

EPITOME OF BOOK LXXIII

- LXXII Οὗτος πανούργος μὲν οὐκ ἔφυ, ἀλλ' εἰ καί τις
 1 ἄλλος ἀνθρώπων ἄκακος, ὑπὸ δὲ δὴ τῆς πολλῆς
 ἀπλότητος καὶ προσέτι καὶ δειλίας ἐδούλευσε τοῖς
 συνοῦσι, καὶ ὑπ' αὐτῶν ἀγνοία τὸ πρῶτον τοῦ
 κρείττονος ἀμαρτῶν ἐς ἔθος κακ' οὗτου καὶ ἐς
 2 φύσιν ἀσελγῆ καὶ μαιφόνου προήχθη. καὶ μοι
 δοκεῖ καὶ τοῦτο καὶ ὁ Μάρκος σαφῶς προγινῶναι.
 ἦν δὲ ἔννεακαιδεκαέτης ὅτε μετήλλαξεν ὁ πατὴρ
 αὐτοῦ, πολλοὺς αὐτῷ καὶ τοὺς κρατίστους τῶν
 βουλευτῶν ἐπιτρόπους καταλιπών· ὧν ὁ Κόμμοδος
 ταῖς ὑποθήκαις καὶ συμβουλίαις χαίρειν εἰπών,
 καὶ τοῖς βαρβάροις σπείσάμενος, ἐς τὴν Ῥώμην
 ἠπέιχθη, μισόπουός τε ὧν καὶ τῆς ἀστικῆς
 ῥαστώνης ἐπιθυμῶν.—Xiph. 269, 6—18 R. St.,
 Exc. Val. 312^b (p. 722).
- 2 "Ὅτι οἱ Μαρκομάνοι¹ οὔτε τροφὴν οὔτ' ἀνδρας
 συχνούς ὑπὸ τε τοῦ πλήθους τῶν ἀπολλυμένων
 καὶ ὑπὸ τῆς αἰεί τῶν χωρίων κακώσεως ἔτι εἶχον·
 δύο γοῦν μόνους τῶν πρώτων καὶ δύο ἄλλους τῶν
 καταδεεστέρων πρέσβεις πρὸς αὐτὸν ὑπὲρ τῆς
 2 εἰρήνης ἔπεμψαν. καὶ ἐξεργάσασθαι αὐτοὺς
 δυνάμενος ῥαδίως, μισόπουός δὲ δὴ ὧν καὶ πρὸς
 τὰς ἀστικὰς ῥαστώνας ἐπειγόμενος ἐσπείσατο
 αὐτοῖς ἐπὶ τε τοῖς ἄλλοις ἐφ' οἷς ὁ πατὴρ αὐτοῦ
 συνετέθειτο, καὶ ἵνα τοὺς τε αὐτομόλους καὶ τοὺς
 αἰχμαλώτους, οὓς μετὰ ταῦτα ἔλαβον, ἀποδώσιν

¹ Μαρκομάνοι M, μαρκομάνοι AB.

EPITOME OF BOOK LXXIII

THIS man [Commodus] was not naturally wicked, A.D. 180
 but, on the contrary, as guileless as any man that ever
 lived. His great simplicity, however, together with
 his cowardice, made him the slave of his companions,
 and it was through them that he at first, out of igno-
 rance, missed the better life and then was led on into
 lustful and cruel habits, which soon became second
 nature. And this, I think, Marcus clearly perceived
 beforehand. Commodus was nineteen years old
 when his father died, leaving him many guardians,
 among whom were numbered the best men of the
 senate. But their suggestions and counsels Com-
 modus rejected, and after making a truce with the
 barbarians he hastened to Rome; for he hated all
 exertion and craved the comfortable life of the
 city.

