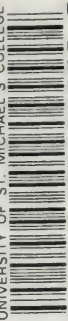


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## EPICETUS



# EPICTETUS

THE DISCOURSES AS REPORTED  
BY ARRIAN, THE MANUAL,  
AND FRAGMENTS

WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY  
W. A. OLDFATHER

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

IN TWO VOLUMES  
VOL. II

DISCOURSES, BOOKS III AND IV,  
THE MANUAL, AND FRAGMENTS



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ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES  
OF EPICTETUS

# ΑΡΡΙΑΝΟΥ ΤΩΝ ΕΠΙΚΤΗΤΟΥ ΔΙΑΤΡΙΒΩΝ

Α Β Γ Δ

Γ

ΚΕΦΑΛΑΙΑ ΤΟΥ Γ ΒΙΒΛΙΟΥ

- α'. Περὶ καλλωπισμοῦ.  
 β'. Περὶ τίνα ἀσκεῖσθαι δεῖ τὸν προκόψοντα καὶ ὅτι τῶν κυριωτά-  
 των ἀμελοῦμεν.  
 γ'. Τίς ὕλη τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ πρὸς τί μάλιστα ἀσκητέον.  
 δ'. Πρὸς τὸν ἀκόσμως ἐν θεάτρῳ σπουδάζαντα.  
 ε'. Πρὸς τοὺς διὰ νόσον ἀπαλλαττομένους.<sup>1</sup>  
 ς. Σποράδην τινά.  
 ζ'. Πρὸς τὸν διορθωτὴν τῶν ἐλευθέρων πόλεων, Ἐπικούρειοι  
 ἔντα.  
 η'. Πῶς πρὸς τὰς φαντασίας γυμναστέον ;  
 θ'. Πρὸς τίνα ῥήτορα ἀνιόντα εἰς Ῥώμην ἐπὶ δίκη.  
 ι'. Πῶς φέρειν δεῖ τὰς νόσους ;<sup>2</sup>  
 ια'. Σποράδην τινά.  
 ιβ'. Περὶ ἀσκήσεως.  
 ιγ'. Τί ἐρημία καὶ ποῖος ἔρημος.  
 ιδ'. Σποράδην τινά.

<sup>1</sup> s : πλαττομένους S.

<sup>2</sup> The entire title supplied from Ch. X. by s.



ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES  
OF EPICTETUS  
IN FOUR BOOKS  
BOOK III

*Chapters of the Third Book*

- I. Of personal adornment.
- II. The fields of study in which the man who expects to make progress will have to go into training ; and that we neglect what is most important.
- III. What is the subject-matter with which the good man has to deal ; and what should be the chief object of our training ?
- IV. To the man who took sides, in an undignified manner, while in a theatre.
- V. To those who leave school because of illness.
- VI. Some scattered sayings.
- VII. A conversation with the Imperial Bailiff of the Free Cities, who was an Epicurean.
- VIII. How ought we to exercise ourselves to deal with the impressions of our senses ?
- IX. To a certain rhetorician who was going to Rome for a law-suit.
- X. How ought we to bear our illnesses ?
- XI. Some scattered sayings.
- XII. Of training.
- XIII. The meaning of a forlorn state, and the kind of person a forlorn man is.
- XIV. Some scattered sayings.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ιε'. "Οτι δεῖ περισκεμμένως ἔρχεσθαι ἐφ' ἕκαστα.  
ις'. "Οτι εὐλαβῶς δεῖ συγκαθιέναι εἰς συμπεριφοράν.  
ιζ'. Περὶ προνοίας.  
ιη'. "Οτι οὐ δεῖ πρὸς τὰς ἀγγελίας ταρασσεσθαι.  
ιθ'. Τίς στάσις ἰδιώτου καὶ φιλοσόφου ;  
κ'. "Οτι ἀπὸ πάντων τῶν ἐκτὸς ἔστιν ὠφελεῖσθαι.  
κα'. Πρὸς τοὺς εὐκόλως ἐπὶ τὸ σοφιστεῦν ἐρχομένους.  
κβ'. Περὶ Κυνισμοῦ.  
κγ'. Πρὸς τοὺς ἀναγινώσκοντας καὶ διαλεγομένους ἐπιδεικτικῶς.  
κδ'. Περὶ τοῦ μὴ δεῖν προσπάσχειν τοῖς οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν.  
κε'. Πρὸς τοὺς ἀποπίπτοντας ὧν προέθεντο.  
κς'. Πρὸς τοὺς τὴν ἀπορίαν δεδοικότας.

### Γ

#### α'. Περὶ καλλωπισμοῦ.

- 1 Εἰσιόντος τινὸς πρὸς αὐτὸν νεανίσκου ῥητορικοῦ περιεργότερον ἡρμοσμένου τὴν κόμην καὶ τὴν ἄλλην περιβολὴν κατακοσμοῦντος Εἰπέ μοι, ἔφη, εἰ οὐ δοκοῦσίν σοι κύνες τ' εἶναι καλοί τινες καὶ ἵπποι καὶ οὕτως τῶν ἄλλων ζώων ἕκαστον ;—  
2 Δοκοῦσιν, ἔφη.—Οὐκοῦν καὶ ἄνθρωποι οἱ μὲν καλοί, οἱ δ' αἰσχροί ;—Πῶς γὰρ οὐ ;—Πότερον οὖν κατὰ τὸ αὐτὸ ἕκαστα τούτων ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει καλὰ προσαγορεύομεν ἢ ἰδίως ἕκαστον ;  
3 οὕτως δ' ὅψει αὐτό. ἐπειδὴ πρὸς ἄλλο μὲν ὁρῶμεν κύνα πεφυκότα, πρὸς ἄλλο δ' ἵππον, πρὸς

## BOOK III. 1. 1-3

- XV. That we ought to approach each separate thing with circumspection.
- XVI. That one should enter cautiously into social intercourse.
- XVII. Of Providence.
- XVIII. That we ought not to allow any news to disturb us.
- XIX. What is the position of the layman, and what that of the philosopher?
- XX. That it is possible to derive advantage from everything external.
- XXI. To those who enter light-heartedly upon the profession of lecturing.
- XXII. On the calling of a Cynic.
- XXIII. To those who read and discuss for the purpose of display.
- XXIV. That we ought not to yearn for the things which are not under our control.
- XXV. To those who fail to achieve their purposes.
- XXVI. To those who fear want.

## CHAPTER I

### *Of personal adornment*

ONCE, when he was visited by a young student of rhetoric whose hair was somewhat too elaborately dressed, and whose attire in general was highly embellished, Epictetus said : Tell me if you do not think that some dogs are beautiful, and some horses, and so every other creature.—I do, said the young man.—Is not the same true also of men, some of them are handsome, and some ugly?—Of course.—Do we, then, on the same grounds, pronounce each of these creatures in its own kind beautiful, or do we pronounce each beautiful on special grounds? I shall show you what I mean. Since we see that a dog is born to do one thing, and a horse another, and, if you will, a nightingale for something else, in general

ἄλλο δ' εἰ οὕτως τύχοι ἀηδόνα, καθόλου μὲν οὐκ  
 ἀτόπως ἀποφάναιτ' ἂν τις ἕκαστον τηνικαῦτα  
 καλὸν εἶναι, ὁπότε κατὰ τὴν αὐτοῦ φύσιν κράτιστ'  
 ἔχοι· ἐπεὶ δ' ἡ φύσις ἐκάστου διάφορός ἐστιν,  
 4 ἡ γὰρ οὐ;—Ὡμολόγει.—Οὐκ οὖν ὅπερ κύνα  
 ποιεῖ καλόν, τοῦτο ἵππον αἰσχρόν, ὅπερ δ' ἵππον  
 καλόν, τοῦτο κύνα αἰσχρόν, εἴ γε διάφοροι αἱ  
 5 φύσεις εἰσὶν αὐτῶν;—Ἐοικεν.—Καὶ γὰρ τὸ  
 παγκρατιαστὴν οἶμαι ποιοῦν καλόν τοῦτο παλαι-  
 στὴν οὐκ ἀγαθὸν ποιεῖ, δρομέα δὲ καὶ γελοιότα-  
 τον· καὶ ὁ πρὸς πενταθλίαν καλὸς ὁ αὐτὸς οὗτος  
 6 πρὸς πάλην αἰσχιστος;—Οὕτως, ἔφη.—Τί οὖν  
 ποιεῖ ἄνθρωπον καλόν ἢ ὅπερ τῷ γένει καὶ κύνα καὶ  
 ἵππον;—Τοῦτο, ἔφη.—Τί οὖν ποιεῖ κύνα καλόν; ἡ  
 ἀρετὴ ἢ κυνὸς παροῦσα. τί ἵππον; ἡ ἀρετὴ ἢ<sup>1</sup>  
 ἵππου παροῦσα. τί οὖν ἄνθρωπον; μὴ ποθ' ἡ  
 7 ἀρετὴ ἢ ἀνθρώπου παροῦσα; καὶ σὺ οὖν εἰ θέλεις  
 καλὸς εἶναι, νεανίσκε, τοῦτο ἐκπόνει, τὴν ἀρετὴν  
 8 τὴν ἀνθρωπικὴν.—Τίς δ' ἐστὶν αὕτη;—Ὅρα, τίνας  
 αὐτὸς ἐπαινεῖς, ὅταν δίχα πάθους τινὰς ἐπαινῇς·  
 πότερα τοὺς δικαίους ἢ τοὺς ἀδίκους;—Τοὺς  
 δικαίους.—Πότερον τοὺς σώφρονας ἢ τοὺς ἀκο-  
 λάστους;—Τοὺς σώφρονας.—Τοὺς ἐγκρατεῖς δ'  
 9 ἢ τοὺς ἀκρατεῖς;—Τοὺς ἐγκρατεῖς.—Οὐκοῦν  
 τοιοῦτόν τινα ποιῶν σαυτὸν ἴσθι ὅτι καλόν

<sup>1</sup> ἡ added by s.

<sup>1</sup> One who specialized in the *pancratium*, a combination of boxing, wrestling, and plain "fighting."

it would not be unreasonable for one to declare that each of them was beautiful precisely when it achieved supreme excellence in terms of its own nature; and, since each has a different nature, each one of them, I think, is beautiful in a different fashion. Is that not so?—He agreed.—Does it not follow, then, that precisely what makes a dog beautiful, makes a horse ugly, and precisely what makes a horse beautiful, makes a dog ugly, if, that is, their natures are different?—So it appears.—Yes, for, to my way of thinking, what makes a pancratiast<sup>1</sup> beautiful does not make a wrestler good, and, more than that, makes a runner quite absurd: and the same man who is beautiful for the pentathlon<sup>2</sup> is very ugly for wrestling?—That is so, said he.—What, then, makes a man beautiful other than just that which makes a dog or a horse beautiful in its kind?—Just that, said he.—What is it, then, that makes a dog beautiful? The presence of a dog's excellence. What makes a horse beautiful? The presence of a horse's excellence. What, then, makes a man beautiful? Is it not the presence of a man's excellence? Very well, then, young man, do you too, if you wish to be beautiful, labour to achieve this, the excellence that characterizes a man.—And what is that?—Observe who they are whom you yourself praise, when you praise people dispassionately; is it the just, or the unjust?—The just;—is it the temperate, or the dissolute?—The temperate;—and is it the self-controlled, or the uncontrolled?—The self-controlled.—In making yourself that kind of person, therefore, rest assured that you will be making your-

<sup>2</sup> An all-round competition in running, jumping, wrestling, and hurling the discus and the javelin.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

ποιήσεις· μέχρις δ' ἂν τούτων ἀμελῇς, αἰσχρόν  
σ' εἶναι ἀνάγκη, καὶ πάντα μηχανᾷ ὑπὲρ τοῦ  
φαίνεσθαι σε<sup>1</sup> καλόν.

- 10 Ἐντεῦθεν οὐκέτι ἔχω σοι πῶς εἶπω· ἂν τε γὰρ  
λέγω ἂ φρονῶ, ἀνιάσω σε καὶ ἐξελθὼν τάχα οὐδ'  
εἰσελεύσῃ· ἂν τε μὴ λέγω, ὅρα οἶον ποιήσω, εἰ  
σὺ μὲν ἔρχῃ πρὸς ἐμὲ ὠφεληθησόμενος, ἐγὼ<sup>2</sup> δ'  
οὐκ ὠφελήσω σ' οὐδέν, καὶ σὺ μὲν ὡς πρὸς  
φιλόσοφον, ἐγὼ δ' οὐδέν ἐρῶ σοι ὡς φιλόσοφος.  
11 πῶς δὲ καὶ οὐκ<sup>3</sup> ὠμόν ἐστι πρὸς αὐτόν σε τὸ  
περιδεῖν ἀνεπανόρθωτον; ἂν ποθ' ὕστερον  
12 φρένας σχῆς, εὐλόγως μοι ἐγκαλέσεις· “τί εἶδεν  
ἐν ἐμοὶ ὁ Ἐπίκτητος, ἵνα βλέπων με τοιοῦτον  
εἰσερχόμενον πρὸς αὐτόν οὕτως αἰσχρῶς ἔχοντα  
περιίδῃ καὶ<sup>4</sup> μηδέποτε μηδὲ ῥῆμα εἶπῃ; οὕτως  
13 μου ἀπέγνῳ; νέος οὐκ ἤμην; οὐκ ἤμην λόγου  
ἀκουστικός; πόσοι δ' ἄλλοι νέοι ἐφ' ἡλικίας πολ-  
14 λὰ τοιαῦτα διαμαρτάνουσιν; τινά ποτ' ἀκούω  
Πολέμωνα ἐξ ἀκολαστοτάτου νεανίσκου τοσαύ-  
την μεταβολὴν μεταβαλεῖν. ἔστω, οὐκ ᾤετό με  
Πολέμωνα ἔσεσθαι· τὴν μὲν κόμην ἡδύνατό μου  
διορθῶσαι, τὰ μὲν περιάμματά μου περιελεῖν,  
ψιλούμενόν με παῦσαι ἡδύνατο, ἀλλὰ βλέπων  
15 με—τίνος εἶπω;—σχῆμα ἔχοντα ἐσιώπα.” ἐγὼ  
οὐ λέγω, τίνος ἐστὶ τὸ σχῆμα τοῦτο· σὺ δ' αὐτὸ

<sup>1</sup> Or perhaps γε, Oldfather.

<sup>3</sup> οὐκ added by Koraes.

<sup>2</sup> s: ἐργῶι S.

<sup>4</sup> καὶ supplied by s.

<sup>1</sup> Once when drunk he burst in upon Xenocrates, but was converted by him and eventually succeeded him in the head-

self beautiful; but so long as you neglect all this, you must needs be ugly, no matter if you employ every artifice to make yourself look beautiful.

Beyond that I know not what more I can say to you; for if I say what I have in mind, I shall hurt your feelings, and you will leave, perhaps never to return; but if I do not say it, consider the sort of thing I shall be doing. Here you are coming to me to get some benefit, and I shall be bestowing no benefit at all; and you are coming to me as to a philosopher, and I shall be saying nothing to you as a philosopher. Besides, is it anything but cruel for me to leave you unreformed? If some time in the future you come to your senses, you will have good reason to blame me: "What did Epictetus observe in me," you will say to yourself, "that, although he saw me in such a condition and coming to him in so disgraceful a state, he should let me be so and say never a word to me? Did he so completely despair of me? Was I not young? Was I not ready to listen to reason? And how many other young fellows make any number of mistakes of the same kind in their youth? I am told that once there was a certain Polemo<sup>1</sup> who from being a very dissolute young man underwent such an astonishing transformation. Well, suppose he did not think that I should be another Polemo; he could at least have set my hair right, he could have stripped me of my ornaments, he could have made me stop plucking my hairs; but although he saw me looking like—what shall I say?—he held his peace." As for me, I do not say what it is you look

ship of the Academy. See below IV. 11, 30; Diogenes Laertius, 4, 16; and Horace, *Sat.* II. 3, 253-7.



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

ἐρεῖς τόθ', ὅταν εἰς σαυτὸν ἔλθῃς, καὶ γνῶσῃς, οἷόν ἐστι καὶ τίνες αὐτὸ ἐπιτηδεύουσι.

- 16 Τοῦτό μοι ὕστερον ἂν ἐγκαλῇς, τί ἔξω ἀπολογή-  
σασθαι; ναί· ἀλλ' ἐρῶ καὶ οὐ πεισθήσεται.  
τῷ γὰρ Ἀπόλλωνι ἐπέισθη ὁ Λαῖος; οὐκ ἀπελ-  
θὼν καὶ μεθυσθεὶς χαίρειν εἶπεν τῷ χρησμῷ; τί  
οὖν; παρὰ τοῦτο οὐκ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἀπόλλων τὰς  
17 ἀληθείας; καίτοι ἐγὼ μὲν οὐκ οἶδα οὔτ' εἰ πει-  
σθήσῃ μοι οὔτ' εἰ μή· ἐκείνος δ' ἀκριβέστατα ἤδει,  
18 ὅτι οὐ πεισθήσεται, καὶ ὅμως εἶπεν.—Διὰ τί δ'  
εἶπεν;—Διὰ<sup>1</sup> τί δὲ Ἀπόλλων ἐστίν; διὰ τί δὲ  
χρησμοδεῖ; διὰ τί δ' εἰς ταύτην τὴν χώραν  
ἐαυτὸν κατατέταχεν, ὥστε μάντις εἶναι καὶ πηγὴ  
τῆς ἀληθείας καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἔρχεσθαι τοὺς ἐκ  
τῆς οἰκουμένης; διὰ τί δὲ προγέγραπται τὸ γνῶθι  
σαυτὸν μηδενὸς αὐτὸ νοοῦντος;  
19 Σωκράτης πάντας ἔπειθε τοὺς προσιόντας<sup>2</sup>  
ἐπιμελεῖσθαι ἑαυτῶν; οὐδὲ τὸ χιλιοστὸν μέρος.  
ἀλλ' ὅμως ἐπειδὴ εἰς ταύτην τὴν τάξιν ὑπὸ τοῦ  
δαιμονίου, ὥς φησιν αὐτός, κατετάχθη, μηκέτι  
ἐξέλιπεν. ἀλλὰ καὶ πρὸς τοὺς δικαστὰς τί  
20 λέγει; “ἄν μ' ἀφῆτε,” φησὶν, “ἐπὶ τούτοις, ἵνα  
μηκέτι ταῦτα πράσσω ἅ νῦν, οὐκ ἀνέξομαι οὐδ'  
ἀνήσω· ἀλλὰ καὶ νέω καὶ πρεσβυτέρῳ καὶ ἀπλῶς  
αἰὲ τῷ ἐντυγχάνοντι προσελθὼν πεύσομαι ταῦτα  
ἅ καὶ νῦν πυνθάνομαι, πολὺ δὲ μάλιστα ὑμῶν,

<sup>1</sup> διὰ supplied by s.

<sup>2</sup> s: προσίοντας or προσανότας S.

---

<sup>1</sup> Who warned him not to beget a son, the ill-starred Oedipus.



like, but *you* will say it, when you come to yourself, and will realize what it is and the kind of people those are who act this way.

If you bring this charge against me some day, what shall I be able to say in my own defence? Yes; but suppose I speak and he not obey. And did Laius obey Apollo?<sup>1</sup> Did he not go away and get drunk and say good-bye to the oracle? What then? Did that keep Apollo from telling him the truth? Whereas I do not know whether you will obey me or not. Apollo knew perfectly well that Laius would not obey, and yet he spoke.—But why did he speak?—And why is he Apollo? And why does he give out oracles? And why has he placed himself in this position,<sup>2</sup> to be a prophet and a fountain of truth, and for the inhabitants of the civilized world to come to him? And why are the words “Know thyself” carved on the front of his temple, although no one pays attention to them?

Did Socrates succeed in prevailing upon all his visitors to keep watch over their own characters? No, not one in a thousand. Nevertheless, once he had been assigned this post, as he himself says, by the ordinance of the Deity,<sup>3</sup> he never abandoned it. Nay, what does he say even to his judges? “If you acquit me,” he says, “on these conditions, namely, that I no longer engage in my present practices, I will not accept your offer, neither will I give up my practices, but I will go up to young and old, and, in a word, to everyone that I meet, and put to him the same question that I put now, and beyond all others I will especially interrogate you,” he says, “who are

<sup>2</sup> For the expression compare II. 4, 3; IV. 10, 16.

<sup>3</sup> Based upon the *Apology*, 28 E.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- φησί, τῶν πολιτῶν, ὅτι ἐγγυτέρω μου γένει ἐστέ.”
- 21 οὕτως περίεργος εἶ, ὦ Σώκρατες, καὶ πολυπράγμων; τί δέ σοι μέλει, τί ποιούμεν; “οἶον καὶ λέγεις; κοινωνός μου ὦν καὶ συγγενῆς ἀμελεῖς σεαυτοῦ καὶ τῇ πόλει παρέχεις πολίτην κακὸν
- 22 καὶ τοῖς συγγενέσι συγγενῇ καὶ τοῖς γείτοσι γείτονα.” “σὺ οὖν τίς εἶ;” ἐνταῦθα μέγα ἐστὶ τὸ εἰπεῖν ὅτι “οὗτός εἰμι, ᾧ δεῖ μέλαιν ἀνθρώπων.” οὐδὲ γὰρ λέοντι τὸ τυχὸν βοῖδιον τολμᾷ ἀντιστῆναι αὐτῷ· ἂν δ’ ὁ ταῦρος προσελθὼν ἀνθίστηται, λέγε αὐτῷ, ἂν σοι δόξη, “σὺ δὲ τίς εἶ;” καὶ “τί σοὶ μέλει;” ἄνθρωπε,
- 23 ἐν παντὶ γένει φύεται τι ἐξαίρετον· ἐν βουσίν, ἐν κυσίν, ἐν μελίσσαις, ἐν ἵπποις. μὴ δὲ λέγε τῷ ἐξαιρέτῳ “σὺ οὖν τίς εἶ;” εἰ δὲ μή, ἐρεῖ σοι φωνὴν ποθεν λαβὼν “ἐγὼ εἰμι τοιοῦτον οἶον ἐν ἱματίῳ πορφύρα· μή μ’ ἀξίου ὅμοιον εἶναι τοῖς ἄλλοις ἢ τῇ φύσει μου<sup>1</sup> μέμφον, ὅτι με διαφέροντα παρὰ τοὺς ἄλλους ἐποίησεν.”
- 24 Τί οὖν; ἐγὼ τοιοῦτος; πόθεν; σὺ γὰρ τοιοῦτος οἶος ἀκούειν τᾶληθῆ; ὥφελεν. ἀλλ’ ὅμως ἐπεὶ πως κατεκρίθην πώγωνα ἔχειν πολιδὸν καὶ τρίβωνα καὶ σὺ εἰσέρχῃ πρὸς ἐμέ ὡς πρὸς φιλόσοφον, οὐ χρήσομαί σοι ὡμῶς οὐδ’ ἀπογνωστικῶς,

<sup>1</sup> Deleted by Kronenberg, and “nature” rather than “my nature” would seem to be more logical here (cf. Grant’s note on Aristotle’s *Ethics*, 2.1.3). But *μου* is supported by the precisely similar *σου* of § 30, which is if anything even more illogical. In the original remark of Diogenes, whom Epictetus is clearly quoting in § 30 (see the note at that point), *ἐγκαλεῖν τῇ φύσει* is used as it is normally in Greek. Apparently we have in these two locutions a form of expression peculiar to Epictetus.

my fellow-citizens, inasmuch as you are nearer akin to me.”<sup>1</sup> Are you so inquisitive, O Socrates, and meddlesome? And why do you care what we are about? “Why, what is that you are saying? You are my partner and kinsman, and yet you neglect yourself and provide the State with a bad citizen, and your kin with a bad kinsman, and your neighbours with a bad neighbour.” “Well, who are you?” Here it is a bold thing to say, “I am he who must needs take interest in men.” For no ordinary ox dares to withstand the lion himself;<sup>2</sup> but if the bull comes up and withstands him, say to the bull, if you think fit, “But who are you?” and “What do you care?” Man, in every species nature produces some superior individual, among cattle, dogs, bees, horses. Pray do not say to the superior individual, “Well, then, who are you?” Or if you do, it will get a voice from somewhere and reply to you, “I am the same sort of thing as red in a mantle;<sup>3</sup> do not expect me to resemble the rest, and do not blame my nature<sup>4</sup> because it has made me different from the rest.”

What follows? Am I that kind of person? Impossible. Are you, indeed, the kind of person to listen to the truth? I would that you were! But nevertheless, since somehow or other I have been condemned to wear a grey beard and a rough cloak,<sup>5</sup> and you are coming to me as to a philosopher, I shall not treat you cruelly, nor as though I despaired of

<sup>1</sup> A free paraphrase of the *Apology*, 29 C, E, and 30 A. Compare also I. 9, 23.

<sup>2</sup> Compare I. 2, 30.

<sup>3</sup> Compare I. 2, 17 (and note, where read “bright red”) and 22; the reference is to the stripe in the *toga praetexta*.

<sup>4</sup> See critical note.

<sup>5</sup> External symbols of a philosopher.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἀλλ' ἐρῶ· νεανίσκε, τίνα θέλεις καλὸν ποιεῖν ;  
 25 γνῶθι πρῶτον τίς εἶ καὶ οὕτως κόσμει σεαυτόν.  
 ἄνθρωπος εἶ· τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶ θνητὸν ζῶον  
 χρηστικὸν φαντασίαις λογικῶς. τὸ δὲ λογικῶς  
 τί ἐστίν ; φύσει ὁμολογουμένως καὶ τελέως.  
 26 τί οὖν ἐξαίρετον ἔχεις ; τὸ ζῶον ; οὐ. τὸ θνη-  
 τόν ; οὐ. τὸ χρηστικὸν φαντασίαις ; οὐ. τὸ  
 λογικὸν ἔχεις ἐξαίρετον· τοῦτο κόσμει καὶ  
 καλλώπιζε· τὴν κόμην δ' ἄφες τῷ πλάσαντι  
 27 ὡς αὐτὸς ἠθέλησεν. ἄγε, τίνας ἄλλας ἔχεις  
 προσηγορίας ; ἀνὴρ εἶ ἢ γυνή ;—Ἀνήρ.—Ἄνδρα  
 οὖν καλλώπιζε, μὴ γυναῖκα. ἐκείνη φύσει λεία  
 γέγονε καὶ τρυφερά· κἂν ἔχη τρίχας πολλάς,  
 τέρας ἐστὶ καὶ ἐν τοῖς τέρασιν ἐν Ῥώμῃ δείκνυται.  
 28 ταὐτὸ <sup>1</sup> δ' ἐπ' ἀνδρός ἐστι τὸ μὴ ἔχειν· κἂν μὲν  
 φύσει μὴ ἔχη, τέρας ἐστίν, ἂν δ' αὐτὸς ἑαυτοῦ  
 ἐκκόπτη καὶ ἀποτίλλῃ, τί αὐτὸν ποιήσωμεν ; ποῦ  
 αὐτὸν δείξωμεν καὶ τί προγράψωμεν ; “δείξω  
 ὑμῖν ἄνδρα, ὃς θέλει μᾶλλον γυνὴ εἶναι ἢ ἀνήρ.”  
 29 ὦ δεινοῦ θεάματος· οὐδεὶς οὐχὶ θαυμάσει τὴν  
 προγραφὴν· νῆ τὸν Δία, οἶμαι ὅτι αὐτοὶ οἱ τιλ-  
 λόμενοι οὐ παρακολουθοῦντες, ὅτι τοῦτ' αὐτό  
 30 ἐστίν, ὃ ποιοῦσιν, ποιοῦσιν. ἄνθρωπε, τί ἔχεις  
 ἐγκαλέσαι σου τῇ φύσει ; ὅτι σε ἄνδρα ἐγέννη-  
 σεν ; τί οὖν ; πάσας ἔδει γυναῖκας γεννῆσαι ; καὶ

<sup>1</sup> Wolf and Blass : τοῦτο S.

you, but I shall say: Young man, whom do you wish to make beautiful? First learn who you are, and then, in the light of that knowledge, adorn yourself. You are a human being; that is, a mortal animal gifted with the ability to use impressions rationally. And what is "rationally"? In accordance with nature and perfectly. What element of superiority, then, do you possess? The animal in you? No. Your mortality? No. Your ability to use impressions? No. Your reason is the element of superiority which you possess; adorn and beautify that; but leave your hair to Him who fashioned it as He willed. Come, what other designations apply to you? Are you a man or a woman?—A man.—Very well then, adorn a man, not a woman. Woman is born smooth and dainty by nature, and if she is very hairy she is a prodigy, and is exhibited at Rome among the prodigies. But for a man *not* to be hairy is the same thing, and if by nature he has no hair he is a prodigy, but if he cuts it out and plucks it out of himself, what shall we make of him? Where shall we exhibit him and what notice shall we post? "I will show you," we say to the audience, "a man who wishes to be a woman rather than a man." What a dreadful spectacle! No one but will be amazed at the notice; by Zeus, I fancy that even the men who pluck out their own hairs do what they do without realizing what it means. Man, what reason have you to complain against your nature?<sup>1</sup> Because it brought you into the world as a man?<sup>2</sup> What then? Ought it to have brought all persons into the world

<sup>1</sup> Compare the critical note on § 23.

<sup>2</sup> An almost verbatim quotation from Diogenes the Cynic. See Athenaeus, XIII. 565 C.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- τί ἂν ὄφελος ἦν σοι τοῦ κοσμεῖσθαι ; τίνι ἂν  
 31 ἐκοσμοῦ, εἰ πάντες ἦσαν γυναῖκες ; ἀλλ' οὐκ  
 ἀρέσκει σοι τὸ πραγμάτιον ; ὅλον δι' ὅλων αὐτὸ  
 ποιήσον· ἄρον—τί ποτ' ἐκείνο ;—τὸ αἴτιον τῶν  
 τριχῶν· ποιήσον εἰς ἅπαντα σαυτὸν γυναῖκα, ἵνα  
 μὴ πλανώμεθα, μὴ τὸ μὲν ἡμισυ ἀνδρός, τὸ δ'  
 32 ἡμισυ γυναικός. τίνι θέλεις ἀρέσαι ; τοῖς γυναι-  
 καρίοις ; ὥς<sup>1</sup> ἀνὴρ αὐτοῖς ἄρεσον. “ναί· ἀλλὰ  
 τοῖς λείοις χαίρουσιν.” οὐκ ἀπάγξῃ ; καὶ εἰ τοῖς  
 33 κιναίδοις ἔχαιρον, ἐγένου ἂν κίναιδος ; τοῦτό σοι  
 τὸ ἔργον ἐστίν, ἐπὶ τοῦτο ἐγεννήθης, ἵνα σοι αἱ  
 34 γυναῖκες αἱ ἀκόλαστοι χαίρωσιν ; τοιοῦτόν σε  
 θῶμεν πολίτην Κορινθίων, καὶ οὕτως τύχῃ, ἀστυ-  
 νόμον ἢ ἐφήβαρχον ἢ στρατηγὸν ἢ ἀγωνοθέτην ;  
 35 ἄγε καὶ γαμήσας τίλλεσθαι μέλλεις ; τίνι καὶ  
 ἐπὶ τί ; καὶ παιδία ποιήσας εἶτα κακεῖνα τιλλόμενα  
 ἡμῖν εἰσάξεις εἰς τὸ πολίτευμα ; καλὸς πολίτης  
 καὶ βουλευτὴς καὶ ῥήτωρ. τοιούτους δεῖ νέους  
 εὖχεσθαι ἡμῖν φύεσθαι καὶ ἀνατρέφεσθαι ;  
 36 Μή, τοὺς θεοὺς σοι, νεανίσκε· ἀλλ' ἅπαξ  
 ἀκούσας τῶν λόγων τούτων ἀπελθὼν σαυτῷ εἶπέ·  
 “ταῦτά μοι Ἐπίκτητος οὐκ εἶρηκεν· πόθεν γὰρ  
 ἐκείνῳ ; ἀλλὰ θεός τις ποτ' εὖμενής δι' ἐκείνου.  
 οὐδὲ γὰρ ἂν ἐπῆλθεν Ἐπικτήτῳ ταῦτα εἰπεῖν

<sup>1</sup> Sb ; ὦ S.

<sup>1</sup> Compare I. 29, 16 together with note on that passage, and for a more extended discussion *Trans. of the Amer. Philol. Assoc.*, 52 (1921), 46.

<sup>2</sup> The interlocutor must have been a Corinthian.



as women? And if that had been the case, what good would you be getting of your self-adornment? For whom would you be adorning yourself, if all were women? Your paltry body<sup>1</sup> doesn't please you, eh? Make a clean sweep of the whole matter; eradicate your—what shall I call it?—the cause of your hairiness; make yourself a woman all over, so as not to deceive us, not half-man and half-woman. Whom do you wish to please? Frail womankind? Please them as a man. "Yes, but they like smooth men." Oh, go hang! And if they liked sexual perverts, would you have become such a pervert? Is this your business in life, is this what you were born for, that licentious women should take pleasure in you? Shall we make a man like you a citizen of Corinth,<sup>2</sup> and perchance a warden of the city, or superintendent of ephebi,<sup>3</sup> or general, or superintendent of the games? Well, and when you have married are you going to pluck out your hairs? For whom and to what end? And when you have begotten boys, are you going to introduce them into the body of citizens as plucked creatures too? A fine citizen and senator and orator! Is this the kind of young men we ought to pray to have born and brought up for us?

By the gods, young man, may such not be your fate! But once you have heard these words go away and say to yourself, "It was not Epictetus who said these things to me; why, how could they have occurred to him? but it was some kindly god or other speaking through him. For it would not have occurred to Epictetus to say these things, because he is not in

<sup>3</sup> Young men completing their education and serving their term in the army.

- 37 οὐκ εἰωθότι λέγειν πρὸς οὐδένα. ἄγε οὖν τῷ θεῷ  
πεισθῶμεν, ἵνα μὴ θεοχόλωτοι ᾖμεν." οὐ· ἀλλ'  
ἂν μὲν κόραξ κραυγάζων σημαίνει σοί τι, οὐχ ὁ  
κόραξ ἐστὶν ὁ σημαίνων, ἀλλ' ὁ θεὸς δι' αὐτοῦ·  
ἂν δὲ δι' ἀνθρωπίνης φωνῆς σημαίνει τι, τὸν  
ἄνθρωπον προσποιήσῃ<sup>1</sup> λέγειν σοι ταῦτα, ἵν'  
ἀγνοῇς<sup>2</sup> τὴν δύναμιν τοῦ δαιμονίου, ὅτι τοῖς μὲν  
οὕτως, τοῖς δ' ἐκείνως σημαίνει, περὶ δὲ τῶν  
μεγίστων καὶ κυριωτάτων διὰ<sup>3</sup> καλλίστου ἀγ-  
38 γέλου σημαίνει; τί ἐστὶν ἄλλο, ὃ λέγει ὁ ποιη-  
τῆς;

ἐπεὶ πρό οἱ εἶπομεν<sup>4</sup> ἡμεῖς,

Ἑρμείαν πέμψαντε διάκτορον<sup>5</sup> ἀργειφόντην,  
μήτ' αὐτὸν κτείνειν μήτε μνάσθαι ἄκοιτιν.

- 39 ὁ Ἑρμῆς καταβὰς ἔμελλεν Αἰγίσθῳ<sup>6</sup> λέγειν ταῖτα  
καὶ σοὶ νῦν λέγουσιν οἱ θεοὶ ταῦτα,

Ἑρμείαν πέμψαντε<sup>7</sup> διάκτορον ἀργειφόντην,

- μὴ ἐκστρέφειν τὰ καλῶς ἔχοντα μηδὲ περιεργάζε-  
σθαι, ἀλλ' ἀφεῖναι τὸν ἄνδρα ἄνδρα, τὴν γυναῖκα  
γυναῖκα, τὸν καλὸν ὡς ἄνθρωπον καλόν,<sup>8</sup> τὸν  
40 αἰσχρὸν ὡς ἄνθρωπον αἰσχρόν. ὅτι οὐκ εἶ κρέας  
οὐδὲ τρίχες, ἀλλὰ προαίρεσις ταύτην ἂν σχῆς  
41 καλήν, τότε ἔσει καλός. μέχρι δὲ νῦν οὐ τολμῶ

<sup>1</sup> Blass: ποιήσει S.

<sup>2</sup> Blass: ἵνα γνῶις S.

<sup>3</sup> διὰ supplied by Sb.

<sup>4</sup> Upton from Homer: ἐπεὶ οἱ πρίεπομεν S.

<sup>5</sup> Oldfather: πέμψαντες ἐύσκοπον S. The reading restored is that of Zenodotus and Aristophanes, which has left some traces in two MSS., one scholium, and a papyrus of the 3rd cent. after Christ, and especially in § 39 below. See my note in *Class. Philol.*, vol. 22, for a full discussion of this passage.

<sup>6</sup> Bentley: αὐτῷ S. For arguments in favour of Bentley's emendation see *Trans. Am. Philol. Ass.* 52 (1921) 49.



the habit of speaking to anyone. Come then, let us obey God, that we rest not under His wrath." Nay, but if a raven gives you a sign by his croaking, it is not the raven that gives the sign, but God through the raven; whereas if He gives you a sign through a human voice, will you pretend that it is the man who is saying these things to you, so that you may remain ignorant of the power of the divinity, that He gives signs to some men in this way, and to others in that, but that in the greatest and most sovereign matters He gives His sign through His noblest messenger? What else does the poet mean when he says:

Since ourselves we did warn him,  
Sending down Hermes, the messenger god, the  
    slayer of Argus,  
Neither to murder the husband himself, nor make  
    love to his consort? <sup>1</sup>

As Hermes descended to tell Aegisthus that, so now the gods tell you the same thing,

Sending down Hermes, the messenger god, the  
    slayer of Argus,

not to distort utterly nor to take useless pains about that which is already right, but to leave the man a man, and the woman a woman, the beautiful person beautiful as a human being, the ugly ugly as a human being. Because *you* are not flesh, nor hair, but moral purpose; if you get that beautiful, then *you* will be beautiful. So far I do not have the

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Odyssey*, α, 37-9.

<sup>7</sup> πέμψαντες S; see note 5 above.

<sup>8</sup> Oldfather: τὸν καλὸν ἄνθρωπον ὡς καλὸν ἄνθρωπον S

- σοι λέγειν, ὅτι αἰσχροὺς εἶ. δοκεῖς γάρ μοι πάντα  
 42 θέλειν ἀκοῦσαι ἢ τοῦτο. ἀλλ' ὅρα, τί λέγει  
 Σωκράτης τῷ καλλίστῳ πάντων καὶ ὠραιοτάτῳ  
 Ἀλκιβιάδῃ· “πειρῶ οὖν καλὸς εἶναι.” τί αὐτῷ  
 λέγει; “πλάσσε σου τὴν κόμην καὶ τίλλε σου  
 τὰ σκέλη”; μὴ γένοιτο· ἀλλὰ “κόσμει σου τὴν  
 43 προαίρεσιν, ἔξαιρε τὰ φαῦλα δόγματα.” τὸ  
 σωμάτιον οὖν πῶς; ὥς πέφυκεν. ἄλλῳ τούτων  
 44 ἐμέλησεν· ἐκείνῳ ἐπίτρεψον.<sup>1</sup>—Τί οὖν; ἀκάθαρ-  
 τον δεῖ εἶναι;—Μὴ γένοιτο· ἀλλ' ὅς εἰ καὶ πέφυ-  
 κας, τοῦτον κάθαιρε, ἄνδρα ὥς ἄνδρα καθάριον  
 45 εἶναι, γυναῖκα ὥς γυναῖκα, παιδίον ὥς παιδίον. οὐ  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ τοῦ λέοντος ἐκτίλωμεν τὴν κόμην, ἵνα μὴ  
 ἀκάθαρτος ᾖ, καὶ τοῦ ἀλεκτρυόνος τὸν λόφον· δεῖ  
 γὰρ καὶ τοῦτον καθάριον εἶναι. ἀλλ' ὥς ἀλεκ-  
 τρυόνα καὶ ἐκείνον ὥς λέοντα καὶ τὸν κυνηγετικὸν  
 κύνα ὥς κυνηγετικόν.

Β'. Περὶ τίνα ἀσκεῖσθαι δεῖ τὸν προκόψοντα καὶ  
 ὅτι τῶν κυριωτάτων ἀμελοῦμεν.

- 1 Τρεῖς εἰσὶ τόποι, περὶ οὓς ἀσκηθῆναι δεῖ τὸν  
 ἐσόμενον καλὸν καὶ ἀγαθόν· ὁ περὶ τὰς ὀρέξεις  
 καὶ τὰς ἐκκλίσεις, ἵνα μήτ' ὀρεγόμενος ἀποτυγχάνῃ  
 2 μήτ' ἐκκλίνων περιπίπτῃ· ὁ περὶ τὰς ὁρμὰς καὶ

<sup>1</sup> ἐπίστρεψον *S* originally.

<sup>1</sup> An inexact quotation of Plato, *Alcib.* I. 131 D.

<sup>2</sup> Compare I, 25, 13; 30, 1; II. 5, 22.

<sup>3</sup> The implication is that the interlocutor's conception of “cleanliness” has to do merely with things external.

<sup>4</sup> Compare II. 17, 15 ff. This triple division of philosophy is the one original element in the teaching of Epictetus, and even it is rather a pedagogical device than an innovation in

courage to tell you that you are ugly, for it looks to me as though you would rather hear anything than that. But observe what Socrates says to Alcibiades, the most handsome and youthfully beautiful of men: "Try, then, to be beautiful."<sup>1</sup> What does he tell him? "Dress your locks and pluck the hairs out of your legs?" God forbid! No, he says, "Make beautiful your moral purpose, eradicate your worthless opinions." How treat your paltry body, then? As its nature is. This is the concern of Another;<sup>2</sup> leave it to Him.—What then? Does the body have to be left unclean?—God forbid! but the man that you are and were born to be, keep that man clean, a man to be clean as a man, a woman as a woman, a child as a child. No, but let's pluck out also the lion's mane, so that he may not fail to be "cleaned up," and the cock's comb, for he too ought to be "cleaned up!"<sup>3</sup> Clean? Yes, but clean as a cock, and the other clean as a lion, and the hunting dog clean as a hunting dog!

## CHAPTER II

*The fields of study in which the man who expects to make progress will have to go into training; and that we neglect what is most important*

THERE are three fields of study<sup>4</sup> in which the man who is going to be good and excellent must first have been trained. The first has to do with desires and aversions, that he may never fail to get what he desires, nor fall into what he avoids; the second thought. Compare Vol. I. p. xxi, and the literature there cited.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἀφορμὰς καὶ ἀπλῶς ὁ περὶ τὸ καθῆκον, ἵνα τάξει,  
 ἵνα εὐλογίστως, ἵνα μὴ ἀμελῶς· τρίτος ἐστὶν ὁ περὶ  
 τὴν ἀνεξαπατησίαν καὶ ἀνεικαιότητα καὶ ὅλως ὁ  
 3 περὶ τὰς συγκαταθέσεις. τούτων κυριώτατος καὶ  
 μάλιστα ἐπείγων ἐστὶν ὁ περὶ τὰ πάθη· πάθος  
 γὰρ ἄλλως οὐ γίνεται εἰ μὴ ὀρέξεως ἀποτυγχανού-  
 σης ἢ ἐκκλίσεως περιπιπτούσης. οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ  
 παραχίας, θορύβους, ἀτυχίας, ὁ δυστυχίας ἐπι-  
 φέρων, ὁ πένθη, οἰμωγάς, φθόνους, ὁ φθονερούς,<sup>1</sup> ὁ  
 ζηλοτύπους ποιῶν, δι' ὧν οὐδ' ἀκοῦσαι λόγου  
 4 δυνάμεθα. δεύτερός ἐστιν ὁ περὶ τὸ καθῆκον·  
 οὐ δεῖ γάρ με εἶναι ἀπαθῆ ὡς ἀνδριάντα, ἀλλὰ  
 τὰς σχέσεις τηροῦντα τὰς φυσικὰς καὶ ἐπιθέτους  
 ὡς εὐσεβῆ, ὡς υἱόν, ὡς ἀδελφόν, ὡς πατέρα, ὡς  
 πολίτην.  
 5 Τρίτος ἐστὶν ὁ ἥδη τοῖς προκόπτουσιν ἐπι-  
 βάλλων, ὁ περὶ τὴν αὐτῶν τούτων ἀσφάλειαν,  
 ἵνα μὴδ' ἐν ὕπνοις λάθῃ τις ἀνεξέταστος παρελ-  
 θούσα φαντασία μὴδ' ἐν οἰνῳσει μὴδὲ μελαγ-  
 χολῳντος.—Τοῦτο ὑπὲρ ἡμᾶς, φησὶν, ἐστίν.—  
 6 Οἱ δὲ νῦν φιλόσοφοι ἀφέντες τὸν πρῶτον τόπον  
 καὶ τὸν δεύτερον καταγίνονται περὶ τὸν τρίτον·  
 μεταπίπτοντας, τῷ<sup>2</sup> ἡρωτῆσθαι περαίνοντας,

<sup>1</sup> φόβους ("fears") conjectured by Reiske, very plausibly.

<sup>2</sup> τῷ added by Oldfather after the similar correction by s in I. 7, 1 (where the fact that τῷ is due to s should have been recorded).

<sup>1</sup> A briefer definition is given in I. 27, 10.

<sup>2</sup> See critical note

<sup>3</sup> The expression is not logical, for the *field of study*

with cases of choice and of refusal, and, in general, with duty, that he may act in an orderly fashion, upon good reasons, and not carelessly; the third with the avoidance of error and rashness in judgement, and, in general, about cases of assent. Among these the most important and especially pressing is that which has to do with the stronger emotions; for a strong emotion does not arise except a desire fails to attain its object, or an aversion falls into what it would avoid.<sup>1</sup> This is the field of study which introduces to us confusions, tumults, misfortunes and calamities; and sorrows, lamentations, envies;<sup>2</sup> and makes<sup>3</sup> us envious and jealous—passions which make it impossible for us even to listen to reason. The second field of study deals with duty; for I ought not to be unfeeling like a statue, but should maintain my relations, both natural and acquired, as a religious man, as a son, a brother, a father, a citizen.

The third belongs only to those who are already making progress; it has to do with the element of certainty in the matters which have just been mentioned, so that even in dreams, or drunkenness, or a state of melancholy-madness, a man may not be taken unawares by the appearance of an untested sense-impression.—This, says someone, is beyond us.—But philosophers nowadays pass by the first and second fields of study, and concentrate upon the third, upon arguments which involve equivocal premisses, which derive syllogisms by the process of interrogation, which involve hypothetical premisses,<sup>4</sup> obviously can do nothing of the kind, but the fault is probably not in the MS. tradition.

<sup>4</sup> See I. 7, 1, and note for these first three.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 7 ὑποθετικούς, Ψευδομένους.<sup>1</sup>—Δεῖ γάρ, φησίν, καὶ ἐν ταῖς ὕλαις ταύταις γενόμενον διαφυλάξαι τὸ ἀνεξαπάτητον.—Τίνα ;—τὸν καλὸν καὶ ἀγαθόν.—
- 8 σοὶ οὖν τοῦτο λείπει ; τὰς ἄλλας ἐκπεπόνηκας ; περὶ κερμάτιον ἀνεξαπάτητος εἶ ; ἐὰν ἴδῃς κοράσιον καλόν, ἀντέχεις τῇ φαντασίᾳ ; ἂν ὁ γείτων σου κληρονομήσῃ, οὐ δάκνῃ ; νῦν οὐδὲν
- 9 ἄλλο σοι λείπει ἢ ἀμεταπτωσία ; τάλας, αὐτὰ ταῦτα τρέμων μαυθάνεις καὶ ἀγωνιῶν, μή τίς σου καταφρονήσῃ, καὶ πυνθανόμενος, μή τίς τι περὶ
- 10 σοῦ λέγῃ. κἂν τις ἐλθὼν εἴπῃ σοι ὅτι “ λόγον γινομένου, τίς ἄριστός ἐστι τῶν φιλοσόφων, παρῶν τις ἔλεγεν, ὅτι εἷς φιλόσοφος ὁ δεῖνα,” γέγονέ σου τὸ ψυχάριον ἀντὶ δακτυλίου δίπηχυν. ἂν δ' ἄλλος παρῶν εἴπῃ “ οὐδὲν εἴρηκας, οὐκ ἔστιν ἄξιον τοῦ δεῖνος ἀκροᾶσθαι· τί γὰρ οἶδεν ; τὰς πρώτας ἀφορμὰς ἔχει, πλεον δ' οὐδέν,” ἐξέστηκας, ὠχρίακας, εὐθύς κέκραγας “ ἐγὼ αὐτῷ
- 11 δείξω, τίς εἰμὶ, ὅτι μέγας φιλόσοφος.” βλέπεται ἐξ αὐτῶν τούτων. τί θέλεις ἐξ ἄλλων δεῖξαι ; οὐκ οἶδας, ὅτι Διογένης τῶν σοφιστῶν τινὰ οὕτως ἔδειξεν ἐκτείνας τὸν μέσον δάκτυλον, εἶτα ἐκμανέντος αὐτοῦ “ Οὗτός ἐστιν,” ἔφη, “ ὁ δεῖνα·
- 12 ἔδειξα ὑμῖν αὐτόν” ; ἄνθρωπος γὰρ δακτύλῳ οὐ

<sup>1</sup> Oldfather : *ψευδομένους* vulg. See explanatory note.

<sup>1</sup> i.e., if a man says he is lying, is he really lying, or telling the truth? See II. 17, 34, and note. *Ψευδομένους* is used without the article, as in II. 21, 17.

<sup>2</sup> Literally, “from a finger's breadth (.7 in.) to two cubits.”

<sup>3</sup> See Diogenes Laertius, 6, 34, who says that Demosthenes was the man thus pointed at.



and sophisms like *The Liar*.<sup>1</sup>—Of course, he says, even when a man is engaged in subjects of this kind he has to preserve his freedom from deception.—But what kind of a man ought to engage in them?—Only the one who is already good and excellent.—Do you, then, fall short in this? Have you already attained perfection in the other subjects? Are you proof against deception in handling small change? If you see a pretty wench, do you resist the sense-impression? If your neighbour receives an inheritance, do you not feel a twinge of envy? And is security of judgement now the only thing in which you fall short? Wretch, even while you are studying these very topics you tremble and are worried for fear someone despises you, and you ask whether anybody is saying anything about you. And if someone should come and say, “A discussion arising as to who was the best of the philosophers, someone who was there said that So-and-so was the only real philosopher,” immediately your poor little one-inch soul shoots up a yard high.<sup>2</sup> But if another party to the discussion says, “Nonsense, it’s a waste of time to listen to So-and-so. Why, what does he know? He has the rudiments, but nothing else,” you are beside yourself, you grow pale, immediately you shout, “I’ll show him who I am, that I am a great philosopher!” Yet we see what a man is by just such conduct. Why do you wish to show it by anything else? Do you not know that Diogenes<sup>3</sup> showed one of the sophists thus, pointing out his middle finger at him,<sup>4</sup> and then when the man was furious with rage, remarked, “That’s So-and-so; I’ve pointed him out to you.” For a man is not some-

<sup>4</sup> Regarded in antiquity as an insulting gesture.

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δείκνυνται ὡς λίθος ἢ ὡς ξύλον, ἀλλ' ὅταν τις τὰ δόγματα αὐτοῦ δείξῃ, τότε αὐτὸν ὡς ἄνθρωπον ἔδειξεν.

- 13 Βλέπωμεν καὶ σοῦ τὰ δόγματα. μὴ γὰρ οὐ δηλὸν ἐστίν, ὅτι σὺ τὴν προαίρεσιν τὴν σαυτοῦ ἐν οὐδενὶ τίθεις, ἔξω δὲ βλέπεις εἰς τὰ ἀπροαίρετα, τί ἐρεῖ ὁ δεῖνα καὶ τίς εἶναι δόξεις, εἰ φιλόλογος, εἰ Χρύσιππον ἀνεγνωκῶς<sup>1</sup> ἢ Ἀντίπατρον; εἰ μὲν γὰρ καὶ Ἀρχέδημον, ἀπέχεις  
14 ἅπαντα. τί ἔτι ἀγωνιᾷς, μὴ οὐ δείξης ἡμῖν, τίς εἶ; θέλεις σοι εἶπω, τίνα ἡμῖν ἔδειξας; ἄνθρωπον παριόντα<sup>2</sup> ταπεινόν, μεμψίμοιρον, ὀξύθυμον, δειλόν, πάντα μεμφόμενον, πᾶσιν ἐγκαλοῦντα, μηδέποτε ἡσυχίαν ἄγοντα, πέρπερον· ταῦτα  
15 ἡμῖν ἔδειξας. ἄπελθε νῦν καὶ ἀναγίγνωσκε Ἀρχέδημον· εἶτα μὺς ἂν καταπέσῃ καὶ ψοφήσῃ, ἀπέθανες. τοιοῦτος γάρ σε μένει θάνατος, οἷος<sup>3</sup> καὶ τὸν—τίνα ποτ' ἐκείνον;—τὸν Κρίνιν.<sup>4</sup> καὶ  
16 ἐκεῖνος μέγα ἐφρόνει, ὅτι ἐνόει Ἀρχέδημον. τάλας οὐ θέλεις ἀφεῖναι ταῦτα τὰ μηδὲν πρὸς σέ; πρέπει ταῦτα τοῖς δυναμένοις εἰς τὰ ταραχῆς αὐτὰ μανθάνειν, οἷς ἔξεστιν εἰπεῖν “οὐκ ὀργίζομαι, οὐ λυποῦμαι, οὐ φθονῶ, οὐ κωλύομαι, οὐκ ἀναγκάζομαι. τί μοι λοιπόν; εὐσχολῶ, ἡσυχίαν  
17 ἄγω. ἴδωμεν, πῶς περὶ τὰς μεταπτώσεις τῶν

<sup>1</sup> Kronenberg: ἀνέγνωσ S.

<sup>2</sup> ἀνθρωπάριον (“a mean little person”) very plausibly suggested by Reiske.

<sup>3</sup> Menage: οἷον S.

<sup>4</sup> Reiske: κρίνειν S.

<sup>1</sup> See critical note.

<sup>2</sup> A Stoic philosopher of no great prominence, who must be supposed to have died from an apoplectic stroke occasioned by



thing like a stone or a stick of wood to be pointed out with a finger, but when one shows a man's judgements, then one shows him as a man.

Let us take a look at your judgements too. Is it not evident that you set no value on your own moral purpose, but look beyond to the things that lie outside the province of the moral purpose, namely, what So-and-so will say, and what impression you will make, whether men will think you a scholar, or that you have read Chrysippus or Antipater? Why, if you have read them and Archedemus too, you have everything! Why are you any longer worried for fear you will not show us who you are? Do you wish me to tell you what kind of a man you have shown us that you are? A person who comes into our presence<sup>1</sup> mean, hypercritical, quick-tempered, cowardly, finding fault with everything, blaming everybody, never quiet, vain-glorious; these are the qualities which you have exhibited to us. Go away now and read Archedemus; then if a mouse falls down and makes a noise, you are dead with fright. For the same kind of death awaits you that carried off—what's his name?—oh, yes, Crinus.<sup>2</sup> He, too, was proud of himself because he could understand Archedemus. Wretch, are you not willing to let alone those things that do not concern you? They are appropriate for those who can study them without disturbance of spirit, who have the right to say, "I do not yield to anger, or sorrow, or envy; I am not subject to restraint, or to compulsion. What do I yet lack? I enjoy leisure, I have peace of mind. Let us see how we ought to deal with equivocal

fright at a mouse falling down from the wall. See Von Arnim in the *Real-Encyclopädie*,<sup>2</sup> s.v.

λόγων δεῖ ἀναστρέφεσθαι· ἴδωμεν, πῶς ὑπόθεσίν τις λαβὼν εἰς οὐδὲν ἄτοπον ἀπαχθήσεται.”

- 18 ἐκείνων ἐστὶ ταῦτα. τοῖς εὖ παθοῦσι πρέπει πῦρ καίειν, ἀριστὰν, ἂν οὕτως τύχῃ, καὶ ἄδειν καὶ ὀρχεῖσθαι· βυθιζομένου δὲ τοῦ πλοίου σύ μοι παρελθὼν ἐπαίρεις τοὺς σιφάρους.

γ'. Τίς ὕλη τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ πρὸς τί μάλιστ' ἀσκητέον.

- 1 “Ὑλη τοῦ καλοῦ καὶ ἀγαθοῦ τὸ ἴδιον ἡγεμονικόν, τὸ σῶμα δ' ἰατροῦ καὶ ἰατραλείπτου,<sup>1</sup> ὁ ἀγρὸς γεωργοῦ ὕλη· ἔργον δὲ καλοῦ καὶ ἀγαθοῦ  
2 τὸ χρῆσθαι ταῖς φαντασίαις κατὰ φύσιν. πέφυκεν δὲ πᾶσα ψυχὴ ὥσπερ τῷ ἀληθεῖ ἐπινεύειν, πρὸς τὸ ψεῦδος ἀνανεύειν, πρὸς τὸ ἄδηλον ἐπέχειν, οὕτως πρὸς μὲν τὸ ἀγαθὸν ὀρεκτικῶς κινεῖσθαι, πρὸς δὲ τὸ κακὸν ἐκκλιτικῶς, πρὸς  
3 δὲ τὸ μήτε κακὸν μήτ' ἀγαθὸν οὐδετέρως. ὥς γὰρ τὸ τοῦ Καίσαρος νόμισμα οὐκ ἔξεστιν ἀποδοκιμάσαι τῷ τραπεζίτῃ οὐδὲ τῷ λαχανοπώλῃ, ἀλλ' ἂν δείξης, θέλει οὐ θέλει, προέσθαι αὐτὸν δεῖ τὸ ἀντ' αὐτοῦ πωλούμενον, οὕτως ἔχει καὶ ἐπὶ  
4 τῆς ψυχῆς. τὸ ἀγαθὸν φανὲν εὐθύς ἐκίνησεν ἐφ' αὐτό, τὸ κακὸν ἀφ' αὐτοῦ. οὐδέποτε δ' ἀγαθοῦ φαντασίαν ἐναργῇ ἀποδοκιμάσει ψυχὴ, οὐ μᾶλ-

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser : ἀπαλείπτου S.

premisses in arguments; let us see how a person may adopt an hypothesis and yet not be led to an absurd conclusion." These things belong to men of that type. When men are prospering it is appropriate to light a fire, to take luncheon, and, if you will, even to sing and dance; but when the ship is already sinking you come up to me and start to hoist the topsails!

### CHAPTER III

*What is the subject-matter with which the good man has to deal; and what should be the chief object of our training?*

THE subject-matter with which the good and excellent man has to deal is his own governing principle, that of a physician and the masseur is the body, of a farmer is his farm; but the function of the good and excellent man is to deal with his impressions in accordance with nature. Now just as it is the nature of every soul to assent to the true, dissent from the false, and to withhold judgement in a matter of uncertainty, so it is its nature to be moved with desire toward the good, with aversion toward the evil, and feel neutral toward what is neither evil nor good. For just as neither the banker nor the greengrocer may legally refuse the coinage of Caesar, but if you present it, whether he will or no, he must turn over to you what you are purchasing with it, so it is also with the soul. The instant the good appears it attracts the soul to itself, while the evil repels the soul from itself. A soul will never refuse a clear sense-impression of good,

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λον ἢ τὸ Καίσαρος νόμισμα. ἔνθεν ἐξήρτηται  
πᾶσα κίνησις καὶ ἀνθρώπου καὶ θεοῦ.

- 5 Διὰ τοῦτο πάσης οἰκειότητος προκρίνεται τὸ  
ἀγαθόν. οὐδὲν ἐμοὶ καὶ τῷ πατρί, ἀλλὰ τῷ  
ἀγαθῷ. “οὕτως εἰ σκληρός;” οὕτως γὰρ  
πέφυκα· τοῦτό μοι τὸ νόμισμα δέδωκεν ὁ θεός.
- 6 διὰ τοῦτο, εἰ τοῦ καλοῦ καὶ δικαίου τὸ ἀγαθὸν  
ἕτερόν ἐστιν, οἷχεται καὶ πατήρ καὶ ἀδελφὸς καὶ
- 7 πατρὶς καὶ πάντα τὰ πράγματα. ἀλλ’ ἐγὼ τὸ  
ἐμὸν ἀγαθὸν ὑπερίδω, ἵνα σὺ σχῆς, καὶ παρα-  
χωρήσω σοι; ἀντὶ τίνος; “πατήρ σου εἰμί.”  
ἀλλ’ οὐκ ἀγαθόν. “ἀδελφός σου εἰμί.” ἀλλ’
- 8 οὐκ ἀγαθόν. ἐὰν δ’ ἐν ὀρθῇ προαιρέσει θῶμεν,  
αὐτὸ τὸ<sup>1</sup> τηρεῖν τὰς σχέσεις ἀγαθὸν γίνεται καὶ  
λοιπὸν ὁ τῶν ἐκτός τινων ἐκχωρῶν, οὗτος τοῦ
- 9 ἀγαθοῦ τυγχάνει. “αἶρει τὰ χρήματα ὁ πατήρ.”  
ἀλλ’ οὐ βλάπτει. “ἔξει τὸ πλεόν τοῦ ἀγροῦ ὁ  
ἀδελφός.”<sup>2</sup> ὅσον καὶ θέλει. μή τι οὖν τοῦ  
αἰδήμονος, μή τι τοῦ πιστοῦ, μή τι τοῦ φιλα-
- 10 δέλφου; ἐκ ταύτης γὰρ τῆς οὐσίας τίς δύναται  
ἐκβαλεῖν; οὐδ’ ὁ Ζεὺς. οὐδὲ γὰρ ἠθέλησεν, ἀλλ’  
ἐπ’ ἐμοὶ αὐτὸ ἐποίησεν καὶ ἔδωκεν οἶον εἶχεν  
αὐτός, ἀκώλυτον, ἀνανάγκαστον, ἀπαραπό-  
διστον.
- 11 “Ὅταν οὖν ἄλλω ἄλλο τὸ νόμισμα ἦ, ἐκεῖνό  
τις<sup>3</sup> δείξας ἔχει τὸ ἀντ’ αὐτοῦ πιπρασκόμενον.
- 12 ἐλήλυθεν εἰς τὴν ἐπαρχίαν κλέπτης ἀνθύπατος.  
τίνι νομίσματι χρήται; ἀργυρίῳ. δείξον καὶ  
ἀπόφερε ὃ θέλεις. ἐλήλυθεν μοιχός. τίνι νομίσ-

<sup>1</sup> τό added by Reiske.

<sup>2</sup> ὁ ἀδελφός added by Schweighäuser.

<sup>3</sup> Sb (or Sa): ἐκεῖνος S.

any more than a man will refuse the coinage of Caesar. On this concept of the good hangs every impulse to act both of man and of God.

That is why the good is preferred above every form of kinship. My father is nothing to me, but only the good. "Are you so hard-hearted?" Yes, that is my nature. This is the coinage which God has given me. For that reason, if the good is something different from the noble and the just, then father and brother and country and all relationships simply disappear. But shall I neglect my good, so that you may have it, and shall I make way for you? What for? "I am your father." But not a good. "I am your brother." But not a good. If, however, we define the good as consisting in a right moral purpose, then the mere preservation of the relationships of life becomes a good; and furthermore, he who gives up some of the externals achieves the good. "My father is taking away my money." But he is doing you no harm. "My brother is going to get the larger part of the farm." Let him have all he wants. That does not help him at all to get a part of your modesty, does it, or of your fidelity, or of your brotherly love? Why, from a possession of this kind who can eject you? Not even Zeus. Nay, nor did He even wish to, but this matter He put under my control, and He gave it to me even as He had it Himself, free from hindrance, compulsion, restraint.

When, therefore, different persons have different pieces of coinage, a man offers the coin and gets what is bought by it. A thief has come to the province as Proconsul. What coinage does he use? Silver. Offer it and carry away what you wish. An adulterer

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- ματι χρήται ; κορασιδίοις. “ λάβε,” φησίν, “ τὸ νόμισμα καὶ πώλησόν μοι τὸ πραγματίον.” δὸς  
 13 καὶ ἀγόραζε. ἄλλος περὶ παιδάρια ἐσπούδακεν. δὸς αὐτῷ τὸ νόμισμα καὶ λάβε ὃ θέλεις. ἄλλος φιλόθηρος. δὸς ἱππάριον καλὸν ἢ κυνάριον· οἰμῶζων καὶ στένων πωλήσει ἀντ’ αὐτοῦ ὃ θέλεις. ἄλλος γὰρ αὐτὸν ἀναγκάζει ἔσωθεν, ὃ τὸ νόμισμα τοῦτο τεταχώς.
- 14 Πρὸς τοῦτο μάλιστα τὸ εἶδος αὐτὸν γυμναστέον. εὐθὺς ὄρθρου προελθὼν ὃν ἂν ἴδῃς, ὃν ἂν ἀκούσῃς, ἐξέταζε, ἀποκρίνου ὡς πρὸς ἐρώτημα. τί εἶδες ; καλὸν ἢ καλήν ; ἔπαγε τὸν κανόνα. ἀπροαίρετον ἢ προαιρετικόν ; ἀπροαίρετον· αἶρε  
 15 ἔξω. τί εἶδες ; πενθοῦντ’<sup>1</sup> ἐπὶ τέκνου τελευτῇ ; ἔπαγε τὸν κανόνα. ὁ θάνατός ἐστιν ἀπροαίρετον· αἶρε ἐκ τοῦ μέσου. ἀπήντησέ σοι ὕπατος ; ἔπαγε τὸν κανόνα. ὑπατεία ποῖόν τί ἐστιν ; ἀπροαίρετον ἢ προαιρετικόν ; ἀπροαίρετον· αἶρε καὶ τοῦτο, οὐκ ἔστι δόκιμον· ἀπόβαλε, οὐδὲν πρὸς  
 16 σέ. καὶ τοῦτο εἰ ἐποιούμεεν καὶ πρὸς τοῦτο ἡσκούμεθα καθ’ ἡμέραν ἐξ ὄρθρου μέχρι νυκτός,  
 17 ἐγίνετο ἂν τι, νῆ τοὺς θεούς. νῦν δ’ εὐθὺς ὑπὸ πάσης φαντασίας κεχηνότες λαμβανόμεθα καὶ μόνον, εἴπερ ἄρα, ἐν τῇ σχολῇ μικρόν τι διεγειρόμεθα· εἴτ’ ἐξελθόντες ἂν ἴδωμεν πενθοῦντα, λέγομεν “ ἀπώλετο”. ἂν ὕπατον, “ μακάριος.”

