

Lecture 9.th

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Fifth Division. History of the Roman State. Geography of Ancient Italy. Italy forms a peninsula, which is bounded on the north by the Alps, on the west & south by the Mediterranean, on the east by the Adriatic Sea. Chief mountain, the Appennine, which goes from N. to S. sometimes inclining to an eastern, sometimes to a western direction, thro' Middle & Lower Italy. In the earliest ages of Rome it was covered with thick forests. Chief rivers; the Padus (Po); the Athesis (Riese) which empty into the Adriatic; and the Tiberis (Tiber) which goes into the Mediterranean Sea.

The division is into Upper Italy, from the Alps, to the river Rubicon, and Maera; Middle Italy, from the Rubicon & Maera, to the Silanus and Arno; and Lower Italy from these rivers to the Southern capes.

1st Upper Italy embraces the two districts Gallia Cisalpina, & Liguria

1 Gallia Cisalpina or Togata. It bears the name of Gaul, because it was chiefly occupied by Gallie tribes. The land is one extensive plain, divided by the Po, into two parts; Gallia transpadana; (the other side of the Padus;) inhabited by the Taurini, Insubres, Cenomani; and Gallia cispadana, inhabited by the Boji, Senones, Lingones. From the north, the Duria (Tonia) Ficinus (Fessino) Adna (Adna) Alis (Oghio), Mintius (Mincio), and from the South, the Tanarus (Tanaro) Istria, empty into the Po. But the Adthesis (Adige) Plavis, (Piave) go directly into the Adriatic.

The cities in Gallia Cisalpina, were chiefly Roman colonies, & most of them still exist under their ancient names. To this class belong, Tergeste, Aquileia, Patavium (Padua) Vincentia, Verona, east of the Adthesis. On the west of this river Manna, Cremona, Briata, (Brescia) Inedolanum (Milan)

Ficinum (Parvia) Augusta Taurinorum (Turin). In Gallia cispadana, Ravenna, Bononia, (Bologna) Mutina (Modena) Parma, Placentia, (Placenza) 2^d Liguria. Had its name from the Ligures, an ancient Italian nation, and extended from the river Tarns, (which divided it from Gallia Transalpina) to the river Macra, and in the north to the Po, and included nearly the modern territory of Genoa. Cities. Genna, a very ancient place; Nicaea (Nice), a colony from Massilia Asta (Asti).

2^d Middle Italy, includes 6 districts; Etruria, Latium, and Campania, on the west side; Umbria, Picenum, and Samnium, on the East side. 1st Etruria, Uscia, Syrthenia, was bounded on the north by the Macra, which separated it from Liguria; and on the South & East by the Tiberis, which divided it from Latium & Umbria. The chief river Arno,

(Arno). It had its name from the Etrusci, a very ancient nation; Cities; between the maeva and Arno, Pisae (Pisa) Pistoria, (Pistoria) Florentia, Taesulae. (Fiesole). Between the Arno and Fiberis. Volaterrae (Volterra) Volsinii (Bolsena) on the Lacus Volsiniensis (Lago di Bolsena) Clusium (Chiusi) Arretium (Arezzo), Cortona, Perusia, (Perugia) which was the Lacus Thrasimeneus, (Lago di Perugia) Falerii (Falari) and the rich city Veii.

2^d Latium, properly the territory inhabited by the Latini; from the Fiberis, on the north, to Cape Circeii, on the South, which was therefore called Latium vetus. (old) But afterward they included in it, the territory from Circeii, to the river Liris, which was called Latium novum, so that in the north the Fiberis, in the South, the Liris was the boundary.

The Latins themselves inhabited the fertile plains from the Fiberis to Circeii, but there lived around them several small nations, partly in the East, in the Apennines, as the Hernici, Sabini, Aequi, and Marsi; partly in the South, as the Volsci, Rutuli, and Aurunci. Rivers. Anio, (Tevere) and Alia, which join the Fiber; and the Liris (Ganghiano) which empties into the Mediterranean. Cities in Latium vetus; Roma, Tibur, Insulanum, Alba Longa, OSTIA, Lavinium, Antium, Gabii, Velitrae. In Latium novum, Fundi, Terracina or Anagnin, Arpinum, Minturnae, Fundaniae.

3^d Campania. The land between the Liris on the north, and the Silurnus on the South. Rivers. Liris, Volturnus (Volturno) Silurnus (Selo) Mountain Vesuvius. Cities; Capua, Linternum, Cumae, Neapolis, Heronianum,

Nompeii, Stabiae, Nola, Surrentum,
Salernum.

