

Conclusion of Lecture 14.th
- and
Commencement of Lecture 13.th

Conclusion of Lecture 14th

Commencement of Lecture 15th

Livia now administered the government, without however being recognised in Rome, in behalf of her sons, Galatathus, Herennianus, and Timolans and under Claudius she made the acquisition of Egypt. Aurelian defeated her first at Antioch and Emesa, soon after which, he conquered Palmyra, which, rebelling soon after, was destroyed by him, but is still magnificent in its ruins. He took Livia captive. 273. The countries in the West also, Gaul, Britain and Spain, which, since the time of Gallienus, had been governed by their own rulers, and then stood under Petricus, a Roman Senator, were again subjugated. By his own accord he renounced Livia, and transplanted the Roman inhabitants across the Danube

to Moesia, which was thence called *Dacia Aureliana*. Hated for his severity, which in a soldier so easily degenerates into cruelty, he was murdered in Illyria, at the instigation of his private secretary *Probus*. 275.

An interregnum of 6 months followed the death of Aurelian, till the Senate at the repeated request of the army, ventured to fill the throne. But *Claudius Tacitus*, who next followed, the most worthy of the senators, was already 75 years old, and died about 6 months after, on an expedition against the Goths. Aurelius *Probus* was now raised to the throne, by the army in Syria, and *Florian*, the brother of *Tacitus*, already recognized as emperor in Rome, was murdered by his people. 276. The six year's reign of *Probus* was filled with wars; he drove back the Germans from the coun-

tries along the Rhine and Danube, defended the frontiers by a walled rampart from *Ratisbon* on the Danube to the Rhine, and compelled the Persians to sue for peace. Still the many cities which he repaired and peopled with those whom he had taken captive in war, and the vineyards which he caused his soldiers to plant on the Rhine, show that he was not without a taste for the arts of peace. He was slain in *Sirmium* by his soldiers 282. *Aurelius Carus*, praefect of the praetorian guards, was proclaimed emperor by the soldiers; He raised to Caesars, his two sons, *Carinus* and *Numerian*. They were of very different characters. *Carinus*, was one of the most abject of men, but the character of *Numerian* was mild, & had been formed by study. *Carus* defeated the Goths, and made a campaign against the

Persians; but died soon after, struck it was said, by lightning. Inmerian was soon murdered by his own father-in-law, Horius Ager, the praetorian praefect.

If this period exhibits an image of the most complete military despotism, it arose from the entire separation of the civil and military classes, from the introduction of standing armies, and from the extinction of all national spirit among the people. The legions decided, because the people were defenceless. And it was with them alone, far from the luxury of the capital, and engaged in almost continual war with the barbarians, that some residue of the ancient Roman spirit was preserved. The appointing of their generals, emperors, was the natural result, not only of the uncer-

tainty of succession, (which was not to be fixed by mere regulations) but frequently also of necessity, when they were forced to it, on the field, by the pressure of circumstances. Thus a series of distinguished generals ascended the throne. The rapid change of rulers must have rendered any permanent reform impossible; and even the best of them could do but little for the interior, compelled, as they were, to spend their whole strength in protecting the frontiers, and in combating the usurpers, who, if we except the ceremonial of the senate's approbation, possessed in fact, equal right with them. The decline must have been the greater, since in these sad times, luxury was carried to a most incredible excess, both in private life, in display and

frankness effeminacy, and in public, as is seen in the amusements of the amphitheatre and circus, by which not only every new prince, but every new magistrate had to purchase the favor of the populace. But during this general corruption, a reform of an entirely different nature was prepared by the gradual propagation of the christian religion, which, by the end of this period, in spite of frequent persecutions, had found access into all the provinces, and promised soon to become the prevailing religion. The extension of the Christian religion was advanced both by the scattering of the Jews, and more especially by the persecutions, which, since the reign of Nero, had been renewed from time to time. At the end of this period,

it had adherents in all the provinces.

Lecture 13th -

From Diocletian to the fall of the Roman Empire in the west.

284 - 476.

