

Accepted Traditions of Rome's Early History Declared to Be False

ROME, May 26.—Twenty-six centuries ago, according to the most commonly received legend of Rome's foundation, Romulus, son of the vestal Rhea Silvia and the god Mars, built a city on the Palatine Hill. The first inhabitants of the city were shepherds from Alba Longa, who fled from the threatening neighborhood of a volcano until they came to a hill surrounded by perpendicular cliffs and protected by a circuit of deep marshes.

Here they found springs of pure water and a grove, the Luperca, which they dedicated to Faun, their god, "the driver away of wolves" and the protector of their herds, and here they settled and built a village, or rather a huge sheepfold. The hill on the banks of the Tiber was named Palatium, or Palatinus Mons, from Palas, the goddess of shepherds, pastorum dea, whose feast fell on April 21.

The river then had no special name; it was simply called Rumon, meaning a stream or river. Hence the new settlement became known as Roma, or the town by the river. Rome was founded in the 754th year before Christ.

It seems probable that the original founders of Romulus did not exceed about 1,000 men. The Romulus city was confined to the western part of the Palatine, as is shown by the circumstance that what remains of monuments and memorials of Romulus exist today are confined to this district.

Round the base of the city a wall was erected in a quadrangular, or lozenge-like form, whence the name of Rome Quadrata. This wall, according to Tacitus, was built with Etruscan rites. The pomerium, or sacred space around it, was marked out by a furrow made with a plough drawn by a cow and a bull; the clods were carefully thrown inward and the plough was lifted over the profane spaces necessary for the gates.

The city founded with these religious rites may be considered as sacred enclosure. The first defensive enclosure probably consisted of a simple agger formed with the earth and stones extracted from a ditch which ran all around the brow of the hill. No traces of this agger are left, but several remains of a second more solid and regular fortification, formed by rectangular blocks of tufa of perfect shape, disposed in horizontal rows, are to be seen in the Palatine to this very day.

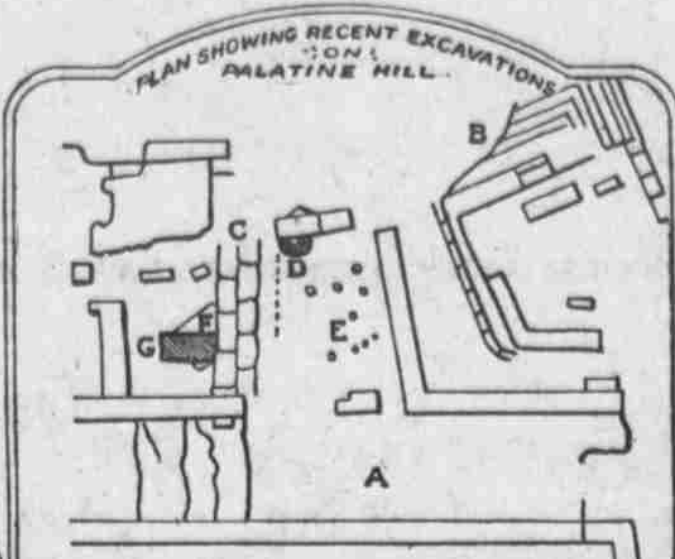
The remains of this defensive wall are in the south and west parts of the Palatine, that is, on the sides that overlook the Murcia valley and the Velabrum. The latter consists of six rows of regular cut blocks reaching to an even height of 4.50 meters and 1.90 meters thick. The lower row reposes on a platform cut in the virgin soil.

It is almost impossible to give an idea of the topography and of the monuments of the Roma Quadrata on the Palatine, as the successive transformations of the buildings of the Imperial era have completely changed the configuration of the hill. The testimony of all antiquity that the original Roman city stood on the Palatine has, however, been confirmed by modern excavations; the site of the Romulan city is known; the temple of Magna Mater, the great mother of all the gods, Cybele, has been identified in the remains of the cella and part of the pronaos, in numerous fragments of the columns of the pediment and entablature and in the spacious flight of steps, built of tufa blocks, which gave access to it.

