BOOK XLII

The following is contained in the Forty-second of Dio's Books:

How Pompey, defeated in Thrasybule, fled to Egypt and perished (chap. 1-5).

How Caesar, pursuing Pompey, came into Egypt (chap. 6-9).

How the news about Caesar and Pompey was announced at Rome, and what decrees were passed in honour of Caesar (chaps. 17-20).

How the people in Rome fell into strife during Caesar's absence (chaps. 21-33).

How Caesar fought and subdued the Egyptians and made a present of them to Cleopatra (chaps. 34-44).

How Caesar conquered Pharos (chaps. 45-48).

How Caesar returned to Rome and settled matters there (chaps. 49-55).

How Caesar led an expedition into Africa (chaps. 56-58).

Duration of time, the remainder of the consulship of C. Julius Caesar (II) and Publius Servilius Q. F., and the two consuls Q. Pufius Q. F. Caecinus and P. Varinius P. F.

Scriba was the general character of the battle. As a result of it Pompey straightway despaired of all his projects and no longer took any account of his own valour or of the multitude of troops remaining.
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to him or of the fact that Fortune often restores a.c. 61
the fallen in a moment of time; yet previously he had always possessed the greatest cheerfulness and the greatest hopefulness on all occasions of failure. The reason for this was that on those occasions he had usually been evenly matched with his foe and hence had not taken his victory for granted; but by reflecting beforehand on the two possible issues of events while he was still cool-headed and was not yet involved in any alarm he had not neglected to prepare for the worst. In this way he had not been compelled to yield to disasters and had always been able easily to renew the conflict; but this time, as he had expected to prove greatly superior to Caesar, he had taken no precautions. For instance, he had not placed his camp in a suitable position, nor had he provided a refuge for himself in case of defeat. And whereas he might have delayed action and so have prevailed without a battle—since his army kept increasing every day and he had abundant provisions, being in a country for the most part friendly and being also master of the sea,—nevertheless, whether of his own accord, because he expected to conquer in any event, or because his hand was forced by his associates, he joined issue. Consequently, as soon as he was defeated, he became greatly terrified and had no opportune plan or sure hope to enable him to face the danger anew. Thus it is that whenever an event befalls a man unexpectedly and contrary to all calculation, it humbles his spirit and strikes his reason with panic, so that he becomes the poorest and weakest judge of what must be done. For reason cannot dwell
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with fear; if it occupies the ground first, it boldly thrusts the other out, but if it be last on the field, it gets the worst of the encounter.

Hence Pompey, also, having considered none of the chances beforehand, was found naked and defenceless, whereas, if he had taken any precautions, he might, perhaps, without trouble have quickly recovered everything. For large numbers of the combatants on his side had survived and he had other forces of no small importance. Above all, he possessed large sums of money and was master of the whole sea, and the cities both there and in Asia were devoted to him even in his misfortune. But, as it was, since he had fared ill where he felt most confident, though the fear that seized him at the moment he made no use of any one of these resources, but left the camp at once and fled with a few companions toward Larissa. He did not enter the city, although the inhabitants invited him to do so, because he feared that they might incur some blame in consequence; but bidding them go over to the victor, he himself took provisions, went down to the sea, and sailed away on a merchantman to Lesbos, to his wife Cornelia and his son Sextus. After taking them on board, he did not enter Mitylene either, but departed for Egypt, hoping to secure an auxiliary force from Ptolemy, the king of that country. This was the son of that Ptolemy who had received back the kingdom at his hands,
through the agency of Gabinius, and in return for
that service he had sent a fleet to Pompey's as-
stance. I have heard, indeed, that Pompey even
thought of fleecing to the Parthians, but I cannot
credit the report. For that race so hated the Romans
as a people ever since Crassus had made his expe-
dition against them, and Pompey especially, because
he was related to Crassus, that they had even im-
prisoned his envoy who came with a request for aid,
though he was a senator. And Pompey would never
have endured in his misfortune to become a suppliant
of his bitterest foe for what he had failed to obtain
while enjoying success.

He set out, then, for Egypt, for the reasons
mentioned, and after crossing along the shore as
far as Cilicia crossed from there to Pelusium, where
Ptolemy gave him no answer, for he was still a mere boy, but some of the Egyp-
tians and Lucius Septimius, a Roman who had
once served with Pompey and after becoming asso-
ciated with Gabinius had been left behind by him
with some troops to guard Ptolemy, came in the
guise of friends; but they impiously plotted against
him and by their act brought a curse upon themselves
and all Egypt. For not only did they themselves

