

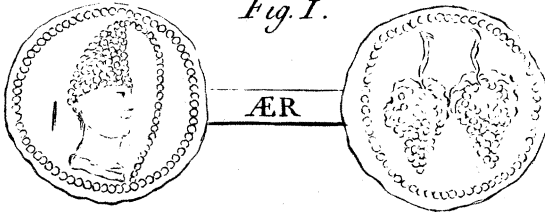
LXVI. *Conjectures upon an inedited Parthian Coin.* By the Rev. John Swinton, B. D. of Christ-Church, Oxon. F. R. S.

To the Rev. Thomas Birch, D. D. Secretary to the Royal Society.

Good Sir,

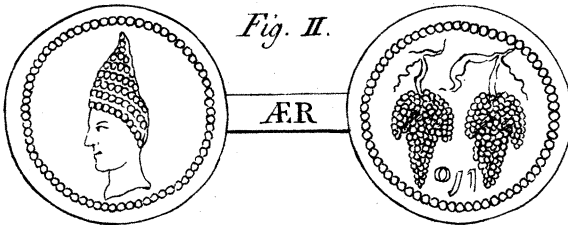
Read May 1, 1760. **I** Some time since met with a Parthian coin, nearly of the size of the middle Roman brass, that seems to merit the attention of the curious. For though the piece itself is in very indifferent conservation, yet it has not been hitherto published, and may perhaps serve to illustrate an exceeding rare coin, with a draught of which the learned world has been obliged by M. Bouterouë. As therefore it may possibly be deemed not altogether unworthy the notice of the Royal Society, I have taken the liberty to trouble them with a few conjectures upon it; especially, as they have done me the honour to order the publication of two papers, a few years since, upon similar subjects. To this I have likewise been farther excited by part of a letter, written lately to my worthy friend the Reverend Mr. John Nixon, a learned member of the Society, by Sig. Abate Venuti; who therein mentions the famous F. Corsini's approbation of my remarks upon Monneses's coin, inserted in the fiftieth volume of the *Philosophical Transactions*, excepting that he suspected the *Victory* on the reverse to allude to the Parthian monarch's devastation of the neighbouring provinces, and usurpation of the Parthian

Fig. I.



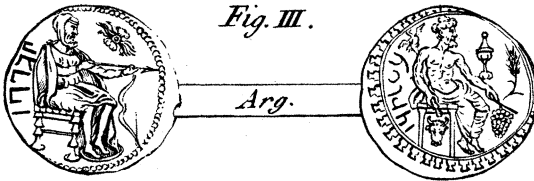
Apud Joannem Swinton, S.T.B. Oxoniens. R.S.S.

Fig. II.



Apud D. Bouteroue, p. 33.

Fig. III.



Apud Henricum March Armig.

Parthian throne. I have therefore endeavoured to remove the suspicion F. Corfini has entertained, and attempted to prove, that the impression of this *Victory*, so utterly repugnant to the Parthian genius, must have been occasioned by some remarkable advantage, gained by the Parthian forces over the Romans. In order to which, I have at least in some measure evinced the Romans to have adorned with such a *Victory* the reverses of their coins, not only after a battle had been won, as F. Corfini would seem to maintain, but likewise on certain occasions after other prosperous military exploits. It is also here rendered probable, that the *Victory* was impressed on Monneses's medal, in allusion to the manner in which the Romans treated the Parthians, on their coins, after any favourable military event; that F. Corfini is not quite consistent with himself, the reason by him assigned for differing from me, on the principle he has advanced, being subversive of his own opinion; and that, as the reverses of the other Parthian medals never exhibit a *Victory* in the Roman taste, the coin before me could have been struck only to perpetuate the memory of some signal achievement, performed by the Parthian arms against the Romans.