After the murder of Numerian, Diocletian was proclaimed Augustus, by the army in Chalcedon. 284. With him a new division begins in the history of Rome. The period of military despotism is succeeded by the period of partitions. Carinus, the yet remaining Caesar, was defeated in Upper Moesia 285; and Diocletian appointed as his colleague Maximian, a rough warrior, and his former fellow general. Maximian combats the Alemanni, and Burgundi; along the banks of the Rhine, while Diocletian is resisting the Persians in Asia. At the same time Carausius

in Britain usurped and maintained the imperial title; the two Augusti soon believed themselves unequal to the barbarians who assailed them on all sides; they, therefore each of them appointed a Caesar. Diocletian appointed Galerius, and Maximian, Constantius, who had both distinguished themselves as generals, (then the only road to advancement). The empire was now divided between these four rulers, so that each obtained certain provinces to administer and defend, without however injuring the unity of the empire as a whole, or destroying the dependance in which the Caesar was to stand to the Augustus, as his subordinate colleague & future successor. By this division Diocletian obtained the eastern provinces; Galerius, Thrac,

and the countries along the Danube, (Illy-
-rium); Maximian, Italy, Africa
and the islands; and Constantius the western provinces, Gaul, Spain, Britain, and Mauritania.

This new system must have had a very perceptible reaction on the spirit of the administration. It was now both in fact & form in the hands of the rulers; Their continual absence from Rome dissolved the moral obligations, which the authority of the Senate, and the name, not entirely extinct of Republic, had imposed on them. Diocletian formally took the diadem; and with the ornament of the East, he drew to his court oriental luxury. The foundation of the building was laid, which Constantine the Great, was to continue.

The consequences of this new system must have pressed severely upon the provinces, in as much as they now had to support 4 princes with their courts, and as many armies.

305. Diocletian voluntarily abdicated his dignity, and compels his colleague Maximian to do the same. The two Caesars, Constantius and Galerius, are appointed Augusti, and they then appoint two Caesars, Severus, and Maximinus. The western parts of the empire, or the dominion of Constantius, consisted of Italy, Sicily, the greatest part of Africa, Spain, Gaul, Britain, and Germany. The eastern part, or the dominion of Galerius, consisted of Illyricum, Pannonia, Thrace, Macedonia, all the provinces of Greece, and the lesser Asia, Egypt, Syria, Judea, and all

other oriental countries. Galerius was as universally hated for his cruelty and extravagance, as Constantius was loved for his clemency & disinterestedness. Constantius died 306 at Eboracum, leaving his territories to his son Constantine, who was immediately proclaimed emperor by the legions, although Galerius refused to recognize him, as any thing more than Caesar.

Constantine, who afterwards received the surname of Great, thus attained to the government, which at first however embraced only Britain, Spain, and Gaul. The history of the first 7 years of Constantine 306-313 is very intricate. At his accession, Galerius, as Augustus, was in possession of all the other provinces, of which he committed the Asiatic to the Caesar Maximinus, and Italy & Africa

to the Caesar, Severus, whom he now
named Augustus. But Severus became
so hated for his oppressive cruelty,
that Maxentius, the son of the former
emperor Maximian, proclaimed him-
self Augustus in Rome, 28th Oct. 306.
and received his father as his colleague,
so that the six rulers now, were Gal-
erius, Severus, Constantine, Max-
iminus, and the usurpers Maxen-
tius, and his father Maximian.
But in 307, Severus, deserted by his
troops when he wished to make war
upon Maxentius, and having surren-
dered to Maximian, was put to death
by his order. In his stead Licinius
was nominated Augustus by his
friend Galarius, who had never owned
Constantine; and Maximinus soon
after received the same dignity from
his army in Asia. In the mean
while, Maximian, attempted to

displace his own son, and not suc-
ceeding fled to Constantine, who had
crossed over to Gaul, and defeated
the Franks there 306. Maximian
then conspired to murder Constan-
tine, and was put to death at his
order 310, although Constantine had
married his daughter Flavia.
In 311 Galarius died, and Cons-
tantine, Licinius, and the usur-
per Maxentius, were the remaining
claimants to the imperial purple.
Maxentius, was defeated and killed
on the 28th October 312, by Const-
tantine before the gates of Rome,
and by this Constantine became
master of Italy & the capital. At
the same time a war arose between
Maximinus and Licinius, in which
Maximinus was defeated at Ad-
rianople, and took his own life
313.

In 314 a war broke out between the two remaining emperors, Constantine & Licinius, but was terminated in the same year by a peace, in which Constantine acquired all the southern lands of the Danube, with the exception of Thrace and Moesia Minor. The war was renewed in 322, and terminated by a decisive battle in Bitunia; 323. Licinius was overthrown, and put to death, by Constantine 324

Various as the opinions are respecting the reign of Constantine the Great, the result of it is very evident. If he annihilated military despotism, he established, remotely, if not fully the despotism of the court, and likewise the power of the hierarchy.

