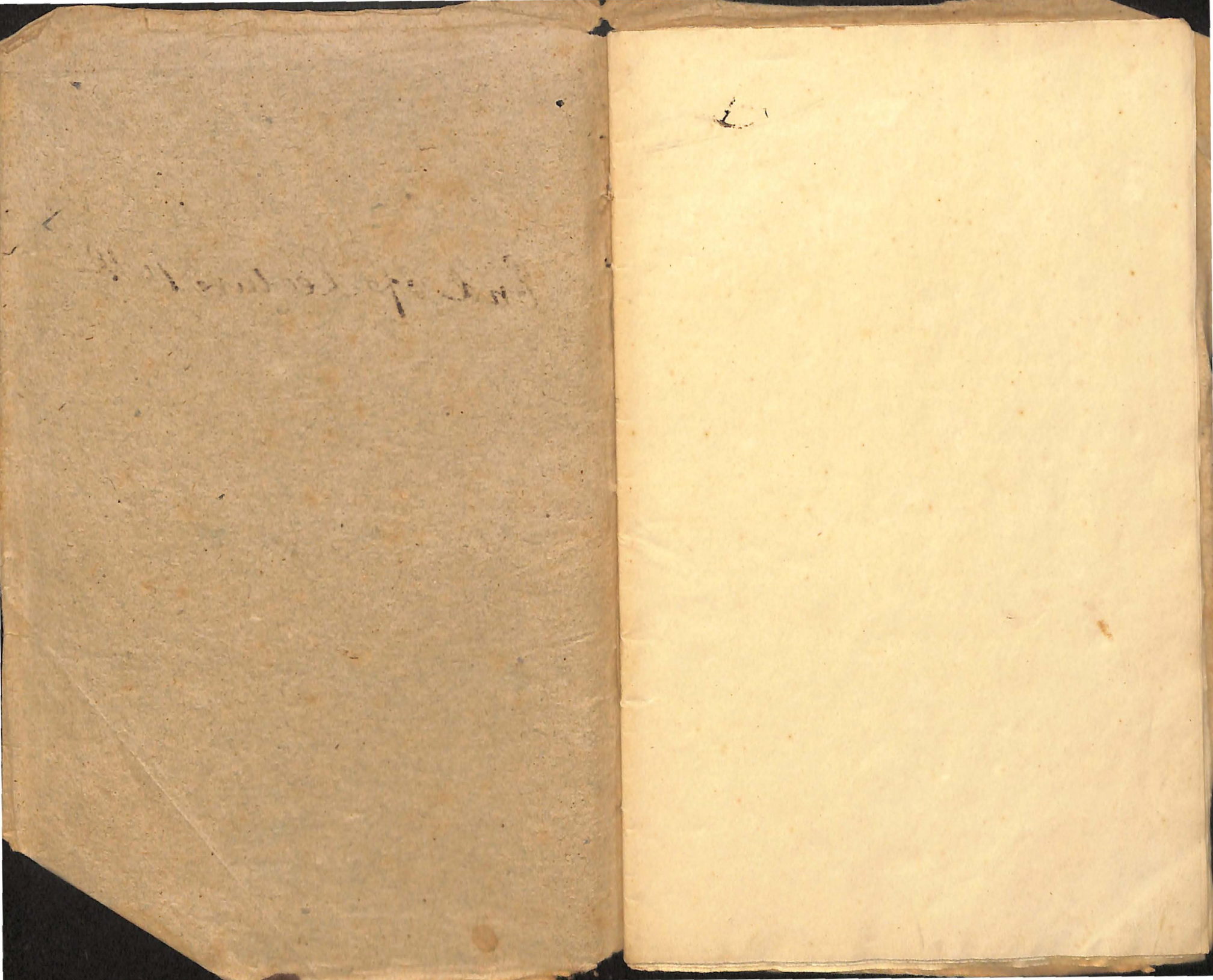


End of Lecture 15th



HT 3002
Conclusion of Lecture 15th

But he broke his stipulation, and invaded Italy; Theodosius defeated him in Pannonia, threw him into prison, & shortly after caused him to be executed. Valentinian 2^d a youth of whom great hopes were entertained, again became master of the whole west. But he was soon displaced by Arbogastus, who strangled him at Vienna, (one of his officers a native of Gaul) who raised to the throne his friend Eugenius, whom Theodosius, so far from acknowledging, attacked, and took captive. The consequence of this was that Theodosius became master of the whole empire, although he died the following year. The energetic reign of Theodosius the Great, in the East (from 379 to 395) was devoted no less to religious than political objects.