Eastern countries of Middle Italy.
Umbria. Boundaries in the north
the river Rubicon, in the South,
the river Acis (Gessano) which divi-
des it from Picenum, and the har,
(Chera) which separates it from the
country of the Sabines. Cities; Ar-
iminum (Rimini) Spolegium, (Spoleto)
Arma (Arni) and Vericulum,
(Otricoli)

2^d. Picenum; Bounded on the north,
the Acis, on the South, the Atar-
nus (Pescara) The nation is called
Picentes. Cities; Ancona, Asculum-
Picenum, (Ascoli)

3^d. Samnium. The Atarnus the northern
boundary, to Geronto, (Portore) in the
South. The Samnites, the chief na-
tion, also several smaller tribes;
the Marrucini, the Peligni in the

North; the Prentani, in the East; &
the Hirpini in the South. Rivers
Lagus, Tifernus. Cities; Alifae,
Beneventum, Candium.

3^d. Lower Italy, or Græcia Magna
includes 4 districts; Lucania &
Bruttium on the West, and Apulia
and Calabria on the East side.

1 Lucania, Boundaries; in the
North, the Silurus, in the South,
the Lans. It derived its name from
the Lucani, Cities; Paestum, or
Posidonia, now celebrated only for
its mines; and Hechia, or Velia.

2^d. Bruttium, now Calabria; the
western promontory from the river
Lans, to the Southern extremity of
land, at Rhegium. The eastern
limit is the river Brandanus. Cities;
Consentia (Cosenza) Pandosia, Ina-
merum, Petilia. Grecian colonies;
Tarentum, Heraclea, Brundisium

Sybaris, Croton, Lans, Metapontum,
2^d. Apulia. The country on the eastern
coast from the river Trento, to the
beginning of the eastern tongue of
land. Rivers; rufidus, (Ofanto)
Cerbalus. It was divided into hpa-
-hia Sannia, the northern; and hpa-
-hia Pencetia, the southern part, the
rufidus making the division; Cities
in Apulia Sannia, Sipontum, Len-
-ceria; in Apulia Pencetia, Barium
Cannae, L. Venusia.

4th Calabria, or Messapia the
smaller eastern tongue of land, which
ends with the Cape Tapygium. Cities,
Brundisium, (Brindisi) Gallipolis,
(Gallipoli).

To Italy, are counted the three great is-
lands, Sicily, Sardinia, and Corsica.

Sicily took its name from the Siculi, the
ancient inhabitants.

First Period.

From the building of Rome to the conquest
of Italy, and the beginning of the wars
with Carthage 754 to 264.

The sources of the earliest Roman history
were of very different kinds. The traditions
of the fathers were in part preserved in
historic songs; in this sense of the word
there arose a poetic history; but by no
means a fictitious history. The art of
writing in Italy was more ancient than
Rome itself; it came to the Romans from
the Greeks; their earliest history texts
in part on traditions and poetry.

The history of Rome is but the history of
a city, inasmuch as this city, till the
period of the Emperors, was always the
mistress of its wide domain.

The Romans belonged to the people of the
Latini; their city was a colony from Al-
-ba Longa; they were very early joined
by the Sabines, and much was adopted
from the Etruscans.

In the first 245 years this city stood under chiefs, who were called kings, but the office was neither hereditary, nor unlimited. The chief points in its internal constitution are 1st Origin & organization of a senate, said to have been first instituted by Romulus, to govern the city, & to preside over the affairs of the state during his absence. The monarchs had the privilege of choosing the members, and after the expulsion of the Tarquins, it was one of the rights of the consuls, till the election of the censors. Sometimes the assembly of the people elected senators, but only on extraordinary occasions. Only patrician families were elected into the senate, & when the plebeians were permitted to share the honors of the state, it was then required that they should be born ^{of} free citizens. It was also required that the candidates should be knights, before their admission into

the senate. They were to be above the age of 25, and to have previously passed thro' the inferior offices, of quaestor, edile, praetor, and consul. They were not permitted to be of any trade or profession.

2^d Origin of the patriciate, or hereditary nobility of families, which formed in opposition to the plebeians a political party, constantly increasing in power.