<sup>1</sup> S: πενθοῦν S.

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<sup>1</sup> The reference is to God, who has ordained that every man should prefer what he regards as “good” to everything else. See § 5 above. The fault consists in making a wrong

has come. What coinage does he use? Frail wenches. "Take," says one, "the coin and sell me the little baggage." Give, and buy. Another is interested in boys. Give him the coin and take what you wish. Another is fond of hunting. Give him a fine horse or dog; with sighs and groans he will sell for it what you wish; for Another constrains him from within, the one who has established this currency.<sup>1</sup>

It is chiefly with this principle in mind that a man must exercise himself. Go out of the house at early dawn, and no matter whom you see or whom you hear, examine him and then answer as you would to a question. What did you see? A handsome man or a handsome woman? Apply your rule. Is it outside the province of the moral purpose, or inside? Outside. Away with it. What did you see? A man in grief over the death of his child? Apply your rule. Death lies outside the province of the moral purpose. Out of the way with it. Did a Consul meet you? Apply your rule. What sort of thing is a consulship? Outside the province of the moral purpose, or inside? Outside. Away with it, too, it does not meet the test; throw it away, it does not concern you. If we had kept doing this and had exercised ourselves from dawn till dark with this principle in mind,—by the gods, something would have been achieved! But as it is, we are caught gaping straight-way at every external impression that comes along, and we wake up a little only during the lecture, if indeed we do so even then. After that is over we go out, and if we see a man in grief, we say, "It is all over with him"; if we see a Consul, we say, "Happy choice of what is to be considered "good." For "Another" as a reverent form of reference to Zeus, see I. 25, 13 and note.



ἂν ἐξωρισμένον, “ταλαίπωρος”. ἂν πέννητα,  
 18 “ἄθλιος, οὐκ ἔχει πόθεν φάγη.” ταῦτ’ οὖν  
 ἐκκόπτειν δεῖ τὰ πονηρὰ δόγματα, περὶ τοῦτο  
 συντετάσθαι. τί γάρ ἐστι τὸ κλαίειν καὶ οἰμώ-  
 ζειν; δόγμα. τί δυστυχία; δόγμα. τί στάσις,  
 τί διχόνοια, τί μέμψις, τί κατηγορία, τί ἀσέβεια,  
 19 τί φλυαρία; ταῦτα πάντα δόγματά ἐστι καὶ  
 ἄλλο οὐδὲν καὶ δόγματα περὶ τῶν ἀπροαιρέτων  
 ὡς ὄντων ἀγαθῶν καὶ κακῶν. ταῦτά τις ἐπὶ τὰ  
 προαιρετικὰ μεταθέτω, καὶ γὰρ αὐτὸν ἐγγυῶμαι ὅτι  
 εὐσταθήσει, ὡς ἂν ἔχῃ τὰ περὶ αὐτόν.

20 Οἶόν ἐστιν ἡ λεκάνη τοῦ ὕδατος, τοιοῦτον ἡ  
 ψυχὴ, οἶον ἡ αὐγὴ ἡ προσπίπτουσα τῷ ὕδατι,  
 21 τοιοῦτον αἱ φαντασίαι. ὅταν οὖν τὸ ὕδωρ κινηθῇ,  
 δοκεῖ μὲν καὶ ἡ αὐγὴ κινεῖσθαι, οὐ μέντοι κινεῖται.  
 22 καὶ ὅταν τοῖνον σκοτωθῇ τις, οὐχ αἱ τέχναι καὶ  
 αἱ ἀρεταὶ συγχέονται, ἀλλὰ τὸ πνεῦμα, ἐφ’ οὗ  
 εἰσὶν· καταστάντος δὲ καθίσταται καὶ κείνα.

δ’. Πρὸς τὸν ἀκόσμως ἐν θεάτρῳ σπουδάσαντα.

1 Τοῦ δ’ ἐπιτρόπου τῆς Ἡπείρου ἀκοσμότερον  
 σπουδάσαντες κωμῶδῳ τινὶ καὶ ἐπὶ τούτῳ δημο-  
 σία λαιδορηθέντος, εἶτα ἐξῆς ἀπαγγείλαντος πρὸς



man"; if we see an exile, "Poor fellow"; or a poverty-stricken person, "Wretched man, he has nothing with which to get a bite to eat." These, then, are the vicious judgements which we ought to eradicate; this is the subject upon which we ought to concentrate our efforts. Why, what is weeping and sighing? A judgement. What is misfortune? A judgement. What are strife, disagreement, fault-finding, accusing, impiety, foolishness? They are all judgements, and that, too, judgements about things that lie outside the province of moral purpose, assumed to be good or evil. Let a man but transfer his judgements to matters that lie within the province of the moral purpose, and I guarantee that he will be steadfast, whatever be the state of things about him.

The soul is something like a bowl of water, and the external impressions something like the ray of light that falls upon the water. Now when the water is disturbed, it looks as though the ray of light is disturbed too, but it is not disturbed. And so, therefore, when a man has an attack of vertigo, it is not the arts and the virtues that are thrown into confusion, but the spirit in which they exist; and when this grows steady again, so do they too.

## CHAPTER IV

*To the man who took sides, in an undignified manner,  
while in a theatre*

THE Procurator of Epirus took the side of a comic actor in a somewhat undignified manner and was reviled by the people for doing so. Thereupon he brought word to Epictetus that he had been reviled,

- αὐτόν, ὅτι ἐλοιδορήθη, καὶ ἀγανακτοῦντος πρὸς  
τοὺς λοιδορήσαντας Καὶ τί κακόν, ἔφη, ἐποιοῦν ;  
2 ἐσπούδαζον καὶ οὗτοι ὡς καὶ σύ. εἰπόντος δ'  
ἐκείνου Οὕτως οὖν τις σπουδάζει ; Σέ, ἔφη,  
βλέποντες τὸν αὐτῶν ἄρχοντα, τοῦ Καίσαρος  
φίλον καὶ ἐπίτροπον, οὕτως σπουδάζοντα οὐκ  
3 ἔμελλον καὶ αὐτοὶ οὕτως σπουδάζειν ; εἰ γὰρ μὴ δεῖ  
οὕτως σπουδάζειν, μηδὲ σὺ σπούδαζε· εἰ δὲ δεῖ, τί  
χαλεπαίνεις, εἴ σε ἐμιμήσαντο ; τίνας γὰρ ἔχου-  
σιν μιμήσασθαι οἱ πολλοὶ ἢ τοὺς ὑπερέχοντας  
ὕμᾱς ; εἰς τίνας ἀπιδῶσιν ἐλθόντες εἰς τὰ θέατρα  
4 ἢ ὑμᾱς ; “ ὅρα πῶς ὁ ἐπίτροπος τοῦ Καίσαρος  
θεωρεῖ· κέκραγεν· καὶ γὰρ τοίνυν κραυγᾶσω. ἀνα-  
πηδᾷ· καὶ γὰρ ἀναπηδήσω. οἱ δοῦλοι αὐτοῦ δια-  
κάθηνται κραυγάζοντες· ἐγὼ δ' οὐκ ἔχω δούλους·  
ἀντὶ πάντων αὐτὸς ὅσον δύναμαι κραυγᾶσω.”  
5 εἰδέναι σε οὖν δεῖ, ὅταν εἰσέρχῃ εἰς τὸ θέατρον,  
ὅτι κανὼν εἰσέρχῃ καὶ παράδειγμα τοῖς ἄλλοις,  
6 πῶς αὐτοὺς δεῖ θεωρεῖν. τί οὖν σε ἐλοιδοροῦν ;  
ὅτι πᾶς ἄνθρωπος μισεῖ τὸ ἐμπόδιζον. ἐκεῖνοι  
στεφανωθῆναι ἤθελον τὸν δεῖνα, σὺ ἕτερον·  
ἐκεῖνοι σοὶ ἐνεπόδιζον καὶ σὺ ἐκείνοις. σὺ  
εὐρίσκου ἰσχυρότερος· ἐκεῖνοι δ' ἐδύναντο ἐποιοῦν,  
7 ἐλοιδοροῦν τὸ ἐμπόδιζον. τί οὖν θέλεις ; ἵνα σὺ  
μὲν ποιῇς ὃ θέλεις, ἐκεῖνοι δὲ μηδ' εἴπωσιν<sup>1</sup> ἂ

<sup>1</sup> s: θέλωσιν S.

and gave expression to his indignation at the men who had so reviled him. Why, what wrong were they doing? said Epictetus. They too were taking sides, just as you yourself were. But when the other asked, Is that the way, then, in which a man takes sides? he replied, Yes, they saw you, their Governor, the friend and Procurator of Caesar, taking sides in this way, and weren't they likely to take sides themselves in the same way? Why, if people should not take sides in this way, you had better not do so yourself; but if they should, why are you angry if they imitated you? For whom have the people to imitate but you, their superior? Whom do they look to but you, when they go to the theatres? "See," says one of them, "how the Procurator of Caesar acts in the theatre; he shouts; very well, I'll shout too. He jumps up and down; I'll jump up and down too. His claque of slaves sit in different parts of the house and shout, whereas I haven't any slaves; very well, I'll shout as loud as I can to make up for all of them." You ought to know, then, that when you enter the theatre, you enter as a standard of behaviour and as an example to the rest, showing them how they ought to act in the theatre. Why, then, did they revile you? Because every man hates what stands in his way. They wanted So-and-so to get the crown, while you wanted the other man to get it. They were standing in your way, and you in theirs. You turned out to be the stronger; they did what they could, and reviled what was standing in their way. What, then, do you wish? That you should be able to *do* what you wish, but that they should not even *say* what they wish? And what is there

θέλουσιν; καὶ τί θαυμαστόν; οἱ γεωργοὶ τὸν  
 Δία οὐ λοιδοροῦσιν, ὅταν ἐμποδίζωνται ὑπ'  
 αὐτοῦ; οἱ ναῦται οὐ λοιδοροῦσι; τὸν Καίσαρα  
 παύονται λοιδοροῦντες; τί οὖν; οὐ γινώσκει ὁ  
 8 Ζεὺς; τῷ Καίσαρι οὐκ ἀπαγγέλλονται τὰ λεγό-  
 μενα; τί οὖν ποιεῖ; οἶδεν ὅτι, ἂν πάντας τοὺς  
 9 λοιδοροῦντας κολάζῃ, οὐχ ἔξει τίνων ἄρξει. τί  
 οὖν; ἔδει εἰσερχόμενον εἰς τὸ θέατρον τοῦτο  
 εἰπεῖν “ ἄγε ἵνα Σώφρων στεφανωθῇ”; ἀλλ'  
 ἐκεῖνο “ ἄγε ἵνα τηρήσω τὴν ἐμαυτοῦ προαίρεσιν  
 ἐπὶ ταύτης τῆς ὕλης κατὰ φύσιν ἔχουσιν.”  
 10 ἐμοὶ παρ' ἐμὲ φίλτερος οὐδεὶς· γελοῖον οὖν, ἵν'  
 11 ἄλλος νικήσῃ κωμωδῶν, ἐμὲ βλάπτεσθαι.—Τίνα  
 οὖν θέλω νικῆσαι;—Τὸν νικῶντα· καὶ οὕτως αἰεὶ  
 νικήσει, ὃν θέλω.—Ἀλλὰ θέλω στεφανωθῆναι  
 Σώφρονα.—Ἐν οἴκῳ ὅσους θέλεις ἀγῶνας ἄγων  
 ἀνακήρυξον αὐτὸν Νέμεα, Πύθια, Ἴσθμια, Ὀλύμ-  
 πια· ἐν φανερῷ δὲ μὴ πλεονέκτει μὴδ' ὑφάρπαζε  
 12 τὸ κοινόν. εἰ δὲ μὴ, ἀνέχου λοιδορούμενος· ὥς,  
 ὅταν ταῦτὰ ποιῇς τοῖς πολλοῖς, εἰς ἴσον ἐκείνοις  
 καθιστᾷς σαυτόν.

ε'. Πρὸς τοὺς διὰ νόσον ἀπαλλαττομένους.<sup>1</sup>

1 Νοσῶ, φησὶν, ἐνθάδε καὶ βούλομαι ἀπιέναι  
 2 εἰς οἶκον.—Ἐν οἴκῳ γὰρ ἄνοσος ἥς σύ; οὐ  
 σκοπεῖς, εἴ τι ποιεῖς ἐνθάδε τῶν πρὸς τὴν

<sup>1</sup> s: πλαττομένους S.

<sup>1</sup> The word “school” does not, of course, appear in the Greek, but such was the nature of the educational institution which Epictetus conducted, and that is clearly what is meant here. See in particular Ivo Bruns: *De Schola Epicteti* (1897),

surprising in all that? Don't the farmers revile Zeus, when he stands in their way? Don't the sailors revile Zeus? Do men ever stop reviling Caesar? What then? Doesn't Zeus know about it? Isn't Caesar informed of what is said? What, then, does he do? He knows that if he punishes all who revile him he will have no one left to rule over. What then? Ought you upon entering the theatre to say, "Come, let's see that Sophron gets the crown"? and not rather, "Come, let me in this subject-matter maintain my moral purpose in accord with nature"? No one is dearer to me than myself; it is absurd, therefore, for me to let myself be hurt in order that another man may win a victory as a comic actor.—Whom, then, do I wish to win the victory? The victor; and so the one whom I wish to win the victory will always win it.—But I wish Sophron to get the crown.—Stage as many contests as you will in your own house, and proclaim him victor in the Nemean, Pythian, Isthmian, and Olympic games; but out in public do not arrogate to yourself more than your due, and do not filch away a public privilege. Otherwise you must put up with being reviled; because, when you do the same things that the people do, you are putting yourself on their level.

## CHAPTER V

*To those who leave school<sup>1</sup> because of illness*

I AM ill here, says one of the students, and want to go back home.—What, were you free from illness and the studies by Colardeau, Halbauer, and Hartmann, listed in Vol. I, *Introduction*.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

προαίρεσιν τὴν σαυτοῦ φερόντων, ἵν' ἐπανορθωθῇ; εἰ μὲν γὰρ μηδὲν ἀνύεις, περισσῶς καὶ  
 3 ἦλθες. ἅπιθι, ἐπιμελοῦ τῶν ἐν οἴκῳ. εἰ γὰρ  
 μὴ δύναταί σου τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν σχεῖν κατὰ φύσιν,  
 τό γ' ἀγρίδιον δυνήσεται.<sup>1</sup> τό γε κερμάτιον  
 αὐξήσεις, τὸν πατέρα γηροκομήσεις, ἐν τῇ ἀγορᾷ  
 ἀναστραφήσῃ, ἄρξεις· κακὸς κακῶς τί ποτε  
 4 ποιήσεις τῶν ἐξῆς. εἰ δὲ παρακολουθεῖς σαυτῷ,  
 ὅτι ἀποβάλλεις τινὰ δόγματα φαῦλα καὶ ἄλλ'  
 ἀντ' αὐτῶν ἀναλαμβάνεις καὶ τὴν σαυτοῦ  
 στάσιν μετατέθεικας ἀπὸ τῶν ἀπροαιρέτων ἐπὶ  
 τὰ προαιρετικά, κἄν ποτ' εἴπῃς "οἶμοι," οὐ  
 λέγεις διὰ τὸν πατέρα, τὸν ἀδελφόν, ἀλλὰ  
 5 "δὶ' ἐμέ," ἔτι ὑπολογίζῃ νόσον; οὐκ οἶδας,  
 ὅτι καὶ νόσος καὶ θάνατος καταλαβεῖν ἡμᾶς  
 ὀφείλουσιν τί ποτε ποιούντας; τὸν γεωργὸν  
 γεωργοῦντα καταλαμβάνουσι, τὸν ναυτικὸν  
 6 πλέοντα. σὺ τί θέλεις ποιῶν καταληφθῆναι;  
 τί ποτε μὲν γὰρ ποιούντά σε δεῖ καταληφθῆναι.  
 εἴ τι ἔχεις τούτου κρεῖσσον ποιῶν καταληφθῆ-  
 ναι, ποίει ἐκεῖνο.  
 7 Ἐμοὶ μὲν γὰρ καταληφθῆναι γένοιτο μηδενὸς  
 ἄλλου ἐπιμελουμένῳ ἢ τῆς προαιρέσεως τῆς  
 ἐμῆς, ἵν' ἀπαθής, ἵν' ἀκώλυτος, ἵν' ἀνανάγκαστος,  
 8 ἵν' ἐλεύθερος. ταῦτα ἐπιτηδεύων θέλω εὔρε-

<sup>1</sup> εὐθηνήσεται (will prosper) Elter rather plausibly.

<sup>1</sup> See the critical note.

at home? Do you not raise the question whether you are doing here any of the things that have a bearing upon your moral purpose, so that it shall be improved? For if you are not accomplishing anything, it was no use for you to have come in the first place. Go back and tend to your affairs at home. For if your governing principle cannot be brought into conformity with nature, no doubt your paltry piece of land can be made to conform with it.<sup>1</sup> You will increase the amount of your small change; you will care for your father in his old age, you will walk up and down in the market, you will hold office; a poor wretch yourself, you will do wretchedly whatever comes next. But if you understand yourself, namely, that you are putting away certain bad judgements and taking on others in their place, and that you have transferred your status from what lies outside the province of the moral purpose to what lies inside the same, and that if ever you say "Alas!" you are speaking, not for your father's sake, or your brother's sake, but "for my own sake," then why take account of illness any longer? Do you not know that disease and death needs must overtake us, no matter what we are doing? They overtake the farmer at his work in the fields, the sailor on the sea. What do you wish to be doing when it overtakes you? For no matter what you do you will have to be overtaken by death. If you have anything better to be doing when you are so overtaken, get to work on that.

As for me, I would fain that death overtook me occupied with nothing but my own moral purpose, trying to make it tranquil, unhampered, unconstrained, free. This is what I wish to be engaged in



- θῆναι, ἵν' εἰπεῖν δύνωμαι τῷ θεῷ “ μή τι παρέβην σου τὰς ἐντολάς; μή τι πρὸς ἄλλα ἐχρησάμην ταῖς ἀφορμαῖς ἃς ἔδωκας; μή τι ταῖς αἰσθήσεσιν ἄλλως, μή τι ταῖς προλήψεσιν; μή τί σοί ποτ' ἐνεκάλεσα; μή τι ἐμεμψάμην  
 9 σου τὴν διοίκησιν; ἐνόσησα, ὅτε ἠθέλησας· καὶ οἱ ἄλλοι, ἀλλ' ἐγὼ ἐκῶν. πένης ἐγενόμην σου θέλοντος, ἀλλὰ χαίρων. οὐκ ἦρξα, ὅτι σὺ οὐκ ἠθέλησας· οὐδέ ποτ' ἐπεθύμησα ἀρχῆς. μή τί με τούτου ἔνεκα στυγνότερον εἶδες; μὴ οὐ προσῆλθόν σοί ποτε φαιδρῷ τῷ προσώπῳ,  
 10 ἔτοιμος εἶ τι ἐπιτάσσεις, εἶ τι σημαίνεις; νῦν με θέλεις ἀπελθεῖν ἐκ τῆς πανηγύρεως· ἄπειμι, χάριν σοι ἔχω πᾶσαν, ὅτι ἠξιώσάς με συμπανηγυρίσαι σοι καὶ ἰδεῖν ἔργα τὰ σὰ καὶ τῇ διοικήσει  
 11 σου συμπαρακολουθῆσαι.<sup>1</sup> ταῦτά με ἐνθυμούμενον, ταῦτα γράφοντα, ταῦτα ἀναγιγνώσκοντα καταλάβοι ὁ θάνατος.  
 12 Ἄλλ' ἡ μήτηρ μου τὴν κεφαλὴν νοσοῦντος οὐ κρατήσκει.— Ἄπιθι τοίνυν πρὸς τὴν μητέρα· ἄξιός γάρ εἰ τὴν κεφαλὴν κρατούμενος νοσεῖν.—  
 13 Ἄλλ' ἐπὶ κλιναρίου κομψοῦ ἐν οἴκῳ κατεκείμεν.— Ἄπιθί σου ἐπὶ τὸ κλινάριον· ἡ<sup>2</sup> ὑγιαίνων ἄξιός εἰ ἐπὶ τοιούτου κατακεῖσθαι. μὴ τοίνυν ἀπόλλυε, ἃ δύνασαι ἐκεῖ ποιεῖν.  
 14 Ἄλλ' ὁ Σωκράτης τί λέγει; “ ὥσπερ ἄλλος τις,” φησίν, “ χαίρει<sup>3</sup> τὸν ἀγρὸν τὸν αὐτοῦ ποιῶν κρείσσονα, ἄλλος τὸν ἵππον, οὕτως ἐγὼ καθ' ἡμέραν χαίρω παρακολουθῶν ἐμαυτῷ

<sup>1</sup> σοί after this word deleted in *s*.

<sup>2</sup> Upton: ἡ *S*.



when death finds me, so that I may be able to say to God, "Have I in any respect transgressed Thy commands? Have I in any respect misused the resources which Thou gavest me, or used my senses to no purpose, or my preconceptions? Have I ever found any fault with Thee? Have I blamed Thy governance at all? I fell sick, when it was Thy will; so did other men, but I willingly. I became poor, it being Thy will, but with joy. I have held no office, because Thou didst not will it, and I never set my heart upon office. Hast Thou ever seen me for that reason greatly dejected? Have I not ever come before Thee with a radiant countenance, ready for any injunctions or orders Thou mightest give? And now it is Thy will that I leave this festival; I go, I am full of gratitude to Thee that Thou hast deemed me worthy to take part in this festival with Thee, and to see Thy works, and to understand Thy governance." Be this my thought, this my writing, this my reading, when death comes upon me.

But my mother will not hold my head in her arms when I am ill.—Very well, go back to your mother; you are just the sort of person that deserves to have his head held in somebody's arms when he is ill!—But at home I used to have a nice bed to lie on.—Go back to your bed; without doubt you deserve to lie on such a fine bed even when you are well! Pray, then, do not lose by staying here what you can do there.

But what does Socrates say? "As one man rejoices," remarks he, "in improving his own farm, and another his own horse, so I rejoice day by day

- 15 βελτίονι γινομένῳ.”—Πρὸς τί; μή τι πρὸς  
λεξείδια;—Ἄνθρωπε, εὐφήμει.—Μή τι πρὸς  
16 θεωρημάτια;—Γί ποιεῖς;—Καὶ μὴν οὐ βλέπω,  
τί ἐστὶν ἄλλο, περὶ ὃ ἀσχολοῦνται οἱ φιλόσοφοι.  
—Οὐδέν σοι δοκεῖ εἶναι τὸ μηδέποτε ἐγκαλέσαι  
τινί, μὴ θεῷ, μὴ ἀνθρώπῳ· μὴ μέμψασθαι  
μηδένα· τὸ αὐτὸ πρόσωπον αἰεὶ καὶ ἐκφέρειν καὶ  
17 εἰσφέρειν; ταῦτα ἦν, ἃ ἤδει ὁ Σωκράτης, καὶ  
ὅμως οὐδέποτε εἶπεν, ὅτι οἶδέν τι ἢ διδάσκει.  
εἰ δέ τις λεξείδια ἤτει ἢ θεωρημάτια, ἀπήγεν  
πρὸς Πρωταγόραν, πρὸς Ἰππίαν. καὶ γὰρ εἰ  
λάχανά τις ζητῶν ἐλήλυθεν, πρὸς τὸν κηπου-  
ρὸν ἂν αὐτὸν ἀπήγαγεν· τίς οὖν ὑμῶν ἔχει  
18 ταύτην τὴν ἐπιβολήν; ἐπεὶ τοι εἰ εἴχετε,<sup>1</sup> καὶ  
ἐνοσεῖτε ἂν ἡδέως καὶ ἐπεινᾶτε καὶ ἀποθνήσκετε.<sup>2</sup>  
19 εἴ τις ὑμῶν ἡράσθη κορασίου κομφου, οἶδεν ὅτι  
ἀληθῆ λέγω.

ς'. Σποράδην τινά.

- 1 Πυθομένου δέ τινος, πῶς<sup>3</sup> νῦν μᾶλλον ἐκπέ-  
πουημένου τοῦ λόγου πρότερον μείζονες προ-  
2 κοπαὶ ἦσαν, Κατὰ τί, ἔφη, ἐκπεπώνηται καὶ  
κατὰ τί μείζους αἱ προκοπαὶ τότε ἦσαν; καθὸ

<sup>1</sup> Sc: ἔχετε S.

<sup>2</sup> Sc: πεινᾶτε and ἀποθνήσκετε S.

<sup>3</sup> Schweighäuser: τῶν S.

<sup>1</sup> The closest parallels from Xenophon (*Mem.* I. 6. 8 and 14) and Plato (*Prot.* 318 A) express the idea so differently that we have here probably (through Chrysippus) a fragment from one of the lost Socratic dialogues, of which there was a large body.

in following the course of my own improvement.”<sup>1</sup> In what respect; in little philosophic phrases?—Man, hold your tongue.—In little philosophic theories, then?—What are you doing?—Well, I don’t see anything else that the philosophers spend their time on.—Is it nothing in your eyes never to bring accusation against anyone, be it God or man? Never to blame anyone? Always to wear the same expression on one’s face, whether one is coming out or going in?<sup>2</sup> These are the things which Socrates knew, and yet he never said that he either knew or taught anything. But if someone called for little philosophic phrases or theories, he used to take him over to Protagoras or Hippias. It was just as though someone had come to him for fresh vegetables, and he would have taken him over to the market gardener. Who, then, among you makes this purpose of Socrates the purpose of his own life? Why, if you did, you would have been glad even to be ill, and to go hungry, and to die. If any one of you was ever in love with a pretty wench, he knows that what I say is true.

## CHAPTER VI

### *Some scattered sayings*

WHEN someone asked how it was that, despite the greater amount of work which was done nowadays in logic, there was more progress made in former times, Epictetus replied, On what has labour been expended in our time, and in what was the progress greater in those days? For in that upon

<sup>2</sup> See also about Socrates in Aelian, *Var. Hist.* 9, 7.

- γὰρ νῦν ἐκπεπώνηται, κατὰ τοῦτο καὶ προκοπαὶ  
3 νῦν εὐρεθήσονται. καὶ νῦν μὲν ὥστε συλλο-  
γισμοὺς ἀναλύειν ἐκπεπώνηται καὶ προκοπαὶ  
γίνονται· τότε δ' ὥστε τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν κατὰ  
φύσιν ἔχον τηρῆσαι καὶ ἐξεπονεῖτο καὶ προκοπαὶ  
4 ἦσαν. μὴ οὖν ἐνάλλασσε μηδὲ ζῆτει, ὅταν ἄλλο  
ἐκπονῆς, ἐν ἄλλῳ προκόπτειν. ἀλλ' ἴδε, εἴ τις  
ἡμῶν πρὸς τούτῳ ὢν, ὥστε κατὰ φύσιν ἔχειν καὶ  
διεξάγειν, οὐ προκόπτει. οὐδένα γὰρ εὐρήσεις.  
5 Ὁ σπουδαῖος ἀήττητος· καὶ<sup>1</sup> γὰρ οὐκ ἀγωνί-  
6 ζεται, ὅπου μὴ κρείσσων<sup>2</sup> ἐστίν. “εἰ τὰ<sup>3</sup> κατὰ  
τὸν ἀγρὸν θέλεις, λάβε·<sup>4</sup> λάβε τοὺς οἰκέτας,  
λάβε τὴν ἀρχήν, λάβε τὸ σῶμάτιον. τὴν δ'  
ὄρεξιν οὐ ποιήσεις ἀποτευκτικὴν οὐδὲ τὴν  
7 ἑκκλίσιν περιπτωτικὴν.” εἰς τοῦτον μόνον τὸν  
ἀγῶνα καθίησιν τὸν περὶ τῶν προαιρετικῶν· πῶς  
οὖν οὐ μέλλει ἀήττητος εἶναι ;  
8 Πυθομένου δέ τις, τί ἐστὶν ὁ κοινὸς νοῦς,  
“Ὡσπερ, φησὶν, κοινὴ τις ἀκοὴ λέγοιτ' ἂν ἡ  
μόνον φωνῶν διακριτικὴ, ἡ δὲ τῶν φθόγγων  
οὐκέτι κοινὴ, ἀλλὰ τεχνικὴ, οὕτως ἐστὶ τινα,  
ἃ οἱ μὴ παντάπασιν διεστραμμένοι τῶν ἀν-  
θρώπων κατὰ τὰς κοινὰς ἀφορμὰς ὁρῶσιν. ἡ  
τοιαύτη κατάστασις κοινὸς νοῦς καλεῖται.

<sup>1</sup> Upton's “codex”: *h S*.

<sup>2</sup> The words that follow in *S*, εἰ μὴ ὅπου κρείσσων, are omitted in *s*.

<sup>3</sup> *τά* added by *Sb*.

<sup>4</sup> *λάβε* added by Upton.

<sup>1</sup> On the use of the term *κοινὸς νοῦς* in Epictetus one may compare Benhöffer, *Epiktet und die Stoa*, 121 and 224. It means simply the intellectual faculty that any normal man possesses.

which labour has been expended in our time, progress also will be found in our time. The fact is that in our time labour has been expended upon the solution of syllogisms, and there is progress along that line; but in the early days not only had labour been expended upon maintaining the governing principle in a state of accord with nature, but there was also progress along that line. Do not, therefore, substitute one thing for the other, and do not expect, when you devote labour to one thing, to be making progress in another. But see whether any one of us who is devoting himself to keeping in a state of conformity with nature, and to spending his life so, fails to make progress. For you will find that there is none of whom that is true.

The good man is invincible; naturally, for he enters no contest where he is not superior. "If you want my property in the country," says he, "take it; take my servants, take my office, take my paltry body. But you will not make my desire fail to get what I will, nor my aversion fall into what I would avoid." This is the only contest into which the good man enters, one, namely, that is concerned with the things which belong in the province of the moral purpose; how, then, can he help but be invincible?

When someone asked him what "general perception" <sup>1</sup> was, he replied, Just as a sense of hearing which distinguishes merely between sounds would be called "general," but that which distinguishes between tones is no longer "general," but "technical," so there are certain things which those men who are not altogether perverted see by virtue of their general faculties. Such a mental constitution is called "general perception."

- 9 Τῶν νέων τοὺς μαλακοὺς οὐκ ἔστι προτρέψαι  
 ῥάδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τυρὸν<sup>1</sup> ἀγκίστρῳ λαβεῖν· οἱ  
 δ' εὐφυεῖς, καὶ ἀποτρέπῃς, ἔτι μᾶλλον ἔχονται  
 10 τοῦ λόγου. διὸ καὶ ὁ Ῥοῦφος τὰ πολλὰ ἀπέ-  
 τρεπεν τούτῳ δοκιμαστηρίῳ χρώμενος τῶν εὐ-  
 φυῶν καὶ ἀφυῶν. ἔλεγε γὰρ ὅτι “ὥς ὁ λίθος, καὶ  
 ἀναβάλλῃς, ἐνεχθήσεται κάτω ἐπὶ γῆν κατὰ<sup>2</sup> τὴν  
 αὐτοῦ κατασκευήν, οὕτως καὶ ὁ εὐφυής, ὅσω  
 μᾶλλον ἀποκρούεται τις αὐτόν, τοσούτῳ μᾶλλον  
 νεύει ἐφ' ὃ πέφυκεν.”

ζ'. Πρὸς τὸν διορθωτὴν τῶν ἐλευθέρων  
 πόλεων, Ἐπικούρειον ὄντα.

- 1 Τοῦ δὲ διορθωτοῦ εἰσελθόντος πρὸς αὐτόν  
 (ἦν δ' οὗτος Ἐπικούρειος) Ἀξιον, ἔφη, τοὺς  
 ἰδιώτας ἡμᾶς παρ' ὑμῶν τῶν φιλοσόφων πυν-  
 θάνεσθαι, καθάπερ τοὺς εἰς ξένην πόλιν ἐλθόντας  
 παρὰ τῶν πολιτῶν καὶ εἰδότων, τί κράτιστόν  
 ἐστὶν ἐν κόσμῳ, ἵνα καὶ αὐτοὶ ἱστορήσαντες  
 μετίωμεν, ὥς ἐκεῖνοι τὰ ἐν ταῖς πόλεσι, καὶ  
 2 θεώμεθα. ὅτι μὲν γὰρ τρία ἐστὶ περὶ τὸν  
 ἄνθρωπον, ψυχὴ καὶ σῶμα καὶ τὰ ἐκτός, σχεδὸν  
 οὐδεὶς ἀντιλέγει· λοιπὸν ὑμέτερόν ἐστιν ἀπο-

<sup>1</sup> See note to the translation.

<sup>2</sup> γῆν κατὰ added by Schweighäuser.

<sup>1</sup> A proverb; see Diog. Laert. 4, 47, where the adjective ἀπλός (“soft”) is used of the cheese, which Wolf and Upton, perhaps with good reason, wanted to add here. At all events that is the kind of cheese which is meant.

It is not an easy thing to prevail upon soft young men; no, and you can't catch soft cheese on a fish-hook<sup>1</sup> either—but the gifted young men, even if you try to turn them away, take hold of reason all the more firmly. And so also Rufus for the most part tried to dissuade men, using such efforts to dissuade as a means of discriminating between those who were gifted and those who were not. For he used to say, "Just as a stone, even if you throw it upwards, will fall downwards to earth by virtue of its very constitution, so is also the gifted man; the more one beats him back, the more he inclines toward his natural object."

## CHAPTER VII

*A conversation with the Imperial Bailiff<sup>2</sup> of the Free Cities, who was an Epicurean*

WHEN the Imperial Bailiff, who was an Epicurean, came to visit him, Epictetus said: It is proper for us laymen to make inquiry of you philosophers what the best thing in the world is—just as those who have come to a strange town make inquiry of the citizens and people who are familiar with the place—so that, having learned what it is, we may go in quest of it ourselves and behold it, as do strangers with the sights in the cities. Now that three things belong to man, soul, and body, and things external, hardly anyone denies; all you have to do, then, is to

<sup>2</sup> Called by the Romans *Corrector*, an extraordinary official, of senatorial rank, appointed by the Emperor, and charged with carrying out administrative reforms in matters which lay outside the general competence of the ordinary civil authorities. See A. von Premerstein in the *Real-Encyclopädie*,<sup>2</sup> IV. 1646-56.



- κρίνασθαι, τί ἐστὶ τὸ κράτιστον. τί ἐροῦμεν  
 3 τοῖς ἀνθρώποις; τὴν σάρκα; καὶ διὰ ταύτην  
 Μάξιμος ἔπλευσεν μέχρι Κασσιόπης χειμῶνος  
 μετὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ προπέμπων, ἵν' ἡσθῇ τῇ σαρκί;  
 4 ἀρνησαμένου δ' ἐκείνου καὶ εἰπόντος Μὴ γέ-  
 νοιτο. Οὐ προσήκει περὶ τὸ κράτιστον ἐσπου-  
 δακέναι;—Πάντων μάλιστα προσήκει.—Τί οὖν  
 κρεῖσσον ἔχομεν τῆς σαρκός;—Τὴν ψυχὴν, ἔφη.  
 —'Αγαθὰ δὲ τὰ τοῦ κρατίστου κρείττονά ἐστιν ἢ  
 5 τὰ τοῦ φαυλοτέρου;—Τὰ τοῦ κρατίστου.—  
 Ψυχῆς δὲ ἀγαθὰ πότερον προαιρετικά ἐστιν ἢ  
 ἀπροαίρετα;—Προαιρετικά.—Προαιρετικὸν οὖν  
 ἐστὶν ἢ ἡδονὴ ἢ ψυχικὴ;—'Εφη.—Αὕτη δ' ἐπὶ  
 6 τίσιν γίνεται; πότερον ἐφ' αὐτῇ; ἀλλ' ἀδιανόη-  
 τόν ἐστιν. προηγουμένην γάρ τινα ὑφεστάναι  
 δεῖ οὐσίαν τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ, ἥς τυγχάνοντες ἡσθησό-  
 7 μεθα κατὰ ψυχὴν.—Ὡμολόγει καὶ τοῦτο.—'Επὶ  
 τίνι οὖν ἡσθησόμεθα ταύτην τὴν ψυχικὴν  
 ἡδονήν; εἰ γὰρ ἐπὶ τοῖς ψυχικοῖς<sup>1</sup> ἀγαθοῖς,  
 εὔρηται ἢ οὐσία τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ. οὐ γὰρ δύναται  
 ἄλλο μὲν εἶναι ἀγαθόν, ἄλλο δ' ἐφ' ᾧ εὐλόγως  
 ἐπαιρόμεθα, οὐδὲ τοῦ προηγουμένου μὴ ὄντος  
 ἀγαθοῦ τὸ ἐπιγέννημα ἀγαθὸν εἶναι. ἵνα γὰρ  
 εὐλογον ἢ τὸ ἐπιγέννημα, τὸ προηγούμενον δεῖ  
 8 ἀγαθὸν εἶναι. ἀλλ' οὐ μὴ εἴπητε φρένας ἔχοντες·  
 ἀνακόλουθα γὰρ ἐρεῖτε καὶ 'Επικούρω καὶ τοῖς

<sup>1</sup> ψυχικοῖς added by Schenkl (from the scholium).

<sup>1</sup> There were at least two distinguished men of the name at this time, but it is not clear that either one is meant.

<sup>2</sup> More likely the headland and harbour on the northern end of Coreyra than the almost wholly unknown town near Nicopolis, which some have thought of.



answer the question, Which is the best? What are we going to tell men? The flesh? And was it for this that Maximus<sup>1</sup> sailed all the way to Cassiope<sup>2</sup> during the winter with his son, to see him on his way? Was it to have pleasure in the flesh? When the other had denied that and said "God forbid!" Epictetus continued: Is it not proper to have been very zealous for that which is best?—It is certainly most proper.—What have we better, then, than the flesh?—The soul, said he.—Are the goods of the best thing better, or those of the inferior?—Those of the best thing.—Do goods of the soul belong in the sphere of the moral purpose, or do they not?—To the sphere of the moral purpose.—Is the pleasure of the soul, therefore, something that belongs in this sphere?—He agreed.—At what is this produced? At itself?<sup>3</sup> But that is inconceivable. For we must assume that there is already in existence a certain antecedent essence of the good, by partaking of which we shall feel pleasure of soul.—He agreed to this also.—At what, then, are we going to feel this pleasure of soul? If it is at the goods of the soul, the essence of the good has already been discovered. For it is impossible that one thing be good, and yet that it is justifiable for us to take delight in something else; nor again, that when the antecedent is not good the consequent be good; because, in order to justify the consequent, the antecedent must be good. But say not so, you Epicureans, if you are in your right mind; for you will be saying what is inconsistent both with Epicurus and with the rest of

<sup>3</sup> "*An ex se ipsa? Id est, an delectamur, quia delectamur?*" Schweighäuser.

- 9 ἄλλοις ὑμῶν δόγμασιν. ὑπολείπεται λοιπὸν ἐπὶ τοῖς σωματικοῖς ἡδεσθαι τὴν κατὰ ψυχὴν ἡδονήν· πάλιν ἐκεῖνα γίνεται προηγούμενα καὶ οὐσία τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ.
- 10 Διὰ τοῦτο ἀφρόνως ἐποίησε Μάξιμος, εἰ δι' ἄλλο τι ἔπλευσεν ἢ διὰ τὴν σάρκα, τοῦτ' ἔστι
- 11 διὰ τὸ κράτιστον. ἀφρόνως δὲ ποιεῖ καὶ εἰ ἀπέχεται τῶν ἀλλοτρίων δικαστῆς ὧν καὶ δυνάμενος λαμβάνειν. ἀλλ' ἂν σοι δόξη, ἐκεῖνο μόνον σκεπτώμεθα, ἵνα κεκρυμμένως, ἵν' ἀσφαλῶς, ἵνα μὴ τις γνῶ. τὸ γὰρ κλέψαι οὐδ' αὐτὸς Ἐπίκουρος ἀποφαίνει κακόν, ἀλλὰ τὸ ἐμπεσεῖν· καὶ ὅτι πίστιν περὶ τοῦ λαθεῖν λαβεῖν ἀδύνατον,
- 12 διὰ τοῦτο λέγει “μὴ κλέπτετε.” ἀλλ' ἐγὼ σοι λέγω, ὅτι ἐὰν κομψῶς καὶ περισταλμένως γίνηται, λησόμεθα· εἴτα καὶ φίλους ἐν τῇ Ῥώμῃ ἔχομεν δυνατοὺς καὶ φίλας<sup>1</sup> καὶ οἱ Ἕλληνες ἀδρανεῖς εἰσίν· οὐδεὶς τολμήσει ἀναβῆναι τούτου ἕνεκα.
- 14 τί ἀπέχῃ τοῦ ἰδίου ἀγαθοῦ; ἄφρον ἐστὶ τοῦτο, ἡλίθιον ἐστίν. ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἂν λέγῃς μοι, ὅτι
- 15 ἀπέχῃ, πιστεύσω σοι. ὥς γὰρ ἀδύνατόν ἐστι τῷ ψευδεῖ φαινομένῳ συγκαταθέσθαι καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀληθοῦς ἀπονεύσαι, οὕτως ἀδύνατόν ἐστι τοῦ φαινομένου ἀγαθοῦ ἀποστήναι. ὁ πλοῦτος δ' ἀγαθὸν καὶ οἶονανει<sup>2</sup> τὸ ποιητικώτατόν γε
- 16 τῶν ἡδονῶν. διὰ τί μὴ περιποιήτῃ αὐτόν; διὰ τί δὲ μὴ τὴν τοῦ γείτονος γυναιῖκα διαφθείρωμεν,

<sup>1</sup> Wolf : φίλας S.

your doctrines. The only thing left for you to say is that pleasure of soul is pleasure in the things of the body, and then *they* become matters of prime importance, and the true nature of the good.

That is why Maximus acted foolishly if he made his voyage for the sake of anything but the flesh, that is, for the sake of anything but the best. And a man acts foolishly too, if, when he is judge and able to take the property of other men, he keeps his hands off it. But, if you please, let us consider this point only, that the stealing be done secretly, safely, without anybody's knowledge. For even Epicurus himself does not declare the act of theft evil, but only getting caught, and merely because it is impossible to feel certain that one will not be detected, he says, "Do not steal." But I tell you that if it is done adroitly and circumspectly, we shall escape detection; besides that, we have influential friends in Rome, both men and women; and the Greeks are a feeble folk, none of them will have the courage to go up to Rome for that purpose. Why refrain from your own good? This is foolish, it is silly. And again, I shall not believe you, even if you tell me that you do refrain. For just as it is impossible to assent to what is seen to be false, and to reject what is true, so it is impossible to reject what is seen to be good. Now wealth is a good, and when it comes to pleasures is, so to speak, the thing most productive of them. Why should you not acquire it? And why should we not seduce our neighbour's wife, if we can escape detection? And

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<sup>2</sup> Schenkl (the word seems to be known hitherto only from glosses, but it seems practically certain here): *οἶον ἂν ᾗ* (or *ᾗς*) *S.*

- ἂν δυνώμεθα λαθεῖν, ἂν δὲ φλυαρῇ ὁ ἀνὴρ, καὶ  
 17 αὐτὸν προσεκτραχηλίσωμεν; εἰ θέλεις εἶναι  
 φιλόσοφος οἷος δεῖ, εἴ γε τέλειος, εἰ ἀκολουθῶν  
 σου τοῖς δόγμασιν· εἰ δὲ μή, οὐδὲν διοίσεις ἡμῶν  
 τῶν λεγομένων Στωικῶν· καὶ αὐτοὶ γὰρ ἄλλα  
 18 λέγομεν, ἄλλα δὲ ποιούμεν. ἡμεῖς λέγομεν τὰ  
 καλὰ, ποιούμεν τὰ αἰσχρά· σὺ τὴν ἐναντίαν  
 διαστροφὴν ἔσῃ διεστραμμένος δογματίζων τὰ  
 αἰσχρά, ποιῶν τὰ καλὰ.<sup>1</sup>  
 19 Τὸν θεόν σοι, ἐπινοεῖς Ἐπικουρείων πόλιν;  
 “ἐγὼ οὐ γαμῶ.” “οὐδ’ ἐγώ· οὐ γὰρ γαμητέον.”  
 ἀλλ’ οὐδὲ παιδοποιητέον, ἀλλ’ οὐδὲ πολιτευτέον.  
 τί οὖν γένηται; πόθεν οἱ πολῖται; τίς αὐτοὺς  
 παιδεύσει; τίς ἐφήβαρχος, τίς γυμνασιάρχος;  
 τί δὲ καὶ παιδεύσει αὐτούς; ἂ Λακεδαιμόνιοι  
 20 ἐπαιδεύοντο ἢ Ἀθηναῖοι; λάβε μοι νέον, ἄγαγε  
 κατὰ τὰ δόγματά σου. πονηρά ἐστι τὰ δόγματα,  
 ἀνατρεπτικὰ πόλεως, λυμαντικὰ οἴκων, οὐδὲ  
 21 γυναιξὶ πρέποντα. ἄφες ταῦτ’, ἄνθρωπε. ζῆς  
 ἐν ἡγεμονούσῃ πόλει· ἄρχειν σε δεῖ, κρίνειν  
 δικαίως, ἀπέχεσθαι τῶν ἄλλοτρίων, σοὶ καλὴν  
 γυναιῖκα φαίνεσθαι μηδεμίαν ἢ τὴν σὴν, καλὸν  
 παῖδα μηδένα, καλὸν ἀργύρωμα μηδέν, χρύσωμα  
 22 μηδέν. τούτοις σύμφωνα δόγματα ζήτησον, ἀφ’  
 ὧν ὀρμώμενος ἡδέως ἀφέξῃ πραγμάτων οὕτως  
 23 πιθανῶν<sup>2</sup> πρὸς τὸ ἀγαγεῖν καὶ νικῆσαι. ἂν δὲ  
 πρὸς τῇ πιθανότητι τῇ ἐκείνων καὶ φιλοσοφίαν

<sup>1</sup> Wolf (after Schegk) and Upton’s “codex”: δογματίζων τὰ καλὰ· ποιῶν τὰ αἰσχρά S.

<sup>2</sup> Shaftesbury: πιθανῶς S.

<sup>1</sup> See note on I. 1, 34.

if her husband talks nonsense, why should we not break his neck to boot? That is, if you wish to be a proper sort of philosopher, a perfect one, consistent with your own doctrines. If not, you will be no better than we who bear the name of Stoics; for we too talk of one thing and do another. We talk of the noble and do the base; but you will be perverse in the opposite way, laying down base doctrines, and doing noble deeds.

In the name of God, I ask you, can you imagine an Epicurean State? One man says, "I do not marry." "Neither do I," says another, "for people ought not to marry." No, nor have children; no, nor perform the duties of a citizen. And what, do you suppose, will happen then? Where are the citizens to come from? Who will educate them? Who will be superintendent of the ephebi,<sup>1</sup> or gymnasium director? Yes, and what will either of these teach them? What the young men of Lacedaemon or Athens were taught? Take me a young man; bring him up according to your doctrines. Your doctrines are bad, subversive of the State, destructive to the family, not even fit for women. Drop these doctrines, man. You live in an imperial State; it is your duty to hold office, to judge uprightly, to keep your hands off the property of other people; no woman but your wife ought to look handsome to you, no boy handsome, no silver plate handsome, no gold plate. Look for doctrines consistent with these principles of conduct, doctrines which will enable you to refrain gladly from matters so persuasive to attract and to overpower a man. If, however, in addition to the persuasive power of the things just mentioned, we shall have gone

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τινά ποτε ταύτην ἐξευρηκότες ὤμεν συνεπω-  
θοῦσαν ἡμᾶς ἐπ' αὐτὰ καὶ ἐπιρρωννύουσιν, τί  
γένηται ;

- 24 Ἐν τορεύματι<sup>1</sup> τί κράτιστόν ἐστιν, ὁ ἄργυρος  
ἢ ἡ τέχνη ; χειρὸς οὐσία μὲν ἢ σάρξ, προηγού-  
25 μενα δὲ τὰ χειρὸς ἔργα. οὐκοῦν καὶ καθήκοντα  
τρισά· τὰ μὲν πρὸς τὸ εἶναι, τὰ δὲ πρὸς τὸ ποιᾶ  
εἶναι, τὰ δ' αὐτὰ τὰ προηγούμενα. οὕτως καὶ  
ἀνθρώπου οὐ τὴν ὕλην δεῖ τιμᾶν, τὰ σαρκίδια,  
23 ἀλλὰ τὰ προηγούμενα. τίνα ἐστὶ ταῦτα ; πολι-  
τεύεσθαι, γαμεῖν, παιδοποιεῖσθαι, θεὸν σέβειν,  
γονέων ἐπιμελεῖσθαι, καθόλου ὀρέγεσθαι, ἐκκλί-  
νειν, ὀρμᾶν, ἀφορμᾶν, ὡς ἕκαστον τούτων δεῖ  
27 ποιεῖν, ὡς πεφύκαμεν. πεφύκαμεν δὲ πῶς ; ὡς  
ἐλεύθεροι, ὡς γενναῖοι, ὡς αἰδήμονες. ποῖον γὰρ  
ἄλλο ζῶον ἐρυθριᾷ, ποῖον αἰσχροῦ φαντασίαν  
28 λαμβάνει ; τὴν ἡδονὴν δ' ὑπόταξαι τούτοις ὡς  
διάκονον, ὡς ὑπηρέτην, ἵνα προθυμίας ἐκκαλέση-  
ται, ἵν' ἐν τοῖς κατὰ φύσιν ἔργοις παρακρατῇ.  
29 Ἄλλ' ἐγὼ πλούσιός εἰμι καὶ οὐδενὸς χρεῖα μοί  
ἐστιν.—Τί οὖν ἔτι προσποιῇ φιλοσοφεῖν ; ἀρκεῖ

<sup>1</sup> Wolf : ἐν τῷ βρέματι S.

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<sup>1</sup> The classification of duties in this sentence is obscure, and the commentators have ever been in straits both to elucidate it, and to explain what bearing it has upon the context. The first two classes (which are essentially one) deal with outward existence; the last touches our higher nature. A full discussion of this matter will be found in A. Bonhöffer; *Die Ethik des Stoikers Epiktet*, p. 205-6. A very similar Stoic division of duties into five classes, where the third class of Epictetus is triply divided, will be found in Cicero, *De Finibus*, III. 16 and 20. I believe that the sentence, though probably going back to Epictetus, did not belong

ahead and invented also some such doctrine as this of yours, which helps to push us on into them, and gives them additional strength, what is going to happen?

In a piece of plate what is the best thing, the silver or the art? The substance of the hand is mere flesh, but the important thing is the works of the hand. Now duties are of three kinds; first, those that have to do with mere existence, second, those that have to do with existence of a particular sort, and third, the principal duties themselves.<sup>1</sup> So also in the case of man, it is not his material substance that we should honour, his bits of flesh, but the principal things. What are these? The duties of citizenship, marriage, begetting children, reverence to God, care of parents,<sup>2</sup> in a word, desire, avoidance, choice, refusal, the proper performance of each one of these acts, and that is, in accordance with our nature. And what is our nature? To act as free men, as noble, as self-respecting. Why, what other living being blushes, what other comprehends the impression of shame? And it is our nature to subordinate pleasure to these duties as their servant, their minister, so as to arouse our interest and keep us acting in accordance with nature.

But I am rich and need nothing.—Why, then, do you still pretend to be a philosopher? Your

here originally (so also Bonhöffer, it seems), but derived from a marginal note upon τὰ προηγούμενα, just below, and the sentence immediately following.

<sup>2</sup> After the *Golden Verses of Pythagoras*, 3-4:

τούς τε καταχθονίους σέβε δαίμονας, ἔννομα ῥέζων  
τούς τε γόνεις τίμα, τοὺς τ' ἄγχι στ' ἐκγεγαῶτας.



- τὰ χρυσώματα καὶ τὰ ἀργυρώματα· τί σοι  
 30 χρεία δογμάτων;—'Αλλὰ καὶ κριτῆς εἰμι τῶν  
 Ἑλλήνων.—Οἶδας κρίνειν; τί σε ἐποίησεν εἰδέ-  
 31 ται;—Καῖσάρ μοι κωδῖκελλον ἔγραψεν.—Γρα-  
 ψάτω σοι, ἵνα κρίνης περὶ τῶν μουσικῶν· καὶ τί  
 σοι ὄφελος; ὅμως δὲ πῶς κριτῆς ἐγένου; τὴν  
 τίνος χεῖρα καταφιλήσας, τὴν Συμφόρου ἢ τὴν  
 Νουμηνίου; τίνος πρὸ τοῦ κοιτῶνος κοιμηθεῖς;  
 τίνι πέμψας δῶρα; εἶτα οὐκ αἰσθάνη, ὅτι τοσού-  
 του ἄξιόν ἐστι κριτὴν εἶναι ὅσου Νουμήνιος;—  
 'Αλλὰ δύναμαι ὃν θέλω εἰς φυλακὴν βαλεῖν.—  
 32 'Ὡς λίθον.—'Αλλὰ δύναμαι ξυλοκοπήσαι ὃν  
 θέλω.—'Ὡς ὄνον. οὐκ ἔστι τοῦτο ἀνθρώπων  
 33 ἀρχή. ὡς λογικῶν ἡμῶν ἄρξον δεικνὺς ἡμῖν τὰ  
 συμφέροντα καὶ ἀκολουθήσομεν· δείκνυε τὰ  
 34 ἀσύμφορα καὶ ἀποστραφησόμεθα. ζηλωτὰς  
 ἡμᾶς κατασκεύασον σεαυτοῦ ὡς Σωκράτης ἐαυ-  
 τοῦ. ἐκεῖνος ἦν ὁ ὡς ἀνθρώπων ἄρχων, ὁ  
 κατεσκευακὼς ὑποτεταχότας αὐτῷ τὴν ὄρεξιν  
 τὴν αὐτῶν, τὴν ἐκκλισιν, τὴν ὁρμήν, τὴν ἀφορμήν.  
 35 “τοῦτο ποίησον, τοῦτο μὴ ποιήσης· εἰ δὲ μὴ, εἰς  
 φυλακὴν σε βαλῶ.” οὐκέτι ὡς λογικῶν ἢ ἀρχὴ  
 36 γίνεται. ἀλλ' “ὡς ὁ Ζεὺς διέταξεν, τοῦτο ποίη-  
 σον· ἂν δὲ μὴ ποιήσης, ζημιωθήσῃ, βλαβήσῃ.”  
 ποίαν βλάβην; ἄλλην οὐδεμίαν, ἀλλὰ τὸ μὴ  
 ποιῆσαι ἃ δεῖ· ἀπολέσεις τὸν πιστόν, τὸν αἰδή-

<sup>1</sup> Otherwise unknown, but obviously freedmen influential at court.

<sup>2</sup> That is, so as to be able to salute him the very first thing in the morning.



gold and silver plate are enough to satisfy you; what do you need doctrines for?—Yes, but I sit too as judge over the Hellenes.—Do you know how to sit as judge? What has brought you to know that?—Caesar wrote credentials for me.—Let him write you credentials that will allow you to sit as a judge in music and literature; and what good will it do you? However this may be, there is another question, and that is, how did you come to be a judge? Whose hand did you kiss—that of Symphorus or that of Numenius?<sup>1</sup> In front of whose bedroom door did you sleep?<sup>2</sup> To whom did you send presents? After all, don't you recognize that the office of judge is worth exactly as much as Numenius is?—But I can throw whom I will into prison.—As you can a stone.—But I can have beaten to death with a club whom I will.—As you can an ass.—That is not governing men. Govern us as rational beings by pointing out to us what is profitable, and we will follow you; point out what is unprofitable, and we will turn away from it. Bring us to admire and emulate you, as Socrates brought men to admire and emulate him. He was the one person who governed people as men, in that he brought them to subject to him their desire, their aversion, their choice, their refusal. “Do this; do not do this; otherwise I will throw you into prison.” Say that, and yours ceases to be a government as over rational beings. Nay, rather, say, “As Zeus has ordained, do this; if you do not do so, you will be punished, you will suffer injury.” What kind of injury? No injury but that of not doing what you ought; you will destroy the man of fidelity in you, the man of honour, the man of

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μονα, τὸν κόσμιον. τούτων ἄλλας βλάβας μείζονας μὴ ζῆται.

ή'. Πῶς πρὸς τὰς φαντασίας γυμναστέον;

- 1 Ὡς πρὸς τὰ ἐρωτήματα τὰ σοφιστικὰ γυμναζόμεθα, οὕτως καὶ πρὸς τὰς φαντασίας καθ'
- 2 ἡμέραν ἔδει γυμνάζεσθαι· προτείνουνσι γὰρ ἡμῖν καὶ αὐταὶ ἐρωτήματα. ὁ υἱὸς ἀπέθανε τοῦ δεινός. ἀπόκριναι “ἀπροαίρετον, οὐ κακόν.” ὁ πατήρ τὸν δεῖνα ἀποκληρονόμον ἀπέλιπεν. τί σοι δοκεῖ; “ἀπροαίρετον, οὐ κακόν.” Καῖσαρ αὐτὸν
- 3 κατέκρινεν. “ἀπροαίρετον, οὐ κακόν.” ἐλυπήθη ἐπὶ τούτοις. “προαιρετικόν, κακόν.” γενναίως
- 4 ὑπέμεινεν. “προαιρετικόν, ἀγαθόν.” καὶ οὕτως ἐθιζώμεθα, προκόψομεν· οὐδέποτε γὰρ ἄλλω συγκαταθησόμεθα ἢ οὗ φαντασία καταληπτική
- 5 γίνεται. ὁ υἱὸς ἀπέθανε. τί ἐγένετο; ὁ υἱὸς ἀπέθανεν. ἄλλο οὐδέν; οὐδὲ ἓν.<sup>1</sup> τὸ πλοῖον ἀπώλετο. τί ἐγένετο; τὸ πλοῖον ἀπώλετο. εἰς φυλακὴν ἀπήχθη. τί γέγονεν; εἰς φυλακὴν ἀπήχθη. τὸ δ' ὅτι “κακῶς πέπραχεν” ἐξ αὐτοῦ

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: ἄλλο οὐδὲ ἓν S. ἄλλο οὐδέν; οὐδέν Trincavelli and most editors.

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<sup>1</sup> The φαντασία καταληπτική, a term peculiar to Stoic psychology, is “an impression so distinct and vivid and consistent and permanent as to carry its own conviction of certainty and to be its own criterion of truth” (P. E. More, *Hellenistic Philosophies*, 85). See Bonhöffer, *Epiktet und die Stoa*, 160–7, 228–32. Among recent writers E. R. Bevan, *Stoics and Sceptics*, 36, renders the phrase “grasping impression”; G. Murray, *The Stoic Philosophy*, 27 and 44, “comprehensive sense-impression.” Cf. R. M. Wenley,

decent behaviour. You need not look for greater injuries than these.

## CHAPTER VIII

*How ought we to exercise ourselves to deal with  
the impressions of our senses ?*

As we exercise ourselves to meet the sophistical interrogations, so we ought also to exercise ourselves daily to meet the impressions of our senses, because these too put interrogations to us. So-and-so's son is dead. Answer, "That lies outside the sphere of the moral purpose, it is not an evil." His father has disinherited So-and-so; what do you think of it? "That lies outside the sphere of the moral purpose, it is not an evil." Caesar has condemned him. "That lies outside the sphere of the moral purpose, it is not an evil." He was grieved at all this. "That lies within the sphere of the moral purpose, it is an evil." He has borne up under it manfully. "That lies within the sphere of the moral purpose, it is a good." Now if we acquire this habit, we shall make progress; for we shall never give our assent to anything but that of which we get a convincing sense-impression.<sup>1</sup> His son is dead. What happened? His son is dead. Nothing else? Not a thing. His ship is lost. What happened? His ship is lost. He was carried off to prison. What happened? He was carried off to prison. But the observation: "He has fared ill," is an addition that

*Stoicism*, 87, for the metaphor in the adjective: "Conviction of truth must . . . involve an unshakable grip upon the actual."

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

6 ἕκαστος προστίθῃσιν. “ἀλλ’ οὐκ ὀρθῶς ταῦτα ὁ Ζεὺς ποιεῖ.” διὰ τί; ὅτι σε ὑπομενητικὸν ἐποίησεν, ὅτι μεγαλόψυχον, ὅτι ἀφείλεν αὐτῶν τὸ εἶναι κακά, ὅτι ἔξεστίν σοι πᾶσχοντι ταῦτα εὐδαιμονεῖν, ὅτι σοι τὴν θύραν ἡνοιξεν, ὅταν σοι μὴ ποιῇ; ἄνθρωπε, ἔξελθε καὶ μὴ ἐγκάλει.

7 Πῶς ἔχουσι Ῥωμαῖοι πρὸς φιλοσόφους ἂν θέλῃς γινῶναι, ἄκουσον. Ἰταλικὸς ὁ μάλιστα δοκῶν αὐτῶν φιλόσοφος εἶναι παρόντος ποτέ μου χαλεπήνας τοῖς ἰδίοις, ὡς ἀνήκεστα πᾶσχων, “Οὐ δύναμαι,” ἔφη, “φέρειν ἀπόλλυτέ με, ποιήσετέ με τοιοῦτον γενέσθαι,” δείξας ἐμέ.

θ'. Πρὸς τινὰ ῥήτορα ἀνιόντα εἰς Ῥώμην  
ἐπὶ δίκῃ.

1 Εἰσελθόντος δέ τινος πρὸς αὐτόν, ὃς εἰς Ῥώμην ἀνήκει δίκην ἔχων περὶ τιμῆς τῆς αὐτοῦ, πυθό-

<sup>1</sup> Compare I. 9, 20; III. 13, 14, and Vol. I. p. xxv f.

<sup>2</sup> For the particular expression here, see II. 6, 22.

<sup>3</sup> The sense of this curious and apparently quite detached anecdote, which has puzzled some scholars, seems to be that the otherwise quite unknown Italicus, who was clearly not a philosopher *propria persona*, but merely enjoyed some local reputation among people at Rome for dabbling in philosophy, was being urged by his friends to submit to some hardship in a truly philosophic manner, and resented the implication that he actually *was* a philosopher like the mean and humble slave or freedman Epictetus. Roman popular feeling about

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each man makes on his own responsibility. "But," you say, "Zeus does not do right in all this." What makes you think so? Because He has made you capable of patient endurance, and high-minded, because He has taken from these things the quality of being evils, because you are permitted to suffer these things and still to be happy, because He has opened for you the door,<sup>1</sup> whenever they are not to your good?<sup>2</sup> Man, go out, and do not complain.

Hear how the Romans feel about philosophers, if you care to know. Italicus, who has a very great reputation among them as a philosopher, once, when I was present, got angry at his friends, as though he were suffering something intolerable, and said, "I cannot bear it: you are the death of me! you will make me just like him," and pointed at me!<sup>3</sup>

### CHAPTER IX

*To a certain rhetorician who was going to Rome for a lawsuit*

THERE came in to visit Epictetus one day a man who was on his way to Rome, where he was engaged in a lawsuit involving an honour to be bestowed on him.<sup>4</sup>

philosophy is probably not greatly overdrawn in the well-known advice of Ennius (frag. sc. 376 Vahlen) to taste of philosophy, but not to gorge oneself upon it; and the jest of Plautus (*Captivi*, 284), apropos of a reckless romancer, that "he is not simply lying now, he is philosophizing."

<sup>4</sup> The situation seems a bit strange to us, but the famous lawsuit between Aeschines and Ctesiphon, in which Demosthenes delivered the oration *De Corona*, technically, indeed, in behalf of Ctesiphon, but actually in his own cause, offers a close parallel.

