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DIO'S ROMAN HISTORY

VIII

Zonaras - epitomizes

DIO'S
ROMAN HISTORY.

WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY
EARNEST CARY, PH.D.

ON THE BASIS OF THE VERSION OF
HERBERT BALDWIN FOSTER, PH.D.

IN NINE VOLUMES

VIII



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DIO'S ROMAN HISTORY

VOL. VIII.

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DIO'S ROMAN HISTORY

EPITOME¹ OF BOOK LXI

LX 29 Ἐν δὲ τῷ ἑξῆς ἔτει ὃ τε Κλαύδιος τὸ τέταρτον καὶ Οὐιτέλλιος² Λούκιος τὸ τρίτον, ὀκτακοσιοστοῦ τῇ Ῥώμῃ ἔτους ὄντος, ὑπάτευσαν. καὶ ἐξήλασε μὲν ὁ Κλαυδιός τινας καὶ ἐκ τῆς βουλῆς, ὧν οἱ πλείους οὐκ ἄκοντες ἐξέπεσον ἀλλ' ἐβελονταὶ διὰ πεινίαν παρέμενοι,³ ἀντεσήγαγε δὲ ὁμοίως πολλούς. ἐπειδὴ τε Σουρδινιός τις Γάλλος βουλευῆσαι δυνάμενος ἐς τὴν Καρχηδόνα ἐξέφυγε, σπουδῇ τε αὐτὸν μετεπέμψατο, καὶ ἔφη ὅτι “ χρυσαῖς σε πέδαις δήσω.” καὶ ὁ μὲν οὕτω τῷ ἀξιώματι πεδηθεὶς κατὰ χώραν ἔμεινε· τοὺς μέντοι ἀλλοτρίους ἀπελευθέρους ὁ Κλαυδιός, εἴ³ που κακουργούντας λάβοι, δεινῶς τιμωρῶν, τοῖς ἰδίους οὕτω προσέκειτο ὥσθ' ὑποκριτοῦ τινος ἐν τῷ θεάτρῳ ποτὲ τοῦτο δὴ τὸ θρυλούμενον εἰπόντος ὅτι “ ἀφόρητός ἐστιν εὐτυχῶν μαστιγίας,” καὶ τοῦ τε δήμου παντὸς ἐς Πολύβιον τὸν ἀπελευθέρου αὐτοῦ ἀποβλέψαντος, καὶ ἐκείνου ἐκβοήσαντος ὅτι ὁ αὐτὸς μέντοι ποιητῆς εἶπεν ὅτι “ βασιλεὺς ἐγένοντο χοῖ⁴ πρὶν ὄντες αἰπόλοι,” ἄ οὐδὲν δεινὸν αὐτὸν εἰργάσατο. μνηστέντων δέ

¹ See Vol. I., *Introd.*, pp. xviii–xxiii.

² Οὐιτέλλιος Bk., βιτέλλιος VCL' regularly

³ παρέμενοι Reim., παρέμενον MSS.

⁴ χοῖ Leuncl., οἱ MSS.

DIO'S ROMAN HISTORY

EPITOME OF BOOK LXI

IN the following year, which was the eight hundredth year of Rome, Claudius became consul for the fourth and Lucius Vitellius for the third time. Claudius now expelled from the senate certain of its members, most of whom were not sorry to drop out, but willingly resigned on account of their poverty; and he likewise introduced many new men in their place. And when a certain Surdinius Gallus, who was eligible to serve as a senator, emigrated to Carthage, Claudius summoned him back in haste, declaring he would bind him with golden fetters; thus Gallus, fettered by his rank, remained at home. Although Claudius visited dire punishment upon the freedmen of others, in case he caught them in any wrong-doing, he was very lenient with his own, as the following incident will show. Once when an actor in the theatre recited the well-known line,

“A prosperous whipstock scarce can be endured,” and the whole assemblage thereupon looked at Polybius, the emperor's freedman, the latter shouted out: “Yes, but the same poet said:

“Who once were goatherds now have royal power.”¹ Yet Claudius did him no harm. Information was

¹ Menander, *Epitrepontes*, v. 116. The other line (Adespota 487 Kock) is not found in any extant play.

