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PAUSANIAS' DESCRIPTION OF GREECE

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PAUSANIAS'  
DESCRIPTION OF GREECE

TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH WITH  
NOTES AND INDEX

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# PAUSANIAS.

## BOOK VII.—ACHAIA.

### CHAPTER I.

NOW the country between Elis and Sicyonia which borders on the Corinthian Gulf is called in our day Achaia from its inhabitants, but in ancient times was called Ægialus and its inhabitants Ægialians, according to the tradition of the Sicyonians from Ægialeus, who was king of what is now Sicyonia, others say from the position of the country which is mostly on the sea-shore.<sup>1</sup> After the death of Hellen his sons chased their brother Xuthus out of Thessaly, accusing him of having privately helped himself to their father's money. And he fled to Athens, and was thought worthy to marry the daughter of Erechtheus, and he had by her two sons Achæus and Ion. After the death of Erechtheus he was chosen to decide which of his sons should be king, and, because he decided in favour of Cecrops the eldest, the other sons of Erechtheus drove him out of the country: and he went to Ægialus and there lived and died. And of his sons Achæus took an army from Ægialus and Athens and returned to Thessaly, and took possession of the throne of his ancestors, and Ion, while gathering together an army against the Ægialians and their king Selinus, received messengers from Selinus offering him his only child Helice in marriage, and adopting him as his son and heir. And Ion was very well contented with this, and after the death of Selinus reigned over the Ægialians, and built Helice which he called after the name of his wife, and

<sup>1</sup> Ægialus (*αἰγιαλός*) is Greek for sea-shore. In this last view compare the names *Pomerania*, *Glamorganshire*.

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