

EPITOME OF BOOK LXVII

- 1 Δομιτιανὸς δὲ ἦν μὲν καὶ θρασὺς καὶ ὀργίλος, ἦν δὲ καὶ ἐπίβουλος καὶ κρυψίνους, ὥστε ἀφ' ἐκατέρων τῶν μὲν τὸ προπετὲς τῶν δὲ τὸ δόλιον ἔχων, πολλὰ μὲν ὥσπερ¹ σκηπτὸς ὀξέως ἐμπίπτων τισὶν ἐλνυμαίετο, πολλὰ δὲ καὶ ἐκ παρασκευῆς ἐκακούργει. θεῶν² μὲν γὰρ τὴν Ἀθηνᾶν ἐς τὰ μάλιστα ἠγάλλε, καὶ διὰ τοῦτο καὶ τὰ Παναθηναῖα μεγάλως ἐώρταζε, καὶ ἐν αὐτοῖς ἀγῶνας καὶ ποιητῶν καὶ λογογράφων μονομάχων τε κατ' ἔτος ὡς εἰπεῖν ἐν τῷ Ἀλβανῷ ἐποίει· τοῦτο γὰρ τὸ χωρίον ὑπὸ τὸ ὄρος τὸ Ἀλβανόν, ἀφ' οὐπερ οὕτως ὀνομάσθη, ἃν ὥσπερ τινα³ ἀκρόπολιν ἐξείλετο· ἀνθρώπων³ δὲ ἐφίλησε μὲν ἀληθῶς οὐδένα πλὴν γυναικῶν τινων, ἐπλάττετο δὲ ἀγαπᾶν αἰὲν ἃν αἰὲν μάλιστα ἀποσφάξαι ἤθελεν. οὕτω γὰρ ἄπιστος καὶ πρὸς αὐτοὺς τοὺς χαριζομένους τι ἔς τε τὰ δεινότετα ὑπηρετοῦντάς οἱ⁴ ἐγένετο ὥσθ', ὅποτε τινὲς ἢ χρήματα αὐτῷ πολλὰ πορίσειαν ἢ ἀνθρώπους πολλοὺς συκοφαντήσειαν, πάντως αὐτοὺς ἐφθειρε, καὶ μάλιστα τοὺς δούλους τοὺς κατὰ δεσποτῶν τι μηνύσαντας. καὶ οὕτω καὶ ἐκείνοι, καίπερ ἀργύριον καὶ τιμὰς καὶ

¹ ὥσπερ cod. Peir., ὡς VC.

² θεῶν C, θεὸν V.

³ ἀνθρώπων cod. Peir., ἐνθροπων VC Zon.

⁴ οἱ cod. Peir., αὐτῷ VC.

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DOMITIAN was not only bold and quick to anger ^{A.D. 81} but also treacherous and secretive; and so, deriving from these two characteristics impulsiveness on the one hand and craftiness on the other, he would often attack people with the sudden violence of a thunderbolt and again would often injure them as the result of careful deliberation. The god that he revered most was Minerva, in consequence of which he was wont to celebrate the Panathenaea on a magnificent scale; on these occasions he held contests of poets and orators and gladiators almost every year at his Alban Villa. This estate, situated at the foot of the Alban Mount, from which it received its name, he had set apart as a kind of acropolis. There was no human being for whom he felt any genuine affection, except a few women; but he always pretended to be fond of the person whom at the moment he most desired to slay. So faithless was he even towards those who showed him some favour or helped him in his most revolting crimes, that, whenever persons provided him with large sums of money or lodged false information against large numbers of people, he was sure to destroy them, being especially careful to do so in the case of slaves who had given information against their masters. Accordingly, such persons, though they received money and honours and

ἀρχὰς ὁμοῦ οἱ λαμβάνοντες, οὐτ' ἐντιμότερον τῶν ἑτέρων οὐτ' ἀσφαλέστερον διήγον, ἀλλ' ἐπ' αὐτοῖς οἷς ὑπὸ τοῦ Δομιτιανοῦ παρακαλούμενοι ἔπραττον ἀπόλλυντο, ἵνα δὴ καὶ τὰ ἀδικήματα ὑπ' αὐτῶν μόνων γεγονέναι δοκῆ. τῇ δ' αὐτῇ ταύτῃ διανοίᾳ καὶ προέγραψέ ποτε ὅτι αὐτοκράτωρ ὅταν μὴ κολάζῃ τοὺς συκοφάντας, αὐτὸς σφας ποιεῖ τοιούτους.—Xiph. 217, 8–27 R. St., Exc. Val. 274 (p. 705).