- μενος τὴν αἰτίαν, δι' ἣν ἄνειςιν, ἐπερωτήσαντος  
 ἐκείνου, τίνα γνώμην ἔχει περὶ τοῦ πράγματος,  
 2 Εἰ μου πυνθάνη, τί πράξεις ἐν Ῥώμῃ, φησίν,  
 πότερον κατορθώσεις ἢ ἀποτεύξῃ, θεώρημα πρὸς  
 τοῦτο οὐκ ἔχω· εἰ δὲ<sup>1</sup> πυνθάνη, πῶς πράξεις,  
 τοῦτο εἰπεῖν, ὅτι, εἰ μὲν ὀρθὰ δόγματα ἔχεις,  
 καλῶς, εἰ δὲ φαῦλα, κακῶς. παντὶ γὰρ αἴτιον  
 τοῦ πράσσειν πῶς τὸ<sup>2</sup> δόγμα. τί γάρ ἐστιν,  
 3 δι'<sup>3</sup> ὃ ἐπεθύμησας προστάτης χειροτονηθῆναι  
 Κνωσίων; τὸ δόγμα. τί ἐστίν, δι' ὃ νῦν εἰς  
 Ῥώμην ἀνέρχῃ; τὸ δόγμα. καὶ μετὰ χειμῶνος  
 καὶ κινδύνου καὶ ἀναλωμάτων;—Ἀνάγκη γάρ  
 4 ἐστίν.—Τίς σοι λέγει τοῦτο; τὸ δόγμα. οὐκοῦν  
 εἰ πάντων αἴτια τὰ δόγματα, φαῦλα δέ τις ἔχει  
 δόγματα, οἷον ἂν ἦ τὸ αἴτιον, τοιοῦτον καὶ τὸ  
 5 ἀποτελούμενον. ἄρ' οὖν πάντες ἔχομεν ὑγιῆ  
 δόγματα καὶ σὺ καὶ ὁ ἀντίδικός σου; καὶ πῶς  
 διαφέρεσθε; ἀλλὰ σὺ μᾶλλον ἢ ἐκείνος; διὰ  
 τί; δοκεῖ σοι. καὶ κείνῳ καὶ τοῖς μαινομένοις.  
 6 τοῦτο πονηρὸν κριτήριον. ἀλλὰ δεῖξόν μοι, ὅτι  
 ἐπίσκεψίν τινα καὶ ἐπιμέλειαν πεποίησαι τῶν  
 σαυτοῦ δογμάτων. καὶ ὥς νῦν εἰς Ῥώμην πλεῖς  
 ἐπὶ τῷ προστάτης εἶναι Κνωσίων καὶ οὐκ ἐξαρκεῖ  
 σοι μένειν ἐν οἴκῳ τὰς τιμὰς ἔχοντι ἅς εἶχες,  
 ἀλλὰ μείζονός τινος ἐπιθυμεῖς καὶ ἐπιφανεστέρου,  
 πότε οὕτως ἔπλευσας ὑπὲρ τοῦ τὰ δόγματα  
 7 ἐπισκέψασθαι τὰ σαυτοῦ καὶ εἴ τι φαῦλον ἔχεις,

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl: εἰμ. S, or ἐμέ (Allen).

<sup>2</sup> πῶς τό Oldfather: πράσσειν τι δόγμα S. The sharp contrast between τί πράξεις and πῶς πράξεις above, which is the whole point in the present passage, is completely falsified by the reading in S.

<sup>3</sup> δι' added by Shaftesbury.

Epictetus asked what the reason was for the trip to the Capital, and the man proceeded to ask what opinion he had about the matter. If you ask me *what* you are going to *do* in Rome, says Epictetus, whether you will succeed or fail, I have no precept to offer. If, however, you ask *how* you are going to *fare*, I have this to say: If you have sound judgements, you will fare well; if unsound judgements, ill; since in every case the way a man fares is determined by his judgement.<sup>1</sup> For what is it that made you eager to be elected patron of the people of Cnossos?<sup>2</sup> Your judgement. What is it that impels you now to go up to Rome? Your judgement. And that in stormy weather, in danger, and at expense?—Yes, but I have to.—Who tells you that? Your judgement. Very well, then, if a man's judgements determine everything, and if a man has unsound judgements, whatever be the cause such also will be the consequence. Do we all, then, have sound judgements, both you and your opponent? If so, then how do you come to disagree? But do you have sound judgements rather than he? Why? You think so. So does he, and so do madmen. This is a poor criterion. But show me that you have made any study of your own judgements and have paid attention to them. And as now you are sailing to Rome so as to become patron of the men of Cnossos, and you are not satisfied to stay at home and keep the honours which you had, but you have set your heart upon something greater and more conspicuous, so did you ever make a voyage for the purpose of studying your own judgements, and of rejecting one,

<sup>1</sup> See critical note.

<sup>2</sup> The principal city of Crete.



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἐκβαλεῖν ; τίνι προσελήλυθας τούτου ἔνεκα ;  
 ποῖον χρόνον ἐπέταξας σαυτῷ, ποίαν ἡλικίαν ;  
 ἔπελθέ σου τοὺς χρόνους, εἰ ἐμὲ αἰσχύνη, αὐτὸς  
 8 πρὸς σαυτόν. ὅτε παῖς ἦς, ἐξήταζες τὰ σαυτοῦ  
 δόγματα ; οὐχὶ δ' ὥς πάντα ποιεῖς, ἐποίεις ἂ  
 ἐποίεις ; ὅτε δὲ μειράκιον ἤδη καὶ τῶν ῥητόρων  
 ἤκουες καὶ αὐτὸς ἐμελέτας, τί σοι λείπειν ἐφαν-  
 9 τάζου ; ὅτε δὲ νεανίσκος καὶ ἤδη ἐπολιτεύου καὶ  
 δίκας αὐτὸς ἔλεγες καὶ εὐδοκίμεις, τίς σοι ἔτι  
 ἴσος ἐφαίνετο ; ποῦ δ' ἂν ἡνέσχου ὑπὸ τινος  
 10 ἐξεταζόμενος, ὅτι πονηρὰ ἔχεις δόγματα ; τί οὖν  
 σοι θέλεις εἶπω ;—Βοήθησόν μοι εἰς τὸ πρᾶγμα.  
 —Οὐκ ἔχω πρὸς τοῦτο θεωρήματα· οὐδὲ σύ, εἰ  
 τούτου ἔνεκα ἐλήλυθας πρὸς ἐμέ, ὥς πρὸς φιλό-  
 σοφον ἐλήλυθας, ἀλλ' ὥς πρὸς λαχανοπώλην,  
 11 ἀλλ' ὥς πρὸς σκυτέα.—Πρὸς τί οὖν ἔχουσιν οἱ  
 φιλόσοφοι θεωρήματα ;—Πρὸς τοῦτο, ὃ τι ἂν  
 ἀποβῇ, τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν ἡμῶν κατὰ φύσιν ἔχειν  
 καὶ διεξάγειν. μικρὸν σοι δοκεῖ τοῦτο ;—Οὔ.  
 ἀλλὰ τὸ μέγιστον.—Τί οὖν ; ὀλίγου χρόνου  
 χρεῖαν ἔχει καὶ ἔστι παρερχόμενον αὐτὸ λαβεῖν ;  
 εἰ δύνασαι, λάμβανε.
- 12 Εἰτ' ἐρεῖς “ συνέβαλον Ἐπικτήτῳ ὡς λίθῳ, ὡς  
 ἀνδριάντι.” εἶδες γάρ με καὶ πλέον οὐδέν.  
 ἀνθρώπῳ δ' ὡς ἀνθρώπῳ συμβύλλει ὁ τὰ  
 66



if it is unsound? Whom have you ever visited for this purpose? What time have you set yourself, what period of your life? Review the periods of your life, all to yourself, if you are ashamed to do so before me. When you were a boy were you in the habit of examining your judgements? Did you not habitually do what you then did just as you do everything now? And when you grew to be a youth and were attending the lectures of the rhetoricians, and were yourself practising, what did you fancy that you yet lacked? And when you were a young man and began to take part in politics, and to plead cases yourself, and to have a good reputation, who any longer seemed in your eyes to be your equal? Would you under any circumstances have submitted to be put through an examination on the charge that you had wretched judgements? Very well then, what do you wish me to say to you?—Help me in this affair.—I have no precepts to offer for this; and you too, if you came to me for this purpose, have not come to me as to a philosopher, but as to a vegetable-dealer, as to a cobbler.—To what end, then, do philosophers have precepts to offer?—To this end, that whatever happen, our governing principle shall be, and abide to the end, in accord with nature. Do you regard that as a trifle?—No; it is of the utmost moment.—What then? Does this require only a little time, and is it possible to acquire it on a passing visit? Acquire it, then, if you can!

Then you will say, "When I met Epictetus it was like meeting a stone, a statue." Yes, for you took a look at me, and nothing more. The person who meets a man as a man is one who learns to

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- δόγματα αὐτοῦ καταμανθάνων καὶ ἐν τῷ μέρει  
 13 τὰ ἴδια δεικνύων. κατάμαθέ μου τὰ δόγματα,  
 δείξόν μοι τὰ σὰ καὶ οὕτως λέγε συμβεβληκέναί  
 μοι. ἐλέγξωμεν ἀλλήλους· εἴ τι ἔχω κακὸν  
 δόγμα, ἄφελε αὐτό· εἴ τι ἔχεις, θές εἰς τὸ μέσον.  
 14 τοῦτό ἐστι φιλοσόφῳ συμβάλλειν. οὐ· ἀλλὰ  
 “πάροδος ἐστι καὶ ἕως τὸ πλοῖον μισθούμεθα,  
 δυνάμεθα καὶ Ἐπίκτητον ἰδεῖν· ἴδωμεν, τί ποτε  
 λέγει.” εἰτ’ ἐξελθὼν “οὐδὲν ἦν ὁ Ἐπίκτητος,  
 ἐσολοίκιζεν, ἐβαρβαρίζεν.” τίνος γὰρ ἄλλου  
 κριταὶ εἰσέρχεσθε;  
 15 “Ἄλλ’ ἂν πρὸς τούτοις,” φησὶν, “ὦ, ἀγρὸν  
 οὐχ ἔξω ὥς οὐδὲ σύ, ποτήρια ἀργυρᾶ οὐχ  
 ἔξω ὥς οὐδὲ σύ, κτήνη καλὰ ὥς οὐδὲ σύ.”  
 16 πρὸς ταῦτα ἴσως ἀρκεῖ ἐκείνο εἰπεῖν ὅτι  
 “ἀλλὰ χρεῖαν αὐτῶν οὐκ ἔχω· σὺ δ’ ἂν πολλὰ  
 κτήσῃ, ἄλλων χρεῖαν ἔχεις, θέλεις οὐ θέλεις,  
 17 πτωχότερός μου.”—Τίνος οὖν ἔχω χρεῖαν;—Τοῦ  
 σοὶ μὴ παρόντος· τοῦ εὐσταθεῖν, τοῦ κατὰ φύσιν  
 18 ἔχειν τὴν διάνοιαν, τοῦ μὴ ταράττεσθαι. πά-  
 τρων, οὐ πατρων, τί μοι μέλει; σοὶ μέλει. πλου-  
 σιώτερός σου εἰμι· οὐκ ἀγωνιῶ, τί φρονήσῃ περὶ  
 ἐμοῦ ὁ Καῖσαρ· οὐδένα κολακεύω τούτου ἕνεκα.  
 ταῦτα ἔχω ἀντὶ τῶν ἀργυρωμάτων, ἀντὶ τῶν  
 χρυσωμάτων. σὺ χρυσᾶ σκεύη, ὀστράκινον τὸν  
 λόγον, τὰ δόγματα, τὰς συγκαταθέσεις, τὰς  
 19 ὁρμὰς, τὰς ὁρέξεις. ὅταν δὲ ταῦτα ἔχω κατὰ  
 φύσιν, διὰ τί μὴ φιλοτεχνήσω καὶ περὶ τὸν

understand the other's judgements, and in his turn exhibits his own. Learn to know my judgements; show me your own, and then say you have met me. Let us put one another to the test; if I cherish any evil judgement, take it away; if you cherish one, bring it forward. That is what it means to meet a philosopher. Oh no; but your way is: "We are passing, and while we are hiring our ship, we have a chance to take a look at Epictetus; let's see what in the world he has to say." Then you leave with the remark: "Epictetus was nothing at all, his language was full of sclecisms and barbarisms." What else were you capable of judging, when you came in like that?

"But," says someone, "if I devote myself to these things, I shall not own a farm any more than you do, I shall not have silver goblets any more than you, or fine cattle any more than you." To all this it is perhaps enough to answer: "I do not need them; but you, even if you acquire many possessions, need still others, and whether you will or not, are more poverty-stricken than I am."—What, then, do I need?—What you do not have; steadfastness, your mind in a state of conformity with nature, freedom from vexation of spirit. Patron or not patron, what do I care? But you care. I am richer than you are; I am not worried about what Caesar is going to think of me; I flatter no man for that purpose. All this is what I have as an offset to your silver plate, and your gold plate. You have furnishings of gold, but your reason, your judgements, your assent, your choice, your desire—of earthenware. But when I have these in a state of conformity with nature, why should I not take up logic also as a sort of hobby?

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- λόγον ; εὐσχολῶ γάρ· οὐ περισπᾶταί μου ἡ  
 διάνοια. τί ποιήσω μὴ περισπώμενος ; τούτου  
 20 τί ἀνθρωπικώτερον ἔχω ; ὑμεῖς ὅταν μὴδὲν ἔχητε,  
 ταράσσεσθε, εἰς θέατρον εἰσέρχεσθε ἢ ἀναλύετε·  
 21 διὰ τί ὁ φιλόσοφος μὴ ἐξεργάσῃται τὸν αὐτοῦ  
 λόγον ; σὺ κρυστάλλινα, ἐγὼ τὰ τοῦ Ψευδομένου·  
 σὺ μούρρινα, ἐγὼ τὰ τοῦ Ἀποφάσκοντος. σοὶ  
 πάντα μικρὰ φαίνεται ἅ ἔχεις, ἐμοὶ τὰ ἐμὰ πάντα  
 μεγάλα. ἀπλήρωτός σου ἐστὶν ἡ ἐπιθυμία, ἡ  
 22 ἐμὴ πεπλήρωται. τοῖς παιδίοις<sup>1</sup> εἰς στενό-  
 βρογχον κεράμιον καθιεῖσιν τὴν χεῖρα καὶ  
 ἐκφέρουσιν ἰσχαδοκάρυα ταὐτὸ<sup>2</sup> συμβαίνει· ἂν  
 πληρώσῃ τὴν χεῖρα, ἐξενεγκεῖν οὐ δύναται, εἴτα  
 κλάει. ἄφες ὀλίγα ἐξ αὐτῶν καὶ ἐξοίσεις. καὶ  
 σὺ ἄφες τὴν ὄρεξιν· μὴ πολλῶν ἐπιθύμει καὶ  
 οἷσεις.<sup>3</sup>

### ι'. Πῶς φέρειν δεῖ τὰς νόσους ;

- 1 Ἐκάστου δόγματος ὅταν ἡ χρεία πυρῇ, πρόχει-  
 ρον αὐτὸ ἔχειν δεῖ· ἐπ' ἀρίστῳ τὰ περὶ ἀρίστου,  
 ἐν βαλανείῳ τὰ περὶ βαλανείου, ἐν κοίτῃ τὰ περὶ  
 κοίτης.

<sup>1</sup> ταῖδίοις supplied by Wolf.

<sup>2</sup> Capps: τοῦτο S.

<sup>3</sup> Wolf plausibly suggested εὐροήσεις, "you will prosper,"  
 for this extremely abrupt and obscure locution.

<sup>1</sup> See note in II. 17, 34.

<sup>2</sup> Highly coloured and very expensive glass.

For, I have plenty of leisure; my mind is not being dragged this way and that. What shall I do, seeing there is nothing that disturbs me? What have I which more becomes a man than this? You and your kind when you have nothing to do are restless, go to the theatre, or wander up and down aimlessly. Why should not the philosopher develop his own reason? You turn to vessels of crystal, I to the syllogism called "The Liar";<sup>1</sup> you to myrrhine ware,<sup>2</sup> I to the syllogism called "The Denyer."<sup>3</sup> Everything that you already have seems small in your sight, but everything that I have seems important to me. Your strong desire is insatiate, mine is already satisfied. The same thing happens to the children who put their hand down into a narrow-necked jar and try to take out figs and nuts: if they get their hand full, they can't get it out, and then they cry. Drop a few and you will get it out. And so do you too drop your desire; do not set your heart upon many things and you will obtain.<sup>4</sup>

## CHAPTER X

*How ought we to bear our illnesses?*

WHEN the need arises for each separate judgement, we ought to have it ready; at lunch our judgements about lunch, at the bath our judgements about a bath, in bed our judgements about a bed.

<sup>3</sup> The exact nature of this argument is unknown, although Chrysippus wrote two works on the subject (Diog. Laert. 7, 197), and it is casually mentioned also by Clement of Alexandria, *Strom.* 5, 11.

<sup>4</sup> See critical note.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

2 μηδ' ὕπνον μαλακοῖσιν ἐπ' ὄμμασι προσδέ-  
 ξασθαι,  
 πρὶν τῶν ἡμερινῶν<sup>1</sup> ἔργων λογίσασθαι ἕκαστα.  
 3 “πῇ παρέβην; τί δ' ἔρεξα; τί μοι δέον οὐ  
 τετέλεσται;”<sup>2</sup>  
 ἀρξάμενος δ' ἀπὸ τούτου<sup>3</sup> ἐπέξιθι· καὶ μετέ-  
 πειτα  
 δειλὰ μὲν οὖν<sup>4</sup> ῥέξας ἐπιπλήσσεο, χρηστὰ δὲ  
 τέρπου.

4 καὶ τούτους τοὺς στίχους κατέχειν χρηστικῶς,  
 οὐχ ἵνα δι' αὐτῶν ἀναφωνῶμεν, ὡς διὰ τοῦ Παιὰν  
 5 Ἀπολλων. πάλιν ἐν πυρετῷ τὰ πρὸς τοῦτο·  
 μή, ἂν πυρέξωμεν, ἀφιέναι πάντα καὶ ἐπιλανθάν-  
 εσθαι. “ἂν ἐγὼ ἔτι φιλοσοφήσω, ὃ θέλει  
 γινέσθω. πού ποτ' ἀπελθόντα τοῦ σωματίου  
 ἐπιμελεῖσθαι δεῖ.”<sup>5</sup> εἴ γε<sup>6</sup> καὶ πυρετὸς οὐκ  
 6 ἔρχεται. τὸ δὲ φιλοσοφῆσαι τί ἐστίν; οὐχὶ  
 παρασκευάσασθαι πρὸς τὰ συμβαίνοντα; οὐ  
 παρακολουθεῖς οὖν, ὅτι τοιοῦτόν τι λέγεις. “ἂν  
 ἔτι ἐγὼ παρασκευάσωμαι πρὸς τὸ πρῶως φέρειν  
 τὰ συμβαίνοντα, ὃ θέλει γινέσθω”; οἷον εἴ τις

<sup>1</sup> Corrected from the ordinary text by Schweighäuser: ἡμεριῶν *S*.

<sup>2</sup> C. Schenkl: ἐκτετέλεσται *S*; but the ordinary text οὐκ ἐτελέσθη appears also below in iv. 6, 35.

<sup>3</sup> H. Schenkl: τοῦδε *S*: πρῶτον the ordinary text (and Bentley).

<sup>4</sup> οὖν added by C. Schenkl: ἐκπρήξας the ordinary text (and Bentley).

“Also allow not sleep to draw nigh to your languorous eyelids,

Ere you have reckoned up each several deed of the daytime :

‘Where went I wrong? Did what? And what to be done was left undone?’

Starting from this point review, then, your acts, and thereafter remember :

Censure yourself for the acts that are base, but rejoice in the goodly.”<sup>1</sup>

And keep these verses on hand to use, not by way of exclamations, as we cry, “Paeon Apollo!” Again, in a fever have ready the judgements which apply to that. Let us not, if we fall into a fever, abandon and forget all our principles, saying: “If I ever study philosophy again, let anything happen that will! I’ll have to go away somewhere and take care of my poor body.” Yes indeed, if fever does not go there too!<sup>2</sup> But what is philosophy? Does it not mean making preparation to meet the things that come upon us? Do you not understand, then, that what you are saying amounts to something like this: “If I ever again prepare to bear quietly the things that come upon me, let anything happen that will”?

<sup>1</sup> The *Golden Verses*, vulgarly ascribed to Pythagoras, 40-44, with several variations in detail.

<sup>2</sup> The sense of this difficult and corrupt passage seems to be that Epictetus sarcastically approves the plan, with, however, the proviso, that there be no fever where his interlocutor plans to go; which was impossible, because there was no such place. In other words, one cannot avoid hardships by changing one’s residence; therefore, prepare to meet them wherever you are.

<sup>5</sup> δεῖ added by Upton.

<sup>6</sup> Schweighäuser: τε S.



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- πληγὰς λαβὼν ἀποσταίη τοῦ παγκρατιάζειν.  
7 ἄλλ' ἐκεῖ μὲν ἔξεστι καταλῦσαι καὶ μὴ δέρεσθαι,  
ἐνθάδε δ' ἂν καταλύσωμεν φιλοσοφοῦντες, τί  
ὄφελος; τί οὖν δεῖ λέγειν πρὸς αὐτὸν<sup>1</sup> ἐφ'  
ἐκάστου τῶν τραχέων; ὅτι “ἔνεκα τούτου ἐγυμ-  
8 ναζόμεν, ἐπὶ τοῦτο ἤσκουν.” ὁ θεὸς σοι λέγει  
“δὸς μοι ἀπόδειξιν, εἰ νομίμως ἠθλησας, εἰ  
ἔφαγες ὅσα δεῖ, εἰ ἐγυμνίσθης, εἰ τοῦ ἀλείπτου  
ἤκουσας.” εἰτ' ἐπ' αὐτοῦ τοῦ ἔργου καταμα-  
λακίζῃ; νῦν τοῦ πυρέττειν καιρὸς ἐστίν, τοῦτο  
καλῶς γινέσθω· τοῦ διψᾶν, δίψα καλῶς· τοῦ  
9 πεινᾶν, πείνα καλῶς. οὐκ ἐστὶν ἐπὶ σοί; τίς  
σε κωλύσει; ἀλλὰ πιεῖν μὲν κωλύσει ὁ ἰατρός,  
καλῶς δὲ διψᾶν οὐ δύναται· καὶ φαγεῖν μὲν  
κωλύσει, πεινᾶν δὲ καλῶς οὐ δύναται.  
10 Ἄλλ' οὐ φιλολογῶ; — Τίνος δ' ἔνεκα φιλο-  
λογεῖς; ἀνδράποδον, οὐχ ἵνα εὐροῇς; οὐχ ἵνα  
εὐσταθῇς; οὐχ ἵνα κατὰ φύσιν ἔχῃς καὶ διεξά-  
11 γῃς; τί κωλύει πυρέσσοντα κατὰ φύσιν ἔχειν  
τὸ ἡγεμονικόν; ἐνθάδ' ὁ ἔλεγχος τοῦ πράγματος,  
ἡ δοκιμασία τοῦ φιλοσοφοῦντος. μέρος γάρ ἐστι  
καὶ τοῦτο τοῦ βίου, ὡς περίπατος, ὡς πλοῦς, ὡς  
12 ὁδοιπορία, οὕτως καὶ πυρετός. μή τι περιπατῶν  
ἀναγινώσκεις; — Οὐ. — Οὕτως οὐδὲ πυρέσσων.  
ἄλλ' ἂν καλῶς περιπατῇς, ἔχῃς τὸ τοῦ περιπα-

<sup>1</sup> Kronenberg (after Schegk): λέγειν αὐτόν S.

<sup>1</sup> See note on III. 1, 5.

<sup>2</sup> The same phrase appears in 2 Timothy ii. 5.

<sup>3</sup> At Olympia, for example, men had to practise under supervision and observe a strict diet for one whole month before the games.



It is just as if a man should give up the pancratium<sup>1</sup> because he has received blows. The only difference is that in the pancratium a man may stop, and so avoid a severe beating, but in life, if we stop the pursuit of philosophy, what good does it do? What, then, ought a man to say to himself at each hardship that befalls him? "It was for *this* that I kept training, it was to meet *this* that I used to practise." God says to you, "Give Me proof, whether you have striven lawfully,<sup>2</sup> eaten what is prescribed,<sup>3</sup> taken exercise, heeded your trainer." After that, do you flinch when the time for action arrives? Now it is time for your fever, let it come upon you in the right way; for thirst, bear your thirst in the right way; to go hungry, bear hunger in the right way. It is not in your power, you say? Who is there to prevent you? Nay, your physician will prevent you from drinking, but he cannot prevent you from thirsting in the right way; and he will prevent you from eating, but he cannot prevent you from bearing hunger in the right way.

But am I not a scholar?—And for what purpose do you devote yourself to scholarship? Slave, is it not that you may be happy? Is it not that you may be secure? Is it not that you may conform to nature and live your life in that way. What prevents you, when you have a fever, from having your governing principle conform with nature? Here is the proof of the matter, the test of the philosopher. For this too is a part of life; like a stroll, a voyage, a journey, such is also a fever. I presume you do not read while taking a stroll, do you?—No.—No more than when you have a fever. But if you stroll in the right way, you perform what is expected of a stroller;

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- τοῦντος· ἂν καλῶς πυρέξης, ἔχεις τὰ τοῦ πυρέσ-  
 13 σοντος. τί ἐστὶ καλῶς πυρέσσειν; μὴ θεὸν  
 μέμψασθαι, μὴ ἄνθρωπον, μὴ θλιβῆναι ὑπὸ τῶν  
 γινομένων, εὖ καὶ καλῶς προσδέχεσθαι τὸν θάνα-  
 τον, ποιεῖν τὰ προστασσόμενα· ὅταν ὁ ἰατρὸς  
 εἰσέρχεται, μὴ φοβεῖσθαι, τί εἶπῃ, μηδ' ἂν εἶπῃ  
 “κομψῶς ἔχεις,” ὑπερχαίρειν· τί γάρ σοι ἀγαθόν  
 14 εἶπεν; ὅτε γὰρ ὑγίαινες, τί σοι ἦν ἀγαθόν;  
 μηδ' ἂν εἶπῃ “κακῶς ἔχεις,” ἀθυμεῖν· τί γάρ  
 ἐστι τὸ κακῶς ἔχειν; ἐγγίξειν τῷ διαλυθῆναι  
 τὴν ψυχὴν ἀπὸ τοῦ σώματος. τί οὖν δεινόν  
 ἐστιν; ἐὰν νῦν μὴ ἐγγίσης, ὕστερον οὐκ ἐγγιεῖς;  
 ἀλλὰ ὁ κόσμος μέλλει ἀνατρέπεσθαι σοῦ ἀποθα-  
 15 νόντος; τί οὖν κολακεύεις τὸν ἰατρόν; τί λέγεις  
 “ἐὰν σὺ θέλῃς, κύριε, καλῶς ἔξω”; τί παρέχεις  
 αὐτῷ ἀφορμὴν τοῦ ἐπᾶραι ὀφρῦν; οὐχὶ δὲ τὴν  
 αὐτοῦ ἀξίαν αὐτῷ ἀποδίδως, ὥς σκυτεῖ περὶ τὸν  
 πόδα, ὥς τέκτονι περὶ τὴν οἰκίαν, οὕτως καὶ τῷ  
 ἰατρῷ περὶ τὸ σωμάτιον, τὸ οὐκ ἐμόν, τὸ φύσει  
 νεκρόν; τούτων ὁ καιρὸς ἐστι τῷ πυρέσσοντι·  
 16 ἂν ταῦτα ἐκπληρώσῃ, ἔχει τὰ αὐτοῦ. οὐ γάρ  
 ἐστιν ἔργον τοῦ φιλοτόφου ταῦτα τὰ ἐκτὸς  
 τηρεῖν, οὔτε τὸ οἰνάριον οὔτε τὸ ἐλάδιον οὔτε  
 τὸ σωμάτιον, ἀλλὰ τί; τὸ ἴδιον ἡγεμονικόν. τὰ  
 δ' ἔξω πῶς; μέχρι τοῦ μὴ ἀλογίστως κατὰ  
 17 ταῦτα ἀναστρέφεσθαι. ποῦ οὖν ἔτι καιρὸς τοῦ

<sup>1</sup> That is, matter which is only temporarily endowed with life by virtue of union for a short while with the soul.

if you have fever in the right way, you perform the things expected of the man who has a fever. What does it mean to have fever in the right way? Not to blame God, or man, not to be overwhelmed by what happens to you, to await death bravely and in the right way, to do what is enjoined upon you; when your physician comes to see you, not to be afraid of what he will say, and at the same time not to be carried away with joy, if he says, "You are doing splendidly"; for what *good* to you lay in that remark? Why, when you were well, what *good* was it to you? It means not to be downhearted, too, if he says, "You are in a bad way." For what does it mean to be in a bad way? That you are close to a separation of the soul from the body. What, then, is terrifying about that? If you do not draw near now, will you not draw near later? And is the universe going to be upset when you die? Why, then, do you wheedle your physician? Why do you say, "If you wish, Master, I shall get well"? Why do you give him occasion to put on airs? Why not give him just what is his due? As I give the shoemaker his due about my foot, the builder his due about my house, so also the physician his due about my paltry body, something that is not mine, something that is by nature dead.<sup>1</sup> These are the things that the moment demands for a man who is in a fever; if he meets these demands, he has what properly belongs to him. For it is not the business of the philosopher to guard these external matters—neither his paltry wine, nor his paltry oil, nor his paltry body—but what? His own governing principle. And how treat externals? Only so far as not to act thoughtlessly about them. What proper occasion is

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICETUS

- φοβείσθαι ; ποῦ οὖν ἔτι καιρὸς ὀργῆς ; ποῦ φόβου  
 18 περὶ τῶν ἀλλοτρίων, περὶ τῶν μηδενὸς ἀξίων ;  
 δύο γὰρ ταῦτα πρόχειρα ἔχειν δεῖ· ὅτι ἔξω τῆς  
 προαιρέσεως οὐδέν ἐστιν οὔτε ἀγαθὸν οὔτε κακὸν  
 καὶ ὅτι οὐ δεῖ προηγείσθαι τῶν πραγμάτων, ἀλλ'  
 19 ἐπακολουθεῖν. “οὐκ ἔδει οὕτως μοι προσε-  
 νεχθῆναι τὸν ἀδελφόν.” οὐ· ἀλλὰ τοῦτο μὲν  
 ἐκεῖνος ὄψεται. ἐγὼ δ', ὡς ἂν προσεनेχθῇ, αὐτὸς  
 20 ὡς δεῖ χρήσομαι τοῖς πρὸς ἐκεῖνον. τοῦτο γὰρ  
 ἐμὸν ἐστιν, ἐκεῖνο δ' ἀλλότριον· τοῦτο οὐδεὶς  
 κωλύσαι δύναται, ἐκεῖνο κωλύεται.

### ια'. Σποράδην τινά.

- 1 Εἰσὶ τινες ὡς ἐκ νόμον διατεταγμένοι κολάσεις  
 2 τοῖς ἀπειθοῦσι τῇ θεῇ διοικήσει· “ὅς ἂν ἄλλο  
 τι ἡγήσῃται ἀγαθὸν παρὰ τὰ προαιρετικά, φθο-  
 νείτω, ἐπιθυμείτω, κολακευέτω, ταρασσέσθω· ὅς  
 ἂν ἄλλο κακόν, λυπείσθω, πενθείτω, θρηνείτω,  
 3 δυστυχεῖτω.” καὶ ὅμως οὕτως πικρῶς κολαζό-  
 μενοι ἀποστῆναι οὐ δυνάμεθα.  
 4 Μέμνησο, τί λέγει ὁ ποιητὴς περὶ τοῦ ξένου·  
 ξεῖν', οὐ μοι θέμις ἔστ',<sup>1</sup> οὐδ' εἰ κακίων σέθεν  
 ἔλθοι,  
 ξεῖνον ἀτιμῆσαι· πρὸς γὰρ Διὸς εἰσιν ἅπαντες<sup>2</sup>  
 ξεῖνοί τε πτωχοί τε.

<sup>1</sup> s: ἔστι καὶ S.

<sup>2</sup> ἔλθοι . . . ἅπαντες supplied by Schenkl : σεθέντες S.

there, then, any longer for fear? What proper occasion, then, any longer for anger? Or for fear about things that are not his own concern, worthless things? For here are the two principles that you ought to have ready at hand: Outside the sphere of the moral purpose there is nothing either good or bad; and, We ought not to lead events, but to follow them. "My brother ought not to have treated me so." No; but it is for him to look to that. As for me, no matter how he behaves, I shall observe all my relations to him as I ought. For this is my part, the other does not belong to me; in this nobody can hinder me, the other is subject to hindrance.

## CHAPTER XI

*Some scattered sayings*

THERE are certain punishments, assigned as it were by law, for those who are disobedient to the divine dispensation. "Whoever shall regard as good anything but the things that fall within the scope of his moral purpose, let him envy, yearn, flatter, feel disturbed; whoever shall regard anything else as evil, let him sorrow, grieve, lament, be unhappy." Nevertheless, for all that we are so severely punished, we cannot desist.

Remember what the poet <sup>1</sup> says about the stranger:

Stranger, I may not with right dishonour a  
stranger, not even

Worse man were he than art thou; for of God  
are all strangers and beggars.

<sup>1</sup> Homer (frequently so designated, especially in late antiquity), in the *Odyssey*, XIV. 56-8.

5 τοῦτο οὖν καὶ ἐπὶ πατρὸς πρόχειρον ἔχειν· οὐ  
 μοι θέμις ἔστ' οὐδ' εἰ κακίων σέθεν ἔλθοι, πατέρ' <sup>1</sup>  
 ἀτιμῆσαι· πρὸς γὰρ Διὸς εἰσιν ἅπαντες τοῦ Πα-  
 6 τρώου· καὶ ἐπ' ἀδελφῶ· πρὸς γὰρ Διὸς εἰσιν  
 ἅπαντες τοῦ Ὀμογνίου· καὶ οὕτως κατὰ τὰς  
 ἄλλας σχέσεις εὐρήσομεν ἐπόπτην τὸν Δία.

ιβ'. Περὶ ἀσκήσεως.

1 Τὰς ἀσκήσεις οὐ δεῖ διὰ τῶν παρὰ φύσιν καὶ  
 παραδόξων ποιεῖσθαι, ἐπεὶ τοι τῶν θαυματο-  
 ποιῶν οὐδὲν διοίσομεν οἱ λέγοντες φιλοσοφεῖν.  
 2 δύσκολον γάρ ἐστι καὶ τὸ ἐπὶ σχοινίου περι-  
 πατεῖν καὶ οὐ μόνον δύσκολον, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπι-  
 κίνδυνον. τούτου ἕνεκα δεῖ καὶ ἡμᾶς μελετᾶν  
 ἐπὶ σχοινίου περιπατεῖν ἢ φοῖνικα ἰστάνειν ἢ  
 3 ἀνδριάντας περιλαμβάνειν; οὐδαμῶς. οὐκ ἔστι  
 τὸ δύσκολον πᾶν καὶ ἐπικίνδυνον ἐπιτήδειον  
 πρὸς ἄσκησιν, ἀλλὰ τὸ πρόσφορον τῷ προκει-  
 4 μένῳ ἐκπονηθῆναι. τί δ' ἐστὶ τὸ προκείμενον  
 ἐκπονηθῆναι; ὀρέξει καὶ ἐκκλίσει ἀκωλύτως  
 ἀναστρέφεσθαι. τοῦτο δὲ τί ἐστίν; μήτε ὀρε-  
 γόμενον ἀποτυγχάνειν μήτ' ἐκκλίνοντα περιπίπ-  
 τειν. πρὸς τοῦτο οὖν καὶ τὴν ἄσκησιν ῥέπειν

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: πάτερ S.

<sup>1</sup> For this aspect of Zeus see O. Gruppe, *Griech. Mythol.* etc., p. 1116; and especially A. B. Cook, *Zeus* (index).

<sup>2</sup> "Setting up a palm" may possibly mean climbing a pole with only the hands and the feet, like the climbers of palms, as Upton and Schweighäuser (after Bulinger) suggest. There was  
 80

This, then, is what one should have ready to use in the case of a father: "I may not rightfully dishonour a father, not even if a worse man than art thou should come; for of Zeus, the God of Fathers,<sup>1</sup> are they all"; and so in the case of a brother: "For of Zeus, the God of Kindred, are they all." And similarly, in the other social relations, we shall find Zeus overseeing them all.

## CHAPTER XII

*Of training*

WE ought not to take our training in things that are unnatural or fantastic, since in that case we who profess to be philosophers will be no better than the mountebanks. For it is a hard thing also to walk a tight-rope, and not merely hard but dangerous too. Ought we also for this reason to practise walking a tight-rope, or setting up a palm, or throwing our arms about statues?<sup>2</sup> Not a bit of it. Not every difficult and dangerous thing is suitable for training, but only that which is conducive to success in achieving the object of our effort. And what is the object of our effort? To act without hindrance in choice and in aversion. And what does this mean? Neither to fail to get what we desire, nor to fall into what we would avoid. Toward this end, therefore, our

a "palm-bearer" (*φοινεικοφόρος*, or *σπαδεικοφόρος*) connected with the gymnasium at Tegea in Arcadia (*I.G.* V. 2, Nos. 47, 48, 50, 53), who possibly had charge of the exercise referred to here, whatever its exact character may have been. As for embracing statues, Diogenes was said to have done that nude in cold weather, so as to harden himself. *Diog. Laert.* 6, 23.



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 5 δεῖ. ἐπεὶ γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀναπότευκτον σχεῖν τὴν  
 ὀρεξιν καὶ τὴν ἑκκλισιν ἀπερίπτωτον ἀνευ με-  
 γάλῃς καὶ συνεχοῦς ἀσκήσεως, ἴσθι ὅτι, ἐὰν ἔξω  
 ἐάσης ἀποστρέφεισθαι αὐτὴν ἐπὶ τὰ ἀπροαίρετα,  
 οὔτε τὴν ὀρεξιν ἐπιτευκτικὴν ἔξεις οὔτε τὴν  
 6 ἑκκλισιν ἀπερίπτωτον. καὶ ἐπεὶ τὸ ἔθος ἰσχυρὸν  
 προηγῆται πρὸς μόνα ταῦτα εἰθισμένων ἡμῶν  
 χρῆσθαι ὀρέξει καὶ ἐκκλίσει, δεῖ τῷ ἔθει τούτῳ  
 ἐναντίον ἔθος ἀντιθεῖναι καὶ ὅπου ὁ πολὺς ὀλισθος  
 τῶν φαντασιῶν, ἐκεῖ ἀντιτιθέναι τὸ ἀσκητικόν.
- 7 Ἐτεροκλινῶς ἔχω πρὸς ἡδονήν· ἀνατοιχήσω<sup>1</sup>  
 ἐπὶ τὸ ἐναντίον ὑπὲρ τὸ μέτρον τῆς ἀσκήσεως  
 ἕνεκα. ἐκκλητικῶς ἔχω πόνου· τρίψω μου καὶ  
 γυμνάσω πρὸς τοῦτο τὰς φαντασίας ὑπὲρ τοῦ  
 ἀποστηῆναι τὴν ἑκκλισιν ἀπὸ παντὸς τοῦ τοιού-  
 8 του. τίς γάρ ἐστιν ἀσκητής; ὁ μελετῶν ὀρέξει  
 μὲν μὴ<sup>2</sup> χρῆσθαι, ἐκκλίσει δὲ πρὸς μόνα τὰ  
 προαιρετικὰ χρῆσθαι, καὶ μελετῶν μᾶλλον ἐν  
 τοῖς δυσκαταπονήτοις. καθ' ὃ καὶ ἄλλῳ πρὸς  
 9 ἄλλα μᾶλλον ἀσκητέον. τί οὖν ὧδε ποιεῖ τὸ  
 φοῖνικα στῆσαι ἢ τὸ στέγην δερματίνην καὶ  
 10 ὄλμον καὶ ὑπερον περιφέρειν; ἄνθρωπε, ἄσκη-

<sup>1</sup> Bentley (anticipating Schweighäuser): ἀνὰ . . . ἤσω S.

<sup>2</sup> μή supplied by Gataker.

<sup>1</sup> For the "palm tree," see above, note on § 2. As for the other items, it is conceivable that some Cynics may have carried about with them such equipment ostentatiously to indicate that they had all they needed for life; that is, shelter and the simplest utensils to prepare grain for food, somewhat as Diogenes was content with his *pithos* and a cup (although eventually he discarded even the latter). But it must be confessed that the passage is very obscure. Seneca, *De ira*, 2, 12, speaks somewhat disparagingly of *ille qui*



training also should tend. For since it is impossible without great and constant training to secure that our desire fail not to attain, and our aversion fall not into what it would avoid, be assured that, if you allow training to turn outwards, towards the things that are not in the realm of the moral purpose, you will have neither your desire successful in attaining what it would, nor your aversion successful in avoiding what it would. And since habit is a powerful influence, when we have accustomed ourselves to employ desire and aversion only upon these externals, we must set a contrary habit to counteract this habit, and where the very slippery nature of sense-impressions is in play, there we must set our training as a counteracting force.

I am inclined to pleasure; I will betake myself to the opposite side of the rolling ship, and that beyond measure, so as to train myself. I am inclined to avoid hard work; I will strain and exercise my sense-impressions to this end, so that my aversion from everything of this kind shall cease. For who is the man in training? He is the man who practises not employing his desire, and practises employing his aversion only upon the things that are within the sphere of his moral purpose, yes, and practises particularly in the things that are difficult to master. And so different men will have to practise particularly to meet different things. To what purpose is it, then, under these conditions, to set up a palm tree, or to carry around a leather tent, or a mortar and pestle? <sup>1</sup> Man, practise, if you are

*meditatus est . . . sarcinae ingenti cervicis supponere* (that is, "the man who has practised carrying about enormous burdens on his back"), pretty clearly in reference to this same custom, but without throwing much light upon it.

- σον, εἰ γοργὸς εἶ, λοιδορούμενος ἀνέχεσθαι, ἀτι-  
 μασθεὶς μὴ ἀχθεσθῆναι. εἴθ' οὕτως προβήσῃ,  
 ἵνα, κὰν πλήξῃ σέ τις, εἴπῃς αὐτὸς πρὸς αὐτὸν  
 11 ὅτι “δόξον ἀνδριάντα περιειληφέναι.” εἶτα καὶ  
 οἶναρίῳ κομψῶς χρῆσθαι, μὴ εἰς τὸ πολὺ πίνειν  
 (καὶ γὰρ περὶ τοῦτο ἐπαρίστεροι ἀσκηταὶ εἰσιν),  
 ἀλλὰ πρῶτον εἰς τὸ ἀποσχέσθαι, καὶ κορασιδίῳ  
 ἀπέχεσθαι καὶ πλακουνταρίου. εἶτά ποτε ὑπὲρ  
 δοκιμασίας, εἰ ἄρα, καθήσεις εὐκαίρως αὐτὸς  
 σαυτὸν ὑπὲρ τοῦ γινῶναι, εἰ ὁμοίως ἡττῶσίν σε  
 12 αἱ φαντασίαι. τὰ πρῶτα δὲ φεῦγε μακρὰν ἀπὸ  
 τῶν ἰσχυροτέρων. ἄνισος ἢ μάχη κορασιδίῳ  
 κομψῶ πρὸς νέον ἀρχόμενον φιλοσοφεῖν· χύτρα,  
 φασί, καὶ πέτρα οὐ συμφωνεῖ.  
 13 Μετὰ τὴν ὄρεξιν καὶ τὴν ἑκκλισιν δεύτερος  
 τόπος<sup>1</sup> ὁ περὶ τὴν ὁρμὴν καὶ ἀφορμὴν· ἵν'<sup>2</sup>  
 εὐπειθὴς τῷ λόγῳ, ἵνα μὴ παρὰ καιρὸν, μὴ  
 παρὰ τόπον, μὴ παρὰ ἄλλην τινὰ τοιαύτην  
 συμμετρίαν.<sup>3</sup>  
 14 Τρίτος ὁ περὶ τὰς συγκαταθέσεις, ὁ πρὸς τὰ  
 15 πιθανὰ καὶ ἐλκυστικά. ὥς γὰρ ὁ Σωκράτης  
 ἔλεγεν ἀνεξέταστον βίον μὴ ζῆν, οὕτως ἀνεξέτα-  
 στον φαντασίαν μὴ παραδέχεσθαι, ἀλλὰ λέγειν  
 “ἐκδεξαι, ἄφες ἴδω, τίς εἶ καὶ πόθεν ἔρχῃ,” ὥς  
 οἱ νυκτοφύλακες “δεῖξόν μοι τὰ συνθήματα.”

<sup>1</sup> S (but only the first letter is by the first hand ;  
 τρόπος, which was probably the original reading, s).

<sup>2</sup> ἵν' supplied by Shaftesbury.

<sup>3</sup> Reiske : ἀσυμμετρίαν S.

<sup>1</sup> Compare the fable about the earthenware pot and the  
 bronze jar in Babrius 193 (Crusius) = Aesop 422 (Halm),  
 Avianus 11, etc.

arrogant, to submit when you are reviled, not to be disturbed when you are insulted. Then you will make such progress, that, even if someone strikes you, you will say to yourself, "Imagine that you have thrown your arms about a statue." Next train yourself to use wine with discretion, not with a view to heavy drinking (for there are some clumsy fools who practise with this in mind), but first for the purpose of achieving abstention from wine, and keeping your hands off a wench, or a sweet-cake. And then some day, if the occasion for a test really comes, you will enter the lists at a proper time for the sake of discovering whether your sense-impressions still overcome you just as they did before. But first of all flee far away from the things that are too strong for you. It is not a fair match that, between a pretty wench and a young beginner in philosophy. "A pot," as they say, "and a stone do not go together."<sup>1</sup>

After your desire and your aversion the next topic<sup>2</sup> has to do with your choice and refusal. Here the object is to be obedient to reason, not to choose or to refuse at the wrong time, or the wrong place, or contrary to some other similar propriety.

The third topic has to do with cases of assent; it is concerned with the things that are plausible and attractive. For, just as Socrates used to tell us not to live a life unsubjected to examination,<sup>3</sup> so we ought not to accept a sense-impression unsubjected to examination, but should say, "Wait, allow me to see who you are and whence you come"<sup>4</sup> (just as the night-watch say, "Show me your

<sup>2</sup> Upon this division of the field of philosophy, which appears to be peculiar to Epictetus, see note on III. 2, 1.

<sup>3</sup> See note on I. 26, 18.

<sup>4</sup> Compare II. 18, 24.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- “ἔχεις τὸ παρὰ τῆς φύσεως σύμβολον, ὃ δεῖ τὴν  
 16 παραδεχθησομένην ἔχειν φαντασίαν;” καὶ λοι-  
 πὸν ὅσα τῷ σώματι προσάγεται ὑπὸ τῶν γυμνα-  
 ζόντων αὐτό, ἂν μὲν ὧδέ που ῥέπη πρὸς ὄρεξιν  
 καὶ ἔκκλισιν, εἴη ἂν καὶ αὐτὰ ἀσκητικά· ἂν δὲ  
 πρὸς ἐπίδειξιν, ἔξω νενευκότος<sup>1</sup> ἐστὶ καὶ ἄλλο  
 τι θηρωμένου καὶ θεατὰς ζητοῦντος τοὺς ἐροῦντας  
 17 “ὦ<sup>2</sup> μεγάλου ἀνθρώπου.” διὰ τοῦτο καλῶς ὁ  
 Ἀπολλώνιος ἔλεγεν ὅτι “ὅταν θέλῃς σαυτῷ  
 ἀσκήσαι, διψῶν ποτὲ καύματος ἐφέλκυσαι  
 βρόγχον ψυχροῦ καὶ ἔκπτυσον καὶ μηδενὶ  
 εἴπῃς.”

ιγ'. Τί ἐρημία καὶ ποῖος ἔρημος.

- 1 Ἐρημία ἐστὶ κατάστασις τις ἀβοηθήτου. οὐ  
 γὰρ ὁ μόνος ὢν εὐθὺς καὶ ἔρημος, ὥσπερ οὐδ' ὁ  
 2 ἐν πολλοῖς ὢν οὐκ ἔρημος. ὅταν γοῦν ἀπολέσω-  
 μεν ἢ ἀδελφὸν ἢ υἱὸν ἢ φίλον, ᾧ προσαναπαυό-  
 μεθα, λέγομεν ἀπολελεῖφθαι ἔρημοι, πολλάκις ἐν  
 Ῥώμῃ ὄντες, τοσούτου ὄχλου ἡμῖν ἀπαντῶντος

<sup>1</sup> Wolf : νενευκότος S.

<sup>2</sup> Wolf : ὦς S.

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<sup>1</sup> A token or mark of identification was frequently called for in ancient times by the police (especially at night), much as in some of the occupied and annexed districts of Europe since the Great War.

tokens").<sup>1</sup> "Do you have your token from nature, the one which every sense-impression which is to be accepted must have?" And, in conclusion, all the methods which are applied to the body by the persons who are giving it exercise, might also themselves be conducive to training, if in some such way as this they tend toward desire and aversion; but if they tend toward display, they are characteristic of a man who has turned toward the outside world, and is hunting for something other than the thing itself which he is doing, and is looking for spectators who will say, "Ah, what a great man!" It is this consideration which renders admirable the remark that Apollonius used to make: "When you wish to train for your own sake, then when you are thirsty some hot day take a mouthful of cold water, and spit it out—<sup>2</sup> and don't tell anybody about it!"

### CHAPTER XIII

*The meaning of a forlorn state, and the kind of person a forlorn man is*

A FORLORN state is the condition of one who is without help. For a man is not forlorn merely because he is alone, any more than a man in the midst of a crowd is necessarily not forlorn. At all events, when we have lost a brother, or a son, or a friend with whom we have shared the same bed, we say that we have been left forlorn, though often we are in Rome, with such large crowds meeting us in the streets, and so many people living in the same

<sup>2</sup> Something of the same sort is said, but upon somewhat dubious authority, to have been an exercise often practised by Plato (Stobaeus, *Flor.* III. 17, 35).

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

καὶ τοσούτων συνοικούντων, ἔσθ' ὅτε καὶ<sup>1</sup> πλη-  
θος δούλων ἔχοντες. θέλει γὰρ ὁ ἔρημος κατὰ  
τὴν ἔννοιαν ἀβοήθητός τις εἶναι καὶ ἐκκείμενος  
3 τοῖς βλάπτειν βουλομένοις. διὰ τοῦτο, ὅταν  
ὁδεύωμεν, τότε μάλιστα ἐρήμους λέγομεν ἑαυ-  
τούς, ὅταν εἰς ληστὰς ἐμπέσωμεν. οὐ γὰρ  
ἀνθρώπου ὄψις ἐξαιρεῖται ἐρημίας, ἀλλὰ πιστοῦ  
4 καὶ αἰδήμονος καὶ ὠφελίμου. ἐπεὶ εἰ τὸ μόνον  
εἶναι ἀρκεῖ πρὸς τὸ ἔρημον εἶναι, λέγε ὅτι καὶ  
ὁ Ζεὺς ἐν τῇ ἐκπυρώσει ἔρημός ἐστι καὶ κατα-  
κλαίει αὐτὸς ἑαυτοῦ. "τάλας ἐγώ, οὔτε τὴν  
Ἡραν ἔχω οὔτε τὴν Ἀθηνᾶν οὔτε τὸν Ἀπόλλωνα  
οὔτε ὅλως ἢ ἀδελφὸν ἢ υἱὸν ἢ ἑγγονον ἢ συγ-  
5 γενῇ." ταῦτα καὶ λέγουσί τινες ὅτι ποιεῖ μόνος  
ἐν τῇ ἐκπυρώσει. οὐ γὰρ ἐπινούσι διεξαγωγὴν  
μόνου<sup>2</sup> ἀπὸ τινος φυσικοῦ ὁρμώμενοι, ἀπὸ τοῦ  
φύσει κοινωνικοῦ εἶναι καὶ φιλαλλήλου καὶ ἡδέως  
6 συναναστρέφεσθαι ἀνθρώποις. ἀλλ' οὐδὲν ἦττον  
δεῖ τινὰ καὶ πρὸς τοῦτο παρασκευὴν ἔχειν τὸ  
δύνασθαι αὐτὸν ἑαυτῷ ἀρκεῖν, δύνασθαι αὐτὸν  
7 ἑαυτῷ συνεῖναι. ὥς ὁ Ζεὺς αὐτὸς ἑαυτῷ σύνεστιν  
καὶ ἡσυχάζει ἐφ' ἑαυτοῦ καὶ ἐννοεῖ τὴν διοίκησιν  
τὴν ἑαυτοῦ οἷα ἐστὶ καὶ ἐν ἐπινοίαις γίνεται πρε-  
πούσαις ἑαυτῷ, οὕτως καὶ ἡμᾶς δύνασθαι αὐτοὺς  
ἑαυτοῖς λαλεῖν, μὴ προσδεῖσθαι ἄλλων, διαγωγῆς

<sup>1</sup> καὶ added by Schegk.

<sup>2</sup> καὶ after this word was deleted by Reiske.

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<sup>1</sup> The periodic consumption of the universe by fire, and its rebirth, a doctrine which the Stoics inherited from Heraclitus. Even the deities, with the exception of Zeus, succumb in the *Götterdämmerung*. Precisely the same situation as

house with us, and sometimes even though we have a multitude of slaves. For according to the nature of the concept the 'forlorn' means the person who is without help, and exposed to those who wish to injure him. That is why, when we go on a journey, we call ourselves forlorn most especially at the moment that we encounter robbers. For it is not the sight of a human being as such which puts an end to our forlorn condition, but the sight of a faithful, and unassuming, and helpful human being. Why, if being alone is enough to make one forlorn, you will have to say that even Zeus himself is forlorn at the World-Conflagration,<sup>1</sup> and bewails himself: "Wretched me! I have neither Hera, nor Athena, nor Apollo, nor, in a word, brother, or son, or grandson, or kinsman." There are even those who say that this is what he does when left alone at the World-Conflagration; for they cannot conceive of the mode of life of one who is all alone, starting as they do from a natural principle, namely, the facts of natural community of interest among men, and mutual affection, and joy in intercourse. But one ought none the less to prepare oneself for this also, that is, to be able to be self-sufficient, to be able to commune with oneself; even as Zeus communes with himself, and is at peace with himself, and contemplates the character of his governance, and occupies himself with ideas appropriate to himself, so ought we also to be able to converse with ourselves, not to be in need of others, not to be at a loss for

that described here is referred to by Seneca, *Ep. Mor.* 9, 16: *Qualis est Iovis (vita), cum resoluta mundo et dis in unum confusis paulisper cessante natura adquiescit sibi cogitationibus suis traditus.*



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 8 μὴ ἀπορεῖν· ἐφιστάνειν τῇ θείᾳ διοικήσει, τῇ αὐτῶν πρὸς τὰλλα σχέσει· ἐπιβλέπειν, πῶς πρότερον εἶχομεν πρὸς τὰ συμβαίνοντα, πῶς νῦν· τίνα ἐστὶν ἔτι τὰ θλίβοντα· πῶς ἂν θεραπευθῇ καὶ ταῦτα, πῶς ἐξαιρεθῇ· εἴ τινα ἐξεργασίας δεῖται τούτων,<sup>1</sup> κατὰ τὸν αὐτῶν<sup>2</sup> λόγον ἐξεργάζεσθαι.
- 9 Ὅρατε γάρ, ὅτι εἰρήνην μεγάλην ὁ Καῖσαρ ἡμῖν δοκεῖ παρέχειν, ὅτι οὐκ εἰσὶν οὐκέτι πόλεμοι οὐδὲ μάχαι οὐδὲ ληστήρια μεγάλα οὐδὲ πειρατικά, ἀλλ' ἔξεστιν πάσῃ ὥρᾳ ὁδεύειν, πλεῖν ἀπ' ἀνατολῶν ἐπὶ δυσμᾶς. μή τι οὖν καὶ ἀπὸ πυρετοῦ δύναται ἡμῖν εἰρήνην παρασχεῖν, μή τι καὶ ἀπὸ ναυαγίου, μή τι καὶ ἀπὸ ἐμπρησμοῦ ἢ ἀπὸ σεισμοῦ ἢ ἀπὸ κεραυνοῦ; ἄγε ἀπ' ἔρωτος; οὐ δύναται. ἀπὸ πένθους; οὐ δύναται. ἀπὸ φθόνου; οὐ δύναται. ἀπ' οὐδενὸς ἀπλῶς τούτων· ὁ δὲ λόγος ὁ τῶν φιλοσόφων ὑπισχνεῖται καὶ ἀπὸ τούτων εἰρήνην παρέχειν. καὶ τί λέγει; “ἂν μοι προσέχητε, ὦ ἄνθρωποι, ὅπου ἂν ᾔητε, ὅ τι ἂν ποιῇτε, οὐ λυπηθήσεσθε, οὐκ ὀργισθήσεσθε, οὐκ ἀναγκασθήσεσθε, οὐ κωλυθήσεσθε, ἀπαθεῖς δὲ καὶ ἐλεύθεροι διάξετε ἀπὸ πάντων.”
- 12 ταύτην τὴν εἰρήνην τις ἔχων κεκηρυγμένην οὐχ ὑπὸ τοῦ Καίσαρος (πόθεν γὰρ αὐτῷ ταύτην κηρύξαι;), ἀλλ' ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ κεκηρυγμένην διὰ τοῦ λόγου οὐκ ἀρκεῖται, ὅταν ἢ<sup>3</sup> μόνος, ἐπιβλέπων καὶ ἐνθυμούμενος “νῦν ἐμοὶ κακὸν οὐδὲν δύναται συμβῆναι, ἐμοὶ ληστής οὐκ ἔστιν, ἐμοὶ σεισμὸς οὐκ ἔστιν, πάντα εἰρήνης μεστά, πάντα

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl: τῶν S.

<sup>2</sup> Reiske (after Schegk): αὐτοῦ S.

<sup>3</sup> ᾗ supplied by Sb.



some way to spend our time ; we ought to devote ourselves to the study of the divine governance, and of our own relation to all other things ; to consider how we used to act toward the things that happen to us, and how we act now ; what the things are that still distress us ; how these too can be remedied, or how removed ; if any of these matters that I have mentioned need to be brought to perfection, to perfect them in accordance with the principle of reason inherent in them.

Behold now, Caesar seems to provide us with profound peace, there are no wars any longer, nor battles, no brigandage on a large scale, nor piracy, but at any hour we may travel by land, or sail from the rising of the sun to its setting. Can he, then, at all provide us with peace from fever too, and from shipwreck too, and from fire, or earthquake, or lightning ? Come, can he give us peace from love ? He cannot. From sorrow ? From envy ? He cannot—from absolutely none of these things. But the doctrine of the philosophers promises to give us peace from these troubles too. And what does it say ? “ Men, if you heed me, wherever you may be, whatever you may be doing, you will feel no pain, no anger, no compulsion, no hindrance, but you will pass your lives in tranquillity and in freedom from every disturbance.” When a man has this kind of peace proclaimed to him, not by Caesar—why, how could *he* possibly proclaim it ?—but proclaimed by God through the reason, is he not satisfied, when he is alone ? When he contemplates and reflects, “ Now no evil can befall me, for me there is no such thing as a brigand, for me there is no such thing as an earthquake, everything is full of peace, everything

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἀταραξίας· πᾶσα ὁδός, πᾶσα πόλις, πᾶς<sup>1</sup> σύνοδος, γείτων, κοινωνὸς ἀβλαβής. ἄλλος παρέχει τροφάς, ὃ μέλει, ἄλλος ἐσθῆτα, ἄλλος αἰσθήσεις
- 14 ἔδωκεν, ἄλλος προλήψεις. ὅταν δὲ μὴ παρέχη τὰ αναγκαῖα, τὸ ἀνακλητικὸν σημαίνει, τὴν θύραν ἤνοιξεν καὶ λέγει σοι ‘ἔρχου.’ ποῦ; εἰς οὐδὲν δεινόν, ἀλλ’ ὅθεν ἐγένου, εἰς τὰ φίλα καὶ συγ-
- 15 γενῇ, εἰς τὰ στοιχεῖα. ὅσον ἦν ἐν σοὶ πυρός, εἰς πῦρ ἄπεισιν, ὅσον ἦν γηδίου, εἰς γῆδιον, ὅσον πνευματίου, εἰς πνευμάτιον, ὅσον ὕδατιου, εἰς ὕδάτιον. οὐδεὶς “Αἰδης οὐδ’ Ἀχέρων οὐδὲ Κωκυτὸς οὐδὲ Πυριφλεγέθων, ἀλλὰ πάντα θεῶν
- 16 μεστὰ καὶ δαιμόνων.” ταῦτά τις ἐνθυμεῖσθαι ἔχων καὶ βλέπων τὸν ἥλιον καὶ σελήνην καὶ ἄστρα καὶ γῆς ἀπολαύων καὶ θαλάσσης ἔρημός
- 17 ἐστίν οὐ μᾶλλον ἢ καὶ ἀβοήθητος. “τί οὖν; ἂν τις ἐπελθὼν μοι μόνῳ ἀποσφάξῃ με;” μωρέ, σὲ οὐ, ἀλλὰ τὸ σωματίον.
- 18 Ποία οὖν ἔτι ἐρημία, ποία ἀπορία; τί χείρονας ἑαυτοὺς ποιῶμεν τῶν παιδαρίων; ἃ τινα ὅταν ἀπολειφθῇ μόνα, τί ποιεῖ; ἄρα ντα ὀστράκια καὶ σποδὸν οἰκοδομεῖ τί ποτε, εἴτα καταστρέφει καὶ πάλιν ἄλλο οἰκοδομεῖ· καὶ οὕτως οὐδέποτε ἀπο-
- 19 ρεῖ διαγωγῆς. ἐγὼ οὖν, ἂν πλεύσητε ὑμεῖς, μέλλω καθήμενος κλαίειν ὅτι μόνος ἀπελείφθην καὶ ἔρημος οὕτως; οὐκ ὀστράκια ἔξω, οὐ σποδόν;

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser (as in II. 14, 8; IV. 1, 97): πᾶσα S.

<sup>1</sup> A reverent expression for God. See note on III. 1, 43.

full of tranquillity; every road, every city, every fellow-traveller, neighbour, companion, all are harmless. Another,<sup>1</sup> whose care it is, supplies food; Another supplies raiment; Another has given senses; Another preconceptions. Now whenever He does not provide the necessities for existence, He sounds the recall; He has thrown open the door and says to you, "Go." Where? To nothing you need fear, but back to that from which you came, to what is friendly and akin to you, to the physical elements.<sup>2</sup> What there was of fire in you shall pass into fire, what there was of earth into earth, what there was of spirit into spirit, what there was of water into water. There is no Hades, nor Acheron, nor Cocytus, nor Pyriphlegethon, but everything is filled with gods and divine powers."<sup>3</sup> A man who has this to think upon, and who beholds the sun, and moon, and stars, and enjoys land and sea, is no more forlorn than he is without help. "Why, what then? What if someone should attack me when I am alone and murder me?" Fool, not murder *you*, but your trivial body.

What kind of forlornness is left, then, to talk about? What kind of helplessness? Why make ourselves worse than little children? When they are left alone, what do they do? They gather up sherds and dust and build something or other, then tear it down and build something else again; and so they are never at a loss as to how to spend their time. Am I, then, if you set sail, to sit down and cry because I am left alone and forlorn in *that* fashion? Shan't I have sherds, shan't I have dust? But they

<sup>2</sup> Compare the Introduction, p. xxv f.

<sup>3</sup> A doctrine ascribed to Thales, Diog. Laert. 1, 27.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

*ἀλλ' ἐκεῖνα ὑπ' ἀφροσύνης ταῦτα ποιεῖ, ἡμεῖς δ' ὑπὸ φρονήσεως δυστυχοῦμεν ;*

- 20 Πᾶσα μεγάλη δύναμις ἐπισφαλῆς τῷ ἀρχο-  
μένῳ. φέρειν οὖν δεῖ τὰ τοιαῦτα κατὰ δύναμιν,  
ἀλλὰ κατὰ φύσιν . . .<sup>1</sup> ἀλλ' οὐχὶ τῷ φθισικῷ.
- 21 μελέτησόν ποτε διαγωγὴν ὡς ἄρρωστος, ἵνα ποθ'  
ὡς ὑγιαίνων διαγάγῃς. ἀσίτησον, ὑδροπότησον·  
ἀπόσχου ποτὲ παντάπασιν ὀρέξεως, ἵνα ποτὲ καὶ  
εὐλόγως ὀρεχθῇς. εἰ δ' εὐλόγως, ὅταν ἔχῃς τι
- 22 ἐν σεαυτῷ ἀγαθόν, εὖ ὀρεχθήσῃ. οὐ· ἀλλ'  
εὐθέως ὡς σοφοὶ διάγειν ἐθέλομεν καὶ ὠφελεῖν  
ἀνθρώπους. ποῖαν ὠφέλειαν ; τί ποιεῖς ; σαυτὸν  
γὰρ ὠφέλησας ; ἀλλὰ προτρέψαι αὐτοὺς θέλεις.  
σὺ γὰρ προτέτρεψαι ; θέλεις αὐτοὺς ὠφελῆσαι ;
- 23 δεῖξον αὐτοῖς ἐπὶ σεαυτοῦ, οἷους ποιεῖ φιλοσοφία,  
καὶ μὴ φλυαρεῖ. ἐσθίων τοὺς συνεσθίοντας  
ὠφέλει, πίνων τοὺς πίνοντας, εἴκων πᾶσι, παρα-  
χωρῶν, ἀνεχόμενος, οὕτως αὐτοὺς ὠφέλει καὶ μὴ  
κατεξέρα αὐτῶν τὸ σαυτοῦ φλέγμα.

