

The points obviously open to objection, in these readings and expansions, are *Gneium Lucilianum*, in n. xi., and *Cohortis primæ legionis Gordianæ* in both. Instead of "*Gneium*," we should read *Egnatium*, as proposed by Mr. Ward, and established by an inscription on an altar found at High Rochester (*Bremenium*), (Bruce, *Roman Wall*, p. 457), in which the name of *Lucilianus* is given as EGNAT. In the rendering *cohortis primæ legionis Gordianæ*, the absence of the number of the legion at once suggests doubt, and this is strengthened by the consideration that there is no evidence that any legion, known to have been in Britain, bore the title *Gordiana*.

As to Mr. Gale's conjecture, that the "legion here called *Gordiana* was the *legio sexta victrix*," there is no other ground for it than that "the stated quarters [of that legion] were at York whilst the other legions had theirs at a much greater distance." Mr. Smith (*Collect. Antiq.* iv. p. 142) with equally little reason, refers the inscriptions to "the twentieth legion, apparently the *legio Gordiana*."

An examination of the words preceding *legionis Gordianæ*, scil. *præfectus cohortis*, suggests fresh doubt, for there is no authority for a *præfect* of a legionary cohort, whilst the term is the usual designation of the commander of an auxiliary cohort. Moreover, the order of the words—*cohortis legionis*, and not *legionis cohortis*—is so unusual, if not unprecedented, as in itself to cause dissatisfaction. Influenced, probably, by these considerations, Henzen, n. 6626, rejects the expansion, *legionis Gordianæ*, although accepted by Orelli, n. 975, and suggests *Ligurum*, or *Ligurum Gordianæ*; but neither of these readings appears to me probable.

I interpret COH · I · L · GOR · as *cohortis primæ Lingonum** *Gordianæ*. We know that there were three, probably four, cohorts of the Lingones in Britain. Trajan's† *tabulæ* inform us that the fourth‡ was

* I do not recollect having seen a similar use of the first letter of the ethnic name of a cohort; but in this case no confusion could arise, for, so far as we have evidence, there was no other corps, that served in Britain, whose initial letter was L.

† Mr. Wright (*Celt, Roman, and Saxon*, pp. 362, 363), through some strange inadvertence remarks on these *tabulæ*—"They are all decrees of the Emperor Trajan;" and, again speaking of the inscription found at Malpas,—*"The date of this record is fixed by its internal evidence to the 20th day of January, A.D. 103. The other similar monuments found in Britain are all of the same year."*

‡ It appears that there is a difference in the number of the cohort between the outer and inner inscriptions of this diploma. The latter, it is stated, gives LIII and the former III. It is not easy to decide which is the correct number. Gazzera, Henzen, and Böcking prefer III.