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C. J. CÆSAR'S  
COMMENTARY  
OF HIS  
WAR IN GAUL.

THE FIRST BOOK.

Gaul described: Invaded by the Swiss; who are worsted by Caesar in two battles: his war with Ariovistus: the Germans driven out of Gaul.

CHAP. I.

**G**AUL is divided into three parts, each inhabited by people of different language, laws, and customs, the Belgæ, Aquitains, and Celtæ, as they call themselves, but we the Gauls. The last of these are divided from the Aquitains by the river Garonne; and by the Maern and Seine from the Belgæ, the most warlike people of the three, as they are the greatest strangers to the politeness of the province, hold little commerce with merchants who import such commodities as minister to luxury, and are situated next the Germans beyond the Rhine, with whom they are perpetually at war. For which reason, the Swiss likewise are more hardy than the Gauls, because they and their German neighbours are in a continued state of hostility, each of them striving to encroach on the other's dominions. The territories of the Gauls, commencing at the

Gaul divided ed. But this relates only to Gallia Comata.

B river

WAR IN river Rhosne, are bounded by the Garonne, the ocean,  
 GAUL. and the Belgæ, and inclining northward, extend through  
 Franche-comte and the Swifs to the Rhine. Belgia, which  
 lies north-east, adjoining to the farther confines of  
 Gaul, reaches as far as the lower Rhine; and Aquitania  
 or Gaicony, spreading between the Garonne and Pyrenees,  
 bounds north-west upon the Spanish ocean.

Orgetorix  
 persuades  
 the Swifs to  
 invade  
 Gaul.

2. During the consulate of M. Messala and M. Piso, Orgetorix, the most considerable man among the Swifs, as well for birth as riches, being prompted by ambition, engaged the nobility in his interest, and persuaded the people to quit the country in an entire body; by assuring them, that they, who so far exceeded all other nations in valour, might without much difficulty make themselves masters of Gaul; which they were the more easily induced to, by the closeness of their own dominions, divided on one side by the Rhine, a broad and deep river, from the Germans; on another by the inaccessible mountains of St. Claud from Franche-comte; and on the third by the lake of Geneva and the river Rhosne from our province. Being thus enclosed, they wanted opportunities of enlarging their territories, or invading their neighbours; nor was it a little irksome to a numerous and war-like people, to see themselves confined within such narrow limits, as those of a country extending but 240 miles in length, and 180 in breadth.

3. These circumstances, so luckily concurring with the authority of Orgetorix, had that effect, that the people unanimously resolved to prepare for the expedition; whereupon they bought up considerable numbers of waggons and beasts for carriage, tilled their ground, that they might have plenty of corn in their journey, and made a peace with all their neighbours: two years time they thought sufficient to complete their preparations, and obliged themselves, by a law, to begin their march the third.

## CHAPTER II.

Orgetorix  
 is deputed  
 ambassador  
 to the  
 neighbouring  
 states.

THE management of this important design was committed to the sole conduct of Orgetorix, whom they deputed their ambassador to the neighbouring states. He persuaded Calpurn, the son of Catamantales of Franche-comte, where he had reigned many years, and been honoured by the senate and people of Rome with the name of friend, to take upon him the sovereignty of that state, which his father formerly enjoyed; the same  
 advice

advice he gave to the brother of Divitiacus, Dumnorix of WAR IN Autun, a man of the best interest in that province, to GAUL. whom he married his daughter; he demonstrated how easily they might compass their design; and promised, so soon as he had conquered Gaul with his Swifs, whose subjection he was already assured of, to settle each of them in a kingdom there by the assistance of his forces; whereupon they entered into a league, promising themselves the entire possession of Gaul, by the mutual assistance of three such potent nations.

4. The Swifs having notice of this ambitious view of Orgetorix, according to their usual custom, arrested him, that he might be brought to a trial; and had sentence been passed upon him, he must have been burnt alive: but he took care by the day appointed to have all his relations, freinds, clients, and debtors, to the number of 10,000 men, ready to rescue him from the hands of justice; which so incensed the people, that they agreed the magistrates should raise the power of the country, and execute the laws by force; but before they could do it, Orgetorix was found dead, not without strong suspicion of having laid violent hands on himself.

Orgetorix, to avoid judgment, kill'd himself.

5 The Swifs, continuing their resolution, notwithstanding his death, pursued their intended journey; and to take away all hopes of return, before they set forward, put fire to their twelve cities, four hundred villages, several private houses, and consumed all the corn, except what each man was allowed to carry out of the country, which was provision only for three months.

The people of Basil, Stulingen, and Lausane resolved to follow their neighbours examples, and set fire to their houses, intending to share the same fortune, carrying along with them the Boii, who, having passed the Rhine, had taken the capital of Bavaria, and seated themselves there.

6. They had only two ways to go out of their country, one through Franche-comte, between the mountain Jura and the river Rhosne, which was so very narrow and difficult, that in some places a cart could hardly pass; where their journey might easily have been stopped by an inconsiderable force, posted on the top of the impending mountains; the other lay through our province, which was much the easier and shorter cut; for the river Rhosne, which runs between the Swifs and Savoyards, a people lately conquered by the Romans, was fordable in several places; besides the bridge at Geneva (which is

WAR IN GAUL. the farthest town the Savoyards have on that side) was theirs; and they doubted not but their neighbours, who seemed to submit with reluctance to the Roman yoke, would readily grant them the liberty of passing through their country; which if denied, they could obtain by force: wherefore having prepared all things for their journey, they appointed the eight and twentieth day of March, in the consulate of L. Piso and A. Gabinius, for their general rendezvous on the banks of the river Rhosne.

### CHAP III.

Cæsar takes post for Gaul.

The Swiss demand a passage through his government,

7. So soon as Cæsar had notice of their design to pass through his government, he immediately left Rome, took post for the further Gaul; and being arrived at Geneva, ordered the bridge to be cut down, and raised a considerable number of fresh forces in all parts of the province, for he had but one legion there. The Swiss being informed of his arrival, sent Numeius and Verodoctius with some other noblemen of the first rank, their embassadors, to desire he would permit them to pass peaceably through his province, for they had no other way to prosecute their journey: but Cæsar remembering how the consul L. Callius lost his life, how his army was put to the rout, and his soldiers forced to pass under the yoke, held it not consistent with the honour of the empire to grant their request; not did he think it possible for so barbarous a people to pass through the country without committing some outrages. However, to gain further time 'till his new levies were completed, he told the embassadors he would consider of their demand, and if they returned on the thirteenth of April following, they should have his answer.

and

8. In the mean time Cæsar, with the veteran legion, and the new levies that came in from all parts of the Province; cast up an intrenchment, raised a wall sixteen foot high, and nineteen miles in length, from the Lake of Geneva, where the Rhosne flows into it. to the banks over against the Mountains of Jura, which divide the people of Franche-comte from the Swiss, and built little forts all along the work in the most commodious places, to prevent their passage in case they should attempt it by storm. At the day appointed, when the deputies returned for their answer, he positively denied their request, saying, "He knew no precedent of the like nature amongst the Romans which could justify his conduct;

and therefore, should they endeavour to force their way, he was obliged to oppose them.”

WAR IN  
GAUL.

## C H A P. IV.

M E E T I N G so unexpected a denial, some endeavoured to ford the river where it was shallowest, whilst others attempted to make a bridge of boats, on which they worked with great application in the night, and sometimes by day; but being warmly received by the soldiers on the other side, and repulsed with darts from the fortifications, finding their design impracticable, they at last desisted.