<sup>1</sup> Reiske indicated the lacuna.

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<sup>1</sup> The change in subject-matter is so abrupt that something may perhaps have fallen out in some ancestor of *S*, or perhaps the next chapter-heading has become displaced by a few lines. Yet there are similarly abrupt transitions in III. 8, 7 and III. 15, 14.

<sup>2</sup> Something like "Give food (or wine) to the healthy man" (Reiske), or "Wrestling is very good for the healthy man" (Schenkl), has probably fallen out at this point.

act thus out of folly, and are we miserable out of wisdom?

<sup>1</sup> Great power is always dangerous for the beginner. We ought, therefore, to bear such things according to our power—nay, in accordance with nature . . . <sup>2</sup> but not for the consumptive. Practise at some one time a style of living like an invalid, that at some other time you may live like a healthy man. Take no food, drink only water; refrain at some one time altogether from desire, that at some other time you may exercise desire, and then with good reason. And if you do so with good reason, whenever you have some good in you, you will exercise your desire aright.<sup>3</sup> No, that's not our way, but we wish to live like wise men from the very start, and to help mankind. Help indeed! What are you about? Why, have you helped yourself? But you wish to help them progress. Why, have you made progress yourself? Do you wish to help them? Then show them, by your own example, the kind of men philosophy produces, and stop talking nonsense. As you eat, help those who are eating with you; as you drink, those who are drinking with you; by yielding to everybody, giving place, submitting—help men in this way, and don't bespatter them with your own sputum.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> "It is one of the paradoxes of conduct that a man cannot will to do good until in a sense he has become good, but Epictetus would doubtless admit that the will must from the first have exercise." Matheson, I. 32.

<sup>4</sup> Referring, no doubt, to the sputtering of excessively ardent lecturers.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

ιδ'. Σποράδην τινά.

- 1 'Ὡς οἱ καλοὶ<sup>1</sup> τραγωδοὶ μόνοι ᾄσαι οὐ δύνανται,  
ἀλλὰ μετὰ πολλῶν, οὕτως ἔνιοι μόνοι περιπα-  
2 τῆσαι οὐ δύνανται. ἄνθρωπε, εἴ τις εἶ, καὶ  
μόνος περιπάτησον καὶ σαυτῷ λάλησον καὶ μὴ  
3 ἐν τῷ χορῷ κρύπτου. σκώφθητί ποτε, περί-  
βλεψαι, ἐνσείσθητι, ἵνα γνῶς, τίς εἶ.
- 4 "Ὅταν τις ὕδωρ πίνη ἢ ποιῇ τι ἀσκητικόν, ἐκ  
πάσης ἀφορμῆς λέγει αὐτὸ πρὸς πάντας· "ἐγὼ  
5 ὕδωρ πίνω." διὰ γὰρ τοῦτο ὕδωρ πίνεις, διὰ  
γὰρ τὸ ὕδωρ πίνειν; ἄνθρωπε, εἴ σοι λυσιτελεῖ  
6 πίνειν, πίνε· εἰ δὲ μή, γελοίως ποιεῖς. εἰ δὲ  
συμφέρει σοι καὶ πίνεις, σιώπα πρὸς τοὺς δυσα-  
ρεστούντας τοιούτοις<sup>2</sup> ἀνθρώποις. τί οὖν; αὐτοῖς  
τούτοις ἀρέσκειν θέλεις;
- 7 Ὑῶν πραττομένων τὰ μὲν προηγουμένως πράτ-  
τεται, τὰ δὲ κατὰ περίστασιν, τὰ δὲ κατ' οἰκονο-  
μίαν, τὰ δὲ κατὰ συμπεριφοράν, τὰ δὲ κατ'  
ἔνστασιν.
- 8 Δύο ταῦτα ἐξελεῖν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, οἷησιν καὶ  
ἀπιστίαν. οἷησις μὲν οὖν ἐστὶ τὸ δοκεῖν μηδενὸς  
προσδεῖσθαι, ἀπιστία δὲ τὸ ὑπολαμβάνειν μὴ

<sup>1</sup> This has been read uniformly κακοί ever since the time of Wolf. But it is clear from Aristotle, *Pol.* 3. 13, 21 that superior solo voices were not used in the chorus, and it is a notorious fact that excellent choral effects are secured with voices which are not suitable for solo performance.

<sup>2</sup> Meibom: τοῖς S.

## CHAPTER XIV

*Some scattered sayings*

As the good chorus-singers in tragedy cannot render solos, but can sing perfectly well with a number of other voices, so some men cannot walk around by themselves. Man, if you are anybody, both walk around by yourself, and talk to yourself, and don't hide yourself in the chorus. Let yourself be laughed at sometimes, look about you, shake yourself up, so as to find out who you actually are.

Whenever a man drinks water only, or has some ascetic practice, he takes every opportunity to talk about it to everybody: "I drink water only." Why, do you drink water just for the sake of drinking water? Man, if it is good for you to drink water, drink it! Otherwise your conduct is absurd. But if it does you good and you drink water only, don't say a word about it to the people who are annoyed by such persons. Why, what's your object? Are these just the ones you wish to please?<sup>1</sup>

Among actions some are performed primarily on their own account, others on occasion, or as a matter of good management, or as required by tact, or as part of a formal plan.

Here are two things of which one must rid men, conceit and diffidence. Now conceit is to fancy that one needs nothing further. And diffidence is to assume that one cannot enjoy a life of serenity

<sup>1</sup> That is: If you drink water only, do it to please yourself, and not for the sake of impressing others; above all, not for the sake of trying to impress those who dislike teetotalers.



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- δυνατὸν εἶναι εὐροεῖν<sup>1</sup> τοσούτων περιστηκότων.  
 9 τὴν μὲν οὖν οἷησιν ἔλεγχος ἐξαιρεῖ, καὶ τοῦτο  
 πρῶτον ποιεῖ Σωκράτης . . .<sup>2</sup> ὅτι δ' οὐκ ἀδύνα-  
 τόν ἐστι τὸ πρᾶγμα, σκέψαι καὶ ζήτησον—οὐδέν  
 10 σε βλάβει ἢ ζήτησις αὕτη· καὶ σχεδὸν τὸ φιλο-  
 σοφεῖν τοῦτ' ἔστι, ζητεῖν, πῶς ἐνδέχεται ἀπαρα-  
 ποδίστως ὀρέξει χρῆσθαι καὶ ἐκκλίσει.  
 11 “Κρείσσων εἰμὶ σοῦ· ὁ γὰρ πατήρ μου ὑπατικός  
 12 ἐστίν.” ἄλλος λέγει “ἐγὼ δεδημάρχηκα, σὺ δ'  
 οὐ.” εἰ δ' ἵπποι ἡμεν, ἔλεγες ἂν ὅτι “ὁ πατήρ  
 μου ὠκύτερος ἦν,” ἢ<sup>3</sup> ὅτι “ἐγὼ ἔχω πολλὰς  
 κριθὰς καὶ χόρτον,” ἢ ὅτι “κομψὰ περιτρα-  
 χήλια.” τί οὖν εἰ<sup>4</sup> ταῦτά σου λέγοντος εἶπον ὅτι  
 13 “ἔστω ταῦτα, τρέχωμεν οὖν”; ἄγε, ἐπ' ἀνθρώ-  
 που οὖν οὐδέν ἐστι τοιοῦτον οἶον ἐφ' ἵππου  
 δρόμος, ἐξ οὗ γνωσθήσεται ὁ χείρων καὶ ὁ  
 κρείττων; μήποτ' ἐστὶν αἰδώς, πίστις, δικαιο-  
 14 σύνη; τούτοις δείκνυε κρείττονα σεαυτόν, ἵν' ὥς  
 ἄνθρωπος ἦς<sup>5</sup> κρείττων. ἂν μοι λέγῃς ὅτι  
 “μεγάλα λακτίζω,” ἐρῶ σοι καὶ γὰρ ὅτι “ἐπὶ ὄνου  
 ἔργῳ μέγα φρονεῖς.”

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl (after Wolf): εὐροεῖν<sup>ε</sup> σ S (mostly by Sc in an erasure).

<sup>2</sup> Reiske observed the lacuna.

<sup>3</sup> ἢ supplied by Hense.

<sup>4</sup> τί οὖν εἰ Oldfather: εἰ οὖν S. εἴτ' οὖν or τί οὖν Reiske.

under so many adverse circumstances. Now conceit is removed by cross-examination, and this is what Socrates starts with. . . .<sup>1</sup> But that the matter is not impossible, consider and search—this kind of search will do you no harm; and, indeed, to philosophize practically amounts to this, that is, to search how it is possible to employ desire and aversion without hindrance.

“I am superior to you, for my father has consular rank.”<sup>2</sup> Another says, “I have been a tribune, and you have not.” And if we were horses, you would be saying: “My sire was swifter than yours,” or, “I have quantities of barley and fodder,” or, “I have pretty neck-trappings.” What then, if, when you were talking like this, I said, “Granted all that, let’s run a race, then”? Come now, is there, then, nothing in man like running in the case of a horse, whereby the worse and the better will be recognized? Isn’t there such a thing as reverence, faith, justice? Prove yourself superior in these points, in order to be superior as a human being. If you tell me, “I can deliver a mighty kick,”<sup>3</sup> I shall say to you in my turn, “You are proud over what is the act of an ass.”

<sup>1</sup> There is no clear connection here with the preceding, and the topic of the removal of diffidence could scarcely have been passed over.

<sup>2</sup> The subject-matter of this is closely paralleled in frag. 18, *Encheiridion* 44, and in the florilegia. It was clearly a commonplace.

<sup>3</sup> Much practised by the pancratiasts, who struck both with the heel and with the knee.

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<sup>5</sup> In Schweighäuser without comment, after Schegk: § 8.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

ιέ. "Οτι δεῖ περιεσκεμμένως ἔρχεσθαι ἐφ'  
ἕκαστα.

- 1 Ἐκάστου ἔργου σκόπει τὰ καθηγούμενα καὶ τὰ  
ἀκόλουθα καὶ οὕτως ἔρχου ἐπ' αὐτό. εἰ δὲ μή,  
τὴν μὲν πρώτην ἤξεις προθύμως ἅτε μηδὲν τῶν  
ἐξῆς ἐντεθυμημένος, ὕστερον δ' ἀναφανέντων  
2 τινῶν αἰσchrῶς ἀποστήσῃ. "θέλω Ὀλύμπια  
νικῆσαι." ἀλλὰ σκόπει τὰ καθηγούμενα αὐτοῦ καὶ  
τὰ ἀκόλουθα· καὶ οὕτως ἂν σοι λυσιτελῇ, ἅπτου  
3 τοῦ ἔργου. δεῖ σε εὐτακτεῖν, ἀναγκοφαγεῖν, ἀπέχε-  
σθαι πεμμάτων, γυμνάζεσθαι πρὸς ἀνάγκην, ὥρα  
τεταγμένη, ἐν καύματι, ἐν ψύχει· μὴ ψυχρὸν πίνειν,  
μὴ οἶνον ὅτ' ἔτυχεν· ἀπλῶς ὡς ἱατρῷ<sup>1</sup> παραδε-  
4 δωκέναι σεαυτὸν τῷ ἐπιστάτῃ· εἶτα ἐν τῷ ἀγῶνι  
παρορύσσεσθαι, ἔστιν ὅτε χεῖρα ἐκβαλεῖν, σφυ-  
ρὸν<sup>2</sup> στρέψαι, πολλὴν ἀφὴν καταπιεῖν, μαστι-  
γωθῆναι· καὶ μετὰ τούτων πάντων ἔσθ' ὅτε  
5 νικηθῆναι. ταῦτα λογισάμενος, ἂν ἔτι θέλῃς,  
ἔρχου ἐπὶ τὸ ἀθλεῖν· εἰ δὲ μή, ὅρα ὅτι ὡς τὰ  
παιδιά ἀναστραφήσῃ, ἃ νῦν μὲν ἀθλητὰς παίζει,  
νῦν δὲ μονομάχους, νῦν δὲ σαλπίζει, εἶτα τρα-  
6 γῶδεῖ ὅ τι ἂν<sup>3</sup> ἴδῃ καὶ θαυμάσῃ. οὕτως καὶ σὺ

<sup>1</sup> The text of the *Encheiridion*: ἀπλῶς ἱατρῷ γάρ S (originally).

<sup>2</sup> The text of the *Encheiridion*: ὀφρύν S (originally), changed to ὀσφύν.

<sup>3</sup> Reiske: ὅταν S.

<sup>1</sup> Repeated with slight variations in *Encheiridion*, 29.

<sup>2</sup> See note on *Ench.* 29, 2.

<sup>3</sup> A technical term (Diog. Laert. 6, 27) of somewhat uncertain meaning, but probably referring to a preliminary wallowing in dust or mud before the wrestling match at the *pancratium*.

CHAPTER XV<sup>1</sup>

*That we ought to approach each separate thing with circumspection*

IN each separate thing that you do consider the matters which come first, and those which follow after, and only then approach the thing itself. Otherwise, at the start you will come to it enthusiastically because you have never reflected upon any of the subsequent steps, but later on, when some of them appear, you will give up disgracefully. "I wish to win an Olympic victory." But consider the matters which come before that and those which follow after; and only when you have done that, then, if it profits you, put your hand to the task. You have to submit to discipline, follow a strict diet, give up sweet-cakes, train under compulsion, at a fixed hour, in heat or in cold; you must not drink cold water,<sup>2</sup> nor wine just whenever you feel like it; you must have turned yourself over to your trainer precisely as you would to a physician. Then when the contest comes on, you have to "dig in" beside<sup>3</sup> your opponent, sometimes dislocate your wrist, sprain your ankle, swallow quantities of sand, take a scourging;<sup>4</sup> yes, and then sometimes get beaten along with all that. After you have counted up these points, go on into the games, if you still wish to; otherwise, I would have you observe that you will be turning back like children. Sometimes they play athletes, again gladiators, again they blow trumpets, and then act a play about anything that they have seen and admired. So you too are now

<sup>4</sup> That is, for any foul committed.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- νῦν μὲν ἀθλητῆς, νῦν δὲ μονομάχος, εἶτα φιλόσο-  
 φος, εἶτα ῥήτωρ, ὅλη δὲ τῇ ψυχῇ οὐδέν, ἀλλ' ὡς ὁ  
 πίθηκος πᾶν ὃ ἂν ἴδῃς μιμῇ καὶ ἀεὶ σοι ἄλλο ἐξ  
 7 ἄλλου ἀρέσκει, τὸ σύνηθες δ' ἀπαρέσκει. οὐ γὰρ  
 μετὰ σκέψεως ἦλθες ἐπὶ τι οὐδὲ περιοδεύσας  
 ὅλον τὸ πρᾶγμα οὐδὲ βασανίσας, ἀλλ' εἰκὴ καὶ  
 κατὰ ψυχρὰν ἐπιθυμίαν.  
 8 Οὕτως τινὲς ἰδόντες φιλόσοφον καὶ ἀκούσαντές  
 τιος οὕτως λέγοντος, ὡς Εὐφράτης λέγει (καίτοι  
 τίς οὕτως δύναται εἰπεῖν ὡς ἐκεῖνος;), θέλουνσιν  
 9 καὶ αὐτοὶ φιλοσοφεῖν. ἄνθρωπε, σκέψαι πρῶτον  
 τί ἐστὶ τὸ πρᾶγμα, εἶτα καὶ τὴν σαυτοῦ φύσιν, τί  
 δύνασαι βαστάσαι. εἰ παλαιστής, ἰδού σου  
 10 τοὺς ὥμους, τοὺς μηρούς, τὴν ὀσφύν. ἄλλος γὰρ  
 πρὸς ἄλλο τι πέφυκεν. δοκεῖς ὅτι ταῦτα  
 ποιῶν δύνασαι φιλοσοφεῖν; δοκεῖς ὅτι δύνασαι  
 ὡσαύτως ἐσθίειν, ὡσαύτως πίνειν, ὁμοίως ὀργίζε-  
 11 σθαι, ὁμοίως δυσαρεστεῖν; ἀγρυπνήσαι δεῖ,  
 πονῆσαι, νικῆσαί τινας ἐπιθυμίας, ἀπελθεῖν ἀπὸ  
 τῶν οἰκείων, ὑπὸ παιδαρίου καταφρονηθῆναι, ὑπὸ  
 τῶν ἀπαντῶντων καταγελασθῆναι, ἐν παντὶ  
 12 ἔλασσον ἔχειν, ἐν ἀρχῇ, ἐν τιμῇ, ἐν δίκῃ. ταῦτα  
 περισκεψάμενος, εἴ σοι δοκεῖ, προσέρχου, εἰ θέλεις  
 ἀντικαταλλάξασθαι τούτων ἀπάθειαν, ἐλευθερίαν,  
 ἀταραξίαν. εἰ δὲ μή, μὴ πρόσαγε, μὴ ὡς τὰ

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1 Although the expression (lit. "with cold desire") seems a bit strange, because the fault seems to lie especially in the lack of forethought and circumspection, still it is supported by the version in the *Encheiridion*, and particularly by the phrase, "yet with your whole soul nothing," in § 6 above. Mere desire, without reason and deliberation, is apparently regarded by Epictetus as a weak thing.

an athlete, now a gladiator, then a philosopher, after that a rhetorician, yet with your whole soul nothing, but like an ape you imitate whatever you see, and one thing after another is always striking your fancy, but what you are accustomed to bores you. For you have never gone out after anything with circumspection, nor after you have examined the whole matter all over and tested it, but you act at haphazard and half-heartedly.<sup>1</sup>

In the same way, when some people have seen a philosopher and heard someone speaking like Euphrates<sup>2</sup> (though, indeed, who can speak like him?), they wish to be philosophers themselves. Man, consider first what the business is, and then your own natural ability, what you can bear. If you wish to be a wrestler, look to your shoulders, your thighs, your loins. For one man has a natural talent for one thing, another for another. Do you suppose that you can do the things you do now, and yet be a philosopher? Do you suppose that you can eat in the same fashion, drink in the same fashion, give way to anger and to irritation, just as you do now? You must keep vigils, work hard, overcome certain desires, abandon your own people, be despised by a paltry slave, be laughed to scorn by those who meet you, in everything get the worst of it, in office, in honour, in court. Look these drawbacks over carefully, and then, if you think best, approach philosophy, that is, if you are willing at the price of these things to secure tranquillity, freedom, and calm. Otherwise, do not approach; don't act like

<sup>2</sup> An eminent Stoic lecturer, highly praised by Pliny (*Ep.* I. 10), and a bitter enemy of Apollonius of Tyana. A specimen of his eloquence is given below, IV. 8, 17-20.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

13 παιδία νῦν μὲν φιλόσοφος, ὕστερον δὲ τελώνης,  
 εἶτα ῥήτωρ, εἶτα ἐπίτροπος Καίσαρος. ταῦτα οὐ  
 συμφωνεῖ· ἓνα σε δεῖ ἄνθρωπον εἶναι ἢ ἀγαθὸν ἢ  
 κακόν· ἢ τὸ ἡγεμονικόν σε δεῖ ἐξεργάζεσθαι τὸ  
 σαυτοῦ ἢ τὰ ἐκτός· ἢ περὶ τὰ ἔσω φιλοπονεῖν<sup>1</sup> ἢ  
 περὶ τὰ ἔξω· τοῦτ' ἔστι φιλοσόφου στάσιν ἔχειν  
 ἢ ἰδιώτου.

14 'Ρούφῳ τις ἔλεγεν Γάλβα σφαγέντος ὅτι  
 "Νῦν προνοία ὁ κόσμος διοικεῖται;" ὁ δὲ "Μὴ  
 παρέργως ποτ'," ἔφη, "ἀπὸ Γάλβα κατεσκέυασα,  
 ὅτι προνοία ὁ κόσμος διοικεῖται;"

15'. "Ὅτι εὐλαβῶς δεῖ συγκαθιέναι εἰς  
 συμπεριφοράν.

1 'Ανάγκη τὸν συγκαθιέντα τισὶν ἐπιπλέον ἢ εἰς  
 λαλιὰν ἢ εἰς συμπόσια ἢ ἀπλῶς εἰς συμβίωσιν ἢ  
 αὐτὸν ἐκείνοις ἐξομοιωθῆναι ἢ ἐκείνους μετα-  
 2 θεῖναι ἐπὶ τὰ αὐτοῦ. καὶ γὰρ ἄνθρακα ἀπεςβεσ-  
 μένον ἂν θῇ παρὰ τὸν καιόμενον, ἢ αὐτὸς ἐκείνον  
 3 ἀποσβέσει<sup>2</sup> ἢ ἐκείνος τοῦτον ἐκκαύσει. τηλι-  
 κούτου οὖν τοῦ κινδύνου ὄντος εὐλαβῶς δεῖ τοῖς  
 ἰδιώταις συγκαθίεσθαι εἰς τὰς τοιαύτας συμπερι-  
 φορὰς μεμνημένους, ὅτι ἀμήχανον τὸν συνανατρι-

<sup>1</sup> Meibom: φιλοπόνει S.

<sup>2</sup> ἀποσβεσει supplied by the Salamanca edition, after Schegk.

<sup>1</sup> See note on III. 13, 20.

<sup>2</sup> The Roman emperor; the incident took place in A.D. 69.



a child—now a philosopher, later on a tax-gatherer, then a rhetorician, then a procurator of Caesar. These things do not go together. You must be one person, either good or bad; you must labour to improve either your own governing principle or externals; you must work hard either on the inner man, or on things outside; that is, play the rôle of a philosopher, or else that of a layman.<sup>1</sup>

When Galba<sup>2</sup> was assassinated, someone said to Rufus,<sup>3</sup> "Is the universe governed *now* by Providence?" But he replied, "Did I ever, even in passing, take the case of Galba as the basis for an argument that the universe is governed by Providence?"

## CHAPTER XVI

*That one should enter cautiously into social intercourse*

THE man who consorts frequently with one person or another either for conversation, or for banquets, or for social purposes in general, is compelled either to become like them himself, or else to bring them over to his own style of living; for if you put by the side of a live coal one that has gone out, either the dead coal will put the live one out, or the latter will kindle the former. Since the risk, then, is so great, we ought to enter cautiously into such social intercourse with the laymen, remembering that it is impossible for the man who brushes up against

<sup>3</sup> Musonius Rufus, the distinguished philosopher and teacher of Epictetus, to whom the latter was greatly indebted. See the indices to the two vols. of this translation, and Vol. I, Introduction, p. viii.

- βόμενον τῷ ἡσβολωμένῳ μὴ καὶ αὐτὸν ἀπολαῦσαι  
 4 τῆς ἀσβόλης. τί γὰρ ποιήσεις, ἂν περὶ μονο-  
 μάχων λαλήῃ,<sup>1</sup> ἂν περὶ ἵππων, ἂν περὶ ἀθλητῶν,  
 ἂν τὸ ἔτι τούτων χεῖρον περὶ ἀνθρώπων. “ὁ δεῖνα  
 κακός, ὁ δεῖνα ἀγαθός· τοῦτο καλῶς ἐγένετο,  
 τοῦτο κακῶς”. ἔτι ἂν σκώπτῃ, ἂν γελοιάξῃ, ἂν  
 5 κακοηθίζηται; ἔχει τις ὑμῶν παρασκευὴν οἷαν ὁ  
 κιθαριστικὸς τὴν λύραν λαβών, ὥστ’ εὐθὺς  
 ἀψάμενος τῶν χορδῶν γινῶναι τὰς ἀσυμφώνους  
 καὶ ἀρμόσασθαι τὸ ὄργανον; οἷαν εἶχεν δύναμιν  
 Σωκράτης, ὥστ’ ἐν πάσῃ συμπεριφορᾷ<sup>2</sup> ἄγειν ἐπὶ  
 6 τὸ αὐτοῦ τοὺς συνόντας; πόθεν ὑμῖν; ἀλλ’  
 ἀνάγκη ὑπὸ τῶν ἰδιωτῶν ὑμᾶς περιιάγεσθαι.  
 7 Διὰ τί οὖν ἐκεῖνοι ὑμῶν ἰσχυρότεροι; ὅτι  
 ἐκεῖνοι μὲν τὰ σαπρὰ ταῦτα ἀπὸ δογμάτων  
 λαλοῦσιν, ὑμεῖς δὲ τὰ κομψὰ ἀπὸ τῶν χειλῶν.  
 διὰ τοῦτο ἄτονά ἐστι καὶ νεκρά, καὶ σικχᾶναι  
 ἔστιν ἀκούοντα ὑμῶν τοὺς προτρεπτικούς καὶ τὴν  
 ἀρετὴν τὴν ταλαίπωρον, ἣ ἄνω κίτῳ θρυλεῖται.  
 8 οὕτως ὑμᾶς οἱ ἰδιῶται νικῶσιν. πανταχοῦ γὰρ  
 9 ἰσχυρὸν τὸ δόγμα, ἀνίκητον τὸ δόγμα. μέχρις  
 ἂν οὖν παγῶσιν ἐν ὑμῖν αἱ κομψαὶ ὑπολήψεις  
 καὶ δύναμιν τινα περιποιήσησθε πρὸς ἀσφάλειαν,  
 συμβουλεύω ὑμῖν εὐλαβῶς τοῖς ἰδιώταις συγ-  
 καταβαίνειν. εἰ δὲ μή, καθ’ ἡμέραν ὥς κηρὸς ἐν  
 ἡλίῳ διατακῆσεται, ὑμῶν εἴ τινα ἐν τῇ σχολῇ  
 10 ἐγγράφετε. μακρὰν οὖν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἡλίου πού ποτε  
 ὑπάγετε, μέχρις ἂν κηρίνας τὰς ὑπολήψεις ἔχητε.  
 11 διὰ τοῦτο καὶ τῶν πατρίδων συμβουλεύουσιν

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: λαλήεις S.<sup>2</sup> Wolf, after Schegk: συμφορᾷ S.

the person who is covered with soot to keep from getting some soot on himself. For what are you going to do if he talks about gladiators, or horses, or athletes, or, worse still, about people: "So-and-so is bad, So-and-so is good; this was well done, this ill"; or again, if he scoffs, or jeers, or shows an ugly disposition? Has any of you the capacity of the expert lyre-player when he takes up his lyre, which enables him, the instant he touches the strings, to recognize the ones which are off pitch, and to tune the instrument? Or the power that Socrates had, which enabled him in every kind of social intercourse to bring over to his own side those who were in his company? How could you have? But you must necessarily be converted by the laymen.

Why, then, are they stronger than you are? Because their rotten talk is based on judgements, but your fine talk comes merely from your lips; that's why what you say is languid and dead, and why a man may well feel nausea when he hears your exhortations and your miserable "virtue," which you babble to and fro. And thus the laymen get the better of you; for everywhere judgement is strong, judgement is invincible. Therefore, until these fine ideas of yours are firmly fixed within you, and you have acquired some power which will guarantee you security, my advice to you is to be cautious about joining issue with the laymen; otherwise whatever you write down in the lecture-room will melt away by day like wax in the sun.<sup>1</sup> Retire, then, to some spot or other far away from the sun, so long as the ideas which you have are waxen. It is for this reason that the philosophers advise us to leave even

<sup>1</sup> Such lecture-notes were written on wax tablets.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἀποχωρεῖν οἱ φιλόσοφοι, ὅτι τὰ παλαιὰ ἔθῃ  
 περισπᾶ καὶ οὐκ ἔῃ ἀρχὴν γενέσθαι τινὰ ἄλλου  
 ἐθισμού, οὐδὲ φέρομεν τοὺς ἀπαντῶντας καὶ λέγο-  
 ντας “ ἴδ’ ὁ δεῖνα φιλοσοφεῖ, ὁ τοῖος καὶ ὁ τοῖος.”
- 12 οὕτως καὶ οἱ ἰατροὶ τοὺς μακρονοσοῦντας ἐκπέμ-  
 πουσιν εἰς ἄλλην χώραν καὶ ἄλλα ἀέρα καλῶς
- 13 ποιοῦντες. καὶ ὑμεῖς ἀντεισαγάγετε ἄλλα ἔθῃ.  
 πῆξατε ὑμῶν τὰς ὑπολήψεις, ἐναθλεῖτε αὐταῖς.
- 14 οὐ· ἀλλ’ ἐνθεν ἐπὶ θεωρίαν, εἰς μονομαχίαν, εἰς  
 ξυστόν, εἰς κίρκον· εἴτ’ ἐκεῖθεν ὧδε καὶ πάλιν
- 15 ἐνθεν ἐκεῖ οἱ αὐτοί. καὶ ἔθος κομψὸν οὐδέν, οὔτε  
 προσοχὴ οὔτ’ ἐπιστροφὴ ἐφ’ αὐτὸν καὶ παρα-  
 τήρησις “ πῶς χρῶμαι ταῖς προσπιπτούσαις  
 φαντασίαις ; κατὰ φύσιν ἢ παρὰ φύσιν ; πῶς  
 ἀποκρίνωμαι πρὸς αὐτάς ; ὥς δεῖ ἢ ὥς οὐ δεῖ ;  
 ἐπιλέγω τοῖς ἀπροαιρέτοις, ὅτι οὐδὲν πρὸς ἐμέ ; ”
- 16 εἰ γὰρ μήπω οὕτως ἔχητε, φεύγετε ἔθῃ τὰ πρότε-  
 ρον, φεύγετε τοὺς ἰδιώτας, εἰ θέλετε ἄρξασθαι  
 ποτέ τινες εἶναι.

### ιζ'. Περὶ προνοίας.

- 1 “Οταν τῇ προνοίᾳ ἐγκαλῆς, ἐπιστράφηθι καὶ  
 2 γνώσῃ, ὅτι κατὰ λόγον γέγονεν. “ ναί, ἀλλ’ ὁ

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<sup>1</sup> Where the athletes exercised in winter, or in bad weather.

our own countries, because old habits distract us and do not allow a beginning to be made of another custom, and we cannot bear to have men meet us and say, "Look, So-and-so is philosophizing, although he is this sort of a person or that." Thus also physicians send away to a different region and a different climate those who are suffering from chronic disorders, and that is well. Do you also introduce different habits; fix your ideas, exercise yourselves in them. But no, you go from the class-room to a show, a gladiatorial combat, a gymnasium-colonnade,<sup>1</sup> a circus; and then you come back here from these places, and you go back there again from here, and remain the same persons all the time.<sup>2</sup> And so you acquire no fine habit; you pay no regard or attention to your own self; you do not observe: "How do I deal with the external impressions which befall me? In accordance with nature, or contrary to it? How shall I respond to these impressions? As I should, or as I should not? Do I declare to the things which lie outside the sphere of my moral purpose that they mean nothing to me?" Why, if you have not yet acquired this state of mind, flee from your former habits, flee from the laymen, if you would begin to be somebody some time.

## CHAPTER XVII

### *Of Providence*

WHENEVER you find fault with Providence, only consider and you will recognize that what happens is in accordance with reason. "Yes," you say,

<sup>2</sup> Cf. " . . . But evermore came out by the same door where in I went."—Omar Khayyám (Fitzgerald), 27.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

ἄδικος πλέον ἔχει." ἐν τίνι; ἐν ἀργυρίῳ· πρὸς  
 γὰρ τοῦτό σου κρείττων ἐστίν, ὅτι<sup>1</sup> κολακεύει,  
 3 ἀναισχυντεῖ, ἀγρυπνεῖ. τί θαυμαστόν; ἀλλ'  
 ἐκείνο βλέπε, εἰ ἐν τῷ πιστὸς εἶναι πλέον σου  
 ἔχει, εἰ ἐν τῷ αἰδήμων. οὐ γὰρ εὐρήσεις· ἀλλ'  
 ὅπου κρείττων, ἐκεῖ σαυτὸν εὐρήσεις πλέον  
 4 ἔχοντα. καὶ γὰρ ποτ' εἰπὸν τινι ἀγανακτοῦντι,  
 ὅτι Φιλόστοργος εὐτυχεῖ, "Ἡθελες ἂν σὺ μετὰ  
 Σούρα κοιμᾶσθαι;—" "Μὴ γένοιτο," φησὶν, "ἐ-  
 5 κείνη ἡ ἡμέρα."—Τί οὖν ἀγανακτεῖς, εἰ λαμβάνει  
 τι ἀνθ' οὗ πωλεῖ; ἢ πῶς μακαρίζεις τὸν διὰ  
 τούτων, ἃ σὺ ἀπεύχῃ, κτώμενον ἐκεῖνα; ἢ τί  
 κακὸν ποιεῖ ἡ πρόνοια, εἰ τοῖς κρείττοσι τὰ  
 κρείττω δίδωσιν; ἢ οὐκ ἔστι κρείττον αἰδήμονα  
 6 εἶναι ἢ πλούσιον; Ὁμολόγει. Τί οὖν ἀγα-  
 νακτεῖς, ἄνθρωπε, ἔχων τὸ κρείττον; μέμνησθε  
 οὖν ἀεὶ καὶ πρόχειρον ἔχετε, ὅτι νόμος οὗτος  
 φυσικὸς τὸν κρείττονα τοῦ χείρονος πλέον ἔχειν,  
 ἐν ᾧ κρείττων ἐστίν, καὶ οὐδέ ποτ' ἀγανακτήσετε.  
 7 "ἀλλ' ἡ γυνὴ μοι κακῶς χρήται." καλῶς. ἂν  
 τίς σου πυνθάνηται, τί ἐστὶ τοῦτο, λέγε "ἡ  
 γυνὴ μοι κακῶς χρήται." "ἄλλο οὖν οὐδέν;"  
 8 οὐδέν. "ὁ πατήρ μοι οὐδὲν δίδωσιν." . . .<sup>2</sup> ὅτι  
 δὲ κακόν ἐστιν, τοῦτο ἔσωθεν αὐτῷ δεῖ προσ-

<sup>1</sup> Wolf and Upton's "codex": § S.

<sup>2</sup> Lacuna observed by Wolf.

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<sup>1</sup> Probably the Palfurius Sura who had been expelled from the Senate under the Flavian emperors. Suet. Dom. 13, 2.

“but the wicked man is better off.” In what respect? In money; for in respect to that he is superior to you, because he flatters, is shameless, lies awake nights. What is surprising in that? But look rather and see if he is better off than you are in being faithful, and considerate. For you will not find that to be the case; but where you are superior, there you will find that you are better off than he is. And so I once asked a man who was complaining about the prosperity of Philostorgus, “Would you have been willing to cohabit with Sura?”<sup>1</sup> “May that day never come!” said he. Why, then, are you indignant if he gets something for what he sells? Or how can you deem him blessed who acquires what he has by means which you abhor? Or what harm does Providence do if it gives the better thing to the better men? Or is it not better to be considerate than to be rich? He agreed that it was. Why, then, are you indignant, man, when you have the better part? I would have the rest of you always remember, then, and be ready to apply the following truth: That this is a law of nature for the superior to have the better of the inferior, in the respect in which he is superior; and then you will never be indignant. “But my wife treats me badly.” Very well; if someone asks you what this amounts to, say, “My wife treats me badly.” “Nothing else, then?” Nothing. “My father doesn’t give me anything” . . .<sup>2</sup> But is it necessary in your own mind to add to the preceding statement, that to receive nothing from your father

<sup>2</sup> The lacuna is probably to be filled out thus: What does this amount to? Merely that your father doesn’t give you anything.



9 θείναι καὶ προσκαταψεύσασθαι ; διὰ τοῦτο οὐ  
δεῖ τὴν πενίαν ἐκβύλλειν, ἀλλὰ τὸ δόγμα τὸ  
περὶ αὐτῆς, καὶ οὕτως εὐροήσομεν.

ιη'. "Οτι οὐ δεῖ πρὸς τὰς ἀγγελίας  
ταράσσεσθαι.

1 "Οταν σοί τι προσαγγελθῇ ταρακτικόν, ἐκείνο  
ἔχε πρόχειρον, ὅτι ἀγγελία περὶ οὐδενὸς προαι-  
2 ρετικοῦ γίνεται. μή τι γὰρ δύναταί σοί τις  
ἀγγεῖλαι, ὅτι κακῶς ὑπέλαβες ἢ κακῶς ὠρέχθης ;  
—Οὐδαμῶς.—'Αλλ' ὅτι ἀπέθανέν τις· τί οὖν  
πρὸς σέ ; ὅτι σε κακῶς τις λέγει· τί οὖν πρὸς  
3 σέ ; ὅτι ὁ πατήρ τάδε τινὰ ἐτοιμάζεται· ἐπὶ  
τίνα ; μή τι ἐπὶ τὴν προαίρεσιν ; πόθεν δύναται ;  
ἀλλ' ἐπὶ τὸ σωματίον, ἐπὶ τὸ κτησείδιον·  
4 ἐσώθης, οὐκ ἐπὶ σέ.<sup>1</sup> ἀλλ' ὁ κριτῆς ἀποφαίνεται  
ὅτι ἡσέβησας. περὶ Σωκράτους δ' οὐκ ἀπε-  
φήναντο οἱ δικασταί ; μή τι σὸν ἔργον ἐστὶ τὸ  
ἐκείνον ἀποφήνασθαι ; —Οὔ.—Τί οὖν ἔτι σοι  
5 μέλει ; ἔστι τι τοῦ πατρός σου ἔργον, ὃ ἂν μὴ  
ἐκπληρώσῃ, ἀπώλεσεν τὸν πατέρα, τὸν φιλό-  
στοργον, τὸν ἡμέρον. ἄλλο δὲ μηδὲν ζητεῖ  
τούτου ἔνεκα αὐτὸν ἀπολέσαι.<sup>2</sup> οὐδέποτε γὰρ  
ἐν ἄλλῳ μὲν τις ἁμαρτάνει, εἰς ἄλλο δὲ βλύπ-

<sup>1</sup> οὐκοῦν after σέ is omitted in s.

<sup>2</sup> Wolf: ἀπολέσθαι S.

is an evil, and at that to add a lie too? For this reason we ought not to cast out poverty, but only our judgement about poverty, and so we shall be serene.

## CHAPTER XVIII

*That we ought not to allow any news to disturb us*

WHENEVER some disturbing news is reported to you, you ought to have ready at hand the following principle: News, on any subject, never falls within the sphere of the moral purpose. Can anyone bring you word that you have been wrong in an assumption or in a desire?—By no means.—But he can bring you word that someone is dead. Very well, what is that to you? That someone is speaking ill of you. Very well, what is that to you? That your father is making certain preparations. Against whom? Surely not against your moral purpose, is it? Why, how can he? But against your paltry body, against your paltry possessions; you are safe, it is not against you. But the judge condemns you on the charge of impiety. And did not the judges similarly condemn Socrates? Surely it is no concern of yours that the judge pronounced you guilty, is it?—No.—Why, then, are you any further concerned? Your father has a certain function, and if he does not perform it, he has destroyed the father in him, the man who loves his offspring, the man of gentleness within him. Do not seek to make him lose anything else on this account. For it never happens that a man goes wrong in one thing, but is injured in

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- 6 τεται. πάλιν σὸν ἔργον τὸ ἀπολογηθῆναι  
 εὐσταθῶς, αἰδημόνως, ἀοργήτως. εἰ δὲ μή,  
 ἀπώλεσας καὶ σὺ τὸν υἱόν, τὸν αἰδήμονα, τὸν  
 7 γενναῖον. τί οὖν; ὁ κριτῆς ἀκίνδυνός ἐστιν;  
 οὐ· ἀλλὰ κῆκείνῳ τὰ ἴσα κινδυνεύεται. τί οὖν  
 ἔτι φοβῇ, τί ἐκεῖνος κρινεῖ;<sup>1</sup> τί σοὶ καὶ τῷ  
 8 ἀλλοτρίῳ κακῷ; σὸν κακὸν ἐστὶ τὸ κακῶς  
 ἀπολογηθῆναι· τοῦτο φυλάσσου μόνον· κριθῆναι  
 δ' ἢ μὴ κριθῆναι ὥσπερ ἄλλου ἐστὶν ἔργον,  
 9 οὕτως κακὸν ἄλλου ἐστίν. “ἀπειλεῖ σοι ὁ  
 δεῖνα.” ἐμοί; οὐ. “ψέγει σε.” αὐτὸς ὀψεται,  
 πῶς ποιεῖ τὸ ἴδιον ἔργον. “μέλλει σε κατα-  
 κρινεῖν ἀδίκως.” ἄθλιος.

ιβ'. Τίς στάσις ἰδιώτου καὶ φιλοσόφου;

- 1 Ἡ πρώτη διαφορὰ ἰδιώτου καὶ φιλοσόφου.  
 ὁ μὲν λέγει “οὐαὶ μοι διὰ τὸ παιδάριον, διὰ τὸν  
 ἀδελφόν, οὐαὶ διὰ τὸν πατέρα,” ὁ δ', ἂν ποτ'  
 εἰπεῖν ἀναγκασθῇ, “οὐαὶ μοι” ἐπιστήσας λέγει  
 2 “δι' ἐμέ.” προαίρεσιν γὰρ οὐδὲν δύναται κωλύσαι  
 3 ἢ βλάψαι ἀπροαίρετον εἰ μὴ αὐτὴ ἐαυτήν. ἂν  
 οὖν ἐπὶ τοῦτο ῥέψωμεν καὶ αὐτοί, ὥσθ' ὅταν

<sup>1</sup> Koraes after Schegk: κρίνηι S.

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<sup>1</sup> On this point see the Introduction, Vol. I, p. xx: “Every man bears the exclusive responsibility himself for his own good or evil, since it is impossible to imagine a moral order in which one person does the wrong and another, the innocent, suffers”; or, as here, where a person might do wrong in the moral sphere, and yet not suffer also in the moral sphere. Compare also the note on I. 28, 10, in Vol. I.

another.<sup>1</sup> Again, it is your function to defend yourself firmly, respectfully, without passion. Otherwise, you have destroyed within you the son, the respectful man, the man of honour. What then? Is the judge secure? No; but he too runs just as great a risk. Why, then, are you afraid of what decision he is going to render? What have you to do with another man's evil? Your own evil is to make a bad defence; only guard against that, but just as being condemned or not being condemned is another's function, so it is another's evil. "So-and-so threatens you." Me? No. "He blames you." He himself will attend to how he is performing his own proper function. "He is on the point of condemning you unjustly." Poor devil!

## CHAPTER XIX

*What is the position of the layman, and what that of the philosopher?*

THE first difference between a layman and a philosopher: The one says, "Woe is me because of my child, my brother, woe because of my father"; and the other, if he can ever be compelled to say, "Woe is me," adds, after a pause, "because of myself." For nothing outside the sphere of the moral purpose can hamper or injure the moral purpose; it alone can hamper or injure itself. If, then, we too tend in this latter direction so that, whenever we go amiss,

This general position, which as an unverifiable postulate underlies the whole Stoic philosophy, and is the very starting-point of their whole system of thinking, is what might be styled the *πρῶτον ψεύδος* of Stoicism.

δυσσοδῶμεν, αὐτοὺς αἰτιᾶσθαι καὶ μεμνησθαι, ὅτι  
 οὐδὲν ἄλλο ταραχῆς ἢ ἀκαταστασίας αἰτιόν  
 ἐστὶν ἢ δόγμα, ὁμνύω ὑμῖν πάντας θεούς, ὅτι  
 4 προεκόψαμεν.<sup>1</sup> νῦν δ' ἄλλην ὁδὸν ἐξ ἀρχῆς  
 ἐληλύθαμεν. εὐθὺς ἔτι παίδων ἡμῶν ὄντων ἢ  
 τιτθῇ, εἴ ποτε προσεπταίσαμεν χάσκοντες,  
 οὐχὶ ἡμῖν ἐπέπλησεν, ἀλλὰ τὸν λίθον ἔτυπεν.  
 τί γὰρ ἐποίησεν ὁ λίθος; διὰ τὴν τοῦ παιδίου  
 5 σου μωρίαν ἔδει μεταβῆναι αὐτόν; πάλιν ἂν μὴ  
 εὖρωμεν φαγεῖν ἐκ βαλανείου, οὐδέποθ' ἡμῶν  
 καταστέλλει τὴν ἐπιθυμίαν ὁ παιδαγωγός, ἀλλὰ  
 δέρει τὸν μάγειρον. ἄνθρωπε, μὴ γὰρ ἐκείνου  
 σε παιδαγωγὸν κατεστήσαμεν; ἀλλὰ τοῦ παιδίου  
 6 ἡμῶν· τοῦτο ἐπανόρθου, τοῦτο ὠφέλει. οὕτως  
 καὶ αὐξηθέντες φαινόμεθα παιδία. παῖς γὰρ ἐν  
 μουσικοῖς ὁ ἄμουσος, ἐν γραμματικοῖς ὁ ἀγράμ-  
 ματος,<sup>2</sup> ἐν βίῳ ὁ ἀπαίδευτος.

κ'. "Ὅτι ἀπὸ πάντων τῶν ἐκτὸς ἔστιν  
 ὠφελεῖσθαι.

1 Ἐπὶ τῶν θεωρητικῶν φαντασιῶν πάντες  
 σχεδὸν τὸ ἀγαθὸν καὶ τὸ κακὸν ἐν ἡμῖν ἀπέ-  
 2 λιπον, οὐχὶ δ' ἐν τοῖς ἐκτός. οὐδεὶς λέγει  
 ἀγαθὸν τὸ ἡμέραν εἶναι, κακὸν τὸ νύκτα εἶναι,  
 μέγιστον δὲ κακῶν τὸ τρία τέσσαρα εἶναι.  
 3 ἀλλὰ τί; τὴν μὲν ἐπιστήμην ἀγαθόν, τὴν δ'  
 ἀπάτην κακόν, ὅστε καὶ περὶ αὐτὸ τὸ ψεῦδος  
 ἀγαθόν<sup>3</sup> συνίστασθαι, τὴν ἐπιστήμην τοῦ ψεῦδος

<sup>1</sup> Wolf: προέκοψεν S.

<sup>2</sup> s: ἀγραμμάτικος S.

we blame ourselves, and bear in mind that nothing but judgement is responsible for the disturbance of our peace of mind and our inconstancy, I swear to you by all the gods that we have been making progress. But as it is, we have taken a different course from the start. Even while we were still children, our nurse, if ever we bumped into something, when we were going along with our mouths open, did not scold us, but used to beat the stone. Why, what did the stone do? Ought it to have moved out of the road because of your childish folly? And again, if we when children don't find something to eat after our bath, our attendant never checks our appetite, but he cudgels the cook. Man, we didn't make you the cook's attendant, did we? but our child's. Correct him, help him. So, even when we have grown up, we look like children. For it is being a child to be unmusical in things musical, to be unlettered in things literary, to be uneducated in life.

## CHAPTER XX

*That it is possible to derive advantage from everything external*

IN the case of our intellectual impressions practically all men have agreed that the good and the evil are in ourselves, and not in externals. Nobody calls the statement that it is day, good, or that it is night, bad, and the greatest of evils, the statement that three is four. But what? They call knowledge good, and error evil; so that even in regard to what is false there arises a good, that is, the knowledge

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<sup>8</sup> Schweighäuser: ἀπατήν S.

- 4 εἶναι αὐτό. ἔδει οὖν οὕτως καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ βίου.  
 ὑγεία ἀγαθόν, νόσος δὲ κακόν; οὐ, ἄνθρωπε.  
 ἀλλὰ τί; τὸ καλῶς ὑγιαίνειν ἀγαθόν, τὸ κακῶς  
 κακόν.—"Ὡστε καὶ ἀπὸ νόσου ἔστιν ὠφελη-  
 θῆναι;—Τὸν θεόν σοι,<sup>1</sup> ἀπὸ θανάτου γὰρ οὐκ  
 5 ἔστιν; ἀπὸ πηρώσεως γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν; μικρά  
 σοι δοκεῖ ὁ Μενοικεὺς ὠφεληθῆναι, ὅτ' ἀπέ-  
 θνησκεν;—Τοιαῦτά τις εἰπὼν ὠφεληθείη<sup>2</sup> οἷα  
 ἐκεῖνος ὠφελήθη.—"Εα, ἄνθρωπε, οὐκ ἐτήρησεν  
 τὸν φιλόπατριν, τὸν μεγαλόφρονα, τὸν πιστόν,  
 τὸν γενναῖον; ἐπιζήσας δὲ οὐκ ἂν<sup>3</sup> ἀπώλλυεν  
 6 ταῦτα πάντα; οὐ περιεποιεῖτο τὰ ἐναντία; τὸν  
 δειλὸν οὐκ ἀνελάμβανεν, τὸν ἀγεννή, τὸν μισό-  
 πατριν, τὸν φιλόψυχον; ἄγε δοκεῖ σοι μικρά  
 7 ὠφεληθῆναι ἀποθανόν; οὐ. ἀλλ' ὁ τοῦ Ἀδμήτου  
 πατήρ μεγάλα ὠφελήθη ζήσας οὕτως ἀγεννῶς  
 8 καὶ ἀθλίως; ὕστερον γὰρ οὐκ ἀπέθανεν; παύ-  
 σασθε, τοὺς θεοὺς ὑμῖν,<sup>4</sup> τὰς ὕλας θαυμάζοντες,  
 παύσασθ' ἑαυτοὺς δούλους ποιοῦντες πρῶτον τῶν  
 πραγμάτων, εἴτα δι' αὐτὰ καὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων  
 τῶν ταῦτα περιποιεῖν ἢ ἀφαιρεῖσθαι δυνα-  
 μένων.
- 9 Ἔστιν οὖν ἀπὸ τούτων ὠφεληθῆναι;—'Απὸ  
 πάντων.—Καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ λοιδοροῦντος;—Τί δ'  
 ὠφελεῖ τὸν ἀθλητὴν ὁ προσγυμναζόμενος; τὰ

<sup>1</sup> Bentley: σου S.

<sup>2</sup> ἢ after this word is deleted by s.

<sup>3</sup> ἂν added by Upton, after Schegk.

<sup>4</sup> Bentley and Shaftesbury, about the same time:  
 ὑμῶν S.



that the false *is* false. So it ought to be, then, also with our life. Is health a good, and illness an evil? No, man. What then? To be well for a good end is good, to be well for an evil end is evil.—So that it is possible to derive advantage even from illness, you mean?—Why, I call God to witness, isn't it possible to derive advantage from death? Why, isn't it possible from lameness?<sup>1</sup> Do you think that Menoeceus<sup>2</sup> derived but little good when he died?—May the one who says anything like that derive the same sort of good that he did!—Ho, there, man, did he not maintain the patriot that he was, the high-minded man, the man of fidelity, the man of honour? And had he lived on, would he not have lost all these? Would he not have won the very opposite? Would he not have acquired the character of the coward, the ignoble man, the disloyal, the lover of his own life? Come now, do you think that Menoeceus derived but little good by his death? Oh, no! But the father of Admetus derived great good from living so ignobly and wretchedly, did he? Why, didn't he die later? Make an end, I adjure you by the gods, of admiring material things, make an end of turning yourselves into slaves, in the first place, of things, and then, in the second place, on their account, slaves also of the men who are able to secure or to take away these things.

Is it possible, then, to derive advantage from these things?—Yes, from everything.—Even from the man who reviles me?—And what good does his wrestling-companion do the athlete? The very

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps a reference to his own case. See *Intro.* p. ix. f., in *Vol. I.*

<sup>2</sup> Who gave his life to save his native city, Thebes.

- μέγιστα. καὶ οὗτος ἐμοῦ προγυμναστῆς γίνεται·  
 τὸ ἀνεκτικόν μου γυμνάζει, τὸ ἀόργητον, τὸ  
 10 πρᾶον. οὐ· ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν τοῦ τραχήλου καθάπτων  
 καὶ τὴν ὀσφύν μου καὶ τοὺς ὤμους καταρτίζων  
 ὠφελεῖ με καὶ ὁ ἀλείπτῃς καλῶς ποιῶν λέγει  
 “ἄρον ὕπερον ἀμφοτέραις,”<sup>1</sup> καὶ ὅσω βαρύτερός  
 ἐστὶν ἐκεῖνος, τοσούτῳ μᾶλλον ὠφελοῦμαι ἐγώ·  
 εἰ δέ τις πρὸς ἀοργησίαν με γυμνίζει, οὐκ  
 11 ὠφελεῖ με; τοῦτ' ἐστὶ τὸ μὴ εἰδέναι ἀπ'  
 ἀνθρώπων ὠφελεῖσθαι. κακὸς γείτων; αὐτῷ·  
 ἀλλ' ἐμοὶ ἀγαθός· γυμνάζει μου τὸ εὖγνωμον,  
 τὸ ἐπιεικές. κακὸς πατήρ; αὐτῷ· ἀλλ' ἐμοὶ  
 12 ἀγαθός. τοῦτ' ἐστὶ τὸ τοῦ Ἑρμοῦ ῥαβδίου·  
 “οὐ θέλεις,” φασίν,<sup>2</sup> “ἄψαι καὶ χρυσοῦν ἔσται.”  
 οὐ· ἀλλ' ὁ θέλεις φέρε καὶ γὰρ αὐτὸ ἀγαθὸν  
 ποιήσω. φέρε νόσον, φέρε θάνατον, φέρε ἀπο-  
 ρίαν, φέρε λοιδορίαν, δίκην τὴν περὶ τῶν ἐσχά-  
 των· πάντα ταῦτα τῷ ῥαβδίῳ τοῦ Ἑρμοῦ  
 13 ὠφέλιμα ἔσται. “τὸν θάνατον τί ποιήσεις;”  
 τί γὰρ ἄλλο ἢ ἵνα σε κοσμήσῃ ἢ ἵνα δείξῃς<sup>3</sup>  
 ἔργῳ δι' αὐτοῦ, τί ἐστὶν ἄνθρωπος τῷ βουλήματι  
 14 τῆς φύτεως παρακολουθῶν; “τὴν νόσον τί  
 ποιήσεις;” δείξω αὐτῆς τὴν φύσιν, διαπρέψω  
 ἐν αὐτῇ, εὐσταθήσω, εὐροήσω, τὸν ἰατρὸν οὐ  
 15 κολακεύσω, οὐκ εὐξομαι ἀποθανεῖν. τί ἔτι  
 ἄλλο ζητεῖς; πᾶν ὃ ἂν δῶς, ἐγὼ αὐτὸ ποιήσω  
 μακάριον, εὐδαιμονικόν, σεμνόν, ζηλωτόν.

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: ὑπὲρ ἀμφοτέρας S.

<sup>2</sup> Upton: φησὶν S. Cicero, *Off.* I. 158: *Quod si omnia nobis . . . quasi virgula divina, ut aiunt, suppeditarent*, shows clearly that this is a proverbial saying.

<sup>3</sup> Reiske: δείξῃ σε S.

greatest. So also my reviler becomes one who prepares me for my contest; he exercises my patience, my dispassionateness, my gentleness. You say: No. But the man who lays hold of my neck and gets my loins and my shoulders into proper shape helps me, and the rubber does well when he says, "Lift the pestle with both hands,"<sup>1</sup> and the heavier it is, the more good I get out of doing so; whereas, if a man trains me to be dispassionate, does he do me no good? Your attitude means that you do not know how to derive advantage from men. Is your neighbour bad? Yes, for himself; but for me he is good; he exercises my good disposition, my fair-mindedness. Is your father bad? Yes, for himself; but for me he is good. This is the magic wand of Hermes. "Touch what you will," the saying goes, "and it will turn into gold." Nay, but bring whatever you will and *I* will turn it into a good. Bring disease, bring death, bring poverty, reviling, peril of life in court; all these things will become helpful at a touch from the magic wand of Hermes. "What will you make of death?" Why, what else but make it your glory, or an opportunity for you to show in deed thereby what sort of person a man is who follows the will of nature. "What will you make of disease?" I will show its character, I will shine in it, I will be firm, I will be serene, I will not fawn upon my physician, I will not pray for death. What else do you still seek? Everything that you give I will turn into something blessed, productive of happiness, august, enviable.

<sup>1</sup> The physical exercise referred to in III. 12, 9.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 16 Οὐ· ἀλλὰ “ βλέπε μὴ νοσήσης· κακόν ἐστιν.”  
οἶον εἴ τις ἔλεγεν “ βλέπε μὴ λάβῃς ποτὲ φαντα-  
σίαν τοῦ τὰ τρία τέσσαρα εἶναι· κακόν ἐστιν.”  
ἄνθρωπε, πῶς κακόν; ἂν ὁ δεῖ περὶ αὐτοῦ  
ὑπολάβω, πῶς ἔτι με βλάψει; οὐχὶ δὲ μᾶλλον  
17 καὶ ὠφελήσει; ἂν οὖν περὶ πενίας ὁ δεῖ ὑπολάβω,  
ἂν περὶ νόσου, ἂν περὶ ἀναρχίας, οὐκ ἄρκει μοι;  
οὐκ ὠφέλιμα ἔσται; πῶς οὖν ἔτι ἐν τοῖς ἐκτὸς  
τὰ κακὰ καὶ τὰγαθὰ δεῖ με ζητεῖν;  
18 Ἀλλὰ τί; ταῦτα μέχρι ὧδε, εἰς οἶκον δ' οὐδεὶς  
ἀποφέρει· ἀλλ' εὐθὺς πρὸς τὸ παιδάριον πόλε-  
μος, πρὸς τοὺς γείτονας, πρὸς τοὺς σκώψαντας,  
19 πρὸς τοὺς καταγελάσαντας. καλῶς γένοιτο  
Λεσβίῳ, ὅτι με καθ' ἡμέραν ἐξελέγχει μηδὲν  
εἰδότα.

κα'. Πρὸς τοὺς εὐκόλως ἐπὶ τὸ σοφιστεύειν  
ἐρχομένους.

- 1 “Οτι οἱ<sup>1</sup> τὰ θεωρήματα ἀναλαβόντες ψιλὰ  
εὐθὺς αὐτὰ ἐξεμέσαι θέλουσιν ὡς οἱ στομαχικοὶ  
2 τὴν τροφήν. πρῶτον αὐτὰ<sup>2</sup> πέψον, εἴθ' οὕτως  
οὐ<sup>3</sup> μὴ ἐξεμέσης· εἰ δὲ μή, ἔμετος τῷ ὄντι  
3 γίνεται, πρᾶγμ' ἀκάθαρτον<sup>4</sup> καὶ ἄβρωτον. ἀλλ'

<sup>1</sup> οἱ added by Schenkl.

<sup>2</sup> Richards: αὐτό S.

<sup>3</sup> Kronenberg: οὕτω μὴ S.

<sup>4</sup> Wolf: καθαρὸν S. But possibly the reading can be retained (with Schegk) in the sense: “What was clean food becomes mere vomit and unfit to eat.”

<sup>1</sup> That is, no farther than the class-room.

<sup>2</sup> Presumably some scoffer or irritating person known to the audience.

Not so you ; but, " Watch out that you don't get ill ; it's bad." Just as if someone said, " Watch out that you never get the impression that three are four ; it's bad." Man, how do you mean " bad " ? If I get the right idea of it, how is it going to hurt me any more ? Will it not rather even do me good ? If, then, I get the right idea about poverty, or disease, or not holding office, am I not satisfied ? Will they not be helpful to me ? How, then, would you have me seek any longer amongst externals for things evil and things good ?

But what ? These things go thus far,<sup>1</sup> but nobody takes them home with him ; nay, as soon as we leave here, there is war on with our slave attendant, our neighbours, those that mock, and those that laugh at us. Blessed be Lesbios,<sup>2</sup> because he convicts me every day of knowing nothing !

## CHAPTER XXI

*To those who enter light-heartedly upon the profession of lecturing*

THOSE who have learned the principles and nothing else are eager to throw them up immediately,<sup>3</sup> just as persons with a weak stomach throw up their food. First digest your principles, and then you will surely not throw them up this way. Otherwise they are mere vomit, foul stuff and unfit to eat. But after

<sup>1</sup> Compare Schiller :

" Was sie gestern gelernt, das wollen sie heute schon lehren ;

Ach, was haben die Herrn doch für ein kurzes Gedärm."

- ἀπ' αὐτῶν ἀναδοθέντων δεῖξόν τινα ἡμῖν μεταβολὴν τοῦ ἡγεμονικοῦ τοῦ σεαυτοῦ, ὡς οἱ ἀθληταὶ τοὺς ὤμους, ἀφ' ὧν ἐγυμνιάσθησαν καὶ ἔφαγον, ὡς οἱ τὰς τέχνας ἀναλαβόντες, ἀφ' ὧν ἔμαθον.
- 4 οὐκ ἔρχεται ὁ τέκτων καὶ λέγει “ἀκούσατέ μου διαλεγομένου περὶ τῶν τεκτονικῶν,” ἀλλ' ἐκμισθωσάμενος οἰκίαν ταύτην κατασκευάσας δείκ-
- 5 νυσιν, ὅτι ἔχει τὴν τέχνην. τοιοῦτόν τι καὶ σὺ ποίησον· φάγε ὡς ἄνθρωπος, πῖε ὡς ἄνθρωπος, κοσμήθητι, γάμησον, παιδοποιήσον, πολίτευσαι· ἀνάσχου λειδορίας, ἔνεγκε ἀδελφὸν ἀγνώμονα,
- 6 ἔνεγκε πατέρα, ἔνεγκε υἱόν, γείτονα, σύνοδον. ταῦτα ἡμῖν δεῖξον, ἵν' ἴδωμεν, ὅτι μεμάθηκας ταῖς ἀληθείαις τι τῶν φιλοσόφων. οὐ· ἀλλ' “ἐλθόντες ἀκούσατέ μου σχόλια λέγοντος.” ὕπαγε,
- 7 ζήτηι τίνων κατεξεράσεις. “καὶ μὴν ἐγὼ ὑμῖν ἐξηγήσομαι τὰ Χρυσίππεια ὡς οὐδεὶς, τὴν λέξιν διαλύσω καθαρῶτατα, προσθήσω ἂν πον καὶ Ἀντιπάτρου καὶ Ἀρχεδήμου φοράν.”
- 8 Εἶτα τούτου ἔνεκα ἀπολίπωσιν οἱ νέοι τὰς πατρίδας καὶ τοὺς γονεῖς τοὺς αὐτῶν, ἵν' ἐλθόντες
- 9 λεξείδιά σου ἐξηγουμένου ἀκούσωσιν; οὐ δεῖ αὐτοὺς ὑποστρέψαι ἀνεκτικούς, συνεργητικούς, ἀπαθεῖς, ἀταράχους, ἔχοντάς τι ἐφόδιον τοιοῦτον εἰς τὸν βίον, ἀφ' οὗ ὁρμώμενοι φέρειν δυνήσονται τὰ συμπύπτοντα καλῶς καὶ κοσμεῖσθαι ὑπ'
- 10 αὐτῶν; καὶ πόθεν σοι μεταδιδόναι τούτων ὧν οὐκ ἔχεις; αὐτὸς γὰρ ἄλλο τι ἐποίησας ἐξ ἀρχῆς

<sup>1</sup> Called *principes dialecticorum* by Cicero, *Acad.* II. 143.

you have digested these principles, show us some change in your governing principle that is due to them; as the athletes show their shoulders as the results of their exercising and eating, and as those who have mastered the arts can show the results of their learning. The builder does not come forward and say, "Listen to me deliver a discourse about the art of building"; but he takes a contract for a house, builds it, and thereby proves that he possesses the art. Do something of the same sort yourself too; eat as a man, drink as a man, adorn yourself, marry, get children, be active as a citizen; endure revilings, bear with an unreasonable brother, father, son, neighbour, fellow-traveller. Show us that you can do these things, for us to see that in all truth you have learned something of the philosophers. No, but "Come and listen to me deliver my comments," you say. Go to! Look for people on whom to throw up! "Yes, but I will set forth to you the doctrines of Chrysippus as no one else can; his language I will analyse so as to make it perfectly clear; possibly I will throw in a bit of the vivacity of Antipater and Archedemus."<sup>1</sup>

And then it's for this, is it, that the young men are to leave their fatherlands and their own parents, —to come and listen to you interpreting trifling phrases? Ought they not to be, when they return home, forbearing, ready to help one another, tranquil, with a mind at peace, possessed of some such provision for the journey of life, that, starting out with it, they will be able to bear well whatever happens, and to derive honour from it? And where did you get the ability to impart to them these things which you do not possess yourself? Why, from the first did



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἢ περὶ ταῦτα κατετρίβης, πῶς οἱ συλλογισμοὶ ἀναλυθήσονται, πῶς οἱ μεταπίπτοντες, πῶς οἱ τῷ ἡρωτῆσθαι περαίνοντες; “ἀλλ’ ὁ δεῖνα  
 11 σχολὴν ἔχει διὰ τί μὴ καὶ γὰρ σχῶ;” οὐκ εἰκὴ ταῦτα γίνεται, ἀνδράποδον, οὐδ’ ὥς ἔτυχεν, ἀλλὰ  
 12 καὶ ἡλικίαν εἶναι δεῖ καὶ βίον καὶ θεὸν ἡγεμόνα. οὐ· ἀλλ’ ἀπὸ λιμένος<sup>1</sup> μὲν οὐδεὶς ἀνάγεται μὴ θύσας τοῖς θεοῖς καὶ παρακαλέσας αὐτοὺς βοηθούς οὐδὲ σπείρουσιν ἄλλως οἱ ἄνθρωποι εἰ μὴ τὴν Δήμητρα ἐπικαλεσάμενοι τηλικούτου δ’ ἔργου ἀψάμενός τις ἄνευ θεῶν ἀσφαλῶς ἄψεται  
 13 καὶ οἱ τούτῳ προσιόντες εὐτυχῶς προσελεύσονται; τί ἄλλο ποιεῖς, ἄνθρωπε, ἢ τὰ μυστήρια ἐξορχῇ καὶ λέγεις “οἴκημά ἐστι καὶ ἐν Ἐλευσίνι, ἰδοὺ καὶ ἐνθάδε. ἐκεῖ ἱεροφάντης· καὶ ἐγὼ ποιήσω ἱεροφάντην. ἐκεῖ κῆρυξ· καὶ γὰρ κήρυκα καταστήσω. ἐκεῖ δαδούχος· καὶ γὰρ δαδούχον.  
 14 ἐκεῖ δᾶδες· καὶ ἐνθάδε. αἱ φωναὶ αἱ αὐταί· τὰ γινόμενα τί διαφέρει ταῦτα ἐκείνων;”; ἀσεβέστατε ἄνθρωπε, οὐδὲν διαφέρει; καὶ παρὰ τόπον ταῦτά<sup>2</sup> ὠφελεῖ καὶ παρὰ καιρόν; οὐ· ἀλλὰ<sup>2</sup> καὶ μετὰ θυσίας δὲ καὶ μετ’ εὐχῶν καὶ προηγνευκότα καὶ προδιακείμενον τῇ γνώμῃ, ὅτι

<sup>1</sup> Wolf: ἀπολιπόμενος S.