By the wisdom, with which in its beginning he had broken the power of the victorious Goths, (who preserved however their residences in the provinces along the Danube) he had immediately acquired a great influence, which he was able to maintain by his serious and resolute character; but violent commotions were caused by the zeal with which he opposed Arianism, then prevalent in the East, as also by the persecutions he exercised against the heathens and their temples. The exertions he made to protect the frontiers of the empire, which lost not a province during his life, required an increase of taxes, which, although, they were oppressive, ought hardly to be laid to the charge of the prince. In an empire, of itself so debilitated, & yet compelled to con-

tinual resistance, every active government must have been oppressive, and never had the internal depopulation of the empire, rendered the dangerous expedient of receiving barbarians into Roman pay, as necessary as during this reign.

Theodosius left behind him two sons, between whom he divided the empire; these two parts were still to form one state; an idea, which was prevalent in subsequent times, and was productive of important consequences, even to a late period in the middle ages; but from this time they were never reunited under one prince. Arcadius, the elder son, aged 10. obtained the eastern empire, consisting of the praefectura Orientis & Illyricum, under the guardianship of Rufinus, the Gaul; the western or the praefectura Galliarum & Italiae

was assigned to Honorius, the younger, aged 11, under the guardianship of Stilicho, the Vandal.

The Western empire, to the history of which, we now confine ourselves, suffered under Honorius such convulsions, that its near fall was to be foreseen. The intrigues of Stilicho, in order to acquire the administration of the whole empire, opened the road to the barbarians into its interior; and they were doubly formidable, since they had at that very time, a greater leader than they had ever before possessed. Alaric, the king of the Visigoths, with his subjects already settled in the empire, became master of Rome, and filled the throne.

Honorius and Arcadius, belonged to that class of men who are never of age; their favorites and ministers therefore governed as they pleased. Honorius married the daughter of Sti-

co; Stilico was not destitute of ability to govern; and his exertions to obtain the administration of the whole empire, proceeded perhaps from the conviction, that thus only he could act with effect. Rufinus, the favorite of Arcadius was murdered in 395, but Stilico found a yet more violent opponent in his successor Eutropius. In 400 Stilico withdrew the Roman troops from Gaul, in order to oppose Alaric; then Gaul was overwhelmed by the German nations, the Vandals, Alans, and Suevi, who penetrated from thence into farther Spain. But Stilico yet protected Italy, by the victories he gained in 403, over Alaric at Bezona, and in 405, at Florence over Radagaisus, who made an invasion with other German tribes. Stilico, then entered into a secret combination with Alaric, in order to tear the

eastern part of Illyricum from the Oriental Empire; Thymius, who had become a favorite of Honorius, took advantage of the Emperor's weakness, and the jealousy existing between the Roman & foreign soldiers, to accuse Flavius of aspiring to the throne; he was deprived of power and executed, 23^d. August. 408. Thus, Rome lost the only general who was able to be her protector. In 400 Alaric again invaded Italy, and Rome, besieged by him, had to purchase peace; but the conditions not being fulfilled, Alaric advanced again before Rome, 409, became master of the city. Honorius had shut himself up in Ravenna, and Alaric, named Attilus, the city praefectus Augustus. But in 410, he deprived him of the diadem, and took possession of Rome by force. Wishing

to make the acquisition of Sicily & Africa, also, he died in the South of Italy. Adolphus, his brother in law, and successor, withdrew his Goths from Italy, in 412, proceeded to Gaul, and thence to Spain, where he founded the kingdom of the Visigoths. He carried with him Placidia, the sister of Honorius, either as hostage or captive, whom he married 414 in Gaul. In the meanwhile, an usurper, Constantine, had started up in Britain and Gaul, who was defeated & executed in 411, by Constantinus, the general of Honorius. Upon this Constantinus, Honorius bestowed his sister Placidia in 417, who had become a widow, and had been returned; in 421, he also named him Augustus, but he died two months after. Placidia now exercised a considerable interest in the government, but in 423, the

he proceeded to Constantinople, where he remained till the death of Honorius.

Thus already under Honorius, the greater part of Spain, and a part of Gaul were torn from the Roman Empire.

After his death, 423, Johannes, the private Secretary, first assumed the government; Arcadius being dead, his son Theodosius, 2^d was the Emperor of the East, he defeated Johannes, and raised Valentinian 3^d the son of Placidia & Constantius, & nephew of Honorius, aged 6 years, to the throne, under the guardianship of his mother Placidia. During his unhappy reign, almost all the provinces out of Italy, were torn from the Western Empire. The fault of this is to be imputed to the administration of his mother, and subsequently to his own incapacity, as well as to those violent

commotions, which agitated so vehemently the nations of Europe.