- 2 Τοιοῦτος δὲ δὴ πρὸς πάντας παρ' ὅλην τὴν ἡγεμονίαν γενόμενος πολὺ καὶ ἑαυτὸν ὑπερέβαλετο ἐν τῇ τῶν τοῦ πατρὸς τοῦ τε ἀδελφοῦ φίλων ἀτίμῳ τε καὶ ὀλεθρίῳ μεταχειρίσει. καίτοι καὶ αὐτὸς γράμμα ἐξέθηκεν τῆρῶν πάντα τὰ πρὸς τε ἐκείνων καὶ πρὸς τῶν ἄλλων αὐτοκρα-
- 2 τῶρων¹ δοθέντα τισίν. ἀλλὰ τοῦτο μὲν καλλώπισμα ἄλλως ἦν. ἐμίσει γὰρ αὐτούς, ὅτι τε μὴ πάνθ' ὅσα ἤτει, πολλὰ τε καὶ οὐ προσήκοντα ὄντα, παρέσχον αὐτῷ, καὶ ὅτι ἐν τιμῇ τιμὴν ἐγέννητο· πᾶν γὰρ τὸ ὑπὲρ τοὺς πολλοὺς ἀγαπηθέν τε ὑπ' αὐτῶν καὶ δυνηθέν ἐν ἐχθροῦ
- 3 μοίρᾳ ἐτίθετο. καὶ διὰ τοῦτο, καίπερ καὶ αὐτὸς Ἐαρίνου τινὸς εὐνούχου ἐρῶν, ὅμως, ἐπειδὴ καὶ ὁ Τίτος ἰσχυρῶς περὶ τοὺς ἐκτομίας ἐσποδιάκει, ἀπηγόρευσεν ἐπὶ ἐκείνῳ ὕβρει μηδένα ἔτι ἐν τῇ τῶν Ῥωμαίων ἀρχῇ ἐκτέμνεσθαι. τὸ δ' ὅλον ἔλεγε τοὺς αὐτοκράτορας τοὺς μὴ πολλοὺς κολάζοντας οὐκ ἀγαθοὺς ἀλλ' εὖνυχεῖς εἶναι.—Xiph. 217, 27–218, 4 R. St., Exc. Val. 275 (p. 705 sq.).
- 4 "Ὅτι ὁ αὐτὸς οὐκ ἐφρόντιζεν οὔτε² τῶν τῶν

offices¹ in which they were his colleagues, lived A.D. 81 in no greater honour and security than other men. On the contrary, the very offences to which they had been urged by Domitian were commonly made the pretext for their destruction, his object being that they alone should appear to have been the authors of the wrongdoing. It was with this same purpose that he once issued a proclamation to the effect that, when an emperor fails to punish informers, he himself makes them informers.

Though such was his behaviour towards all throughout the course of his reign, yet he quite outdid himself in visiting disgrace and ruin upon the friends of his father and of his brother. It is true, he issued a proclamation confirming all the gifts made to any persons by them and by other emperors; but this was mere vain show. He hated them because they had not supplied all his numerous and unreasonable demands, as well as because they had been held in some honour; for he regarded as his enemy anyone who had enjoyed his father's or his brother's affection beyond the ordinary or had been particularly influential. Accordingly, though he himself entertained a passion for a eunuch named Earinus, nevertheless, since Titus also had shown a great fondness for eunuchs, in order to insult his memory, he forbade that any person in the Roman Empire should thereafter be castrated. In general, he was accustomed to say that those emperors who did not visit punishment upon many men were not good emperors, but only fortunate.

This same emperor paid no heed to the praises

¹ αὐτοκρατόρων Val., αὐτοκράτορα cod. Peir.

² οὔτε Bk., οὐδὲ cod. Peir.

¹ A reference doubtless to the consulship.

