

Dio Cassius

Roman History

Translation by Earnest Cary, 1917

Original in Greek

2360

liber 51, cap. 22 (5)

After finishing his celebration [29 BC] Caesar dedicated the temple of Minerva, called also the Chalcidium, and the Curia Iulia, which had been built in honour of his father.

At the consecration of the shrine to Julius there were all kinds of contests. ... Further-more, one Quintus Vitellius, a senator, fought as a gladiator. Wild beasts and tame animals were slain in vast numbers, among them a rhinoceros and a hippopotamus, beasts then seen for the first time in Rome. ... The rhinoceros on the other hand, is in general somewhat like an elephant, but it has also a horn on its very nose and has got its name because of it.