The Marcomani by reason of the multitude of
 their people that were perishing and the constant
 ravaging of their lands no longer had an abundance
 of either food or men. At any rate they sent only
 two of their chief men and two others of inferior
 rank as envoys to sue for peace. And, although
 Commodus might easily have destroyed them, yet
 he made terms with them; for he hated all exertion
 and was eager for the comforts of the city. In
 addition to the conditions that his father had im-
 posed upon them he also demanded that they restore
 to him the deserters and the captives that they had
 taken in the meantime, and that they furnish annu-

αὐτῷ, καὶ σίτον τινα κατ' ἔτος τακτὸν τελῶσιν,
 3 ὃν ὕστερον αὐτοῖς ἀφήκεν. ὅπλα τέ τινα παρ'
 αὐτῶν ἔλαβε, καὶ στρατιώτας παρὰ μὲν τῶν
 Κουάδων μυρίους καὶ τρισχιλίους, παρὰ δὲ τῶν
 Μαρκομάνων¹ ἐλάττους· ἀνθ' ὧν ἀνήκεν αὐτοῖς τὸ²
 4 κατ' ἔτος διδόναι τινάς. προσεπέταξε³ μέντοι
 σφίσιν ἵνα μήτε πολλάκις μήτε πολλαχοῦ τῆς
 χώρας ἀθροίζωνται, ἀλλ' ἅπαξ ἐν ἐκάστῳ μηνὶ καὶ
 ἐς τόπον ἓνα ἑκατοντάρχου τινὸς Ῥωμαίου παρόν-
 τος, πρὸς δὲ καὶ ἵνα μήτε τοῖς Ἰάζυξι μήτε τοῖς
 Βούροις μήτε τοῖς Οὐανδίλοις⁴ πολεμῶσιν. ἐπὶ
 μὲν τούτοις συνηλλάγη, καὶ τά τε φρούρια πάντα
 τὰ ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ αὐτῶν ὑπὲρ τὴν μεθορίαν τὴν
 ἀποτετμημένην ὄντα ἐξέλιπεν . . .—Exc. U^q 67
 (p. 412).

3 "Ὅτι τοῖς Βούροις ὁ Κόμμοδος εἰρήνην ἔδωκε
 πρεσβεύσασιν. πρότερον μὲν γάρ, καίτοι πολ-
 λάκις αὐτὴν αἰτηθεῖς, οὐκ ἐποίησατο, ὅτι τε
 ἔρρωντο καὶ ὅτι οὐκ εἰρήνην ἀλλὰ ἀνοχὴν ἐς τὸ
 2 παρασκευάσασθαι λαβεῖν ἠθέλον· τότε δέ, ἐπειδὴ
 ἐξετρυχώθησαν, συνηλλάγη σφίσιν ἐμήρους λα-
 βῶν καὶ αἰχμαλώτους παρὰ τε τῶν Βούρων πολ-
 λούς καὶ παρὰ τῶν ἄλλων⁵ μυρίους καὶ πεντακισ-
 χιλίους κομισάμενος, καὶ ἀναγκάσας τοὺς ἄλ-
 λους ὁμόσαι ὥστε μήτ'⁶ ἐνοικήσειν ποτὲ μήτ'
 ἐννεμεῖν⁷ τεσσαράκοντα στάδια τῆς χώρας σφῶν

¹ Μαρκομάνων Bs., μαρκομάνων MSS.

² τὸ Reim., τῶν MSS.

³ προσεπέταξε AB, προσέταξε M.

⁴ Οὐανδίλοις Bs., βανδήλοις MSS.; cf. βανδίλους lxxvii. 20.
 3 (cod. Peir.).

⁵ ἄλλων (and ἄλλους, ἄλλοις below) perhaps corrupt;
 Bekker proposed Ἄλανων (Ἀλανούς, Ἀλανοίς).

ally a stipulated amount of grain—a demand from A.D. 180
 which he subsequently released them. Moreover, he
 obtained some arms from them and soldiers as well,
 thirteen thousand from the Quadi and a smaller
 number from the Marcomani; and in return for
 these he relieved them of the requirement of an
 annual levy. However, he further commanded that
 they should not assemble often nor in many parts of
 the country, but only once each month and in one
 place, and in the presence of a Roman centurion;
 and, furthermore, that they should not make war
 upon the Iazyges, the Buri, or the Vandili. On
 these terms, then, he made peace and abandoned all
 the outposts in their country beyond the strip along
 the frontier that had been neutralized. . .

