THE STANDARD BEARER: A STORY OF ARMY LIFE IN THE TIME OF CAESAR

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The Standard Bearer: A Story of Army Life in the Time of Caesar by A. C. Whitehead

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A. C. WHITEHEAD

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Trieste



THE STANDARD BEARER LEADS THE LEGIONS

THE STANDARD BEARER

A STORY OF ARMY LIFE IN THE TIME OF CAESAR

BY

A. C. WHITEHEAD INSTRUCTOR IN LATIN IN BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL ATLANTA, GEORGIA



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PREFACE

A CLASS of boys and girls whom the author was teaching some time ago, displayed more than ordinary interest in the study of the Commentaries of Cæsar. On reading the account of the standard bearer who so boldly led the legions at the first landing in Britain, the young people expressed considerable wonder as to the personality of that hero, making many conjectures as to his origin, his deeds in the army, and his promotion. It then occurred to the author that a story might be written which would give an accurate picture of the Gallic campaigns, and lend character, individual and national, to the chief actors. This book is an effort at such a story.

Much reading and study have gone to its making. While there has been a constant effort to portray the customs and beliefs of Romans, Gauls, Germans, and Britons, it is hoped that the characters and incidents are not hidden under loads of glaring facts as to customs and habits. The author further hopes that the story is presented in English which is pure and forceful, and in some degree, attractive.

PREFACE

Cæsar and Baculus and Caius and Procillus and most of the lieutenants named are real actors in the Commentaries and may be further studied in the encyclopedias; but Matho and Sannio and Carvillax and Eredox and Lanius and even Bridiga are imaginary creations, and such character as they may have grew with the story. Should they fall short in any manner, it will in no wise be fair to blame Julius Cæsar.

If this book shall cause young people of the future to read their Cæsar with more profit and pleasure, the author will be amply repaid for his attempt.

Thanks are due my wife, Cora Brown Whitehead, and young son, Carlton, who very patiently read and criticized the chapters as they were written.

A. C. W.

ATLANTA, GA.

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