3^d The organization of the people, & the popular assemblies founded upon it (comitia), for besides the original division by polls into tribus and curiae, there was afterwards a division according to property, into clases & centuriae, (which gave occasion to the very artfully arranged comitia centuriata, in addition to the older comitia curiata.) The Roman people were originally divided into 3 tribes, & each tribe into 10 curiae; Servius Tullius

made a Census, and divided the people into 6 classes, and each class into several centuries or companies of a 100 men. The first class consisted of 80 centuries; 40 of which were appointed to guard the city; the other 40 to go to war & fight the enemies of Rome. They were to be worth a sum equivalent to 1000 pounds English money. The 2^d, 3^d, and 4th classes, consisted each of 20 centuries; the 2^d were to be worth 121 lbs; the 3^d 80; the 4th 40. The 5th class consisted of 30 centuries; they were to be worth 10 lbs. The 6th class contained only one century, comprising the whole body of the poorest citizens; In the public assemblies in the Campus Martius, at the election of public magistrates, or at the trial of capital crimes, the people gave their vote by centuries, whence the assembly was called comitia centuriata. If the first class was unanimous, the others were not consulted, as the first was superior

to all the others in number & property, but if they were not unanimous they proceeded to consult the rest, and the majority decided the question. The advantage of the first class gave offence to the rest, and it was afterwards settled, that one class of the 6 should be drawn by lot, to give its votes first, without regard to rank or priority.

4th The religious institutions which in the closest connection, with the political constitution formed a religion of the state, by which every thing in the state, was bound to fixed forms, & received a higher sanction.

And 5th The relations of private life, established by law; the relations of the client, of marriage, and especially of parental authority. By these strict domestic relations, this nation was from the earliest times, inspired with a spirit of subordination and of order, which was the remote cause of its subsequent greatness.

Notwithstanding many petty wars with its nearest neighbors, the Sabines, Regi

and volsci, several cities of the Etruscans, and even the Latins, Rome enlarged its territory but little. After the destruction of Alba Longa, in the reign of Tullus Hostilius, it endeavored to become the head of all the cities of the Latini, and succeeded.

Series of kings. Romulus 754 to 717.

Numa Pompilius 717 to 679. He is described as the founder of the religion of the Roman state. Tullus Hostilius 679 to 640. Conquered & destroyed Alba Longa, and laid the foundation for Rome's dominion over Latium. (Havriatii. Curiatii) Ancus Marcius, 640 to 610. Extended the territory of Rome to the sea, ~~with~~ Ostia at the mouth of the Tiber, hence Rome at that early period had navigation, though piracy perhaps more than commerce was its object. Tarquinus Priscus 610. 578. Of Etruscan descent. Rome under him was now able to bear up against the united

Etruscans. Servius Tullius 578 to 534, the most remarkable in the series of Roman kings. He placed Rome at the head of the confederacy of the Latini; the most important institutions the Censur, and the Comitia centuriata, were built upon his new division of the people according to property. Tarquinus Superbus (the tyrant) 534 to 509. He gained possession of the government by force as the grandson of Priscus, and endeavored to gain strength by a closer union with the Latini and volsci; but by this means and by his tyranny, offended alike the commons & the patricians. He was expelled and the royal power abolished.

The power was then transferred to two annually elected consuls; the new Republic had still to maintain contests for its liberty, with the Etruscans & Latins; this contributed to keep alive the republican spirit, which from

this time remains the chief traits in the Roman character. The evils of the popular government were obviated by the appointment of dictators in times of pressing difficulty. But after the expulsion of the Tarquins, the helm of government was exclusively seized upon by the Patricians, their oppression became so severe, that in a few years 493, an insurrection of the commons broke out, which was followed by the appointment of annually elected chiefs of the people, tribunes. Their office was annual, their power soon became formidable, and the senators repented too late of having consented to elect them. They could summon assemblies, propose laws, stop the consultations of the senate, & even abolish their decrees, by the word Veto.

Rome makes the 1st commercial treaty with Carthage in 500, in which

she appears as a free state, but not yet as the mistress even of all Latinum.

The further development of the Roman constitution in this period turns almost entirely on the contest, which the tribunes of the people, conducted against the hereditary nobility. They were not content to act as protectors of the oppressed, they soon proceeded to measures of attack, and were not satisfied with any thing short of a perfect equality of rights.