Commodus granted peace to the Buri when they
 sent envoys. Previously he had declined to do so,
 in spite of their frequent requests, because they
 were strong, and because it was not peace that they
 wanted, but the securing of a respite to enable them
 to make further preparations; but now that they
 were exhausted he made peace with them, receiving
 hostages and getting back many captives from the
 Buri themselves as well as fifteen thousand from
 the others,¹ and he compelled the others to take
 an oath that they would never dwell in nor use for
 pasturage a five-mile² strip of their territory next to

¹ "Others" (in this line and at the end of the paragraph)
 is perhaps corrupt; "Alani" has been suggested in its place.

² Literally, 40 stades; see note on lxxi (lxxii). 15.

⁶ μήτ' Bk., μὴ A, καὶ B, καὶ M.

⁷ ἐννεμεῖν St., ἐννέμειν MSS.

3 τῆς πρὸς τῇ Δακίᾳ οὔσης. ὁ αὐτὸς Σαβινιανὸς καὶ Δακῶν τῶν προσόρων μυρίους καὶ δισχιλίους ἐκ τῆς οἰκείας ἐκπεσόντας καὶ μέλλοντας τοῖς ἄλλοις βοηθήσειν ὑπηγάγετο, γῆν τινα αὐτοῖς ἐν τῇ Δακίᾳ τῇ ἡμετέρα δοθήσεσθαι ὑποσχόμενος.—Exc. U^G 68 (p. 413).

4 "Ὅτι ὁ Κόμμοδος πολλὰ μὲν καὶ ἀπρεπῆ ἔπραξε, πλείστους δὲ ἐφόνευσε.—Exc. Val. 313 (p. 722).

Καὶ ἐπεβουλεύθη μὲν πολλάκις ὑπὸ τινῶν, πλείστους δὲ ἐφόνευσε καὶ ἄνδρας καὶ γυναῖκας, τοὺς μὲν φανερώς τοὺς δὲ λάθρα φαρμάκοις, καὶ ὡς εἰπεῖν πάντας τοὺς ἐπὶ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ καὶ
2 ἐπ' αὐτοῦ ἐκείνου ἀνθήσαντας, πλὴν τοῦ τε Πομπηιανοῦ καὶ τοῦ Περτίνακος καὶ τοῦ Οὐικτωρίνου· τούτους γὰρ οὐκ οἶδ' ὅπως οὐκ ἀπέκτεινε. λέγω δὲ ταῦτά τε καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ οὐκ ἐξ ἀλλοτρίας ἔτι παραδόσεως ἀλλ' ἐξ οἰκείας ἤδη τηρήσεως. ἐλθὼν δὲ ἐς τὴν Ῥώμην καὶ πρὸς τὴν γερουσίαν διαλεχθεὶς ἄλλα τέ τινα ἀπελήρησε, καὶ τι καὶ
3 τοιοῦτον ἐν τοῖς αὐτοῦ¹ ἐπαίνοις εἶπεν, ὅτι τὸν πατέρα ποτὲ ἐς πηλὸν βαθὺν ἐμπεσόντα ἰππεύων ἐρρύσατο. τοιαῦτα μὲν τὰ σεμνολογήματα αὐτοῦ
4 ἦν, ἐσιόντι δὲ αὐτῷ ἐς τὸ θέατρον τὸ κυνηγετικὸν Κλαύδιος Πομπηιανὸς ἐπεβούλευσε· ξίφος γὰρ τι ἐν αὐτῇ τῇ τῆς ἐσόδου στενοχωρία ἀνατείνας, "ἰδοῦ," ἔφη, "τοῦτό σοι ἡ βουλή πέπομφεν."² οὗτος ἠγγύητο³ μὲν τὴν θυγατέρα Λουκίλλης, ἐχρήτη δὲ καὶ αὐτῇ ταύτῃ καὶ τῇ τῆς κόρης μητρί,
5 καὶ διὰ ταῦτα τῷ Κομμόδῳ ὠκείωτο ὡς καὶ

¹ αὐτοῦ Reim., αὐτοῦ VC.