If the conjectures now submitted to the consideration of the Royal Society should meet with the approbation of that most learned and illustrious body, they will undoubtedly be allowed to throw some light on the singular and valuable medal above-mentioned, published by (1) M. Bouterouë, never hi-

(1) *Recherches Curieuses des Monoyes de France &c.* Par Claude Bouterouë, p. 33. A Paris, 1666.

therto explained. I therefore judged it not improper to transmit you an accurate draught of this coin, as well as one of the medal here so particularly described; [*Vide Tab. XVII.*] which may probably be the more acceptable to many, who have a taste for this kind of literature, as M. Bouterouë's book itself cannot now without great difficulty be found.

With regard to the language of the paper in which my remarks are contained, I shall only beg leave to hint, that it is understood by all who are proper judges of the performance. For this therefore I shall offer no other apology, than that the letter from Sig. Abate Venuti to Mr. Nixon, which occasioned it, is penned in the Latin tongue; and that the famous F. Corfini, the removal of whose doubt or suspicion was one of the principal objects I had in view, writes for the most part at least in the same language. I might however add, that many learned foreigners, who are particularly pleased with such disquisitions, are much better acquainted with Latin than any other tongue, except their own; and that it were to be wished the use of this noble language, in the republic of letters, were more general than it at present (2) seems to be. You will give me leave only farther to suggest, that there can be no impropriety in communicating to the Royal Society the following remarks, the (3) paper they are intended to support not only authorizing but even requiring such a com-

(2) *Nov. Act. Eruditor. Lips. Mensis Maii A. 1755.* p. 252.

(3) *Philosoph. Transact.* Vol. L. p. 184—187.

munication;

munication ; and to assure you that I am, with the most perfect attachment and respect,

S I R,

Your most faithful,

and most obedient,

Christ-Church, Oxon.

Apr. 24th, 1760.

humble servant,

J. Swinton.

*In Nummum Parthicum hætenus ineditum
conjecturæ.*

I.

NUmisma planè incognitum, quod vulgavit (1) D. Bouterouë, in adversâ parte regis cujusdam imberbis exhibet caput, tiarâ margaritis five unionibus fulgente ornatum ; in aversâ verò binos racemos, ut et trinas inusitatâ formâ literas, quarum potestas etiamnum ignoratur. Aliud item haud parùm detrimenti à tempore perpeffum, cujus ectypum Regiæ Societati jam visendum sisto, capite regis tali mitrâ

(1) *Recherches Curieuses des Monoyes de France &c. Par Claude Bouterouë*, p. 33. A Paris, 1666. Si *Gamma* pone *Vologesis III.* caput *Gazam*, vel *Gazacam*, *Mediæ Atropatiæ urbem*, indigiter, ut existimat *Vaillantius* (1) ; trina elementa incognita, in nummo *Bouteriano* conspicua, eandem forsân urbem designent. Quod et ipsæ eorundem formæ suadere videntur. Primum enim *Gimel Phœnicium* figurâ refert, secundum *Zain Chaldaico* et *Palmyreno* non est absimile, tertium verò ipsissimum *Phœnicium Ain* se faciliè fatetur. *Ain* autem (2) nunc *Aleph*, nunc *Gimel* (3) sonuit. Hinc igitur vox *Gaza*, *Straboni* (4) usitata, *Gazag*, vel *Gazaca*, quæ *Stephano* (5) *Byzantino* magis placuit, fortasse sit enata.

(1) J. F. Vaill. *Arsacid. Imper.* p. 366. Parisiis, 1728. (2) *Boch. Chan.* p. 812, 813. *Francos. ad Mæn.* 1681. (3) *Id. ibid.* p. 561. (4) *Strab. Lib. xi.* p. 523.
(5) *Steph. Byzant. in voc. I A Z A K A.*

feu tiarâ conspicui nobilitatum, supellex mea antiquaria suppeditat. Hoc ante caput sceptrum ostentat, pone autem figuram, quæ Græcum elementum *Gamma* referre videtur. Cætera nummus noster Bouterouiano non dissimilis jure haud iniquo censendus. Quare altero aliquantulum illustrato, nonnihil etiam lucis alteri forsan aspergatur.

II.

