

of Anglesea. Agricola carried the arms of Rome to the foot of the Grampians, and there met and defeated, after a stubborn resistance, the Caledonians, under their principal chief, Calgacus. Though he overran the country, and though his fleet sailed through the Moray and Pentland Friths, and coasted along the western shores of Scotland and England, partly for geographical purposes, but chiefly to overawe the natives, Agricola had to content himself with the southern part of Scotland, and secured it by a line of forts and a rampart extending from the Clyde to the Forth. Under his beneficent and conciliatory rule (78-85) more was accomplished in consolidating the Roman power and winning the confidence of the Britons than by any of his predecessors.

The northern frontier appears to have been, even at that early time, the most uncertain of all the possessions of the masters of the southern part of the island. When Hadrian visited the country, and had personally inspected the region between the Tyne and the Forth, he determined, with his accustomed moderation, to abandon it to the Caledonians and protect his northern border by a line of defences reaching from the mouth of the Tyne to the Solway; and although there was a departure from this moderate policy during the reign of Antoninus Pius, when the boundary of Agricola was resumed, the duty of maintaining so distant a frontier in the neighborhood of enemies so warlike, watchful and irrepressible as the Caledonians, and which required for its performance so many of the best troops of the empire, was considered by the emperor, Severus, as too costly and hazardous. He withdrew to the line selected by Hadrian, and erected a series of permanent forts, connected by walls, which remained till the downfall of the empire, the bulwark of Roman Britain. That it was not an effectual defence is evident from the fact that, in the time of Valentine I., the turbulent tribes of the north, taking advantage of the weakness of the garrison, broke through it and penetrated as far as London, where they were met and defeated by Theodosius.

In the map which has already been drawn, I would now mark off as accurately as possible the provinces into which Britain was divided by the Romans: *Britannia Prima*, *Britannia Secunda*, *Flavia Caesariensis*, *Maxima Caesariensis*, *Valentia*; the lines of the Roman walls and the chief Roman towns: *Londinium*, *Verulamium*, *Camulodunum*, *Deva*, *Eboracum* and *Isca Silurum*.

The condition of the conquered and subject Britons can be readily ascertained from their utter helplessness when the protection of the Roman legions was withdrawn. They were encouraged by their masters

to cultivate the arts of peace, but they were precluded from serving in the army in their own country. The best of their youth were drafted off to fight the Roman battles in other lands, and there they distinguished themselves, but never returned. The Romans were the privileged class; they held all the important civil offices; generally enjoyed exemption from taxes; were favored in the administration of the laws, and treated the Britons with haughtiness and cruelty. Latin, being the language of the conqueror, was used in all legal proceedings, and any Briton who hoped for justice, or preferment to one of the minor civil positions, had to acquire a knowledge of it. The chiefs and wealthy Britons were encouraged in their desire to adopt the luxurious habits and vices of the conqueror, and soon, from this class at any rate, the last vestige of national sentiment and public spirit disappeared with their ancient language and traditional simplicity of life. In Wales, Cornwall, and the parts of the country farthest removed from the Roman colonies and municipal and other towns, the language of Britain was still spoken, but centuries of oppression and misery had reduced them to a condition of wretchedness and despair.

Wherever the Roman held sway, he left behind him abundant evidence of his presence. From the foot of the Grampians to Land's End many camps can be pointed out, and some of them wonderfully complete. Roman roads are being constantly laid bare, Roman villas covered by the accumulated rubbish of many centuries, and in a good state of preservation, have been restored to the light; Roman baths, and even Roman towns, such as at Silchester, have afforded rich materials to the students of classical antiquities. The many towns that end in *-chester* (*castra*), and the Roman features still marked in the countenances of the people in certain districts of England, also bear testimony to the lasting impression left in the country by that masterful people.

The whole of this subject can be overtaken in three lessons. The first embraces Caesar's invasions and the account of the condition of the Britons when the Romans first came into collision with them; the second comprises the summary of the history of the conquest and occupation; the third consists of what we know of the influence exerted by the Romans upon the Britons; the social condition of the subject race the confusion, helplessness and disasters which followed upon the departure of the Romans, and the remains which still exist as evidences of their residence in Britain.

Seventy graduates and ex-cadets of the military college, Kingston, have secured commissions in the imperial army since 1880.