

Book XI.
Title XXXXII. (XXXXI)

Concerning the cost of public games.
(De expensis publicorum ludorum.)

11.42.1. Emperors Diocletian and Maximian.

Since you say that the president of the province has transferred the funds generally used for the purpose of giving games, to the repair of the walls, the amount advantageously diverted, will not be recalled, and the customary celebration of the games will take place in accordance with ancient custom after the walls have been restored. For thus the city will be safeguarded by the protection afforded by the walls, and, ratifying what is necessary for public security, the pleasure of the restoration of the games, will be experienced in the course of time.

Note.

It will be noticed from this law that funds of the city were used for the purpose of giving games or shows. Immense sums of money were spent during the empire for such games, many of them being required to be given by public officials, as for instance the consuls, praetors, duumvirs. On the subject in general, see Liebenam, Stadteverw. 113-121.