

**THE HISTORIES. IN  
TWO VOLUMES.  
VOLUME II**

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The histories. In two volumes. Volume II by Cornelius Tacitus & W. Hamilton Fyfe

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**CORNELIUS TACITUS & W. HAMILTON FYFE**

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TACITUS  
THE HISTORIES

TRANSLATED WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

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IN TWO VOLUMES

VOLUME II

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## SUMMARY OF CHIEF EVENTS

### I. THE FIGHT FOR THE THRONE

A. D. 69.

*September.* Antonius surprises a Vitellian detachment at Forum Alieni.

At Padua the Pannonian legions arrive.

He fortifies Verona. The Moesian legions arrive.

Caecina holds Cremona with Legs. I Italica and XXI Rapax and cavalry.

He encamps with the rest of his force near Hostilia on the Tartaro.

Valens dawdles northward with three praetorian cohorts.

*October.* The fleet at Ravenna declares for Vespasian. Caecina attempts treachery and is imprisoned by his army, which starts on a forced march to Cremona.

Antonius starts from Verona to intercept them.

27. Second Battle of Bedriacum. Legs. I Italica and XXI Rapax sally from Cremona and are driven back by Antonius.

The six legions from Hostilia reach Cremona. The united Vitellian army makes a night sally from Cremona and is defeated.

28. Sack of Cremona.  
Surrender of Vitellian army.

A. D. 69.

*November.* Valens, having reached Ariminum, flies to Monaco, and is captured in the Stoechades Islands.

Spain, Gaul, and Britain declare for Vespasian. Antonius advances via Ariminum to Fanum Fortunae.

Vitellius holds the Apennines at Mevania with fourteen praetorian cohorts, a new legion of marines, and cavalry.

Muriny of the fleet at Misenum. Tarracina seized.

Vitellius returns to Rome with seven cohorts and part of the cavalry.

The remaining cohorts are moved back from Mevania to Narnia.

L. Vitellius with six cohorts and cavalry besieges Tarracina.

*December.* Antonius crosses the Apennines and halts at Carsulae.

Varus wins a cavalry skirmish at Interamna.

Valens beheaded at Urbino: his head flung into camp at Narnia.

Surrender of Vitellians at Narnia.

Antonius marches as far as Orriculum, sending Cerialis forward to Rome with 1,000 cavalry.

17. Vitellius, wishing to abdicate, is prevented by troops and mob.

18. They besiege Flavius Sabinus in the Capitol.

19. Capitol stormed. Temple of Jupiter burnt. Sabinus caught and killed.

L. Vitellius takes Tarracina.

20. Cerialis defeated outside Rome.



## *Summary of Chief Events* 5

- A.D. 69.  
20. Antonius makes a forced march along Via  
Flaminia.  
21. Capture of Rome. Murder of Vitellius.  
Domitian installed as 'Caesar'.
- A.D. 70.  
*January.* L. Vitellius surrenders in Campania.  
Mucianus arrives in Rome as regent.

### II. THE REBELLION ON THE RHINE

- A.D. 69.  
*Autumn.* Revolt of Civilis and Batavians, at first ostensibly in support of Vespasian.  
Revolt supported by Canninefates, Frisii, Marsaci, Cugerni.  
Civilis routs Gallic auxiliaries and captures the Rhine flotilla in 'The Island'.  
Munius Lupercus advances from Vetera with remnant of Legs. V Alaudae and XV Primigenia, supported by Ubian, Treviran, and Batavian auxiliaries.  
Civilis drives him back into Vetera.  
The eight Batavian cohorts at Mainz march off to join Civilis, and defeat Leg. I Germanica at Bonn.  
Bructeri and Tencteri join revolt.  
Civilis blockades Vetera.  
Vocula advances to relieve Vetera with detachments of Legs. IV Macedonica, XXII Primigenia, and I Germanica.  
Vocula encamps at Gelduba. Flaccus makes head-quarters at Novaesium.  
Civilis' assault on Vetera repulsed.

## 6 *Summary of Chief Events*

A.D. 69.

Vocula with difficulty repulses attack on Gelduba.

Relief of Vetera. Vocula then retires to Novaesium.

Civilis takes Gelduba and wins skirmish outside Novaesium.

Mutiny in Novaesium. Flaccus murdered.

Civilis renews blockade of Vetera.

Chatti, Mattiaci, and Usipi threaten Mainz.

Vocula relieves Mainz and winters there.

A.D. 70.

*January (?)* Revolt of Gallic tribes, Ubii, Tungri, Treviri, Lingones, headed by Classicus, Tutor, and Sabinus.

Vocula advances to save Vetera, but is driven back to Novaesium by mutiny of Gallic auxiliaries, and there murdered.

His army swears allegiance to 'Empire of Gaul'.

Tutor takes Cologne and Mainz.

Vetera surrenders to Classicus. Garrison massacred.

The Baetasii, Nervii, and Tungri join revolt.

*Spring.* Mucianus and Domitian start from Rome with reinforcements.

Cerialis, with Legs. XXI Rapax and II Adjutrix, is to operate on Lower Rhine.

Annius Gallus, with Legs. VII Claudia, VIII Augusta, XI Claudia, is to operate on Upper Rhine.

The Sequani, still loyal, defeat Sabinus and Lingones.

*Summary of Chief Events* 7

- A. D. 70. The Remi, also loyal, summon a Gallic Council, which votes for peace, but the Treviri and Lingones hold out under Classicus, Tutor, and Valentinus.  
The Roman mutineers return to their allegiance.
- Summer.* Sextilius Felix routs Tutor near Bingen.  
Cerialis defeats Valentinus and occupies Trier.  
The Germans surprise the Romans in Trier, but Cerialis drives them out and storms their camp.  
Massacre of Germans at Cologne. Cohort of Chauci and Frisii entrapped and burnt.  
Leg. XIV Gemina arrives from Britain and receives submission of Nervii and Tungri.  
Legs. I Adjutrix and VI Victrix arrive from Spain.
- Autumn.* Civilis defeats Cerialis near Vetera, but is routed on the next day and retires into The Island.  
Hard fighting on the Waal.  
Germans capture Roman flotilla.  
Civilis retires northwards over the Rhine.  
Cerialis occupies The Island.  
Civilis makes overtures of peace.

NOTE

The text followed is that of C. D. Fisher (*Oxford Classical Texts*). Departures from it are mentioned in the notes.