Τίτον ἐπαινούντων ὅτι μηδένα βουλευτὴν ἀπέκτεινεν, οὐθ' ὅτι ἡ γερουσία πολλάκις ἠξίου ψηφισθῆναι μὴ ἐξεῖναι τῷ αὐτοκράτορι τῶν ὁμοτίμων τινα ἀπολέσαι· πάνυ γὰρ οὖν σφισι πολὺν διέφερεν εἴτε ἰδία τινα αὐτῶν εἴτε καὶ δι' ἐκείνων καταχρήσαιο, ὥσπερ τι ἀντειπεῖν ἢ καὶ
 5 μὴ καταψηφίσασθαι τινας δυναμένους. ἐπῆρουν δὲ τὸν Τίτον τινὲς οὐχ ὅτι καὶ ἀκούοντος τοῦ Δομιτιανοῦ¹ (ἴσον γὰρ ἂν ἡμάρτανον ὥσπερ ἂν εἰ αὐτὸν ἐκείνον παρόντα καὶ ἀκούοντα ἐλοιδόρου), ἀλλ' . . .² ὅτι ἠπίστατο αὐτοὺς λάθρα τοῦτο ποιοῦντας· ἐπεὶ τοι καὶ ἕτερον σκηνοποιῖα
 6 τιλὲ ἔοικὸς ἐγίγνετο. αὐτὸς τε γὰρ καὶ φιλεῖν τὸν ἀδελφὸν καὶ πευθεῖν προσεποιεῖτο, καὶ τοὺς τε ἐπαίνους τοὺς ἐπ' αὐτῷ μετὰ δακρύων ἔλεξε καὶ ἐς τοὺς ἥρωας αὐτὸν σπουδῆ ἐσέγραψε, πάντα τὰ ἐναντιώτατα ὧν ἐβούλετο σκηπτόμενος (ἀμέλει καὶ τὴν ἵπποδρομίαν τὴν τῶν γενεσίων αὐτοῦ
 7 κατέλυσε)· καὶ οἱ ἄλλοι οὐθ' ὅπως συνάχθωιντο οὐθ' ὅπως συνῆδωιντο ἀσφαλῶς εἶχον, τὸ μὲν ὅτι τὴν γνώμην αὐτοῦ λυπεῖν, τὸ δὲ ὅτι τὴν προσποίησιν ἐλέγχειν ἐμελλον.—Exc. Val. 276 (p. 706), Xiph. 218, 4–10 R. St.

3 Τὴν δὲ γυναικα τὴν Δομιτίαν ἐβουλεύσατο μὲν σφάξαι ἐπὶ μοιχείᾳ, παρακληθεὶς δὲ ὑπὸ τοῦ Οὔρσου ἀπεπέμψατο, τὸν Πάριν τὸν ὀρχηστὴν ἐν μέσῃ τῇ ὁδῷ δι' αὐτὴν φονεύσας. ἐπειδὴ δὲ πολλοὶ καὶ ἀνθεσι καὶ μύροις τὸν τόπον ἐκείνον

which men bestowed upon Titus for not having A.D. 81 put a single senator to death, nor did he care that the senate frequently saw fit to pass decrees that it should be unlawful for the emperor to put to death any of his peers. A vast difference, indeed, did it make to them whether it was on his own responsibility or with the consent of the senate that he put out of the way one or another of their number—as if, forsooth, they could offer any opposition or refuse to condemn anybody! Some, however, would praise Titus, though not in Domitian's hearing (for to do that would have been as grave an offence as to revile the emperor in his presence and within his hearing), but [they would do so among themselves, so that he hated them] because he well knew that they were doing this secretly. And indeed there was something else that resembled play-acting; for Domitian pretended that he himself loved his brother and mourned him, and he delivered the eulogy over him with tears in his eyes and urged that he be enrolled among the demigods—pretending just the opposite of what he really desired. Indeed, he abolished the horse-race that had been held on the birthday of Titus. In general, men were not safe whether they shared in his grief or in his joy; for in the one case they were bound to offend his real feelings and in the other to show up his insincerity.

He planned to put his wife, Domitia, to death A.D. 83(?) on the ground of adultery, but having been dissuaded by Ursus, he divorced her, after murdering Paris, the actor, in the middle of the street because of her. And when many persons paid honour to that spot with flowers and ointments, he ordered

¹ Δομιτιανῷ Val., δομιτίου cod. Peir.

