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NOTES ON LATIN INSCRIPTIONS FOUND IN BRITAIN.

PART XII.—THE GOVERNORS OF ROMAN BRITAIN.

BY THE REV. JOHN M^cCAUL, LL.D.,
PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, TORONTO, ETC.

75. THE succession of the Imperial Legates is so important an element in fixing the chronology of the Roman period in British history, that an accurate discussion of the subject cannot fail to be useful; especially as, so far as I am aware, no correct list has yet been published. Such an examination, then, with reference not merely to historic, but also to epigraphic records, will form the subject of the present communication.

Before entering into particulars, it may be advantageous to take a general view of the government of Roman Britain.

For the first three centuries, from the time of Claudius to that of Constantine, the Governor of the island was *Legatus Augusti Pro Prætoris*, and also *Consularis*. To him was confided the civil and military administration of the Province. The next in authority, under him, was the *Procurator*, the fiscal agent of the Emperor; and, in the absence of both, the government was administered, for the time, by the *Legati Legionum*. See Tacitus, *Hist.* i., 60.