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The Knight-Errant.

Everyone has read the fascinating tales connected with King Arthur of Britain and his Knights.

It is interesting in the extreme to know how these Arthurian heroes and others of their class originated.

Most of our readers must know that for nearly five hundred years Great Britain formed part of the Roman Empire, but in the year 410, or thereabouts, the capital city of the Empire itself was attacked by hordes of savages from the northern part of Europe, and, in order to protect the heart of the Empire, it was necessary to call in the forces from the outlying provinces, among which was the island of Great Britain.

As soon as the Roman legions were withdrawn from this far outlying section of the Empire, immediately the inhabitants became the prey of savage invaders and of ambitious chiefs from among the Britons themselves, all striving for the mastery of the island. Chaos followed. There were many, however, who had been educated under the Roman discipline who felt the peril in which the country was placed. No man's property was safe; no man's life was safe; nor was the virtue of woman. These lawless conditions led to what we term knight-errantry. Many noble men well versed in arms, seeing the peril to which the citizens of the country were exposed, consecrated their lives to the defense of the innocent

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