

appointed Clodius Pupienus and Caecilius Balbinus as Caesars.⁸

27. During the same period in Africa the soldiers appointed as Augustus Gordian's son, Gordian, who happened to be on his father's staff though he was a young boy and was subsequently praetorian prefect,¹ and the nobility certainly did not reject this move.² Finally, when he had been summoned, the praetorian detachments were destroyed in combat among the hills of the city and its very centre by bands of gladiators and an army of recruits.³ While this was taking place at Rome the (two) Julii Maximini, who by chance were at that time occupied in Thrace, learned what had happened and hastily made for Italy.⁴ At the siege of Aquileia Pupienus killed them after they had been defeated in battle and their remaining troops had gradually deserted.⁵ A year was added to their two year reign through delays of this kind.⁶ Not long afterwards Clodius and Caecilius were slain in the palace at Rome during a military revolt and Gordian became sole ruler.⁷ That very year, when he had extended and consolidated the Quinquennial Games which Nero had introduced to Rome, he set out against the Persians after he had first opened the doors of the Temple of Janus which Marcus had closed according to ancestral custom.⁸ There he conducted a brilliant campaign⁹ but perished in the sixth year of his reign through the intrigues of his praetorian prefect, Marcus Philippus.¹⁰
28. And so Marcus Julius Philippus, an Arab from Thraconitis, took his son Philip as a partner, settled affairs in the east, founded the town of Philippopolis in Arabia, and came to Rome (with his son).¹ They constructed a reservoir on the other side of the Tiber because that region used to be plagued by a shortage of water,² and they celebrated the thousandth anniversary of the city with games of all kinds.³ And since the name has reminded me, in my time, too, the eleven hundredth anniversary passed by in the consulship of a Philip, but it was celebrated with none of the customary festivities, so drastically