Tiaram quod attinet, nostro in numismate depictum, eum è rectis unum esse, quos, Xenophonte (2) teste, Cyrus accepit à Medis, et ad successores transmisit, summæ majestatis insignia, ita ut nemini liceret gerere, nisi regibus, ex auctoribus hîc laudatis abundè fit perspicuum. “ Solos (ait (3) V. C. Theophilus Sigefridus Bayerus) “ reges gessisse ad-
 “ firmant nobis Aristophanes et ejus Scholiasta de
 “ Persis, Josephus autem et Dio Prusæus de Parthis.” Pergit Cel. Bayerus, “ Quos igitur (tiaras) dicemus
 “ rectos nisi eos, qui non lunatum in orbem circum
 “ tempora flecterentur, sed rigidiores essent apices et
 “ altiores?—Neque ausi sunt (si eundem audiamus Bayerum) “ Edeffeni reges iis uti, potentia et ma-
 “ jestate inferiores Parthis.” Quandoquidem igitur hic nummus ante eversum ab Artaxerxe Parthorum imperium videtur proculus, ac proinde ad Persas, saltem posteriores, vix referendus; eum à Parthiæ quodam rege fuisse percussum, etsi tiaræ figura parti adversæ insculpta complurium Parthicorum formæ non ad amuffim congruat, omninò certè par est arbitrari.

(2) Xen. *Cyrop.* L. viii. c. 3.

(3) Theoph. Sig. Bayer. *Hist. Osrhoen. & Edeffen. &c.* p. 135, 136. Petropoli, 1734.

III.

His ritè perpenſis, tiaram nobis Parthorum regem indigitare, cordatum quemque vix inficias exiſtimo iturum. Quo conceſſo, Vologeſem III. numiſma noſtrum cudiffe, indicio erunt, forſan certiffimo, in priori facie ante caput ſceptrum et pone litera *Gamma*, ſi modò figura ſuperiùs memorata pro iſto elemento commodè ſatis accipi poſſit. Etenim huiuſce principis nummum, à (4) Cl. Vaillantio publici juris factum, ſive typum, ſive modulum reſpiciamus, noſtrum plurimùm referre, vel cæcutienti ſat clarè innotefcat. Nil interim mirandum, quòd caput regis imberbis, ſeu potiùs mediocriter barbati, antica primùm oſtenderit; cum (5) Mannus, regulus finitimus Parthis, in nummulo ſine barbâ depingatur, et nonnulli Parthorum (6) reges (quorum numero ipſe forſan Vologeſes III. accenſeatur) mediocriter tantùm barbati in numiſmatis interdum conſpiciantur.

IV.

Quod ad binos racemos ſpectat, quibus pars nummi noſtri poſterior cernitur ſignata, id quoque quicquid ſit ſymboli Parthorum regem ante oculos ponere fortàſſe reperietur. Numiſma enim argenteum majori formâ penes ſpectatiſſimum virum, Henricum March, armigerum, à V. C. Arthuro Pullinger ex Oriente

(4) J. F. Vaill. *Arſacid. Imper.* p. 364—369. Pariſiis, 1728.

(5) Nicol, Fran. Haym Roman. *Del Teſor. Britan.* Vol. Second. p. 57, 58. In Londra, 1720. *Numiſm. Antiqu. Colleſt.* à Thom. Pemb. et Mont. Gom. Com. P. 2. T. 72. Wiſe *Epift. ad V. Cl. Joannem Maſſon de num. Abgari Regis.* Oxon. 1750.

(6) J. F. Vaill. *Arſacid. Imper.* p. 31, 58, 105, 321, 364, 366, &c.

secum in Britanniam reportatum, in anticâ typum ostentat, Parthico (quo complures nummi (7) insigniuntur) non dissimilem: principem nempe fellæ infidentem, manibusque sagittam gestantem, ante cujus pedes visitur arcus; in posticâ verò senem, sinistrâ tenentem racemum. Si igitur numisma nostrum ad Vologesem III. pertinuisse autememus, à vero forsan non multùm abluemus. Interim si cordatus quispiam aliter senserit, integrum sit ipsi suâ gaudere sententiâ, eandem quoque nobis largiatur veniam.