9. They had now no other way left but that through Franche-comte, which was so narrow they could not pass without leave of the inhabitants, which they could not obtain; wherefore they sent ambassadors to Dumnorix of Autun, to beg his intercession in their behalf. Dumnorix, whose engaging carriage and generosity had gained him the affection of the Franche-comtois, was inclinable enough to serve the Swiss, having married from that country the daughter of Orgetoix; besides, intending to make himself absolute, he was glad of an opportunity to oblige so potent a people, who might hereafter be serviceable to him in his designs: he undertook the business, and succeeded to satisfaction, for the Franche-comtois agreed to let the Swiss pass through their country, upon delivery of mutual hostages, these for their peaceable behaviour, and the other not to interrupt their passage.

10. Cæsar hearing the Swiss designed to march through Franche-comte and the territories of Autun to the confines of Xantonge, not far from Thelouse, which is situated in the Roman province, foresaw what would be the consequence, if so troublesome neighbours, mortal enemies to the people of Rome, once possessed themselves of so open and plentiful a country. Wherefore committing the charge of his new works to his lieutenant T. Labienus, he made the best of his way to Italy, where he raised two legions, and drew three more out of their winter quarters about Aquileia; with which forces he repassed the Alps. In his way to the further Gaul, the inhabitants of Tarentaise, of the valley of Morienne and Ambrun, possessed themselves of the passes, designing to oppose his march; but having often repulsed them, he arrived first at Ocello, in the extremes of the Cisalpine province, next at **Con-**tium, at the entrance into the Transalpine province, and

WAR IN GAUL. in seven days from his first setting out : from thence he carried his army through Savoy to Forest, the next neighbours to the Roman province on the other side the Rhofne.

The Swifs  
lay waste the  
country of  
Autun.

11. In the mean time the Swifs, having passed the streights of Franche-comte, and entered the province of Autun, began to ravage the country, which obliged the people, who were not in a capacity to resist them, to send to Cæsar for assistance, alledging they had never merited so ill from Rome, that she should suffer their fields to be burnt, their children to be made captives, and their towns taken, even in the view of her army : at the same time arrived messengers from the people of Charolais, allies and friends to those of Autun, to complain, that their country was laid waste, and that they were scarce able to defend their towns against the Swifs ; and those of Dauphine likewise, who dwelt on the other side of the Rhofne, fled to Cæsar for protection, assuring him that all their cities were laid even with the ground ; which moved his compassion so much, that he resolved not to wait for the enemy till his allies were ruined, and the Swifs arrived at Xantonge.

Cæsar falls  
upon the  
Swifs when  
three fourths  
had passed  
the river.

12. The waters of the river Soane, which wash the confines of Franche-comte and Autun, flow into the Rhofne so very slowly, that 'tis difficult to distinguish which way they glide. This river the Swifs were crossing on a bridge of boats, when Cæsar, upon his spies bringing him intelligence that all their forces, except a fourth part, had crossed the river, about midnight left his camp, and fell upon the remainder with three legions, whilst they were unprepared and encumbered with their baggage, put a great number of them to the sword, and routed the rest, who fled for shelter to the neighbouring woods. The Swifs were divided into four cantons, and the defeated were the natives of Zurich, who alone, leaving their country, in the memory of our fathers, slew L. Cassius the consul, and made his army pass under the yoke : so whether it were by chance, or the peculiar providence of heaven, that very canton which formerly gave the Romans so fatal a stroke, was the first that felt the weight of vengeance ; nor did Cæsar less gratify his private than the publick revenge in this victory, for L. Piso, grandfather to L. Piso, whose daughter he had married, fell in the battle fought with those of Zurich, when Cassius lost his life.

## C H A P V.

WAR IN  
GAUL.

13. A F T E R this defeat Cæsar threw a bridge cross the Soane, that he might pursue the rest of the enemy ; who understanding he had crossed the river in one day, which they could hardly do in twenty, were so surpris'd and daunted at his approach, that they immediately sent ambassadors to his camp. Their speaker was Divicus, commander in chief at the battle where Cassius was slain ; who being introduced to Cæsar, spoke to this effect : “ That if the Romans concluded a peace with the Swiss, they would submit to march to any place which Cæsar should think fit to assign them ; but if he intended to carry on the war, he would do well to remember the overthrow which the people of Rome formerly received from their valour, and not be puffed up with success, for having surpris'd a small party, whilst the rest of the army could not come to their assistance : for their parts, they had learnt from their ancestors to contend by force, but scorn'd deceit ; and therefore it import'd the Romans to beware, lest the place where they pitched their camp should obtain, to their infinite sorrow, a memorable name from the destruction of their army.”

The Swiss  
and embas-  
sadors to pe-  
tuce a peace.Their  
speech.

14. To this Cæsar answered, “ That he had less reason to hesitate concerning the steps he should take, as those actions the ambassadors mentioned were still fresh in his memory ; that he had the more reason to resent them as they were committed against the Romans without the least provocation, who, if they had been conscious of giving any, might easily have been prepared to defend themselves ; but secure in their innocence, they knew not how to harbour any apprehensions of danger. That if he could persuade himself to forget former injuries, fresh insolences would revive them, their attempting to force a passage through his province, and their sacking Autun, Charolais, and Dauphine : That they boasted with such arrogance of their victory, and prided themselves in their safety, only tended to their ruin ; for the Gods sometimes permit mankind to glory in impunity for a while, that vengeance, being less expected, may fall the heavier : however if they would deliver hostages for the performance of what they propos'd, if they would make the provinces of Autun and Dauphine, with their allies, restitution for the damage they had done them, he was contented there should be a peace.” But Divicus

Cæsar's an-  
swer.

WAR IN replied, " 'Twas not the custom of the Swiss to deliver  
GAUL. hostages, but receive them ;" and so departed.

15. The next day they decamped, and so did Cæsar, sending all his horse before (which he had levied in the Province and the country of Autun, to the number of 4000) to observe the enemy's motions, who following too close, fell in with their rear, and being obliged to engage at a disadvantage, a few of them were killed. The Swiss, encouraged by their success in this rencounter, where they had maintained their ground with five hundred horse against so considerable a number, presumed sometimes to sally from their rear, and skirmish with our van-guard ; but Cæsar restrained his men from fighting, being contented, for the present, to prevent the enemy's plundering the country, and so continued his march fifteen days successively, keeping his van-guard constantly within five or six miles of the enemy's rear.

## CHAP VI.

16. Cæsar in the mean time pressed the people of Autun for the supplies of corn which they had promised ; for Gaul lying northward in a very cold climate, their corn was not ripe, and their pastures scarce afforded forage enough for the horses ; nor could the Romans receive any more provisions by the way of the Soane, for the enemy, whose motions they constantly pursued, had marched directly from that river. The Autunois still putting Cæsar off from time to time, on pretence the corn was coming, 'till the day for delivering out provisions to the army was just arrived, he ordered Divitiacus and Liscus, the chief magistrates (whom they style Vergobret, and create yearly, with power of life and death) with the rest of the noblemen of that country, for he had many of them in his camp, to attend him : these he severely reprimanded, for disappointing him of their contributions at so important a conjuncture, whilst the enemy was so near, when there was no corn in the country, nor any to be procured for money ; adding, he had reason to take it very ill that they should desert him, when, at their request, he engaged in that war for their defence.

17. Whereupon Liscus, moved by Cæsar's speech, ingenuously declared what he had so long kept secret, " That there were some private persons of greater authority amongst the people than they who bore the title

of



of magistrates; that these had seditiously dissuaded them from bringing in their corn, insinuating, that since they could not obtain the empire of Gaul themselves, it was better to be subject to the Gauls than the Romans; for, they might depend upon it, so soon as the Romans had subdued the Swiss, they and their neighbours would be bereft of their liberty: that from these the enemy received constant intelligence of all that passed in the camp; and that he endangered the loss of his life by speaking so freely, which was the reason he had not informed him of it sooner, for the persons he meant were grown too big to be restrained by the laws.”