In 427 Britain had already been emancipated by the Romans. In Africa, Boniface the governor was forced to rebel, by the artifices of the general Aetius; who being jealous of Boniface, drew him into a revolt, and was employed on the part of the empire to punish him on this account. Boniface called to his assistance the Vandals from Spain, under Genseric, king of the Vandals. They put themselves in possession of the country, 429; altho' the compact between the two generals, was that they should divide Africa between them, yet Genseric, occupied the whole country, with the exception of three cities, which he soon took. He shut up Boniface in Carthage and at the expiration of a year

compelled him to surrender. In 435
Valentinian was obliged to make
a formal resignation of the conquest.
The kingdom which Genseric thus
established did not last quite
a century. He purchased his wife,
the Grecian princess Eudoxia, daugh-
ter of Theodosius 2.^d in 437, by
renouncing the western part of Illy-
-rium, (Pannonia, Salmatia & Nori-
-cum) so that Raetia, & Vindelicia
alone remained of the countries al-
-ong the southern portion of the
Danube, belonging to the praefectura
Italiae. In the South Eastern part
of Gaul, the kingdom of the Bur-
-gundians had been formed, since
the year 435, (which, besides the
South East of France, as far as
the Rhone & Saone, comprehended
also Switzerland & Savoy.) The

South Western part was under the sway
of the Visigoths; and in the countries
north of the Loire, alone, did
Roman governors yet rule; Sya-
-grind, the last of them, survived
the fall of the empire itself; He
was defeated first in 486, by Clo-
-dovic, king of the Franks.

But while the Western Empire fell
asunder almost of itself, a new storm
occurred among the nations, which
threatened to destroy all of Western
Europe. The tribes of the Huns, now
ruling in the lands, formerly belonging
to the Goths, between the Don & the
Theis, and as far as the Volga, had
united themselves, since 444, under
one common chief Attila, who, thus,
and by his personal superiority, as
a warrior & ruler, became the most
powerful prince of his age. While he
was averted from the Eastern Empire

by an annual tribute, he attacked with an immense force the western countries, & invaded Gaul. Aetius, the Roman general met him in battle on the plains of Chalons, and defeating him, checked his progress for a time. ⁴⁵⁰ The following year he invaded Italy, 451; where he kept up a correspondence with Honoria, the sister of Valentinian. Attila died suddenly in the midst of his success and the empire of the West was saved from immediate destruction. The wretched Valentinian soon after deprived the Roman Empire of its best general, by putting Aetius, to death, from distrust. But he soon experienced the punishment of his extravagance, for he was murdered by a conspiracy, formed against him by Maximus, and some friends of Aetius.

The 20 years, which elapsed between the murder of Valentinian 3^d, and the entire extinction of the Roman Empire in the West, presents an almost uninterrupted succession of internal revolutions, while during them no less than 9 rulers followed each other. But what was of the most importance to the Roman Empire, was the increasing power of Genseric, King of the Vandals; he was master of the Mediterranean & Sicily, by his naval force, was able to invade Italy according to his pleasure, and even to take Rome; and likewise of great importance in Italy itself, was Ricimer, the German, who, as general of the foreign troops in the Roman Army, caused a series of Emperors to reign under his name.

After the murder of Valentinian, Maximus was proclaimed emperor; he compelled Eudoxia, the widow of Valentinian to a marriage with himself; he impudently revealed to her the part he had taken in the assassination of Valentinian; to revenge the deed he called in the assistance of Genseric, King of the Vandals, who took Rome, and delivered it up to pillage during several days; upon his arrival, Maximus fled, & was stoned to death, by the people, for his cowardice. 455. After a reign of three months. Genseric conveyed the empress & her two daughters back with him in triumph to Carthage.

Avitus, succeeded him, who received the crown at Arles, in Gaul, but was dethroned 456, by Ricimer

who in the mean time had beaten the fleet of the Vandals. Ricimer now bestowed the throne on Majorian, 457, whom he displaced 461, because he had gained too great distinction in the wars against the Vandals, and appointed in his stead Severus 3? who died 465, perhaps of poison. There followed an interregnum of 2 years, during which Ricimer reigned, though without the imperial title. Anthemius, a patrician of Constantinople, (which city had never renounced its claim to the right of appointing, or at least of confirming the appointment of the rulers of the Western Empire) was nominated Emperor of the West, 467, by Leo, emperor of the East, with the consent of the powerful Ricimer. To attach Ricimer to his interest, Anthemius gave him his daughter in

marriage. But quarrels arose between Anthemius and Ricimer; Anthemius withdrew to Mediolanum, 469 and began a war. He gained forcible possession of Rome in 472, and was murdered. Ricimer also died 472. After Anthemius, Placidius, the son in law of Valentinian 3^d, was proclaimed Augustus, but died three months after. Glycerius, an obscure soldier, favored by a Burgundian prince, usurped the purple at Ravenna, without however being recognised in Constantinople; Leo, the Eastern Emperor, had nominated Julius Nepos, Augustus, who displaced Glycerius, 474, who was himself displaced 475, by his own general Orestes. Orestes gave the diadem to his son Romulus Augustulus, who as the last in the series of the Augusti,

