

people have so considerable a part, will not be surprized at his conduct in that transaction.

Another accident happened at this time: when the people were celebrating funeral games in honour of Caesar, a comet with long flaming hair appeared for the space of seven days, which made them believe the soul of Caesar was received into heaven.

It was very customary for the people of Greece and Asia, to erect temples (*a*) to the kings and even the proconsuls who had governed them; and they were indulged in this practice, because it was the greatest evidence they could possibly give of their abject servitude. Nay the Romans themselves might, in their private temples where their Lares were deposited, render divine honours to their ancestors; but I cannot remember, that from the time of Romulus to Julius Caesar, any Roman (*b*) was ever ranked among the gods of the republic.

The government of Macedonia was assigned to Antony, but he was desirous of changing it for that of Gaul, and the motives which so induced him are very evident; Decimus Brutus, who governed Cisalpine Gaul, having refused to resign that province to Antony, he was resolved to deprive him of it by force. This produced a civil war, in which the senate declared Antony an enemy to his country.

Cicero, to accomplish the destruction of Antony his mortal enemy, was so injudicious as to employ

(*a*) See more on this subject, in the letters of Cicero to Atticus, l. v. and the remark of the Abbe de Mongaut.

(*b*) Dion relates that the Triumviri, who all expected the same deification, took all imaginable care to enlarge the honours paid to Caesar.