

ROMAN PERIOD.

55 B.C. to 410 A.D.—465 years.

Leading Features: THE DAWN OF CIVILIZATION, AND THE INTRODUCTION OF CHRISTIANITY.

CHAPTER I.

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| Julius Cæsar lands. | Boadicea. | Christianity introduced. |
| His return. | Agricola. | Withdrawal of the Romans. |
| Intentions of Augustus and Caligula. | Roman walls. | Scotland and Ireland during Roman period. |
| Lieutenants of Claudius. | Severus. | Roman roads and towns. |
| Caractacus. | Roman divison of Britain. | |
| | Canrausius and Allectus. | |

JULIUS CÆSAR, having subdued the tribes of Gaul, desired to add Britain to his conquests. He had left a legion under Publius Crassus to guard the Venetic Isles, the group of which Belle-isle is chief; and from the soldiers he learned the course, long and carefully kept a secret, by which the Gallic merchants reached the coast of Britain. The valuable pearl fisheries, and the mineral wealth of the island, were inducements additional to the glory which he expected to reap. He first called together a number of Gallic merchants, but could learn nothing of value from them; then, having sent an officer with a ship of war to reconnoitre, he crossed the Strait of Dover, called in Latin 'Fretum Oceani,' with 80 ships, having on board two legions, or 12,000 troops. He found the high, white cliffs of Kent studded with bands of Britons, and had much difficulty in landing; however, the eagle-bearer of the tenth legion led the way, and Roman discipline prevailed. Four days after, a storm shattered the fleet; and Cæsar, having repaired his vessels, thought it best to return to Gaul. He had been absent seventeen days.

Next summer he landed on the Kentish shore with five legions, comprising 30,000 foot and 2000 horse. The British tribes had united their forces, and were led by Cassivelaun-