1 διακονιζόμενον Dial., διακοινάτας L.
2 περιπέτειας L.
καὶ οἱ Αιγύπτιοι τὸ μὲν πρῶτον τῇ Κλασπάτρας ἐισέλησαν, ὅπερ ἦκαστα ἐξιδολούσοι, παρεδήγησαν, ἔπεται δὲ καὶ ὅ ἐστι τῶν Ῥωμαίων ἐντόσας εἰς τὸν Σεπτίμιον καὶ Ἀχίλλας οἱ στρατιάρχοι, ἄλλω τε μετ' αὐτῶν ἔττα, ὅτι οἱ ἄλλοι ἐκδέχαντο ἐκδέχασθαι τὴν Πρω-τίπο, ὅπως ἦκαστα ὑπάρχον ἄλως.2 καὶ τοῖς τε ἐκδέχονται πάρ' αὐτῶν προσπερφευαν, ἐφωρο-σίας ὑπὲρ οὐκ εἰκότως καὶ αὐτοὶ μετὰ τοῦτο ἐκατερόμενοι προσεκλεψαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὰ τε ἄλλα ἐξηλοροφοφότατό αὐτῶν καὶ ἐξέχωσαν πρὸς ἐκατοντάκατα, ἔλημεν καὶ τεκνὰ μὴν1 δύναμαι ἕπο τοῦ μεγαθέντος διὰ τὰ βραχὺ πρὸς τὴν Ἱησοῦν χρήσιν,2 καὶ τὸν Πτώ-λιαν ἐπιθύμησεν ἐκδίκησαι αὐτούς ἢ ἢ ἢ διός, καὶ οἷον οὖν, καίτοι πάσης ὑπὸ τῶν σώματων ἀπαρακράτεως, πιστούσα αὐτοῖς . . . τοσοῦτον μόνην εἰσίων.

"ὅτε μὲν ὡς τύμανον ἐμπορεύεται,
καλεῦν ἑτοίμα, καὶ ἐκείνος μόλις·"

οἱ δὲ ἐπενέτει ἐρήμω τῆς γῆς ἐγκαταστάτη, ποζοθρήτης μη καὶ ἅπαξ ὑπὸ τὴν Πτολεμαίου σωθή εἶναι ἐπὶ αὐτοῦ ἐκέεσι, καὶ ὑπὸ τῶν Ῥωμαίων τῶν συνόταυν αὐτὸ 
καὶ ἐς τῶν Αιγύπτιων καὶ γὰρ ἧμαιναν αὐτοῦ;2 μεγάλης ἐγγορ, ἀπέκτειναν αὐτῶν πρὸς καταπληξία, μεθὲα μη ἐκλάπως μη; 3

1 ἐκδέχονται Ἡ. οἰκολ., ἐκδέχονται Λ. 2 ἐκδέχονται Πτώλια. 3 ἡ καταπληξία ἡ καταπληξία ἡ καταπληξία Λ. 4 ἔττα supplied by στομήν. 5 προσκεύς Ἡ. προσκεύς Λ. 6 at least one word is wanting here, though no locution is indicated in Λ. The surmise of Λ' conjectured ἔχμα. 7 also supplied by Bees.
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5 δεδομένοιν, ὃς γὰρ τάχιστα τῇ τε ἐντιβουλή ἔβηθην, καὶ ἔγραυ ὅτι ἀδινασθαι σφαίρα οὔτε διαμηρίζειν δυνατόν, συνεκαλέσατο.

6 Τοιοῦτον μὲν τὸ τέλος τῷ Πομπηίῳ ἐκείνῳ τῷ μεγάλῳ ἐγένετο, διότι καὶ διὰ τούτου τὴν τε ἀκθέσθαι καὶ τὴν ἀποτίαν τοῦ ἀνθρωποῦ ἑνός

7 λαμβάνειν, προμεθίευε τῷ γὰρ ὠφελεῖν Ὀλίγον, ἀλλὰ πρὸ τοῦ κακωρρήτως τινὶ δυνάμενοι ἀνασφαλέστατον 2 ἢ τὸ τετειχόμενον ἡπτιβήν, καὶ νεκροὶ πολλὰς μὲν ἐν τῇ ἀρχῇ πολλὰς δὲ καὶ ἐν τῇ 3 Ἀλβίᾳ τῇ τε Εὐφροσυνή παραδόθαις καὶ κατὰ τὴν καὶ κατὰ θελήσαντας ἰδίᾳ καὶ ἑαυτών ἀναλήμματος ἡπτιβήν παρακλάσεως ὡστε τε καὶ

