos" was built on the island in the reign of Ptol'emy Philadelphus, to serve as a lighthouse. The modern lighthouse tower, which stands on the island, has nothing of the beauty and grandeur of the old one.

man senate in the well known words, *veni, vidi, vici*, "I came, I saw I conquered."

36. On Cæsar's return to Rome, (B. C. 47,) after an absence of nearly two years, he granted a general amnesty to all the followers of Pompey, and by his clemency gained a strong hold on the affections of the people. The servility of the senate knew no bounds, and the whole republic was placed in his hands. Still there was a large and powerful party in Africa and Spain opposed to him, headed by Cato, the sons of Pompey, and other generals. Cæsar, passing over to Africa, defeated his enemies there in the decisive battle of Thapsus,¹ after which the inflexible Cato, who commanded the garrison of Utica, having advised his followers not to continue their resistance, committed suicide. (46 B. C.) He had seen, he said, the republic passing away, and he could live no longer. Cæsar expressed his regret that Cato had deprived him of the pleasure of pardoning him.

37. The war in Africa had been finished in five months. Fresh honors awaited Cæsar at Rome. He enjoyed four triumphs in one month; the senate created him dictator for ten years; he was appointed censor of the public morals, and his statue was placed opposite that of Jupiter, in the capitol, and inscribed, "To Cæsar, the demigod." He made many useful changes in the laws, corrected many abuses in the administration of justice, extended the privileges of Roman citizens to whole cities and provinces in different parts of the empire, and reformed the calendar upon principles established by the Egyptian astronomers, by making an intercalation of sixty-seven days between the months of November and December, so that the name of the December month was transferred from the time of the autumnal equinox to that of the winter solstice, where it still remains.

38. From the cares of civil government Cæsar was called to Spain, where Cnæus and Sextus, the two sons of Pompey, had raised a large army against him. In the spring of the year 45 he defeated them in a hard-fought battle in the plains of Munda,² after having been obliged, in order to encourage his men, to fight in the foremost ranks as a common soldier. Cæsar said that he had often fought for victory, but that in this battle he fought for his life. The elder of Pompey's

1. *Thapsus*, now *Demsas*, was a town of little importance on the sea-coast, about one hundred miles south-east from Carthage.

2. *Munda* was a town a short distance from the Mediterranean in the southern part of Spain. The little village of *Monda* in Grenada, twenty-five miles west from Malaga, is supposed to be near the site of the ancient city.

sons was slain in the pursuit after the battle, but Sextus the younger escaped. After a campaign of nine months Cæsar returned to Rome, and enjoyed a triumph for the reduction of Spain, which had terminated the civil war in the Roman provinces.

39. Cæsar was next made dictator for life, with the title of imperator and the powers of sovereignty, although the outward form of the republic was allowed to remain. His ever active mind now planned a series of foreign conquests, and formed vast designs for the improvement of the empire which he had gained. He ordered the laws to be digested into a code, he undertook to drain the great marshes in the vicinity of Rome, to form a capacious harbor at the mouth of the Tiber, to cut across the isthmus of Corinth, to make roads across the Apennines, dig canals, collect public libraries, erect a new theatre, and build a magnificent temple to Mars. But while he was occupied with these gigantic projects the people became suspicious that he courted the title of king; and at his suggestion, as is supposed, Mark Antony offered him a royal diadem during the celebration of the feast of the Lupercalia; but no shout of approbation followed the act, and he was obliged to decline the bauble.^a

40. A large number of senators, headed by the prætors Cassius and Brutus, regarding Cæsar as an usurper, soon after formed a conspiracy to take his life, and fixed on the fifteenth (the Ides) of March, a day appointed for the meeting of the senate, for the execution of their plot. As soon as Cæsar had taken his seat in the senate-house, the conspirators crowded around him, and as one of them, pretending to urge some request, laid hold of his robe as if in the act of supplication, the others rushed upon him with drawn daggers, and he fell pierced with twenty-three wounds, at the base of Pompey's statue, which was sprinkled with his blood.^b (B. C. 44.)

41. As soon as the deed of death was consummated, Brutus raised

a. "You all did see, that on the Lupercal,
I thrice presented him a kingly crown,
Which he did thrice refuse. Was this ambition?
Yet Brutus says, he was ambitious;
And sure, he is an honorable man."

Antony's Oration. Shakspeare's Julius Cæsar.

b. "For when the noble Cæsar saw him stab,
Ingratitude, more strong than traitors arms,
Quite vanquished him: then burst his mighty heart;
And, in his mantle muffling up his face,
Even at the base of Pompey's statue,
Which all the while ran blood, great Cæsar fell."