Besides this temple, a still more ancient memorial of pre-Romulan times is the so-called steps of Cacus, the ferocious robber who stole several of the oxen of Geryon, which Hercules brought from

Hesperia and conveyed to Argos. The space overlooking the Velabrum which "formed the ground made sacred by tradition," and was accordingly left free and venerated by Roman emperors, exists today, its features and form, if not intact, yet not entirely blotted out, and all the transformations of marshes and low hills and primeval hollows into foundations for superb structures have not yet succeeded in obliterating the story of ancient Rome.

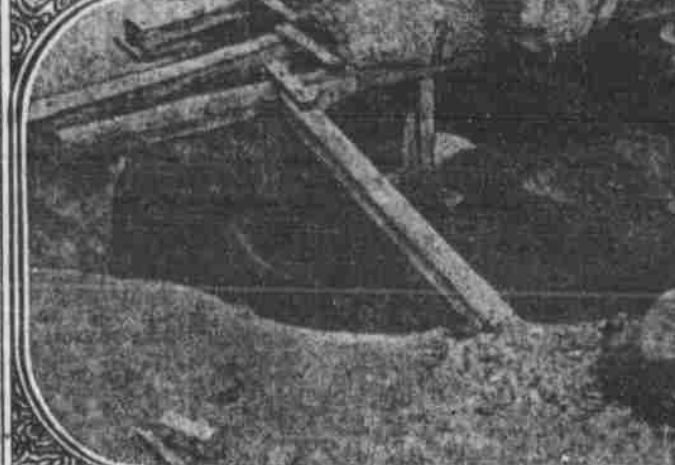
Prof. Pais, who holds the chair of archaeology in the University of Rome, explicitly states in his work on the early history of Rome that the old boundary walls on the Palatine were not built before the year 37 B. C., and that the city existed before the time of Romulus, who was called its



A. STEPS OF CACUS. B. REMAINS OF PRONAOS OF THE TEMPLE OF MATER MAGNA. C. WALL. D. TOMB DISCOVERED APRIL 20. E. VIRGIN SOIL. F. WALL. G. INHUMATION TOMB DISCOVERED APRIL 27.



GENERAL VIEW OF EXCAVATIONS.



INHUMATION TOMB, INSIDE VIEW, SHOWING SLAB THAT COVERED THE MOUTH.



FIRST WELL-SHAPED TOMB DISCOVERED. WALL MARKED ON PLAN AS TOMB D.



PROFESSOR DANTE VAGLIERI AND HIS ASSISTANT COUNT COZZA EXAMINING THE PRE-ROMULAN VASE FOUND IN LAST TOMB.

founder from being the first who gave it strength and stability. In other terms, according to the professor's theory, after the Gallic configuration (37 B. C.), when the city was burnt to the ground and the Romans took shelter on the capitol, the Roma Quadrata was fortified by the building of a wall, the remains of which are seen to this very day.

Count Cozza, an experienced excavator in the employ of the government department of antiquities, wishing to test the theory of Prof. Pais, began a tentative exploration on the Palatine about two months ago. On the summit of the hill generally known as Cermalus he discovered what appeared to have been a pre-Romulan necropolis. (See plan, space marked E.)

A few well shaped tombs of a distinctly archaic type were found, but being empty could not be ascertained. Still this discovery was of the utmost importance, inasmuch as it proved that sepulchres existed in a space which was generally believed to have been within the walls of the city and where by the laws of the Twelve Tables it was not allowed to bury the dead.

Count Cozza encouraged by this first successful find continued his exploration. The excavations were attended with considerable difficulty and had to be limited to a small space.

In many cases the soil was not removed, but shifted from its original place, carefully examined and as carefully replaced. Only three men were at work under Count Cozza and this small party were under the direct supervision of Prof. Vaglieri, the director of excavations on the Palatine.

After a short time a still more important discovery was made than the first one. A wall consisting of two rows of rectangular tufa blocks evidently dating to the fifth or sixth century B. C. was unearthed.

The lower row of blocks rested on a bed of rubble mostly detrital, but which on closer examination proved to be in part composed of broken pieces of baked earthware vessels, an almost convincing proof of the existence of a necropolis on the same spot over which the wall was built.

This substance was evenly stratified over the whole surface between the wall and the space where the well shaped tombs were discovered. (See plan C and D.) This being removed the virgin soil was reached. Subsequently, on April 20, a well shaped tomb was discovered to the right of the wall (plan D) large enough to contain a dolium of ordinary dimensions, but entirely empty.