The contest was necessarily a long one. ~~Claudius~~ Gaius Marcius, Coriolanus after his victory over Corioi, and other services, was refused the consulship by the people. When the Romans received a present of corn from Gelo, king of Sicily, he insisted that it should be sold for money, & not given gratis. Upon this the tribunes raised the people against him, ^{he was tried,} & he was banished by a majority of three tribes. He retired among the Volsci, to Julius Rufidius,

his greatest enemy, he advised him to make war against Rome, & marched at the head of the army himself. L pitched his camp 5 miles from the city; the Romans became alarmed, & sent him several ineffectual embassies, and at last, they sent his mother Volturnia & Virgilia. He was murdered by the people of Antium. 488.

On the trial of Coriolanus, the tribunes usurped the right, of summoning individual patricians before the tribunal of the people. This gave rise to the comitia tributa, which were either mere assemblies of the class of citizens, or, at least, so organised, that that class had the preponderance.

Then, there was an equitable division made among the poorer class of the people, of the lands taken from the neighboring nations.

In 460, attempts were made to limit the consular authority by law, which after

a long strife, finally led to the idea of a general written code, 452, which was actually brought about, tho' at first opposed by the patricians. The code of the 12 Tables was in part perfected, by the laws of Grecian republics, (especially Athens), which were sent for & consulted. But a double error was committed; the persons by whom the laws were to be prepared were chosen exclusively from the patricians; and afterwards these persons were made sole magistrates (decemviri) with absolute power, and the way thus prepared for an usurpation, which it required a popular insurrection to overthrow.

The power of the Decemviri continued from 451 to 447. (Appian Claudius) (Athens was then under Pericles at the head of Greece.) By the laws of the 12 Tables the juridical relations of the citizens, were fixed upon equal terms

for all, but as they seem to have contained but little, which related strictly to the constitution of the State, the administration remained as before in the hands of the aristocrats, who filled all the offices; in the new laws also, there was an interdict of marriages between the patricians & plebeians, and by this the wall of partition seemed raised between the two forever. No wonder then that the tribunes immediately recommenced their attacks on the patricians.

The chief points of the new contest excited by the tribune Cannuleius, between the patricians & the commons, the law against intermarriages with plebeians, and on the exclusive possession of the Consulship by the patricians, of which laws the tribunes demanded the abolition. They obtained the repeal of the first law 445. But the right of eligibility to the con-

sulship was acquired only after an eighty years dispute.

In 443, establishments of the office of censors, who were at first considered only as persons, invested with full powers, for discharging the mechanical duties of the census; but whose office afterwards belonged to the ^{most} important in the state. Their office was finally to reform and watch over the manners of the people, & regulate the taxes. Also, to inspect the education of the Roman youth; &c.

Rome was in the mean time at the head of the neighboring allied cities, these though themselves oppressed, and their constant exertions to free themselves, gave rise to an almost unintermitted succession of petty wars, which must have depopulated Rome, if it had not adopted the maxim of ~~making~~ ^{making} conferring the rights of citizenship on the conquered. These constant feuds rendered the nation a nation of warriors, and established the

Supremacy of the Senate.

Among these wars we must mention the last war against Veii, the most opulent city of Etruria, because the siege of it, which continued for almost 10 years 404-395, led to winter campaigns, and the introduction of pay among the Roman soldiers, which first rendered it possible to carry on longer & more remote wars, and higher taxes were also a necessary result of this plan.

Rome however, was soon after almost entirely swept away, by a storm from the north. (two years before the peace of Antalcidas). The Senonian Gauls, penetrating as far as Etruria from Northern Italy, made themselves masters of the city, except the citadel, & reduced it to ashes; an occurrence, which impressed itself so deeply on the memory of the Romans, that few others in their history have been more spun out by tradition. Camillus was then the pre-

server of Rome; He had been banished by the people, but was recalled on the invasion of the Gauls, and elected dictator; and delivered Rome; he was one of the chief heroes of the times. After the victory the Romans wished to remove to Veii, which he by his influence prevented.

Rome was rebuilt, but the ancient contests soon revived in it. The people succeeded in establishing the principle that one of the consuls might be chosen from the commons. The nobility bought an equivalent for the sacrifice by the appointment of a praetor, who was totally employed in administering justice among the citizens. 366; there were afterwards two, praetor urbanus, one confined to the city; and the other appointed judges in all causes which related to foreigners. Their number was gradually increased, & in the 2^d triumvirate amounted

to 64, but in the decline of the empire was reduced to three. The nobility also appointed the Aediles Cumes the aediles were Roman magistrates, who had the care of all buildings, baths &c, & examined the weights and measures. They were at first taken from the plebeians, and were called aediles plebii, or imiores; but at this time the patricians created the Cumula aediles from their own body; these had greater privileges, though they at first shared in the labor of the plebeian aediles; they appeared with more pomp, and were allowed to sit publicly in ivory chairs. But the plebeians still participated in the other magistracies, the dictatorship, the censorship, and also in the priesthood, which was a necessary consequence of their obtaining the consulship. Thus the desired aim, the political equal-

ity of the commons, and the hereditary nobility was attained in Rome, and altho' the distinction between patrician & plebeian families was still preserved, they necessarily ceased in a short time, to be political parties.