² Lacuna recognized by Rk.

- 2 ἐπίμων, ἐκέλευσε τούτους σφάττεσθαι. καὶ τούτου τῇ ἀδελφιδῇ τῇ ἰδία, ἡγουν τῇ Ἰουλίᾳ, ἀπαρακαλυπτότερον ὡς γαμετῇ συνώκει. εἶτα δεηθέντος τοῦ δήμου κατηλλάγη μὲν τῇ Δομιτίᾳ, ἐχρήτο δ' οὐδὲν ἦττον τῇ Ἰουλίᾳ.¹—Xiph. 218, 10–16 R. St., Zon. 11, 19, p. 58, 10–15 D.
- 3¹ Πολλοὺς δὲ τῶν πρώτων ἀνδρῶν κατὰ πολλὰς προφάσεις φόνους τε καὶ ὑπερορίας ἐκποδῶν ποιούμενος (οὐδὲ τῶν ἀειπαρθένων κ.τ.λ. § 3²).—Xiph. 218, 16–17 R. St.
- 4² Ὅτι καὶ συχνοὺς μεθιστάς που κατεχρήσατο, καὶ οὐκ ὀλίγους γε αὐτοὺς ὑφ' ἑαυτῶν² παρεσκεύαζε τρόπον τινα ἀποθνήσκειν, ἵνα ἐθελοντηδὸν ἀλλ' οὐχ ὑπ' ἀνάγκης δοκῶσι τοῦτο πάσχειν.—Exc. Val. 277 (p. 706).
- 3² Οὐδὲ τῶν ἀειπαρθένων ἐφείσατο ἀλλ' ὡς καὶ ἠνδρωμένας ἐτιμωρήσατο, ὅτε καὶ λέγεται, σκληρὰς καὶ τραχείας τῆς περὶ αὐτὰς ἐξετάσεως γενομένης καὶ πολλῶν αἰτιαθέντων καὶ κολαζομένων, οὐκ ἐνεγκῶν εἰς τῶν ποντιφίκων Ἐλουῖος Ἀγρίππας ἀλλ' ἐκπλαγεὶς αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ συνεδρίῳ, ὡσπερ εἶχεν, ἀποψύξαι.—Xiph. 218, 17–22 R. St.
- 4¹ Ὅτι καὶ ἐπὶ τούτῳ ἠγάλλετο, ὅτι τὰς ἀειπαρθένους ὡς ἠνδρωμένας οὐ κατώρυξεν, ὡς ἦν ἔθος, ἀλλὰ ἄλλως ἀποθνήσκειν ἐκέλευσε.—Exc. Val. 278 (p. 706).
- 5 Καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα εἰς Γαλατίαν ἐξορμήσας, καὶ λεηλατήσας τινὰ τῶν πέραν Ῥήνου τῶν ἐνσπόν-

that they, too, should be slain. After this he lived A.D. 53(?) with his own niece (Julia, that is to say) as husband with wife, making little effort at concealment. Then upon the demand of the people¹ he became reconciled with Domitia, but continued his relations with Julia none the less.

He was putting many of the foremost men out of the way on many different pretexts, some by means of murder and others by banishment.

He also removed many from Rome to other places and destroyed them; and in the case of not a few he so contrived that they died by their own hands in one way or another, so that they might be thought to have met death by their own desire and not through compulsion.

He did not spare even the Vestal Virgins, but A.D. 53 punished them on the charge of having had intercourse with men. It is even said that, as a result of the harsh and cruel character of their examination and the great number of persons who were being accused and punished, one of the pontifices, Helvius Agrippa, could not endure it, but, horror-stricken, expired then and there in the senate-chamber.

Domitian prided himself also on the fact that he did not bury alive, as was the custom, the Vestals whom he found to have had intercourse with men, but ordered them to be put to death in some other way.

After this he set out for Gaul and plundered some of the tribes beyond the Rhine that enjoyed

¹ Dio doubtless had a fuller form of statement indicating that this was not a sincere demand on the part of the people. Cf. Suet., *Dom.* 3: *quasi efflagitante populo.*

¹ εἶτα δεηθέντος—Ἰουλίᾳ Zon., om. VC.