<sup>2</sup> Oldfather: καὶ παρὰ τόπον ταῦτα ὠφελεῖ καὶ παρὰ καιρόν· καὶ μετὰ θυσίας S and all editors, except Upton, who saw that the passage was corrupt, but not how to heal it. ταῦτα is ambiguous and misses the obvious point. Besides, within eight lines, to have exactly the same phrases, παρὰ τόπον and παρὰ καιρόν, in a diametrically opposite sense, where the text is certainly sound, seems to me intolerable. The plain sense of the entire context appears to require these changes, the first of which is the slightest imaginable, and the second, not absolutely necessary perhaps, in the

you ever do anything but wear yourself out over the question how solutions can be found for syllogisms, for the arguments that involve equivocal premisses, and those which derive syllogisms by the process of interrogation?<sup>1</sup> "But So-and-so lectures; why shouldn't I too?" Slave, these things are not done recklessly, nor at random, but one ought to be of a certain age, and lead a certain kind of life, and have God as his guide. You say: No. But no man sails out of a harbour without first sacrificing to the gods and invoking their aid, nor do men sow hit-or-miss, but only after first calling upon Demeter; and yet will a man, if he has laid his hand to so great a task as this without the help of the gods, be secure in so doing, and will those who come to him be fortunate in so coming? What else are you doing, man, but vulgarizing the Mysteries, and saying, "There is a chapel at Eleusis; see, there is one here too. There is a hierophant there; I too will make a hierophant. There is a herald there; I too will appoint a herald. There is a torch-bearer there; I too will have a torch-bearer. There are torches there; and here too. The words said are the same; and what is the difference between what is done here and what is done there?"? Most impious man, is there no difference? Are the same acts helpful, if they are performed at the wrong place and at the wrong time? Nay, but a man ought to come also with a sacrifice, and with prayers, and after a preliminary purification, and with his mind predisposed to the idea that he

<sup>1</sup> See note on I. 7, 1.

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abrupt and dramatic style of Epictetus, but probably what would have been written, had he been writing instead of speaking.

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- 15 *ἱεροῖς προσελεύσεται καὶ ἱεροῖς παλαιοῖς. οὕτως ὠφέλιμα γίνεται τὰ μυστήρια, οὕτως εἰς φαντασίαν ἐρχόμεθα, ὅτι ἐπὶ παιδείᾳ καὶ ἐπανορθώσει τοῦ βίου κατεστάθη πάντα ταῦτα ὑπὸ τῶν πα-*  
 16 *λαιῶν. σὺ δ' ἐξαγγέλλεις αὐτὰ καὶ ἐξορχῇ παρὰ καιρόν, παρὰ τόπον, ἄνευ θυμάτων, ἄνευ ἀγνείας.<sup>1</sup> οὐκ ἐσθῆτα ἔχεις ἢν δεῖ τὸν ἱεροφάντην, οὐ κόμην, οὐ στρόφιον οἶον δεῖ, οὐ φωνήν, οὐχ ἡλικίαν, οὐχ ἡγνευκας ὡς ἐκεῖνος, ἀλλ' αὐτὰς μόνας τὰς φωνὰς ἀνειληφὼς λέγεις. ἱεραὶ εἰσιν αἱ φωναὶ αὐταὶ καθ' αὐτάς ;*  
 17 *Ἄλλον τρόπον δεῖ ἐπὶ ταῦτα ἐλθεῖν· μέγα ἐστὶ τὸ πρᾶγμα, μυστικόν ἐστιν, οὐχ ὡς ἔτυχεν*  
 18 *οὐδὲ τῷ τυχόντι δεδομένον. ἀλλ' οὐδὲ σοφὸν εἶναι τυχὸν ἐξαρκεῖ πρὸς τὸ ἐπιμεληθῆναι νέων· δεῖ δὲ καὶ προχειρότητά τινα εἶναι καὶ ἐπιτηδειότητα πρὸς τοῦτο, νῆ τὸν Δία, καὶ σῶμα ποιὸν καὶ πρὸ πάντων τὸν θεὸν συμβουλεύειν ταύτην*  
 19 *τὴν χώραν κατασχεῖν, ὡς Σωκράτει συνεβούλευεν τὴν ἐλεγκτικὴν χώραν ἔχειν, ὡς Διογένει τὴν βασιλικὴν καὶ ἐπιπληκτικὴν, ὡς Ζήνωνι τὴν*  
 20 *διδασκαλικὴν καὶ δογματικὴν. σὺ δ' ἰατρεῖον ἀνοίγεις ἄλλο οὐδὲν ἔχων ἢ φάρμακα, ποῦ δὲ ἢ πῶς ἐπιτίθεται ταῦτα, μήτε εἰδὼς μήτε πολυ-*  
 21 *πραγμονήσας. "ἰδοὺ ἐκεῖνος ταῦτα τὰ<sup>2</sup> κολλύρια· καὶ γὰρ ἔχω." μή τι οὖν καὶ τὴν δύναμιν τὴν χρηστικὴν αὐτοῖς ; μή τι οἶδας καὶ πότε*

<sup>1</sup> *s* (and Bentley): ὑγείας *S*.

<sup>2</sup> *τά* added by Koraes.

will be approaching holy rites, and holy rites of great antiquity. Only thus do the Mysteries become helpful, only thus do we arrive at the impression that all these things were established by men of old time for the purpose of education and for the amendment of our life. But you are publishing the Mysteries abroad and vulgarizing them, out of time, out of place, without sacrifices, without purification; you do not have the dress which the hierophant ought to wear, you do not have the proper head of hair, nor head-band, nor voice, nor age; you have not kept yourself pure as he has, but you have picked up only the words which he utters, and recite them. Have the words a sacred force all by themselves?

One ought to approach these matters in a different fashion; the affair is momentous, it is full of mystery, not a chance gift, nor given to all comers. Nay, it may be that not even wisdom is all that is needed for the care of the young; one ought also to have a certain readiness and special fitness for this task, by Zeus, and a particular physique, and above all the counsel of God advising him to occupy this office, as God counselled Socrates to take the office of examining and confuting men, Diogenes the office of rebuking men in a kingly manner, and Zeno that of instructing men and laying down doctrines. But you are opening up a doctor's office although you possess no equipment other than drugs, but when or how these drugs are applied you neither know nor have ever taken the trouble to learn. "See," you say, "that man has these eye-salves, and so have I." Have you, then, at all the faculty of using them aright? Do you know at all when and how and for

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- 22 καὶ πῶς ὠφελήσει καὶ τίνα ; τί οὖν κυβεύεις ἐν τοῖς μεγίστοις, τί ῥαδιουργεῖς, τί ἐπιχειρεῖς πράγματι μηδέν σοι προσήκοντι ; ἄφες αὐτὸ τοῖς δυναμένοις, τοῖς κοσμοῦσι. μὴ προστρίβου καὶ αὐτὸς αἰσχος φιλοσοφία διὰ σαυτοῦ, μηδὲ γίνου
- 23 μέρος τῶν διαβαλλόντων τὸ ἔργον. ἀλλὰ εἴ σε ψυχαγωγεῖ τὰ θεωρήματα, καθήμενος αὐτὰ στρέφε αὐτὸς ἐπὶ σεαυτοῦ· φιλόσοφον δὲ μὴ δέποτ' εἵπης σεαυτὸν μηδ' ἄλλου ἀνάσχη λέγοντος, ἀλλὰ λέγε “πεπλάνηται· ἐγὼ γὰρ οὐτ' ὀρέγομαι ἄλλως ἢ πρότερον οὐδ' ὁρμῶ ἐπ' ἄλλα οὐδὲ συγκατατίθεμαι ἄλλοις οὐδ' ὅλως ἐν χρήσει φαντασιῶν παρήλλαχά τι ἀπὸ τῆς πρότερον
- 24 καταστάσεως.” ταῦτα φρόνει καὶ λέγε περὶ σεαυτοῦ, εἰ θέλεις τὰ κατ' ἀξίαν φρονεῖν· εἰ δὲ μή, κύβευε καὶ ποίει ἅ ποιεῖς. ταῦτα γάρ σοι πρέπει.

### κβ'. Περὶ Κυνισμοῦ.

- 1 Πυθομένου δὲ τῶν γνωρίμων τινὸς αὐτοῦ, ὃς ἐφαίνετο ἐπιρρεπῶς ἔχων πρὸς τὸ κυνίσαι, Ποιὸν τινα εἶναι δεῖ τὸν κυνίζοντα καὶ τίς ἢ πρόληψις ἢ τοῦ πράγματος, Σκεψόμεθα κατὰ
- 2 σχολήν· τοσοῦτον δ' ἔχω σοι εἰπεῖν, ὅτι ὁ δίχα

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<sup>1</sup> The Cynics were the intransigent and uncompromising moralists, resembling the holy men, ascetics, and dervishes of the Orient. Epictetus idealizes them somewhat in this discourse, regarding them as a kind of perfected wise men,

whom they will do good? Why, then, do you play at hazard in matters of the utmost moment, why do you take things lightly, why do you put your hand to a task that is altogether inappropriate for you? Leave it to those who are able to do it, and do it with distinction. Do not yourself by your own actions join the number of those who bring disgrace upon philosophy, and do not become one of those who disparage the profession. If, however, you find the principles of philosophy entertaining, sit down and turn them over in your mind all by yourself, but don't ever call yourself a philosopher, and don't allow anyone else to say it of you, but say, rather, "He is mistaken; for my desire is no different from what it used to be, nor my choice, nor my assent, nor, in a word, have I changed at all, in my use of external impressions, from my former state." Think this and say this about yourself, if you wish to think aright. If not, keep on playing at hazard and doing what you are doing now; for it becomes you.

## CHAPTER XXII

### *On the calling of a Cynic*<sup>1</sup>

WHEN one of his acquaintances, who seemed to have an inclination to take up the calling of a Cynic, asked him what sort of a man the Cynic ought to be, and what was the fundamental conception of his calling, Epictetus said: We will consider it at leisure; but I can tell you this much, that the man who lays

like some of the early Christian anchorites, but points out very clearly that their style of life was not practicable for every man, indeed not even for one so humble and frugal as he himself was.



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- θεοῦ τηλικούτῳ πράγματι ἐπιβαλλόμενος θεο-  
 χόλωτός ἐστι καὶ οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἢ δημοσία θέλει  
 3 ἀσχημονεῖν. οὐδὲ γὰρ ἐν οἰκίᾳ καλῶς οἰκουμένη  
 παρελθὼν τις αὐτὸς ἑαυτῷ λέγει “ἐμὲ δεῖ οἰκο-  
 νόμον εἶναι.” εἰ δὲ μή, ἐπιστραφεῖς ὁ κύριος  
 καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν σοβαρῶς διατασσόμενον, ἐλκύσας  
 4 ἔτεμεν. οὕτως γίνεται καὶ ἐν τῇ μεγάλῃ ταύτῃ  
 πόλει. ἔστι γὰρ τις καὶ ἐνθάδ’ οἰκοδεσπότης  
 5 ἕκαστα ὁ διατάσσων. “σὺ ἥλιος εἶ· δύνασαι  
 περιερχόμενος ἐνιαυτὸν ποιεῖν καὶ ὥρας καὶ τοὺς  
 καρπούς αὔξειν καὶ τρέφειν καὶ ἀνέμους κινεῖν  
 καὶ ἀνιέναι καὶ τὰ σώματα τῶν ἀνθρώπων θερ-  
 μαίνειν συμμέτρως· ὕπαγε, περιέρχου καὶ οὕτως  
 διακίνει ἀπὸ τῶν μεγίστων ἐπὶ τὰ μικρότατα.  
 6 σὺ μοσχάριον εἶ· ὅταν ἐπιφανῇ λέων, τὰ σαυτοῦ  
 πρᾶσσε· εἰ δὲ μή, οἰμῶξεις. σὺ ταῦρος εἶ, προ-  
 σελθὼν μάχου· σοὶ γὰρ τοῦτο ἐπιβάλλει καὶ  
 7 πρέπει καὶ δύνασαι αὐτὸ ποιεῖν. σὺ δύνασαι  
 ἡγεῖσθαι τοῦ στρατεύματος ἐπὶ Ἴλιον· ἴσθι  
 Ἀγαμέμνων. σὺ δύνασαι τῷ Ἑκτορι μονο-  
 8 μαχῆσαι· ἴσθι Ἀχιλλεύς.” εἰ δὲ Θερσίτης  
 παρελθὼν ἀντεποιεῖτο τῆς ἀρχῆς, ἣ οὐκ ἂν  
 ἔτυχεν ἢ τυχὼν ἂν ἡσχημόνησεν ἐν πλείοσι  
 μάρτυσι.
- 9 Καὶ σὺ βούλευσαι <sup>1</sup> περὶ τοῦ <sup>2</sup> πράγματος ἐπι-  
 10 μελῶς· οὐκ ἔστιν οἷον δοκεῖ σοι. “τριβώνιον  
 καὶ νῦν φορῶ καὶ τόθ’ <sup>3</sup> ἔξω, <sup>4</sup> κοιμῶμαι καὶ νῦν  
 σκληρῶς καὶ τότε κοιμήσομαι, πηρίδιον προσ-  
 λήψομαι καὶ ξύλον καὶ περιερχόμενος αἰτεῖν

<sup>1</sup> Upton from his “codex” : συμβουλευσαι S.

<sup>2</sup> τοῦ added by Reiske.

<sup>3</sup> Schenkl : τότ’ S.

<sup>4</sup> Salmasius : ἔξω S.



his hand to so great a matter as this without God, is hateful to Him, and his wish means nothing else than disgracing himself in public. For in a well-ordered house no one comes along and says to himself, "I ought to be manager of this house"; or if he does, the lord of the mansion, when he turns around and sees the fellow giving orders in a high and mighty fashion, drags him out and gives him a dressing down. So it goes also in this great city, the world; for here also there is a Lord of the Mansion who assigns each and every thing its place. "*You are the sun; you have the power, as you make the circuit of the heavens, to produce the year and the seasons, to give increase and nourishment to the fruits, to stir and to calm the winds, and to give warmth in moderation to the bodies of men; arise, make the circuit of the heavens, and so set in motion all things from the greatest to the least. You are a calf; when a lion appears, do what is expected of you; otherwise you will smart for it. You are a bull; come on and fight, for this is expected of you, it befits you, and you are able to do it. You are able to lead the host against Ilium; be Agamemnon. You are able to fight a duel with Hector; be Achilles.*" But if Thersites came along and claimed command, either he would not have got it, or if he had, he would have disgraced himself in the presence of a multitude of witnesses.

So do you also think about the matter carefully; it is not what you think it is. "I wear a rough cloak even as it is, and I shall have one then; I have a hard bed even now, and so I shall then; I shall take to myself a wallet and a staff,<sup>1</sup> and I shall

<sup>1</sup> Quite like modern dervishes.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἄρξομαι τοὺς ἀπαντῶντας, λοιδορεῖν· κἂν ἴδω  
 τινὰ δρωπακιζόμενον, ἐπιτιμήσω αὐτῷ, κἂν  
 τὸ κόμιον πεπλακότα ἢ ἐν κοκκίνοις περιπα-  
 11 τούντα.” εἰ τοιοῦτόν τι φαντάζῃ τὸ πρᾶγμα,  
 μακρὰν ἀπ’ αὐτοῦ· μὴ προσέλθῃς, οὐδέν ἐστι  
 12 πρὸς σέ. εἰ δ’ οἶόν ἐστι φανταζόμενος οὐκ  
 ἀπαξιοῖς σεαυτόν, σκέψαι ἡλίκῳ πράγματι  
 ἐπιχειρεῖς.
- 13 Πρῶτον ἐν τοῖς κατὰ σαυτὸν οὐκέτι δεῖ σε  
 ὅμοιον ἐν οὐδενὶ φαίνεσθαι οἷς νῦν ποιεῖς, οὐ θεῷ  
 ἐγκαλοῦντα, οὐκ ἀνθρώπῳ· ὅρεξιν ἄραί σε<sup>1</sup> δεῖ  
 παντελῶς, ἔκκλινιν ἐπὶ μόνα μεταθεῖναι τὰ  
 προαιρετικά· σοὶ μὴ ὀργὴν εἶναι, μὴ μῆνιν, μὴ  
 φθόνον, μὴ ἔλεον· μὴ κοράσιόν σοι φαίνεσθαι  
 καλόν, μὴ δοξάριον, μὴ παιδάριον, μὴ πλακουν-  
 14 τάριον. ἐκείνο γὰρ εἶδέναι σε δεῖ, ὅτι οἱ ἄλλοι  
 ἄνθρωποι τοὺς τοίχους προβέβληνται καὶ τὰς  
 οἰκίας καὶ τὸ σκότος, ὅταν τι τῶν τοιούτων  
 ποιῶσιν, καὶ τὰ κρύψοντα πολλὰ ἔχουσιν.  
 κέκλεικε τὴν θύραν, ἔστακέν<sup>2</sup> τινα πρὸ τοῦ  
 κοιτῶνος· “ ἂν τις ἔλθῃ, λέγε ὅτι ἔξω ἐστίν, οὐ  
 15 σχολάζει.” ὁ Κυνικὸς δ’ ἀντὶ πάντων τούτων  
 ὀφείλει τὴν αἰδῶ προβεβλήσθαι· εἰ δὲ μή, γυμνὸς  
 καὶ ἐν ὑπαίθρῳ ἀσχημονήσῃ. τοῦτο οἰκία ἐστὶν  
 αὐτῷ, τοῦτο θύρα, τοῦτο οἱ ἐπὶ τοῦ κοιτῶνος,  
 16 τοῦτο σκότος. οὔτε γὰρ θέλειν τι δεῖ ἀποκρύπτειν  
 αὐτὸν τῶν ἑαυτοῦ (εἰ δὲ μή, ἀπῆλθεν, ἀπώλεσε

<sup>1</sup> Wolf : ἀρέσαι S.

Wolf : ἔστακέν S.

begin to walk around and beg from those I meet, and revile them; and if I see someone who is getting rid of superfluous hair by the aid of pitch-plasters, or has a fancy cut to his hair, or is strolling about in scarlet clothes, I will come down hard on him." If you fancy the affair to be something like this, give it a wide berth; don't come near it, it is nothing for you. But if your impression of it is correct, and you do not think too meanly of yourself, consider the magnitude of the enterprise that you are taking in hand.

First, in all that pertains to yourself directly you must change completely from your present practices, and must cease to blame God or man; you must utterly wipe out desire, and must turn your aversion toward the things which lie within the province of the moral purpose, and these only; you must feel no anger, no rage, no envy, no pity; no wench must look fine to you, no petty reputation, no boy-favourite, no little sweet-cake. For this you ought to know: Other men have the protection of their walls and their houses and darkness, when they do anything of that sort, and they have many things to hide them. A man closes his door, stations someone at the entrance to his bedroom: "If anyone comes, tell him 'He is not at home, he is not at leisure.'" But the Cynic, instead of all these defences, has to make his self-respect his protection; if he does not, he will be disgracing himself naked and out of doors. His self-respect is his house, his door, his guards at the entrance to his bedroom, his darkness. For neither ought he to wish to keep concealed anything that is his (otherwise he is lost, he has destroyed the Cynic

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- τὸν Κυνικόν, τὸν ὑπαιθρον, τὸν ἐλεύθερον, ἡρκται  
 τι τῶν ἐκτὸς<sup>1</sup> φοβεῖσθαι, ἡρκται χρεῖαν ἔχειν  
 τοῦ ἀποκρύψοντος) οὔτε ὅταν θέλῃ δύναται. ποῦ  
 17 γὰρ αὐτὸν ἀποκρύψῃ ἢ πῶς; ἂν δ' ἀπὸ τύχης<sup>2</sup>  
 ἐμπέσῃ ὁ παιδευτὴς ὁ κοινός, ὁ παιδαγωγός, οἷα  
 18 πᾶσχειν ἀνάγκη; ταῦτ' οὖν δεδοικότα ἐπιθαρρεῖν  
 οἷόν τ' ἔτι ἐξ ὅλης ψυχῆς ἐπιστατεῖν τοῖς ἄλλοις  
 ἀνθρώποις; ἀμήχανον, ἀδύνατον.  
 19 Πρῶτον οὖν τὸ ἡγεμονικόν σε δεῖ τὸ σαυτοῦ  
 20 καθαρὸν ποιῆσαι καὶ τὴν ἔνστασιν ταύτην· “νῦν  
 ἐμοὶ ὕλη ἐστὶν ἡ ἐμὴ διάνοια, ὡς τῷ τέκτονι τὰ  
 ξύλα, ὡς τῷ σκυτεῖ τὰ δέρματα· ἔργον δ' ὀρθὴ  
 21 χρῆσις τῶν φαντασιῶν. τὸ σωματίον δὲ οὐδὲν  
 πρὸς ἐμέ· τὰ τούτου μέρη οὐδὲν πρὸς ἐμέ. θάνα-  
 22 τος; ἐρχέσθω, ὅταν θέλῃ, εἴτε ὅλου εἴτε μέρους  
 τινός. φυγὴ;<sup>3</sup> καὶ ποῦ δύναταί τις ἐκβαλεῖν;  
 ἔξω τοῦ κόσμου οὐ δύναται. ὅπου δ' ἂν ἀπέλθω,  
 ἐκεῖ ἡλιος, ἐκεῖ σελήνη, ἐκεῖ ἄστρα, ἐνύπνια,  
 οἰωνοί, ἢ πρὸς θεοὺς ὁμιλία.”  
 23 Εἰθ' οὕτως παρασκευασάμενον οὐκ ἔστι τούτοις  
 ἀρκεῖσθαι τὸν ταῖς ἀληθείαις Κυνικόν, ἀλλ'  
 εἰδέναι δεῖ, ὅτι ἄγγελος ἀπὸ τοῦ Διὸς ἀπέσταλται

<sup>1</sup> Wolf: ἐντός S.

<sup>2</sup> τύχης S.

<sup>3</sup> Upton: φεῦγε S.

<sup>1</sup> That is, the trusted servant who attended constantly the boys of the well-to-do families, and in particular watched over their deportment and morals.

<sup>2</sup> ἐμπεσεῖν seems to me to be used as in III. 7, 12. This is a rare meaning, indeed, but supported to some extent also by the gloss in Hesychius: ἐμπεσεῖν εἰς δεσμωτήριον ἀχθῆναι. The word is also used of getting caught in a trap, Xenophon Mem. II. 1, 4: τοῖς θηράτροις ἐμπίπτουσι. That is probably the

within him, the man of outdoor life, the free man; he has begun to fear something external, he has begun to need something to conceal him), nor can he keep it concealed when he wishes to do so. For where will he conceal himself, or how? And if this instructor of us all, this "pedagogue,"<sup>1</sup> chance to get caught,<sup>2</sup> what must he suffer! Can, then, a man who is afraid of all this continue with all his heart to supervise the conduct of other men? It cannot be done, it is impossible.

In the first place, then, you must make your governing principle pure, and you must make the following your plan of life: "From now on my mind is the material with which I have to work, as the carpenter has his timbers, the shoemaker his hides; my business is to make the right use of my impressions. My paltry body is nothing to me; the parts of it are nothing to me. Death? Let it come when it will, whether it be the death of the whole or some part. Exile? And to what place can anyone thrust me out? Outside the universe he cannot. But wherever I go, there are sun, moon, stars, dreams, omens, my converse with gods."

In the next place, the true Cynic, when he is thus prepared, cannot rest contented with this, but he must know that he has been sent by Zeus to men,

original form of expression from which the intransitive use derives. Schenkl (not Schweighäuser, to whom I owe the above references to Hesychius and Xenophon) appears to me to be wrong in rendering the word "decipior," although Matheson is inclined to follow him. Capps suggests that "the *κοινὸς παιδευτής* is God," and that *ἐμπέσῃ* means "break in upon." But that might be somewhat inconsistent with *ἀπὸ τυχῆς*, which seems hardly appropriate of an action on the part of God.

- καὶ πρὸς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους περὶ ἀγαθῶν καὶ κακῶν  
 ὑποδείξων αὐτοῖς, ὅτι πεπλάνηνται καὶ ἀλλαχοῦ  
 ζητοῦσι τὴν οὐσίαν τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ τοῦ κακοῦ,  
 ὅπου οὐκ ἔστιν, ὅπου δ' ἔστιν, οὐκ ἐνθυμούνται,  
 24 καὶ ὡς ὁ Διογένης ἀπαχθεὶς πρὸς Φίλιππον μετὰ  
 τὴν ἐν Χαιρωνείᾳ μάχην κατάσκοπος εἶναι. τῷ  
 γὰρ ὄντι κατάσκοπός ἐστιν ὁ Κυνικὸς τοῦ τίνα  
 25 ἐστὶ τοῖς ἀνθρώποις φίλα καὶ τίνα πολέμια·  
 καὶ δεῖ αὐτὸν ἀκριβῶς κατασκεψάμενον ἐλθόντ'  
 ἀπαγγεῖλαι τάληθῇ μῆθ' ὑπὸ φόβου ἐκπλαγέντα,  
 ὥστε τοὺς μὴ ὄντας πολεμίους δεῖξαι, μήτε τινὰ  
 ἄλλον τρόπον ὑπὸ τῶν φαντασιῶν παραταραχ-  
 θέντα ἢ συγχυθέντα.
- 26 Δεῖ οὖν αὐτὸν δύνασθαι ἀνατεινόμενον, ἂν  
 οὕτως τύχῃ, καὶ ἐπὶ σκηνὴν τραγικὴν ἀνερχό-  
 μενον λέγειν τὸ τοῦ Σωκράτους “ ἰὼ ἄνθρωποι,<sup>1</sup>  
 ποῖ φέρεσθε; τί ποιεῖτε, ὦ ταλαίπωροι; ὡς  
 τυφλοὶ ἄνω καὶ κάτω κυλίεσθε· ἄλλην ὁδὸν  
 ἀπέρχεσθε τὴν οὖσαν ἀπολελοιπότες, ἀλλαχοῦ  
 ζητεῖτε τὸ εὖρουν καὶ τὸ εὐδαιμονικόν,<sup>2</sup> ὅπου οὐκ  
 27 ἔστιν, οὐδ' ἄλλου δεικνύοντος πιστεύετε. τί αὐτὸ  
 ἔξω ζητεῖτε; ἐν σώματι οὐκ ἔστιν. εἰ ἀπιστεῖτε,  
 ἴδετε Μύρωνα, ἴδετε Ὀφέλλιον. ἐν κτήσει οὐκ  
 ἔστιν. εἰ δ' ἀπιστεῖτε, ἴδετε Κροῖσον, ἴδετε τοὺς  
 νῦν πλουσίους, ὅσης οἰμωγῆς ὁ βίος αὐτῶν  
 μεστός ἐστιν. ἐν ἀρχῇ οὐκ ἔστιν. εἰ δὲ μή γε,

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: ἰώνθρωποι S: ὠνθρωποι Leopold.

<sup>2</sup> Shaftesbury: ἡγεμονικόν S.

partly as a messenger, in order to show them that in questions of good and evil they have gone astray, and are seeking the true nature of the good and the evil where it is not, but where it is they never think; and partly, in the words of Diogenes, when he was taken off to Philip, after the battle of Chaeroneia, as a scout.<sup>1</sup> For the Cynic is truly a scout, to find out what things are friendly to men and what hostile; and he must first do his scouting accurately, and on returning must tell the truth, not driven by fear to designate as enemies those who are not such, nor in any other fashion be distraught or confused by his external impressions.

He must, accordingly, be able, if it so chance, to lift up his voice, and, mounting the tragic stage, to speak like Socrates: "Alas! men, where are you rushing?"<sup>2</sup> What are you doing, O wretched people? Like blind men you go tottering all around. You have left the true path and are going off upon another; you are looking for serenity and happiness in the wrong place, where it does not exist, and you do not believe when another points them out to you. Why do you look for it outside? It does not reside in the body. If you doubt that, look at Myron, or Ophellius.<sup>3</sup> It is not in possessions. If you doubt that, look at Croesus, look at the rich nowadays, the amount of lamentation with which their life is filled. It is not in office. Why, if it

<sup>1</sup> Compare I. 24, 3-10. The philosopher is a sort of spy sent on in advance into this world, to report to the rest of us what things are good and what evil.

<sup>2</sup> [Plato], *Cleitophon*, 407 A—B.

<sup>3</sup> Probably famous athletes or gladiators of the day; otherwise unknown.



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 28 ἔδει τοὺς δις καὶ τρεῖς ὑπάτους εὐδαίμονας εἶναι·  
 οὐκ εἰσὶ δέ. τίσιν περὶ τούτου πιστεύσομεν ;  
 ὑμῖν τοῖς ἔξωθεν τὰ ἐκείνων βλέπουσιν καὶ ὑπὸ  
 τῆς φαντασίας περιλαμπομένοις ἢ αὐτοῖς ἐκείνοις ;  
 29 τί λέγουσιν ; ἀκούσατε αὐτῶν, ὅταν οἰμώζωσιν,  
 ὅταν στένωσιν, ὅταν δι' αὐτὰς τὰς ὑπατείας καὶ  
 τὴν δόξαν καὶ τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν ἀθλιώτερον οἶωνται  
 30 καὶ ἐπικινδυνότερον ἔχειν. ἐν βασιλείᾳ οὐκ  
 ἔστιν. εἰ δὲ μή, Νέρων ἂν εὐδαίμων ἐγένετο καὶ  
 Σαρδανάπαλλος. ἀλλ' οὐδ' Ἀγαμέμνων εὐδαίμων  
 ἦν καίτοι κομψότερος ὢν Σαρδαναπάλλου καὶ  
 Νέρωνος, ἀλλὰ τῶν ἄλλων ῥεγκόντων ἐκεῖνος τί  
 ποιεῖ ;

πολλὰς ἐκ κεφαλῆς προθελύμνους ἔλκετο χαίτας.  
 καὶ αὐτὸς τί λέγει ;

πλάζομαι ὧδε,

φησίν, καὶ

ἀλαλύκτῃμαι· κραδίη δέ μοι ἔξω  
 στηθέων ἐκθρώσκει.

- 31 τάλας, τί τῶν σῶν ἔχει κακῶς ; ἡ κτῆσις ; οὐκ  
 ἔχει· ἀλλὰ πολύχρυσος εἶ καὶ πολύχαλκος. τὸ  
 σῶμα ; οὐκ ἔχει.<sup>1</sup> τί οὖν σοι κακὸν ἐστίν ; ἐκεῖνο,  
 ὃ τί ποτε<sup>2</sup> ἡμέληται σου καὶ κατέφθαρται, ᾧ  
 ὀρεγόμεθα, ᾧ ἐκκλίνομεν, ᾧ ὀρμῶμεν καὶ ἀφορ-  
 32 μῶμεν. πῶς ἡμέληται ; ἀγνοεῖ τὴν οὐσίαν τοῦ

<sup>1</sup> Capps transfers to this position τὸ σῶμα ; οὐκ ἔχει, which in *S* precede ἀλλὰ . . . πολίχαλκος.

<sup>2</sup> τὸ τίποτε Blass, perhaps rightly.

were, then those who have been consul two or three times ought to be happy men, but they are not. Whom are we going to believe about this question? You who look upon their estate from the outside and are dazzled by the external appearance, or the men themselves? What do *they* say? Listen to them when they lament, when they groan, when they think that their condition is more wretched and dangerous because of these very consulships, and their own reputation, and their prominence. It is not in royalty. Otherwise Nero would have been a happy man, and Sardanapalus. Nay, even Agamemnon was not a happy man, though a much finer fellow than Sardanapalus or Nero; but while the rest are snoring what is he doing?

“Many a hair did he pluck, by the roots, from his forehead.”<sup>1</sup>

And what are his own words?

“Thus do I wander,”<sup>2</sup>

he says, and

“To and fro am I tossed, and my heart is  
Leaping forth from my bosom.”<sup>3</sup>

Poor man, what about you is in a bad state? Your possessions? No, it is not; rather you “are possessed of much gold and of much bronze.”<sup>4</sup> Your body? No, it is not. What, then, is wrong with you? Why, this: You have neglected and ruined whatever that is within you by which we desire, avoid, choose, and refuse. How neglected? It remains ignorant of

<sup>2</sup> v. 91.

<sup>3</sup> v. 94 f.

<sup>4</sup> *Iliad*, XVIII. 289.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἀγαθοῦ πρὸς ἣν πέφυκε καὶ τὴν τοῦ κακοῦ καὶ  
 τί ἴδιον ἔχει καὶ τί ἀλλότριον. καὶ ὅταν τι τῶν  
 ἀλλοτρίων κακῶς ἔχη, λέγει “οὐαὶ μοι, οἱ γὰρ  
 33 “Ἕλληνες κινδυνεύουσι.” ταλαίπωρον ἡγεμονικὸν  
 καὶ μόνον ἀτημέλητον καὶ ἀθεράπευτον. “μέλλου-  
 σιν ἀποθνήσκειν ὑπὸ τῶν Τρώων ἀναιρεθέντες.”  
 ἂν δ’ αὐτοὺς οἱ Τρῶες μὴ ἀποκτείνωσιν, οὐ μὴ  
 ἀποθάνωσιν; “ναί, ἀλλ’ οὐχ ὑφ’ ἐν πάντες.” τί  
 οὖν διαφέρει; εἰ γὰρ κακόν ἐστι τὸ ἀποθανεῖν, ἂν  
 τε ὁμοῦ ἂν τε καθ’ ἓνα ὁμοίως κακόν ἐστιν. μή  
 τι ἄλλο τι μέλλει γίνεσθαι ἢ τὸ σωμάτιον χωρίζε-  
 34 σθαι καὶ ἡ ψυχὴ; “οὐδέν.” σοὶ δὲ ἀπολλυ-  
 μένων τῶν Ἑλλήνων ἡ θύρα κέκλεισται; οὐκ  
 ἔξεστιν ἀποθανεῖν; “ἔξεστιν.” τί οὖν πενθεῖς;  
 οὐαὶ,<sup>1</sup> βασιλεὺς καὶ τὸ τοῦ Διὸς σκῆπτρον ἔχων.  
 ἀτυχὴς βασιλεὺς οὐ γίνεται· οὐ μᾶλλον ἢ  
 35 ἀτυχὴς θεός. τί οὖν εἶ; ποιμὴν ταῖς ἀληθείαις·  
 οὕτως γὰρ κλάεις ὥς οἱ ποιμένες, ὅταν λύκος  
 ἀρπάσῃ τι τῶν προβάτων αὐτῶν· καὶ οὗτοι δὲ  
 36 πρόβατά εἰσιν οἱ ὑπὸ σοῦ ἀρχόμενοι. τί δὲ καὶ

<sup>1</sup> Oldfather: οὐαὶ S.

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<sup>1</sup> Specifically alluding to the position of Agamemnon in the situation referred to above.

<sup>2</sup> This is a distinct over-statement of the case. Obviously it makes a great deal of difference for a State (and it is in his capacity as head of a State that Agamemnon is here appearing), whether its fighting men are killed all at once, or die one at a time in the course of nature.

<sup>3</sup> Presumably a king is expected to commit suicide before becoming “unfortunate,” as suggested in § 34. If he survived under the circumstances here described, he certainly must be “unfortunate,” at least as a man, in any ordinary sense of the term. Capps, however, thinks the meaning of Epictetus to be that a king *qua* king, that is, while really holding the sceptre of Zeus, is blessed of fortune. If “unfortunate” he is simply not such a king. This refinement

the true nature of the good, to which it was born, and of the true nature of the evil, and of what is its own proper possession, and what is none of its own concern. And whenever some one of these things that are none of its own concern is in a bad way, it says, "Woe is me, for the Greeks are in danger."<sup>1</sup> Ah, miserable governing principle, the only thing neglected and uncared for! "They are going to perish, slain by the Trojans." But if the Trojans do not kill them, will they not die anyway? "Yes, but not all at once." What difference does it make, then? For if death is an evil, whether they die all at once, or die one at a time, it is equally an evil.<sup>2</sup> Nothing else is going to happen, is it, but the separation of the paltry body from the soul? "Nothing." And is the door closed for you, if the Greeks perish? Are you not permitted to die? "I am." Why, then, do you grieve? "Woe is me, a king, and holding the sceptre of Zeus!" A king does not become unfortunate any more than a god becomes unfortunate.<sup>3</sup> What are you, then? Truly a shepherd!<sup>4</sup> for you wail as the shepherds do when a wolf carries off one of their sheep; and these men over whom you rule are sheep. But why did you come here<sup>5</sup> in the first

would be similar to the well-known argument concerning the "ruler *qua* ruler," in the first book of Plato's *Republic*. The more common-sense view of the case is well expressed by the Scholiast on Homer's *Odyssey* XI. 438, thus: "A king is unfortunate when his subjects fare ill."

<sup>4</sup> Referring to the common Homeric designation of a ruler as the "shepherd of the folk."

<sup>5</sup> Capps proposes the novel view that ἡρχου is from ἄρχομαι, and "takes up ἀρχόμενοι [35] . . . Agamemnon, by allowing himself to be dominated by an ἀλλότριον πρᾶγμα, has become a subject, a sheep."

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἤρχου ; μή τι ὄρεξις ὑμῖν ἐκινδυνεύετο, μή τι  
ἐκκλησις, μή τι ὀρμή, μή τι ἀφορμή ; “ οὐ,” φησίν,  
“ ἀλλὰ τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ μου τὸ γυναικάριον ἡρπάγη.”
- 37 οὐκ οὖν<sup>1</sup> κέρδος μέγα στερηθῆναι μοιχικοῦ γυναι-  
καρίου ; “ καταφρονηθῶμεν οὖν ὑπὸ τῶν Τρώων ; ”  
τίνων ὄντων ; φρονίμων ἢ ἀφρόνων ; εἰ φρονίμων,  
τί αὐτοῖς πολεμεῖτε ; εἰ ἀφρόνων, τί ὑμῖν μέλει ;
- 38 “ Ἐν τίνι οὖν ἔστι τὸ ἀγαθόν, ἐπειδὴ ἐν τούτοις  
οὐκ ἔστιν ; εἰπὲ ἡμῖν, κύριε ἄγγελε καὶ κατά-  
σκοπε.” “ ὅπου οὐ δοκεῖτε οὐδὲ θέλετε ζητῆσαι  
αὐτό. εἰ γὰρ ἠθέλετε, εὔρετε ἂν αὐτὸ ἐν ὑμῖν ὃν  
οὐδ’ ἂν ἔξω ἐπλάζεσθε οὐδ’ ἂν ἐζητεῖτε τὰ
- 39 ἀλλότρια ὡς ἴδια. ἐπιστρέψατε αὐτοὶ ἐφ’ ἑαν-  
τούς, καταμάθετε τὰς προλήψεις ἃς ἔχετε. ποῖόν  
τι φαντάζεσθε τὸ ἀγαθόν ; τὸ εὔρουν, τὸ εὐδαι-  
μονικόν, τὸ ἀπαραπόδιστον. ἄγε, μέγα<sup>2</sup> δ’ αὐτὸ  
φυσικῶς οὐ φαντάζεσθε ; ἀξιόλογον οὐ φαν-  
40 τάζεσθε ; ἀβλαβὲς οὐ φαντάζεσθε ; ἐν ποίᾳ οὖν  
ὑλῇ δεῖ ζητεῖν τὸ εὔρουν καὶ ἀπαραπόδιστον ; ἐν  
τῇ δούλῃ ἢ ἐν τῇ ἐλευθέρᾳ ; ” “ ἐν τῇ ἐλευθέρᾳ.”  
“ τὸ σωματίον οὖν ἐλεύθερον ἔχετε ἢ δούλον ; ”  
“ οὐκ ἴσμεν.” “ οὐκ ἴστε ὅτι πυρετοῦ δούλόν  
ἐστιν, ποδάγρας, ὀφθαλμίας, δυσεντερίας, τυράν-  
νου, πυρός, σιδήρου, παντὸς τοῦ ἰσχυροτέρου ; ”
- 41 “ ναὶ δούλον.” “ πῶς οὖν ἔτι ἀνεμπόδιστον εἶναί  
τι δύναται τῶν τοῦ σώματος ; πῶς δὲ μέγα ἢ  
ἀξιόλογον τὸ φύσει νεκρόν, ἢ γῇ, ὁ πηλός ; τί οὖν ;
- 42 οὐδὲν ἔχετε ἐλεύθερον ; ” “ μήποτε οὐδέν.” “ καὶ

<sup>1</sup> οὐκοῦν S.

<sup>2</sup> Wolf : μετὰ S.

<sup>1</sup> See sections 24 and 25 above, and note there.

place? Your desire was not in danger, was it, or your avoidance, your choice, or your refusal? "No," he answers, "but my brother's frail wife was carried off." Was it not, then, a great gain to lose a frail and adulterous wife? "Shall we, then, be despised by the Trojans?" Who are they? Wise men or foolish? If wise, why are you fighting with them? If foolish, why do you care?

"In what, then, is the good, since it is not in these things? Tell us, Sir messenger and scout."<sup>1</sup> "It is where you do not expect it, and do not wish to look for it. For if you had wished, you would have found it within you, and you would not now be wandering outside, nor would you be seeking what does not concern you, as though it were your own possession. Turn your thoughts upon yourselves, find out the kind of preconceived ideas which you have. What sort of a thing do you imagine the good to be? Serenity, happiness, freedom from restraint. Come, do you not imagine it to be something naturally great? Something precious? Something not injurious? In what kind of subject-matter for life ought one to seek serenity, and freedom from restraint? In that which is slave, or in that which is free?" "In the free." "Is the paltry body which you have, then, free or is it a slave?" "We know not." "You do not know that it is a slave of fever, gout, ophthalmia, dysentery, a tyrant, fire, iron, everything that is stronger?" "Yes, it is their servant." "How, then, can anything that pertains to the body be unhampered? And how can that which is naturally lifeless, earth, or clay, be great or precious? What then? Have you nothing that is free?" "Per-

- τίς ὑμᾶς ἀναγκάσαι δύναται συγκαταθέσθαι τῷ  
 ψευδεῖ φαινομένῳ ; ” “ οὐδεῖς. ” “ τίς δὲ μὴ συγκα-  
 ταθέσθαι τῷ φαινομένῳ ἀληθεῖ ; ” “ οὐδεῖς. ”  
 “ ἐνθάδ’ οὖν ὁρᾶτε, ὅτι ἔστι τι ἐν ὑμῖν ἐλεύθερον  
 43 φύσει. ὀρέγεσθαι δ’ ἢ ἐκκλίνειν ἢ ὁρμᾶν ἢ ἀφορ-  
 μᾶν ἢ παρασκευάζεσθαι ἢ προτίθεσθαι τίς ὑμῶν  
 δύναται μὴ λαβὼν φαντασίαν λυσιτελοῦς ἢ μὴ  
 καθήκοντος ; ” “ οὐδεῖς. ” “ ἔχετε οὖν καὶ ἐν  
 44 τούτοις ἀκώλυτόν τι<sup>1</sup> καὶ ἐλεύθερον. ταλαίπω-  
 ροι, τοῦτο ἐξεργάζεσθε, τούτου ἐπιμέλεσθε, ἐνταῦ-  
 θα ζητεῖτε τὸ ἀγαθόν. ”  
 45 Καὶ πῶς ἐνδέχεται μηδὲν ἔχοντα, γυμνόν,  
 ἄοικον, ἀνέστιον, αὐχμῶντα, ἄδουλον,<sup>2</sup> ἄπολιν  
 46 διεξάγειν εὐρώως ; ἰδοὺ ἀπέσταλκεν ὑμῖν ὁ θεὸς  
 47 τὸν δείξοντα ἔργῳ, ὅτι ἐνδέχεται. “ ἴδετέ με,  
 ἄοικός εἰμι, ἄπολις, ἀκτῆμων, ἄδουλος· χαμαὶ  
 κοιμῶμαι· οὐ γυνή, οὐ παιδία, οὐ πραιτωρίδιον,  
 ἀλλὰ γῆ μόνον καὶ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἐν τριβωνάριον.  
 48 καὶ τί μοι λείπει ; οὐκ εἰμι ἄλυπος, οὐκ εἰμι  
 ἄφοβος, οὐκ εἰμι ἐλεύθερος ; πότε ὑμῶν εἶδέν μέ-  
 τις ἐν ὀρέξει ἀποτυγχάνοντα, πότ’ ἐν ἐκκλίσει  
 περιπίπτοντα ; πότ’ ἐμεμψάμην ἢ θεὸν ἢ ἄνθρω-  
 πον, πότ’ ἐνεκάλεσά τι ; μή τις ὑμῶν ἐσκυθρο-  
 49 πακότα με εἶδεν ; πῶς δ’ ἐντυγχάνω τούτοις, οὓς  
 ὑμεῖς φοβεῖσθε καὶ θαυμάζετε ; οὐχ ὥς ἀνδρα-  
 πόδοις ; τίς με ἰδὼν οὐχὶ τὸν βασιλέα τὸν ἑαυτοῦ  
 ὁρᾶν οἶεται καὶ δεσπότην ; ”

<sup>1</sup> τι added by Wolf, after Schegk.

<sup>2</sup> Upton : δοῦλον S.



haps nothing." "And who can compel you to assent to that which appears to you to be false?" "No one." "And who to refuse assent to that which appears to you to be true?" "No one." "Here, then, you see that there *is* something within you which is naturally free. But to desire, or to avoid, or to choose, or to refuse, or to prepare, or to set something before yourself—what man among you can do these things without first conceiving an impression of what is profitable, or what is not fitting?" "No one." "You have, therefore, here too, something unhindered and free. Poor wretches, develop this, pay attention to this, seek here your good."

And how is it possible for a man who has nothing, who is naked, without home or hearth, in squalor, without a slave, without a city, to live serenely? Behold, God has sent you the man who will show in practice that it is possible. "Look at me," he says, "I am without a home, without a city, without property, without a slave; I sleep on the ground; I have neither wife nor children, no miserable governor's mansion, but only earth, and sky, and one rough cloak. Yet what do I lack? Am I not free from pain and fear, am I not free? When has anyone among you seen me failing to get what I desire, or falling into what I would avoid? When have I ever found fault with either God or man? When have I ever blamed anyone? Has anyone among you seen me with a gloomy face? And how do I face those persons before whom you stand in fear and awe? Do I not face them as slaves? Who, when he lays eyes upon me, does not feel that he is seeing his king and his master?"

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 50 "Ἴδε κυνικαὶ φωναί, ἴδε χαρακτήρ, ἴδ' ἐπιβολή.  
οὐ· ἀλλὰ πηρίδιον καὶ ξύλον καὶ γνάθοι μεγάλαι·  
καταφαγεῖν πᾶν ὃ ἂν<sup>1</sup> δῶς ἢ ἀποθησαυρίσαι ἢ  
τοῖς ἀπαντῶσι λοιδορεῖσθαι ἀκαίρως ἢ καλὸν  
51 τὸν ὦμον δεικνύειν. τηλικούτῳ πράγματι ὁρᾷς  
πῶς μέλλεις ἐγχειρεῖν; ἔσοπτρον πρῶτον λάβε,  
ἴδε σου τοὺς ὦμους, κατάρμαθε τὴν ὀσφύν, τοὺς  
μηρούς. Ὀλύμπια μέλλεις ἀπογράφεσθαι, ἄν-  
θρωπε, οὐχί τινά ποτε ἀγῶνα ψυχρὸν καὶ ταλαί-  
52 πωρον. οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν Ὀλυμπίοις νικηθῆναι  
μόνον καὶ ἐξελθεῖν, ἀλλὰ πρῶτον μὲν ὅλης τῆς  
οἰκουμένης βλεπούσης δεῖ ἀσχημονῆσαι, οὐχί  
Ἀθηναίων μόνον ἢ Λακεδαιμονίων ἢ Νικοπολι-  
τῶν, εἴτα καὶ δέρεσθαι δεῖ τὸν εἰκῇ ἐξελθόντα,<sup>2</sup>  
πρὸ δὲ τοῦ δαρῆναι διψῆσαι, καυματισθῆναι,  
πολλὴν ἀφῆν καταπιεῖν.
- 53 Βούλευσαι ἐπιμελέστερον, γνῶθι σαυτόν, ἀνά-  
κρινον τὸ δαιμόνιον, δίχα θεοῦ μὴ ἐπιχειρήσης.  
ἂν γὰρ συμβουλεύσῃ, ἴσθι ὅτι μέγαν σε θέλει  
54 γενέσθαι ἢ πολλὰς πληγὰς λαβεῖν. καὶ γὰρ  
τοῦτο λίαν κομψὸν τῷ Κυνικῷ παραπέπλεκται·  
δέρεσθαι αὐτὸν δεῖ ὥς ὄνον καὶ δερόμενον φιλεῖν  
αὐτοὺς τοὺς δέροντας ὥς πατέρα πάντων, ὥς  
55 ἀδελφόν. οὐ· ἀλλ' ἂν τίς σε δέρῃ, κραύγαζε  
στάς ἐν τῷ μέσῳ "ὦ Καῖσαρ, ἐν τῇ σῇ εἰρήνῃ

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl: ἐάν S.

<sup>2</sup> εἰσελθόντα Meibom. Compare explanatory note.

<sup>1</sup> Meibom's conjecture, εἰσελθόντα, which is sometimes accepted, would mean, "The man who carelessly enters the contest." But the punishment of flogging would probably be reserved for the person who failed to appear finally in the lists, since everyone had to have a month's preliminary

Lo, these are words that befit a Cynic, this is his character, and his plan of life. But no, you say, what makes a Cynic is a contemptible wallet, a staff, and big jaws; to devour everything you give him, or to stow it away, or to revile tactlessly the people he meets, or to show off his fine shoulder. Do you see the spirit in which you are intending to set your hand to so great an enterprise? First take a mirror, look at your shoulders, find out what kind of loins and thighs you have. Man, it's an Olympic contest in which you are intending to enter your name, not some cheap and miserable contest or other. In the Olympic games it is not possible for you merely to be beaten and then leave; but, in the first place, you needs must disgrace yourself in the sight of the whole civilized world, not merely before the men of Athens, or Lacedaemon, or Nicopolis; and, in the second place, the man who carelessly gets up and leaves<sup>1</sup> must needs be flogged, and before he is flogged he has to suffer thirst, and scorching heat, and swallow quantities of wrestler's sand.

Think the matter over more carefully, know yourself, ask the Deity, do not attempt the task without God. For if God so advises you, be assured that He wishes you either to become great, or to receive many stripes. For this too is a very pleasant strand woven into the Cynic's pattern of life; he must needs be flogged like an ass, and while he is being flogged he must love the men who flog him, as though he were the father or brother of them all. But that is not your way. If someone flogs you, go stand in the midst and shout, "O Caesar, what do I

training on the spot, during which time those who had entered would suffer the inconveniences described below.



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- οἷα πάσχω; ἄγωμεν ἐπὶ τὸν ἀνθύπατον.”
- 56 Κυνικῶ δὲ Καῖσαρ τί ἐστὶν ἢ ἀνθύπατος ἢ ἄλλος ἢ ὁ καταπεπομφῶς αὐτὸν καὶ ᾧ λατρεῖν, ὁ Ζεὺς; ἄλλον τινὰ ἐπικαλεῖται ἢ ἐκείνον; οὐ πέπεισται δ', ὅτι ἂν πάσχη τούτων, ὅτι ἐκείνος
- 57 αὐτὸν γυμνάζει; ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν Ἡρακλῆς ὑπὸ Εὐρυσθέως γυμναζόμενος οὐκ ἐνόμιζεν ἄθλιος εἶναι, ἀλλ' ἀόκνως ἐπετέλει πάντα τὰ προσταττόμενα.<sup>1</sup> οὗτος δ' ὑπὸ τοῦ Διὸς ἀθλούμενος καὶ γυμναζόμενος μέλλει κεκραγῆναι καὶ ἀγανακτεῖν, ἄξιος φορεῖν τὸ σκῆπτρον τὸ Διογένους;
- 58 ἄκουε, τί λέγει ἐκείνος πυρέσσων πρὸς τοὺς παριόντας. “κακαί,” ἔφη, “κεφαλαί, οὐ μενεῖτε; ἀλλ' ἀθλητῶν μὲν ὀλέθρων<sup>2</sup> μάχην ὀψόμενοι ἅπιτε ὁδὸν τοσαύτην εἰς Ὀλυμπίαν· πυρετοῦ δὲ
- 59 καὶ ἀνθρώπου μάχην ἰδεῖν οὐ βούλεσθε;” ταχύ γ' ἂν ὁ τοιοῦτος ἐνεκάλεσεν τῷ θεῷ καταπεπομφότι αὐτὸν ὡς παρ' ἀξίαν αὐτῷ χρωμένῳ, ὅς γε ἐνεκαλλωπίζετο ταῖς περιστάσεσι καὶ θέαμα εἶναι ἡξίου τῶν παριόντων. ἐπὶ τίνι γὰρ ἐγκαλέσει; ὅτι εὐσχημονεῖ; τί<sup>3</sup> κατηγορεῖ; ὅτι λαμπροτέραν ἐπιδείκνυται τὴν ἀρετὴν τὴν ἐαυ-

<sup>1</sup> Meibom: *πραττόμενα S.*

<sup>2</sup> Blass: *ὀλεθρον ἢ μάχην S.*

<sup>3</sup> Elter: *ὅτι S.*

<sup>1</sup> Referred to also by Jerome, *Adv. Jovinianum*, 2, 14.

<sup>2</sup> An ancient scholiast, probably Arethas (cf. Schenkl<sup>2</sup>, p. lxxx), remarks at this point, that Epictetus had probably read the Gospels and Jewish literature. But this particular passage does not furnish any very cogent argument, for the evidence adduced, namely the injunctions about “turning the other cheek” and “loving your enemies” (*Matth.* 5, 39 and 44), has nothing in common with the somewhat vain-

have to suffer under your peaceful rule? let us go before the Proconsul." But what to a Cynic is Caesar, or a Proconsul, or anyone other than He who has sent him into the world, and whom he serves, that is, Zeus? Does he call upon anyone but Zeus? And is he not persuaded that whatever of these hardships he suffers, it is Zeus that is exercising him? Nay, but Heracles, when he was being exercised by Eurystheus, did not count himself wretched, but used to fulfil without hesitation everything that was enjoined upon him: and yet is this fellow, when he is being trained and exercised by Zeus, prepared to cry out and complain? Is he a man worthy to carry the staff of Diogenes? Hear *his* words to the passers-by as he lies ill of a fever:<sup>1</sup> "Vile wretches," he said, "are you not going to stop? Nay, you are going to take that long, long journey to Olympia, to see the struggle of worthless athletes; but do you not care to see a struggle between fever and a man?"<sup>2</sup> No doubt a man of *that* sort would have blamed God, who had sent him into the world, for mistreating him! Nay, *he* took pride in his distress, and demanded that those who passed by should gaze upon him. Why, what will he blame God *for*? Because he is living a decent life? What charge does he bring against Him? The charge that He is exhibiting his virtue in a more

glorious speech of Diogenes. Probably, however, the scholium actually belongs at § 54, where there is, indeed, a certain resemblance. Fairly apposite, also, is the citation of *James* 1, 2: *πᾶσαν χαρὰν ἡγήσασθε, ἀδελφοί, ὅταν πειρασμοῖς περιπέσητε ποικίλοις*, in connection with the next sentence. But even at the best, these words from the *New Testament* are only parallels, certainly not sources. On the general question, see *Introd.*, Vol. I., p. xxvi f.

- 60 τοῦ ; ἄγε, περὶ πενίας δὲ τί λέγει, περὶ θανάτου,  
 περὶ πόνου ; πῶς συνέκρινεν τὴν εὐδαιμονίαν  
 τὴν αὐτοῦ τῇ μεγάλῳ βασιλέως ; μᾶλλον δ'  
 61 οὐδὲ συγκριτὸν ᾤετο εἶναι. ὅπου γὰρ ταραχαὶ  
 καὶ λῦπαι καὶ φόβοι καὶ ὀρέξεις ἀτελεῖς καὶ  
 ἐκκλίσεις περιπίπτουσιν καὶ φθόνοι καὶ ζηλοτυ-  
 πίαι, ποῦ ἐκεῖ πάροδος εὐδαιμονίας ; ὅπου δ'  
 ἂν ἡ σαπρὰ δόγματα, ἐκεῖ πάντα ταῦτα εἶναι  
 ἀνάγκη.
- 62 Πυθομένου δὲ τοῦ νεανίσκου, εἰ νοσήσας ἀξιού-  
 ντος φίλου πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐλθεῖν ὥστε νοσοκομηθῆναι  
 ὑπακούσει, Ποῦ δὲ φίλον μοι δώσεις Κυνικοῦ ;  
 63 ἔφη. δεῖ γὰρ αὐτὸν ἄλλον εἶναι τοιοῦτον, ἢ  
 ἄξιός ἢ φίλος αὐτοῦ ἀριθμεῖσθαι. κοινωνὸν  
 αὐτὸν εἶναι δεῖ τοῦ σκήπτρου καὶ τῆς βασιλείας  
 καὶ διάκονον ἄξιον, εἰ μέλλει φιλίας ἀξιοθή-  
 σεσθαι, ὡς Διογένης Ἀντισθένης ἐγένετο, ὡς  
 64 Κράτης Διογένης. ἡ<sup>1</sup> δοκεῖ σοι, ὅτι, ἂν χαίρειν  
 αὐτῷ λέγῃ προσερχόμενος, φίλος ἐστὶν αὐτοῦ  
 65 καὶ κεῖνος αὐτὸν ἄξιον ἡγήσεται τοῦ πρὸς αὐτὸν  
 εἰσελθεῖν ; ὥστε ἂν σοι δοκῇ καὶ ἐνθυμηθῇς τι<sup>2</sup>  
 τοιοῦτον, κοπρίαν μᾶλλον περιβλέπον κομφήν,  
 ἐν ᾗ πυρέξεις,<sup>3</sup> ἀποσκέπουσιν τὸν βορέαν, ἵνα  
 66 μὴ περιψυγῇς. σὺ δέ μοι δοκεῖς θέλειν εἰς οἶκόν  
 τινος ἀπελθὼν διὰ χρόνον χορτασθῆναι. τί οὖν  
 σοι καὶ ἐπιχειρεῖν πράγματι τηλικούτῳ ;  
 67 Γάμος δ', ἔφη, καὶ παῖδες προηγούμενως παρα-

<sup>1</sup> Schegk : ἡ S.

<sup>2</sup> Reiske : ἐνθυμήθητι S.

<sup>3</sup> Schweighäuser : πῦρ ἔξεις S.

<sup>1</sup> Of Persia.

<sup>2</sup> The word means also "staff," as in 57.



brilliant style? Come, what says Diogenes about poverty, death, hardship? How did he habitually compare his happiness with that of the Great King?<sup>1</sup> Or rather, he thought there was no comparison between them. For where there are disturbances, and griefs, and fears, and ineffectual desires, and unsuccessful avoidances, and envies, and jealousies—where is there in the midst of all this a place for happiness to enter? But wherever worthless judgments are held, there all these passions must necessarily exist.

And when the young man asked whether he, as a Cynic, should consent, if, when he had fallen ill, a friend asked him to come to his house, so as to receive proper nursing, Epictetus replied: But where will you find me a Cynic's friend? For such a person must be another Cynic, in order to be worthy of being counted his friend. He must share with him his sceptre<sup>2</sup> and kingdom, and be a worthy ministrant, if he is going to be deemed worthy of friendship, as Diogenes became the friend of Antisthenes, and Crates of Diogenes. Or do you think that if a man as he comes up greets the Cynic, he is the Cynic's friend, and the Cynic will think him worthy to receive him into his house? So if that is what you think and have in mind, you had much better look around for some nice dunghill, on which to have your fever, one that will give you shelter from the north wind, so that you won't get chilled. But you give me the impression of wanting to go into somebody's house for a while and to get filled up. Why, then, are you even laying your hand to so great an enterprise?

But, said the young man, will marriage and children



- ληφθήσονται ὑπὸ τοῦ Κυνικοῦ ;—'Αν μοι σοφῶν,  
 ἔφη, δῶς πόλιν, τάχα μὲν οὐδ' ἤξει τις ῥαδίως  
 ἐπὶ τὸ κυνίζειν. τίνων γὰρ ἔνεκα ἀναδέξεται<sup>1</sup>  
 68 ταύτην τὴν διεξαγωγὴν; ὅμως δ' ἂν ὑποθώμεθα,  
 οὐδὲν κωλύσει καὶ γῆμαι αὐτὸν καὶ παιδοποιή-  
 σασθαι. καὶ γὰρ ἡ γυνὴ αὐτοῦ ἔσται ἄλλη  
 τοιαύτη καὶ ὁ πενθερὸς ἄλλος τοιοῦτος καὶ τὰ  
 69 παιδία οὕτως ἀνατραφήσεται. τοιαύτης δ' οὔσης  
 καταστάσεως, οἷα νῦν ἔστιν, ὡς ἐν παρατάξει,  
 μή ποτ' ἀπερίσπαστον εἶναι δεῖ τὸν Κυνικόν,  
 ὅλον πρὸς τῇ διακονίᾳ τοῦ θεοῦ, ἐπιφοιτᾶν ἀνθρώ-  
 ποις δυνάμενον, οὐ προσδεδεμένον καθήκουσιν  
 ἰδιωτικοῖς οὐδ' ἐμπεπλεγμένον σχέσεσιν, ἃς  
 παραβαίνων οὐκέτι σώσει τὸ τοῦ καλοῦ καὶ  
 ἀγαθοῦ πρόσωπον, τηρῶν δ' ἀπολεῖ τὸν ἄγγελον  
 70 καὶ κατάσκοπον καὶ κήρυκα τῶν θεῶν; ὅρα γάρ,  
 ὅτι αὐτὸν ἀποδεικνύναι δεῖ<sup>2</sup> τινὰ τῷ πενθερῷ,  
 ἀποδιδόναι τοῖς ἄλλοις συγγενέσι τῆς γυναικός,  
 αὐτῇ τῇ γυναικί· εἰς νοσοκομίας λοιπὸν ἐκκλείε-  
 71 ται, εἰς πορισμόν. ἵνα τᾶλλα ἀφῶ, δεῖ αὐτὸν  
 κουκκούμιον, ὅπου θερμὸν ποιήσει τῷ παιδίῳ,  
 ἵν' αὐτὸ λούσῃ εἰς σκάφην· ἐρίδια τεκούσῃ τῇ  
 γυναικί, ἔλαιον, κραβάττιον, ποτήριον (γίνεται  
 72 ἤδη πλείω σκευάρια)· τὴν ἄλλην ἀσχολίαν,  
 τὸν περισπασμόν. ποῦ μοι λοιπὸν ἐκεῖνος ὁ  
 βασιλεὺς ὁ τοῖς κοινοῖς προσευκαιρῶν,

ὦ λαοί τ' ἐπιτετράφεται καὶ τόσσα μέμηλεν·

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl : ἂν δέχεται S.

<sup>2</sup> δεῖ added by Schenkl : Sc (?) has it after ὅτι.