18. Cæsar perceived by Liscus's speech, that Dumnorix, Divitiacus's brother, was pointed at; but thinking it improper to hold further discourse about an affair of that nature in publick, he immediately dismissed the council, and retaining only Liscus, asked him several questions about the matter, which he answered with an honest freedom; and enquiring further, he found it confirmed from other hands, “That Dumnorix was a man of spirit and enterprize, a mighty favourite of the common people, because of his liberality; that he had for many years farmed the publick taxes of Autun at an under-rate, no man daring to interfere with his interest; by which means he had considerably enriched his private patrimony, found the means to be liberal, and was so rich, that he constantly maintained a great number of horsemen, who waited on him wherever he went: that he was not only powerful at home, but had a considerable interest abroad amongst the neighbouring states, for he had married his mother to the richest nobleman in Berry, had taken a wife for himself from amongst the Swiss, and matched his sister by the mother's side, with the rest of his kindred, into other countries: that for the sake of affinity he was a well-wisher to the Swiss, and hated the Romans, especially Cæsar, because by their arrival in Gaul his authority was eclipsed, and his brother restored to his ancient dignity: that he hoped to obtain the sovereignty by the assistance of the Swiss, in case the Romans should be defeated; whereas their success made him despair not only of a crown, but of keeping the authority he had left.” And Cæsar was further informed, “That when his cavalry was routed, Dumnorix and his party were the first that fled, for to his charge were committed the horse which the people of Autun had sent to Cæsar's assistance, whose


WAR IN  
GAUL.Dumnorix's  
character.

WAR IN whose bad example struck a terror into the rest of the GAUL. soldiers."

19. These suspicions were backed by certain proofs; for Dumnorix was accused by the magistrates, for having procured the Swiss a passage through Franche-comte, on delivery of mutual hostages between them and the people of that country, without the privity or consent either of Cæsar or those of his own nation; wherefore he thought he had sufficient reason either to punish him himself, or cause him to be tried according to the laws of his own country; which he had immediately done but for his brother Divitiacus's sake, a man of singular loyalty, temperance, and justice, who had given constant proofs of his affection to Cæsar and the people of Rome; for which reason, before he made any farther progress, he sent for Divitiacus, and making use of no other interpreter but C. Valerius Procillus, a prince of Gaul, his particular acquaintance, in whom he reposed great confidence, acquainted him what he had heard of his brother, at the general council of the Gauls, and what private confirmation he had of the matter afterwards, desiring that he would either cause him to be tried according to the laws of Autun, or not take it ill, if he himself should inflict that punishment on his crime which he deserved.

Cæsar is intreated by Divitiacus to pardon his brother.

20. Whereupon Divitiacus embracing Cæsar, with tears in his eyes, "intreated him that he would not use his brother severely; for though he knew him to be guilty of all that was laid to his charge, and had more reason to be afflicted at it than any man, because he had employ'd that fortune which he was indebted to him for, in ruining his credit both at home and abroad, yet he could not banish natural affection: besides, the people, knowing what a favourite he was with Cæsar, would attribute Dumnorix's ruin to his advice; which would make him be detested throughout the whole province." Cæsar seeing Divitiacus in so great concern, took him by the hand, and ordered him to dry up his tears, for he had so particular an esteem for him, that for his sake he would forgive the injury his brother had done the commonwealth, and the affront he himself had received. Then sending for Dumnorix, he reprimanded him in the presence of his brother, telling him what crimes he could charge him with from his own knowledge, and what complaints his countrymen had made against him, which, for once, at the re-  
quest

quest of Divitiacus, he pardoned; but bid him take care **WAR IN** how he behaved himself for the future, for he had such spies **GAUL.** upon him as would take notice of his carriage, and whom  he conversed with.

21. The same day, having intelligence that the enemy had lodged themselves under a hill, about eight miles distant from his camp, Cæsar sent out a party to take a view of the ascent, which they reported to be very easy; whereupon he detached his lieutenant T. Labienus about midnight with two legions and able guides, ordering him to gain the top of the hill; and he himself about three hours after, sending the cavalry before, followed the same way with the rest of the army. P. Causidius, an experienced soldier, who had served first under L. Sylla, and afterwards under M. Crassus, was detached with a small party to discover the posture of the enemy.

22, By break of day Causidius was arrived within a mile and a half of the enemy's camp, when Labienus had actually posted himself on the top of the hill, unknown to the enemy, who neither dreamt of his nor Causidius's approach (as we were informed afterwards by the prisoners.) Causidius however came riding back with full speed, to acquaint Cæsar, that the enemy were masters of the place which he ordered Labienus to possess, as he plainly discovered by the Swiss colours; whereupon Cæsar retiring to the next hill, drew his army up in order of battle: Labienus in the mean time having gained the rising ground, waited for our army, in pursuance of the orders given him not to engage the enemy 'till he saw our forces near their camp, that the attack might be made on all sides at once. But afterward, when the day was far spent, Cæsar was informed by his spies, that our soldiers were in possession of the hill, that the enemy had decamped, and that Causidius's fear made him report what he never saw; so he followed the enemy at the usual distance the rest of that day, and encamped within three miles of them at night.

Causidius's  
fear, and  
false report

#### C H A P. VII.

23. T H E next day Cæsar being within eighteen miles of Autun, the capital of that province, and obliged to deliver out provisions to the army within two days after, desisted from attending the enemy's motions, and marched directly to the city; which the Swiss having notice of from some deserters in L. Emilius's troop; whether they imagined the Romans retreated for fear (because they

WAR IN they did not engage them the day before, whilst they  
GAUL. had the advantage of the ground) or whether they hoped  
to cut off all convoys of provision, altering their resolution,  
immediately faced about, and attacked our army in the rear.

The Swiss  
attack the  
Roman rear.

24. Upon this Cæsar sent the horse to cover the foot, and drew up his forces on the next hill: his four veteran legions he disposed into three lines; on the summit of the hill he ranged the two legions of new levies lately arrived from the hither Gaul, with the rest of his auxiliary troops, stretching out his wings so as to cover the whole front of the mountain; and disposed the carriages, which were committed to the charge of the battalions on the top of the mount, into a particular place by themselves: the Swiss did the like by their baggage, and having repulsed the Roman cavalry with a numerous squadron, cast themselves into a phalanx, and attacked our foremost ranks.

### CHAP. VIII.

The armies,  
ranged in or-  
der of bat-  
tle, engage.

25. WHEREUPON Cæsar, to take away all hopes of a retreat, caused all the led-horses to be sent away, setting the first example by his own; then, encouraging his men, began the charge; the Romans casting their pila from the rising ground, soon broke the enemy's phalanx, and then entered with sword in hand.

### CHAP. IX.

THE Swiss, in the mean time, were greatly incumbered by their targets being pierced through and pinned together by the pila, the iron of which, hanging bent, they could neither draw them out, nor make use of their left arms to defend themselves; wherefore, after long fatigue, many of them flung away their targets, and chose to fight unarmed, till fainting with loss of blood, they began to give way, and retreated to a rising ground about a mile distant from the place where the fight commenced. Our legions pursued them to the hill, intending to force them from their post, but 15,000 Boii and Stulingens, the rear and reserve of the army, attacked the Romans in the flank, and began to inclose them as they were in pursuit of the enemy, which the Swiss, who had retired to the hill, perceiving, renewed the fight; whereupon part of the Roman army was obliged to face about, and whilst

two

two legions engaged the Swiss, the third maintained their ground against the Boii and Stulingens. WAR IN GAUL.

26. That battle was hot and dubious for a while, 'till the enemy, no longer able to sustain the furious charge of the Roman legions, one part of them retired again to the top of the hill, whilst the rest retreated to their baggage; for during the whole battle, which continued from one o'clock 'till the evening, no man saw the back of his enemy.

C H A P. X.

