

ABOUT A.D. 236  
**ANONYMOUS**  
**CHRONICLE**  
WRITTEN UNDER ALEXANDER SEVERUS

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**CHRONICLE, BY AN ANONYMOUS AUTHOR**  
WHO IS SAID TO HAVE LIVED UNDER EMPEROR ALEXANDER, A.D. 236

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THE BOOK OF THE GENERATIONS FROM ADAM UP TO THE MATTERS<sup>1</sup> WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN THIS BOOK

*Reckoning of times and years. Generations of the era extending to the present day. Earth divided among the three sons of Noe.*

*Exposition of the nations, from whom they were made, and to whom each of the lands and states were allotted, which well-known islands, who from which nations had migrated, how rivers were named, how mountains were named.*

*How many judges, and how many years each judged the people.*

*How many kings of the Tribe of Juda, and how many years each reigned.*

*259 An exposition of Pascha<sup>1</sup>, and how many have been observed from the time of Moses to this day.*

*Beges<sup>2</sup> of the Persians from Cyrus, and how many years they reigned.*

*Kings of Macedon from Alexander, and how many years they reigned.*

*Emperors of the Romans from Augustus, and how many years they reigned.*

*The times of the Olympiads from Ifitus, to the present Olympiad.*

**660** *Names of the Patriarchs as well as generations.*

*Names of the prophets. Wives of the prophets.*

*Names of the Kings of the Hebrews and the Kingdom in Samaria in which they ruled over the ten Tribes, and how many years they reigned.*

*Names of Priests.*

*Names of the Bishops of Rome, and how many years they presided.*

## PREFACE

Whereas it is fitting<sup>2</sup> to be equipped with truth, I thought it needful, dearest brothers, now to make a brief disquisition on the Holy Scripture about the doctrine worthy of assent, so that by means of a few explanations, not without cause, we might recognize more quickly the virtues we study, setting aside first of all the contention generated<sup>3</sup> by the unlearned, which dulls the senses, in such a manner as to instruct the unlearned. It is with the greatest of diligence that, desiring to

foresee accurately, we learn the division of the Gentiles and the enumerated generations of their parentage.

### Variant Readings

<sup>1</sup>To the matters which are contained. *So MS. Edit. Canis.* to ... the matters which are contained in the volume of this book. <sup>2</sup>To be equipped with truth. *Edit. Labb.* to be equipped with truth by deacons. *And soon*, dearest brothers – about your doctrine which is worthy of corroboration. <sup>3</sup>Which dulls the senses. *Edit. Labb.* who dull. *After senses, edit. Canis. praefert* second: strongly

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1 Pascha: if I understand the term right, this term embraces both “Passover” and “Easter” [M.P.].

2 Beges: so reads the 1886 printing of PL 3 that I have consulted. I would like to see if this appears as the undoubtedly correct *Reges* (‘kings’) in an earlier edition.