

conquest. The towns and military stations were numerous. The commerce of Britain was considerable, especially in corn, which was, indeed, so large that the island was called the Northern Granary of the Empire. Cattle, horses, dogs, tin, lead, iron, the precious metals, pearls and oysters were also exported and exchanged for the manufactures of Italy, and for the products and luxuries of other countries.

9. Christianity was introduced into Britain at an early period. Its progress at first was slow, but finally it became the religion of the country.

10. The Saxon conquest of England which we shall next relate, destroyed almost every vestige of Roman civilization. It is probable, indeed, that the great military roads which, stretching through the country from north to south, and from east to west, served as means of communication for many succeeding ages, and the clearing of the lands for the purposes of agriculture, were the only permanent results of the possession of Britain by the Romans. With these exceptions, the religion, literature, language, laws, and institutions of that great people, their public and private edifices, all vanished like a dream.

Questions on Chapter First.

1. When does the authentic history of Britain begin ?
What Roman general invaded Britain ?
In what year and how was he received ?
Did the Romans at this time remain in Britain ?