bears the name of Augustulus. Augustulus, was taken prisoner by Odoacer, leader of the Germans in the Roman pay, and received from him a pension. Odoacer now remained master of Italy; (till the Ostrogoths founded there a new Empire, under king Theodoric.) Thus the western Empire of Rome, passed from the hands of its ancient masters, into the possession of the barbarians, ^{who} which had so long harassed it by their invasions. As an empire it had existed more than 500 years, computing the time from the battle of Actium. The whole period of its duration, from the building of the city, was more than 1200 years. While the Roman Empire in the west thus fell into ruin, the sister Empire in the east, which appeared to be in tri-

-milar situation, not only continued, but existed for the space of nearly a thousand years more, notwithstanding it suffered all the internal evils, which prove the ruin of a state, and was shaken by all the storms, which burst upon the nations during the middle ages. From the almost impregnable situation of its capital alone, the fate of which is ever in such empires decisive of the whole, in connection with the despotism, which not infrequently remains the last support of fallen nations, may in some measure be explained a phenomenon, that has not its parallel in the history of the world.

Indeae

Indea, already under the sway of Rome, became a province of the empire, b. R. J. at the banishment of Archelans, eldest son of Herod the Great. Archelans under whom Indea, became in form a Roman province, possessed only a tetrarchy or fourth part. The rest of the country was divided into three more tetrarchies. Galilee & Perea possessed by Herod Antipater; Iturea by Philip, another son of Herod; Abilene, by Eysanias, who being afterwards banished into Gaul, had his province governed by Pontius Pilate. The successor of Archelans, was Herod 2^d. named Antipas, who married his brother Philip's wife. This was the marriage on account of which John the Baptist reproved Herod.

It was in the time of this Herod that our Saviour's crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension occurred. Herod the 2^d was succeeded by his son Herod 3^d. Caligula at that time emperor of Rome, invested him with the tetrarchy of his uncle Philip, & conferred on him the title of king. The other tetrarchies fell to his possession shortly afterwards. It was this Herod who caused the apostle James to be martyred, and the apostle Peter to be imprisoned. His son Agrippa Minor, succeeded and was the last king of Judaea. It was before him that Paul pleaded.

During the reign of Agrippa Minor Jerusalem was attacked by Vespasian & Titus. 70 A. D. The Jews who remained in the country paid tribute to the Romans, & were entirely subject to their

laws. After this event Jerusalem was partially rebuilt, and in 110 the inhabitants attempted to rebel. Hadrian the emperor, levelled their city with the earth; this therefore may be called the final destruction of Jerusalem, which took place 47 years after that of Titus. Hadrian, however soon built the city over anew, and called it Aelia Capitolina.

Persia.

After the Persians had been subject to the Parthians, during 475 years, from the time that they passed from under the Macedonian yoke, from under the Macedonian yoke, Artasaces, a courageous Persian, excited a revolt among his countrymen, which terminated in the restoration of the Persian empire 223. B. C.

Artaxares assumed the title of king of kings, and asserted his right to all the provinces of the ancient empire, which were now under the authority of the Romans. War therefore ensued between these two powers, and the Persians were terribly defeated in a single battle by Alexander Severus. They soon however regained the ground they had lost. Artaxares was followed by a series of princes, the most conspicuous of whom, during this period was Sapor 1st who was his immediate successor. The dynasty which Artaxares founded, is known in history under the name of Sassanidae, from Sasan, his father.

Sapor, conquered several cities in Syria & Mesopotamia, from the Romans, which however were recovered by the

youngest Gordian. In 250. Sapor captured Antioch, and penetrated to Cappadocia. The next year the emperor Galerius was taken prisoner by the Persians. Sapor, was finally assassinated by his subjects.

Hormisdas 2^d - enjoyed a peaceful reign.

Sapor 2^d persecuted the Christians in his dominions 326. he endeavored to recover the five provinces, yielded by his grandfather Artaxares to the Romans, but was terribly defeated by Constantine. In the war with Julian 363 he was pursued into the very heart of his dominions, but was delivered by the death of that emperor. He died in 380. He cruelly persecuted the Christians, during 40 years.

Saporos 3^d was a wise prince; he
lived at peace with
the Romans, and died lamented.
Under Saporos 1st a persecution
of the Christians commenced, which
continued 50 years, during his reign,
and that of some of his successors.
Phoswes 2^d, the great; during much
of his reign, the Persians were at
war with the Romans. Phoswes
was a warrior; he repeatedly
overcame the Roman generals.
Persia was finally invaded by
the Saracens, and it was not
before it became a part of the
empire of the Caliphs.