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Iliad*, II. 25.

be undertaken by the Cynic as a matter of prime importance?—If, replied Epictetus, you grant me a city of wise men, it might very well be that no one will lightly adopt the Cynic's profession. For in whose interest would he take on this style of life? If, nevertheless, we assume that he does so act, there will be nothing to prevent him from both marrying and having children; for his wife will be another person like himself, and so will his father-in-law, and his children will be brought up in the same fashion. But in such an order of things as the present, which is like that of a battle-field, it is a question, perhaps, if the Cynic ought not to be free from distraction, wholly devoted to the service of God, free to go about among men, not tied down by the private duties of men, nor involved in relationships which he cannot violate and still maintain his rôle as a good and excellent man, whereas, on the other hand, if he observes them, he will destroy the messenger, the scout, the herald of the gods, that he is. For see, he must show certain services to his father-in-law, to the rest of his wife's relatives, to his wife herself; finally, he is driven from his profession, to act as a nurse in his own family and to provide for them. To make a long story short, he must get a kettle to heat water for the baby, for washing it in a bath-tub; wool for his wife when she has had a child, oil, a cot, a cup (the vessels get more and more numerous); not to speak of the rest of his business, and his distraction. Where, I beseech you, is left now our king, the man who has leisure for the public interest,

Who hath charge of the folk and for many a thing  
must be watchful? <sup>1</sup>

- ὄν δεῖ τοὺς ἄλλους ἐπισκοπεῖν, τοὺς γεγαμηκότας, τοὺς πεπαιδοποιημένους, τίς καλῶς χρήται τῇ αὐτοῦ γυναικί, τίς κακῶς, τίς διαφέρεται, ποία οἰκία εὐσταθεῖ, ποία οὐ, ὥς ἰατρὸν περιερχόμενον
- 73 καὶ τῶν σφυγμῶν ἀπτόμενον; “σὺ πυρέτεις, σὺ κεφαλαλγείς, σὺ ποδαγρᾶς· σὺ ἀνάτεινον, σὺ φάγε, σὺ ἀλούτῃσον· σὲ δεῖ τμηθῆναι, σὲ δεῖ
- 74 καυθῆναι.” ποῦ σχολὴ τῷ εἰς τὰ ἰδιωτικὰ καθήκοντα ἐνδεδεμένῳ; ἄγε,<sup>1</sup> οὐ δεῖ αὐτὸν πορίσαι ἱματίδια τοῖς παιδίοις; πρὸς γραμματιστὴν ἀποστεῖλαι πινακίδια ἔχοντα, γραφεῖα, τιτλάρια,<sup>2</sup> καὶ πῖ<sup>3</sup> τούτοις κραβάττιον ἐτοιμάσαι; οὐ γὰρ ἐκ τῆς κοιλίας ἐξελθόντα δύναται Κυνικὰ εἶναι· εἰ δὲ μή, κρεῖσσον ἢν αὐτὰ γενόμενα ῥῖψαι ἢ
- 75 οὕτως ἀποκτεῖναι. σκόπει, ποῦ κατάγομεν τὸν
- 76 Κυνικόν, πῶς αὐτοῦ τὴν βασιλείαν ἀφαιρούμεθα. —Ναί· ἀλλὰ Κράτης ἔγνημεν.—Περίστασίν μοι λέγεις ἐξ ἔρωτος γενομένην καὶ γυναιῖκα τιθεῖς ἄλλον Κράτητα. ἡμεῖς δὲ περὶ τῶν κοινῶν γάμων καὶ ἀπεριστάτων ζητοῦμεν καὶ οὕτως ζητοῦντες οὐχ εὐρίσκομεν ἐν<sup>4</sup> ταύτῃ τῇ καταστάσει προηγούμενον τῷ Κυνικῷ τό πρᾶγμα.
- 77 Πῶς οὖν ἔτι, φησὶν, διασώσει τὴν κοινωνίαν; —Τὸν θεόν σοι.<sup>5</sup> μείζονα δ' εὐεργετοῦσιν ἀνθρώ-

<sup>1</sup> Transposed to this position by Upton from the beginning of the next sentence.

<sup>2</sup> Du Cange: *τιτλάρια S.*

<sup>3</sup> Elter, after Schegk: *καί S.*

<sup>4</sup> ἐν added by Upton.

<sup>5</sup> Upton: *σου S.*

<sup>1</sup> That ancient marriages (which would appear to have been quite as successful as any other) were very seldom con-

Where, pray, is this king, whose duty it is to oversee the rest of men; those who have married; those who have had children; who is treating his wife well, and who ill; who quarrels; what household is stable, and what not; making his rounds like a physician, and feeling pulses? "You have a fever, you have a headache, you have the gout. You must abstain from food, you must eat, you must give up the bath; you need the surgeon's knife, you the cautery." Where is the man who is tied down to the duties of everyday life going to find leisure for such matters? Come, doesn't he have to get little cloaks for the children? Doesn't he have to send them off to a school-teacher with their little tablets and writing implements, and little notebooks; and, besides, get the little cot ready for them? For *they* can't be Cynics from the moment they leave the womb. And if he doesn't do all this, it would have been better to expose them at birth, rather than to kill them in this fashion. See to what straits we are reducing our Cynic, how we are taking away his kingdom from him.—Yes, but Crates married.—You are mentioning a particular instance which arose out of passionate love, and you are assuming a wife who is herself another Crates. But our inquiry is concerned with ordinary marriage apart from special circumstances,<sup>1</sup> and from this point of view we do not find that marriage, under present conditions, is a matter of prime importance for the Cynic.

How, then, said the young man, will the Cynic still be able to keep society going?—In the name of God, sir, who do mankind the greater service?

cerned with romantic passion, is well known, but seldom so explicitly stated as here.

- πους οἱ ἢ δύο ἢ τρία κακόρυγχα παῖδιά ἀνθ'  
 αὐτῶν εἰσάγοντες ἢ οἱ ἐπισκοποῦντες πάντας  
 κατὰ δύναμιν ἀνθρώπους, τί ποιοῦσιν, πῶς  
 διάγουσιν, τίνος ἐπιμελοῦνται, τίνος ἀμελοῦσι  
 78 παρὰ τὸ προσῆκον; καὶ Θηβαίους μείζονα ὠφέ-  
 λησαν ὅσοι τεκνία αὐτοῖς κατέλιπον Ἑπαμι-  
 νώνδου τοῦ ἀτέκνου ἀποθανόντος; καὶ Ὀμήρου  
 πλείονα τῇ κοινωνίᾳ συνεβάλετο Πρίαμος ὁ  
 πεντήκοντα γεννήσας περικαθάρματα ἢ Δαναὸς  
 79 ἢ Αἴολος; εἶτα στρατηγία μὲν ἢ σύνταγμά τινα  
 ἀπείρξει γάμου ἢ παιδοποιίας καὶ οὐ δόξει οὗτος  
 ἀντ' οὐδενὸς ἡλλάχθαι τὴν ἀτεκνίαν, ἢ δὲ τοῦ  
 80 Κυνικοῦ βασιλεία οὐκ ἔσται ἀνταξία; μήποτε  
 οὐκ αἰσθανόμεθα τοῦ μεγέθους αὐτοῦ οὐδὲ  
 φανταζόμεθα κατ' ἀξίαν τὸν χαρακτήρα τὸν  
 Διογένηος, ἀλλ' εἰς τοὺς νῦν ἀποβλέπομεν, τοὺς  
 τραπεζῆας<sup>1</sup> πυλαωρούς, οἳ οὐδὲν μιμοῦνται  
 ἐκείνους ἢ εἴ τι<sup>2</sup> ἄρα πόρδωνες γίνονται, ἄλλο  
 81 δ' οὐδέν; ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἂν ἡμᾶς ἐκίνει ταῦτα οὐδ'  
 ἂν ἐπεθαυμάζομεν, εἰ μὴ γαμήσει ἢ παιδοποιή-  
 σεται. ἄνθρωπε, πάντας ἀνθρώπους πεπαιδο-  
 ποιῆται, τοὺς ἄνδρας υἱοὺς ἔχει, τὰς γυναῖκας  
 θυγατέρας· πᾶσιν οὕτως προσέρχεται, οὕτως  
 82 πάντων κήδεται. ἢ σὺ δοκεῖς ὑπὸ περιεργίας  
 λοιδορεῖσθαι τοῖς ἀπαντῶσιν; ὥς πατὴρ αὐτὸ  
 ποιεῖ, ὥς ἀδελφὸς καὶ τοῦ κοινοῦ πατρὸς ὑπηρε-  
 τῆς τοῦ Διός.
- 83 Ἄν σοι δόξη, πυθοῦ μου καὶ εἰ πολιτεύσεται.

<sup>1</sup> Upton: τραπεζῆς S.

<sup>2</sup> Schenkl: ὅτι S.

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Iliad*, XXII. 69.

Those who bring into the world some two or three ugly-snouted children to take their place, or those who exercise oversight, to the best of their ability, over all mankind, observing what they are doing, how they are spending their lives, what they are careful about, and what they undutifully neglect? And were the Thebans helped more by all those who left them children than by Epaminondas who died without offspring? And did Priam, who begot fifty sons, all rascals, or Danaus, or Aeolus, contribute more to the common weal than did Homer? What? Shall high military command or writing a book prevent a man from marrying and having children, while such a person will not be regarded as having exchanged his childlessness for naught, and yet shall the Cynic's kingship not be thought a reasonable compensation? Can it be that we do not perceive the greatness of Diogenes, and have no adequate conception of his character, but have in mind the present-day representatives of the profession, these "dogs of the table, guards of the gate,"<sup>1</sup> who follow the masters not at all, except it be in breaking wind in public, forsooth, but in nothing else? Otherwise such points as these you have been raising would never have disturbed us, we should never have wondered why a Cynic will never marry or have children. Man, the Cynic has made all mankind his children; the men among them he has as sons, the women as daughters; in that spirit he approaches them all and cares for them all. Or do you fancy that it is in the spirit of idle impertinence he reviles those he meets? It is as a father he does it, as a brother, and as a servant of Zeus, who is Father of us all.

If you will, ask me also if he is to be active in

- 84 *σαννίων, μείζονα πολιτείαν ζητεῖς, ἥς πολιτεύεται; ἥ<sup>1</sup> ἐν Ἀθηναίοις παρελθὼν ἐρεῖ τις περὶ προσόδων ἢ πόρων, ὃν δεῖ πᾶσιν ἀνθρώποις διαλέγεσθαι, ἐπίσης μὲν Ἀθηναίοις, ἐπίσης δὲ Κορινθίοις, ἐπίσης δὲ Ῥωμαίοις οὐ περὶ πόρων οὐδὲ περὶ προσόδων οὐδὲ περὶ εἰρήνης ἢ πολέμου, ἀλλὰ περὶ εὐδαιμονίας καὶ κακοδαιμονίας, περὶ εὐτυχίας καὶ δυστυχίας, περὶ δουλείας καὶ*  
 85 *ἐλευθερίας; τηλικαύτην πολιτείαν πολιτευομένου ἀνθρώπου σύ μου πυνθάνῃ εἰ πολιτεύσεται; πυθοῦ μου καί, εἰ ἄρξει· πάλιν ἐρῶ σοι· μωρέ, ποίαν ἀρχὴν μείζονα, ἥς ἄρχει;*  
 86 *Χρεῖα μέντοι καὶ σώματος ποιοῦ τῷ τοιούτῳ. ἐπεὶ τοι ἂν φθισικὸς προέρχεται, λεπτὸς καὶ ὠχρὸς, οὐκέτι ὁμοίαν ἔμφασιν ἢ μαρτυρία αὐτοῦ*  
 87 *ἔχει. δεῖ γὰρ αὐτὸν οὐ μόνον τὰ τῆς ψυχῆς ἐπιδεικνύοντα παριστάνειν τοῖς ἰδιώταις ὅτι ἐνδέχεται δίχα τῶν θαυμαζομένων ὑπ' αὐτῶν εἶναι<sup>2</sup> καλὸν καὶ ἀγαθόν, ἀλλὰ καὶ διὰ τοῦ σώματος ἐνδείκνυσθαι, ὅτι ἡ ἀφελὴς καὶ λιτὴ καὶ ὑπαιθρος δίαιτα οὐδὲ τὸ σῶμα λυμαίνεται·*  
 88 *“ἰδοὺ καὶ τούτου μάρτυς εἰμὶ ἐγὼ καὶ τὸ σῶμα τὸ ἐμόν.” ὥς Διογένης ἐποίει· στίλβων γὰρ περιήρχετο καὶ κατ’<sup>3</sup> αὐτὸ τὸ σῶμα ἐπέστρεφε*  
 89 *τοὺς πολλούς. ἐλεούμενος δὲ Κυνικὸς ἐπαίτης*

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: *εἰ S.*

<sup>2</sup> The Salamanca ed., Wolf, and Salmasius: *εἶναι ὑπ' αὐτῶν S.*

<sup>3</sup> Wolf: *καθ' S.*

<sup>1</sup> Said by the Scholiast to be a reference to the otherwise unknown philosopher Sannio; but this note certainly, as Capps suggests, belongs back at § 84, and is there a false



politics. You ninny, are you looking for any nobler politics than that in which he is engaged? Or would you have someone in Athens step forward and discourse about incomes and revenues, when he is the person who ought to talk with all men, Athenians, Corinthians, and Romans alike, not about revenues, or income, or peace, or war, but about happiness and unhappiness, about success and failure, about slavery and freedom? When a man is engaging in such exalted politics, do *you* ask me if he is to engage in politics? Ask me also, if he will hold office. Again I will tell you: Fool, what nobler office will he hold than that which he now has?

And yet such a man needs also a certain kind of body, since if a consumptive comes forward, thin and pale,<sup>1</sup> his testimony no longer carries the same weight. For he must not merely, by exhibiting the qualities of his soul, prove to the laymen that it is possible, without the help of the things which they admire, to be a good and excellent man, but he must also show, by the state of his body, that his plain and simple style of life in the open air does not injure even his body: "Look," he says, "both I and my body are witnesses to the truth of my contention." That was the way of Diogenes, for he used to go about with a radiant complexion,<sup>2</sup> and would attract the attention of the common people by the very appearance of his body. But a Cynic who excites pity is regarded as a beggar;

inference from the word *συννίων*, which is addressed to the young man. For a similar dislocation of a scholium, see the note on § 58.

<sup>2</sup> Due in part at least to his regular use of oil for anointing. Diogenes Laertius, 6, 81.

δοκεῖ πάντες ἀποστρέφονται, πάντες προσκόπτουσιν. οὐδὲ γὰρ ῥυπαρὸν αὐτὸν δεῖ φαίνεσθαι, ὡς μηδὲ κατὰ τοῦτο τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀποσοβεῖν, ἀλλ' αὐτὸν τὸν αὐχμὸν αὐτοῦ δεῖ καθαρὸν εἶναι καὶ ἀγωγόν.

- 90 Δεῖ δὲ καὶ χάριν πολλὴν προσεῖναι φυσικὴν τῷ Κυνικῷ καὶ ὀξύτητα (εἰ δὲ μή, μύξα γίνεται, ἄλλο δ' οὐδέν), ἵνα ἐτοίμως δύνηται καὶ παρα-  
91 κειμένως πρὸς τὰ ἐμπίπτοντα ἀπαντᾶν. ὡς Διογένης πρὸς τὸν εἰπόντα “σὺ εἰ ὁ Διογένης ὁ μὴ οἰόμενος εἶναι θεοὺς;” “καὶ πῶς,” ἔφη,  
92 “σὲ θεοὺς ἐχθρὸν νομίζω;” πάλιν Ἀλεξάνδρῳ ἐπιστάντι αὐτῷ κοιμωμένῳ καὶ εἰπόντι

“οὐ χρὴ παννύχιον εὔδειν βουλευφόρον ἄνδρα”  
ἔνυπνος ἔτι ὦν ἀπήντησεν

“ὦ λαοί τ' ἐπιτετράφεται καὶ τόσσα μέμηλεν.”

- 93 Πρὸ πάντων δὲ τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν αὐτοῦ καθαρώ-  
τερον εἶναι τοῦ ἡλίου· εἰ δὲ μή, κυβευτὴν ἀνάγκη  
καὶ ῥαδιουργόν, ὅστις ἐνεχόμενός τινα αὐτὸς  
94 κακῷ ἐπιτιμήσει τοῖς ἄλλοις. ὅρα γάρ, οἷόν  
ἐστίν. τοῖς βασιλεῦσι τούτοις καὶ τυράννοις οἱ  
δορυφόροι καὶ τὰ ὄπλα παρεῖχε τὸ<sup>1</sup> ἐπιτιμᾶν

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: παρείχετο S.

<sup>1</sup> See Diogenes Laertius, 6, 42; the same joke appears already in Aristophanes (*Eq.* 32-4), as Capps remarks.

<sup>2</sup> The same account in Theon, *Progymn.* 5 (Stengel, II. p. 98). The famous meeting of these two men is pretty clearly apocryphal, at least in certain details. See Natorp in the *Real-Encyclopädie*<sup>2</sup>, V. 767.

everybody turns away from him, everybody takes offence at him. No, and he ought not to look dirty either, so as not to scare men away in this respect also; but even his squalor ought to be cleanly and attractive.

Furthermore, the Cynic ought to possess great natural charm and readiness of wit—otherwise he becomes mere snivel, and nothing else—so as to be able to meet readily and aptly whatever befalls; as Diogenes answered the man who said: “Are you the Diogenes who does not believe in the existence of the gods?” by saying, “And how can that be? You I regard as hated by the gods!”<sup>1</sup> Or again, when Alexander<sup>2</sup> stood over him as he was sleeping and said,

Sleeping the whole night through beseems not  
the giver of counsel,

he replied, still half asleep,

Who hath charge of the folk, and for many a  
thing must be watchful.<sup>3</sup>

But above all, the Cynic's governing principle should be purer than the sun; if not, he must needs be a gambler and a man of no principle, because he will be censuring the rest of mankind, while he himself is involved in some vice. For see what this means. To the kings and tyrants of this world their bodyguards and their arms used to

<sup>3</sup> Homer, *Iliad*, II. 24 and 25. The only point in the anecdote seems to be that Diogenes could say something more or less apposite even when only half awake; for the completion of the quotation is in no sense a real answer to the reproach.

τισιν καὶ<sup>1</sup> δύνασθαι καὶ κολάζειν τοὺς ἁμαρ-  
 τάνοντας καὶ αὐτοῖς οὖσι κακοῖς, τῷ δὲ<sup>2</sup>  
 Κυνικῷ ἀντὶ τῶν ὅπλων καὶ τῶν δορυφόρων  
 τὸ συνειδὸς τὴν ἐξουσίαν ταύτην παραδίδωσιν.  
 95 ὅταν ἴδῃ,<sup>3</sup> ὅτι ὑπερηγρύπνηκεν ὑπὲρ ἀνθρώπων  
 καὶ πεπόνηκεν καὶ καθαρὸς μὲν κεκοίμηται,  
 καθαρώτερον δ' αὐτὸν ἔτι ὁ ὕπνος ἀφήκεν,  
 ἐντεθύμηται δ', ὅσα ἐντεθύμηται ὡς φίλος τοῖς  
 θεοῖς, ὡς ὑπηρέτης, ὡς μετέχων τῆς ἀρχῆς τοῦ  
 Διὸς, πανταχοῦ δ' αὐτῷ πρόχειρον τὸ

ἄγρου δέ μ', ὦ Ζεῦ, καὶ σύ γ' ἡ Πεπρωμένη,

καὶ ὅτι εἰ ταύτῃ τοῖς θεοῖς φίλον, ταύτῃ γινέσθω.  
 96 διὰ τί μὴ θαρρήσῃ παρρησιάζεσθαι πρὸς τοὺς  
 ἀδελφούς τοὺς ἑαυτοῦ, πρὸς τὰ τέκνα, ἀπλῶς  
 πρὸς τοὺς συγγενεῖς ;

97 Διὰ τοῦτο οὔτε περίεργος οὔτε πολυπράγμων  
 ἐστὶν ὁ οὕτω διακείμενος· οὐ γὰρ τὰ ἀλλότρια  
 πολυπραγμονεῖ, ὅταν τὰ ἀνθρώπινα ἐπισκοπῇ,  
 ἀλλὰ τὰ ἴδια. εἰ δὲ μή, λέγε καὶ τὸν στρατηγὸν  
 πολυπράγμονα, ὅταν τοὺς στρατιώτας ἐπισκοπῇ  
 καὶ ἐξετάξῃ καὶ παραφυλάσῃ καὶ τοὺς ἀκοσ-  
 98 μούντας κολάζῃ. ἐὰν δ' ὑπὸ μάλης ἔχων  
 πλακουντάριον ἐπιτιμᾷς ἄλλοις, ἐρῶ σοι· οὐ  
 θέλεις μᾶλλον ἀπελθὼν εἰς γωνίαν καταφαγεῖν  
 99 ἐκεῖνο ὃ κέκλοφας ; τί δὲ σοὶ καὶ τοῖς ἀλλοτρίοις ;

<sup>1</sup> Blass very reasonably suspected this word, although the text as it stands can be translated after a fashion.

<sup>2</sup> δὲ added by Upton from his "codex."

<sup>3</sup> Upton from his "codex": ἴδης S.

<sup>1</sup> The rather curious imperfect tense here (at which several scholars have taken offence) may be due to an attempt to  
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afford<sup>1</sup> the privilege of censuring certain persons, and the power also to punish those who do wrong, no matter how guilty they themselves were; whereas to the Cynic it is his conscience which affords him this power, and not his arms and his bodyguards. When he sees that he has watched over men, and toiled in their behalf; and that he has slept in purity, while his sleep leaves him even purer than he was before; and that every thought which he thinks is that of a friend and servant to the gods, of one who shares in the government of Zeus; and has always ready at hand the verse

Lead thou me on, O Zeus, and Destiny,<sup>2</sup>

and "If so it pleases the gods, so be it,"<sup>3</sup> why should he not have courage to speak freely to his own brothers, to his children, in a word, to his kinsmen?

That is why the man who is in this frame of mind is neither a busybody nor a meddler; for he is not meddling in other people's affairs when he is overseeing the actions of men, but these are his proper concern. Otherwise, go call the general a meddler when he oversees and reviews and watches over his troops, and punishes those who are guilty of a breach of discipline. But if you censure other men while you are hiding a little sweet-cake under your arm, I'll say to you: Wouldn't you rather go off into a corner and eat up what you have stolen? What have you to do with other people's business?

avoid the suggestion that the Roman emperors might also be evil men themselves.

<sup>2</sup> See note on II. 23, 42, in Vol. I.

<sup>3</sup> Plato, *Crito*, 43 D.

- τίς γὰρ εἶ; ὁ ταῦρος εἶ ἢ ἡ βασίλισσα τῶν  
 μελισσῶν; δείξόν μοι τὰ σύμβολα τῆς ἡγεμονίας,  
 οἷα ἐκείνη ἐκ φύσεως ἔχει. εἰ δὲ κηφήν εἶ ἐπι-  
 δικαζόμενος τῆς βασιλείας τῶν μελισσῶν, οὐ  
 δοκεῖς ὅτι καὶ σὲ καταβαλοῦσιν οἱ συμπολι-  
 τευόμενοι, ὡς αἱ μέλισσαι τοὺς κηφήνας;
- 100 Ἐὖ μὲν γὰρ ἀνεκτικὸν τοσοῦτον ἔχειν δεῖ τὸν  
 Κυρικόν, ὥστ' αὐτὸν ἀναίσθητον δοκεῖν τοῖς  
 πολλοῖς καὶ λίθον· οὐδεὶς αὐτὸν λαιδορεῖ, οὐδεὶς  
 τύπτει, οὐδεὶς ὑβρίζει· τὸ σωματίον δ' αὐτοῦ  
 δέδωκεν αὐτὸς χρῆσθαι τῷ θέλοντι ὡς βούλεται.
- 101 μέμνηται γάρ, ὅτι τὸ χεῖρον ἀνάγκη νικᾶσθαι  
 ὑπὸ τοῦ κρείττονος, ὅπου χεῖρόν ἐστιν, τὸ δὲ  
 σωματίον τῶν πολλῶν χεῖρον, τὸ ἀσθενέστερον
- 102 τῶν ἰσχυροτέρων. οὐδέποτ' οὖν εἰς τοῦτον κατα-  
 βαίνει τὸν ἀγῶνα, ὅπου δύναται νικηθῆναι, ἀλλὰ  
 τῶν ἀλλοτρίων εὐθὺς ἐξίσταται, τῶν δούλων οὐκ
- 103 ἀντιποιεῖται. ὅπου δὲ προαίρεσις καὶ χρήσις  
 τῶν φαντασιῶν, ἐκεῖ ὄψει, ὅσα ὄμματα ἔχει, ἵν'  
 εἴπῃς, ὅτι Ἄργος τυφλὸς ἦν πρὸς αὐτόν.
- 104 μὴ που συγκατάθεσις προπετηῆς, μὴ που ὁρμὴ  
 εἰκαία, μὴ που ὄρεξις ἀποτευκτική, μὴ που  
 ἔκκλισις περιπτωτική, μὴ που<sup>1</sup> ἐπιβολὴ ἀτελής,  
 μὴ που μέμψις, μὴ που ταπείνωσις ἢ φθόνος;
- 105 ὧδε ἢ πολλὴ προσοχὴ καὶ σύντασις, τῶν δ'  
 ἄλλων ἔνεκα ὑπτιος ῥέγκει· εἰρήνην πᾶσα.  
 ληστής προαιρέσεως οὐ γίνεται, τύραννος οὐ
- 106 γίνεται. σωματίου δέ; ναί. καὶ κτησειδίου;

<sup>1</sup> μὴ που supplied by Schenkl.

<sup>1</sup> That is, actually or effectually, for the mere act without any effect is as nothing.

Why who are you? Are you the bull in the herd, or the queen bee of the hive? Show me the tokens of your leadership, like those which nature gives the queen bee. But if you are a drone and lay claim to the sovereignty over the bees, don't you suppose your fellow-citizens will overthrow you, just as the bees so treat the drones?

Now the spirit of patient endurance the Cynic must have to such a degree that common people will think him insensate and a stone; nobody reviles<sup>1</sup> him, nobody beats him, nobody insults him; but his body he has himself given for anyone to use as he sees fit. For he bears in mind that the inferior, in that respect in which it is inferior, must needs be overcome by the superior, and that his body is inferior to the crowd—the physically weaker, that is, inferior to the physically stronger. Therefore, he never enters this contest where he can be beaten, but immediately gives up what is not his own; he makes no claim to what is slavish.<sup>2</sup> But in the realm of the moral purpose, and the use of his sense-impressions, there you will see he has so many eyes that you will say Argus was blind in comparison with him. Is there anywhere rash assent, reckless choice, futile desire, unsuccessful aversion, incompleted purpose, fault-finding, self-disparagement, or envy? Here is concentrated his earnest attention and energy; but, as far as other things go, he lies flat on his back and snores; he is in perfect peace. There rises up no thief of his moral purpose, nor any tyrant over it. But of his body? Certainly. And of his paltry possessions?

<sup>2</sup> Like the body, his own or that of another. His rule is over the mind and the moral purpose.



ναί· καὶ ἀρχῶν καὶ τιμῶν. τί οὖν αὐτῷ τούτων μέλει; ὅταν οὖν τις διὰ τούτων αὐτὸν ἐκφοβῇ, λέγει αὐτῷ “ὑπαγε, ζήτει τὰ παιδία· ἐκείνοις τὰ προσωπεῖα φοβερά ἐστίν, ἐγὼ δ’ οἶδα, ὅτι ὁστράκινά ἐστιν, ἔσωθεν δὲ οὐδὲν ἔχει.”

- 107 Περὶ τοιούτου πράγματος βουλεύη. ὥστε ἐάν  
 σοι δόξη, τὸν θεόν σοι, ὑπέρθου καὶ ἰδού σοι  
 108 πρῶτον τὴν παρασκευήν. ἰδὸν γάρ, τί καὶ ὁ  
 “Ἐκτωρ λέγει τῇ Ἀνδρομάχῃ· “ὑπαγε,” φησίν,  
 “μᾶλλον εἰς οἶκον καὶ ὑφαίνε·

πόλεμος δ’ ἄνδρεσσι μελήσει  
 πᾶσι, μάλιστα δ’ ἐμοί.”<sup>1</sup>

- 109 οὕτως καὶ τῆς ἰδίας παρασκευῆς συνήσθετο καὶ  
 τῆς ἐκείνης ἀδυναμίας.

κγ’. Πρὸς τοὺς ἀναγιγνώσκοντας καὶ διαλεγο-  
 μένους ἐπιδεικτικῶς.

- 1 Τίς εἶναι θέλεις, σαυτῷ πρῶτον εἰπέ· εἴθ’  
 οὕτως ποίει ἃ ποιεῖς. καὶ γὰρ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων  
 2 σχεδὸν ἀπάντων οὕτως ὁρῶμεν γινόμενα. οἱ  
 ἀθλοῦντες πρῶτον κρίνουσιν, τίνες εἶναι θέλουσιν,  
 εἴθ’ οὕτως τὰ ἐξῆς ποιούσιν. εἰ δολιχοδρόμος,  
 τοιαύτη τροφή, τοιοῦτος περίπατος, τοιαύτη  
 τρῖψις, τοιαύτη γυμνασία· εἰ σταδιοδρόμος,  
 πάντα ταῦτα ἄλλοῖα· εἰ πένταθλος, ἔτι ἄλλοιό-

<sup>1</sup> πᾶσιν, ἐμοὶ δὲ μάλιστα the MSS. of Homer.

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Iliad*, VI. 492-3.

Certainly ; and of his offices and honours. Why, then, does he pay any attention to these ? So when anyone tries to terrify him by means of these things, he says to him, " Go to, look for children ; *they* are scared by masks ; but I know that they are made of earthenware, and have nothing inside."

Such is the nature of the matter about which you are deliberating. Wherefore, in the name of God I adjure you, put off your decision, and look first at your endowment. For see what Hector says to Andromache. " Go," says he, " rather into the house and weave ;

but for men shall war be the business,  
Men one and all, and mostly for me." <sup>1</sup>

So did he recognize not only his own special endowment, but also her incapacity.

## CHAPTER XXIII

*To those who read and discuss for the purpose of  
display*

TELL yourself, first of all, what kind of man you want to be ; and then go ahead with what you are doing. For in practically every other pursuit we see this done. The athletes first decide what kind of athletes they want to be, and then they act accordingly. If a man wants to be a distance-runner, he adopts a suitable diet, walking, rubbing, and exercise ; if he wants to be a sprinter, all these details are different ; if he wants to contend in the pentathlon, they are still more different

- 3 τερα. οὕτως εὐρήσεις καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν τεχνῶν. εἰ  
τέκτων, τοιαῦτα ἔξεις· εἰ χαλκεύς, τοιαῦτα.  
ἕκαστον γὰρ τῶν γινομένων ὑφ' ἡμῶν ἂν μὲν  
ἐπὶ μηδὲν ἀναφέρωμεν, εἰκῇ ποιήσομεν· ἐὰν δ'  
4 ἐφ' ὃ μὴ δεῖ, διεσφαλμένως. λοιπὸν ἢ μὲν τίς  
ἔστι κοινὴ ἀναφορά, ἢ δ' ἰδίᾳ. πρῶτον ἴν' ὥς  
ἄνθρωπος. ἐν τούτῳ τί περιέχεται; μὴ ὥς  
πρόβατον, εἰκῇ<sup>1</sup> ἐπιεικῶς· μὴ βλαπτικῶς<sup>2</sup> ὥς  
5 θηρίον. ἢ δ' ἰδίᾳ πρὸς τὸ ἐπιτήδευμα ἑκάστου  
καὶ τὴν προαίρεσιν. ὁ κιθαρωδὸς ὥς κιθαρωδός,  
ὁ τέκτων ὥς τέκτων, ὁ φιλόσοφος ὥς φιλόσοφος,  
6 ὁ ῥήτωρ ὥς ῥήτωρ. ὅταν οὖν λέγῃς “δεῦτε καὶ  
ἀκούσατέ μου ἀναγινώσκοντος ὑμῖν,” σκέψαι  
πρῶτον μὴ εἰκῇ αὐτὸ ποιεῖν. εἴτ' ἂν εὖρης, ὅτι  
7 ἀναφέρεις, σκέψαι, εἰ ἐφ' ὃ δεῖ. ὠφελῆσαι  
θέλεις ἢ ἐπαινεθῆναι; εὐθὺς ἀκούεις λέγοντος  
“ἐμοὶ δὲ τοῦ παρὰ τῶν πολλῶν ἐπαίνου τίς  
λόγος;” καὶ καλῶς λέγει. οὐδὲ γὰρ τῷ  
μουσικῷ, καθὸ μουσικός ἐστιν, οὐδὲ τῷ γεωμε-  
8 τρικῷ. οὐκοῦν ὠφελῆσαι θέλεις; πρὸς τί;  
εἰπέ καὶ ἡμῖν, ἵνα καὶ αὐτοὶ τρέχωμεν εἰς τὸ  
ἀκροατήριόν σου. νῦν δύναται τις ὠφελῆσαι  
ἄλλους μὴ αὐτὸς ὠφελημένος; οὐ. οὐδὲ γὰρ  
εἰς τεκτονικὴν ὃ μὴ τέκτων οὐδ' εἰς σκυτικὴν  
ὃ μὴ σκυτεύς.
- 9 Θέλεις οὖν γινῶναι, εἰ ὠφέλῃσαι; φέρε σου  
τὰ δόγματα, φιλόσοφε. τίς ἐπαγγελία ὀρέξεως;

<sup>1</sup> εἰκῇ added by Reiske. Compare § 6.

<sup>2</sup> Schenkl: πρόβατον, εἰ βλαπτικῶς καὶ ἐπιεικῶς, ὥς S.

<sup>1</sup> See on I. 29, 59, in Vol. I.

You will find the same thing in the arts. If you want to be a carpenter, you will have such and such exercises; if a blacksmith, such and such other. For in everything that we do, if we do not refer it to some standard, we shall be acting at random; but if we refer it to the wrong standard, we shall make an utter failure. Furthermore, there are two standards to go by, the one general, the other individual. First of all, I must act as a man. What is included in this? Not to act as a sheep, gently but without fixed purpose; nor destructively, like a wild beast. The individual standard applies to each man's occupation and moral purpose. The citharoede is to act as a citharoede,<sup>1</sup> the carpenter as a carpenter, the philosopher as a philosopher, the rhetor as a rhetor. When, therefore, you say, "Come and listen to me as I read you a lecture," see to it first that you are not acting without fixed purpose. And then, if you find that you *are* using a standard of judgement, see if it is the right one. Do you wish to do good or to be praised? you ask. Immediately you get the answer, "What do I care for praise from the mob?" And that is an excellent answer. Neither does the musician, in so far as he is a musician, nor the geometrician. Do you wish to do good, then? To what end? men reply. Tell us, also, that we too may run to your lecture-room. Now can anybody do good to others unless he has received good himself? No more than the non-carpenter can help others in carpentry, or the non-cobbler in cobbling.

Do you wish, then, to know whether you have received any good? Produce your judgements, philosopher. What does desire promise? Not to

- 10 μὴ ἀποτυγχάνειν. τίς ἐκκλίσεως ; μὴ περιπίπτειν. ἄγε, πληροῦμεν αὐτῶν τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν ; εἰπέ μοι τάληθῇ· ἂν δὲ ψεύσῃ, ἐρῶ σοι “πρώην ψυχρότερόν σου τῶν ἀκροατῶν συνελθόντων καὶ μὴ ἐπιβοησάντων σοι τεταπεινωμένος ἐξῆλθες·
- 11 πρώην ἐπαινεθεὶς περιήρχου καὶ πᾶσιν ἔλεγες ‘τί σοι ἔδοξα ;’ ‘θαυμαστῶς, κύριε, τὴν ἐμήν σοι σωτηρίαν.’ ‘πῶς δ’ εἶπον ἐκείνο ;’ ‘τὸ ποῖον ;’ ‘ὅπου διέγραψα τὸν Πᾶνα καὶ τὰς
- 12 Νύμφας.’ ‘ὑπερφυῶς.’” εἰτά μοι λέγεις, ἐν ὁρέξει καὶ ἐκκλίσει κατὰ φύσιν ἀναστρέφῃ ;
- 13 ὕπαγε, ἄλλον πείθε. τὸν δεῖνα δὲ πρώην οὐκ ἐπῆνεις παρὰ τὸ σοὶ φαινόμενον ; τὸν δεῖνα δ’ οὐκ ἐκολάκευες τὸν συγκλητικόν ; ἤθελές σου
- 14 τὰ παιδιά εἶναι τοιαῦτα ;—Μὴ γένοιτο.—Τίνος οὖν ἔνεκα ἐπῆνεις καὶ περιείπες αὐτόν ;—Εὐφυῆς νεανίσκος καὶ λόγων ἀκουστικός.—Πόθεν τοῦτο ; —Ἐμὲ θαυμάζει.—Εἴρηκας τὴν ἀπόδειξιν.

- Εἰτα τί δοκεῖ σοι ; αὐτοί σου οὗτοι οὐ κατα-
- 15 φρονοῦσιν λεληθότως ; ὅταν οὖν ἄνθρωπος συνειδῶς ἑαυτῷ μηθὲν ἀγαθὸν μήτε πεποιηκότι μήτ’ ἐνθυμουμένῳ εὖρῃ φιλόσοφον τὸν λέγοντα “μεγαλοφυῆς καὶ ἀπλοῦς καὶ ἀκέραιος,” τί δοκεῖς ἄλλο αὐτὸν λέγειν ἢ “οὗτός τινά ποτέ
- 16 μου χρεῖαν ἔχει” ; ἢ εἰπέ μοι, τί μεγαλοφυοῦς ἔργον ἐπιδέδεικται ; ἰδοὺ σύνεστί σοι τοσοῦτῳ χρόνῳ, διαλεγομένου σου ἀκήκοεν, ἀναγιγνώσ-

fail in getting. What does aversion? Not to fall into what we are avoiding. Well, do we fulfil their promise? Tell me the truth; but if you lie, I will say to you: "The other day, when your audience gathered rather coolly, and did not shout applause, you walked out of the hall in low spirits. And again the other day, when you were received with applause, you walked around and asked everybody, 'What did you think of me?' 'It was marvellous, sir, I swear by my life.' 'How did I render that particular passage?' 'Which one?' 'Where I drew a picture of Pan and the Nymphs?' 'It was superb.'" And after all this you tell me that you follow nature in desire and aversion? Go to; try to get somebody else to believe you! Didn't you, just the other day, praise So-and-so contrary to your honest opinion? And didn't you flatter So-and-so, the senator? Did you want your children to be like that?—Far from it!—Why then did you praise him and palaver over him?—He is a gifted young man and fond of listening to discourses.—How do you know that?—He is an admirer of mine.—There you gave your proof!

After all, what do you think? Don't these very same persons secretly despise you? When, therefore, a person who is conscious of never having either thought or done a good thing finds a philosopher who tells him, "You are a genius, straightforward and unspoiled," what else do you suppose the man says to himself but, "This man wants to use me for something or other"? Or else tell me; what work of genius has he displayed? Look, he has been with you all this time, he has listened to your discourse, he has heard you lecture.

- κοντος ἀκήκοεν. κατέσταλται, ἐπέστραπται ἐφ'  
 αὐτόν; ἤσθηται, ἐν οἷοις κακοῖς ἐστίν; ἀπο-  
 17 βέβληκεν οἷσιν; ζητεῖ τὸν διδάξοντα;—Ζητεῖ,  
 φησί.—Τὸν διδάξοντα, πῶς δεῖ βιοῦν; οὐ, μωρέ.  
 ἀλλὰ πῶς δεῖ φράζειν· τούτου γὰρ ἔνεκα καὶ  
 σὲ θαυμάζει. ἄκουσον αὐτοῦ, τίνα λέγει.  
 “οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος πάνυ τεχνικώτατα γράφει,  
 18 Δίωνος πολὺ κάλλιον.” ὅλον ἄλλο ἐστίν. μή  
 τι λέγει “ὁ ἄνθρωπος αἰδήμων ἐστίν, οὗτος πιστός  
 ἐστίν, οὗτος ἀτάραχος ἐστίν”; εἰ δὲ καὶ ἔλεγεν,  
 εἶπον ἂν αὐτῷ “ἐπειδὴ οὗτος πιστός ἐστίν,  
 οὗτος ὁ πιστὸς τί ἐστίν;” καὶ εἰ μὴ εἶχεν εἰπεῖν,  
 προσέθηκα ἂν ὅτι “πρῶτον μάθε, τί λέγεις, εἴθ’  
 οὕτως λέγε.”  
 19 Οὕτως οὖν κακῶς διακείμενος καὶ χάσκων περὶ  
 τοὺς ἐπαινέσοντας καὶ ἀριθμῶν τοὺς ἀκούοντάς  
 σου θέλεις ἄλλους ὠφελεῖν; “σήμερόν μου πολλῶ  
 πλείονες ἤκουσαν.” “ναί, πολλοί.” “δοκοῦμεν  
 ὅτι πεντακόσιοι.” “οὐδὲν λέγεις· θεὸς αὐτοὺς  
 χιλίους.” “Δίωνος οὐδέποτε ἤκουσαν τοσοῦτοι.”  
 “πόθεν αὐτῷ;” “καὶ κομψῶς αἰσθάνονται λό-  
 γων.” “τὸ καλόν, κύριε, καὶ λίθον κινήσαι  
 20 δύναται.” ἰδοὺ φωναὶ φιλοσόφου, ἰδοὺ διάθεσις  
 ὠφελήσοντος ἀνθρώπους· ἰδοὺ ἀκηκοὺς ἄνθρωπος

1 Probably the famous lecturer of the day, Dio Chrysostom, of Prusa.

2 To be taken as intended for a serious compliment, and probably a popular saying (as Upton suggested) like our “Music hath charms,” or, “The very stones would cry out.” The idea behind it would be familiar from the story of how the trees followed Orpheus, in order to hear his beautiful music, or the stones arranged themselves in the walls of Thebes, to the strains of Amphiion. Capps, however, thinks



Has he settled down? Has he come to himself? Has he realized the evil plight in which he is? Has he cast aside his self-conceit? Is he looking for the man who will teach him?—He *is* looking, the man says.—The man who will teach him how he ought to live? No, fool, but only how he ought to deliver a speech; for that is why he admires even you. Listen to him, and hear what he says. “This fellow has a most artistic style; it is much finer than Dio’s.”<sup>1</sup> That’s altogether different. He doesn’t say, does he, “The man is respectful, he is faithful and unperturbed”? And even if he had said this, I would have replied: “Since this man is faithful, what is your definition of the faithful man?” And if he had no answer to give, I would have added: “First find out what you are talking about, and then do your talking.”

When you are in such a sorry state as this, then, gaping for men to praise you, and counting the number of your audience, is it your wish to do good to others? “To-day I had a much larger audience.” “Yes, indeed, there were great numbers.” “Five hundred, I fancy.” “Nonsense, make it a thousand.” “Dio never had so large an audience.” “How could you expect him to?” “Yes, and they are clever at catching the points.” “Beauty, sir, can move even a stone.”<sup>2</sup> There are the words of a philosopher for you! That’s the feeling of one who is on his way to do good to men! There you have

that “τὸ καλόν means ‘honour’” here, and that the remark is “cynical.” He would translate: “Talk of honour, sir,” etc., adding the explanatory note: “That is, the speaker would have had no success with his audience if he had preached honour and virtue (as the true philosopher should).”

- λόγου, ἀνεγνώκως τὰ Σωκρατικά ὡς Σωκρατικά, οὐχὶ δ' ὡς Λυσίου καὶ Ἰσοκράτους. “πολλάκις ἐθαύμασα, τίσιν ποτὲ λόγοις. οὐ· ἀλλὰ τίνι
- 21 ποτὲ λόγῳ τοῦτ' ἐκείνου λειότερον.” μὴ γὰρ ἄλλως αὐτὰ ἀνεγνώκατε ἢ ὡς ᾧδάρια; ὡς εἴ γε ἀνεγινώσκετε ὡς δεῖ, οὐκ ἂν πρὸς τούτοις ἐγίνεσθε, ἀλλ' ἐκείνο μᾶλλον ἐβλέπετε “ἐμὲ δ' Ἄνυτος καὶ Μέλητος ἀποκτεῖναι μὲν δύνανται, βλάψαι δ' οὐ,” καὶ ὅτι “ὡς ἐγὼ αἰὲ τοιοῦτος οἷος μηδενὶ<sup>1</sup> προσέχειν τῶν ἐμῶν ἢ τῷ λόγῳ, ὃς
- 22 ἂν μοι σκοπουμένῳ βέλτιστος φαίνεται.” διὰ τοῦτο τίς ἤκουσέ ποτε Σωκράτους λέγοντος ὅτι “οἶδά τι καὶ διδάσκω”; ἀλλὰ ἄλλον ἀλλαχοῦ ἔπεμπεν. τοιγαροῦν ἤρχοντο πρὸς αὐτὸν ἀξιούντες φιλοσόφοις ὑπ' αὐτοῦ συσταθῆναι καὶ κείνος
- 23 ἀπῆγεν καὶ συνίστανεν. οὐ· ἀλλὰ προσπέμπων ἔλεγεν “ἄκουσόν μου σήμερον διαλεγομένου ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ τῇ Κοδράτου.”

Τί σου ἀκούσω; ἐπιδείξαί μοι θέλεις, ὅτι κομψῶς συντιθεῖς τὰ ὀνόματα; συντιθεῖς, ἄνθρωπε· καὶ τί σοι ἀγαθόν ἐστιν; “ἀλλ' ἐπαί-

<sup>1</sup> Wolf: μηδέν S.

<sup>1</sup> The rhetors must have disputed whether the opening words of Xenophon's *Memorabilia* might not have been improved upon by using the singular λόγῳ instead of the plural λόγοις.

<sup>2</sup> Plato, *Apol.* 30 C.

<sup>3</sup> Slightly modified from Plato, *Crito*, 46 B.

<sup>4</sup> i.e. to different authorities on special subjects.

<sup>5</sup> Actual instances of such introductions are recorded in the *Protagoras*, 310 E, and the *Theaetetus*, 151 B. Compare also Maximus Tyrius, 33, 4, b. The personal relations between Socrates and the Sophists in general were clearly not strained.

a man who has listened to reason, who has read the accounts of Socrates as coming from Socrates, not as though they were from Lysias, or Isocrates! “‘I have often wondered by what arguments ever’—no, but ‘by what argument ever’—this form is smoother than the other!’”<sup>1</sup> You have been reading this literature just as you would music-hall songs, haven’t you? Because, if you had read them in the right way, you would not have lingered on these points, but this is the sort of thing rather that would have caught your eye: “Anytus and Meletus can kill me, but they cannot hurt me”;<sup>2</sup> and: “I have always been the kind of man to pay attention to none of my own affairs, but only to the argument which strikes me as best upon reflection.”<sup>3</sup> And for that reason who ever heard Socrates saying, “I know something and teach it”? But he used to send one person here and another there.<sup>4</sup> Therefore men used to go to him to have him introduce them to philosophers,<sup>5</sup> and he used to take them around and introduce them. But no, *your* idea of him, no doubt, is that, as he was taking them along, he used to say, “Come around to-day and hear me deliver a discourse in the house of Quadratus”!<sup>6</sup>

Why should I listen to you? Do you want to exhibit to me the clever way in which you put words together? You do compose them cleverly, man; and what good is it to you? “But praise me.”

<sup>6</sup> The practice of letting a popular or distinguished scholar lecture in one’s house was particularly common in Greek and Roman times. Several distinguished persons by the name of Quadratus were contemporaries of Epictetus (*Prosopographia Imperii Romani*, Vol. III, nos. 600 ff.), but it is not certain that any one of them is meant, because they resided regularly at Rome, and this discourse was held at Nicopolis.

- 24 νεσόν με.” τί λέγεις τὸ ἐπαίνεσον ; “ εἰπέ μοι  
 ‘ οὐᾶ ’ καὶ ‘ θαυμαστῶς. ’ ” ἰδοὺ λέγω. εἰ δ’  
 ἐστὶν ἔπαινος ἐκεῖνο, ὃ τι ποτὲ λέγουσιν οἱ  
 φιλόσοφοι τῶν ἐν τῇ<sup>1</sup> τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ κατηγορία,<sup>2</sup>  
 τί σε ἔχω ἐπαινέσαι ; εἰ ἀγαθὸν ἐστὶ τὸ φράζειν  
 25 ὀρθῶς, δίδαξόν με καὶ ἐπαινέσω. τί οὖν ; ἀηδῶς ;  
 δεῖ τῶν τοιούτων ἀκούειν ; μὴ γένοιτο. ἐγὼ μὲν  
 οὐδὲ κιθαρῳδοῦ ἀηδῶς ἀκούω· μή τι οὖν τούτου  
 ἔνεκα κιθαρῳδεῖν με δεῖ σπάντα ; ἄκουσον, τί  
 λέγει Σωκράτης· “ οὐδὲ γὰρ ἂν πρέποι, ὦ ἄνδρες,  
 τῇδε τῇ ἡλικίᾳ ὥσπερ μειρακίῳ πλάττοντι λόγους  
 εἰς ὑμᾶς εἰσιέναι. ” “ ὥσπερ μειρακίῳ ” φησίν.  
 26 ἔστι γὰρ τῷ ὄντι κομψὸν τὸ τεχνίον ἐκλέξαι  
 ὀνομάτια καὶ ταῦτα συνθεῖναι καὶ παρελθόντα  
 εὐφυῶς ἀναγνῶναι ἢ εἰπεῖν καὶ μεταξὺ ἀναγι-  
 γνώσκοντα ἐπιφθέγξασθαι· ὅτι “ τούτοις οὐ πολ-  
 λοὶ δύνανται παρακολουθεῖν, μὰ τὴν ὑμετέραν  
 σωτηρίαν. ”  
 27 Φιλόσοφος δ’ ἐπ’ ἀκρόασιν παρακαλεῖ ; —  
 Οὐχὶ δ’ ὥς ὁ ἥλιος ἄγει αὐτὸς ἐφ’ ἑαυτὸν τὴν  
 τροφήν, οὕτως δὲ καὶ οὗτος ἄγει τοὺς ὠφελη-  
 θησομένους ; ποῖος ἰατρὸς παρακαλεῖ, ἵνα τις  
 ὑπ’ αὐτοῦ θεραπευθῇ ; καίτοι νῦν ἀκούω ὅτι  
 28 ἐμοῦ παρεκαλοῦντο. “ παρακαλῶ σε ἐλθόντα

<sup>1</sup> Upton (in part after Wolf) : τῶν τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ *S.*

<sup>2</sup> κατηγορία *S.*

<sup>1</sup> Plato, *Apology*, 17 C.

<sup>2</sup> According to Stoic doctrine the so-called “ rays ” of the sun were thought to be lines of vapour drawn to the sun in order to feed its fires. Zeno, frag. 35 ; Cleanthes, frag. 501 ;

What do you mean by "praise"? "Cry out to me, 'Bravo!' or 'Marvellous!'" All right, I'll say it. But if praise is some one of those things which the philosophers put in the category of the good, what praise can I give you? If it is a good thing to speak correctly, teach me and I will praise you. What then? Ought one to take no pleasure in listening to such efforts? Far from it. I do not fail to take pleasure in listening to a citharoede; surely I am not bound for that reason to stand and sing to my own accompaniment on the harp, am I? Listen, what does Socrates say? "Nor would it be seemly for me, O men of Athens, at my time of life to appear before you like some lad, and weave a cunning discourse."<sup>1</sup> "Like some lad," he says. For it is indeed a dainty thing, this small art of selecting trivial phrases and putting them together, and of coming forward and reading or reciting them gracefully, and then in the midst of the delivery shouting out, "There are not many people who can follow this, by your lives, I swear it!"

Does a philosopher invite people to a lecture?—Is it not rather the case that, as the sun draws its own sustenance to itself,<sup>2</sup> so he also draws to himself those to whom he is to do good? What physician ever invites a patient to come and be healed by him? Although I am told that in these days the physicians in Rome *do* advertise; however, in my time they were called in<sup>3</sup> by their patients. "I invite you to

Chrysippus, frags. 579, 652, 658-663, all in Von Arnim's *Stoicorum Veterum Fragmenta*.

<sup>3</sup> The three slightly varying translations for παρακαλεῖν, "invite," "advertize," and "call in," seem to be required by our idiom.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἀκοῦσαι, ὅτι σοι κακῶς ἐστὶ καὶ πάντων μᾶλλον ἐπιμελῇ ἢ οὐ δεῖ σε ἐπιμελεῖσθαι καὶ ὅτι ἀγνοεῖς τὰ ἀγαθὰ καὶ τὰ κακὰ καὶ κακοδαίμων εἶ καὶ δυστυχής.” κομψὴ παράκλησις. καὶ μὴν ἂν μὴ ταῦτα ἐμποιῇ ὁ τοῦ φιλοσόφου λόγος, νεκρός
- 29 ἐστὶ καὶ αὐτὸς καὶ ὁ λέγων. εἴωθε λέγειν ὁ Ῥοῦφος “εἰ εὐσχολεῖτε ἐπαινέσαι με, ἐγὼ δ’ οὐδὲν λέγω.” τοιγαροῦν οὕτως ἔλεγεν, ὥσθ’ ἕκαστον ἡμῶν καθήμενον οἶεσθαι, ὅτι τίς ποτε αὐτὸν διαβέβληκεν· οὕτως ἤπτετο τῶν γιγνομένων, οὕτως πρὸ ὀφθαλμῶν ἐτίθει τὰ ἐκάστου κακά.
- 30 Ἰατρεῖόν ἐστιν, ἄνδρες, τὸ τοῦ φιλοσόφου σχολεῖον· οὐ δεῖ ἡσθέντας ἐξελθεῖν, ἀλλ’ ἀλγίσαντας. ἔρχεσθε γὰρ οὐχ ὑγιεῖς, ἀλλ’ ὁ μὲν ὤμον ἐκβεβληκῶς, ὁ δ’ ἀπόστημα ἔχων, ὁ δὲ
- 31 σύριγγα, ὁ δὲ κεφαλαλγῶν. εἴτ’ ἐγὼ καθίσας ὑμῖν λέγω νοημάτια καὶ ἐπιφωνημάτια, ἵν’ ὑμεῖς ἐπαινέσαντές με ἐξέλθητε, ὁ μὲν τὸν ὤμον ἐκφέρων οἶον εἰσήμεγκεν, ὁ δὲ τὴν κεφαλὴν ὡσαύτως ἔχουσαν, ὁ δὲ τὴν σύριγγα, ὁ δὲ τὸ
- 32 ἀπόστημα ; εἶτα τούτου ἕνεκα ἀποδημήσωσιν ἄνθρωποι νεώτεροι καὶ τοὺς γονεῖς τοὺς αὐτῶν ἀπολίπωσιν<sup>1</sup> καὶ τοὺς φίλους καὶ τοὺς συγγενεῖς καὶ τὸ κτησίδιον, ἵνα σοι “οὐᾶ” φῶσιν ἐπιφωνημάτια λέγοντι ; τοῦτο Σωκράτης ἐποίει, τοῦτο Ζήνων, τοῦτο Κλεάνθης ;

<sup>1</sup> Koraes : ἀπολείπουσιν S.

<sup>1</sup> At greater length in Gellius, 5, 1, 1.

<sup>2</sup> So it had, indeed, become in his time. Compare Introd. p. xxiv. Thus also one of the great libraries at Alexandria is said to have had over its portal: *ιατρεῖον τῆς ψυχῆς*. If the

come and hear that you are in a bad way, and that you are concerned with anything rather than what you should be concerned with, and that you are ignorant of the good and the evil, and are wretched and miserable." That's a fine invitation! And yet if the philosopher's discourse does not produce this effect, it is lifeless and so is the speaker himself. Rufus used to say, "If you have nothing better to do than to praise me, then I am speaking to no purpose."<sup>1</sup> Wherefore he spoke in such a way that each of us as we sat there fancied someone had gone to Rufus and told him of our faults; so effective was his grasp of what men actually do, so vividly did he set before each man's eyes his particular weaknesses.

Men, the lecture-room of the philosopher is a hospital;<sup>2</sup> you ought not to walk out of it in pleasure, but in pain. For you are not well when you come; one man has a dislocated shoulder, another an abscess, another a fistula, another a headache. And then am I to sit down and recite to you dainty little notions and clever little mottoes, so that you will go out with words of praise on your lips, one man carrying away his shoulder just as it was when he came in, another his head in the same state, another his fistula, another his abscess? And so it's for this, is it, that young men are to travel from home, and leave their parents, their friends, their relatives, and their bit of property, merely to cry "Bravo!" as you recite your clever little mottoes? Was this what Socrates used to do, or Zeno, or Cleanthes?

story is true (which I very much doubt), the inscription surely belongs to the decadence, for such was clearly not the conception of science which prevailed in the great days of Alexandria.



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 33 τί οὖν ; οὐκ ἔστιν ὁ προτρεπτικὸς χαρακτήρ ;  
 — Τίς γὰρ οὐ λέγει ; ὡς ὁ<sup>1</sup> ἐλεγκτικός, ὡς ὁ  
 διδασκαλικός. τίς οὖν πώποτε τέταρτον εἶπεν  
 34 μετὰ τούτων τὸν ἐπιδεικτικόν ; τίς γάρ ἐστιν ὁ  
 προτρεπτικός ; δύνασθαι καὶ ἐνὶ καὶ πολλοῖς  
 δεῖξαι τὴν μάχην ἐν ἧ κυλίνονται· καὶ ὅτι μᾶλλον  
 πάντων φροντίζουσιν ἢ ὧν θέλουσιν. θέλουσι  
 μὲν γὰρ τὰ πρὸς εὐδαιμονίαν φέροντα, ἀλλαχοῦ  
 35 δ' αὐτὰ ζητοῦσι. τοῦτο ἵνα γένηται, δεῖ τεθῆναι  
 χίλια βάρη καὶ παρακληθῆναι τοὺς ἀκουσο-  
 μένους καὶ σὲ ἐν κομφῶ στολίῳ ἢ τριβωναρίῳ  
 ἀναβάντα ἐπὶ πούλβινον διαγράφειν, πῶς Ἀχιλ-  
 λεὺς ἀπέθανεν ; παύσασθε, τοὺς θεοὺς ὑμῖν,  
 καλὰ ὀνόματα καὶ πράγματα καταισχύνοντες,  
 36 ὅσον ἐφ' ἑαυτοῖς. οὐδὲν προτρεπτικώτερον ἢ  
 ὅταν ὁ λέγων ἐμφαίνῃ τοῖς ἀκούουσιν ὅτι χρεῖαν  
 37 αὐτῶν ἔχει. ἢ εἰπέ μοι, τίς ἀκούων ἀναγιννώσ-  
 κοντός σου ἢ διαλεγόμενον περὶ αὐτοῦ ἠγωνίασεν  
 ἢ ἐπεστράφη εἰς αὐτὸν ἢ ἐξελθὼν εἶπεν ὅτι  
 “καλῶς μου ἦψατο ὁ φιλόσοφος· οὐκέτι δεῖ  
 38 ταῦτα ποιεῖν” ; οὐχὶ δ', ἂν λίαν εὐδοκιμῆς, λέγει  
 πρὸς τινα “κομφῶς ἔφρασεν τὰ περὶ τὸν Ξέρξην,”  
 ἄλλος “οὐ· ἀλλὰ τὴν ἐπὶ Πύλαις μάχην” ;  
 τοῦτό ἐστιν ἀκρόασις φιλοσόφου ;

<sup>1</sup> δ added by a modern hand in *S*.

<sup>1</sup> That is, as a style appropriate to philosophers, for the epideictic, or style of display, was a well-recognized branch of oratory in general—and not entirely unknown, perhaps, among certain popular preachers even to-day.

<sup>2</sup> As God needs the universe in which to exercise and display His power, so the teacher needs pupils, the speaker an audience. There is a mutual need, therefore, each of the other.

Well! But isn't there such a thing as the right style for exhortation?—Why yes, who denies that? Just as there is the style for refutation, and the style for instruction. Who, then, has ever mentioned a fourth style along with these, the style of display?<sup>1</sup> Why, what *is* the style for exhortation? The ability to show to the individual, as well as to the crowd, the warring inconsistency in which they are floundering about, and how they are paying attention to anything rather than what they truly want. For they want the things that conduce to happiness, but they are looking for them in the wrong place. To achieve that must a thousand benches be placed, and the prospective audience be invited, and you put on a fancy cloak, or dainty mantle, and mount the speaker's stand, and paint a word-picture of—how Achilles died? By the gods, I beseech you, have done with discrediting, as far as it is in your power to discredit, words and actions that are noble! There is nothing more effective in the style for exhortation than when the speaker makes clear to his audience that he has need of them.<sup>2</sup> Or tell me, who that ever heard you reading a lecture or conducting a discourse felt greatly disturbed about himself, or came to a realization of the state he was in, or on going out said, "The philosopher brought it home to me in fine style; I must not act like this any longer"? But doesn't he say to a companion, if you make an unusually fine impression, "That was beautiful diction in the passage about Xerxes"; and doesn't the other answer, "No, I preferred the one about the battle of Thermopylae"?<sup>3</sup> Is this what listening to a philosopher amounts to?

<sup>1</sup> A typical *rhetorum campus*, as Cicero calls it (*De Officiis*, I, 61).

κδ'. Περὶ τοῦ μὴ δεῖν προσπιάσχειν τοῖς οὐκ ἐφ'  
ἡμῖν.

- 1 Τὸ ἄλλου παρὰ φύσιν σοὶ κακὸν μὴ γινέσθω·  
οὐ γὰρ συνταπεινοῦσθαι πέφυκας οὐδὲ συνα-  
2 τυχεῖν, ἀλλὰ συνεντυχεῖν. ἂν δέ τις ἀτυχῇ,  
μέμνησο, ὅτι παρ' αὐτὸν ἀτυχεῖ. ὁ γὰρ θεὸς  
πάντας ἀνθρώπους ἐπὶ τὸ εὐδαιμονεῖν, ἐπὶ τὸ  
3 εὐσταθεῖν ἐποίησεν. πρὸς τοῦτο ἀφορμὰς ἔδωκεν,  
τὰ μὲν ἴδια δοὺς ἐκάστω, τὰ δ' ἀλλότρια· τὰ μὲν  
κωλυτὰ καὶ ἀφαιρετὰ καὶ ἀναγκαστὰ οὐκ ἴδια,  
τὰ δ' ἀκώλυτα ἴδια· τὴν δ' οὐσίαν τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ  
καὶ τοῦ κακοῦ, ὥσπερ ἦν ἄξιον τὸν κηδόμενον  
ἡμῶν καὶ πατρικῶς προῖστάμενον, ἐν τοῖς ἰδίοις.  
4 “ἀλλ' ἀποκεχώρηκα τοῦ δεῖνος καὶ ὀδυνᾶται.”  
διὰ τί γὰρ τὰ ἀλλότρια ἴδια ἠγήσατο; διὰ τί,  
ὅτε σε βλέπων ἔχαιρεν, οὐκ ἐπελογίζετο ὅτι  
θνητὸς εἶ, ἀποδημητικὸς εἶ; τοιγαροῦν τίνει  
5 δίκας τῆς αὐτοῦ μωρίας. σὺ δ' ἀντὶ τίνος; ἐπὶ  
τί κλάεις<sup>1</sup> σεαυτὸν; ἢ οὐδὲ σὺ ταῦτα ἐμελέτησας,  
ἀλλ' ὥς τὰ γύναια τὰ οὐδενὸς ἄξια πᾶσιν οἷς  
ἔχαιρες ὥς αἰεὶ συνεσόμενος συνῆς, τοῖς τόποις,  
τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, ταῖς διατριβαῖς; καὶ νῦν κλαίων  
ἐκάθισας, ὅτι μὴ τοὺς αὐτοὺς βλέπεις καὶ ἐν τοῖς  
6 αὐτοῖς τόποις διατρίβεις. τούτου γὰρ ἄξιος εἶ,

<sup>1</sup> Salmasius, after Schegk: κλᾶισ S.

<sup>1</sup> That is, is produced by himself, or is his own fault; and really affects no one but himself.