In 345, a second commercial treaty made with Carthage; this proved that even at this time, the navigation of the Romans, was far from being insupportable, altho' it was still mostly piratical.

Far more important than the preceding wars, were those which now began with the Samnites; Rome in the former wars, had aimed principally at attaining a supremacy over its immediate neighbors; these wars however, which continued 50 years, opened the way to the subjugation of Italy, and laid thus the first foundation of its future power.

The war against the Samnites began when the Campani asked the aid of the Romans

against them. 343. They were waged with various fortune & violent exertion, ceasing only to begin again till 290 B. C. This is the true heroic age of Rome, over which the names of a Decius Mus, a Papirius Cursor, Fabius Maximus and others diffuse a lustre. Decius Mus, the father and son both devoted themselves, for the safety of their country; this action of devoting one's self was of infinite service to the State; the soldiers were animated by the example, and induced to follow with intrepidity a commander, who, addressing himself to the gods with solemn invocation, rushed into the thickest of the enemy to meet his fate. Papirius Cursor was successful against the Samnites; Fabius Maximus, was also victorious over the Samnites, & triumphed over 4 different nations in the neighborhood of Rome, and rendered himself illustrious by his patriotism. The

Fabii was a noble and powerful family at Rome. By the wars with the Samnites the Romans first became acquainted with mountain warfare; In 340, the Latins were completely conquered; In the last period of the Samnite wars, they came into connexion with the remoter nations of the country, the Lucani, & Apuli, & Umbri. with whom they made treaties, but still these nations were always striving for independence. The attempts of Rome, after the subjugation of the Samnites, to strengthen its power in Southern Italy, gave rise to a war with a foreign prince. The Tarentines, to protect themselves against Rome, invited Pyrrhus of Epirus, to assist them. In the first war with Pyrrhus, 280 to 278 two battles were fought, the one at Pandosia 280, the other at Asculum 279 both unfortunate for Rome. After the return of Pyrrhus from Sicily, to Italy, 275, he was vanquished by the

Romans at Beneventum, and compelled to withdraw from Italy, leaving a garrison in Tarentum. But in 272 the Romans gained possession of Tarentum, and thus their dominion was extended to the extremity of Southern Italy.

The principal means which the Romans used from early times, to strengthen their authority over the conquered nations, and at the same time to prevent an excessive increase of the needy populace in Rome, was the establishment of colonies of Roman citizens, who were settled in the conquered cities, and at the same time served as garrisons. Each colony possessed its own internal constitution, which was generally modelled after that of Rome itself. The maintenance of the strict dependence of the colonies, was therefore the natural policy of Rome; This Roman colonial system

was brought to the greatest perfection in the Samnite wars, and gradually embraced all Italy. In close connection with it, stood the building of the great military roads, of which the Appian was made in 312, and still remains a lasting monument of the greatness of Rome at that period. It led from the Porta Capena at Rome, to Banndasium through Capua.

The number of Roman colonies in Italy amounted at the time of Hannibal's invasion to 53, but many of those that were founded, were afterwards abandoned. But the relations of Rome, to the nations of Italy, remained very various. Some cities and nations enjoyed the full privileges of Roman citizenship; the colonies possessed their city constitution but had no farther participation, either in the comitia, or the magistracies of Rome. The rest of the inhabitants of Italy were either allies or subjects. The allies retained their internal con-

stitution but were obliged to give tri-
-bute and auxiliary troops. The
Subjects lost their internal constitution
and were governed by Roman magis-
-trates, who were annually renewed.

The internal constitution of Rome it-
-self, now bore the character of a demo-
-cracy, in as far as the nobility &
the commons enjoyed equal privileges,
and the difference between patricians
and plebeians was little more than
nominal. The rights of the Senate ex-
-isted in the power of acting, and
determining upon all temporary af-
-fairs of state, whether they concerned
foreign relations, or the finances,
or internal peace & security.