T H E enemy maintained the fight very obstinately at their carriages till the night was far spent, and, making use of their carts for a fortification, gauled our forces with their javelins from the rising ground, and with their pikes and halberds through the wheels of their waggons; but after a warm dispute, our soldiers took their baggage, and forced their camp, where a son and daughter of Orgetorix were taken prisoners. About an hundred and thirty thousand of the enemy made their escape, and marching day and night without intermission, arrived the fourth day at the confines of Langres; for the Romans being much wounded and fatigued, and three days being spent in burying the dead, there was no pursuit. The Swiss entirely routed.

But Cæsar took care to acquaint the people of Langres, that if they offered to assist the Swiss with any kind of provisions, he should esteem them his enemies, and treat them as such within three days, for by that time he designed to be there with all his forces.

C H A P. XI.

27. T H E Swiss being thus reduced to the utmost extremity, for want of all kind of provision, sent ambassadors to Cæsar, who, meeting him on the road, prostrated themselves at his feet, and with tears in their eyes, implored peace: he commanded them to wait where they were, without advancing any farther. So soon as he was arrived, he enjoined them to deliver hostages for their behaviour, to surrender their arms, and return the deserters. They send a letter to Cæsar for peace.

Whilst they were preparing to put these articles in execution, about six thousand of the canton of Urbigenus, after fearing they should be executed when they had given

**WAR IN GAUL.** given up their arms, or in hopes of escaping, since so small a number could hardly be missed out of so great a multitude, or at least that their countrymen would conceal their flight, in the beginning of the night left the Swiss camp, making the best of their way to the river Rhine and Germany.

28. But Cæsar being informed what road they had taken, commanded their companions to fetch them back again, unless they designed to be accounted parties in their crime; and upon their return he used them as enemies: but all the rest, after delivery of their arms, hostages, and deserters, he received to mercy, commanding the Swiss, Stulingens, and people of Lausanne, to return again to their own country; and because every thing was desolated there, he ordered the Savoyards to furnish them with what corn they had occasion for, and that themselves should rebuild the cities they had burnt; a necessary precaution, lest the Germans beyond the Rhine should be tempted by the richness of the soil, to invade their country, and make themselves neighbours to the Roman territories in Gaul and Savoy. But the Boii were permitted to dwell within the confines of Autun, at the intercession of that people, who knew them to be a warlike nation, and who not only granted them lands, but admitted them to the rights and privileges of natives.

The Swiss  
war ended.

29. In the enemy's camp was found a Greek list, containing on exact account of the age and sex of all that had left their country, how many were able to bear arms, how many boys, how many old men and women, each in a separate roll by themselves; by which it appeared the whole number of the Swiss amounted to 236,000, of the Stulingens to 36,000, of the people of Lausanne to 14,000, of Basil to 23,000, and of the Boii to 32,000, being in the whole 369,000, whereof 92,000 bore arms; and a review being made, by Cæsar's command, of those that returned to their country, the number amounted to 11,000.

## C H A P. XII.

30. THE war with the Swiss being thus happily concluded, all the states and princes of Gaul sent deputies to congratulate Cæsar on his success, being sensible that it was not only a satisfactory revenge for former injuries he had received, but that it had obtained a peace no less advantageous to Gaul than their own empire, since the Swiss had

had left their country, where they wanted nothing necessary for the support of life, that they might possess themselves of some plentiful part of the continent, and thence have an opportunity of making the other states of Gaul their tributaries. WAR IN  
GAUL.

They likewise desired that Cæsar would permit them, at a certain day prefixed, to summon a general assembly of all the states, having matters of the highest importance by the common consent of them, to lay before him. Having obtained their desire, and the Day appointed being come, they all obliged themselves by oath, not to reveal the cause of their meeting to any persons but such as should be deputed by the general vote of the whole diet.

31. The assembly breaking up, the same deputies returned to Cæsar, and demanded a private audience, that they might impart to him something which concerned their common safety. Being admitted, casting themselves with tears at his feet, “ They were not more urgent that he would grant their petition, than that he would not divulge it: for should any part of it transpire, they would be plunged into the last degree of misery and affliction.” A general  
assembly of  
the princes  
of Gaul.

Divitiacus, who carried the address, acquainted him, “ That Gaul was divided into two potent factions, one headed by the Autunois, the other by those of Auvergne. After long contention for superiority, at last the people of Auvergne and Franche-comte begging assistance of the Germans, received about 15,000 of their troops into pay, who passed the Rhine at their desire, and having tasted the plenty of the soil, and civility of the Gauls, invited more of their countrymen over, till they were increased to the number of 120,000. With these the Autunois had more than once disputed, to their infinite damage, having lost their cavalry, nobility, and senate; by which misfortunes they were so reduced, that they, who, in former days, by their own interest and the favour of the Romans, bore a considerable sway through the greatest part of Gaul, were now forced to deliver the persons of best quality in their country, as hostages for their peaceable behaviour, to those of Franche-comte, to oblige themselves by oath never to demand their restitution, nor to apply to the Romans for aid, or any way attempt a deliverance from this subjection. Himself was the only man of the whole province, who could never be persuaded either to take the oath, or deliver up his children for hostages, and for that reason had been obliged to abandon his country, and implore the assistance of Their ad-  
dress to  
Cæsar.  
the

WAR IN of the Roman senate. Yet the conquerors were in a GAUL. worse condition than the conquered, for Ariovistus, king of the Germans, had seated himself in their country, and already possessed a full third of the choicest land in Gaul; and not content with that, had now commanded the Franche-comtois to deliver up the other third, to be distributed amongst 24,000 natives of Constance, arrived some few months before; wherefore, if speedy remedies were not applied, all the Germans would in a few years cross the Rhine, and drive the Gauls out of their country, allured by the richness of their soil, and manner of living, which far excelled that of Germany.

That their king Ariovistus was so elevated with his success at the battle of Magstet, that he behaved himself with unheard of insolence and tyranny, demanding the children of the nobility for hostages, whom he used very barbarously, if the Gauls did not readily submit to whatever he commanded them; and, in fine, that he was a man of a most passionate and inhuman temper, whose yoke they could no longer endure; therefore, unless Cæsar and the Romans would assist them, they must of necessity be obliged, after the example of the Swiss, to leave their country, that they might be free from the Germans, and seek their fortune in another land; but should their design come to the knowledge of Ariovistus, he would infallibly revenge himself severely on the hostages in his custody: yet, they hoped, if Cæsar would please to interpose in the matter, his credit, the fame of his army, the reputation acquired by his late victory, and the name of the Romans, might prevent the Germans transporting any more colonies into Gaul, and defend them from the tyranny of Ariovistus."

32. Divitiacus having ended his speech, Cæsar observed that all who were present, except the Franche-comtois, with weeping eyes besought his assistance; but these only fixed their eyes upon the ground, with mournful countenances, which made him enquire the reason of it; they continuing silent in the same posture, made him no answer: which he wondered at extremely; 'till Divitiacus of Autun informed him, "That the people of Franche-comte were infinitely more wretched than their neighbours, for they neither durst desire assistance, nor even whisper their grievances, standing as much in awe of Ariovistus's cruelty when absent as present; for whereas the rest might hope to escape by for-  
faking



faking their country, these having admitted the tyrant into WAR IN the heart of their province, having delivered the keys of GAUL. all their cities into his hands, were obliged to submit to whatever hardships he should please to impose upon them.”