During the expedition against Maxentius 311, Constantine decided for the Christian religion. In 336 the royal residence was removed from Rome

to Constantinople. The necessity of protecting the frontiers against the Goths and Persians, was a strong motive for this removal, which became the principal means of the establishment of the despotism of the court. The transfer of the imperial residence had been previously prepared from the time of Diocletian by the partition of the Empire, for the natural result of it was, that the Augusti and Caesars, when they were not with their armies, dwelt in different cities. Diocletian's residence was at Nicomedia; that of Maximian at Mediolanum, and even Constantine spent but a small part of his time in Rome. Nothing attached them to these new residences, and the authority of the Roman Senate must therefore have declined of itself, subsequently to the time of Diocletian, altho' the body itself existed till after Constantine.

we must not be astonished, therefore, that such an entire change of the whole form of the constitution resulted from this transfer, so that in a short time we see but few traces of the former state. There was an entirely different division of the empire, by which a complete change was produced in the division and administration of the provinces. The court, with the exception of polygamy, adopted in all respects the form of an oriental court; and there was a full separation effected of the military & civil power.

The whole empire was divided into 4 prefectures, each prefecture had its dioceses, and each diocese its provinces. 1st Praefectura Orientis, containing 5 dioceses, and comprehending 48 provinces, embracing all the Asiatic countries, Egypt, Lybia, and Thraee.

2^d Praefectura Illyrici. containing 2 dioceses, and divided into 11 provinces, embracing Moesia, Macedonia, Greece and Crete.

3^d Praefectura Italiae. containing 3 dioceses and 29 provinces, comprehending Italy, the countries on the southern part of the Danube as far as the boundaries of Moesia, the islands Sicily, Sardinia, & Corsica, with the African provinces counted from the Syrtes.

4th Praefectura Galliarum, containing three dioceses, and 20 provinces, including Spain and the Balearian islands, Gaul, Helvetia, & Britain. Each of these was governed by a praefectus praetorio, who was nothing more than a civil governor; and besides these, both Rome and Constantinople, which stood under none of the four praefecti, each had its praefectus.

The more rapid extension of the christian religion, natural in itself, was promoted yet more by the exertions of the courts, since this necessarily was the object of its policy. Constantine already ventured to lay an interdiction on sacrifices, and to close the temples; and under his successors, these prohibitions degenerated into excesses of violent destruction. In an expedition against the Persians Constantine died at Mcomedia, in the 30th year of his reign.

The three Caesars, and sons of Constantine the Great, Constantine, Constantinus, and Constans, formed by a careful education, but as similar in their vices, as in their names, divided the empire after the death of their father; but their insatiable desire for countries, which neither

which neither of them knew how to govern filled the next twelve years with one continual series of wars, till Constantine became at last master of the whole 353. By the murder of the greater number of his relations, he insured to himself the throne. In the division Constantine obtained the praefectura Galliarum. Constans, the praefectura Italiae and Alyrici. Constantinus, the praefectura Orientis.

Constantine demanding in addition Italy & Africa, he attacked Constans in 348, but lost his life by it, so that Constans became master of the western countries. So wretchedly did he govern, that Magnentius, the general in Gaul, proclaimed himself emperor, and caused Constans to be murdered 350. A war with the yet remaining Constantinus, who

had been employed in the mean while, in the East, was now inevitable, he broke out in 351. Magnentius was beaten first at Mursa, in Pannonia 351, and having retreated to Gaul, he was beaten a second time in that country 353, soon after which he put himself to death with his family.

But as Constantius, debased in luxury, was in need of assistance, he liberated the prisoner of state, his cousin Constantine Gallus, whose father he had formerly put to death, appointed him Caesar, and despatched him to the East against the Persians. But in a short time he was rendered so dangerous by his arrogance, which was inflamed yet more by his wife Constantina, that Constantius recalled him, and had him murdered in Atria on his return. In his stead his younger brother Julian,

was named Caesar, 355, from whom the suspicious Constantius, believed he had the least to fear, and the defense of the borders along the Rhine was committed to him. By this trust he so well acquitted himself, that although called from books to arms, he not only successfully protected them against the Germans, but also penetrated far into Germany. Constantius himself made an expedition against the Germans, 359 and wished to gain over by degrees the troops of Julian, who was impelled by this to accept the diadem, offered him by his soldiers. On his march along the Danube against Constantius, he received information of his death in Asia.

Julian, the last and most talented prince of the house of Constantine, whose character had been formed by misfortune and study, was not without failings, though without vices. He began

with a reform of the luxurious court. From a christian education, he relapsed into paganism, re-opened the temples, and without directly persecuting, did much to injure Christians and their cause. Wishing to put an end to the war against the Persians, and having penetrated beyond the Tigris, he there lost his life in battle, after a reign of three years. Julian was an author as well as a warrior. One of his works against the Christians, was Misophogon, or Beard Baster. His Caesars, is the most famous of his compositions, being a satire upon all the Roman Emperors, from Julius Caesar to Constantine.