V.

Si superiùs annotatis suffragentur eruditi, et a Vologese III. nummulus noster habeatur reverâ percussus, rogetet forsan aliquis, “ quâ fit ut princeps iste æreos “ cuderit nummos, cum argentei ferè soli (si ex iis “ qui nobis supersunt hâc de re iudicium faciamus) “ sub ejus in imperio antecessoribus prodierint ? ” Cui respondeamus licet, “ Monnesis nummus, te- “ tradrachmarum magnitudine (8), à Cl. Vaillantio “ evulgatus, pariter ac noster, æreus est; quin et “ alium Vologesis II. rarissimum ad æreorum mediæ “ formæ numerum idem adscripsit (9) Vaillantius. “ Quidnè igitur Vologesis III. numismata interdum “ ex ære cernantur conflata? Hoc enim factum “ fuisse propter res Parthiæ difficillimas, eo imperii “ clavum tenente, summamque argenti penuriam, “ cum jam laudato (10) Vaillantio arbitramur.”

(7) J. F. Vaill. ubi sup. pass.

(8) J. F. Vaill. *Arfacid. Imper.* p. 341.

(9) Idem ibid. p. 345.

(10) Id. ibid. p. 341.

VI.

Parthorum res sub Vologese III. haud parùm fuisse turbatas, bello iis à Severo tunc temporis illato, (11) ex Herodiano, Spartiano, et Dione abundè constat. Anno enim Arsacidarum æræ vulgaris 456°. vel 457°. seu potius, si meam eatur in sententiam (12), 429°. Severus Parthos inopinatò est aggressus; quin et cæsis primò *quicumque obvii ei sunt facti*, non *quicumque restitissent*, ut Herodiani (13) verba, πάντα τε τὴ ἐμπίπλοια, perperàm Latinè vertit Angelus Politianus, regiam Ctesiphontem trajecto Tigri cepit, atque militibus diripiendam concessit. Illinc ipso rege cum paucis tantùm equitibus elapso, thesauris illius ornatuque omni et supellectile potiti victores regrediuntur. Quanquam autem, prosperè succedentibus rebus, literas ad Senatum Populumque Romanum de se magnificas dederit, ac depictas in tabulis pugnas, victoriasque suas, si Herodiano (14) fides sit habenda, exposuerit Severus, nihil non honorum decernente Senatu, et super his cognomina imponente gentium devictarum; “ullam (15) tamen, eodem “anno, Romanos inter et Barbaros revera interfuisse “pugnã,” ex isto historico haud facilè colligamus. Neque ab Herodiano hâc in re dissentit Spartianus (16), qui nullius Severum inter et Vologesum prælii,

(11) Herodian. Lib. iii. Æl. Spartian. in *Sever.* Dio, Lib. lxxv. p. 854.

(12) *Philosoph. Transact.* Vol. L. p. 183—187.

(13) Herodian. ubi sup. c. 30. Oxon. 1678.

(14) Idem ibid. c. 31.

(15) Venut. *ad V. C. Joannem Nixonum, A. M. & R. S. S. Epist.* Vid. etiam *Act. Philosoph. Anglican.* Vol. LI. p. 205.

(16) Æl. Spartian. ubi sup.