## C H A P. XIII.

33. AFTER Cæsar had heard their complaints, he bid them lay aside their fears, promising them he would make their case his particular concern. He had reason to hope, he said, from the favours he had conferred on Ariovistus, that he should prevail on him to desist from any farther injuries. After this he dismissed the council. Many were the inducements which moved Cæsar to undertake their cause: first, he saw the Autunois, who had often been honoured by the senate of Rome with the titles of brethren, cousins, and allies, enslaved by the Germans, and obliged to deliver hostages to Ariovistus, at a time when the Roman empire was in a flourishing condition, a circumstance which he thought derogatory to the honour of it: secondly, he foresaw it would be of dangerous consequence to the Romans, if the Germans, transporting themselves by degrees cross the Rhine, should make themselves masters of the whole continent of Gaul; for he did not suppose so fierce and barbarous a people would be content with that only, but, as the Cimbri and Teutons had done formerly, would force their way through the Province, and thence make irruptions into Italy, especially since Franche-comte was only divided from the Roman territories by the river Rhosne. Besides, Ariovistus was grown too haughty and arrogant to be borne.

Cæsar promises to assist them.

34. To obviate these evils, he thought proper to send Cæsar's ambassadors to him, desiring he would appoint a place of interview, that they might treat of some public affairs of equal importance to them both.

Cæsar sends an embassy to Ariovistus.

## C H A P. XIV.

34. TO this embassy Ariovistus replied, “That if he had any business with Cæsar, he would have waited on him; and if Cæsar had any with Ariovistus, he might give himself the same trouble: for his part he would not venture his person in the Roman dominions without an army, nor did he design to put himself to the trouble and expence of raising one for that purpose. And he wondered extremely

His answer.

WAR IN extremely that Cæsar or the Romans should concern  
GAUL. themselves with those parts of Gaul, which the right of  
conquest had made his inheritance."

A second  
embassage.  
Cæsar's de-  
mands.

35. Upon receipt of this answer, Cæsar sent a second  
embassage to acquaint him, "That since he had so ill re-  
turned the honour done him by the people of Rome (who,  
during his consulate, had vouchsafed him the title of king  
and ally) as to refuse a parley for the publick good, he had  
sent him his demands; which were, first, that he should  
permit no more troops to be transported from Germany  
into Gaul. Secondly, that he should return the hostages  
received from the people of Autun, that he should permit  
the Franche-comtois to do the like, and cease all further  
acts of injustice or hostility against them and their allies;  
on these conditions, Cæsar would engage, in behalf of  
the Romans, that they should receive him into favour, and  
maintain a perpetual friendship with him: but, if he would  
not comply with the terms proposed, Cæsar was obliged,  
by a decree of the senate made during the consulship of  
M. Messala and M. Piso, to revenge the injuries done  
to the people of Autun; for by that decree it was en-  
acted, that all governors of the Province should, for the  
future, as far as might be consistent with the interest of the  
commonwealth, endeavour to defend their friends and  
allies."

Ariovistus's  
reply.

36. To which Ariovistus made answer, "That,  
according to the law of arms, the conqueror had a right of  
governing those he had subdued, as he thought fit; the Ro-  
mans did the same, and if he had not presumed to prescribe  
them rules of government, he knew not why they should  
interfere with his: That the Autunois had undergone the  
decision of war, and by the law of arms were become his  
tributaries: That the Romans had done him injustice,  
since by their arrival his tribute had been ill paid: That  
he would not return their hostages, nor yet should he make  
war upon the Autunois or their allies, provided they ob-  
served their agreement, and paid their tribute yearly; but  
in default of it, they should find the friendship of the Ro-  
mans stand them in little stead. And as for Cæsar, he  
would have him take notice, since he designed to espouse  
their quarrel, no man ever yet contended with Ariovi-  
stus, but to his own destruction; therefore, let him begin  
as soon as he pleased, the Germans were ready to receive  
him, and would let him see what it was to dispute with a  
warlike

warlike nation, who had not for fourteen years lain under any other canopy than that of heaven.”

WAR IN  
GAUL.

## C H A P. XV.

37. AT the same time Cæsar received this answer, embassadors arrived from Autun and Treves; the first to complain, that the new colony from Constance had entered their country with fire and sword and that they could not purchase their peace from Ariovistus by delivery of hostages; the other, to acquaint him, that an hundred cantons of the Suabians were arrived at the river Rhine, in order to pass into Gaul, under the command of two brothers, Nafua and Cimber. Cæsar was much concerned at this news, and thinking it the wisest way to engage Ariovistus before the Suabians had joined him, he provided his army with corn, and followed the Germans with all expedition.

38. After three days march he had intelligence that Ariovistus was gone about three days before to invest Besançon, the capital of Franche-comte.

Besançon was well stored with all sorts of provisions, and so conveniently situated, that he who commanded it might prolong the war at pleasure; for it was encompassed by the river Doux, except about six hundred foot of land, which nature had fortified with a very steep mountain, the basis of which on both sides was washed by the river. This mountain was surrounded by a wall, which forming a citadel, joined it to the town. Cæsar marched with the utmost diligence to the city, and threw a strong garison into it.

39. Here taking up his quarters for a few days, while he laid in fresh provisions, the soldiers were informed by the natives and merchants of the country, that the Germans were men of prodigious stature, invincible courage, and extraordinary knowledge in the art of war, which the Gauls had often experienced to their sorrow; for whenever they engaged them, they could scarce withstand the very lightning of their eyes, and the terror of their countenances. The whole army were strangely frightened at this report, but especially the tribunes, the chief officers, and such raw soldiers as had followed Cæsar from Rome to make a campaign out of a compliment. These were the first that began to deplore their danger, and some of them, pretending extraordinary business, desired he would be pleased

*Besançon described.*  
*The Roman army terrified at the report of the Germans' stature and courage.*

WAR IN to give them their discharge ; even those whom shame re-  
 GAUL. strained, betrayed their fear by their countenances, some-  
 times by their tears, and retiring to their tents, bewailed  
 their destiny alone, whilst others did the like with their  
 comrades ; nay, so far did these terrible apprehensions pre-  
 vail, that wills were seen signing throughout the army. The  
 cowardice of these men by degrees began to infect the ve-  
 teran soldiers, the centurions, and horse-commanders, and  
 they who scorned to discover their apprehensions, declared  
 they were not afraid of the enemy, but of the narrow passes  
 and thick woods which lay between our camp and Ario-  
 vistus ; whilst others pretended to despair of the possibi-  
 lity of receiving provisions ; and some had even the as-  
 surance to tell Cæsar, whenever he should command the  
 soldiers to their arms and march, they would certainly  
 disobey his orders.

#### C H A P. XVI.

Cæsar calls a  
 council of  
 war ; his  
 speech.

40. Cæsar, observing so great a consternation, called a council of war, to which he summoned even the centurions of the lowest rank ; and so soon as the assembly was met, having first severely reprimanded them, “ for presuming to enquire or conjecture whither, and upon what expedition they were going, he told them, that Ariovistus, during his consulate, earnestly courted the friendship of the Roman people, and he knew no reason any man had to suspect that he should, in so short a time, have forgot his duty ; as for his particular, he was persuaded, that if Ariovistus did but know what reasonable proposals he designed to offer him, he would not refuse his friendship and the favour of the common wealth : but supposing he should be so much his own enemy as to make war upon the Romans, what occasion had they to be afraid of him ? what reason had they to suspect their own virtue, or their general’s diligence ? for, should it come to a battle, the enemy they were to engage with, had twice been tried before, first, in the memory of their fathers, when the Teutons and Cimbri were defeated by C. Marius, in which battle the army obtained as much honour as their general : and since that, in Italy, during the rebellion of the slaves, who had the advantage of being skilled in the Roman discipline ; from whence might be inferred what noble actions resolution could accomplish ; for that very enemy they were afraid of whilst unarmed, they after-  
 wards

wards subdued when flushed with victory. In fine, that these Germans were the same the Swiss had worsted in several rencounters, as well in Germany as Swisserland, and yet the Swiss were not able to maintain their ground against the Romans. WAR IN GAUL.