## CHAPTER XXIV

*That we ought not to yearn for the things which are not  
under our control*

LET not that which in the case of another is contrary to nature become an evil for you ; for you are born not to be humiliated along with others, nor to share in their misfortunes, but to share in their good fortune. If, however, someone is unfortunate, remember that his misfortune concerns himself.<sup>1</sup> For God made all mankind to be happy, to be serene. To this end He gave them resources, giving each man some things for his own, and others not for his own. The things that are subject to hindrance, deprivation, and compulsion are not a man's own, but those which cannot be hindered are his own. The true nature of the good and the evil, as was fitting for Him who watches over and protects us like a father, He gave to man to be among his own possessions. " But I have parted from So-and-so, and he is stricken with grief." Yes, but why did he regard what was not his own as his own ? Why, when he was glad to see you, did he not reflect that you are mortal, and likely to go on a journey ? And therefore he is paying the penalty for his own folly. But why are *you* bewailing yourself, and to what end ? Or did you also neglect to study this matter, but, like worthless women, did you enjoy everything in which you took delight as though you were to enjoy it for ever, your surroundings, human beings, your ways of life ? And now you sit and wail because you no longer lay eyes upon the same persons, and do not spend your life in the same places. Yes, for that's what you

- ἵνα καὶ τῶν κοράϊων καὶ κορωνῶν ἀθλιώτερος ᾖς, οἷς ἔξεστιν ἵπτασθαι, ὅπου θέλουσιν, καὶ μετοικοδομεῖν τὰς νεοσσιὰς καὶ τὰ πελάγη διαπερᾶν μὴ στένουσιν μηδὲ ποθοῦσι τὰ πρῶτα. —
- 7 Ναί· ἀλλ' ὑπὸ τοῦ ἄλογα εἶναι πᾶσχει αὐτά. — Ἡμῖν οὖν λόγος ἐπὶ ἀτυχία καὶ κακοδαιμονία δέδοται ὑπὸ τῶν θεῶν, ἵν' ἀθλιοι, ἵνα πενθοῦντες
- 8 διατελῶμεν; ἢ πάντες ἔστωσαν ἀθάνατοι καὶ μηδεὶς ἀποδημέτω,<sup>1</sup> ἀλλὰ μένωμεν ὡς τὰ φυτὰ προσερριζωμένοι· ἂν δέ τις ἀποδημήσῃ τῶν συνήθων, καθήμενοι κλαίωμεν καὶ πάλιν, ἂν ἔλθῃ, ὀρχώμεθα καὶ κροτῶμεν ὡς τὰ παιδία;
- 9 Οὐκ ἀπογαλακτίσομεν ἤδη ποθ' ἑαυτοὺς καὶ μεμνησόμεθα ὧν ἠκούσαμεν παρὰ τῶν φιλο-
- 10 σόφων; εἴ γε μὴ ὡς ἐπαιδῶν αὐτῶν ἠκούομεν, ὅτι ὁ κόσμος οὗτος μία πόλις ἐστὶ καὶ ἡ οὐσία, ἐξ ἧς δεδημιούργηται, μία καὶ ἀνάγκη περίοδόν τινα εἶναι καὶ παραχώρησιν ἄλλων ἄλλοις καὶ τὰ μὲν διαλύεσθαι, τὰ δ' ἐπιγίνεσθαι, τὰ μὲν μένειν ἐν
- 11 τῷ αὐτῷ, τὰ δὲ κινεῖσθαι. πάντα δὲ φίλων μεστά, πρῶτα μὲν θεῶν, εἶτα καὶ ἀνθρώπων φύσει πρὸς ἀλλήλους ὠκειωμένων· καὶ δεῖ τοὺς μὲν παρεῖναι ἀλλήλοις, τοὺς δ' ἀπαλλύττεσθαι, τοῖς μὲν συνοῦσι χαίροντας, τοῖς δ' ἀπαλλαττο-
- 12 μένοις μὴ ἀχθομένους. ὁ δ' ἄνθρωπος πρὸς τῷ φύσει μεγαλόφρων εἶναι καὶ πάντων τῶν ἀπροαιρέτων καταφρονητικὸς ἔτι καὶ κείνο ἔσχηκε τὸ μὴ ἐρριζῶσθαι μηδὲ προσπεφυκέναι τῇ γῇ, ἀλλὰ

<sup>1</sup> The clause, *μηδ' ἡμεῖς που ἀποδηῶμεν*, which follows here in *S*, is deleted by Oldfather as a doublet of the preceding three words. It arose probably as a superfluous attempt either to gloss or to emend.

deserve, to be more wretched than crows and ravens, which can fly away wherever they please, and change their nests, and cross the seas, without groaning or longing for their first home.—Yes, but they feel that way because they are irrational creatures.—Has, then, reason been given us by the gods for misfortune and misery, so that we may spend our lives in wretchedness and mourning? Or shall all men be immortal, and no one leave home, but shall we stay rooted in the ground like the plants? And if any one of our acquaintances leaves home, shall we sit down and wail, and then again, if he comes back, dance and clap our hands as the children do?

Shall we not wean ourselves at last, and call to mind what we have heard from the philosophers?—if, indeed, we did not listen to them as to enchanters—when they said that this universe is but a single state, and the substance out of which it has been fashioned is single, and it needs must be that there is a certain periodic change and a giving place of one thing to another, and that some things must be dissolved and others come into being, some things to remain in the same place and others to be moved. Further, that all things are full of friends, first gods, and then also men, who by nature have been made of one household with one another; and that some men must remain with each other, while others must depart, and that though we must rejoice in those who dwell with us, yet we must not grieve at those who depart. And man, in addition to being by nature high-minded and capable of despising all the things that are outside the sphere of his moral purpose, possesses also this further quality, that, namely, of not being rooted nor growing in the

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ἄλλοτ' ἐπ' ἄλλους ἵεσθαι τόπους ποτὲ μὲν  
χρειῶν τινῶν ἐπειγουσῶν, ποτὲ δὲ καὶ αὐτῆς τῆς  
θέας ἕνεκα.

13 Καὶ τῷ Ὀδυσσεὶ τὸ συμβὰν τοιοῦτόν τι ἦν·

πολλῶν δ' ἀνθρώπων ἶδεν ἄστυα καὶ νόον ἔγνω·  
καὶ ἔτι πρόσθεν τῷ Ἡρακλεῖ περιελθεῖν τὴν  
οἰκουμένην ὅλην

ἀνθρώπων ὕβριν τε καὶ εὐνομίην ἐφορῶντα,

καὶ τὴν μὲν ἐκβάλλοντα καὶ καθαίροντα, τὴν δ'  
14 ἀντεισάγοντα. καίτοι πόσους οἶει φίλους ἔσχεν  
ἐν Θήβαις, πόσους ἐν Ἀθήναις, πόσους δὲ περιερ-  
χόμενος ἐκτήσατο, ὅς γε καὶ ἐγάμει, ὅπου  
καιρὸς ἐφάνη αὐτῷ, καὶ ἐπαιδοποιεῖτο καὶ τοὺς  
παῖδας ἀπέλειπεν<sup>1</sup> οὐ στένων οὐδὲ ποθῶν οὐδ' ὥς

15 ὀρφανούς ἀφιεῖς; ἦδει γάρ, ὅτι οὐδεὶς ἐστὶν  
ἄνθρωπος ὀρφανός, ἀλλὰ πάντων ἀεὶ καὶ διηγε-

16 κῶς ὁ πατήρ ἐστὶν ὁ κηδόμενος. οὐ γὰρ μέχρι  
λόγου ἡκηκόει, ὅτι πατήρ ἐστὶν ὁ Ζεὺς τῶν  
ἀνθρώπων, ὅς γε καὶ αὐτοῦ πατέρα ὤετο αὐτὸν  
καὶ ἐκάλει καὶ πρὸς ἐκεῖνον ἀφορῶν ἔπραττεν ἅ  
ἔπραττεν. τοιγάρτοι πανταχοῦ ἐξῆν αὐτῷ διάγειν

17 εὐδαιμόνως. οὐδέποτε δ' ἐστὶν οἶόν τ' εἰς τὸ  
αὐτὸ ἐλθεῖν εὐδαιμονίαν καὶ πόθον τῶν οὐ παρόν-  
των. τὸ γὰρ εὐδαιμονοῦν ἀπέχειν δεῖ πάντα ἅ

<sup>1</sup> Koraes: ἀπέλειπεν S.

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Odyssey*, I. 3.

<sup>2</sup> Homer, *Odyssey*, XVII. 487 (slightly modified).

<sup>3</sup> This is about the most drastic bit of idealisation of the Heracles myths which the Stoics, for whom Heracles was a kind of Arthurian knight, ever achieved. The comic poets



earth, but of moving now to one place and now to another, at one time under the pressure of certain needs, and at another merely for the sake of the spectacle.

Now it was something of this sort which fell to the lot of Odysseus :

Many the men whose towns he beheld, and he  
learned of their temper.<sup>1</sup>

And even before his time it was the fortune of Heracles to traverse the entire inhabited world,

Seeing the wanton behaviour of men and the  
lawful,<sup>2</sup>

casting forth the one and clearing the world of it, and introducing the other in its place. Yet how many friends do you suppose he had in Thebes, in Argos, in Athens, and how many new friends he made on his rounds, seeing that he was even in the habit of marrying when he saw fit, and begetting children, and deserting his children, without either groaning or yearning for them, or as though leaving them to be orphans? <sup>3</sup> It was because he knew that no human being is an orphan, but all men have ever and constantly the Father, who cares for them. Why, to him it was no mere story which he had heard, that Zeus is father of men, for he always thought of Him as his own father, and called Him so, and in all that he did he looked to Him. Wherefore he had the power to live happily in every place. But it is impossible that happiness, and yearning for what is not present, should ever be united. For happiness

naturally presented this aspect of his career in a somewhat different light.

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- θέλει, πεπληρωμένῳ τινὶ εἰκέναι· οὐ δίψος δεῖ  
 18 προσεῖναι αὐτῷ, οὐ λιμόν.—'Αλλ' ὁ<sup>1</sup> Ὀδυσσεὺς  
 ἐπεπόνθει πρὸς τὴν γυναῖκα καὶ ἔκλαιεν ἐπὶ  
 πέτρας καθεζόμενος.—Σὺ δ' Ὀμήρῳ πάντα  
 προσέχεις καὶ τοῖς μύθοις αὐτοῦ; ἢ εἰ ταῖς ἀλη-  
 θείαις ἔκλαεν, τί ἄλλο ἢ ἐδυστύχει; τίς δέ  
 19 καλὸς τε καὶ ἀγαθὸς δυστυχεῖ; τῷ ὄντι κακῶς  
 διοικεῖται τὰ ὅλα, εἰ μὴ ἐπιμελεῖται ὁ Ζεὺς τῶν  
 ἑαυτοῦ πολιτῶν, ἵν' ὧσιν ὅμοιοι αὐτῷ, εὐδαίμονες.  
 ἀλλὰ ταῦτα οὐ θεμιτὰ οὐδ' ὅσια ἐνθυμηθῆναι,  
 20 ἀλλ' ὁ Ὀδυσσεύς, εἰ μὲν ἔκλαεν καὶ ὠδύρετο, οὐκ  
 ἦν ἀγαθός. τίς γὰρ ἀγαθὸς ἐστὶν ὁ οὐκ εἰδώς,  
 ὅς ἐστιν; τίς δ' οἶδεν ταῦτα ἐπιλελησμένος,  
 ὅτι φθαρτὰ τὰ γενόμενα καὶ ἄνθρωπον ἀνθρώπῳ  
 21 συνεῖναι οὐ δυνατόν αἰεὶ; τί οὖν; τῶν μὴ δυνα-  
 τῶν ἐφίεσθαι ἀνδραποδῶδες, ἡλίθιον, ξένου θεο-  
 μαχοῦντος, ὡς μόνον οἶόν τε, τοῖς δόγμασι τοῖς  
 ἑαυτοῦ.  
 22 'Αλλ' ἡ μήτηρ μου στένει μὴ ὀρώσά με.—Διὰ  
 τί γὰρ οὐκ ἔμαθεν τούτους τοὺς λόγους; καὶ οὐ  
 τοῦτό φημι, ὅτι οὐκ ἐπιμελητέον τοῦ μὴ οἰμῶζειν  
 αὐτήν, ἀλλ' ὅτι οὐ δεῖ θέλειν τὰ ἀλλότρια ἐξ  
 23 ἅπαντος. λύπη δ' ἡ ἄλλου ἀλλότριόν ἐστιν, ἢ δ'  
 ἐμὴ ἐμόν. ἐγὼ οὖν τὸ μὲν ἐμόν παύσω ἐξ ἅπαν-  
 τος, ἐπ' ἐμοὶ γάρ ἐστιν· τὸ δ' ἀλλότριον πειράσο-  
 μαι κατὰ δύναμιν, ἐξ ἅπαντος δ' οὐ πειράσο-  
 24 μαι. εἰ δὲ μή, θεομαχήσω, ἀντιθήσω πρὸς τὸν

<sup>1</sup> ὁ added by Schenkl: ἀλλ' Ὀδυσσεύς S.

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Odyssey*, V. 82.

must already possess everything that it wants ; it must resemble a replete person : he cannot feel thirst or hunger.—Still, Odysseus felt a longing for his wife, and sat upon a rock and wept.<sup>1</sup>—And do you take Homer and his tales as authority for everything ? If Odysseus really wept, what else could he have been but miserable ? But what good and excellent man is miserable ? In all truth the universe is badly managed, if Zeus does not take care of His own citizens, that they be like Him, that is, happy. Nay, it is unlawful and unholy to think of such an alternative, but if Odysseus wept and wailed, he was not a good man. Why, what man could be good who does not know who he is ? And who knows that, if he has forgotten that the things which come into being are corruptible, and that it is impossible for one human being always to live with another ? What then ? To reach out for the impossible is slavish and foolish ; it is acting like a stranger in the universe, one who is fighting against God with the only weapons at his command, his own judgements.

But my mother mourns because she does not see me.—Yes, but why did she not learn the meaning of these words of the philosophers ? And I am not saying that you ought to take no pains to keep her from lamenting, but only that a person ought not to want at all costs what is not his own. Now another's grief is no concern of mine, but my own grief is. Therefore, I will put an end at all costs to what is my own concern, for *it* is under my control : and that which is another's concern I will endeavour to check to the best of my ability, but my effort to do so will not be made at all costs. Otherwise I shall be fighting against

- Δία, ἀντιδιατάξομαι αὐτῷ πρὸς τὰ ὅλα. καὶ τὰπίχειρα τῆς θεομαχίας ταύτης καὶ ἀπειθείας οὐ παῖδες παίδων ἐκτίσουσιν, ἀλλ' αὐτὸς ἐγὼ μεθ' ἡμέραν, νυκτὸς διὰ τῶν ἐνυπνίων ἐκπηδῶν, ταρασσόμενος, πρὸς πᾶσαν ἀπαγγελίαν τρέμων, ἐξ ἐπιστολῶν ἀλλοτρίων ἡρτημένην ἔχων τὴν
- 25 ἐμαυτοῦ ἀπάθειαν.<sup>1</sup> ἀπὸ Ῥώμης τις ἤκει. “μόνον μὴ τι κακόν.” τί δὲ κακὸν ἐκεῖ σοι συμβῆναι δύναται, ὅπου μὴ εἶ; ἀπὸ τῆς Ἑλλάδος. “μόνον μὴ τι κακόν.” οὕτως σοι πᾶς τόπος δύναται
- 26 δυστυχίας εἶναι αἴτιος. οὐχ ἱκανὸν ἐκεῖ σε ἀτυχεῖν, ὅπου αὐτὸς εἶ, ἀλλὰ καὶ πέραν θαλάσσης καὶ διὰ γραμμάτων; οὕτως ἀσφαλῶς σοι τὰ
- 27 πράγματα ἔχει;—Τί οὖν, ἂν ἀποθάνωσιν οἱ ἐκεῖ φίλοι;—Τί γὰρ ἂν ἄλλο ἢ οἱ θνητοὶ ἀπέθανον; ἢ πῶς ἅμα μὲν γηρᾶσαι θέλεις, ἅμα δὲ μηδενὸς
- 28 τῶν στεργομένων μὴ ἰδεῖν θάνατον; οὐκ οἶσθ', ὅτι ἐν τῷ μακρῷ χρόνῳ πολλὰ καὶ ποικίλα ἀποβαίνειν ἀνάγκη, τοῦ μὲν πυρετὸν γενέσθαι κρείτ-
- 29 τουα, τοῦ δὲ ληστήν, τοῦ δὲ τύραννον; τοιοῦτο γὰρ τὸ περιέχον, τοιοῦτον οἱ συνόντες, ψύχη καὶ καύματα καὶ τροφαὶ ἀσύμμετροι καὶ ὁδοιπορίαι καὶ πλοῦς καὶ ἄνεμοι καὶ περιστάσεις ποικίλαι· τὸν μὲν ἀπώλεσαν, τὸν δ' ἐξώρισαν, τὸν δ' εἰς πρεσβείαν, ἄλλον δ' εἰς στρατείαν ἐνέβαλον.
- 30 κάθησο τοίνυν πρὸς πάντα ταῦτα ἐπτοημένος, πενθῶν, ἀτυχῶν, δυστυχῶν, ἐξ ἄλλου ἡρτημένος

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: εὐπείθειαν S.

<sup>1</sup> The phrase in quotation marks is a verbal reminiscence of Homer, *Iliad*, XX. 308.

God, I shall be setting myself in opposition to Zeus, I shall be arraying myself against Him in regard to His administration of the universe. And the wages of this fighting against God and this disobedience will not be paid by "children's children,"<sup>1</sup> but by me myself in my own person, by day and by night, as I start up out of dreams and am disturbed, trembling at every message, with my own peace of mind depending upon letters not my own. Someone has arrived from Rome. "If only there is no bad news!" But how can anything bad for *you* happen in a place, if you are not there? Someone arrives from Greece. "If only there is no bad news!" In this way for *you* every place can cause misfortune. Isn't it enough for you to be miserable where you are? Must you needs be miserable even beyond the seas, and by letter? Is this the fashion in which all that concerns you is secure?—Yes, but what if my friends over there die?—Why, what else than that mortal men died? Or how can you wish to reach old age yourself, and at the same time not behold the death of any that you love? Do you not know that in the long course of time many different things must needs happen; fever must overcome one man, a brigand another, a tyrant a third? Because such is the character of the air about us, such that of our associates; cold and heat and unsuitable food, and journeys by land and by sea, and winds and all manner of perils; this man they destroy, that man they drive into exile, another they send on an embassy, and yet another on a campaign. Sit down, therefore, and get all wrought up at each one of these events, mourning, unfortunate, miserable, depend on something other

καὶ τούτου οὐχ ἑνός, οὐ δυεῖν, ἀλλὰ μυρίων ἐπὶ μυρίοις.

- 31 Ταῦτα ἤκουες παρὰ τοῖς φιλοσόφοις, ταῦτ' ἐμάνθανες; οὐκ οἶσθ', ὅτι στρατεία τὸ χρημᾶ ἐστίν; τὸν μὲν δεῖ φυλάττειν, τὸν δὲ κατασκοπήσοντα ἐξιέναι, τὸν δὲ καὶ πολεμήσοντα· οὐχ οἷόν τ' εἶναι πάντας ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ οὐδ' ἄμεινον.
- 32 σὺ δ' ἀφείς ἐκτελεῖν τὰ προστάγματα τοῦ στρατηγοῦ ἐγκαλεῖς, ὅταν τί σοι προσταχθῇ τραχύτερον, καὶ οὐ παρακολουθεῖς, οἷον ἀποφαίνεις, ὅσον ἐπὶ σοί, τὸ στράτευμα, ὅτι ἂν σε πάντες μιμήσωνται, οὐ τάφρον σκάψει τις, οὐ χάρακα περιβαλεῖ, οὐκ ἀγρυπνήσει, οὐ κινδυνεύσει, ἀλλὰ ἄχρηστος
- 33 δόξει στρατεύεσθαι. πάλιν ἐν πλοίῳ ναύτης ἂν πλήρης, μίαν χώραν κάτεχε καὶ ταύτην προσλιπάρι· ἂν δ' ἐπὶ τὸν ἰστόν ἀναβῆναι δέη, μὴ θέλε, ἂν εἰς τὴν πρῶραν διαδραμεῖν, μὴ θέλε. καὶ τίς ἀνέξεται σου κυβερνήτης; οὐχὶ δ' ὥς σκεῦος ἄχρηστον ἐκβαλεῖ, οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἢ ἐμπόδιον καὶ
- 34 κακὸν παράδειγμα τῶν ἄλλων ναυτῶν; οὕτως δὲ καὶ ἐνθάδε· στρατεία τίς ἐστίν ὁ βίος ἐκάστου καὶ αὕτη μακρὰ καὶ ποικίλη. τηρεῖν σε δεῖ τὸ τοῦ στρατιώτου καὶ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ πρὸς νεῦμα<sup>1</sup>
- 35 πράσσειν ἕκαστα· εἰ οἷόν τε, μαντευόμενον<sup>2</sup> ἂ θέλει. οὐδὲ γὰρ ὅμοιος ἐκεῖνος ὁ στρατηγὸς καὶ οὗτος οὔτε κατὰ τὴν ἰσχὺν οὔτε κατὰ τὴν τοῦ
- 36 ἡθους ὑπεροχὴν. τέταξαι ἐν πόλει ἡγεμόνι<sup>3</sup> καὶ οὐκ ἐν ταπεινῇ τινὶ χώρᾳ, οὐκ ἐπέτειος ἄλλ'

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: στρατιώτου πρόσνευμα. καὶ τοῦ στρατηγεῖν S.

<sup>2</sup> Reiske: μαντευόμενος S.

than yourself, and that not one thing or two, but tens upon tens of thousands of things !

Is that what you used to hear when you sat at the feet of the philosophers? Is that what you learned? Do you not know that the business of life is a campaign? One man must mount guard, another go out on reconnaissance, and another out to fight. It is not possible for all to stay in the same place, nor is it better so. But you neglect to perform the duties assigned you by your commanding officer, and complain when some rather hard order is given you, and fail to understand to what a state you are bringing the army, as far as in you lies; because, if they all imitate you, no one will dig a trench, no one construct a palisade, or watch through the night, or risk his life in fighting, but they will seem useless soldiers. Again, if you take ship as a sailor, take up one place and stick to that! and if you have to climb the mast, be unwilling; if you have to run to the bow, be unwilling! And what ship's captain will put up with you? Won't he throw you overboard like a piece of junk, nothing but a nuisance, and a bad example to the other sailors? So also in this world; each man's life is a kind of campaign, and a long and complicated one at that. You have to maintain the character of a soldier, and do each separate act at the bidding of the General, if possible divining what He wishes. For there is no comparison between this General and an ordinary one, either in His power, or in the pre-eminence of His character. You have been given a post in an imperial city, and not in some mean place; not for a

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<sup>3</sup> C. Schenkl: ἡγεμονία S.



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- εἰς<sup>1</sup> αἰὲ βουλευτής. οὐκ οἶσθ', ὅτι τὸν τοιοῦτον  
ὀλίγα μὲν δεῖ οἰκονομεῖν, τὰ πολλὰ δ' ἀποδημεῖν  
ἄρχοντα ἢ ἀρχόμενον ἢ ὑπηρετοῦντά τινι ἀρχῇ ἢ  
στρατευόμενον ἢ δικάζοντα; εἰτά μοι θέλεις ὡς  
φυτὸν προσηρτῆσθαι τοῖς αὐτοῖς τόποις καὶ  
37 προσερριζῶσθαι; — Ἦδὺν γάρ ἐστιν. — Τίς οὐ  
φησιν; ἀλλὰ καὶ ζωμὸς ἡδύς ἐστι καὶ γυνὴ καλὴ  
ἡδύ ἐστιν. τί ἄλλο λέγουσιν οἱ τέλος ποιούμενοι  
τὴν ἡδονήν;
- 38 Οὐκ αἰσθάνη, τίνων ἀνθρώπων φωνὴν ἀφῆκας;  
ὅτι Ἐπικουρείων καὶ κιναίδων; εἰτα τὰ ἐκείνων  
ἔργα πράσσω καὶ τὰ δόγματα ἔχων τοὺς λόγους  
ἡμῖν λέγεις τοὺς Ζήνωνος καὶ Σωκράτους; οὐκ  
39 ἀπορρίψεις ὡς μακροτάτῳ τὰλλότριά, οἷς κοσμη  
μηδέν σοι προσήκουσιν; ἢ τί ἄλλο θέλουσιν  
ἐκεῖνοι ἢ καθεύδειν ἀπαραποδίστως καὶ ἀναναγ-  
κάστως καὶ ἀναστάντες ἐφ' ἡσυχίας χασμή-  
σασθαι καὶ τὸ πρόσωπον ἀποπλῦναι, εἰτα  
γράψαι καὶ ἀναγνῶναι ἃ θέλουσιν, εἰτα φλυα-  
ρῆσαί τί ποτ' ἐπαινούμενοι ὑπὸ τῶν φίλων, ὃ τι  
ἂν λέγωσιν, εἰτα εἰς περίπατον προελθόντες καὶ  
ὀλίγα περιπατήσαντες λούσασθαι, εἰτα φαγεῖν,  
εἰτα κοιμηθῆναι, οἷαν δὲ κοίτην καθεύδειν τοὺς  
τοιούτους εἰκός—τί ἂν τις λέγοι; ἔξεστιν γὰρ  
τεκμαίρεσθαι.
- 40 Ἄγε, φέρε μοι καὶ σὺ τὴν σαντοῦ διατριβήν,  
ἣν ποθεῖς, ζηλωτὰ τῆς ἀληθείας καὶ Σωκράτους  
καὶ Διογένους. τί θέλεις ἐν Ἀθήναις ποιεῖν;

<sup>1</sup> εἰς added by Capps: χώρα ἀλλὰ εἰ S. The senators at Athens, for example, served only one year.

short time either, but you are a senator for life. Do you not know that a man in such a post has to give only a little attention to the affairs of his own household, but for most of the time has to be away, in command, or under command, or serving some official, or in the field, or on the judge's bench? And then you want to be attached to the same spot and rooted in it like a plant?—Yes, it is pleasant.—Why deny it? But soup is pleasant too, and a pretty woman is a pleasant thing. What else do those say who make pleasure their end?

Do you not realize the kind of men they are whose language you have just uttered? That they are Epicureans and blackguards? And yet, while doing their deeds and holding their opinions, you recite to us the words of Zeno and Socrates? Will you not cast away from you, as far as you can fling them, these alien trappings with which you adorn yourself, although they do not at all become you? Or what else do these fellows want but to sleep without hindrance or compulsion, and after they have arisen, to yawn at their ease, and wash their faces; then to write and read what they please, then to babble something or other, to the applause of their friends, no matter what they say; then to go out for a stroll, and after a short walk to take a bath; then to eat, then to seek their rest, and sleep in such a bed as you might expect such persons to enjoy—why should I say the word? For you can infer what it is like.

Come now, do you also tell me your style of life, the one on which you have set your heart, you eager follower of the truth, and of Socrates, and of Diogenes! What do *you* want to do in Athens? Just what I

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 41 ταῦτα αὐτά ; μή τι ἕτερα ; τί οὖν Στωικὸν σαυτὸν εἶναι λέγεις ; εἶτα οἱ μὲν τῆς Ῥωμαίων πολιτείας καταψευδόμενοι κολλάζονται πικρῶς, τοὺς δ' οὕτως μεγάλου καὶ σεμνοῦ καταψευδομένους πράγματος καὶ ὀνόματος ἀθώους ἀπαλλάττεσθαι
- 42 δεῖ ; ἢ τοῦτό γε οὐ δυνατόν, ἀλλ' ὁ νόμος θεῖος καὶ ἰσχυρὸς καὶ ἀναπόδραστος οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ τὰς μεγίστας εἰσπρασσόμενος κολλάσεις παρὰ τῶν τὰ
- 43 μέγιστα ἀμαρτανόντων ; τί γὰρ λέγει ; “ ὁ προσποιούμενος τὰ μηδὲν πρὸς αὐτὸν ἔστω ἀλαζών, ἔστω κενόδοξος· ὁ ἀπειθῶν τῇ θεῇ διοικήσει ἔστω ταπεινός, ἔστω δοῦλος, λυπείσθω, φθονεῖτω, ἐλεεῖτω, τὸ κεφάλαιον πάντων, δυστυχεῖτω, θρηνεῖτω.”
- 44 Τί οὖν ; θέλεις με τὸν δεῖνα θεραπεύειν ; ἐπὶ θύρας<sup>1</sup> αὐτοῦ πορεύεσθαι ;—Εἰ τοῦτο αἰρεῖ λόγος, ὑπὲρ τῆς πατρίδος, ὑπὲρ τῶν συγγενῶν, ὑπὲρ ἀνθρώπων, διὰ τί μὴ ἀπέλθης ; ἀλλ' ἐπὶ μὲν τὰς τοῦ σκυτέως οὐκ αἰσχύνῃ πορευόμενος, ὅταν δέῃ ὑποδημάτων, οὐδ' ἐπὶ τὰς τοῦ κηπουροῦ, ὅταν θιδράκων, ἐπὶ δὲ τὰς τῶν πλουσίων, ὅταν
- 45 τινὸς ὁμοίου δέῃ ;—Ναί· τὸν σκυτέα γὰρ οὐ θαυμάζω.—Μηδὲ τὸν πλούσιον.—Οὐδὲ τὸν κηπουρὸν κολακεύσω.—Μηδὲ τὸν πλούσιον.
- 46 Πῶς οὖν τύχῳ οὐδέομαι ;—Ἐγὼ δέ σοι λέγω ὅτι “ ὥς τευξόμενος ἀπέρχου” ; οὐχὶ δὲ μόνον,
- 47 ἵνα πράξῃς τὸ σαυτῷ πρέπον ;—Τί οὖν ἔτι πορεύομαι ;—Ἴν' ἀπέλθῃς, ἵνα ἀποδεδωκῶς ᾗς

<sup>1</sup> Wolf : θύραις S.

<sup>1</sup> Because it was a disturbing passion which interfered with serenity.

have described? Nothing at all different? Why, then, do you call yourself a Stoic? Well, but those who falsely claim Roman citizenship are severely punished, and ought those who falsely claim so great and so dignified a calling and title to get off scot-free? Or is that impossible? whereas the divine and mighty and inescapable law is the law which exacts the greatest penalties from those who are guilty of the greatest offences. Now what are its terms? "Let him who makes pretence to things which in no wise concern him be a braggart, let him be a vainglorious man; let him who disobeys the divine governance be abject, be a slave, suffer grief, envy, pity,<sup>1</sup>—in a word, be miserable, and lament."

Well, what then? Do you want me to pay court to So-and-so? go to his front-door?<sup>2</sup>—If reason so decides, for the sake of your country, your kinsmen, mankind in general, why not go? Why, you are not ashamed to go to the door of the cobbler when you need shoes, nor to that of the market-gardener when you need lettuce; and are you ashamed to go to the door of the rich when you want something that rich men have?—Very true, for as to the cobbler, I do not have to admire him.—Don't admire the rich man, either.—And I shall not have to flatter the market-gardener.—Don't flatter the rich man either.—How, then, shall I get what I need?—Am I telling you, "Go like a man who is certain to get what he wants," and not simply, "Go in order to do what becomes you"?—Why, then, do I go at all?—So as to have gone, so as to have performed the function of the citizen that

<sup>2</sup> The transition is most abrupt, but obviously the interlocutor has been expected by his friends to pay court to some rich and influential man.

- τὰ τοῦ πολίτου ἔργα, τὰ ἀδελφοῦ, τὰ φίλου.  
 43 καὶ λοιπὸν μέμνησο, ὅτι πρὸς σκυτέα ἀφίξαι,  
 πρὸς λαχανοπώλην, οὐδενὸς μεγάλου ἢ σεμνοῦ  
 ἔχοντα τὴν ἐξουσίαν, καὶ αὐτὸ πολλοῦ πωλῇ.  
 ὥς ἐπὶ τὰς θίδρακας<sup>1</sup> ἀπέρχῃ· ὀβολοῦ γάρ εἰσιν,  
 49 ταλάντου δ' οὐκ εἰσίν. οὕτως κἀνταῦθα. τοῦ  
 ἐπὶ θύρας ἐλθεῖν ἄξιον τὸ πρᾶγμα· ἔστω, ἀφίξο-  
 μαι. τοῦ διαλεχθῆναι οὕτως· ἔστω, διαλεχθή-  
 σομαι. ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴν χεῖρα δεῖ καταφιλήσαι  
 καὶ θωπεῦσαι δι' ἐπαίνου. ἅπαγε, ταλάντου  
 ἐστίν· οὐ λυσιτελεῖ μοι οὐδὲ τῇ πόλει οὐδὲ τοῖς  
 φίλοις ἀπολέσαι καὶ πολίτην ἀγαθὸν καὶ φίλον.  
 50 Ἀλλὰ δόξεις μὴ προτεθυμῆσθαι μὴ ἀνύσας.  
 πάλιν ἐπελάθου, τίνος ἔνεκα ἐλήλυθας; οὐκ  
 οἶσθ', ὅτι ἀνὴρ καλὸς καὶ ἀγαθὸς οὐδὲν ποιεῖ  
 τοῦ δόξαι ἔνεκα, ἀλλὰ τοῦ πεπρᾶχθαι καλῶς;—  
 51 Τί οὖν ὄφελος αὐτῷ τοῦ πρᾶξαι καλῶς;—Τί δ'  
 ὄφελος τῷ γράφοντι τὸ Δίωνος ὄνομα, ὥς χρὴ  
 γράφειν; αὐτὸ τὸ γράψαι.—Ἐπαθλον οὖν οὐδέν;  
 —Σὺ δὲ ζητεῖς ἑπαθλον ἀνδρὶ ἀγαθῷ μείζον τοῦ  
 52 τὰ καλὰ καὶ δίκαια πράττειν; ἐν Ὀλυμπίᾳ δ'  
 οὐδεὶς ἄλλο οὐδέν, ἀλλ' ἀρκεῖν σοι δοκεῖ τὸ  
 ἐστεφανῶσθαι Ὀλύμπια. οὕτως σοι μικρὸν  
 καὶ οὐδενὸς ἄξιον εἶναι φαίνεται τὸ εἶναι καλὸν  
 καὶ ἀγαθὸν καὶ εὐδαίμονα; πρὸς ταῦτα ὑπὸ  
 53 θεῶν εἰς τὴν πόλιν ταύτην εἰσηγμένος καὶ ἤδη  
 τῶν ἀνδρὸς ἔργων<sup>2</sup> ὀφείλων ἅπτεσθαι τιτθὰς

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl: θρίδακας S.

<sup>2</sup> Wolf, after Schegk: ἀνδροέργων S.

you are, of a brother, of a friend. And furthermore, remember that you have come to see a cobbler, a vegetable-dealer, a man who has authority over nothing great or important, even if he sell it for a high price. You are going, as it were, for heads of lettuce; they are worth an obol, not a talent. So it is in our life also. The matter in hand is worth going to a person's door about; very well, I will go. It is also worth an interview; very well, I will interview him about it. Yes, but I will have to kiss his hand also, and flatter him with words of praise. Go to! that is paying a talent for a head of lettuce! It is not profitable to me, nor to the State, nor to my friends, to ruin by so acting a good citizen and friend.

Yes, but if you fail, people will think that you didn't try hard. Have you gone and forgotten again why you went? Don't you know that a good and excellent man does nothing for the sake of appearances, but only for the sake of having acted right?—What good does he get, then, from acting right?—And what good does the person get for writing the name "Dio" as it ought to be written? The mere fact of writing it that way.—Is there, then, no further reward?—And are you looking for some further reward in the case of a good man, a reward which is greater than the doing of what is fine and right? At Olympia nobody wants anything else, but you feel content with having received an Olympic crown. Does it seem to you so small and worthless a thing to be good, and excellent, and happy? Therefore, when you have been introduced into this city-state<sup>1</sup> by the gods, and find it now your duty to lay hand to the work of a man, do you

ἐπιποθεῖς<sup>1</sup> καὶ μάμμην καὶ κάμπτει σε καὶ ἀπο-  
 θηλύνει κλαίοντα γύναια μωρά ; οὕτως οὐδέποτε  
 παύσει παιδίον ὦν νήπιον ; οὐκ οἶσθ', ὅτι ὁ τὰ  
 παιδίου ποιῶν ὅσῳ πρεσβύτερος τοσούτῳ γελοιό-  
 τερος ;

- 54 Ἐν Ἀθήναις δ' οὐδένα ἑώρας εἰς οἶκον αὐτοῦ  
 φοιτῶν ;—Ὁν ἐβουλόμην.—Καὶ ἐνθάδε τοῦτον  
 θέλε ὁρᾶν καὶ ὃν βούλει ὄψει· μόνον μὴ ταπεινῶς,  
 μὴ μετ' ὀρέξεως ἢ ἐκκλίσεως καὶ ἔσται τὰ σὰ  
 55 καλῶς. τοῦτο δ' οὐκ ἐν τῷ ἐλθεῖν ἐστὶν οὐδ'  
 ἐν τῷ ἐπὶ θύραις στήναι, ἀλλ' ἐνδον ἐν τοῖς  
 56 δόγμασιν. ὅταν τὰ ἐκτὸς καὶ ἀπροαίρετα ἡτι-  
 μακῶς ἥς καὶ μηδὲν αὐτῶν σὸν ἡγημένος, μόνα  
 δ' ἐκεῖνα σά, τὸ κρίναι καλῶς, τὸ ὑπολαβεῖν, τὸ  
 ὀρμῆσαι, τὸ ὀρεχθῆναι, τὸ ἐκκλῖναι, ποῦ ἔτι  
 57 ποθεῖς τὴν ἡσυχίαν τὴν ἐκεῖ, τί τοὺς συνήθεις  
 τόπους ; ἐκδεξαι βραχὺ καὶ τούτους πάλιν ἔξεις  
 συνήθεις. εἶτα ἂν οὕτως ἀγεννῶς ἔχῃς, πάλιν  
 καὶ τούτων ἀπαλλαττόμενος κλαῖε καὶ στένε.

- 58 Πῶς οὖν γένωμαι φιλόστοργος ;—Ὡς γενναῖος,  
 ὡς εὐτυχής· οὐδέποτε γὰρ αἰρεῖ<sup>2</sup> ὁ λόγος τα-  
 πεινὸν εἶναι οὐδὲ κατακλᾶσθαι οὐδ' ἐξ ἄλλου  
 κρέμασθαι οὐδὲ μέμψασθαι ποτε θεὸν ἢ ἄνθρω-  
 59 πον. οὕτως μοι γίνου φιλόστοργος ὡς ταῦτα  
 τηρήσων· εἰ δὲ διὰ τὴν φιλοστοργίαν ταύτην,  
 ἦντινά<sup>3</sup> ποτε καὶ καλεῖς φιλοστοργίαν, δοῦλος

<sup>1</sup> Salmasius suggests ἔτι ποθεῖς.      <sup>2</sup> Upton: ἐρεῖ S.

<sup>3</sup> Upton's "codex": ταῦτα· τὴν τινά S.



yearn for nurses and the breast, and does the weeping of poor silly women move you and make you effeminate? And so will you never get over being an infant? Don't you know that, when a person acts like a child, the older he is the more ridiculous he is?

In Athens did you see nobody when you went to his house?—Yes, the man I wanted to see.—Here also make up your mind to see this man, and you will see the man you want; only do not go humbly, not with desire or aversion, and all will be well with you. But this result is not to be found by mere going, nor by standing at gates, but in one's judgements within. When you have contemned things external and outside the province of your moral purpose, and have come to regard none of them as your own, but only the being right in judgement, in thinking, in choosing, in desiring, in avoiding,—where is there any longer room for flattery, where for an abject spirit? Why any longer yearn for the quiet you enjoyed there, or your familiar haunts? Wait a little while and you will find the places here familiar in their turn. And then, if you are so ignoble in spirit, weep and wail again when you leave these too!

How, then, shall I become affectionate?—As a man of noble spirit, as one who is fortunate; for it is against all reason to be abject, or broken in spirit, or to depend on something other than yourself, or even to blame either God or man. I would have you become affectionate in such a way as to maintain at the same time all these rules; if, however, by virtue of this natural affection, whatever it is you call by that name, you are going to be a

μέλλεις εἶναι καὶ ἄθλιος, οὐ λυσιτελεῖ φιλό-  
 60 στοργον εἶναι. καὶ τί κωλύει φιλεῖν τινὰ ὡς  
 θνητόν, ὡς ἀποδημητικόν; ἢ Σωκράτης οὐκ  
 ἐφίλει τοὺς παῖδας τοὺς ἑαυτοῦ; ἀλλ' ὡς ἐλεύ-  
 θερος, ὡς μεμνημένος, ὅτι πρῶτον δεῖ θεοῖς εἶναι  
 61 φίλον. διὰ τοῦτο οὐδὲν παρέβη τῶν πρεπόντων  
 ἀνδρὶ ἀγαθῷ οὔτ' ἀπολογούμενος οὔθ' ὑποτι-  
 μώμενος οὔτ' ἔτι πρόσθεν βουλευόντων ἢ στρατευό-  
 62 μενος. ἡμεῖς δὲ πάσης προφάσεως πρὸς τὸ  
 ἀγεννεῖς εἶναι εὐποροῦμεν, οἱ μὲν διὰ παῖδα,  
 63 οἱ δὲ διὰ μητέρα, ἄλλοι δὲ δι' ἀδελφούς. δι'  
 οὐδένα δὲ προσήκει δυστυχεῖν, ἀλλὰ εὐτυχεῖν  
 διὰ πάντας, μάλιστα δὲ διὰ τὸν θεὸν τὸν ἐπὶ  
 64 τοῦτο ἡμᾶς κατασκευάσαντα. ἄγε, Διογένης δ'  
 οὐκ ἐφίλει οὐδένα, ὃς οὕτως ἡμερος ἦν καὶ  
 φιλάνθρωπος, ὥστε ὑπὲρ τοῦ κοινοῦ τῶν ἀνθρώ-  
 πων τοσούτους πόνους καὶ ταλαιπωρίας τοῦ  
 σώματος ἄσμενος ἀναδέχεσθαι; ἀλλ' ἐφίλει  
 65 πῶς; ὡς τοῦ Διὸς διάκονον ἔδει, ἅμα μὲν κηδό-  
 μενος, ἅμα δ' ὡς τῷ θεῷ ὑποτεταγμένος. διὰ  
 66 τοῦτο πᾶσα γῆ πατρίς ἦν ἐκείνῳ μόνῳ, ἐξαίρετος  
 δ' οὐδεμία· καὶ ἀλοὺς οὐκ ἐπόθει τὰς Ἀθήνας  
 οὐδὲ τοὺς ἐκεῖ συνήθεις καὶ φίλους, ἀλλ' αὐτοῖς  
 τοῖς πειραταῖς συνήθης ἐγένετο καὶ ἐπανορθοῦν  
 ἐπειράτο. καὶ πραθεῖς ὕστερον ἐν Κορίνθῳ  
 διῆγεν οὕτως ὡς πρόσθεν ἐν Ἀθήναις καὶ εἰς  
 Περραιβοὺς δ' ἂν ἀπελθὼν ὡσαύτως εἶχεν.

slave and miserable, it does not profit you to be affectionate. And what keeps you from loving a person as one subject to death, as one who may leave you? Did not Socrates love his own children? But in a free spirit, as one who remembers that it was his first duty to be a friend to the gods. That is why he succeeded in everything that becomes a good man, both in making his defence, and in assessing his own penalty, and before that time in his services as senator or soldier. But *we* abound in all manner of excuses for being ignoble; with some it is a child, with others a mother, and then again it is brothers. But it is not becoming for us to be unhappy on any person's account, but to be happy because of all, and above all others because of God, who has made us for this end. Come, was there anybody that Diogenes did not love, a man who was so gentle and kind-hearted that he gladly took upon himself all those troubles and physical hardships for the sake of the common weal? But what was the manner of his loving? As became a servant of Zeus, caring for men indeed, but at the same time subject unto God. That is why for him alone the whole world, and no special place, was his fatherland; and when he had been taken prisoner he did not hanker for Athens nor his acquaintances and friends there, but he got on good terms with the pirates and tried <sup>1</sup> to reform them. And later, when he was sold into slavery at Corinth he kept on living there just as he had formerly lived at Athens; yes, and if he had gone off to the Perrhaebians he would have acted in quite the same way. That is how

<sup>1</sup> The humorous touch here in the word-jingle *πειραταῖς* and *ἐπειρᾶτο* is worthy of note, but hard to reproduce. For the incident in question see IV. 1, 115 f.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 67 οὕτως ἐλευθερία γίνεται. διὰ τοῦτο ἔλεγεν ὅτι  
 “ἐξ οὗ μ’ Ἀντισθένης ἡλευθέρωσεν, οὐκέτι ἐδού-  
 68 λευσα.” πῶς ἡλευθέρωσεν; ἄκουε, τί λέγει. “ἐδί-  
 δαξέν με τὰ ἐμὰ καὶ τὰ οὐκ ἐμὰ. κτήσις οὐκ ἐμή·  
 συγγενεῖς, οἰκεῖοι, φίλοι, φήμη, συνήθεις τόποι,  
 69 διατριβή, πάντα ταῦτα ὅτι ἀλλότρια. ‘σὸν οὖν  
 τί; χρήσις φαντασιῶν.’ ταύτην ἔδειξέν μοι ὅτι  
 ἀκώλυτον ἔχω, ἀνανάγκαστον· οὐδεὶς ἐμποδίσαι  
 δύναται, οὐδεὶς βιάσασθαι ἄλλως χρήσασθαι ἢ ὡς  
 70 θέλω. τίς οὖν ἔτι ἔχει μου ἐξουσίαν; Φίλιππος  
 ἢ Ἀλέξανδρος ἢ Περδίκκας ἢ ὁ μέγας βασιλεύς;  
 πόθεν αὐτοῖς; τὸν γὰρ ὑπ’ ἀνθρώπου μέλλοντα  
 ἡττᾶσθαι πολὺ πρότερον ὑπὸ τῶν πραγμάτων  
 71 δεῖ ἡττᾶσθαι.” οὐτινος οὖν οὐχ ἡδονὴ κρείττων  
 ἐστίν, οὐ πόνος, οὐ δόξα, οὐ πλοῦτος, δύναται δ’  
 ὅταν αὐτῷ δόξη, τὸ σωματίον ὅλον προσπτύσας  
 τινὶ ἀπελθεῖν, τίος ἔτι οὗτος δοῦλός ἐστιν, τίνι  
 72 ὑποτέτακται; εἰ δ’ ἡδέως ἐν Ἀθήναις διῆγεν καὶ  
 ἡττητο ταύτης τῆς διατριβῆς, ἐπὶ παντὶ ἂν ἦν  
 τὰ ἐκείνου πράγματα, ὁ ἰσχυρότερος κύριος ἂν  
 73 ἦν λυπῆσαι αὐτόν. πῶς ἂν δοκεῖς τοὺς πειρατὰς  
 ἐκολάκευεν, ἵν’ αὐτὸν Ἀθηναίων τινὶ πωλήσωσιν,  
 ἵν’ ἴδῃ ποτὲ τὸν Πειραιᾶ τὸν καλὸν καὶ τὰ μακρὰ  
 74 τεῖχῃ καὶ τὴν ἀκρόπολιν; τίς ὦν ἴδῃς, ἀνδρά-  
 75 ποδον; δοῦλος καὶ ταπεινός· καὶ τί σοι ὄφελος;  
 —Οὐ· ἀλλ’ ἐλεύθερος.—Δεῖξον, πῶς ἐλεύθερος.

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<sup>1</sup> His teacher, the famous philosopher.

<sup>2</sup> Of Persia.

<sup>3</sup> Perhaps a reference to the story that Anaxarchus, when Nicocreon ordered that his tongue be cut out, bit it off and spat it in the other's face. Diogenes Laertius, 9, 59.

freedom is achieved. That is why he used to say, "From the time that Antisthenes<sup>1</sup> set me free, I have ceased to be a slave." How did Antisthenes set him free? Listen to what Diogenes says. "He taught me what was mine, and what was not mine. Property is not mine; kinsmen, members of my household, friends, reputation, familiar places, converse with men—all these are not my own. 'What, then, is yours? Power to deal with external impressions.' He showed me that I possess this beyond all hindrance and constraint; no one can hamper me; no one can force me to deal with them otherwise than as I will. Who, then, has authority over me? Philip, or Alexander, or Perdiccas, or the Great King?<sup>2</sup> Where can they get it? For the man who is destined to be overpowered by a man must long before that have been overpowered by things." Therefore, the man over whom pleasure has no power, nor evil, nor fame, nor wealth, and who, whenever it seems good to him, can spit his whole paltry body into some oppressor's face<sup>3</sup> and depart from this life—whose slave can he any longer be, whose subject? But if he had gone on living pleasantly in Athens, and had been enamoured of his life there, his fortune would have been in every man's control, and the man who was stronger than he would have had power to cause him grief. How do you imagine he would have wheedled the pirates to sell him to some Athenian, so that he might some time see the beautiful Piræus, and the Long Walls and the Acropolis! Who are you that you should see them, slave? A thrall and a person of abject spirit; and what good are they to you?—No, not a slave, but a free man.—Show me how you are free.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἰδοὺ ἐπείληπταί σου τίς ποτε οὗτος, ὁ ἐξάγων σε ἀπὸ τῆς συνήθους σοι διατριβῆς καὶ λέγει “δοῦλος ἐμὸς εἶ· ἐπ’ ἐμοὶ γάρ ἐστι κωλύσαί σε διάγειν ὡς θέλεις, ἐπ’ ἐμοὶ τὸ ἀνεῖναί σε, τὸ ταπεινοῦν· ὅταν θέλω, πάλιν εὐφραίνῃ καὶ
- 76 μετέωρος πορεύῃ εἰς Ἀθήνας.” τί λέγεις πρὸς τοῦτον τὸν δουλαγωγοῦντά σε; ποῖον αὐτῷ καρπιστὴν δίδως; ἢ οὐδ’ ὅλως ἀντιβλέπεις, ἀλλ’
- 77 ἀφείς τοὺς πολλοὺς λόγους ἱκετεύεις, ἵνα ἀφεθῇς; ἄνθρωπε, εἰς φυλακὴν σε δεῖ χαίροντα ἀπιέναι, σπεύδοντα, φθάνοντα τοὺς ἀπάγοντας. εἰτά μοι σὺ μὲν ἐν Ῥώμῃ διάγειν ὀκνεῖς, τὴν Ἑλλάδα ποθεῖς; ὅταν δ’ ἀποθνήσκῃν δέῃ, καὶ τότε μέλλεις ἡμῶν κατακλαίειν, ὅτι τὰς Ἀθήνας οὐ μέλλεις βλέπειν καὶ ἐν Λυκείῳ οὐ περιπατήσεις;
- 78 Ἐπὶ τοῦτο ἀπεδήμησας; τούτου ἕνεκα ἐζήτησάς τινι συμβαλεῖν, ἵν’ ὠφελῇς ὑπ’ αὐτοῦ; ποῖαν ὠφέλειαν; συλλογισμοὺς ἵν’ ἀναλύσῃς ἐκτικώτερον ἢ ἐφοδεύσῃς ὑποθετικούς; καὶ διὰ ταύτην τὴν αἰτίαν ἀδελφὸν ἀπέλιπες, πατρίδα, φίλους, οἰκείους, ἵνα ταῦτα μαθὼν ἐπανέλθῃς;
- 79 ὥστ’ οὐχ ὑπὲρ εὐσταθείας ἀπεδήμεις, οὐχ ὑπὲρ ἀταραξίας, οὐχ ἵν’ ἀβλαβὴς γενόμενος μηκέτι μηδένα μέμφῃ, μηδενὶ ἐγκαλῇς, μηδεῖς σε ἀδικῇ καὶ οὕτως τὰς σχέσεις ἀποσώξῃς ἀπαραποδίσ-
- 80 τως; καλὴν ἐστείλω ταύτην τὴν ἐμπορίαν, συλλογισμοὺς καὶ μεταπίπτοντας καὶ ὑποθε-
- 208

See, some person or other has laid hands on you—the man who takes you away from your accustomed way of life, and says, “You are my slave; for it is in my power to prevent you from living as you will, it is in my power to lighten your servitude, or to humble you; whenever I wish, you can be happy again, and go off to Athens in high spirits.” What do you say to this man who makes you his slave? Whom have you to offer him as your emancipator? Or do you not even look him in the face at all, but cutting all argument short do you implore him to set you free? Man, you ought to go gladly to prison, in haste, outstripping those who lead you away. And then, I do beseech you, are you loath to live in Rome, and do you yearn for Greece? And when you have to die, then also, I suppose, will you weep all over us, because you are never going to see Athens again or stroll in the Lyceum?

Was that what you went abroad for? Was it for this that you sought to meet someone—that he might do you good? Good indeed! That you might analyse syllogisms more readily, or run down hypothetical arguments? It was for *this* reason, was it, you left brother, country, friends, and those of your own household—so as to return with *this* kind of learning? And so you did not go abroad to acquire constancy of character, or peace of mind; not to become secure yourself and thenceforward blame and find fault with no man; not to make it impossible for another to do you wrong, and so maintain without hindrance your relations in society? A fine exchange of goods this which you have achieved, syllogisms, and arguments with equivocal and hypothetical premisses!



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 81 τικούς· κἂν σοι φανῇ, ἐν τῇ ἀγορᾷ καθίσας  
 πρόγραψον ὥς οἱ φαρμακοπῶλαι. οὐκ ἀρνήσῃ  
 καὶ ὅσα ἔμαθες εἰδέναι, ἵνα μὴ διαβάλης τὰ  
 θεωρήματα ὡς ἀχρήστα; τί σοι κακὸν ἐποίησεν  
 φιλοσοφία; τί σε ἠδίκησε Χρύσιππος, ἵν' αὐτοῦ  
 τοὺς πόνους ἔργῳ αὐτὸς ἀχρήστους ἐξελέγχῃς;  
 οὐκ ἤρκει σοι τὰ ἐκεῖ κακά, ὅσα εἶχες αἵτια τοῦ  
 λυπεῖσθαι καὶ πενθεῖν, εἰ καὶ μὴ ἀπεδήμησας,  
 82 ἀλλὰ πλείω προσέλαβες; κἂν ἄλλους πάλιν  
 ἔχῃς συνήθεις καὶ φίλους, ἔξεις πλείονα τοῦ  
 οἰμώζειν αἵτια, κἂν πρὸς ἄλλην χώραν προσ-  
 παθῇς. τί οὖν ζῇς; ἵνα λύπας ἄλλας ἐπ' ἄλλαις  
 83 περιβάλλῃ, δι' ἧς ἀτυχεῖς; εἰτά μοι καλεῖς τοῦτο  
 φιλοστοργίαν; ποίαν, ἄνθρωπε, φιλοστοργίαν;  
 εἰ ἀγαθὸν ἐστίν, οὐδενὸς κακοῦ αἴτιον γίνεται· εἰ  
 κακόν ἐστίν, οὐδέν μοι καὶ αὐτῇ. ἐγὼ πρὸς τὰ  
 ἀγαθὰ τὰ ἐμαυτοῦ πέφυκα, πρὸς κακὰ οὐ πέ-  
 φυκα.  
 84 Τίς οὖν ἡ πρὸς τοῦτο ἄσκησις; πρῶτον μὲν ἡ  
 ἀνωτάτω καὶ κυριωτάτῃ καὶ εὐθύς ὥσπερ ἐν  
 πύλαις, ὅταν τινὶ προσπάσχῃς, ὡς<sup>1</sup> οὐδενὶ τῶν  
 ἀναφαιρέτων, ἀλλὰ τινι τοιούτῳ γένει, οἷόν ἐστι  
 χύτρα, οἷον ὑάλινον ποτήριον, ἵν' ὅταν καταγῇ,  
 85 μεμνημένος μὴ ταραχθῇς. οὕτως καὶ ἐνθάδ', ἐὰν  
 παιδίον σαυτοῦ καταφιλῇς, ἐὰν ἀδελφόν, ἐὰν  
 φίλον, μηδέποτε ἐπιδῶς τὴν φαντασίαν εἰς ἅπαν  
 μηδὲ τὴν διάχυσιν εἰσῆς προελθεῖν ἐφ' ὅσον αὐτῇ  
 θέλει, ἀλλ' ἀντίσπασον, κώλυσον, οἷον οἱ τοῖς

<sup>1</sup> ὡς added by Sb.

Yes, and if you see fit, seat yourself in the market-place, and hang out a sign, as the drug-peddlers do. Ought you not rather to deny that you know even all you have learned, so as not to bring your philosophical precepts into ill repute as being useless? What harm has philosophy done you? How has Chrysippus wronged you that you should prove by your own conduct his labours to be useless? Were not the ills at home enough for you, all that you had to cause you grief and sorrow, even if you had not gone abroad, but did you add yet others in addition to them? And if you get other intimates and friends again, you will have more reasons for lamentation, yes, and if you get attached to another land. Why, then, live? Is it to involve yourself in one grief after another that makes you miserable? And then, I ask you, do you call this natural affection? Natural affection forsooth, man! If it is good, it is the source of no evil; if it is evil, I have nothing to do with it. I am born for the things that are good and belong to me, not for things evil.

What, then, is the proper discipline for this? In the first place, the highest and principal discipline, and one that stands at the very gates of the subject, is this: Whenever you grow attached to something, do not act as though it were one of those things that cannot be taken away, but as though it were something like a jar or a crystal goblet, so that when it breaks you will remember what it was like, and not be troubled. So too in life; if you kiss your child, your brother, your friend, never allow your fancy free rein, nor your exuberant spirits to go as far as they like, but hold them back, stop them, just like those who

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- θριαμβεύουσιν ἐφεστῶτες ὁπισθεν καὶ ὑπομιμνή-  
 86 σκοντες, ὅτι ἄνθρωποί εἰσιν. τοιοῦτόν τι καὶ  
 σὺ ὑπομίμνησκε σεαυτόν, ὅτι θνητὸν φιλεῖς,  
 οὐδὲν τῶν σεαυτοῦ φιλεῖς· ἐπὶ τοῦ παρόντος σοι  
 δέδοται, οὐκ ἀναφαίρετον οὐδ' εἰς ἅπαν, ἀλλ' ὥς  
 σῦκον, ὥς σταφυλή, τῇ τεταγμένῃ ὥρᾳ τοῦ ἔτους·  
 87 ἂν δὲ χειμῶνος ἐπιποθῇς, μωρὸς εἶ. οὕτως κἂν  
 τὸν υἱὸν ἢ τὸν φίλον τότε ποθῇς, ὅτε οὐ δέδοταί  
 σοι, ἴσθι, ὅτι χειμῶνος σῦκον ἐπιποθεῖς. οἶον  
 γάρ ἐστι χειμῶν πρὸς σῦκον, τοιοῦτόν ἐστι πᾶσα  
 ἢ ἀπὸ τῶν ὅλων περιστάσις πρὸς τὰ κατ' αὐτὴν  
 ἀναιρούμενα.
- 88 Καὶ λοιπὸν ἐν αὐτοῖς οἷς χαίρεις τινί, τὰς  
 ἐναντίας φαντασίας σαυτῷ πρόβαλε.<sup>1</sup> τί κα-  
 κὸν ἐστι μεταξὺ καταφιλοῦντα τὸ παιδίον  
 ἐπιψελλίζοντα λέγειν “αὔριον ἀποθανῇ,” τῷ  
 φίλῳ ὡσαύτως “αὔριον ἀποδημήσεις ἢ σὺ ἢ  
 89 ἐγὼ καὶ οὐκέτι ὀψόμεθα ἀλλήλους”;—Ἀλλὰ  
 δύσφημά ἐστι ταῦτα.—Καὶ γὰρ τῶν ἐπαιδῶν  
 ἔνιοι, ἀλλ' ὅτι ὠφελοῦσιν, οὐκ ἐπιστρέφονται,  
 μόνον ὠφελεῖτω. σὺ δὲ δύσφημα καλεῖς ἄλλα ἢ  
 τὰ κακοῦ τινὸς σημαντικά; δύσφημόν ἐστι δειλία,  
 90 δύσφημον ἀγέννεια, πένθος, λύπη, ἀναισχυντία·  
 ταῦτα τὰ ὀνόματα δύσφημά ἐστιν. καίτοι γε  
 οὐδὲ ταῦτα ὀκνεῖν δεῖ φθέγγεσθαι ὑπὲρ φυλακῆς

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl: πρόσβαλε S.

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<sup>1</sup> Among the means of warding off the evil eye from the *triumphator* was this, that a slave rode behind him in his triumphal car, and in the midst of the acclamations of the

stand behind generals when they ride in triumph, and keep reminding them that they are mortal.<sup>1</sup> In such fashion do you too remind yourself that the object of your love is mortal; it is not one of your own possessions; it has been given you for the present, not inseparably nor for ever, but like a fig, or a cluster of grapes, at a fixed season of the year, and that if you hanker for it in the winter, you are a fool. If in this way you long for your son, or your friend, at a time when he is not given to you, rest assured that you are hankering for a fig in winter-time. For as winter-time is to a fig, so is every state of affairs, which arises out of the universe, in relation to the things which are destroyed in accordance with that same state of affairs.

Furthermore, at the very moment when you are taking delight in something, call to mind the opposite impressions. What harm is there if you whisper to yourself, at the very moment you are kissing your child, and say, "To-morrow you will die"? So likewise to your friend, "To-morrow you will go abroad, or I shall, and we shall never see each other again"?—Nay, but these are words of bad omen.—Yes, and so are certain incantations, but because they do good, I do not care about that, only let the incantation do us good. But do you call any things ill-omened except those which signify some evil for us? Cowardice is ill-omened, a mean spirit, grief, sorrow, shamelessness; these are words of ill-omen. And yet we ought not to hesitate to utter even these words, in order to guard

people kept saying: "Look behind you, and remember that you are a mortal." For the evidence and literature, see J. Marquardt: *Römische Staatsverwaltung*, II. 568-9.

- 91 τῶν πραγμάτων. δύσφημον δέ μοι λέγεις ὄνομα φυσικοῦ τινὸς πράγματος σημαντικόν; λέγε δύσφημον εἶναι καὶ τὸ θερισθῆναι τοὺς στάχνας· ἀπώλειαν γὰρ σημαίνει τῶν σταχύων· ἀλλ' οὐχὶ τοῦ κόσμου. λέγε δύσφημον καὶ τὸ φυλλορροεῖν καὶ τὸ ἰσχάδα γίνεσθαι ἀντὶ σύκου καὶ
- 92 ἀσταφίδας ἐκ σταφυλῆς. πάντα γὰρ ταῦτα τῶν προτέρων εἰσὶν εἰς ἕτερα μεταβολαί· οὐκ ἀπώλεια, ἀλλὰ τεταγμένη τις οἰκονομία καὶ διοικήσεις.
- 93 τοῦτ' ἔστιν ἀποδημία, μεταβολή<sup>1</sup> μικρά· τοῦτο θάνατος, μεταβολὴ μείζων ἐκ τοῦ νῦν ὄντος οὐκ<sup>2</sup>
- 94 εἰς τὸ μὴ ὄν, ἀλλ' εἰς τὸ νῦν μὴ ὄν.—Οὐκέτι οὖν ἔσομαι;—Οὐκ ἔσει· ἀλλ' ἄλλο τι οὐ νῦν ὁ κόσμος χρεῖαν ἔχει. καὶ γὰρ σὺ ἐγένου οὐχ ὅτε σὺ ἠθέλησας, ἀλλ' ὅτε ὁ κόσμος χρεῖαν ἔσχευ.
- 95 Διὰ τοῦτο ὁ καλὸς καὶ ἀγαθὸς μεμνημένος, τίς τ' ἔστι καὶ πόθεν ἐλήλυθεν καὶ ὑπὸ τίνος γέγονεν, πρὸς μόνῳ τούτῳ ἐστίν, πῶς τὴν αὐτοῦ χώραν ἐκπληρώσῃ εὐτάκτως καὶ εὐπειθῶς τῷ θεῷ.
- 96 “ἔτι με μεῖναι<sup>3</sup> θέλεις; ὥς ἐλεύθερος, ὥς γευνναῖος, ὥς σὺ ἠθέλησας· σὺ γάρ με ἀκώ-
- 97 λυτον ἐποίησας ἐν τοῖς ἐμοῖς. ἀλλ' οὐκέτι μου χρεῖαν ἔχεις; καλῶς σοι γένοιτο· καὶ μέχρι νῦν διὰ σὲ ἔμενον, δι' ἄλλον οὐδένα, καὶ νῦν σοι πει-

<sup>1</sup> καὶ before this word was deleted by Upton.

<sup>2</sup> οὐκ added by Sb, a correction supported by the paraphrase of this passage in Marcus Aurelius, 11, 35.

<sup>3</sup> Reiske: μ' εἶναι S.

<sup>1</sup> This seems to me to be the most probable meaning of a vexed passage. If any change is needed, which I doubt (for ἄλλος with the simple genitive is abundantly attested, at least in other authors), I should prefer to read ἄλλο τι ἢ

against the things themselves. Do you tell me that any word is ill-omened which signifies some process of nature? Say that also the harvesting of ears of grain is ill-omened, for it signifies the destruction of the ears; but not of the universe. Say that also for leaves to fall is ill-omened, and for the fresh fig to turn into a dried fig, and a cluster of grapes to turn into raisins. For all these things are changes of a preliminary state into something else; it is not a case of destruction, but a certain ordered dispensation and management. This is what going abroad means, a slight change; this is the meaning of death, a greater change of that which now is, not into what is not, but into what is not *now*.—Shall I, then, be no more?—No, you will not be, but something else will be, something different from that of which the universe now has need.<sup>1</sup> And this is but reasonable, for you came into being, not when *you* wanted, but when the universe had need of you.

For this reason the good and excellent man, bearing in mind who he is, and whence he has come, and by whom he was created, centres his attention on this and this only, how he may fill his place in an orderly fashion, and with due obedience to God. “Is it Thy will that I should still remain? I will remain as a free man, as a noble man, as Thou didst wish it; for Thou hast made me free from hindrance in what was mine own. And now hast Thou no further need of me? Be it well with Thee. I have been waiting here until now because of Thee and of none other, and now I obey Thee and depart.”

οὐ, rather than to change οὐκ into οὐ, delete or transpose it, or take νῦν in the sense of τότε.

