

Book I.
Title XXXVII.

Concerning the office of the Augustal Prefect.
(De officio praefecti Augustalis.)

1.37.1. Emperors Valentinian, Theodosius and Arcadius to Florentius, Augustal Prefect.

We order that all tribute from the diocese of Egypt shall be collected by the moderators of the provinces under the care and supervision of Your Clarity. If any land owners, however, soldiers or civilians audaciously refuse to pay what they owe, they shall be compelled to do so, if need be, by military aid.

Given at Constantinople February 17 (386).

C. Th. 1.14.1.

1.37.2. Emperors Theodosius, Arcadius and Honorius to Refinus, Praetorian Prefect.

The Augustal Prefect shall have power of examining and reporting the misconduct of the ordinary judges under him, but shall have no power of removing or punishing them.

Given at Constantinople December 4 (395).

C. Th. 1.14.2.

Note.

Augustal Prefect and Egypt.

Egypt, originally a part of the diocese of the Orient, was later formed into a separate diocese, under the control of the so-called Augustal prefect, of worshipful rank, and officiating in substantially the capacity of a vicar. The Register of Dignitaries Or. 23 states that there were under the prefect six provinces: Egypt, Arcadia, Augustamnica, Thebaid and the two Libyas. The Thebaid was later divided into two provinces, so was Augustamnica and the province of Egypt, making nine provinces in all. By edict 1, Justinian reorganized the government of the whole of Egypt, which supplied Constantinople and Alexandria with corn. He curtailed the power of the Augustal Prefect, made him governor of Alexandria and of the First and Second Egyptian provinces (Prima and Secunda). The governors of the two Libyas were placed under the control of the military duke of the Libyan frontier. The duke of the Thebaid received the Augustal title and was given both civil and military authority over the two Thebaid provinces whose governors were subordinate to him. The edict contains minute regulations as to the collection and transportation of the corn supplies for Constantinople and Alexandria, and for the collection of all taxes for the treasury of the praetorian prefect and of the Count of the Imperial Exchequer. Bury, 2 History of the Later Roman Empire 243.