But if any man drew conclusions from the defeat of the Gauls, upon farther enquiry he might be satisfied, that these for many months besieged Ariovistus in his camp, pitched in a fenny country; but at length despairing of a general battle, and being wearied with a tedious war, dispersed themselves; upon which Ariovistus laying hold of the opportunity, subdued them more by policy than courage: but he would find himself in a great error, if he expected to ensnare the Romans, as he had a barbarous and unskilful people. As for those who pretended the cause of their fear was the difficulty of being supplied with provisions, and the danger of the passes; they betrayed extraordinary insolence, in assuming the liberty to direct their general, as if he himself was ignorant of his duty; but they might lay aside their apprenensions: for he had taken care Lorrain and Franche-comte should furnish them with what they wanted; besides, the corn was almost ripe in all the fields they were to pass through; and as for the ways, themselves should quickly be judges of their error.

Nor did the report, that the soldiers would refuse to march, disturb him in the least, for, he was satisfied, no army ever slighted their general's commands, but on account of his ill success, or notorious avarice; neither of which imputations could be charged on him, witness his constant integrity, and his late victory over the Swiss: wherefore he was resolved immediately to execute that, which he once designed to have deferred to a longer time; for the next morning early he would decamp, and try whether shame and duty would not prevail over their cowardise: that he would make the tenth legion his life-guard, whose readiness he did not doubt of; and, if no body else would follow him, with them alone he would go in search of the enemy." For Cæsar had a particular esteem for this legion, in whose courage he placed a singular confidence.

41. This speech wrought so wonderful an alteration on the minds of the whole army, that every man seemed brisk, and desirous of an engagement: nor did the tenth legion forget to return him thanks, by their tribunes, for the good opinion he had of them, assuring him how industrious they would be to deserve it: the rest following

WAR IN their example, by their tribunes and centurions took care  
 GAUL. to inform him, that they never doubted or pretended to  
 form a judgment of the success of that expedition; for they always submitted those things to his wisdom: whereupon Cæsar, having learned from Divitiacus (in whom he confided more than in any of the Gauls) that, taking a circuit of forty miles, he might lead his army through an open campaign country, according to his former resolution, early in the morning began his march.

## C H A P. XVII.

42. THE seventh day after his departure from Besançon, he had intelligence that Ariovistus was about four and twenty miles off; who being informed of Cæsar's arrival, sent ambassadors to let him know, since fortune had brought them so near, provided it might be done without danger, he was willing to accept of an interview. Cæsar readily complied with the offer, hoping Ariovistus was at last returned to himself, since he now desired that of his own accord which he refused before; and that, considering the proposals he designed to make him, he would at length reflect on the many favours he had received from Cæsar and the people of Rome, and no longer so obstinately oppose an accommodation.

The fifth day was appointed for the interview, and in the mean time there passed several messages between them. Ariovistus desired Cæsar would bring no infantry along with him to the treaty, and that each of them should come attended only by their cavalry, to avoid surprize, for otherwise he would not agree to a meeting. Cæsar being unwilling the interview should be put off, and at the same time not daring to confide in the French cavalry, dismounted the Gauls, and gave their horses to his faithful tenth legion, that he might have a guard, if occasion were, on which he could rely: whereupon one of the soldiers of that legion wittily said, "That Cæsar had been better than his word, for he only promised they should be his foot guard, but now he had made them his cavalry."

The inter-  
 view be-  
 tween Cæsar  
 and Ario-  
 vistus.

43. In the midst of a spacious and open plain, between the two armies, was a rising ground, where, according to agreement, the interview was held: the legion which Cæsar had put on horseback, he posted two hundred paces short of the mount, the like did Ariovistus by his cavalry, desiring they might discourse on horseback,  
 each

each bringing only ten persons to the conference. So WAR IN  
soon as they met, Cæsar began to remind him of “the GAUL.  
favours and advantages he had formerly received from him  
and the senate of Rome, who had given him the title of Cæsar's  
king and friend, sending him at the same time considerable speech.  
presents ; honours the Romans conferred but on few, and  
upon those for signal desert, which had notwithstanding  
been bestowed on him by the sole favour of Cæsar, and  
bounty of the senate.” He also laid before him “the an-  
cient and just alliance which had been so sacred between  
the Romans and the people of Autun, and the frequent and  
honourable decrees which had been made by the senate in  
their favour ; that they had from all antiquity held the  
principality of Gaul, even before their alliance with  
Rome ; and it was not usual with the Romans to suffer  
the authority of their friends to be diminished ; but on  
the contrary to endeavour the increase of it. To see them  
lose those native privileges of honour, which they brought  
with them as a dowry to the Roman friendship, was too  
injurious to be borne. In fine, he demanded the same  
conditions which he had formerly offered him by his em-  
bassadors ; that he should never make war on the Autunois  
nor their allies ; that he should return the hostages, and  
if he could not oblige some of his Germans to repass the  
Rhine, at least he should not permit any more to come  
into Gaul.”

44. Ariovistus made little answer to Cæsar's de- Ariovistus's  
mands, but enlarged much on his own virtues ; saying, discourse.  
“ That he had not crossed the Rhine of his own accord,  
but on the invitation of the Gauls ; nor deserted his coun-  
try and relations, but in hopes of a considerable reward for  
his trouble : That the natives had voluntarily allotted him a  
portion of land, delivered hostages, and that tribute was  
his due by the right of conquest : Nor did he make war up-  
on the Gauls before they had given the first occasion,  
whose confederate force he defeated in one single battle ;  
and if they desired a second trial, he was ready to engage  
them again ; but if they expected peace, it was unreason-  
able they should refuse the payment of that tribute which  
they had so long willingly submitted to : That he expected  
the friendship of the Romans would have proved both ho-  
nourable and advantageous to him, for which reason he  
courted it : but if he must purchase it at so dear a rate as  
the loss of his tribute, he should as readily renounce as he  
accepted it.

WAR IN  
GAUL.

That as he had not transported so many Germans into Gaul with a design to subdue the country, but only for his own protection (for he came thither at their request) so neither had he engaged in any war with the natives, but in his own defence; that he was seated in Gaul before the Romans came thither; nor had they ever marched their armies beyond the bounds of their province before that time, and he did not understand what they meant by invading his territories; for he had as good a title to that part of Gaul as the Romans had to their province, who ought not to encroach upon his dominions any more than he on theirs. As for the pretence that the Autunois were by the senate decreed the allies of Rome, he would have Cæsar know, he was not so barbarous and ignorant of the affairs of the world, as not to remark that during the last war with the Savoyards, the Autunois assisted the Romans, who in return helped them against the Franche-comtois; and he had too sufficient reason to suspect that, under the pretence of an alliance with these, the Romans maintained an army in Gaul with a design to ruin him; therefore if they did not immediately quit his dominions, he should no longer esteem them his friends, but his enemies: that he was well assured by letters from Rome, if he had the good fortune to kill Cæsar, he should do several noblemen there a very acceptable piece of service, which they would think themselves infinitely obliged to him for: however, if he would depart without disturbing his peaceable possession, he would not only gratefully reward him for it, but be obliged, at his own proper hazard and expence, to undertake any war which Cæsar should desire."

Cæsar's reply.

45. Cæsar on the other hand, "urged several reasons why he could not desist from his former resolution; first, his own honour; next, the custom of the republic, which never deserted her well deserving allies: Nor could he be persuaded that Ariovistus had a better title to Gaul than the Romans; for Fabius Maximus fairly conquered the people of Auvergne and Rouërgue, whom he might have reduced into a province, and made tributaries to the empire, if he had not thought proper to pardon them: If antiquity is to be our guide, the Gauls owe submission to the Romans; if we follow the judgment of the senate, they enjoy their liberties by the indulgence of the Romans."

The Germans treachery.