dicto anno commissi, usquàm meminit. Quod quidem silentium calculo suo egregiè confirmat Dio (17), cujus sic se fermè habent verba: “ Item Seluciam et “ Babylonem *desertas celeriter occupavit*, ac paulo “ post Ctesiphontem; quam urbem diripiendam re- “ liquit militibus, et in eâ cædem maximam fecit, “ cepitque superstitum hominum ad centum millia. “ Vologesum tamen non est infecutus, neque Ctesi- “ phontem retinuit; sed tanquàm ob id solum ve- “ nisset, ut eam &c.” Undè verisimile admodum videtur, nullam Romanos inter et Barbaros hâc fortuitâ in Parthiam expeditione interfuisse pugnam; cum Seleuciam et Babylonem ab hostibus fuisse *desertas*, et à Severo *celeriter occupatas*, celeberrimus ille scriptor disertè monuit. Celeberrimus, inquam, ille scriptor; cum Dioni Severi comiti et familiari omninò fidendum, præsertim si suo testimonio dicti duo historici, Spartianus et Herodianus, scriptis ejus etiam fidem adstruxerint. Ast quanquam in suâ ad Senatum epistolâ prælia quædam tantummodò commentus sit Severus, *Victoriam* in averâ parte *Gradientem* præ se ferentes (18), denarios tamen, in perpetuam rei memoriam, signari jussit. Undè quodammodò patet, Romanorum imperatores *Victoriam* in nummis *Gradientem* interdum scalpisse, licet nulla “ in- “ ter eos gentemque devictam interfuisset (19) pugna.” Quod et alio forsan exemplo, ex historiâ Romano-Parthicâ petito, clariùs elucescet. In belli adversus Parthos ab Antonino Caracallâ gesti memoriam, prin-

(17) Dio, Lib. lxxv. p. 854.

(18) J. F. Vaill. ubi sup, p. 361.

(19) Venut. ubi sup.

ceps iste (20) nummos argenteos percussit, *Victoria Parthica* typum exhibentes. Incruentam tamen à Parthis reportavit victoriam. Etenim, “ingenti cæde
 “ Parthorum factâ, prædâque et hominibus magnâ
 “ copiâ captis, discedit, testante Herodiano (21),
 “ *μνδενὸς αὐτῶ ἀνδραγῶτα*, *resistente nullo*, vicisque
 “ et urbibus incensis, datâ potestate militibus ra-
 “ piendi, quod quisque possêt, aut vellet.” Cum
 Herodiano item, hâc in re (22), concinit Dio; e-
 enim si fidem tribuamus, Antoninus regionem, quæ
 Mediam attingit, in quam de improvîso irruerat,
 magnâ ex parte vastavit, multa castella diruit, Árbela
 subegit, ac sepulchra regum Parthorum, abjectis offi-
 bus, subvertit. “ Verum (23), ait historicus, *quia*
 “ *Parthi cum eo non venerunt ad manus*, nihil de re-
 “ bus tunc gestis scribi à me eximium potest.”

VII.

Sed et sententiæ nostræ hîc in medium prolatae cal-
 culum quoque suum apposuit præstantissimus Span-
 hemius. Inter alia enim huc spectantia eruditè an-
 notavit Vir (24) Clarissimus, “ VICTORIAM PAR-
 “ THICAM, cum in M. Antonini ac L. Veri, tum
 “ Severi, Caracallæ, ac Macrini nummis legi, immo
 “ in Severi nummis etiam VICTORIAM PAR-
 “ THICAM MAXIMAM: à quibus utique prin-
 “ cipibus *bella feliciter contra Parthos gesta me-*

(20) J. F. Vaill. ubi sup. p. 375.

(21) Herodian. ubi sup. Lib. iv. c. 20. p. 163. Edit. Oxon. 1678.

(22) Dio, Lib. lxxvii. p. 881.

(23) Idem ibid.

(24) Ez. Spanhem. *De Præstant. & Uf. Numism. Antiquor.*
Vol. Alter. p. 635. Amstelædami, 1717.

“ morant Romanarum rerum scriptores, ac firmant
 “ insuper, cum iidem nummi, tum additum in iis
 “ PARTHICI, et quidem subinde PARTHICI
 “ MAXIMI, cognomentum.” Notatu hîc non in-
 dignum, numismata Romana VICT. PART. vocibus
 dimidiatis in averfâ parte exornata *Victoriæ* iti-
 dem figuram præ (25) se ferre. Undè omninò
 patet, Romanos in nummis VICTORIAM PAR-
 THICAM, auctore Cel. Vir. Ezech. Spanhemio,
 scalpisse (26), si *bella feliciter contra Parthos, vel*
prælio secundo, vel alio quoquo modo, gererentur.

