

The dates, given by the Reviewer, were, I believe, those "usually accepted," and are still received by some. Under ordinary circumstances, then, I should not have impugned their accuracy, but the object of my book being to correct received opinions, if they seemed to me to be unsatisfactory, I felt bound to notice them as in my judgment erroneous, especially as they seemed to be advanced as an emendation of those previously given in the *Monumenta Historica Britannica*.

I shall now give the grounds of my opinion. The question is whether the date of the inscription, as given above, is 253-259 A.D. or 254-260 A.D. The former is selected by the Reviewer, the latter by me. My reason for adopting 260 instead of 259 is, that it appears from mention of the name of the Cæsar Valerian (*i.e.* Saloninus) in the Code of Justinian, iv. 6, 4; v. 42, 2; and x. 16, 2, that he was alive when the first two of those laws were given, *scil.* on the 27th of April and the 15th of May, in the consulship of *Sæcularis* ii. and *Donatus*, *i.e.* 260 A.D. It is true that he is not mentioned in all the laws of this year, but neither is he in all of the preceding years, when he was unquestionably alive. As to the choice between 253 and 254, I preferred the latter, on the authority of Aurelius Victor, *de Cæsaribus*, c. 32; *Licinio Valeriano imperium deferunt*. * * *Ejus filium Gallienum Senatus Cæsarem creat, statimque Tiberis adulta ætate diluvii facie inundavit*. What summer is that mentioned here? Certainly not of a year before the death of the *Galli*. Now we have unquestionable evidence that they were not slain until their fourth tribunician year, and, as their first year cannot have commenced before the death of Decius, who was killed in 251, their death and the recognition of Gallienus by the senate cannot have taken place before 254. I do not question the assertion that Valerian assumed the imperial title and made Gallienus

* As much confusion exists relative to this period of history, I subjoin an extract of the principal events of the years 251, 252, 253, and 254, that I drew up for my own use after a careful examination of all the ancient and the chief modern authorities.

251. Death of Decius in November. Accession of Gallus and Hostilianus, with Volusianus as Cæsar.

252. Death of Hostilianus in the autumn or winter, after the beginning of the pestilence.

253. Assumption of the Imperial power by Æmilianus in the summer, about the end of July. Valerian proclaimed Augustus by the army in the winter, about the time of the entrance of Æmilianus into Italy.

254. Deaths of the Galli (*scil.* Trebonianus and Volusianus) at Interamnæ, in February, and accession of Æmilianus. Death of Æmilianus in May, and recognition of Gallienus by the senate, in June. Valerian and Gallienus are substituted as Consuls for those who commenced the year.