² πέπομφεν Reim., οὐ πέπομφεν VC.

Dacia. The same Sabinianus also, when twelve A.D. 180 thousand of the neighbouring Dacians had been driven out of their own country and were on the point of aiding the others, dissuaded them from their purpose, promising them that some land in our Dacia should be given them.

Commodus was guilty of many unseemly deeds, and killed a great many people.

Many plots were formed by various people against Commodus, and he killed a great many, both men and women, some openly and some by means of poison, secretly, making away, in fact, with practically all those who had attained eminence during his father's reign and his own, with the exception of Pompeianus, Pertinax and Victorinus; these men for some reason or other he did not kill. I state these and subsequent facts, not, as hitherto, on the authority of others' reports, but from my own observation. On A.D. 182(?) coming to Rome he addressed the senate, uttering a lot of trivialities; and among the various stories that he told in his own praise was one to this effect, that once while out riding he had saved the life of his father, who had fallen into a deep quagmire. Such were his lofty pratings. But as he was entering the hunting-theatre, Claudius Pompeianus formed a plot against him: thrusting out a sword in the narrow entrance, he said: "See! This is what the senate has sent you." This man had been betrothed to the daughter of Lucilla, but had intimate relations both with the girl herself and with her mother; in this way he had become friendly with Commodus, so that he was his companion both at banquets and in

³ ἠγγύητο Dind., ἐνεγγεγύητο VC.

συνεστιᾶσθαι καὶ συννεανιεύεσθαι αὐτῷ. ἡ γὰρ Λουκίλλα οὐδὲν ἐπιεικεστέρα οὐδὲ σωφρονεστέρα τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ Κομμόδου ὑπάρχουσα ἤχθετο μὲν τῷ ἀνδρὶ αὐτῆς¹ τῷ Πομπηϊανῷ· ὅθεν καὶ ἀνέπεισε τὸν εἰρημένον ἐπιθέσθαι τῷ Κομμόδῳ, καὶ αὐτὸν τε ἀπώλεσε καὶ αὐτὴ φωραθείσα
6 ἐπανηρέθη. ἀπέκτεινε δὲ καὶ τὴν Κρισπίναν ὁ Κόμμοδος, ἐπὶ μοιχείᾳ δὴ τινι ὀργισθεὶς αὐτῇ. πρὸ δὲ τοῦ ἀναιρεθῆναι καὶ ἀμφοτέραι ἐς τὴν νῆσον τὴν Καπρίαν ὑπερωρίσθησαν.

Μαρκία δὲ τις Κουαδράτου² τῶν τότε φονευθέντων ἐνὸς παλλακῆ, καὶ Ἐκλεκτοῦ πρόκοιτος, ὁ μὲν καὶ τοῦ Κομμόδου πρόκοιτος, ἡ δὲ παλλακῆ
7 ἐγένετο καὶ τοῦ Ἐκλέκτου μετὰ ταῦτα γυνή· καὶ ἐπέϊδε καὶ ἐκείνους βιαίως ἀποθνήσκοντας. ἱστορεῖται δὲ αὐτὴ πολλά τε ὑπὲρ τῶν Χριστιανῶν σπουδάσαι καὶ πολλὰ αὐτοὺς εὐηργετηκέσαι, ἅτε καὶ παρὰ τῷ Κομμόδῳ πᾶν δυναμένη.—Xiph. 269, 19—270, 14 R. St.

5 "Ὅτι ὁ Κόμμοδος καὶ Ἰουλιανὸν τὸν Σάλουιον³ καὶ Πάτερνον Ταρρουτήμιον ἐς τοὺς ὑπατευκότας κατειλεγμένον, ἄλλους τε μετ' αὐτῶν καὶ τινα καὶ γυναῖκα εὐπατρίδα ἀπέσφαξεν. καίτοι καὶ Ἰουλιανὸς δυνηθεὶς ἂν μετὰ τὴν Μάρκου τελευτῆν
2 πᾶν εὐθὺς⁴ κατ' αὐτοῦ ὅ τι καὶ ἐβούλετο, ἅτε καὶ ἐλλογιμώτατος ὢν καὶ στρατιὰν μεγάλην ἐπιτετραμμένος τοὺς τε στρατιώτας ἀνηρητημένος, πρᾶξαι, οὐδὲν ἠθέλησε διὰ τε τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ἐπιείκειαν καὶ διὰ τὴν ἐκείνου καὶ τεθνηκότος εὐνοίαν

¹ αὐτῆς H. Steph., αὐτῆς VC.