τινων ὡς ἐπιβουλεύοιεν αὐτῷ, τοὺς μὲν ἄλλους ἐν οὐδενὶ λόγῳ ἐποιήσατο, εἰπὼν ὅτι “οὐ τὸν αὐτὸν χρῆν τρόπον ψύλλαν τε καὶ θηρίον ἀμύρεσθαι,” ὁ δὲ Ἀσιατικὸς ἐκρίθη μὲν παρ’ αὐτῷ 5 ὀλίγου¹ δὲ δεῖν ἀπέφυγεν. ἀρνούμενου γὰρ αὐτοῦ καὶ λέγοντος ὅτι “οὐκ οἶδα οὐδὲ γνωρίζω τῶν καταμαρτυρούντων μου τούτων οὐδένα,” ἐρωτηθεὶς ὁ στρατιώτης ὁ φάσκων αὐτῷ συγγεγονέναι ὅστις ὁ Ἀσιατικὸς εἶη, φαλακρὸν τινα προσεστῶτα κατὰ τύχην ἔδειξε· τοῦτο γὰρ αὐτοῦ τὸ σύμβολον 6 μόνον ἦπίστατο. γέλωτος οὖν ἐπὶ τούτῳ πολλοῦ γενομένου, καὶ τοῦ Κλαυδίου ἀπολύειν αὐτὸν μέλλοντος, ὁ Οὐιτέλλιος τῇ Μεσσαλίῃ χαριζόμενος παρακεκλήσθαι ἐφη ὑπ’ αὐτοῦ ἵν’ ὅπως ἂν βουλευθῆ ἀποθάνῃ. ἀκούσας δὲ τούτ’ ἐκείνος ἐπίστευσέ τε αὐτὸν ὄντως ἑαυτοῦ διὰ τὸ συνειδὸς κατεγνωκέναι, καὶ κατεχρήσατο.—Xiph. 141, 30–142, 25 R. St.

6^a Ἄλλους δὲ πολλοὺς διαβληθέντας ὑπὸ τῆς Μεσσαλίνης καὶ τὸν Ἀσιατικὸν καὶ τὸν γαμβρὸν τὸν Μάγνον ἀπέκτεινε, τὸν μὲν Ἀσιατικὸν διὰ τὴν οὐσίαν, τὸν δὲ Μάγνον διὰ τὸ γένος καὶ τὸ κῆδος. ἐάλωσαν μέντοι ὡς ἐπ’ ἄλλοις τισίν.—Zon. 11, 9, p. 30, 1–6 D.

7¹ Ἀρεφάνῃ δὲ καὶ νησιδίον τι ἐν τῷ ἔτει τούτῳ παρὰ τῇ Θήρᾳ τῇ νήσῳ, οὐκ ὄν πρότερον.—Xiph. 142, 25. 26 R. St.

7^a Ὅτι Κλαύδιος ὁ βασιλεὺς Ῥωμαίων νόμον προῦθηκε, μὴ δύνασθαι βουλευτὴν ὑπὲρ ἑπτὰ

given that some persons were plotting against ^{A.D. 47} Claudius, but he paid no attention to most of them, saying: “It doesn’t do to take the same measures against a flea as against a wild beast.” Asiaticus, however, was tried before him and came very near being acquitted. For he entered a general denial, declaring, “I have no knowledge of nor acquaintance with any of these persons who are testifying against me;” and when the soldier who declared that he had been associated with him, upon being asked to identify Asiaticus, pointed out a baldheaded man who chanced to be standing near him,—for baldness was the only distinguishing mark about Asiaticus of which he was sure,—and a great burst of laughter arose at this, and Claudius was on the point of freeing Asiaticus, Vitellius made the statement, as a favour to Messalina, that the prisoner had sent for him in order to choose the manner of his death. Upon hearing this Claudius believed that Asiaticus had really condemned himself by reason of a guilty conscience, and he accordingly put him out of the way.

Among many others whom he put to death upon false charges brought by Messalina were Asiaticus and also Magnus, his own son-in-law. The former lost his life because of his property, and the latter because of his family and his relationship to the emperor.¹ Nominally, however, they were convicted on other charges.

This year a small islet, hitherto unknown, made its appearance close to the island of Thera.

Claudius, the king of the Romans, promulgated a law to the effect that no senator might travel more

¹ ὀλίγου Bk., καὶ ὀλίγου MSS.

¹ See lx. 5.