46 During this dispute, Cæsar was informed that Ariovillus's cavalry came nearer the mount, and had  
I assaulted



assaulted our men with a volley of stones and darts ; whereupon he immediately broke off the treaty, and retiring to his party, commanded them not to return the enemy's treachery ; for, though he might safely have engaged them with that select legion, he waved it, because the Germans should not pretend he had drawn them into an ambush on pretence of a treaty, contrary to his oath and agreement. So soon as the common soldiers were informed how insolently Ariovistus had behaved himself at the interview ; how he had commanded the Romans to be gone out of Gaul ; how his cavalry had assaulted the tenth legion, and that thereupon the treaty broke off, rage and contempt inspired every man with a greater desire to fight than ever.

WAR IN  
GAUL.

47. About two days after, Ariovistus sent deputies again to Cæsar to desire a second interview, that they might finish their imperfect treaty ; or if he did not approve of that, to send plenipotentiaries to conclude such agreement as they should think fit to consent to : but Cæsar was not inclinable to grant a second meeting, because the Germans had not observed their agreement the time before ; nor did he think it convenient to expose the persons of any of his followers to the infidelity of so inhumane and barbarous a people : wherefore he sent M. Valerius Procillus (the son of C. Valerius Caburius, whom C. Valerius Flaccus had made a freeman of Rome) a polite and honourable youth, whom he pitched upon for his extraordinary integrity, and expertness in the language of the Gauls, which Ariovistus had learned by living so long amongst them, thinking him a person against whom the Germans could take no exception ; and joined M. Metius, who was particularly well acquainted with Ariovistus, in commission with him, giving them orders to hear proposals the Germans would offer, and then make their report to Cæsar : but so soon as Ariovistus saw them arrived at his camp, in the presence of his army, he demanded their business, whether they came thither as spies ? and, before they could answer him, commanded them to be clapt in irons.

Ariovistus  
desires a se-  
cond inter-  
view, which  
Cæsar de-  
nies.

Ariovistus  
puts the Ro-  
man plen-  
ipotentiaries  
in irons.

48. The same day he decamped, and lodged himself under a hill, about six miles from Cæsar : the day after marching by our army, he encamped about two miles beyond us ; designing to cut off our convoys from Autun and Franche-comte : five days successively, after this, Cæsar drew his army out of their trenches, in order to give the  
enemy

WAR IN enemy battle, which Ariovistus declined, keeping within GAUL. his camp; but we had frequent skirmishes with parties of the enemy's horse.

The German way of fighting.

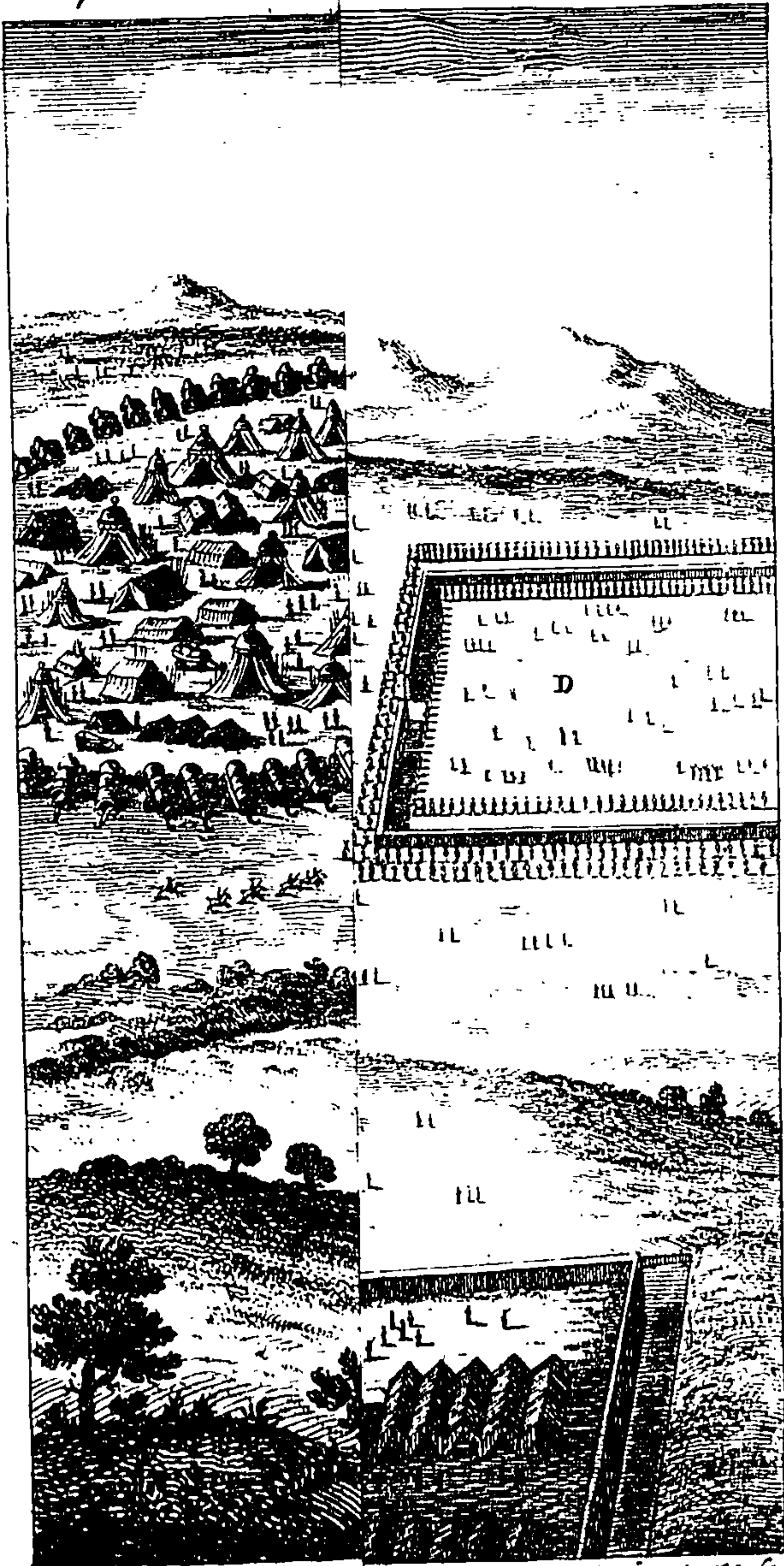
This was a method of fighting, in which the Germans were very expert: they had 6000 horse, and as many foot, chosen out of the whole army by the horse, for their extraordinary strength and activity, each horseman had one for his guard; these perpetually attended them in the battle, and assisted them in time of necessity, for if a horseman was not a sufficient match for his enemy, if he was wounded or unhorsed, one of these immediately came in to his relief; and if there was occasion either for a quick pursuit or retreat, continual exercise had made them so nimble, that, holding by the main, they could run as swift as the horses.

### C H A P. XVIII.

Cæsar's two camps.

49 Cæsar perceiving that Ariovistus still kept within his camp, not daring to give him battle, lest the Germans should intercept his convoys from Franche-comte, he chose a convenient place for a new camp, about 600 paces beyond that of the enemy; and marching thither in three battalions, he commanded two of them to defend the rest, whilst they intrenched themselves. Ariovistus sent 6000 foot and all his cavalry to interrupt this design; but Cæsar commanded the two battalions, according to his former orders, to oppose the enemy, and the third to go forward with their works; which being completed, he left two legions there, with part of the auxiliary forces, and retired with the other four to the larger camp.