² Κουαδράτου H. Steph., κοδράτου VC.

³ Σάλουιον Val., σελβιον cod. Peir., σερούιον VC.

youthful escapades. Lucilla, who was no more modest ^{A.D.} or chaste than her brother Commodus, detested her ^{182(?)} husband, Pompeianus. It was for this reason that she persuaded him to make the attack upon Commodus; and she not only caused his destruction but was herself detected and put out of the way. Commodus also put Crispina to death, having become angry with her for some act of adultery. But before their execution both women were banished to the island of Capreae.

There was a certain Marcia, the mistress of Quadratus (one of the men slain at this time), and Eclectus, his cubicularius;¹ the latter became the cubicularius of Commodus also, and the former, first the emperor's mistress and later the wife of Eclectus, and she saw them also perish by violence. The tradition is that she greatly favoured the Christians and rendered them many kindnesses, inasmuch as she could do anything with Commodus.

Commodus also killed Salvius Julianus and Tarrutenius Paternus, who was enrolled among the ex-consuls, and others with them, including even a woman of the nobility.² And yet Julianus, after the death of Marcus, could have done at once anything whatever that he wished against Commodus, since he was a man of great renown, was in command of a large army, and enjoyed the devotion of his soldiers; but he had refused to make any rebellious move, both because of his own probity and because of the good will that he bore to Marcus even after that

¹ The official who had charge of the sleeping and living rooms.

² Vitrasia Faustina.

⁴ εὐθὺς Dind., εὐθὺ cod. Peir.

νεοχμῶσαι· καὶ ὁ Πάτερνος ῥαδίως ἀν' αὐτόν,¹
εἶπερ ἐπεβεβουλεύκει² οἱ, ὥσπερ ἠτιάθη, φο-
νεύσας ἕως ἔτι τῶν δορυφόρων ἦρχεν, οὐκ ἐποίησεν.
—Exc. Val. 314 (p. 725), cf. Xiph. 270, 15—18
R. St.

3 Ἐφόνευσε δὲ καὶ τοὺς Κυντιλίους,³ τὸν τε
Κονδιανὸν⁴ καὶ τὸν Μάξιμον· μεγάλην γὰρ εἶχον
δόξαν ἐπὶ παιδείᾳ καὶ ἐπὶ στρατηγίᾳ καὶ ὁμοφρο-
σύνη καὶ πλούτῳ. ἐκ γὰρ δὴ τῶν προσόντων
σφίσιν ὑπωπτεύοντο καλῶν, εἰ καὶ μηδὲν νεώτε-
4 ρον ἐνεόουν, ἄχθεσθαι τοῖς παροῦσι. καὶ οὕτως
αὐτοί, ὥσπερ ἔζησαν ἅμα, οὕτω καὶ ἀπέθανον
μεθ' ἑνὸς τέκνου· διαπρεπέστατα γὰρ τῶν πώποτε
ἐφίλησαν ἀλλήλους, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ὅτε οὐδὲ ἐν
ταῖς ἀρχαῖς διεχωρίσθησαν. ἐγένοντο δὲ καὶ
πολυκτήμονες καὶ παμπλούσιοι, καὶ ἦρχον ὁμοῦ
καὶ παρήδρευον ἀλλήλοις.

