

# DISCHARGE DATED A. D. 122.

## Museum Gets "Papers" of Soldier In Emperor Hadrian's Army.

The British Museum recently acquired a unique relic—the "discharge papers" of a Roman soldier who quitted the service of the Emperor Hadrian in 122, the very year in which he crossed over into Britain to inspect the great wall in the north which today bears his name.

The document consists of two bronze plates five inches square hinged together by three rings forming a folder which could have been closed, tied and sealed—as is said to have been the custom. The plates were found at Oszony (the Roman Brigetti), in Hungary, and refer to the discharge of Gemellus, the Pannonian, who was a non-commissioned officer of the First Tampiian Regiment of Pannonia Cavalry, commanded by Fabius Sabinus.

According to the historian Tacitus, this regiment was raised in Pannonia during the civil wars of A. D. 69 by Tampus Flavianus, the Governor of that place, and formed part of the Hungarian auxiliaries. The plate goes on to say that the discharge is granted after "25 years of faithful service with the auxiliary," and upon the holder is "herewith conferred his new status, civis Romanus," the coveted Roman citizenship. On the reverse side are the names of the witnesses to the document.

On the second plate is a list of the units from which men were discharged at the same time—fourteen cavalry regiments and thirty-seven cohorts of foot.

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