

**A STUDY OF THE
COGNOMINA OF SOLDIERS
IN THE ROMAN
LEGIONS: A DISSERTATION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649715725

A Study of the Cognomina of Soldiers in the Roman Legions: A Dissertation by Lindley
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BY

LINDLEY RICHARD DEAN

A DISSERTATION

PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
IN CANDIDACY FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

31
PRINCETON, N. J.
1916

CS
2351
D43

Accepted by the Department of Classics
June, 1914



1003365

PREFACE

I take this opportunity to express my obligation to all my teachers at Dartmouth and Princeton. Especial thanks are due to Prof. Frank Frost Abbott, whose assistance and encouragement have been generously given to me during the preparation of this dissertation. I am indebted also to Prof. Duane Reed Stuart for many helpful suggestions.

LINDLEY RICHARD DEAN.

Princeton, N. J.
September, 1915.



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INTRODUCTION

The present study of the Cognomina of Roman legionaries is an attempt to collect and to classify the cognomina of men enrolled in the legions in the time of the Empire. The cognomina of soldiers, veterans, and under-officers, up to and including *primi pili*, who served in the legions only are considered. These men have as a common bond Roman citizenship and may properly be brought together for a study of this kind.

Cognomina which occur with any frequency are assembled in the first chapter. A brief summary of the evidence supporting the name is given, together with the data showing its distribution among the provinces, its chronological development, and the homes of the men who bear the name.

The second chapter contains a detailed classification of all the cognomina, arranged alphabetically under several headings, *e. g.*, according to form, endings, or derivation. The table of divisions indicated at the beginning of the chapter will explain further the classification.

The third chapter is devoted to a brief discussion of some problems which grow out of the investigation of the cognomina. Altogether about 5700 names are published in the alphabetical list which is placed at the end of this study. This list is arranged primarily to meet the needs of this investigation, but it is hoped that the material in it will prove useful to those who may wish to study the legionaries for some other reason.

The desirability of making a study of the cognomina of soldiers was suggested by a statement of Eugen Bormann (*Der roemische Limes in Oesterreich, Heft IV, 1903, p. 132*). In this passage an inscription found at Carnuntum and containing the names of two soldiers is under discussion. At the conclusion of the comment on the names of these men it is said, "die beiden anderen haben die gleichartigen Cognomina, Firmus und Severus, erhalten, vielleicht, da es für Soldaten passende sind, (Fest, Streng) als sie zum Soldatendienst bestimmt waren." Furthermore no exhaustive collection of cognomina in Roman