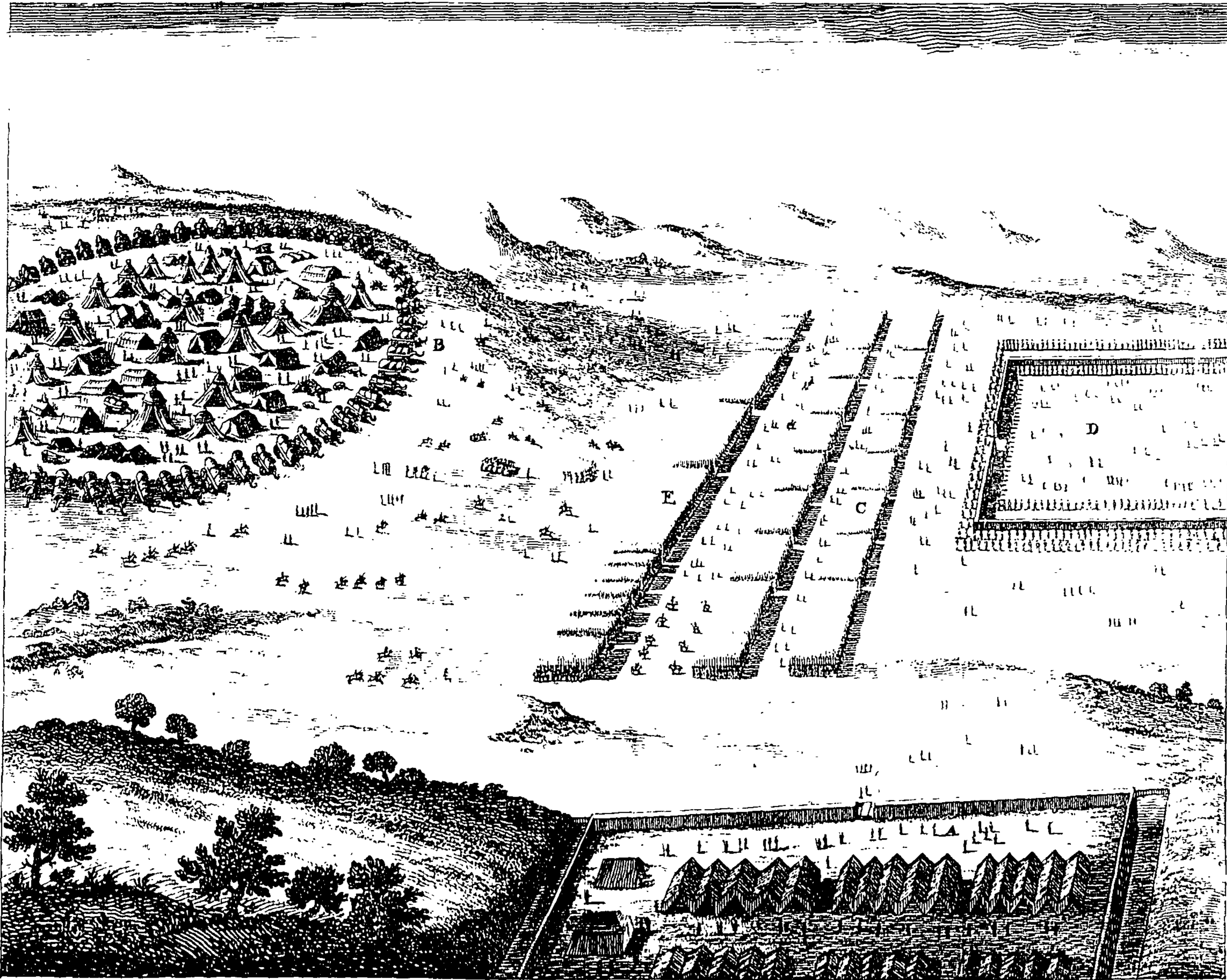
50. Agreeably to the design he had formed, the next day Cæsar drawing his whole army out of both their camps, offered the enemy battle, and perceiving they did not stir out of their trenches, about noon returned again: but at length Ariovistus sent a detachment to attack the lesser camp; whereupon there began a hot dispute on both sides, which continued till sun-set, when Ariovistus, after many wounds given and received, sounded a retreat. Cæsar, enquiring of the prisoners why the Germans declined fighting, was informed, that, according to the custom of their country, the women were always to decide by lot and augury the proper times for giving battle, and that they declared the Germans should not be victorious, if they engaged before the new moon,



A, Caesar's Camp  
 B, Ariovistus's Camp

June 50

The CAMPS of CAESAR & ARIOVISTUS.



A. Caesar's Camp  
 B. Ariovistus's Camp,

C. the first & second line of Caesar's  
 forces in Arms  
 D. the 3 making a lesser Camp

E. All Ariovistus's  
 Army

June 5

## C H A P. XIX.

51. The next day after, Cæsar, leaving sufficient parties to secure his camps, ranged all his auxiliary troops to make a shew before the lesser camp, because the number of his legionary soldiers was very inconsiderable in respect of the enemy; and, disposing these into three lines, marched directly towards Ariovistus's camp; whereupon the Germans being compelled, at last drew out their forces, ranging each different canton at an equal distance, in the same order of battle; viz. those of Constance, Maihern, Strasburg, Worms, Spires, Franconia, and Suabia; and then surrounded the army with their carriages, to take away all hopes of security by flight. In these they placed their women, who weeping and tearing their hair, besought their husbands as they went to the battle. to fight like men of courage, to preserve them from falling into the hands of the Romans.

WAR IN  
GAUL.

## C H A P. XX.

52. CÆSAR having assigned each legion a lieutenant and a questor, who might be witnesses of every man's behaviour, began the fight himself at the head of the right wing, because he perceived the enemy to be weakest in that part. As soon as the sign of battle was given, our soldiers pressed on so briskly, and the enemy advanced so furiously, that there was no room to discharge the pila, so that our men threw them away, and were obliged to have immediate recourse to their swords. But the Germans casting themselves into a phalanx, according to the custom of their country, received the charge with little loss, which several of the legionary soldiers perceiving, leaped upon the phalanx, tore up the targets with their hands, and slew those that lurked under them. The enemy's left wing was routed: but their right, overpowering us with numbers, obliged us to give way. Which young P. Crassus, general of the horte, perceiving, as he might more easily than those who were actually engaged, immediately dispatched the third line of battle to sustain us.

The armies  
engage.

53. Upon this, the fight was renewed with fresh vigour, and at length the enemy's army entirely put to flight; nor did they ever look back till they arrived at the Rhine, about fifty miles distance from the field: Being there arrived  
some

WAR IN some few escaped by swimming the river, whilst others got  
 GAUL. over in little boats, and Ariovistus embarking in a small  
 vessel, recovered the other side; but his two wives had not  
 the same good fortune, for neither of them survived the  
 battle; one of these was a Suabian, whom he brought with  
 him from his own country; the other a Bavarian, sister to  
 king Vocion, sent him by her brother into Gaul, and mar-  
 ried there; nor did his two daughters escape, for one was  
 slain, and the other taken prisoner.

The Ger-  
 mans routed,  
 Procillus re-  
 taken.

Cæsar pursuing the German cavalry, by chance over-  
 took Valerius Procillus while he was dragged along bound  
 with three chains. This opportunity of rescuing his par-  
 ticular friend, by whom he had been hospitably received,  
 gave him as much pleasure as the victory itself. Nor was  
 fortune without her share in preserving this joy entire to  
 him. For thrice, he said, had his life been at stake, while  
 lots were cast before his face, whether he should be com-  
 mitted to the flames immediately, or have a farther respite.  
 At the same M. Metius was likewise retaken. The fame  
 of this victory reaching beyond the Rhine, the Suabians,  
 who had advanced to the banks of that river, began to di-  
 rect their course homewards: but the people of Colen  
 taking the opportunity, pursued them whilst confused, and  
 slew considerable numbers of them in their retreat.

Cæsar having thus successively ended two such important  
 wars in one campaign, put his troops into winter-quarters  
 in Franche-comte, something sooner than the season of the  
 year required; and committing them to the care of La-  
 bienus, returned into Lombardy, to preside in the general  
 diet.