VIII.

Hæc de monetam *Victoriâ* signandi more, Ro-
 manis diu usitato, dicta sunt. Ad Parthos quod
 attinet, ex nummis talem apud eos consuetudinem
 (27) non invaluisse constat. *Victoria* igitur, sive
 potius *Victoria Gradiens*, Latinum ad modum in-
 sculpta, certissimo est indicio, Monnesen numisma
 hanc ostentans (28), à me fusiùs olim atque ube-
 riùs explicatum, in rerum contra Romanos felici-
 ter gestarum memoriam, utque iis par pari refer-
 ret, præsertim ob signatam simili typo pecuniam
 è M. Aurelio Antonino et L. Vero victoribus (29),

(25) J. F. Vaill. ubi sup. p. 333, 375, 382, &c. Francisc.
 Mediobarb. Birag. *Imperator. Romanor. Numism. &c.* pass.

(26) Ez. Spanhem. ubi sup.

(27) J. F. Vaill. *Arfacidar. Imper.* Nicol. Fran. Haym Ro-
 man. *Del. Tesor. Britan.* Vol. Second. p. 30—37. Mus. Theupol.
 p. 1221, 1222. *Numism. Antiqu. &c.* Thom. Pembr. & Mont.
 Gom. Com. &c. P. II. T. 76. Claude Bouterouë, ubi sup.
 aliique Scriptor. pass.

(28) *Philosoph. Transact.* Vol. L. p. 175—188.

(29) J. F. Vaill. ubi sup. p. 333:

percuississe.

percussisse. At prælium exinde tunc temporis Romanos inter et Parthos fuisse commissum, propter rationes superiùs allatas, haud æquo jure colligamus. Quare leviter saltem lapsus videtur (30) V. C. Edvardus Corfinus, (31) “ ubi dubitat, ad epocham “ statuendam, de *Victoriâ* in posticâ (regis Mon-

(30) V. C. Edv. Corfin. apud Venut. in *Latin. ad Joan. Nixonum Epist.*

(31) Perpenso (quod sequitur) Cl. Nixononi apographo, ab eo mecum quàm humanissimè communicato, de vero hîc sensus acumine cordatus lector liquidius judicare possit. “ Cl. Corfino doctissimas Cl. Swintoni conjecturas de nummo Monnesis Parthorum regis communicavi: ille vero comprobavit, admiratusque est solertiam authoris, ingeniique acumen; tantummodò ubi “ *dubitat*, ad epocham statuendam, de *Victoriâ* in posticâ exculptâ, cum eo anno nulla interfuerit pugna inter Romanos et “ Barbaros: sed cum Monnesis regnum usurpaverit, legitimofque “ spoliaverit hæredes, vicinaque devastaverit regna, nil mirum si “ *Victoriam* in nummis insculperit, atque ad Barbaricam, non “ ad Romanam, referri debet.” Hinc abundè constat, Corfinum, non me, ut voluit Cl. Nixonus, “ ad epocham statuendam, de “ *Victoriâ* in posticâ exculptâ dubitâsse.” Nemini enim non liquet, meam de verâ Arfacidarum ærâ, hujusce *Victoriæ* typi ope, felicîus enodandâ sententiam, quanquam immeritò, in dubium vocâsse Cl. Corfinum; “ cum eo anno nulla, si illum audi- “ amus, interfuerit pugna inter Romanos et Barbaros.” En causa, cur, “ ad epocham statuendam, de *Victoriâ* in posticâ exculptâ “ dubitaverit” Corfinus, ab ipso Corfino, vel, si malimus, Venuto, in medium prolata. Quinimò *Victoriæ* figurâ, in hoc Monnesis numismate scalptâ, æram Parthorum Corsinianam (vel invito Corfino) sine ullâ dubitatione firmandam duxi, ut ex nostris *Actis Philosophicis* omninò fit perspicuum. Voces igitur *tantummodò ubi dubitat* minùs rectè but *excepted a little to that part, where he* [Mr. Swinton] *expresses a doubt*, siquid judico, Anglicè vertit Cl. Nixonus. Neque meo solo, hâc in re, nixus sum judicio; cum præcellentes, quotquot consului, eruditione amici, inter quos eminent reverendus ac doctissimus vir, Josephus Sanford, S. T. B. Collegii Balliolensis Oxon. Socius, mihi certatim adstipularentur. *Philosoph. Transact.* Vol. L. p. 185.