² ἑαυτῶν Val., ἑαυτοῦ cod. Peir.

δων, ὠγκοῦτο ὡς τι μέγα κατωρθωκώς, καὶ τοῖς στρατιώταις ἐπηύξησε τὴν μισθοφορὰν, τάχα διὰ τὴν νίκην· πέντε γὰρ καὶ ἑβδομήκοντα δραχμὰς ἐκάστου λαμβάνοντος ἑκατὸν ἐκέλευσα δίδοσθαι. μεταμεληθεὶς δὲ τὴν μὲν ποσότητα οὐκ ἐμίωσε, τὸ δὲ πλῆθος τῶν στρατευσάντων συνέστειλε. καὶ ἐκατέρωθεν μεγάλα τὸ δημόσιον ἔβλαψε, μὴθ' ἱκανοὺς τοὺς ἀμύνοντας αὐτῷ καὶ τούτους μεγαλομίσθους ποιήσας.—Zon. 11, 19, p. 58, 16–25 D.

- 4 Ἐκστρατεύσας δὲ εἰς τὴν Γερμανίαν¹ καὶ μηδ' ἑορακώς που πόλεμον ἐπανῆκε. τί γὰρ δεῖ καὶ λέγειν ἃ διὰ τοῦτο καὶ ἐκείνῳ τότε καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις τοῖς ὁμοίοις αὐτῷ αὐτοκράτορσιν αἰεὶ ἐδόθη, ἵνα μὴ προσυποπτεύοντες ἐκ τῆς ὀλιγοτήτος καὶ ἐκ τῆς σμικρότητος τῶν τιμῶν
2 ἐλέγχεσθαι χαλεπαίνωσι; καίτοι καὶ τοῦτο δεινότερον ἔσχεν, ὅτι καὶ κολακεύεσθαι ἤθελε, καὶ ἀμφοτέρους ὁμοίως ἤχθετο καὶ τοῖς θεραπεύουσι καὶ τοῖς μὴ, τοῖς μὲν ὅτι θωπεύειν τοῖς δὲ ὅτι καταφρονεῖν ἐδόκουν. οὐ μὴν ἀλλὰ τῇ μὲν βουλῇ χαίρειν ἐφ' οἷς ἐψηφίζοντο προσεποιεῖτο, τὸν δὲ δὴ Οὐρσον ὀλίγον² ἀπέκτεινεν, ὅτι μὴ τοῖς πρᾶσσομένοις ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἠρέσκετο, καὶ τῆς Ἰουλίας αἰτησαμένης ὑπατον ἀπέδειξεν.—Xiph. 218, 22–29 R. St., Exc. Val. 279 (p. 706).

¹ Dio would have used the word *Κελτικὴν* (cf. note on liii. 12).

² ὀλίγον Reim., ὀλίγον cod. Peir.

treaty rights—a performance which filled him with A.D. 83 conceit as if he had achieved some great success; and he increased the soldiers' pay, perhaps on account of this victory, commanding that four hundred sesterces should be given to each man in place of the three hundred that he had been receiving. Later he thought better of it, but, instead of diminishing the amount of their pay, he reduced the number of soldiers. Both changes entailed great injury to the State; for he made its defenders too few in number and yet at the same time very expensive to maintain.

Next he made a campaign into Germany and returned without having so much as seen hostilities anywhere. But why should I go on and mention the honours bestowed upon him on this occasion for his exploit or from time to time upon the other emperors who were no better than he? For they were bestowed merely to keep such rulers from suspecting, as they would if the honours had been few and insignificant, that the people saw through them, and from becoming angry in consequence. Yet Domitian had this worst quality of all, that he desired to be flattered, and was equally displeased with both sorts of men, those who paid court to him and those who did not—with the former because they seemed to be flattering him and with the latter because they seemed to despise him. Nevertheless, he affected to take pleasure in the honours voted by the senate. But he came near putting Ursus to death because he failed to show pleasure at his sovereign's exploits; and then, at the request of Julia, he appointed him consul.