6 Κονδιανὸς δὲ Σέξτος ὁ τοῦ Μαξίμου υἱός, φύσει
τε καὶ παιδείᾳ τῶν ἄλλων διαφέρων, ἐπειδὴ
ἦσθετο καὶ τῆς ἐς αὐτὸν φερούσης θανατηφόρου
ψήφου (διέτριβε δὲ ἐν Συρίᾳ), αἷμα λαγῶ ἔπιε,
καὶ μετὰ τοῦτ' ἐπὶ τε ἵππον ἀνέβη καὶ κατέπε-
σεν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ ἐπίτηδες, τό τε αἷμα ἤμεσεν ὡς
ἴδιον, καὶ ἀρθεὶς ὡς καὶ παραχρῆμα τελευ-
2 τήσων ἐς οἶκημα ἐκομίσθη, καὶ αὐτὸς μὲν ἀφα-
νῆς ἐγένετο, κριοῦ δὲ σῶμα ἐς λάρνακα ἀντ'
αὐτοῦ ἐμβληθὲν ἐκαύθη. καὶ ἐκ τούτου ὁ
μὲν ἀμείβων αἰεὶ τὸ σχῆμα καὶ τὴν ἐσθήτα

¹ αὐτὸν Rk., αὐτὸς cod. Peir.

² ἐπεβεβουλεύκει Dind., ἐπιβεβουλεύκει cod. Peir.

³ Κυντιλίους R. Steph., κυντιλιανούς VO.

⁴ Κονδιανὸν Reim., καρδιανὸν VO (but correct form in ch.
6, 1).

emperor's death. And Paternus, if he had plotted A.D.
182(?)
against Commodus, as he was accused of doing,
could easily have killed him while he himself was
still in command of the Pretorians; but he had not
done so.

Commodus likewise killed the two Quintilii, Con-
dianus and Maximus; for they had a great reputation
for learning, military skill, brotherly accord, and
wealth, and their notable talents led to the sus-
picion that, even if they were not planning any
rebellion, they were nevertheless displeased with
existing conditions. And thus, even as they had
lived together, so they died together, along with
the son of one of them. They had offered the most
striking example ever-seen of mutual affection; and at
no time had they ever been separated, even in the
offices they held.¹ They had grown prosperous and
exceedingly wealthy, and were wont to hold office
together and to act as assistants to each other.

Sextus Condianus, the son of Maximus, who
surpassed all others by reason both of his native
ability and his training, when he heard that sentence
of death had been pronounced against him, too,
drank the blood of a hare (he was living in Syria
at the time), after which he mounted a horse and
purposely fell from it; then, as he vomited the
blood, which was supposed to be his own, he was
taken up, apparently on the point of death, and
was carried to his room. He himself now dis-
appeared, while a ram's body was placed in a coffin
in his stead and burned. After this, constantly
changing his appearance and clothing, he wandered

¹ Cf. the account of the Scribonii in lxiii (lxii). 17.

ἄλλοτε ἄλλη ἐπλανᾶτο, διαδοθέντος δὲ τοῦ λόγου τούτου (οὐ γὰρ οἶόν τ' ἐστὶ τὰ τηλικαῦτα ἐπὶ πολὺν χρόνον λαυθάνειν) ζήτησις 3 αὐτοῦ μεγάλη πανταχοῦ ὁμοίως ἐγένετο, καὶ πολλοὶ μὲν ἀντ' αὐτοῦ δι' ὁμοιότητα πολλοὶ δὲ ὡς καὶ συνεγνωκότες τι αὐτῷ ἢ καὶ ὑποδεδεγμένοι πη αὐτὸν ἐκολάσθησαν, ἔτι δὲ πλείους οὐδὲ ἑορακότες ποτὲ ἴσως αὐτὸν τῶν οὐσιῶν ἐστερήθη- 4 σαν. καὶ ὁ μὲν εἴτε ὄντως ἐσφάγη (πλείσται γὰρ κεφαλαὶ ὡς ἐκείνου οὔσαι ἐς τὴν Ῥώμην ἐκομίσθησαν) εἴτε καὶ ἀπέφυγεν, οὐδεὶς οἶδεν· ἕτερος δέ τις ἐτόλμησε μετὰ τὸν τοῦ Κομμόδου θάνατον Σέξτος τε εἶναι φῆσαι καὶ πρὸς ἀνάληψιν τοῦ τε πλούτου καὶ τοῦ ἀξιώματος αὐτοῦ ὀρμήσαι. καὶ 5 ὡς μέντοι καὶ τῶν Ἑλληνικῶν¹ τι αὐτὸν ὁ Περτίναξ, ὃν ἐκεῖνος διεπεφύκει, ἀνήρετο, πλείστον ἐσφάλη, μηδὲ συνεῖναι τὸ λεγόμενον δυνηθεῖς. οὕτω πού τὸ μὲν εἶδος ἐκ φύσεως καὶ τᾶλλα ἐξ ἐπιτηδεύσεως αὐτῷ ἐφκει, τῆς δὲ δὴ παιδείας αὐτοῦ οὐ μετεσχέκει.