As the whole space had now practically been explored the excavations were continued under the wall itself. This was the most hazardous undertaking of the kind in modern archaeological art.

The wall could not be removed, much less damaged; it could almost not even be touched. Strong wooden beams were accordingly introduced under the lower row of tufa blocks and were made to support these while the earth underneath was carefully removed.

More detritus was encountered here, and under it was discovered a rectangular tomb for inhumation (plan F and G). The tomb was covered by a tufa slab which showed signs of having been removed from its original place, presumably by Gallic or other depredators who were in the habit of violating sepulchres in order to steal the valuable objects they were known to contain, but this tomb was not empty.

Besides the remains of human bones a scyphus, or drinking cup of earthenware, with traces of painted black stripes on a dark ground, was discovered in the tomb. This cup is undoubtedly of Grecian manufacture and dates from the fifth or sixth century, B. C. Among all the external evidence of the authenticity and credibility of the history of the Roman kings, such as annals, laws, treaties and other written

documents, as well as other monuments, architectural and plastic, of the regal period, which have prevented the history from being a mere blank, nothing hitherto discovered equals in importance the find of this earthenware vase.

Prof. Pais's theory has been fully corroborated by the excavations on the Palatine. The boundary walls were not built, as generally believed, more than 700 years before the birth of Christ, but at least 300 years later. The Romulan city was not rectangular and only occupied a small space on the Palatine, since on the spot where the wall or the pomerium was supposed to have existed tombs of the fifth century B. C. were discovered and mere conjectures have been authenticated by positive facts. The importance of these discoveries is therefore great.

It would be beyond the scope of this article to attempt an explanation of the bearing of the recent excavations on the history and topography of the Palatine Hill, but a brief survey can be given of some of the materials furnished toward the credibility of the early history of Rome.

The problems inherent to the Palatine are principally the following: 1. The shape of the city; 2. its extension, and 3. the age of its existing remains, and consequently the

origin and development of Roman civilization. Tacitus and Gellius state that the pomerium of the ancient Palatine city surrounded the hill down to its base, while Festus and Solinus affirm that the Roma Quadrata was only a small portion of the crest, viz. that named Cermalus.

When the walls which tradition assigns to Romulus were discovered they were found not round the hill, but on its very summit. Evidently later republican buildings had completely changed the configuration of the hill, and hence historians described Rome as it was in their own time without taking into account its transformation and development.

There is ancient evidence of the existence of tombs on the slopes of the Palatine, hence these slopes were uninhabited. There is every reason for believing therefore that the old city was limited to only the top of the hill.

The city was supposed to be rectangular in shape, hence its appellation of Roma Quadrata. Ancient writers are not in accord about the shape of Rome, and the expression "quadrata," square, may have referred either to a small square space in front of the temple of Apollo or to an area which from the Esquary Palatine extended to the steps of Cacus; perhaps the expression

referred to the saxon Quadratum, or the square stones composing the walls of the city.

The topography of the Palatine itself, which is composed of three hills, viz. the Cermalus, Palatium and Vella, excluded the possibility of a square city. The walls built by Romulus consisted very probably only of an agger, i. e., an artificial mound or rampart, or a large embankment of earth strengthened by trunks of trees, surrounded by palisades, no trace of which is naturally left today.

Both Cicero and Livy allude to a voice of warning from the gods heard by a certain Codricus before the Gallic invasion, suggesting that the walls of Rome should be fortified. The Gauls razed the city to the ground and burnt it, and Servius Tullius afterward built the walls, remains of which are seen now.

These walls were built not before the fourth century B. C., and consequently after the time during which the locality was used as a burial place. The Forum in all probability was not included in the original city on the Palatine, but was used as a burial place, and the discovery by Prof. Boni of Romulus' tomb there corroborates this theory.

Such are briefly the results obtained from the discovery of a few tombs on the Palatine and the finding of an earthenware vase. The early topography of Rome has practically been altered, traditions that had survived for centuries and centuries have been proven false, and Rome, the greatest city of the world, did not rise on virgin soil, but was built on the remains of a necropolis, which shows that an earlier civilization had preceded it.



