

did not borrow from him; and in *Giraldus Cambrensis*¹, who though he condemns the *British* history published by *Monmouth*, yet in the same breath asserts the story of *Brute*; and which is still more to the purpose, from the authority of *Saxon* writers, whose testimony, in this case, is of unquestioned credit. As to the objection, that foreign writers knew nothing of this, it may in some measure be removed, by observing that, as they give very bad accounts of their own original, we need not either wonder at, or regret, their giving none of ours. Besides this, *Ammianus*^m takes notice, that part of the flying *Trojans* landed in *Gaul*, whence, our antient history says, they came hither. If so, then they possessed this island in right of their naval power; which dominion, as it began in them, so it shall be our principal business to shew it has by their posterity never been since lost.

ONE of the most early exploits after this, was that of king *Belinus*ⁿ, who is said to have taken the king of *Denmark* prisoner, and to have obliged him to become tributary. Afterwards, † passing with his brother *Brennus* into *Gaul*, they with the joint forces of that country, and their own, invaded *Italy*, and sacked *Rome*; ‡ after which, *Belinus* returned home, and reigned here with great glory. That this story is liable to some exceptions must be owned; and, indeed, what history of so great antiquity is not? but that it is not altogether improbable, appears from hence; that *Pausanias*^o, a learned *Greek* author, speaking of the expedition of the *Gauls* under *Brennus* into *Greece*, says, that they called their order of drawing up squadrons of horse, three

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¹ *Cambria Descriptio*, cap. 7. apud Camden. Angl. Norman. &c. ^m Hist. lib. xv. ⁿ Gal. Mon. Hist. Brit. lib. iii. cap. 2. Alured. Beverl. lib. i. p. 16. Vit. Hist. lib. iii. † A. A. C. 388. ‡ A. A. C. 387. ^o Lib. x.