- 3 Οὐ μὴν ἀλλ' ἐπὶ πλείον ἐπαρθεῖς ὑπ' ἀνοίας ὑπατος μὲν ἔτη δέκα ἐφέξῃς, τιμητῆς δὲ διὰ βίου πρῶτος δὴ καὶ μόνος καὶ ἰδιωτῶν καὶ αὐτοκρατορῶν ἔχειροτονήθη, ῥαβδουχοῖς τε τέσσαρσι καὶ εἴκοσι καὶ τῇ στολή τῇ ἐπινικίῳ, ὅταν ἐς τὸ βουλευτήριον ἐσίγη, χρήσθαι ἔλαβε. τὸν τε Ὀκτώβριον Δομιτιανὸν ἀντωνόμασεν, ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ ἐγεγέννητο. τοῖς δὲ ἄρματηλάταις δύο γένη ἕτερα, τὸ μὲν χρυσοῦν τὸ δὲ πορφυροῦν¹ ὀνομάσας, προσκατέστησε. τοῖς τε θεωμένοις συχνὰ διὰ τῶν σφαιρίων ἐδίδου, καί ποτε καὶ ἐδείπνισεν αὐτοὺς κατὰ χῶραν καθημένους, οἶνόν τέ σφισι
- 5 πολλαχῇ ῥέοντα νυκτὸς παρέσχευ. ἃ δὴ τοῖς μὲν πολλοῖς ἐν ἡδονῇ, ὡς εἰκός, ἦν, τοῖς δὲ δυνατοῖς ὀλέθρου αἷτια καθίστατο· οὐ γὰρ ἔχον ὀπίθεν ἀναλώσει, συχνοὺς ἐφόνευε, τοὺς μὲν ἐσάγων ἐς τὸ βουλευτήριον, τῶν δὲ καὶ ἀπόντων κατηγορῶν. ἤδη δὲ καὶ ἐξ ἐπιβουλῆς ἐνίους λαθραίους φαρμάκοις ἀπήλλασσε.—Xiph. 218, 29—219, 10 R. St.
- 6 Πολλοὶ δὲ τῶν ὑποτελῶν Ῥωμαίοις ἀφίσταντο χρήματα βιαίως πρασσόμενοι, ὡς καὶ οἱ Νασαμῶνες· τοὺς τε γὰρ τῶν χρημάτων πράκτορας ἐφθειραν, καὶ τὸν Νουμιδίας ἄρχοντα Φλάκκον ἐπελθόντα σφίσιν ἠττησαν οὕτως ὡς πορθῆσαι καὶ τὸ στρατόπεδον. εὐρόντες δὲ ἐν αὐτῷ τὰλλὰ τε ἐπιτήδεια καὶ οἶνον ἐμπλησθέντες ὑπνώσαν, καὶ γνοὺς ὁ Φλάκκος τοῦτο ἐπέθετο αὐτοῖς καὶ

¹ πορφυροῦν Phil. Rub. (*Elect.* 2, 27), ἀργυροῦν VC.

¹ Cf. lxii (lxi), 18 ; lxvi. 25.

² Probably Cn. Suellius Flaccus.

However, being still more puffed up by his folly, A.D. 84 he was elected consul for ten years in succession and censor for life, being the first and only man, whether private citizen or emperor, to be given this latter honour; he also received the privilege of employing twenty-four lictors and of wearing the triumphal garb whenever he entered the senate-house. He changed the name of October to Domitianus because he had been born in that month. Among the charioteers he instituted two more factions, calling one the Golden and the other the Purple. To the spectators he used to make many presents by means of the little balls¹; and once he gave them a banquet while they remained in their seats and at night provided for them wine that flowed freely in many different places. All this naturally gave pleasure to the populace, but it was a cause of ruin to the powerful. For, as he had no funds from which to make his expenditures, he murdered many men, haling some of them before the senate, but bringing charges against others when they were not even present in Rome. He even went so far as to put some out of the way treacherously by means of drugs secretly administered.

Many of the peoples tributary to the Romans A.D. 85-86 revolted when contributions of money were forcibly extorted from them; among these were the Nasamones. They massacred all the tax-collectors and so completely defeated Flaccus,² the governor of Numidia, who proceeded against them, that they even plundered his camp. But having discovered the wine and other provisions there, they gorged themselves and fell asleep, and Flaccus, learning of this, attacked

πάντας ἀπόλεσε καὶ τοὺς ἀπομάχους διέφθειρεν ἅπαντας. ἐφ' ᾧ ὁ Δομιτιανὸς ἐπαρθεὶς εἶπε πρὸς τὴν βουλὴν ὅτι "Νασαμώνας ἐκόλυσα εἶναι."

