

Polybius refers to them in his history of the relations between Rome and Carthage. In one passage he makes a Celtic chief act as interpreter between the Carthaginians and his own people. In another he says that a Gaul, Anbaritus, had learned to speak Punic so well that the Carthaginians found no difficulty in understanding him. Livy (xxvii 43) states that a letter from Hasdrubal to Hannibal, which had been despatched through certain Gaulish and Numidian horsemen, had been intercepted near Metapontum and brought to Quintus Claudius, the *propraetor*, who had it read to him by an interpreter—the captives being also questioned as to its contents. Caesar, (i. 19) in describing his private interview with Divitiacus, uses an expression which makes it plain that the interpreter was an official of primary importance on his campaigns (*quotidianis interpretibus remotis*.) Cicero, in his treatise on Divination (*De Divinatione*, ii, 64) compares the obscurity of so-called revelations from the Gods to the use of their own tongue in the Roman Senate by Carthaginians or Spaniards without an interpreter; and in the *De Finibus* (v. 29) he uses the same illustration in deriding the wordy darkness of certain philosophers. "As in the Senate," he says, "there is always some one who asks to speak through an interpreter, so we require an interpreter in listening to them." Under the Empire the interpreter was still more necessary. He continued to be, in the western half of it, a person of prominent usefulness until the inrush of the Barbarians. The story of Vigilus, the would-be assassin, of Attila, so dramatically told by Gibbon, shows that he was still a man of influence for good or evil when the spirit and the power of Imperial Rome were in the last stages of decay. In the Eastern Empire and in the realms beyond and in the states that rose upon the ruins of Rome his functions were exercised as actively as ever, while the preaching of Christianity to the nations of the world added to his consequence and dignity. The story of his labors as a missionary, or the companion