

(2)

IM · SEVERVS  
 AVG · ET ANTONINVS  
 CAES · DESTINATVS  
 RESTITVERVNT · CV  
 RANTE VIRIO LVPO  
 LEG · EORVM PR · PR ·

*Imperator Severus Augustus et Antoninus Cæsar Destinatus restituerunt curante Virio Lupo Legato eorum Pro Prælore.*

It is not easy to determine satisfactorily the dates of these inscriptions; indeed, the correctness of the readings seems doubtful. The date suggested for the second, by Henzen, is "A.D. 195," with a query, and by the *Ed. Mon. Hist. Brit.*, "Cir. A.D. 197;" but neither of these is satisfactory. We know from Spartian, *Sever.*, c. 10, that Caracalla was appointed Cæsar, with the name *Antoninus*, whilst Severus was on his way to attack Albinus; and this appointment is proved by coins and laws to have taken place in A.D. 196, not at the beginning of it, for Severus was in Mesopotamia at the commencement of the year, from which he returned to Rome, previously to setting out against Albinus; and, besides, the earliest law which we have of Severus and Antoninus, of this year, is dated June 30. Severus had already set out, as we learn from Herodian, iii., c. 20, before Albinus crossed over to Gaul. It was, as I think, at this time, about April or May, 196, whilst Caracalla was yet *Antoninus\* Cæsar destinatus*, that Virius Lupus was sent to occupy the island vacated by Albinus; and, accordingly, we may infer that shortly after his arrival he directed the work commemorated by this inscription. If LEG · AVG ·, in the first inscription, be correct, the date must be either 196 or 197, for Caracalla was *Augustus* in 198; but I suspect that the true reading is AVGG.

### III.—DURING THE THIRD CENTURY.

It is not known how long Virius Lupus held the government; *Lucius Alfenus Senecio*, mentioned in several inscriptions found in Britain, and in one found at Naples, Orelli, n. 4405, was, probably, his immediate successor. The following inscription, found at Risingham, Northumberland, and printed, *Archæol. Æliana*, N. S. i., p. 230, *Mon. Hist. Brit.*, n. 192 a., is of the date A.D. 205–207:—

\* And yet see a fragment of the *Pontifical Fasti*, Gruter, p. ccc.; Clinton, *Fasti Romani*, p. 200; Eckhel, vii., p. 199.