

GOORKAS.

GOORKAS, OR GURKHAS, OR GHOR-KAS, The. See INDIA: THE ABORIGINAL INHABITANTS; and A. D. 1805-1816.

GOOROO, OR GURU. See SIKHS.

GORDIAN I. and II., Roman Emperors, A. D. 238..... **Gordian III., Roman Emperor,** A. D. 238-244.

GORDIAN KNOT, Cutting the.—"It was about February or March 333 B. C., when Alexander reached Gordium; where he appears to have halted for some time, giving to the troops which had been with him in Pisdia a repose doubtless needful. While at Gordium, he performed the memorable exploit familiarly known as the cutting of the Gordian knot. There was preserved in the citadel an ancient waggon of rude structure, said by the legend to have once belonged to the peasant Gordius and his son Midas—the primitive rustic kings of Phrygia, designated as such by the Gods and chosen by the people. The cord (composed of fibres from the bark of the cornel tree), attaching the yoke of this waggon to the pole, was so twisted and entangled as to form a knot of singular complexity, which no one had ever been able to untie. An oracle had pronounced, that to the person who should untie it the empire of Asia was destined. . . . Alexander, on inspecting the knot, was as much perplexed as others had been before him, until at length, in a fit of impatience, he drew his sword and severed the cord in two. By everyone this was accepted as a solution of the problem."—G. Grote, *Hist. of Greece*, pt. 2, ch. 93.

GORDON, General Charles George, in China. See CHINA: A. D. 1850-1864. . . . **In the Soudan.** See EGYPT: A. D. 1870-1883, and 1884-1885.

GORDON RIOTS, The. See ENGLAND: A. D. 1778-1780.

GORDYENE, OR CORDYENE, OR CORDUENE.—The tribes of the Carduchi which anciently occupied the region of northern Mesopotamia, east of the Tigris, have given their name permanently to the country, but in variously modified forms. In the Greek and Roman period it was known as Gordyene, Cordyene, Corduene; at the present day it is Kurdistan. Under the Parthian domination in Asia, Gordyene was a tributary kingdom. In the early part of the last century B. C. it was conquered by Tigranes, king of Armenia, who chose a site within it for building his vast new capital, Tigranocerta, to populate which twelve Greek cities were stripped of inhabitants. It was included among the conquests of Trajan for the Romans, but relinquished by Hadrian.—G. Rawlinson, *Sixth Great Oriental Monarchy*, ch. 10, and after.—See, also, CARDUCHI, THE.

GORGES, Sir Ferdinando, and the colonization of Maine. See NEW ENGLAND: A. D. 1621-1631, and 1635; also MAINE: A. D. 1639.

GORM, King of Denmark, A. D. 883-941.

GOROSZLO, Battle of (1601). See BALKAN AND DANUBIAN STATES: 14TH-18TH CENTURIES (ROUMANIA, &c.).

GORTYN. See CRETE.

GOSHEN, Land of. See JEWS: THE ROUTE OF THE EXODUS.

GOSNOLD'S VOYAGE TO NEW ENGLAND. See AMERICA: A. D. 1602-1605.

GOSPORT NAVY YARD, Abandonment and destruction of the. See UNITED STATES OF AM: A. D. 1861 (APRIL).

GOTHS.

GOTHA, Origin of the Dukedom of. See SAXONY: A. D. 1180-1553.

GOTHI MINORES, The. See GOTHS: A. D. 341-381.

GOTHIA, in central Europe. See GOTHS (VISTOOTHs): A. D. 376.

GOTHIA, in Gaul.—Septimania, the strip of land along the Mediterranean between the Pyrenees and the Rhone, was the last possession of the Goths in Gaul, and the name Gothia became for a time attached to it.—E. A. Freeman, *Hist. Geog. of Europe*, ch. 5, sect. 5.—See GOTHS (VISTOOTHs): A. D. 419-451.

GOTHINI, The.—The Gotini or Gothini were a people of ancient Germany who "are probably to be placed in Silesia, about Breslau." "The Gotini and Osi [who held a part of modern Galicia, under the Carpathian mountains] are proved by their respective Gallic and Pannonian tongues, as well as by the fact of their enduring tribute, not to be Germans. . . . The Gotini, to complete their degradation, actually work iron mines."—Tacitus, *Minor Works*, trans. by Church and Brodribb: *The Germany, with geog. notes*.

GOTHLAND IN SWEDEN. See GOTHS: ORIGIN OF THE.

GOTHONES, The.—A tribe in ancient Germany, mentioned by Tacitus. They "probably dwelt on either side of the Vistula, the Baltic being their northern boundary. Consequently, their settlements would coincide with portions of Pomerania and Prussia. Dr. Latham thinks they were identical with the Estli."—Church and Brodribb, *Geog. Notes to the Germany of Tacitus*.—See GOTHS, ORIGIN OF THE.

GOTHS, Origin of the.—"The Scandinavian origin of the Goths has given rise to much discussion, and has been dealt by several eminent modern scholars. The only reasons in favor of their Scandinavian origin are the testimony of Jornandes and the existence of the name of Gothland in Sweden; but the testimony of Jornandes contains at the best only the tradition of the people respecting their origin, which is never of much value; and the mere fact of the existence of the name of Gothland in Sweden is not sufficient to prove that this country was the original abode of the people. When the Romans first saw the Goths, in the reign of Caracalla, they dwelt in the land of the Getæ [on the northern side of the lower Danube]. Hence Jornandes, Procopius, and many other writers, both ancient and modern, supposed the Goths to be the same as the Getæ of the earlier historians. But the latter writers always regarded the Getæ as Thracians; and if their opinion was correct, they could have had no connection with the Goths. Still, it is a startling fact that a nation called Gothi should have emigrated from Germany, and settled accidentally in the country of a people with a name so like their own as that of Getæ. This may have happened by accident, but certainly all the probabilities are against it. Two hypotheses have been brought forward in modern times to meet this difficulty. One is that of Grimm, in his *History of the German Language*, who supposes that there was no migration of the Goths at all, that they were on the Lower Danube from the beginning, and that they were known to the earlier Greek and Latin writers as Getæ; but the great objection to this opinion is the general belief of the earlier writers that the Getæ