On the death of Julian, the race of Constantine Chlorus, became extinct, and the Roman world was without a head and without an heir. In this situation, the army finally

fixed on Jovian, a Pannonian, L. the emperor's first domestic, as his successor 363. Jovian made peace with the Persians, by the cession of 5 provinces. He displayed the banner of the cross, and reversed the edicts of Julian, respecting Christianity. His reign, which continued only 7 months, was mild and equitable. He died suddenly aged 33. The army proclaimed Valentinian, Augustus at Nicaea, and he, shortly after adopted his brother Valens as his colleague, and divided the empire with him, resigning to Valens the praefectura Orientis, while he kept the others for himself.

Valentinian 1st began to reign in the West 364. In 367, he appointed as his associate in the Empire, his son Gratian, aged 8 years. His reign is marked, notwithstanding his gene-

tal cruelty, by the system of tolera-
-tion, which he practised in religious
affairs. In other respects, it exhibits
an almost uninterrupted contest
against the German nations, who
had recovered from their defeat
under Julian. His first wars were
on the Rhine, against the Franks,
Saxons, and Alemanni; and after
wards on the Danube against the
Quadi &c, where he died in battle
at Guntz in Hungary. 365. His
brother Valens, was engaged mean-
while in the East, in quelling an im-
-portant rebellion, excited by a cer-
-tain Procopius, who took advantage
of the discontent produced in the East
by the oppressions of Valens, who pro-
-fessed the Arian tenets. His war
against the Persians, was terminated
by a truce; but about the end of
his reign, the event occurred, by which

the great popular migration, and
thence the overthrow of the Roman
Empire, was in reality occasioned,
the transition of the Huns into Eu-
-rope. The nearest consequence of
it was, the reception of the greater
part of the Western Goths, into the
Roman empire; whence a war arose
which cost Valens his life.

The Huns, a nomadic nation of Asia,
were a branch of the great Mongo-
-lian race. When they advanced beyond
the Don, in 375, the country from that
river to the Theis, was held by the
Goths, who were divided into Ostro-
-goths, & Visigoths, separated by
the Dnieper. The Ostrogoths, ex-
-pelled from their residences, fell
upon the Visigoths, who asked of
Valens to be received into the Ro-
-man Empire; and, with the exception
of the Vandals, who had been settled

In Pannonia, since the time of Constantine the Great, they were the first barbarian nation, which obtained a residence in the Roman territory. But they were forced to rebel by the shameful oppression of the Roman governors; and when Valens proceeded against them, he not only met with a severe defeat at Adrianople, 378, but also lost his life.

In the mean while Valentinian 1st was succeeded in the West, by his son Gratian, aged 16, who immediately adopted his brother Valentinian 2^d, aged 5, as his colleague, and conferred upon him although under his own inspection, the praefectura Italiae, and Illyrici. Gratian was marching to the assistance of Valens, his uncle, against the Goths, when he received on the way information of his defeat and death. The East now threatened

to become the prey of the Goths, when he raised to the imperial purple, Theodosius, a Spaniard, who had distinguished himself as a warrior; he conferred upon him the praefectura Orientis, and Illyrici.

(The Goths and Vandals, came originally from Scandinavia, now Sweden. The Goths first settled in Pomerania, etc. they advanced to the boundary between the Don & the R.

The Vandals formed a junction with the Suevi and Alains, and marched into Spain, parts of which they settled, and called after their name Vandalusia or Andalusia.

The Alains were known to the Romans in the time of Pompey, and inhabited the north of Asiatic Sarmatia. They united with the Suevi and Vandals, and finally settled in Lusitania, now Portugal, where they were conquered by the Visigoths. 475

The Herali; also originated in Sweden.
The Suevi, were a warlike nation of
Germany, inhabiting that part of it
in which Berlin, is now situated.

They entered Gaul, and passed into
Spain, with the Alains, and Vandals,
in a part of which, they established
a monarchy, which was afterwards
destroyed by the Visigoths.)

The indolent reign of Gratian, in the
west, excited to rebellion, Maximus,
the commander in Britain, who cross-
ed over to Gaul; Gratian fled be-
fore him, but was murdered at Ly-
ons by those sent in pursuit. 383.
Maximus thus saw himself in posses-
sion of the whole praefectura Gallia-
rum, and by the promise, that he
would not molest the young Valen-
tinean 2^d. in Italy, he prevailed up-
on Theodosius to acknowledge him as
emperor.