

**ANECDOTES FROM  
ROMAN, ENGLISH,  
AND FRENCH HISTORY**

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Anecdotes from Roman, English, and French history by A. H.

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**A. H.**

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ANECDOTES

FROM

ROMAN, ENGLISH, AND FRENCH  
HISTORY,

SELECTED FROM THE MOST INTERESTING  
PARTS OF HISTORY.

By A. H.

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## PREFACE.

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IN the following anecdotes, I have endeavoured to select the most interesting from the histories from which they are collected. History must ever hold a prominent feature in the education of children, and it is essential not to weary them by too close an application; but rather to render it an object of interest. It has thus been my endeavour to awaken that curiosity which most children possess, and to incite them to explore, as a pleasure, the long memories of the past.

A. H.



Figure 1. The relationship between the number of species (S) and the number of individuals (N) for 10 different species. The plot shows a positive correlation between S and N, with a regression line fitted to the data points. The axes are labeled 'S' (vertical) and 'N' (horizontal). The data points are numbered 1 through 10. A legend in the bottom right corner identifies the species: 1. P. (P. ...), 2. P. (P. ...), 3. P. (P. ...), 4. P. (P. ...), 5. P. (P. ...), 6. P. (P. ...), 7. P. (P. ...), 8. P. (P. ...), 9. P. (P. ...), 10. P. (P. ...).



ANECDOTES  
FROM  
ROMAN HISTORY.

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THE Romans were anxious to be thought descendants of the gods, and therefore claimed Æneas the son of Venus, and Priam king of Troy, for their ancestors. This much, however, we do know, that Numitor, king of Alba, and fifteenth in succession from Æneas, had a brother named Amulius, who conspired against him, dispossessed him of the throne, caused his two sons to be murdered, and his daughter Rhea Silvia to be made a vestal virgin; which office compelled her to perpetual celibacy. However, Rhea Silvia was confined with twins, who were immediately ordered to be thrown into the Tiber, and their mother to be buried alive. But the water being too shallow to drown them, they were cast on shore, where it is related they were found by Faustulus, the king's shepherd, with a wolf suckling them. Faustulus took them home to his wife, Acca Laurentia, and they brought them up as their own. Romulu

and Remus, as they were named, at length committing some offence against their uncle Amulius, —but who was ignorant of their relationship to himself,—Remus was brought before the king, when Romulus, who had gained intelligence of their secret, assembled some of the shepherds, killed the king, rescued his brother, and restored Numitor to the throne. They then agreed to build a city near the river Tiber, to commemorate their preservation; but in a quarrel which ensued during the building, Remus was killed by his brother, who was elected king of Rome, which was named after the founder.

During the reign of Tullus Hostilius, third king of Rome, the Romans having made several inroads into the Alban territories, a war ensued. The two armies were drawn out in array about five miles from Rome, when the Alban general stepping in between the two parties, offered to decide the victory by single combat. This was gladly accepted; and there chancing to be three twin brothers in each army, the Romans called Horatii, and the Albans called Curatii, these were selected for the combat. After fighting for some time with the most heroic fortitude, victory remained doubtful, till at length two of the Romans lay dead, while all the Curatii were wounded. The remaining Roman, seeing it would be in vain to

attack the three, pretended to fly. The Romans now gave up for lost the fortune of the day, and accused their countryman of cowardice; but suddenly they saw him return, attack the foremost Curatii, (for by this time they were separated as the Roman had wished); after killing him he advanced to the other, who likewise fell; while the third was likewise despatched. But the man who had fought so well for his country, returning in triumph to Rome, met his sister lamenting her betrothed, who was one of the Curatii. This so enraged him that he slew her on the spot; but in consideration of the deed he had just done he was pardoned.

Servius Tullius, sixth king of Rome, married his two daughters to the two grandsons of Tarquin, a former king of Rome. One of these daughters was remarkable for her proud and haughty temper, the same as one of the intended husbands; while the two others were of a mild and gentle disposition. To curb their violent tempers, Servius bestowed Tullia, his ungovernable daughter, upon the contrary character, while his other daughter was given to the haughty prince, Tarquin. Tarquin and Tullia soon grew dissatisfied with their respective consorts; and, placing their affections on each other, resolved, by murder, to be free to espouse each other. This they shortly after accomplished,—the one killing his