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78 "Οτι Οιαραθος ἄνηρ Δυστανί, ἀβακότατος μὲν γένος ὡς γέ τοι δευκέλ' ἄνω, περιβογοττάτα δὲ τοῖς πράξεις χρυσάμενος, λογοτής τε γέροντα 1 ἐκ πολέμων, καὶ μετὰ τοῦτο καὶ στρατηγή, ἐπεφάνει γὰρ καὶ ἄειος τάχιμος μὲν ἔδιδεὶ τε καὶ φυγεῖν, ἵσυρότατος δὲ ἐν σταδίο μέχρι
2 καὶ καὶ τὸν τε τροφὴν τὴν ἕλατο παρα⇌κυναί τὸ τοῦ πτέρναν ἀλάμβανεν, ἵππαιρς τε τῶν πλείον τοῦ βίου χρύσου διηγάτο, καὶ ταῖς αὐτοφώα τροφών τοῦ ἑρείπτο. καὶ
dιὰ τὰ τάχια παντὸς μὲν καὶ παντοῦ, παντὸς δὲ πάνω χρύσου κρίτου ἔρι, καὶ ἀδήτ νυκτος λαμβάνει πατε ἐπινήκρεν αὖ ἐντὸς ἄλλης τινὰς αἰειθάες στα-
lακτοφώρες, ὰτε καὶ πάνω τῶν ἀναγκαίων ἐκ
tῶν ἕλατο παράκτον ἄν καὶ ἀριστών ἀπολαίων
3 ἰκανώτατα. τοιοῦτον δὲ αὐτή τοῦ σώματος καὶ
eκ τῆς φύσεως καὶ ἐκ τῆς άκηρέως ὅτος, πολὺ
tαῖς τῆς φυσῆς ἀρεταῖς ἐπερεόμε. ταχύν μὲν
gρα πάν τὸ δέον ἐπινήκρει 4 καὶ ποτήρια ἔρι,
(τὸ τε γὰρ πρακτίων ἀρα σχίνωνι, καὶ τῶν
cαιρών αὐτοῦ ἑρείπτο), δάλικες δὲ 5 τα τε ἐρμα-

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VIRIATIUS was a Lusitanian, of very obscure origin, as some think, who gained great renown through his deeds, since from a shepherd he became a robber and later on also a general. He was naturally adapted and had also trained himself to be very swift both in pursuit and in flight, and of powerful endurance in a hand-to-hand conflict. He was glad enough to get any food that came to hand and whatever drink fell to his lot; most of his life he lived under the open sky and was satisfied with nature’s bedding. Consequently he was superior to any heat or cold, and was never either troubled by hunger or annoyed by any other privation; for he found full satisfaction for all his needs in whatever he had at hand, as if it were the very best. And yet, possessed of such a physique, as the result both of nature and training, he excelled still more in his mental powers. He was swift to plan and accomplish whatever was needful, for he not only knew what must be done, but also understood the proper occasion for it; and he was equally clever at
feigning ignorance of the most obvious facts and knowledge of the most hidden secrets. Furthermore, he was not only general but his own assistant as well in every undertaking, and was seen to be neither humble nor overbearing; indeed, in him obscurity of family and reputation for strength were so combined that he seemed to be neither inferior nor superior to any one. And, in fine, he carried on the war not for the sake of personal gain or power nor through anger, but for the sake of warlike deeds in themselves; hence he was accounted at once a lover of war and a master of war.

Claudius, the colleague of Metellus, impelled by pride of birth and jealousy of Metellus, since he had chanced to draw Italy as his province, where no enemy was assigned to him, was eager to secure by any means some pretext for a triumph; hence he set the Salassi, a Gallic tribe, at war with the Romans, although no complaints were being made against them. For he had been sent to reconcile them with their neighbours who were quarrelling with them about the water necessary for the gold mines, and he overran their entire country... the Romans sent him two of the ten priests.

Claudius, even though he realised perfectly well that he had won no victory, nevertheless even then
displayed such arrogance as not to say a word in either the senate or the assembly about the triumph; but acting as if it belonged to him in any case, even if no one should vote to that effect, he asked for the necessary funds.

As regards their characters, Mammius and Africanius were utterly different from each other in every respect. The latter performed his official duties [as censor] with the strictest integrity and with impartiality, not esteeming one person above another; indeed, he called to account many of the senators and many of the knights, as well as other individuals. Mammius, on the other hand, was more popular in his sympathies and more charitable; he not only attached no stigma himself to any one, but he even undid many of the acts of Africanus, whenever it was possible. In fact, he was of such an amiable nature that he even lent some statues to Lucillus for the consecration of the temple of Felicitas (which he had built from the booty gained in the Spanish war), and then, when that general was unwilling to return them on the ground that they had become sacred as a result of the dedication, he showed no anger, but permitted his own spoils to lie there offered up in the other’s name.

[Porcius] also received many setbacks and incurred great disgrace. There was a river flowing through the country of the Numantines that he wished to
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turn aside from its ancient channel and let in upon their fields, and after tremendous exertions he accomplished this; but he lost many soldiers, and no advantage from turning it aside came to the Romans, nor yet any harm to the enemy . . .

Caepio accomplished nothing worthy of mention against the foe, but visited many injuries upon his own men, so that he even came near being killed by them. For he treated them all, and especially the cavalry, with such harshness and cruelty that a great number of unseemly jokes and stories were told about him during the nights; and the more he grew vexed at it, the more they jested in the endeavour to infuriate him. When it became known what was going on and no one could be found guilty,—though he suspected it was the doing of the cavalry,—since he could not fix the responsibility upon anybody, he turned his anger against them all, and he commanded them, six hundred in number, to cross the river beside which they were encamped, accompanied only by their groomsmen, and to bring wood from the mountain on which Viriathus was bivouacking. The danger was manifest to all, and the tribunes and lieutenants begged him not to destroy them. The cavalry waited for a little while, thinking he might listen to the others, and when he would not yield, they scorned to entreat him, as he was most eager for them to do, but choosing rather to perish utterly than to speak a respectful word to him, they
set out on the appointed mission. And the horsemen of the allies and other volunteers accompanied them. They crossed the river, cut the wood, and piled it in all around the general’s quarters, intending to burn him to death. And he would have perished in the flames, if he had not fled away in time.

Papilus so terrified Viriathus that the latter immediately sent to him in regard to peace before they had made any trial of battle at all, killed some of the leaders of the rebels whose surrender had been demanded by the Romans (among these his son-in-law, though commanding his own force, was slain) and delivered up the rest, all of whom had their hands cut off by the consul’s order. And he would have agreed to a complete truce, if their weapons had not also been demanded; with this condition neither he nor the rest of the soldiers would comply.

1 ἀντωστάτων Lecord, ἀντωστάτων Mss.
2 αὐτῷ Lecord, αὐτῷ ὑπὲρ Mss.
3 καθεδρεύοντας Πολεύδης, καθεδρεύοντας Πολεύδης Mss.

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