

duty of executioners. Then he became successively a *tabularius* and *cubicularius*, from which he was raised to the office of *procurator*. Subsequently to his serving in England, he accompanied Caracalla in his Parthian expedition as colleague of Macrinus the *præfectus prætorio*, and was, I suspect, privy to the murder of the Emperor. After that, he was despatched by Macrinus to Rome, *ad funus Caracalli ducendum* as Reimar states in his note, but in reality to get rid of his pretensions as a rival aspirant to the imperial throne, for Adventus did not scruple to tell the soldiers, after the death of Caracalla, that the sovereignty properly devolved on him as the senior of Macrinus, but that in consideration of his advanced age he would give place to his junior. After his return to Rome he was in great favor with Macrinus, who elevated him to the rank of Senator, and to the office of *Præfectus Urbis*, a remarkable elevation, not only with a view to his antecedents, but also because at the time he was not of consular rank. Then he became consul with Macrinus, and after the death of that Emperor, in June 218, finished his year as colleague of Elagabalus.

Dio Cassus speaks of him very contemptuously, and derides his want of qualifications for the high positions to which he had attained, but his career proves that he must have been a man of very uncommon ability.

This inscription confirms the accuracy of the historian as to his having held the office of *procurator* and disproves the conjecture of Reimar, that he had been *procurator rei privatae*. I have already mentioned Henzen's conjecture as to O P F S; it is very ingenious, but must, I think, be rejected on the ground, that there is no authority for the application of any one of the designations, *miliaria*, *pia*, *fidelis*, or *Severiana* to the first cohort of the Vangiones. I interpret the letters O P F S as the abbreviation of *operibus perfectis*, or *factis*,\*—i.e., having executed or completed the works. We have a similar form of expression in Gruter, exc. n. 4: OPERIBUS AMPLIATIS RESTITVIT; and also in Morcelli, vol. ii. pp. 129 and 134. I am inclined to venture on the following restoration :

---

\* It is scarcely necessary to add, that there are examples of O and O P for *opus*, and of P F and F for *perfectit* and *fecit* respectively.