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Progress in the Field of Electricity

Electricity on Railroad.
UNITELY recently does not appear to have any suggestion to conserve all the water power of a country to drive all the railroads of the same country. Yet this is what it is now proposed to do in Switzerland.

with a careful estimate of the corresponding costs for complete electric traction.

As a consequence of this investigation it appears that if the single phase system, as adopted by the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, were installed on all the railroads of the United States, with generating stations such as are now in actual service, the aggregate cost of operation, now about \$40,000,000 a year, would be reduced by about \$20,000,000. This result would require the installation of power plants delivering about 12,500,000 kilowatt hours a year; and assuming a radius of transmission of 150 miles, it appears that a maximum output of about 2,500,000 kilowatts would be enough to operate the entire railway service of the United States as it existed in 1905.

mountain stream which tumbles noisily down the rocks is often worth more than the broad, sluggish river flowing through a low country. One cubic foot of water, a second may equal in power the total stored energy of many tons of coal.

What is even more wonderful, the water may be used twice; first, for generating electrical power; second, to irrigate farm lands in dry countries. With the electrical pump the stream itself can be pumped to levels where ordinary ditches could not carry it. Electricity can be made to light and heat the homes in the country as well as in the city and to run feed cutters, threshers and cream separators on the farm as well as the wheels of cars and factories.

Longest Telegraph Circuit.
Probably the longest telegraph circuit in the world has been in operation for over a year on the lines of the Indo-European Telegraph company, between London and Teheran, Persia's capital. This circuit is 4,000 miles in length, and in its course it traverses the North Sea for 200 miles and passes through Belgium, Germany, Russia, Turkey in Asia and Persia. The Wheatstone automatic system of transmission and reception is employed on the circuit. By this system messages are transmitted at the rate of eighty to 400 words a minute, according to the nature of the circuit, as against twenty-five to thirty-five words by manual Morse transmission.

That thirty little country possesses no coal, but does contain many Alpine streams capable of direction so as to render high heads available, for power purposes. A number of these streams have already been utilized both for local power and lighting, and also for the operation of mountain railways.

Now, however, it is seriously proposed to develop the hydraulic power of Switzerland as a whole, and apply it electrically to the propulsion of trains on the existing main line railways, thus avoiding the necessity for importing any coal for railway transport purposes, and developing the power resources of the land itself.

Great Fortunes of the Future.
There is no question but that electricity is the greatest power in the world and it is still in its infancy. The engineering problem of today is how to develop this electrical current in the easiest and most economical manner. It is estimated that throughout the world about 1,000,000 electrical horsepower is being generated from waterfalls and streams. One-quarter of this great horsepower is generated in the United States, with Canada second and Switzerland third.

A Harriman Story
E. H. Harriman the other day was discussing the recent drop in securities and claimed that it was inadvisable to legislate too harshly against what are regarded as vested interests. The present situation reminded him of a school teacher who suddenly asked a boy: "What are you fumbling with?" The boy's next neighbor said Johnny had a pin. "Take it from him and bring it to me," said the teacher. This was done, whereupon the schoolmaster ordered Johnny to recite his lesson. The boy grinned and said: "Stand up, I tell you," commanded the teacher. Then the lad blurted out: "I can't, ma'am. That there pin what you have was holdin' up my pants."

To generate 2,000,000 horsepower would require some 2,000,000 tons of coal, and at a lowing \$5 a ton for the cost of the coal this would represent a saving of \$10,000,000.

Situated in this country there are thousands of streams capable of producing from 100 to 50,000 or more horsepower. Others, like Niagara, and Victoria Falls in South Africa, and the innumerable falls of the Mississippi, the Colorado and the Missouri, have water power that seem unlimited. If every part of the mighty torrent of Niagara was harnessed it would easily generate sufficient electrical power to do all the work of this country.

The value of a stream for power purposes depends upon the amount of water flowing and also upon its head; that is, the height of the fall, whether in a sudden drop or rushing down a slope. The small

New Method of Teletography.
The method of transmitting pictures by telegraph invented by A. Korn has now been adapted, by him to teletography, or the transmitting of written communications and is described in a German technical paper. The apparatus differs very little from that used in transmitting pictures, the chief change being in the method of sending the impulses from the original copy. The picture-sending device utilizes

Chases Dirt

Old Dutch Cleanser

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