

but the evidence does not seem sufficient to prove that he was ever in the island.

From Capitolinus, in his lives of *Pertinax* and *Albinus*, we learn that they also were legates under Commodus, and that *Junius Severus* was sent as successor to Albinus. It is not probable, however, that he succeeded to him, for from Xiphiline, lxxiii., we find that Albinus held the command in Britain in the time of the Emperor Didius Julian, and, after his death, being appointed Cæsar by Severus, he administered the government of the island until A.D. 196, when he passed over to Gaul, where he was defeated and put to death in the following year.

The position of affairs at this time is thus described by Lingard. *Hist. of England*, i., p. 39:—

“Severus was now undisputed master of the empire. To abolish the exorbitant power of the prefect of Britain, he divided the island into two governments, bestowing the one on Heraclianus, and the other on Virius Lupus.”

There is no authority for these two simultaneous governors of Britain, although Lingard refers, in his note, to “Herod., iii., 24, Spartian in Sever., p. 320, Inscriptions in Speed, p. 139.” There is evidence in Herodian, that Severus divided the island into two governments. Spartian also states that he sent *Heraclitum ad obtinendas Britannias*; but here we should read *Bithynias*, as Salmasius has suggested. And no inscriptions notice any other governor of the time except Virius Lupus, mentioned by Ulpian, *Digest*, xxvii., 6, 2, and named in the following inscriptions, found in Yorkshire, and given by Horsley, *Brit. Rom.*, pp. 192, n. 62, 311:—

- (1) DAE FORTVNAE
VIRIVS LVPVS
LEG · AVG PR · PR ·
BALINEVM VI
IGNIS EXVST
VM · COH · I · THR
ACVM REST
ITVIT · CVRAN
TE · VAL · FRON
TONE PRAEF
EQ · ALAE VETTO ·

Deæ Fortunæ Virius Lupus Legatus Augusti Pro Prætore balineum vi ignis exustum Cohors prima Thracum restituit curante Valerio Frontone Præfecto Equitum Alæ Vettonum.