



INTRODUCTION.

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I.—LIFE OF CÆSAR.

At the time of Cæsar's birth Rome had become mistress of all the lands bordering on the Mediterranean, so that foreign wars of conquest had virtually ceased, and during his boyhood commenced that struggle for supremacy in the State called the civil wars. This was at first a contest between the aristocratic and the popular party, but, as time went on, it became practically a struggle between individuals for personal supremacy. Caius Julius Cæsar was born in 100 B.C. (or, as the historian