8 παντοκρατοῦσαι ὡς, τῷ τὴν ἄδικαν τὴν τῶν 4 Ρομαίων πίσιν ἡμερῶν ἐν αὐτῷ ἐκθεῖν ἱδρύει, καὶ χάλκιον πολὺ νέον, ὅς ἐκεῖ ἐχει, ἄκινητον ἐν πολιάρα θαμ, τρόοι τῇ Ἀγίντονι καὶ πρὸ τοῦ Ἀθηναίων τρόπον τινα ὧ τοις τῶν πατέρα ἐκ τοῦ ἐκείνοι ἄμα καὶ ἐν τῆς βασιλείας καταφυγε. 4 ἀπεθάνει 5 ἐν τῇ τοῦ ἐν τῇ τοῦ τῶν ἤλεγχον διὰ τοῦ τῆς ἱστος τοῦ τῆς τῶν Γαμβισαίων, διὰ τῶν Ἀγίντονι ἐκ τῶν πατέρας αὐτοῦ μίσους, καταλείπησεν ἑθέρων ὡς τὸν τῶν 5 τῆς τοῦ τῆς τῶν ἤλεγχον διὰ τοῦ τῶν ἤλεγχον ἐκ τῶν ἤλεγχον ἐκ τῶν Γαμβισαίων, διὰ τῶν Ἀγίντονι ἐκ τῶν πατέρας αὐτοῦ μίσους, καταλείπησεν ἑθέρων ὡς τὸν τῶν 5 τῆς τοῦ τῶν ἤλεγχον διὰ τοῦ τῶν ἤλεγχον διὰ τοῦ τῶν Γαμβισαίων, διὰ τῶν Ἀγίντονι ἐκ τῶν πατέρας αὐτοῦ μίσους, καταλείπησεν ἑθέρων ὡς τὸν τῶν 5 τῆς τοῦ τῶν ἤλεγχον διὰ τοῦ τῶν Γαμβισαίων, διὰ τῶν Ἀγίντονι ἐκ τῶν πατέρας αὐτοῦ μίσους, καταλείπησεν ἑθέρων ὡς τὸν τῶν 5 τῆς τοῦ τῶν ἤλεγχον διὰ τοῦ τῶν Γαμβισαίων, διὰ τῶν Ἀγίντονι ἐκ τῶν πατέρας αὐτοῦ μίσους, καταλείπησεν ἑθέρων ὡς τὸν τῶν 5 τῆς τοῦ τῶν ἤλεγχον διὰ τοῦ τῶν Γαμβισαίων, διὰ τῶν Ἀγίντο

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no complaint, but as soon as he perceived their plot and recognized that he would not be able to ward them off or escape, he veiled his face.

Such was the end of Pompey the Great, whereby he proved once more the weakness and the strange fortune of the human race. For, although he was not at all deficient in foresight, but had always been absolutely secure against any force able to do him harm, yet he was deceived; and although he had won many unexpected victories in Africa, and many, too, in Asia and Europe, both by land and by sea, ever since boyhood, yet now in his fifty-eighth year he was defeated without apparent reason. Although he had subdued the entire Roman sea, he perished on it; and although he had once been, as the saying is, "master of a thousand ships," he was destroyed in a tiny boat near Egypt and in a sense by Ptolemy, whose father he had once restored from exile to that land and to his kingdom. The man whom Roman soldiers were then still guarding,—soldiers left behind by Gabinius as a favour from Pompey and on account of the hatred felt by the Egyptians for the young prince's father,—this very man seemed to have put him to death by the hands of both Egyptians and Romans. Thus Pompey, who previously had been considered the most powerful of the Romans, so that he even received the nickname of Agamemnon, 6 was now butchered like one of the lowest of

1 A reference to the Trojan expedition. The actual number of ships under Pompey's command was 270 at the outset of the war with the pirates.

2 Plutarch (Pomp. 47, 3; Cyn. 44, 1) says that Dionysius Hellenosthathes styled him Agamemnon and King of Kings in order to bring him into disfavour.

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the Egyptians themselves, not only near Mount Cacus but on the anniversary of the day on which he had once celebrated a triumph over Mithridates and the pirates. So even in this respect the two parts of his career were utterly contradictory: on that day of yore he had gained the most brilliant success, whereas he now suffered the most grievous fate; again, following a certain oracle, he had been suspicious of all the citizens named Cassius, but instead of being the object of a plot by any man called Cassius he died and was buried beside the mountain that had this name. Of his fellow-voyagers some were captured at once, while others escaped, among them his wife and son. His wife later obtained pardon and came back safely to Rome, while Sextus proceeded to Africa to his brother Gaius; these are the names by which they were distinguished, since they both bore the name of Pompey. Caesar, when he had attended to pressing demands after the battle and had assigned Greece and the rest of that region to certain others to win over and reduce, set out himself in pursuit of Pompey. He hurried forward as far as Asia following information received about him, and there waited for a time, since no one knew which way he had sailed. Everything turned out favourably for him; for instance, while crossing the Hellespont in a kind of ferry-boat, he met Pompey’s fleet sailing with Lucius Cassius in command, but so far from suffering any harm at their hands, he terrified them and won them over to his
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