“ nefis nummi) exculptâ, cum eo anno nulla
 “ interfuerit pugna inter Romanos et Barbaros;”
 tametsi meam hujusce numismatis explicationem,
 quod summo mihi honori duco, teste Cl. Venuto (32), comprobavit.

IX.

Sed et minùs sibi constare, si non apertè secum pugnare, quoque videtur vel Cel. Corfinus, vel doctissimus Venutus; cujus huc spectantia, in pereruditâ suâ ad V. C. Joannem (33) Nixonum epistolâ, ita se habent verba. “ Sed cum Monneses regnum
 “ usurpaverit, legitimosque spoliaverit hæredes, vicinaque devastaverit regna, nil mirum si *Victoriam* in nummis insculpsit, atque ad Barbaricam, non ad Romanam, referri debet.” Hinc enim abundè constat, docente nos vel Corfino, vel Venuto, Monnesen monetam suam *Victoriâ* signâsse, proptereâ quod “ regnum usurpaverat, legitimosque spoliaverat hæredes, vicinaque devastaverat regna,” quanquam de prælio inter eum et Barbaros commissio omninò fileat historia. Ast hoc minimè patitur instituti Corfiniani ratio, quandoquidem antea “ dubitaverat de *Victoriâ* in posticâ
 “ exculptâ” Vir doctissimus, “ cum eo anno nulla
 “ interfuerit pugna inter Romanos et Barbaros,” si ex historicorum silentio id evinci possit. Pari igitur jure *Victoriam* Barbaricam, si hujusmodi valeat ratio, ac Romanam repudiemus.

(32) Venut. ubi sup.

(33) Idem ibid.

X.

Sed ut verum apertè atque ingenuè fateamur, id genus argumenta, ex historiæ silentio ducta, facilè et nullo negotio, advocatâ præsertim nummorum fide, haud rarè refelluntur. Victorias Romanorum copiis partas præstantiora interdum memorant numismata, ab eorum scriptoribus silentio penitus prætermittas; cujus, ut alia nunc non in medium proferam, nobis exemplo fit VICTORIA GOTTHI. P. (34) à Taciti imperatoris nummo ante oculos posita, et cæteroquin (ut opinor) minimùm nota. Parthos igitur Romanorum aciem non profligâsse, eodem quo Mesopotamiæ urbes ceperunt anno, utcunque de pugnâ taceat historia, pro certo dicere non ausim. Immò Parthos cum Romanis tum dimicâsse à vero non usquè adèdè forsan alienum reperietur, si Vaillantium, cujus de Monnese sensa pressè satis sequitur (35) Cl. Corfinus, perpendamus (36) innuisse, “ hunc principem ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ epitheton sibi adrogavisse, ob “ egregium quoddam adversus Romanos facinus bel- “ licum; quo populorum omnium sibi benevolen- “ tiam atque amorem conciliavit, quoque in turbu- “ lento illo rerum statu ad Parthicum solium viam “ sibi patefecit.” Utut tamen est, nil mirum si *Victoriam*, more Romano *Gradientem*, Monnesis nummus jam ostendet; cùm bella (37) contra Romanos feliciter gesserit, et totam fere Mesopotamiæ provinciam, secundum (38) Dionem, perdomuerit.

(34) Francisc. Mediobarb. Birag. ubi sup. p. 410. Mediol. 1683.

(35) Edv. Corfin. apud Venut. ubi sup.

(36) J. F. Vaill. ubi sup. p. 340.

(37) Idem ibid.

(38) Dio, Lib. lxxv. p. 853 *Philos. Transf.* Vol. L. p. 184, 185.