Antony's Oration

his bloody dagger, and congratulated the senate, and Cicero in particular, on the recovery of liberty; but the greater part of the senators fled in dismay from Rome, or shut themselves up in their houses; and as the conspirators had formed no plans of future action, the minds of the citizens were in the utmost suspense; but tranquillity prevailed until the day appointed by the senate for the funeral. Then Mark Antony, who had hitherto urged conciliation, ascended the rostrum to deliver the funeral oration. After he had wrought upon the minds of the people in a most artful manner by enumerating the great exploits and noble deeds of the murdered Cæsar, he lifted up the bloody robe, and showed them the body itself, 'all marred by traitors.' The multitude were seized with such indignation and rage, that while some, tearing up the benches of the senate-house, formed of them a funeral pile and burnt the body of Cæsar, others ran through the streets with drawn weapons and flaming torches, denouncing vengeance against the conspirators. Brutus and Cassius, and their adherents, fled from Rome, and prepared to defend themselves by force of arms.

42. Antony, assisted by Lep' idus, now sought to place himself at the head of the State; but he found a rival in the young Octavius Cæsar, the grandson of Cæsar's sister Julia, and principal heir of the murdered dictator. The senate adhered to the interests of Octavius, and declared Antony a public enemy, and several battles had already been fought between the opposing parties in the north of Italy and Gaul, when the three leaders, Antony, Lep' idus, and Octavius, having met in private conference on a small island of the

XIV. THE
SECOND TRI-
UMVIRATE.

Rhine, agreed to settle their differences, and take upon themselves the government of the republic for five years—thus forming the Second Triumvirate. (B. C. 43.) A cold-blooded proscription of the enemies of the several parties to the compact followed. Antony yielded his own uncle, and Lep' idus his own brother, while Octavius, to his eternal infamy, consented to the sacrifice of the virtuous Cicero to satisfy the vengeance of his colleagues. Cicero was betrayed to the assassins sent to dispatch him, by one of his own domestics; but, tired of life, he forbade his servants to defend him, and yielded himself to his fate without a struggle.

43. Brutus and Cassius, at the head of the republican party had by this time made themselves masters of Macedónia, Greece, and the Asiatic provinces; and Octavius and Antony, as soon as they had settled the government at Rome, set out to meet them. At

Philip' pi,¹ a town in Thrace, two battles were fought, and fortune, rather than talent, gave the victory to the triumvirs. (B. C. 42.) Both Cassius and Brutus, giving way to despair, destroyed themselves; their army was dispersed, and most of the soldiers afterwards entered the service of the victors. Octavius returned with his legions to Italy, while Antony remained as the master of the Eastern provinces.

44. From Greece Antony passed over into Asia Minor, where he caused great distress by the heavy tribute he exacted of the inhabitants. While at Tarsus,² in Cilicia, the celebrated Cleopátra came to pay him a visit; and so captivated was the Roman with the charms and beauty of the Egyptian queen, that he accompanied her on her return to Alexandria, where he lived for a time in indolence, dissipation, and luxury, neglectful of the calls of interest, honor, and ambition. In the meantime a civil war had broken out in Italy; for the brother of Antony, aided by Fulvia, the wife of the latter, had taken up arms against Octavius; but it was not until the rebellion had been quelled, and Octavius was everywhere triumphant, that Antony saw the necessity of returning to Italy.

45. On his way he met at Athens his wife Fulvia, whom he blamed as the cause of the recent disasters, treated her with the utmost contempt, and leaving her on her death-bed hastened to fight Augustus. All thought that another fierce struggle for the empire was at hand; but the rivals had a personal interview at Brundísium,³ where a reconciliation was effected. To secure the permanence of the peace, Antony married Octavia, the half-sister of Octavius. A new division of the empire was made; Antony was to have the eastern provinces beyond the Ionian sea; Octavius the western, and Lep' idus Africa;

1. *Philip' pi*, a city in the western part of Thrace, afterwards included in Macedónia, was about seventy-five miles north-east from the present Saloniki. In addition to the victory gained here by Antony and Octavius, it is rendered more interesting from the circumstance of its being the first place where the Gospel was preached by St. Paul, (see Acts, xvi.) and also from the Epistle addressed by him to the *Philippians*. The ruins of the city still retain the name of *Filibah*, pronounced nearly the same as *Philippi*. (Map No. I.)

2. *Tarsus*, the capital of Cilicia, was situated on the river Cydnus, about twelve miles from the Mediterranean. It was the birth-place of St. Paul, of Antip' ater the stoic, and of Ath' adorus the philosopher. It is still a village of some six or seven thousand inhabitants, and some remains of its ancient magnificence are still visible. The visit of Cleopatra to Antony—herself attired like Venus, and her attendants like cupids, in a galley covered with gold, whose sails were of purple, the oars of silver, and cordage of silk—is finely described in Shakspeare's play of Antony and Cleopátra, Act II. scene 2. (Map No. IV.)

