

# Inspector Rex's History Snippet #22

## Vercingetorix

**Vercingetorix** (c. 82 BC – 46 BC) was a king and chieftain of the [Arverni](#) tribe who united the [Gauls](#) in a revolt against [Roman](#) forces during the last phase of [Julius Caesar's Gallic Wars](#). Vercingetorix was the son of Celtillus the Arvernian, leader of the Gallic tribes. Vercingetorix came to power after his formal designation as chieftain of the Arverni at the [oppidum Gergovia](#) in 52 BC. He immediately established an alliance with other Gallic tribes, took command and combined all forces, and led them in the Celts' most significant revolt against Roman power. He won the [Battle of Gergovia](#) against [Julius Caesar](#) in which several thousand Romans and their allies died and Caesar's Roman legions withdrew. However, Caesar had been able to exploit Gaulish internal division to easily subjugate the country, and Vercingetorix's attempt to unite the Gauls against Roman invasion came too late. At the [Battle of Alesia](#), the Romans besieged and defeated his forces. **This was a decisive battle in the creation of the Roman Empire.** In order to save as many of his men as possible, he gave himself to the Romans. Vercingetorix was imprisoned in the [Tullianum](#) in Rome for almost six years before being publicly displayed in the first of Caesar's four [triumphs](#) in 46 BC. He was executed after the triumph, most likely by strangulation in his prison according to Roman custom.

Vercingetorix is primarily known through Caesar's *[Commentaries on the Gallic War](#)*. To this day, he is considered a folk hero in [Auvergne](#), his native region.



Vercingetorix on Roman coinage (dated 48 BC).  
Top: bust right (war chariot on reverse); bottom:  
tied near war trophy (female head on obverse).



*Vercingetorix throws down his arms at the feet of Julius Caesar*  
*Painting by Lionel Royer*



VerVercingetorix statue by **Frédéric Bartholdi**, on Place  
 de Jaude, in **Clermont-Ferrand**, France Author: Fabien1309  
**(See Comment at end)**

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vercingetorix>

## Memorials



Vercingétorix Memorial in [Alesia](#), near the village of [Alise-Sainte-Reine](#), France

[Napoleon III](#) erected a 7-metre-tall (23 ft) [Vercingétorix monument](#) in 1865, created by the sculptor [Aimé Millet](#), on the supposed site of Alesia. The architect for the memorial was [Eugène Viollet-le-Duc](#).<sup>[15]</sup> The statue still stands. The inscription on the base, written by Viollet-le-Duc, which copied the famous statement of Julius Caesar, reads (in [French](#)):

La Gaule unie  
Formant une seule nation  
Animée d'un même esprit,  
Peut défier l'Univers.

Gaul united,  
Forming a single nation  
Animated by a common spirit,  
Can defy the Universe.

## Comment by Inspector Rex

source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue\\_of\\_Liberty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty)

**[Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi](#) and [Gustave Eiffel](#)**

The **Statue of Liberty** (*Liberty Enlightening the World*; French: *La Liberté éclairant le monde*) is a colossal [neoclassical sculpture](#) on [Liberty Island](#) in [New York Harbor](#) within [New York City](#), in the [United States](#). The copper statue, a gift from the people of [France](#) to the people of the United States, was designed by French sculptor [Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi](#) and its metal framework was built by [Gustave Eiffel](#). The statue was dedicated on October 28, 1886.