

Book I.
Title XXVI.

Concerning the office of the Count of the Orient.
(De officio comitis Orientis.)

Headnote.

Count of Orient. The Count of the Orient of worshipful rank was, before Justinian, a powerful official, governing one of the great dioceses of the Orient, embracing fifteen provinces and covering part of Asia Minor, Syria, Palastine, and part of Arabis. At one time Egypt was under him. He was the superior of all the provincial governors in his diocese. He occupied a somewhat more independent position, and a somewhat higher rank. He reside in Antioch, a large city, where he performed the same relative functions as the prefect of Constantinople and Rome, looking after the supply of bread, the heating of the baths, the aqueducts and other matters. 4 Pauly-Wissowa 659-660.

1.36.1. Emperor Leo to Pusaens, Praetorian Prefect.

We direct that the contributions assigned to the Alytarchian and Syriarchian games in the first Syria shall be collected through the office of the worshipful Count of the Orient, as well as of the rector of the province. And the Alytarchian games shall be under the care of the worshipful Count of the Orient and his official staff, the Syriarchian games under the charge of the honorable Moderator of the province and his apparitors, and no one of the curials, even if he wishes, shall perform that duty or honor. Given at Constantinople November 9 (465).

Note.

The games or spectacles here mentioned were given in Syria, and the care of looking after them was a burden. The curials were relieved therefrom by this law and the apparitors of the Count of the Orient and those of the provincial governor were charged therewith. See Gothofredus on C. Th. 6.3.1.