7 Τοῦτό τε οὖν αὐτὸς ἤκουσα παρών, καὶ ἕτερον τοιούδε εἶδον. ἔστιν ἐν Μαλλῷ² πόλει τῆς Κιλικίας Ἀμφιλόχου χρηστήριον, καὶ χρᾶ δι' ὄνειράτων. ἔχρησεν οὖν καὶ τῷ Σέξτῳ, ὃ διὰ γραφῆς ἐκεῖνος ἐδήλωσε· παιδίον γὰρ τῷ πίνακι ἐνεγέγραπτο δύο δράκοντας ἀποπνίγον καὶ λέων 2 νεβρὸν διώκων. οὐδὲ ἔσχον αὐτὰς συμβαλεῖν, τῷ πατρὶ συνῶν ἄρχοντι τῆς Κιλικίας, πρὶν

¹ τῶν Ἑλληνικῶν Suid., Ἑλληνικῶν V, Ἑλληνικῶς C, Ἑλληνικῶν cod. Peir.

² Μαλλῷ Reim., μαλῶ VC.

about here and there. And when this story got out (for it is impossible that such matters should remain hidden very long), diligent search was made for him high and low. Many were punished in his stead on account of their resemblance to him, and many, too, who were alleged to have shared his confidence or to have sheltered him somewhere; and still more persons who had perhaps never even seen him were deprived of their property. But no one knows whether he was really slain,—though a great number of heads purporting to be his were brought to Rome,—or whether he made good his escape. Some other man, however, after the death of Commodus boldly claimed to be Sextus and undertook to recover his wealth and rank. And he played the part bravely, though questioned much by many persons; yet when Pertinax asked him something about Grecian affairs, with which the real Sextus had been well acquainted, he showed the greatest embarrassment, being unable even to understand the question. Thus, though nature had made him like Condidianus in appearance and practice had made him similar in other respects, yet he did not share in his learning.

As for this matter, now, that I have just related, I myself was present and heard it; and I will mention another thing, that I saw. There is in the city of Mallus, in Cilicia, an oracle of Amphilochous that gives responses by means of dreams. Now it had given a response also to Sextus, that he had indicated by means of a drawing; the picture which he had put on the tablet represented a boy strangling two serpents and a lion pursuing a fawn. I was with my father, who was governor of Cilicia

πυθέσθαι τούς τε ἀδελφούς ὑπὸ τοῦ Κομμόδου, ὃς μετὰ ταῦτα τὸν Ἡρακλέα ἐξήλωσε, τρόπον τινὰ πνιγένας, ὡσπερ καὶ ὁ Ἡρακλῆς ἔτι νήπιος ὢν ἰστόρηται τούς ὑπὸ τῆς Ἡρας ἐπιπεμφθέντας αὐτῷ δράκοντας ἀποπνίξαι (καὶ γὰρ καὶ οἱ Κυιντίλιοι ἀπηγχονήθησαν), καὶ τὸν Σέξτον φεύγοντα καὶ διωκόμενον ὑπὸ τοῦ κρείττονος.—Xiph. 270, 18—271, 25 R. St., Exc. Val. 315 (p. 725) = Suid. s. v. Σέξτος.