7 "Ἦδη γὰρ καὶ θεὸς ἡξίου νομίζεσθαι, καὶ δεσπότης καλούμενος καὶ θεὸς ὑπερηγάλετο. ταῦτα οὐ μόνον ἐλέγετο ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐγράφετο.—Zon. 11, 19, p. 58, 31-59, 10 D.

6 Μέγιστος δὲ δὴ πόλεμος Ῥωμαίοις τότε πρὸς τοὺς Δακοὺς ἐγένετο, ὃν τότε Δεκέβαλος ἐβασίλευε,¹ δεινὸς μὲν συνεῖναι τὰ πολέμια δεινὸς δὲ καὶ πρᾶξαι, ἐπελθεῖν εὐστοχος ἀναχωρήσαι καίριος, ἐνέδρας τεχνίτης μάχης ἐργάτης, καὶ καλῶς μὲν νίκη χρήσασθαι καλῶς δὲ καὶ ἦτταν διαθέσθαι² εἰδῶς· ἀφ' οὗ δὴ καὶ ἀνταγωνιστὴς ἀξιόμαχος ἐπὶ πολὺ τοῖς Ῥωμαίοις ἐγένετο.

2 Δακοὺς δὲ αὐτοὺς προσαγορεύω, ὥσπερ που καὶ αὐτοὶ ἑαυτοὺς καὶ οἱ Ῥωμαῖοί σφας ὀνομάζουσιν, οὐκ ἀγνοῶν ὅτι Ἕλλήνων τινὲς Γέτας αὐτοὺς λέγουσιν, εἴτ' ὀρθῶς εἶτε καὶ μὴ λέγοντες· ἐγὼ γὰρ οἶδα Γέτας τοὺς ὑπὲρ τοῦ Αἴμου παρὰ τὸν

3 Ἴστρον οἰκοῦντας· ὁ Δομιτιανὸς μὲν οὖν ἐξεστρατεύσατο μὲν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, οὐ μέντοι καὶ τοῦ πολέμου προσήφατο, ἀλλ' ἐν πόλει τινὶ Μυσίας ὑπομείνας ὑβρίζεν ὥσπερ εἰώθει· οὐ γὰρ ὅτι τό τε σῶμα ἄπονος καὶ τὴν ψυχὴν ἄτολμος, ἀλλὰ καὶ

them and annihilated them, even destroying all the non-combatants. Domitian was elated at this success and said to the senate: "I have forbidden the Nasamones to exist."

For he even insisted upon being regarded as a god and took vast pride in being called "master" and "god." These titles were used not merely in speech but also in written documents.

At this time the Romans became involved in a very serious war with the Dacians, whose king was then Decebalus.¹ This man was shrewd in his understanding of warfare and shrewd also in the waging of war; he judged well when to attack and chose the right moment to retreat; he was an expert in ambushes and a master in pitched battles; and he knew not only how to follow up a victory well, but also how to manage well a defeat. Hence he showed himself a worthy antagonist of the Romans for a long time. I call the people Dacians, the names used by the natives themselves as well as by the Romans, though I am not ignorant that some Greek writers refer to them as Getae, whether that is the right term or not; for the Getae of whom I myself know are those that live beyond the Haemus range, along the Ister. Domitian, then, made an expedition against this people, but did not take an active part in the conflict. Instead, he remained in one of the cities of Moesia, indulging in riotous living, as was his wont. For he was not only indolent of body and

¹ Cf. Exc. Val.: ὅτι Δούρας, οὗ ἡγεμονία ἐγένετο, ἐκὰν αὐτῆς παρεχώρησε τῷ Δεκεβάλῳ τῷ Δακῶν βασιλεῖ ὅτι δεινὸς κτέ.

² διαθέσθαι cod. Peir. Suid., διαθεῖναι VC.

¹ Cf. Exc. Val.: Duras, to whom the sovereignty belonged, had voluntarily abdicated it in favour of Decebalus, the king of the Dacians, because the latter was shrewd in his understanding of warfare, etc.

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