- σημείων τῆς πόλεως ὀδεύειν χωρὶς τῆς τοῦ βασιλέως κελεύσεως.—Suid. *s.v.* Κλαύδιος *gl.* 2.
- 7² Ἐπειδὴ τε πολλοὶ δούλους ἀρρωστούοντας οὐδεμιᾶς θεραπείας ἤξιουν ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐκ τῶν οἰκίων ἐξέβαλλον, ἐνομοθέτησε πάντας τοὺς ἐκ τοῦ τοιοῦτου περιγενομένους¹ ἐλευθέρους εἶναι.—Xiph. 142, 26–29 R. St. (Zon., Suid.).
- 7^b Ἀπηγόρευσε δὲ καὶ τὸ καθήμενόν τινα ἐπὶ ἄρματος διὰ τῆς πόλεως ἐλαύνειν.—Suid. *s.v.* Κλαύδιος *gl.* 2.
- 30 Ἐν δὲ τῇ Βρετανίᾳ περιστοιχισθέντος² τοῦ Οὐεσπασιανοῦ ὑπὸ τῶν βαρβάρων ποτὲ καὶ κινδυνεύοντος φθαρῆναι, ὁ Τίτος ὁ υἱὸς αὐτοῦ περὶ τῷ πατρὶ δέισας τὴν τε περίσχεσιν αὐτῶν παραλόγῳ τόλμῃ διέρρηξε, κακὸν τούτου φεύγοντάς σφας ἐπιδιώξας ἔφθειρεν. ὁ δὲ Πλαύτιος ἀπὸ τοῦ Βρεττανικοῦ πολέμου, ὡς καὶ καλῶς αὐτὸν χειρίσας καὶ κατορθώσας, καὶ ἐπηνέθη ὑπὸ τοῦ Κλαυδίου καὶ ἐθριάμβευσε.—Xiph. 142, 29–143, 3 R. St.
- 3 Ὅτι κατὰ τὴν ὄπλομαχίαν πολλοὶ καὶ τῶν ξένων ἀπελευθέρων καὶ οἱ αἰχμάλωτοι οἱ Βρεττανοὶ ἐμαχέσαντο· καὶ πολλοὺς ὄσους καὶ ἐν τούτῳ τῷ³ εἶδει τῆς θεᾶς ἀνήλισκε, καὶ ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἐσεμνύνετο.—Exc. Val. 224 (p. 674).
- 4 Γναίος δὲ Δομίτιος Κορβούλων ἐν τῇ Κελτικῇ στρατηγῶν τά τε στρατεύματα συνεκρότησε, καὶ τῶν βαρβάρων ἄλλους τε καὶ οὓς ἐκάλουν Καύχους ἐκάκωσε. καὶ αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ πολεμίᾳ

¹ περιγενομένους L' Zon. Suid., περιγγυμένους VC.

² περιστοιχισθέντος Bk., περιστοιχιθέντος MSS.

³ φ supplied by Rk.

than seven "markers"¹ from the City without the king's orders.

Since many masters refused to care for their slaves when sick, and even drove them out of their houses, he enacted a law that all slaves who survived such treatment should be free.

He also forbade anybody to drive through the City² seated in a vehicle.

In Britain Vespasian had on a certain occasion been hemmed in by the barbarians and been in danger of destruction, but his son Titus, becoming alarmed for his father, managed by unusual daring to break through their enclosing lines and then pursued and destroyed the fleeing enemy.³ Plautius for his skilful and successful conduct of the war in Britain not only was praised by Claudius but also obtained an ovation.

In the gladiatorial combats many persons took part, not only of the foreign freedmen but also the British captives. He used up ever so many men in this part of the spectacle and took pride in the fact.

Gnaeus Domitius Corbulo while commanding in Germany concentrated his legions and harassed among other barbarians the Cauchi, as they were called. While in the midst of the enemy's territory

¹ A mile, according to Mommsen (*Staatsrecht*, III. p. 912, n. 1), though the use of *σημεῖον* for *στάδιον* is not paralleled elsewhere. Another interpretation is "more than seven miles," taking *σημεῖον* in the sense of milestone.

² A comparison of Suet. *Claud.* 25 makes it probable that Dio wrote "cities," referring to all the Italian towns.

³ As Titus was born in the year 39 (cf. lxvi. 18, 4), there is manifestly some error here, probably on Xiphilinus' part. Boissevain suggests that Dio in his fuller narrative may have inserted at this point the statement that in the Judæan campaign his life was once saved by Titus.

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