3. *Brundísium*, now *Brindisi*, one of the most important cities of ancient Italy, and the port whence the intercourse between Italy and Greece and the East was usually carried on, was situated on the coast of Apulia, about three hundred miles south-east from Rome. It once had an excellent harbor, which is now nearly filled up. (Map No. VII.)

and soon after, Sextius Pompey, who had long maintained himself in Sicily against the triumvirs, was admitted into the partnership, and assigned Sicily, Sardinia, Corsica, and Achaia.

46. The peace thus concluded was of short duration. Octavius, without any reasonable pretext for hostilities, quarrelled with Sextius Pompey and drove him from his dominions. Pompey fled to Phrygia, where he was slain by one of Antony's lieutenants. Lep' idus and Octavius next quarrelled about the possession of Sicily; but Octavius corrupted the soldiers of Lep' idus, and induced them to desert their general, who was compelled to surrender his province to his rival Antony, in the meantime, had been engaged in an unsuccessful expedition against the Parthians; after which, returning to Egypt, he once more became enslaved by the charms of Cleopátra, upon whom he conferred several Roman provinces in Asia. When his wife Octavia set out from Rome to visit him he ordered her to return, and afterwards repudiated her, pretending a previous marriage with Cleopatra.

47. After this insult Octavius could no longer keep peace with him, and as the war had long been anticipated, the most formidable preparations were made on both sides, and both parties were soon in readiness. Their fleets met off the promontory of Ac' tium,¹ in the Iónian sea, while the hostile armies, drawn up on opposite sides of the strait which enters the Ambracian Gulf, were spectators of the battle (B. C. 31.) While the victory was yet undecided, Cleopátra, who had accompanied Antony with a large force, overcome with anxiety and fear, ordered her galley to remove from the scene of action. A large number of the Egyptian ships, witnessing her flight, withdrew from the battle; and the infatuated Antony, as soon as he saw that Cleopátra had fled, apparently losing his self-possession, hastily followed her in a quick-sailing vessel, and being taken on board the galley of Cleopátra, became the companion of her flight. The fleet of Antony was annihilated, and his land forces, soon after, made terms with the conqueror.

48. Octavius, after first returning to Italy to tranquillize some disturbances there, pursued the fugitives to Egypt. Antony endeavored to impede the march of the victor to Alexandria, but seeing all his efforts fruitless, in a paroxysm of rage he reproached Cleopátra with being the author of his misfortunes, and resolving never to fall alive into the hands of his enemy, he put an end to his own life. When

1. The promontory of *Ac' tium* was a small neck of land at the north-western extremity of Acarnania, at the entrance of the *Ambracian Gulf*, now *Gulf of Arta*.

Cleopátra, who had shut herself up in her palace, found that Octavius designed to spare her only to adorn his triumph, she caused a poisonous viper to be applied to her arm, and thus followed Antony in death. (B. C. 30.) Egypt immediately submitted to the sway of Octavius, and became a province of the Roman empire.

49. The death of Antony had put an end to the Triumvirate; and Octavius was now left sole master of the Roman world. While taking the most effectual measures to secure his power, he dissembled his real purposes, and talked of restoring the republic; but it was evident that a free constitution could no longer be maintained;—the most eminent citizens besought him to take the government into his own hands, and at the beginning of the 28th year before the Christian era, the history of the *Roman Republic* ends. All the armies had sworn allegiance to Octavius; he was made pro-consul over the whole Roman empire—he gave the administration of the provinces to whomsoever he pleased—and appointed and removed senators at his will. In the 27th year B. C. the senate conferred upon him the title of *AUGUSTUS*, or “The Divine,” and of *Imperator*, or “chief governor,” for ten years, and gave his name to the sixth month of the Roman year, (August) as that of *Julius Cæsar* had been given to the fifth, and four years later he was made perpetual tribune of the people, which rendered his person sacred. Although without the title of a monarch, and discarding the insignia of royalty, his exalted station conferred upon him all the powers of sovereignty, which he exercised, nevertheless, with moderation,—seemingly desirous that the triumvir Octavius should be forgotten in the mild reign of the emperor Augustus.

50. After a series of successful wars in Asia, Africa, and in Spain, and the subjugation of Aquitania, Pannonia, Dalmatia, and Illyria, by the Roman arms, a general peace, with the exception of some trifling disturbances in the frontier provinces, was established throughout the vast dominions of the empire, which now extended on the east from the cataracts of the Nile to the plains of Scythia, and on the west from the Libyan deserts and the pillars of Hercules to the German ocean.^a The temple of Jánus was now closed^b for the third time since the foundation of Rome. It was at this auspicious period that Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah, was born, and thus, literally, was his advent the herald of “peace on earth, and good will toward men.”

a. (B. C. 10. See Map No. IX.)

b. (B. C. 1.)