3 Πάμπολυν ἂν ὄχλον τῇ συγγραφῇ παράσχοιμι, εἰ ἀκριβῶς καθ' ἕκαστον τούς θανατωθέντας ὑπ' αὐτοῦ γράφοιμι, ὅπόσους ἐκεῖνος ἢ διὰ συκοφαντίας ψευδεῖς ἢ δι' ὑποψίας οὐκ ἀληθεῖς ἢ διὰ πλοῦτον λαμπρὸν ἢ διὰ γένος εὐδόκιμον ἢ διὰ παιδείας ὑπεροχὴν ἢ δι' ἄλλην τινὰ ἀρετὴν διεχρήσατο.—Xiph. 271, 25—30 R. St.

4 Ὅτι ὁ Κόμμοδος πολλὰ μὲν¹ πλοῦτου ἐπιδείγματα, πολλῶ δὲ πλείω καὶ φιλοκαλίας ἐν αὐτῇ τῇ Ῥώμῃ παρέσχετο. ἔστι δέ τι καὶ δημοφιλὲς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ πραχθέν· Μανιλίου γὰρ τῷ Κασσίῳ συγγενομένου καὶ τὰς ἐπιστολάς αὐτοῦ τὰς Λατίνας διοικήσαντος, καὶ μέγιστον παρ' αὐτῷ² δυνηθέντος καὶ φυγόντος, εἶτα φωραθέντος, οὔτε τι ἀκοῦσαι καίτοι πολλὰ μνηύσειν ὑπισχνουμένου ἠθέλησε, καὶ τὰ γράμματα αὐτοῦ πάντα κατέκαυσε πρὶν ἀναγνωσθῆναι.—Exc. Val. 316 (p. 725).

8 Ἐγένοντο δὲ καὶ πόλεμοί τινες αὐτῷ πρὸς τούς ὑπὲρ τὴν Δακίαν βαρβάρους, ἐν οἷς ὁ τε Ἀλβίνος καὶ ὁ Νίγρος οἱ τῷ αὐτοκράτορι Σεουήρῳ μετὰ ταῦτα ἀντιπολεμήσαντες εὐδοκίμησαν, μέγιστος

¹ μὲν supplied by Bk.

at the time, and could not comprehend what the figures meant, until I learned that the brothers had been strangled, so to speak, by Commodus (who later emulated Hercules), just as Hercules, when an infant, is related to have strangled the serpents sent against him by Juno (for the Quintilii, too, had been strangled), and until I learned also that Sextus was a fugitive and was being pursued by a more powerful adversary.

I should render my narrative very tedious were I to give a detailed report of all the persons put to death by Commodus, of all those whom he made away with as the result of false accusations or unjustified suspicions or because of their conspicuous wealth, distinguished family, unusual learning, or some other point of excellence.

Commodus displayed in Rome itself many indications of wealth and very many more, even, of a love of the beautiful. In fact, he occasionally performed an act of public service. Thus, when Manilius, who had been associated with Cassius, had been secretary of his Latin correspondence, and had possessed the greatest influence with him, was captured after taking to flight, the emperor would not listen to a word from him, though he offered to give a great deal of information, and he burned all the conspirator's papers without reading them.

He also had some wars with the barbarians beyond Dacia, in which Albinus and Niger, who later fought against the emperor Severus, won fame; but the greatest struggle was the one with the Britons.

² αὐτῷ St., αὐτοῦ cod. Peir.

END OF SAMPLE TEXT



The Complete Text can be found on our CD:
Primary Literary Sources For Ancient Literature
which can be purchased on our Website :
www.Brainfly.net

or

by sending **\$64.95** in check or money order to :
Brainfly Inc.
5100 Garfield Ave. #46
Sacramento CA 95841-3839

TEACHER'S DISCOUNT:

If you are a **TEACHER** you can take advantage of our teacher's discount. Click on **Teachers Discount** on our website (www.Brainfly.net) or **Send us \$55.95** and we will send you a full copy of *Primary Literary Sources For Ancient Literature* **AND** our *5000 Classics CD (a collection of over 5000 classic works of literature in electronic format (.txt))* plus our *Wholesale price list*.

If you have any suggestions such as books you would like to see added to the collection or if you would like our wholesale prices list please send us an email to:

webcomments@brainfly.net