- 98 *θόμενος ἀπέρχομαι.* “*πῶς ἀπέρχῃ;*” “*πάλιν*  
*ὥς σὺ ἠθέλησας, ὥς ἐλεύθερος, ὥς ὑπηρέτης σός,*  
*ὥς ἡσθημένος σου τῶν προσταγμάτων καὶ ἀπαγο-*  
 99 *ρευμάτων. μέχρι δ’ ἂν οὐ διατρίβω ἐν τοῖς σοῖς, τίνα*  
*με θέλεις εἶναι; ἄρχοντα ἢ ιδιώτην, βουλευτὴν ἢ*  
*δημότην, στρατιώτην ἢ στρατηγόν, παιδευτὴν ἢ*  
*οἰκοδεσπότην; ἣν ἂν χώραν καὶ τάξιν ἐγχει-*  
*ρίσης, ὥς λέγει ὁ Σωκράτης, μυριάκις ἀπο-*  
*θανοῦμαι πρότερον ἢ ταύτην ἐγκαταλείψω.*  
 100 *ποῦ δέ μ’ εἶναι θέλεις; ἐν Ῥώμῃ ἢ ἐν Ἀθήναις*  
*ἢ ἐν Θήβαις ἢ ἐν Γυάροις; μόνον ἐκεῖ μου*  
 101 *μέννησο. ἂν μ’ ἐκεῖ πέμπῃς, ὅπου κατὰ φύσιν*  
*διεξαγωγή οὐκ ἔστιν ἀνθρώπων, οὐ σοὶ ἀπειθῶν*  
*ἔξειμι, ἀλλ’ ὥς σοῦ μοι σημαίνοντος τὸ ἀνακλητι-*  
*κόν· οὐκ ἀπολείπω σε· μὴ γένοιτο· ἀλλ’ αἰσ-*  
 102 *θάνομαι, ὅτι μου χρεῖαν οὐκ ἔχεις. ἂν δὲ διδῶται*  
*κατὰ φύσιν διεξαγωγή, οὐ ζητήσω ἄλλον τόπον<sup>1</sup>*  
*ἢ ἐν ᾧ εἰμὶ ἢ ἄλλους ἀνθρώπους ἢ μεθ’ ὧν*  
*εἰμί.”*  
 103 *Ταῦτα νυκτός, ταῦτα ἡμέρας πρόχειρα ἔστω·*  
*ταῦτα γράφειν, ταῦτα ἀναγιγνώσκειν· περὶ*  
*τούτων τοὺς λόγους ποιεῖσθαι, αὐτὸν πρὸς αὐτόν,*  
*πρὸς ἕτερον “μή τι ἔχεις μοι πρὸς τοῦτο βοηθῆ-*  
*σαι;” καὶ πάλιν ἄλλῳ προσελθεῖν<sup>2</sup> καὶ ἄλλῳ.*  
 104 *εἴτα ἂν τι γένηται τῶν λεγομένων ἀβουλήτων,*  
*εὐθὺς ἐκεῖνο πρῶτον ἐπικουφίσει σε, ὅτι οὐκ*  
 105 *ἀπροσδόκητον. μέγα γὰρ ἐπὶ πάντων τὸ “ἦδειν*

<sup>1</sup> *τόπον* added by Schweighäuser, after Schegk.

<sup>2</sup> Wolf, after Schegk : *ἐλθεῖν S.*

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<sup>1</sup> A very free paraphrase of Plato, *Apology*, 28 D-29 A.



“How do you depart?” “Again, as Thou didst wish it, as a free man, as Thy servant, as one who has perceived Thy commands and Thy prohibitions. But so long as I continue to live in Thy service, what manner of man wouldst Thou have me be? An official or a private citizen, a senator or one of the common people, a soldier or a general, a teacher or the head of a household? Whatsoever station and post Thou assign me, I will die ten thousand times, as Socrates says, or ever I abandon it.<sup>1</sup> And where wouldst Thou have me be? In Rome, or in Athens, or in Thebes, or in Gyara?<sup>2</sup> Only remember me there. If Thou sendest me to a place where men have no means of living in accordance with nature, I shall depart this life, not in disobedience to Thee, but as though Thou wert sounding for me the recall. I do not abandon Thee—far be that from me! but I perceive that Thou hast no need of me. Yet if there be vouchsafed a means of living in accordance with nature, I will seek no other place than that in which I am, or other men than those who are now my associates.”

Have thoughts like these ready at hand by night and by day; write them, read them, make your conversation about them, communing with yourself, or saying to another, “Can you give me some help in this matter?” And again, go now to one man and now to another. Then, if some one of those things happens which are called undesirable, immediately the thought that it was not unexpected will be the first thing to lighten the burden. For in every case it is a great help to be able to say, “I knew that the son whom I had begotten was

<sup>2</sup> See on I. 24, 19.

- θνητὸν γεγεννηκώς.” οὕτως γὰρ ἐρεῖς καὶ ὅτι  
 “ἥδειν θνητὸς ὢν,” “ἥδειν ἀποδημητικὸς ὢν,”  
 “ἥδειν ἐκβλητος ὢν,” “ἥδειν εἰς φυλακὴν ἀπό-  
 106 τακτος ὢν.” εἴτ’ ἂν ἐπιστρέφῃς κατὰ σαυτὸν  
 καὶ ζητήσῃς τὴν χώραν, ἐξ ἧς ἐστὶ τὸ συμβεβη-  
 κός, εὐθὺς ἀναμνησθήσῃ, ὅτι “ἐκ τῆς τῶν  
 ἀπροαιρέτων, τῶν οὐκ ἐμῶν· τί οὖν πρὸς ἐμέ;”  
 107 εἶτα τὸ κυριώτατον “τίς δ’ αὐτὸ καὶ ἐπιπέ-  
 πομφεν;” ὁ ἡγεμὼν ἢ ὁ στρατηγός, ἢ  
 πόλις, ὁ τῆς πόλεως νόμος. “δὸς οὖν αὐτό·  
 δεῖ γάρ με αἰεὶ τῷ νόμῳ πείθεσθαι ἐν παντί.”  
 108 εἴθ’ ὅταν σε ἡ φαντασία δάκνῃ (τοῦτο γὰρ  
 οὐκ ἐπὶ σοί), ἀναμάχου τῷ λόγῳ, καταγωνίζου  
 αὐτήν, μὴ ἐάσῃς ἐνισχύειν μηδὲ προάγειν ἐπὶ τὰ  
 ἐξῆς ἀναπλάσσουσιν ὅσα θέλει καὶ ὡς θέλει.  
 109 ἂν ἐν Γυάροις ᾗς, μὴ ἀνάπλασσε τὴν ἐν Ῥώμῃ  
 διατριβὴν καὶ ὅσαι διαχύσεις ἦσαν ἐκεῖ διάγοντι,  
 ὅσαι γένοιντ’ ἂν ἐπανελθόντι· ἀλλ’ ἐκεῖ τέτασο,  
 ὥπως δεῖ τὸν ἐν Γυάροις διάγοντα, ἐν Γυάροις  
 ἐρρωμένως διάγειν. καὶ ἐν Ῥώμῃ ᾗς, μὴ ἀνά-  
 πλασσε τὴν ἐν Ἀθήναις διατριβήν, ἀλλὰ περὶ  
 μόνῃς τῆς ἐκεῖ μελέτα.  
 110 Εἴτ’ ἀντὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἀπασῶν διαχύσεων ἐκείνην  
 ἀντίσταν, τὴν ἀπὸ τοῦ παρακολουθεῖν, ὅτι πείθῃ  
 τῷ θεῷ, ὅτι οὐ λόγῳ, ἀλλ’ ἔργῳ τὰ τοῦ καλοῦ καὶ  
 111 ἀγαθοῦ ἐκτελεῖς. οἷον γάρ ἐστιν αὐτὸν αὐτῷ

<sup>1</sup> Various attributed to Solon (Diogenes Laertius, 2, 13),  
 Anaxagoras (Cicero, *Tusc.* 3, 30; Diogenes Laertius, 2, 13),  
 or Xenophon (Diogenes Laertius, 2, 13 and 55). Compare  
 also Seneca, *De Consol. ad Polyb.* 11, 2, and Hierocles on the  
*Golden Verses of Pythagoras*, chap. 11 (p. 439 a, Mullach).

mortal.”<sup>1</sup> For that is what you will say, and again, “I knew that I was mortal,” “I knew that I was likely to leave home,” “I knew that I was liable to banishment,” “I knew that I might be sent off to prison.” And in the next place, if you reflect with yourself and look for the quarter from which the happening comes, immediately you will be reminded of the principle: “It comes from the quarter of the things that are outside the sphere of the moral purpose, that are not mine own; what, then, is it to me?” Then comes the most decisive consideration: “Who was it that has sent the order?” Our Prince, or our General, the State, or the law of the State? “Give it to me, then, for I must always obey the law in every particular.” Later on, when your imagination bites you (for this is something you cannot control), fight against it with your reason, beat it down, do not allow it to grow strong, or to take the next step and draw all the pictures it wants, in the way it wants to do. If you are at Gyara, don’t picture the style of life at Rome, and all the relaxations a man had who was living there, as well as all that he might have upon his return; but since you have been stationed there, you ought to strive to live manfully at Gyara, as beseems the man whose life is spent in Gyara. And again, if you are in Rome, don’t picture the style of life at Athens, but make your life in Rome the one object of your study and practice.

Then, in the place of all the other relaxations, introduce that which comes from the consciousness that you are obedient to God, and that you are playing the part of the good and excellent man, not ostensibly but in reality. For what a fine thing it

- δύνασθαι εἰπεῖν “ νῦν ἂ οἱ ἄλλοι ἐν ταῖς σχολαῖς  
 σεμνολογοῦσιν καὶ παραδοξολογεῖν δοκοῦσι, ταῦτα  
 ἐγὼ ἐπιτελῶ· καὶ κεῖνοι καθήμενοι τὰς ἐμὰς ἀρετὰς  
 ἐξηγοῦνται καὶ περὶ ἐμοῦ ζητοῦσιν καὶ ἐμὲ  
 112 ὑμνοῦσιν· καὶ τούτου με ὁ Ζεὺς αὐτὸν παρ’  
 ἐμαντοῦ λαβεῖν ἀπόδειξιν ἠθέλησεν καὶ αὐτὸς δὲ  
 γνῶναι, εἰ ἔχει στρατιώτην οἶον δεῖ, πολίτην οἶον  
 δεῖ, καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις ἀνθρώποις προάγειν με  
 μάρτυρα τῶν ἀπροαιρέτων. ‘ἴδετε, ὅτι εἰκὴ  
 φοβεῖσθε, μάτην ἐπιθυμεῖτε ὧν ἐπιθυμεῖτε. τὰ  
 ἀγαθὰ ἔξω μὴ ζητεῖτε, ἐν ἑαυτοῖς ζητεῖτε· εἰ δὲ  
 113 μὴ, οὐχ εὐρήσετε.’ ἐπὶ τούτοις με νῦν μὲν  
 ἐνταῦθα ἄγει, νῦν δ’ ἐκεῖ πέμπει, πένητα δείκνυσι  
 τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, δίχα ἀρχῆς, νοσοῦντα· εἰς Γύαρα  
 ἀποστέλλει, εἰς δεσμωτήριον εἰσάγει. οὐ μισῶν·  
 μὴ γένοιτο· τίς δὲ μισεῖ τὸν ἄριστον τῶν ὑπηρε-  
 τῶν τῶν ἑαυτοῦ ; οὐδ’ ἀμελῶν, ὅς γε οὐδὲ τῶν  
 μικροτάτων τινὸς ἀμελεῖ, ἀλλὰ γυμνάζων καὶ  
 114 μάρτυρι πρὸς τοὺς ἄλλους χρώμενος. εἰς τοιαύ-  
 την ὑπηρεσίαν κατατεταγμένος ἔτι φροντίζω,  
 ποῦ εἰμὶ ἢ μετὰ τίνων ἢ τί περὶ ἐμοῦ λέγουσιν ;  
 οὐχὶ δ’ ὅλος πρὸς τὸν θεὸν τέταμαι καὶ τὰς  
 ἐκείνου ἐντολὰς καὶ τὰ προστάγματα ;”  
 115 Ταῦτα ἔχων ἀεὶ ἐν χερσὶ καὶ τρίβων αὐτὸς  
 παρὰ σαντῶ καὶ πρόχειρα ποιῶν οὐδέποτε δεήσῃ  
 116 τοῦ παραμυθουμένου, τοῦ ἐπιρρωννύντος. καὶ  
 γὰρ αἰσχρὸν οὐ τὸ φαγεῖν μὴ ἔχειν, ἀλλὰ τὸ

is to be able to say to oneself, "Now I am actually performing what the rest talk solemnly about in their lectures, and are thought to be uttering paradoxes. Yes, they sit and expound my virtues, and study about me, and sing my praise. And of this Zeus wished me to get a demonstration in my own person, while at the same time He wished to know whether He has the right kind of soldier, the right kind of citizen, and to present me before all other men as a witness about the things which lie outside the sphere of the moral purpose. 'Behold,' says He, 'your fears are at haphazard, it is in vain that you desire what you desire. Do not look for your blessings outside, but look for them within yourselves; otherwise you will not find them.' These are the terms upon which now He brings me here, and again He sends me there; to mankind exhibits me in poverty, without office, in sickness; sends me away to Gyara, brings me into prison. Not because He hates me—perish the thought! And who hates the best of his servants? Nor because He neglects me, for He does not neglect any of even the least of His creatures; but because He is training me, and making use of me as a witness to the rest of men. When I have been appointed to such a service, am I any longer to take thought as to where I am, or with whom, or what men say about me? Am I not wholly intent upon God, and His commands and ordinances?"

If you have these thoughts always at hand and go over them again and again in your own mind, and keep them in readiness, you will never need a person to console you, or strengthen you. For disgrace does not consist in not having anything to

- λόγον μὴ ἔχειν ἀρκοῦντα πρὸς ἀφοβίαν, πρὸς  
 117 ἀλυπίαν. ἂν δ' ἅπαξ περιποιήσῃ τὸ ἄλυπον καὶ  
 ἀφοβον, ἔτι σοι τύραννος ἔσται τις ἢ δορυφόρος ἢ  
 Καισαριανοὶ ἢ ὀρδινατίων δῆξεταιί σε ἢ οἱ ἐπι-  
 θύοντες ἐν τῷ Καπιτωλίῳ ἐπὶ τοῖς ὀπτικίοις τὸν  
 τηλικαύτην ἀρχὴν παρὰ τοῦ Διὸς εἰληφότα ;  
 118 μόνον μὴ πόμπευε αὐτὴν μηδ' ἀλαζονεύου ἐπ'  
 αὐτῇ, ἀλλ' ἔργῳ δείκνυε· καὶ μὴδεὶς αἰσθάνηται,  
 ἀρκοῦ αὐτὸς ὑγιαίνων καὶ εὐδαιμονῶν.

κέ'. Πρὸς τοὺς ἀποπίπτοντας ὧν προέθεντο.

- 1 Σκέψαι, ὧν προέθου ἀρχόμενος, τίνων μὲν  
 ἐκράτησας, τίνων δ' οὐ, καὶ πῶς ἐφ' οἷς μὲν  
 εὐφραίνειν ἀναμιμνησόμενος, ἐφ' οἷς δ' ἄχθῃ, καὶ εἰ  
 2 δυνατόν, ἀνάλαβε καὶ κεῖνα ὧν ἀπώλισθες. οὐ  
 γὰρ ἀποκνητέον τὸν ἀγῶνα τὸν μέγιστον ἀγωνιζο-  
 3 μένοις, ἀλλὰ καὶ πληγὰς ληπτέον· οὐ γὰρ ὑπὲρ  
 πάλης καὶ παγκρατίου ὁ ἀγὼν πρόκειται, οὐ καὶ  
 τυχόντι καὶ μὴ τυχόντι ἔξεστιν μὲν πλείστον  
 ἀξίῳ, ἔξεστι δὲ ὀλίγον εἶναι καὶ νῆ Δία ἔξεστιν  
 μὲν εὐτυχεστάτῳ, ἔξεστι δὲ κακοδαιμονεστάτῳ  
 εἶναι, ἀλλ' ὑπὲρ αὐτῆς εὐτυχίας καὶ εὐδαιμονίας.  
 4 τί οὖν ; οὐδ' ἂν ἀπαυδήσωμεν ἐνταῦθα, κωλύει

<sup>1</sup> In this passage the words *Caesariani* and *ordinatio* have been taken over direct from the Latin. In *ὀπτικίοις*, a word which seems to occur nowhere else in Greek or in Latin, it may be that the Latin *auspicia* (sacrifices at the inauguration of some official enterprise) are meant, as Wolf suggested, and so the passage is translated ; but the word is very un-

eat, but in not having reason sufficient to secure you against fear and against grief. But if once you win for yourself security against grief and fear, will there any longer exist for you a tyrant, or a guardsman, or members of Caesar's household; or will some appointment to office sting you with envy, or those who perform sacrifices on the Capitol in taking the auspices,<sup>1</sup> you who have received so important an office from Zeus? Only make no display of your office, and do not boast about it; but prove it by your conduct; and if no one perceives that you have it, be content to live in health and happiness yourself.

## CHAPTER XXV

*To those who fail to achieve their purposes*

CONSIDER which of the things that you purposed at the start you have achieved, and which you have not; likewise, how it gives you pleasure to recall some of them, and pain to recall others, and, if possible, recover also those things which have slipped out of your grasp. For men who are engaged in the greatest of contests ought not to flinch, but to take also the blows; for the contest before us is not in wrestling or the pancratium, in which, whether a man succeeds or fails, he may be worth a great deal, or only a little,—yes, by Zeus, he may even be extremely happy or extremely miserable,—but it is a contest for good fortune and happiness itself. What follows? Why here, even if we give in for

certain (Chinnoek, *Class. Rev.* 3 (1889), 70, thinks it stands for *officia*), and several emendations have been proposed, of which *ὁπφικλοῖς* (*officia*, Koraes) is perhaps the most plausible.



τις πάλιν ἀγωνίζεσθαι οὐδὲ δεῖ περιμεῖναι τετραε-  
 τίαν ἄλλην, ἢν' ἔλθῃ ἄλλα Ὀλύμπια, ἀλλ' εὐθὺς  
 ἀναλαμβάνοντι καὶ ἀνακτησαμένῳ ἑαυτὸν καὶ τὴν  
 αὐτὴν εἰσφέρουσι προθυμίαν ἔξεστιν ἀγωνίζεσθαι·  
 καὶ πάλιν ἀπείπῃς, πάλιν ἔξεστιν, καὶ ἅπαξ  
 νικήσῃς, ὅμοιος εἶ τῷ μηδέποτε ἀπειπόντι.  
 5 μόνον μὴ ὑπὸ ἔθους τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἡδέως αὐτὸ ἄρξῃ  
 ποιεῖν· καὶ λοιπὸν ὡς κακὸς ἀθλητὴς περιέρχῃ  
 νικώμενος τὴν περίοδον ὅμοιος τοῖς ἀποφυγοῦσιν  
 6 ὄρνυξιν. “ἡττᾶ με φαντασία παιδισκαρίου  
 καλοῦ. τί γάρ; πρῶν οὐχ ἡττήθην;” “προ-  
 θυμία μοι γίνεται ψέξαι τινά. πρῶν γὰρ οὐκ  
 7 ἔψεξα;” οὕτως ἡμῖν λαλεῖς ὡς ἀζήμιος ἐξελη-  
 λυθώς, οἷονεῖ τις τῷ ἱατρῷ κωλύοντι λούσασθαι  
 λέγοι “πρῶν γὰρ οὐκ ἐλουσάμην;” ἂν οὖν ὁ  
 ἱατρὸς αὐτῷ ἔχῃ λέγειν “ἄγε, λουσάμενος οὖν τί  
 8 καὶ σὺ ψέξας πρῶν τινὰ οὐ κακοήθους ἔργον  
 ἔπραξας; οὐ φλυάρου; οὐκ ἔθρεψάς σου τὴν  
 ἔξιν ταύτην παραβάλλων αὐτῇ τὰ οἰκεῖα ἔργα;  
 ἡττηθεὶς δὲ τοῦ παιδισκαρίου ἀπῆλθες ἀζήμιος;  
 9 τί οὖν τὰ πρῶν λέγεις; ἔδει δ' οἶμαι μεμνημένον,  
 ὡς οἱ δοῦλοι τῶν πληγῶν, ἀπέχεσθαι τῶν αὐτῶν  
 10 ἁμαρτημάτων. ἀλλ' οὐχ ὅμοιον· ἐνταῦθα μὲν

1 The comparison is brief, but I presume that a fighting quail, on once having submitted to defeat, became very ready to do so again, as is the case among ordinary chickens. One shouted into his ear in order to make him forget, as they said, the voice of the victor, and to restore his courage. Pollux, 9, 109.

the time being, no one prevents us from struggling again, and we do not have to wait another four-year period for another Olympic festival to come around, but the moment a man has picked himself up, and recovered himself, and exhibits the same eagerness, he is allowed to contest; and if you give in again, you can enter again; and if once you win a victory, you are as though you had never given in at all. Only don't begin cheerfully to do the same thing over again out of sheer habit, and end up as a bad athlete, going the whole circuit of the games, and getting beaten all the time, like quails that have once run away.<sup>1</sup> "I am overcome by the impression of a pretty maid. Well, what of it? Wasn't I overcome just the other day?" "I feel strongly inclined to censure somebody, for didn't I censure somebody just the other day?" You talk thus to us as though you had come off scot-free; just as if a man should say to his physician who was forbidding him to bathe, "Why, but didn't I bathe just the other day?" If, then, the physician is able to say to him, "Very well, after you had bathed, then, how did you feel? Didn't you have a fever? Didn't your head ache?" So, too, when you censured somebody the other day, didn't you act like an ugly-spirited man, like a silly babbler? Didn't you feed this habit by citing the example of your own previous acts? And when you were overcome by the maid, did you escape scot-free? Why, then, do you talk about what you were doing just the other day? In my opinion, you ought to have remembered, as slaves remember their blows, and to have kept away from the same mistakes. But one case is not like the other; for with slaves it is

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

γὰρ ὁ πόνος τὴν μνήμην ποιεῖ, ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν ἀμαρτημάτων ποῖος πόνος, ποῖα ζημία; πότε γὰρ εἰθίσθης φεύγειν τὸ κακῶς ἐνεργῆσαι;

κς'. Πρὸς τοὺς τὴν ἀπορίαν δεδοικότας.

- 1 Οὐκ αἰσχύνῃ δειλότερος ὢν καὶ ἀγεννέστερος τῶν δραπετῶν; πῶς ἐκεῖνοι φεύγοντες ἀπολείπουνσι τοὺς δεσπότας, ποίοις ἀγροῖς πεποιθότες, ποίοις οἰκέταις; οὐχὶ δ' ὀλίγον ὅσον πρὸς τὰς πρώτας ἡμέρας ὑφελόμενοι εἴθ' ὕστερον διὰ γῆς ἢ καὶ θαλάττης φέρονται ἄλλην ἐξ ἄλλης ἀφορμὴν πρὸς
- 2 τὸ διατρέφεσθαι φιλοτεχνοῦντες; καὶ τίς πώποτε δραπετῆς λιμῷ ἀπέθανεν; σὺ δὲ τρέμεις, μή σοι λείπη τὰ ἀναγκαῖα, καὶ τὰς νύκτας ἀγρυπνεῖς.
- 3 ταλαίπωρε, οὕτως τυφλὸς εἶ καὶ τὴν ὁδὸν οὐχ ὁρᾷς, ὅποι φέρεي ἢ τῶν ἀναγκαίων ἐνδεῖα; ποῦ γὰρ φέρει; ὅπου καὶ ὁ πυρετός, ὅπου καὶ λίθος ἐπιπεσών, εἰς θάνατον. τοῦτο<sup>1</sup> οὖν οὐ πολλάκις σὺ αὐτὸς<sup>2</sup> εἶπες πρὸς τοὺς ἐταίρους, πολλὰ δ' ἀνέγνως τοιαῦτα, πολλὰ δ' ἔγραφες; ποσάκις δ' ἠλαζονεύσω, ὅτι πρὸς γε τὸ ἀπο-
- 4 θανεῖν μετρίως ἔχεις;—Ναί· ἀλλὰ καὶ οἱ ἐμοὶ πεινήσουσιν.—Τί οὖν; μή τι καὶ ὁ ἐκείνων λιμὸς ἀλλαχοῦ που φέρει; οὐχὶ καὶ ἡ αὐτή που
- 5 κἀθοδος; τὰ κἄτω τὰ αὐτά; οὐ θέλεις οὖν ἐκεῖ βλέπειν θαρρῶν πρὸς πᾶσαν ἀπορίαν καὶ ἐνδειαν, ὅπου καὶ τοὺς πλουσιωτάτους καὶ τὰς ἀρχὰς τὰς

<sup>1</sup> Meibom, after Wolf: τοῦτον S.

<sup>2</sup> Reiske: δαυτός S.

the suffering which produces the memory, but in the case of your mistakes, what suffering is there, what penalty do you feel? Why, when did *you* ever acquire the habit of avoiding evil activities?

## CHAPTER XXVI

*To those who fear want*

AREN'T you ashamed to be more cowardly and ignoble than a runaway slave? How do they, when they run off, leave their masters? in what estates or slaves do they put their confidence? Don't they steal just a little bit to last them for the first few days, and then afterwards drift along over land or sea, contriving one scheme after another to keep themselves fed? And what runaway slave ever died of hunger? But you tremble, and lie awake at night, for fear the necessities of life will fail you. Wretch, are you so blind, and do you so fail to see the road to which lack of the necessities of life leads? Where, indeed, does it lead? Where also fever, or a stone that drops on your head, lead,—to death. Have you not, then, often said this same thing yourself to your companions, read much of the same sort, and written much? How many times have you boasted that, as far as death at least was concerned, you are in a fairly good state?—Yes, but my family too will starve.—What then? Their starvation does not lead to some other end than yours, does it? Have they not also much the same descent thereto, and the same world below? Are you not willing, then, to look with courage sufficient to face every necessity and want, at that place to which the

- μεγίστας ἄρξαντας καὶ αὐτοὺς τοὺς βασιλεῖς καὶ  
 τυράννους δεῖ κατελθεῖν, καὶ<sup>1</sup> σὲ πεινῶντα, ἂν  
 οὕτως τύχη, ἐκείνους δὲ διαρραγέντας ὑπὸ ἀπε-  
 6 ψιῶν καὶ μέθης; τίνα πώποτ' ἐπαίτην ῥαδίως  
 εἶδες μὴ γέροντα; τίνα δ' οὐκ ἐσχατόγηρων;  
 ἀλλὰ ῥιγῶντες τὰς νύκτας καὶ τὰς ἡμέρας καὶ  
 χαμαὶ ἐρριμμένοι καὶ ὅσον αὐτὸ τὸ ἀναγκαῖον  
 σιτούμενοι ἐγγὺς ἤκουσιν τῷ μῆδ' ἀποθανεῖν  
 7 δύνασθαι, σὺ<sup>2</sup> δ' ὀλόκληρος ἄνθρωπος χεῖρας  
 ἔχων καὶ πόδας περὶ λιμοῦ δέδοικας οὕτως; οὐκ  
 ἀντλεῖν δύνασαι, οὐ γράφειν, οὐ παιδαγωγεῖν, οὐ  
 θύραν ἀλλοτρίαν φυλάττειν;—Ἄλλ' αἰσχρὸν εἰς  
 ταύτην ἐλθεῖν τὴν ἀνάγκην.—Μάθε οὖν πρῶτον,  
 τίνα τὰ αἰσχρά ἐστιν, καὶ οὕτως ἡμῖν λέγε  
 σαυτὸν φιλόσοφον. τὸ νῦν δὲ μῆδ' ἂν ἄλλος τις  
 εἶπη σε, ἀνέχου.
- 8 Αἰσχρὸν ἐστὶ σοι τὸ μὴ σὸν ἔργον, οὗ σὺ αἷτιος  
 οὐκ εἶ, ὃ ἄλλως ἀπήντησέν σοι, ὡς κεφαλαλγία,  
 ὡς πυρετός; εἴ σου οἱ γονεῖς πένητες ἦσαν, ἢ  
 πλούσιοι μὲν ἦσαν<sup>3</sup> ἄλλους δὲ κληρονόμους  
 ἀπέλιπον, καὶ ζῶντες οὐκ ἐπαρκοῦσιν οὐδέν, σοὶ  
 9 ταῦτα αἰσχρά ἐστιν; ταῦτα ἐμάνθανες παρὰ τοῖς  
 φιλοσόφοις; οὐδέποτε ἤκουσας, ὅτι τὸ αἰσχρὸν  
 ψεκτὸν ἐστιν, τὸ δὲ ψεκτὸν ἄξιόν ἐστι τοῦ  
 ψέγεσθαι; τίνα δ'<sup>4</sup> ἐπὶ τῷ μὴ αὐτοῦ ἔργῳ, ὃ  
 10 αὐτὸς οὐκ ἐποίησεν; σὺ οὖν ἐποίησας τοῦτο, τὸν

<sup>1</sup> Meibom, after Wolf: εἰ S.

<sup>2</sup> From here through δύνασαι the passage is written in the margin by the first hand of S.

<sup>3</sup> ἢ πλούσιοι μὲν supplied by Schweighäuser, ἦσαν by C. Schenkl.

<sup>4</sup> δ' added by Schweighäuser.

wealthiest needs must go, and those who have held the highest offices, and very kings and tyrants? Only you will descend hungry, if it so happen, and they bursting with indigestion and drunkenness. Did you ever easily find a beggar who was not an old man? Wasn't he extremely old? But though they are cold night and day, and lie forlorn on the ground, and have to eat only what is absolutely necessary, they approach a state where it is almost impossible for them to die;<sup>1</sup> yet you who are physically perfect, and have hands and feet, are you so alarmed about starving? Can't you draw water, or write, or escort boys to and from school, or be another's doorkeeper?—But it is disgraceful to come to such a necessity.—Learn, therefore, first of all, what the disgraceful things are, and after you have done that, come into our presence and call yourself a philosopher. But as the case stands now, do not even allow anyone else to call you one!

Is anything disgraceful to you which is not your own doing, for which you are not responsible, which has befallen you accidentally, as a headache or a fever? If your parents were poor, or if they were rich but left others as their heirs, and if they give you no help though they are living, is all this disgraceful to you? Is that what you learned at the feet of the philosophers? Have you never heard that the disgraceful thing is censurable, and the censurable is that which deserves censure? And whom do you censure for what is not his own doing, which he didn't produce himself? Well, did you produce this situation? did you make your father

<sup>1</sup> The argument is, one need hardly remark, quite unsound, for the death-rate among the poor is unquestionably much higher than among the wealthy.

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- πατέρα τοιούτου; ἢ ἔξεστίν σοι ἐπανορθῶσαι αὐτόν; δίδοταί σοι τοῦτο; τί οὖν; δεῖ σε θέλαιν τὰ μὴ διδόμενα ἢ μὴ τυγχάνοντα αὐτῶν αἰσχύνεσθαι; οὕτως δὲ καὶ εἰθίζου φιλοσοφῶν ἀφορᾶν εἰς ἄλλους καὶ μηδὲν αὐτὸς ἐλπίζειν ἐκ σεαυτοῦ;
- 11 12 τοιγαροῦν οἴμωξε καὶ στένε καὶ ἔσθιε δεδοικώς, μὴ οὐ σχῆς τροφὰς αὔριον· περὶ τῶν δουλαρίων τρέμε, μὴ κλέψῃ τι, μὴ φύγῃ, μὴ ἀποθάνῃ.
- 13 οὕτως σὺ ζῇθι καὶ μὴ παύσῃ μηδέποτε, ὅστις ὀνόματι μόνον πρὸς φιλοσοφίαν προσῆλθες καὶ τὰ θεωρήματα αὐτῆς ὅσον ἐπὶ σοὶ κατήσχυνας ἄχρηστα ἐπιδείξας καὶ ἀνωφελῇ τοῖς ἀναλαμβάνουσιν· οὐδέποτε δ' εὐσταθείας ὠρέχθης, ἀταραξίας, ἀπαθείας· οὐδένα τούτου ἔνεκα ἐθεράπευσας, συλλογισμῶν δ' ἔνεκα πολλούς· οὐδέποτε τούτων τινὰ τῶν φαντασιῶν διεβασάνισας αὐτὸς ἐπὶ
- 14 σεαυτοῦ “δύναμαι φέρειν ἢ οὐ δύναμαι; τί μοι τὸ λοιπὸν ἐστίν;”, ἀλλ' ὥς πάντων ἐχόντων σοι καλῶς καὶ ἀσφαλῶς περὶ τὸν τελευταῖον κατεγίνου τόπον, τὸν τῆς ἀμεταπτωσίας, ἵν' ἀμετάπτωτα σχῆς τίνα; τὴν δειλίαν, τὴν ἀγέννειαν, τὸν θαυμασμὸν τῶν πλουσίων, τὴν ἀτελῇ ὀρεξιν, τὴν ἀποτευκτικὴν<sup>1</sup> ἔκκλιν· περὶ τῆς τούτων ἀσφαλείας ἐφρόντιζες.
- 15 Οὐκ ἔδει προσκτῆσασθαι πρῶτον ἐκ τοῦ λόγου,

<sup>1</sup> See explanatory note.

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<sup>1</sup> So the text as it stands in *S*, but the singular mixture of technical terms in ἀποτευκτικὴ ἔκκλις is incredible. Elsewhere, and quite properly, it is desire that fails to get what it wills (ἀποτευκτικὴ), and aversion that falls into what it would avoid (see III. 6, 6 and especially IV. 10, 4). Hence there is great plausibility in Schenkl's suggestion (partly



what he is? Or is it in your power to reform him? Is that vouchsafed you? What follows? Ought you to wish for what is not given you, or to be ashamed when you fail to get it? And did you really, while studying philosophy, acquire the habit of looking to other persons, and of hoping for nothing yourself from yourself? Very well then, lament and groan, and eat in fear of not having food to-morrow; tremble about your paltry slaves, for fear they will steal something, or run away, or die! Live in this spirit and never cease to live so, you who in name only have approached philosophy, and, as far as in you lay, have discredited its principles by showing them to be useless and good for nothing to those who receive them! But you never desired stability, serenity, peace of mind; you never cultivated anybody's acquaintance for that purpose, but many persons' acquaintance for the sake of syllogisms; you never thoroughly tested for yourself any one of these external impressions, asking the questions: "Am I able to bear it, or am I not? What may I expect next?" but just as though everything about you were in an excellent and safe condition, you have been devoting your attention to the last of all topics, that which deals with immutability, in order that you may have immutable—what? your cowardice, your ignoble character, your admiration of the rich, your ineffectual desire, your aversion that fails of its mark!<sup>1</sup> These are the things about whose security you have been anxious!

Ought you not, first, to have acquired something after Reiske), ὄρεξιν, τὴν ἀποτευκτικὴν, <τὴν περιπτωτικὴν> ἐκκλισιν: "desire, that fails to get what it wills, and aversion that falls into what it would avoid."

- εἶτα τούτῳ περιποιεῖν τὴν ἀσφάλειαν ; καὶ τίνα  
 πώποτ' εἶδες τριγχὸν περιοικοδομοῦντα μηδενὶ  
 τειχίῳ περιβαλλόμενον αὐτόν ;<sup>1</sup> ποῖος δὲ θυρωρὸς  
 16 καθίσταται ἐπὶ οὐδεμιᾷ θύρᾳ ; ἀλλὰ σὺ με-  
 λετᾶς ἀποδεικνύειν δύνασθαι· τίνα ; μελετᾶς μὴ  
 ἀποσαλεύεσθαι διὰ σοφισμάτων· ἀπὸ τίνων ;  
 17 δεῖξόν μοι πρῶτον, τί τηρεῖς, τί μετρεῖς ἢ τί  
 ἰστάνεις· εἴθ' οὕτως ἐπιδείκνυε τὸν ζυγὸν ἢ τὸν  
 18 μέδιμνον. ἢ μέχρι τίνος μετρήσεις τὴν σποδόν ;  
 οὐ ταῦτά σε ἀποδεικνύειν δεῖ, ἃ ποιεῖ τοὺς  
 ἀνθρώπους εὐδαίμονας, ἃ ποιεῖ προχωρεῖν αὐτοῖς  
 τὰ πράγματα ὡς θέλουσιν, δι' ἃ οὐ δεῖ μέμφεσθαι  
 οὐδενί, ἐγκαλεῖν οὐδενί, πείθεσθαι τῇ διοικήσει  
 19 τῶν ὅλων ; ταῦτά μοι δείκνυε. “ἰδοὺ δεικνύω,”  
 φησίν, “ἀναλύσω σοι συλλογισμούς.” τοῦτο  
 τὸ μετροῦν ἐστίν, ἀνδράποδον· τὸ μετρούμενον  
 20 δ' οὐκ ἔστιν. διὰ ταῦτα νῦν τίνεις δίκας ὦν  
 ἡμέλησας·<sup>2</sup> τρέμεις, ἀγρυπνεῖς, μετὰ πάντων  
 βουλεύῃ· καὶ μὴ πᾶσιν ἀρέσκειν μέλλη τα  
 βουλευήματα, κακῶς οἷε βεβουλευθῆναι.  
 21 Εἶτα φοβῇ λιμόν, ὡς δοκεῖς. σὺ δ' οὐ λιμόν  
 φοβῇ, ἀλλὰ δέδοικας μὴ οὐ σχῆς μάγειρον, μὴ  
 οὐ σχῆς ἄλλον ὀψωνητήν, ἄλλον τὸν ὑποδή-  
 σοντα, ἄλλον τὸν ἐνδύσοντα, ἄλλους τοὺς  
 22 τρίψοντας, ἄλλους τοὺς ἀκολουθήσοντας, ἔν' ἐν

<sup>1</sup> *Sb* (περιβαλλόμενον Schenkl): μηδενὶ τειχίῳ περιβαλλόμενον αὐτὸ αὐτοῦ *S*. The correct form of the text is highly uncertain, and the version in *Sb* is acceptable only as meeting in a general way the requirement of the context.

<sup>2</sup> φιλοσοφίας after ἡμέλησας deleted by Schenkl.

from reason, and then to have made that something secure? Why, did you ever see anyone building a cornice all around without first having a wall about which to build it?<sup>1</sup> And what kind of doorkeeper is placed on guard where there isn't any door? But you practise to get the power to demonstrate; demonstrate what? You practise to avoid being shaken by sophisms; shaken from what? Show me first what you are maintaining, what you are measuring, or what you are weighing; and after that, and under those conditions, show me your scales or your bushel-measure. Or how long will you keep measuring ashes? Are not these what you ought to be demonstrating, the things, namely, that make men happy, that make their affairs prosper for them as they desire, that make it unnecessary for them to blame anybody, and to find fault with anybody, but to acquiesce in the government of the universe? Show me these. "See, I do show you," a man says; "I will analyse syllogisms for you." Slave, this is a mere measuring instrument, it is not the thing measured. That is why you are now being punished for what you neglected; you tremble, lie awake, take counsel with everyone, and, if your plans are not likely to win the approval of all men, you think that your deliberations have been faulty.

And then you fear hunger, as you fancy. Yet it is not hunger that you fear, but you are afraid that you will not have a professional cook, you will not have another servant to buy the delicacies, another to put on your shoes for you, another to dress you, others to give you your massage, others to follow at your heels, in order that when you have undressed

<sup>1</sup> The figure is reminiscent of Plato, *Rep.* VII, 534 E.

- τῷ βαλανείῳ ἐκδυσάμενος καὶ ἐκτείνας σεαυτὸν  
ὡς οἱ ἐσταυρωμένοι τρίβῃ ἔνθεν καὶ ἔνθεν, εἰθ' ὁ ἀλείπτης ἐπιστὰς λέγῃ “μετάβηθι, δὸς πλευρόν, κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ λάβε, παράθεσ τὸν ὤμον,” εἰτ' ἐλθὼν ἐκ τοῦ βαλανείου εἰς οἶκον κραυγᾶς “οὐδεὶς φέρει φαγεῖν;” εἰτ' “ἄρον  
23 τὰς τραπέζας· σπύγγισον.” τοῦτο φοβῇ, μὴ οὐ δύνη ζῆν ἁρρώστου βίον, ἐπεὶ τοι τὸν τῶν ὑγαινόντων μάθε, πῶς οἱ δοῦλοι ζῶσιν, πῶς οἱ ἐργάται, πῶς οἱ γνησίως φιλοσοφοῦντες, πῶς Σωκράτης ἔζησεν, ἐκεῖνος μὲν καὶ μετὰ γυναικὸς καὶ παίδων, πῶς Διογένης, πῶς Κλεάνθης ἅμα  
24 σχολάζων καὶ ἀντλῶν. ταῦτα ἂν θέλῃς ἔχειν, ἔξεις πανταχοῦ καὶ ζήσεις θαρρῶν, τίνι; ὧ μόνῳ θαρρεῖν ἐνδέχεται, τῷ πιστῷ, τῷ ἀκωλύτῳ, τῷ ἀναφαιρέτῳ, τοῦτ' ἔστι τῇ προαιρέσει τῇ  
25 σεαυτοῦ. διὰ τί δ' οὕτως ἄχρηστον καὶ ἀνωφελὴ σεαυτὸν παρεσκεύακας, ἵνα μηδεὶς σε εἰς οἰκίαν θέλῃ δέξασθαι, μηδεὶς ἐπιμεληθῆναι; ἀλλὰ σκεῦος μὲν ὀλόκληρον καὶ χρήσιμον ἔξω ἐρριμμένον πᾶς τις εὐρὼν ἀναιρήσεται καὶ κέρδος ἡγήσεται, σὲ δ' οὐδεὶς, ἀλλὰ πᾶς ζημίαν.  
26 οὕτως οὐδὲ κυνὸς δύνασαι χρεῖαν παρασχεῖν οὐδ' ἀλεκτρυόνος. τί οὖν ἔτι ζῆν θέλεις τοιοῦτος ὢν;  
27 Φοβεῖταιί τις ἀνὴρ ἀγαθός, μὴ λείπωσιν αὐτῷ τροφαί; τοῖς τυφλοῖς οὐ λείπουσιν, τοῖς χωλοῖς οὐ λείπουσιν· λείψουσιν ἀνδρὶ ἀγαθῷ; καὶ στρατιώτῃ μὲν ἀγαθῷ οὐ λείπει ὁ μισθοδοτῶν

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<sup>1</sup> Diogenes Laertius, 7, 168.

in a bath, and stretched yourself out like men who have been crucified, you may be massaged on this side and on that; and that then the masseur may stand over you and say, "Move over, give me his side, you take his head, hand me his shoulder"; and then, when you have left the bath and gone home, that you may shout out, "Is no one bringing me something to eat?" and after that, "Clear away the tables; wipe them off with a sponge." What *you* are afraid of is this—that you may not be able to live the life of an invalid, since, I tell you, you have only to learn the life of healthy men—how the slaves live, the workmen, the genuine philosophers, how Socrates lived—he too with a wife and children—how Diogenes lived, how Cleanthes, who combined going to school and pumping water.<sup>1</sup> If this is what you want, you will have it everywhere, and will live with full confidence. Confidence in what? In the only thing in which one can have confidence—in what is faithful, free from hindrance, cannot be taken away, that is, in your own moral purpose. And why have you made yourself so useless and unprofitable, that no one is willing to take you into his house, no one willing to take care of you? But when a whole and useful implement has been thrown out, anyone who finds it will pick it up and count it gain; yet not when he picks up *you*, but everyone will count *you* a loss. You are so unable to serve the purpose of even a dog or a cock. Why, then, do you care to keep on living, if that is the sort of person you are?

Does a good man fear that food will fail him? It does not fail the blind, it does not fail the lame; will it fail a good man? A good soldier does not lack someone to give him pay, or a workman, or a

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οὐδ' ἐργάτῃ οὐδὲ σκυτεῖ τῷ δ' ἀγαθῷ λείψει ;  
 28 οὕτως ὁ θεὸς ἀμελεῖ τῶν αὐτοῦ ἐπιτευγμάτων,  
 τῶν διακόνων, τῶν μαρτύρων, οἷς μόνοις χρῆται  
 παραδείγμασιν πρὸς τοὺς ἀπαιδεύτους, ὅτι καὶ  
 ἔστι καὶ καλῶς διοικεῖ τὰ ὅλα καὶ οὐκ ἀμελεῖ  
 τῶν ἀνθρωπίνων πραγμάτων καὶ ὅτι ἀνδρὶ ἀγα-  
 θῷ οὐδέν ἐστι κακὸν οὔτε ζῶντι οὔτ' ἀποθανόντι ;  
 29 —Τί οὖν, ὅταν μὴ παρέχῃ τροφάς ;—Τί γὰρ  
 ἄλλο ἢ ὡς ἀγαθὸς στρατηγὸς τὸ ἀνακλητικόν  
 μοι σεσήμαγκεν ; πείθομαι, ἀκολουθῶ, ἐπευφη-  
 μῶν τὸν ἡγεμόνα, ὑμνῶν αὐτοῦ τὰ ἔργα. καὶ  
 30 γὰρ ἦλθον, ὅτ' ἐκείνῳ ἔδοξεν, καὶ ἅπειμι πάλιν  
 ἐκείνῳ δοκοῦν καὶ ζωντός μου τοῦτο τὸ ἔργον  
 ἦν, ὑμνεῖν τὸν θεὸν καὶ αὐτὸν ἐπ' ἑαυτοῦ καὶ  
 31 πρὸς ἓνα καὶ πρὸς πολλούς. οὐ παρέχει μοι  
 πολλά, οὐκ ἄφθονα, τρυφᾶν με οὐ θέλει· οὐδὲ  
 γὰρ τῷ Ἡρακλεῖ παρείχεν, τῷ νικῶντι τῷ ἑαυτοῦ,  
 ἀλλ' ἄλλος ἐβασίλευεν Ἄργους καὶ Μυκηνῶν,  
 32 ὁ δ' ἐπετάσσετο καὶ ἐπόνει καὶ ἐγυμνάζετο. καὶ  
 ἦν Εὐρυσθεὺς μέν, ὃς ἦν, οὔτε Ἄργους οὔτε  
 Μυκηνῶν βασιλεύς, ὅς γ' οὐδ' αὐτὸς ἑαυτοῦ, ὁ  
 δ' Ἡρακλῆς ἀπάσης γῆς καὶ θαλάττης ἄρχων  
 καὶ ἡγεμὼν ἦν, καθαρτῆς ἀδικίας καὶ ἀνομίας,  
 εἰσαγωγεὺς δὲ δικαιοσύνης καὶ ὁσιότητος· καὶ  
 33 ταῦτα ἐποίει καὶ γυμνὸς καὶ μόνος. ὁ δ'  
 Ὀδυσσεὺς ὅτε ναυαγὸς ἐξερρίφη, μὴ τι ἐτα-  
 πείνωσεν αὐτὸν ἢ ἀπορία, μὴ τι ἐπέκλασεν ;  
 ἀλλὰ πῶς ἀπήγει πρὸς τὰς παρθένους αἰτήσεων

cobbler; and shall a good man?<sup>1</sup> Does God so neglect His own creatures, His servants, His witnesses, whom alone He uses as examples to the uninstructed, to prove that He both is, and governs the universe well, and does not neglect the affairs of men, and that no evil befalls a good man either in life or in death?<sup>2</sup>—Yes, but what if He does not provide food?—Why, what else but that as a good general He has sounded the recall? I obey, I follow, lauding my commander, and singing hymns of praise about His deeds. For I came into the world when it so pleased Him, and I leave it again at His pleasure, and while I live this was my function—to sing hymns of praise unto God, to myself and to others, be it to one or to many. God does not give me much, no abundance, He does not want me to live luxuriously; He did not give much to Heracles, either, though he was His own son, but someone else was king over Argos and Mycenae, while he was subject, and suffered labours and discipline. And Eurystheus, such as he was, was not king over either Argos or Mycenae, for *he* was not king even over himself; but Heracles was ruler and leader of all the land and sea, purging them of injustice and lawlessness, and introducing justice and righteousness; and all this he did naked and by himself. And when Odysseus was shipwrecked and cast ashore, did his necessity make abject his spirit, or break it? Nay, but how did he advance upon the maidens to ask for

<sup>1</sup> The scholiast appropriately compares Matt. vi. 31 and 33: "Take no thought," and "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added unto you."

<sup>2</sup> This last clause is slightly modified from Plato, *Apol.* 41 D.



τὰ ἀναγκαῖα, ὧν αἴσχιστον εἶναι δοκεῖ δεῖσθαι  
παρ' ἄλλου ;

ὥς τε λέων ὀρεσίτροφος.

- 34 τίνι πεποιθώς ; οὐ δόξη οὐδὲ χρήμασιν οὐδ'  
ἀρχαῖς, ἀλλ' ἀλκῇ τῇ ἑαυτοῦ, τοῦτ' ἔστι δόγμασι  
35 περὶ<sup>1</sup> τῶν ἐφ' ἡμῖν καὶ οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν. ταῦτα  
γάρ ἐστι μόνα τὰ τοὺς ἐλευθέρους ποιοῦντα, τὰ  
τοὺς ἀκωλύτους, τὰ τὸν τράχηλον ἐπαίροντα  
τῶν τεταπεινομένων, τὰ ἀντιβλέπειν ποιοῦντα  
ὀρθοῖς τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς πρὸς τοὺς πλουσίους,  
36 πρὸς τοὺς τυράννους. καὶ τὸ τοῦ φιλοσόφου  
δῶρον τοῦτο ἦν, σὺ δ' οὐκ ἐξελεύσῃ θαρρῶν,  
ἀλλὰ περιτρέμων τοῖς ἱματιδίοις καὶ τοῖς ἀργυ-  
ρωματίοις ; δύστηνε, οὕτως ἀπώλεσας τὸν μέχρι  
νῦν χρόνον ;  
37 Τί οὖν, ἂν νοσήσω ;—Νοσήσεις καλῶς.—Τίς  
με θεραπεύσει ;—Ὁ θεός, οἱ φίλοι.—Σκληρῶς  
κατακείμεμαι.—'Αλλ' ὥς ἀνὴρ.—Οἶκημα ἐπιτή-  
δειον οὐχ ἔξω.—'Εν ἀνεπιτηδείῳ οὖν<sup>2</sup> νοσήσεις.—  
Τίς μοι ποιήσει τὰ τροφεῖα ;—Οἱ καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις  
ποιοῦντες· ὥς Μάνης νοσήσεις.—Τί δὲ καὶ τὸ  
38 πέρας τῆς νόσου.—'Αλλο τι ἢ θάνατος ; ἂρ' οὖν  
ἐνθυμῇ, ὅτι κεφάλαιον τοῦτο πάντων τῶν κακῶν  
τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ καὶ ἀγεννείας καὶ δειλίας οὐ

<sup>1</sup> περὶ supplied by Schenkl.

<sup>2</sup> ἀνεπιτηδείῳ the Cambridge ed., after Wolf ; οὖν supplied  
by Oldfather : ἐνεπιτηδείῳ νοσήσεις S.

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Odyssey*, VI. 130.

<sup>2</sup> The text is very uncertain. Schenkl reads 'Εν ἐπιτηδείῳ  
οὐ νοσήσεις ; which would appear to mean something like :

food, which is regarded as being the most disgraceful thing for one person to ask of another?

As a lion reared in the mountains.<sup>1</sup>

In what did he trust? Not in reputation, or money, or office, but in his own might, that means, his judgments about the things which are under our control, and those which are not under our control. For these are the only things that make men free, that make men unhampered, that lift up the neck of those who have become abject, that make them look with level eyes into the faces of the rich, and the faces of tyrants. And all this was what the philosopher had to give, yet will you not come forth bold, instead of trembling for your paltry clothes and silver plate? Miserable man, have you so wasted your time down to the present?

Yes, but what if I fall ill?—You will bear illness well.—Who will nurse me?—God and your friends.—I shall have a hard bed to lie on.—But like a man.—I shall not have a suitable house.—Then you will fall ill in an unsuitable house.<sup>2</sup>—Who will prepare my food for me?—Those who prepare it for others also. You will be ill like Manes.<sup>3</sup>—And what is also the end of the illness?—Anything but death? Will you, then, realize that this epitome of all the ills that befall man, of his ignoble spirit, and his

“Will you not choose a suitable house in which to fall ill?” But that sort of reply seems scarcely to fit the context.

<sup>3</sup> That is, like a slave, for this was a typical slave name, like “Sambo” among American negroes. In particular the reference seems to be to Zeno, who, when his physicians ordered him to eat young pigeons, insisted, “Cure me as you do Manes.” Musonius, frag. 18 A (p. 98, 4 ff., Hense).

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θάνατός ἐστιν, μᾶλλον δ' ὁ τοῦ θανάτου φόβος ;  
 39 ἐπὶ τοῦτον οὖν μοι γυμνάζου, ἐνταῦθα νεύε-  
 τωσαν οἱ λόγοι πάντες, τὰ ἀσκήματα, τὰ  
 ἀναγνώσματα, καὶ εἴσῃ, ὅτι οὕτως μόνως ἐλευθε-  
 ροῦνται ἄνθρωποι.

BOOK III. xxvi. 38-39

cowardice, is not death, but it is rather the fear of death? Against this fear, then, I would have you discipline yourself, toward this let all your reasoning tend, your exercises, your reading; and then you will know that this is the only way in which men achieve freedom.



## BOOK IV

# Δ

## ΚΕΦΑΛΑΙΑ ΤΟΥ Δ ΒΙΒΛΙΟΥ

- α'. Περὶ ἐλευθερίας.
- β'. Περὶ συμπεριφορᾶς.
- γ'. Τίνα τίνων ἀντικαταλλακτέον;
- δ'. Πρὸς τοὺς περὶ τὸ ἐν ἡσυχίᾳ διάγειν ἐσπουδακότας.
- ε'. Πρὸς τοὺς μαχίμους καὶ θηριώδεις.
- ς'. Πρὸς τοὺς ἐπὶ τῷ ἐλεεῖσθαι ὀδυνωμένους.
- ζ'. Περὶ ἀφοβίας.
- η'. Πρὸς τοὺς ταχέως ἐπὶ τὸ σχῆμα τῶν φιλοσόφων ἐπιπηδῶντας.
- θ'. Πρὸς τὸν εἰς ἀναισχυντίαν μεταβληθέντα.
- ι'. Τίνων δεῖ καταφρονεῖν καὶ πρὸς τίνα διαφέρεσθαι;
- ια'. Περὶ καθαριότητος.
- ιβ'. Περὶ προσοχῆς.
- ιγ'. Πρὸς τοὺς εὐκόλως ἐκφέροντας τὰ αὐτῶν.

### α'. Περὶ ἐλευθερίας.

- 1 Ἐλεύθερός ἐστιν ὁ ζῶν ὡς βούλεται, ὃν οὐτ' ἀναγκάσαι ἔστιν οὔτε κωλύσαι οὔτε βιάσασθαι, οὐ αἱ ὁρμαὶ ἀνεμπόδιστοι, αἱ ὀρέξεις ἐπιτευκτικαί, αἱ ἐκκλίσεις ἀπερίπτωτοι. τίς οὖν θέλει
- 2 ζῆν ἀμαρτάνων;—Οὐδεῖς.—Τίς θέλει ζῆν ἑξαπατώμενος, προπίπτων, ἄδικος ὢν, ἀκόλαστος,
- 3 μεμψίμοιρος, ταπεινός;—Οὐδεῖς.—Οὐδεῖς ἄρα τῶν φαύλων ζῆ ὡς βούλεται· οὐ τοίνυν οὐδ'



## BOOK IV

### *Chapters of the Fourth Book*

- I. Of freedom.
- II. Of social intercourse.
- III. What things should be exchanged for what things?
- IV. To those who have set their hearts upon living in peace.
- V. Against the contentious and brutal.
- VI. To those who are vexed at being pitied.
- VII. Of freedom from fear.
- VIII. To those who hastily assume the guise of the philosophers.
- IX. To the man who had become shameless.
- X. What ought we to despise and on what place a high value?
- XI. Of cleanliness.
- XII. Of attention.
- XIII. To those who lightly talk about their own affairs.

## CHAPTER I

### *Of freedom*

HE is free who lives as he wills, who is subject neither to compulsion, nor hindrance, nor force, whose choices are unhampered, whose desires attain their end, whose aversions do not fall into what they would avoid. Who, then, wishes to live in error?—No one.—Who wishes to live deceived, impetuous, unjust, unrestrained, peevish, abject?—No one.—Therefore, there is no bad man who lives as

- 4 ἐλεύθερός ἐστιν. τίς δὲ θέλει λυπούμενος  
 ζῆν, φοβούμενος, φθονῶν, ἐλεῶν, ὀρεγόμενος καὶ  
 ἀποτυγχάνων, ἐκκλίνων καὶ περιπίπτων ;—Οὐδὲ  
 5 εἷς.—Ἐχομεν οὖν τινὰ τῶν φαύλων ἄλυπον,  
 ἄφοβον, ἀπερίπτωτον, ἀναπότευκτον ;—Οὐδένα.  
 —Οὐκ ἄρα οὐδὲ ἐλεύθερον.
- 6 Ταῦτα ἂν τις ἀκούσῃ δισύπατος, ἂν μὲν  
 προσθῇς ὅτι “ἀλλὰ σύ γε σοφὸς εἶ, οὐδὲν πρὸς  
 σὲ ταῦτα,” συγγνώσεται σοι. ἂν δ’ αὐτῷ τὰς  
 7 ἀληθείας εἴπῃς ὅτι “τῶν τρεῖς πεπραμένων  
 οὐδὲν διαφέρει πρὸς τὸ μὴ καὶ αὐτὸς δούλος  
 εἶναι,” τί ἄλλο ἢ πληγὰς σε δεῖ προσδοκᾶν ;  
 8 “πῶς γάρ,” φησὶν, “ἐγὼ δούλός εἰμι ; ὁ πατήρ  
 ἐλεύθερος, ἡ μήτηρ ἐλευθέρα, οὐ ὦνὴν οὐδεὶς  
 ἔχει· ἀλλὰ καὶ συγκλητικὸς εἰμι καὶ Καίσαρος  
 φίλος καὶ ὑπάτευκα καὶ δούλους πολλοὺς ἔχω.”
- 9 πρῶτον μὲν, ὦ βέλτιστε συγκλητικέ, τάχα σου  
 καὶ ὁ πατήρ τὴν αὐτὴν δουλείαν δούλος ἦν καὶ  
 ἡ μήτηρ καὶ ὁ πάππος καὶ ἐφεξῆς πάντες οἱ  
 10 πρόγονοι. εἰ δὲ δὴ καὶ τὰ μάλιστα ἦσαν  
 ἐλεύθεροι, τί τοῦτο πρὸς σέ ; τί γάρ, εἰ ἐκεῖνοι  
 μὲν γενναῖοι ἦσαν, σὺ δ’ ἀγεννής ; ἐκεῖνοι μὲν  
 ἄφοβοι, σὺ δὲ δειλός ; ἐκεῖνοι μὲν ἐγκρατεῖς, σὺ  
 δ’ ἀκόλαστος ;
- 11 Καὶ τί, φησί, τοῦτο πρὸς τὸ δούλον εἶναι ;—  
 Οὐδέν σοι φαίνεται εἶναι τὸ ἅκοντά τι ποιεῖν, τὸ  
 ἀναγκαζόμενον, τὸ στένοντα πρὸς τὸ δούλον  
 12 εἶναι ;—Τοῦτο μὲν ἔστω, φησὶν. ἀλλὰ τίς με  
 δύναται ἀναγκάσαι, εἰ μὴ ὁ πάντων κύριος

he wills, and accordingly no bad man is free. And who wishes to live in grief, fear, envy, pity, desiring things and failing to get them, avoiding things and falling into them?—No one at all.—Do we find, then, any bad man free from grief or fear, not falling into what he would avoid, nor failing to achieve what he desires?—No one.—Then we find no bad man free, either.

Now if some man who has been consul twice hear this, he will forgive you, if you add, “But *you* are a wise man; this does not apply to you.” Yet if you tell him the truth, to wit: “In point of being a slave you are not a whit better than those who have been thrice sold,” what else can you expect but a flogging? “Why, how am I a slave?” says he. “My father was free, my mother free; no one has a deed of sale for me. More than that, I am a member of the senate, and a friend of Caesar, and I have been consul, and I own many slaves.” Now in the first place, most worthy senator, it is very likely that your father was the same kind of slave that you are, and your mother, and your grandfather, and all your ancestors from first to last. But even if they were free to the limit, what does that prove in your case? Why, what does it prove if they were noble, and you are mean-spirited? If they were brave, and you a coward? If they were self-controlled, and you unrestrained?

And what, says someone, has this to do with being a slave?—Doesn’t it strike you as “having to do with being a slave” for a man to do something against his will, under compulsion?—Granted the point, he replies. But who can put me under compulsion, except Caesar, the lord of all?—There,

- 13 Καίσαρ;—Οὐκοῦν ἓνα μὲν δεσπότην σαυτοῦ καὶ  
 σὺ αὐτὸς ὠμολόγησας. ὅτι δὲ πάντων, ὡς  
 λέγεις, κοινός ἐστιν, μηδέν σε τοῦτο παραμυ-  
 θείσθω, ἀλλὰ γίγνωσκε, ὅτι ἐκ μεγάλης οἰκίας
- 14 δούλος εἶ. οὕτως καὶ Νικοπολίται ἐπιβοᾶν  
 εἰώθασι “νῆ τὴν Καίσαρος τύχην, ἐλεύθεροί  
 ἐσμεν.”
- 15 “Ὅμως δ', εἴαν σοι δοκῇ, τὸν μὲν Καίσαρα  
 πρὸς τὸ παρὸν ἀφῶμεν, ἐκείνο δέ μοι εἰπέ·  
 οὐδέποτ' ἡράσθης τινός; οὐ παιδισκαρίου, οὐ
- 16 παιδαρίου, οὐ δούλου, οὐκ ἐλευθέρου;—Τί οὖν  
 τοῦτο πρὸς τὸ δούλον εἶναι ἢ ἐλεύθερον;—
- 17 Οὐδέποθ' ὑπὸ τῆς ἐρωμένης ἐπετάγης οὐδὲν ὦν  
 οὐκ ἤθελες; οὐδέποτέ σου τὸ δουλᾶριον ἐκο-  
 λάκευσας; οὐδέποτ' αὐτοῦ τοὺς πόδας κατε-  
 φίλησας; καίτοι τοῦ Καίσαρος ἂν σέ τις  
 ἀναγκάσῃ, ὕβριν αὐτὸ ἡγῇ καὶ ὑπερβολὴν
- 18 τυραννίδος. τί οὖν ἄλλο ἐστὶ δουλεία; νυκτὸς  
 οὐδέποτ' ἀπῆλθες, ὅπου οὐκ ἤθελες; ἀνάλωσας,  
 ὅσα οὐκ ἤθελες; εἰπᾶς τινα οἰμώζων καὶ  
 στένων, ἡνέσχου λοιδορούμενος, ἀποκλειόμενος;
- 19 ἀλλ' εἰ σὺ αἰσχύνη τὰ σαυτοῦ ὁμολογεῖν,  
 ὅρα ἂ λέγει καὶ ποιεῖ ὁ Θρασωνίδης, ὅς  
 τοσαῦτα στρατευσάμενος, ὅσα τάχα οὐδὲ σύ,  
 πρῶτον μὲν ἐξελήλυθε νυκτός, ὅτε ὁ Γέτας οὐ  
 τολμᾷ ἐξελθεῖν, ἀλλ' εἰ προσηναγκάζετο ὑπ'  
 αὐτοῦ, πόλλ' ἂν ἐπικραυγᾶσας καὶ τὴν πικρὰν
- 20 δουλείαν ἀπολοφυράμενος ἐξῆλθεν. εἶτα, τί  
 λέγει;

you have yourself admitted that you have one master. And let it not comfort you that he is, as you say, the common master of all men, but realize that you are a slave in a great house. So also the men of Nicopolis<sup>1</sup> are wont to shout: "Yea, by the fortune of Caesar, we are free men!"

However, let us leave Caesar out of account, if you please, for the present, but answer me this: Were you never in love with anyone, a pretty girl, or pretty boy, a slave, a freedman?—What, then, has that to do with being either slave or free?—Were you never commanded by your sweetheart to do something you didn't wish to do? Did you never cozen your pet slave? Did you never kiss his feet? Yet if someone should compel you to kiss the feet of Caesar, you would regard that as insolence and most extravagant tyranny. What else, then, is slavery? Did you never go out at night where you didn't want to go? Did you never spend more than you wanted to spend? Did you never utter words with groaning and lamentation, endure to be reviled, to have the door shut in your face? Well, if you are ashamed to admit such things about yourself, observe what Thrasonides says and does, a man who had served on so many campaigns—perhaps more even than you have. First, he went out at night when Geta hasn't the courage to go abroad, but, if the latter had been compelled by him to do so, he would have gone out crying aloud and bewailing his bitter slavery. And then what does Thrasonides say? Says he,

<sup>1</sup> Where he was teaching. The very form of the oath contradicts the statement made.

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παιδισκάριόν με,  
φησίν,

καταδεδούλωκ' εὐτελές,  
ὃν οὐδὲ εἷς<sup>1</sup> τῶν πολεμίων οὐπώποτε.<sup>2</sup>

- 21 τάλας, ὅς γε καὶ παιδισκαρίου δοῦλος εἶ καὶ  
παιδισκαρίου εὐτελοῦς. τί οὖν ἔτι σαυτὸν  
ἐλεύθερον λέγεις; τί δὲ προφέρεις σου τὰς  
22 στρατείας; εἶτα ξίφος αἰτεῖ καὶ πρὸς τὸν ὑπ'  
εὐνοίας μὴ διδόντα χαλεπαίνει καὶ δῶρα τῇ  
μισούσῃ πέμπει καὶ δεῖται καὶ κλαίει, πάλιν  
23 δὲ μικρὰ εὐημερήσας ἐπαίρεται· πλὴν καὶ τότε  
πῶς μὴδ' ἐπιθυμεῖν ἢ φοβεῖσθαι ἀπομαθὼν  
οὗτος ἐλευθερίαν ἂν εἶχε;<sup>3</sup>  
24 Σκέψαι δ' ἐπὶ τῶν ζώων, πῶς χρώμεθα τῇ  
25 ἐννοίᾳ τῆς ἐλευθερίας. λέοντας τρέφουσιν ἡμέ-  
ρους ἐγκλείσαντες καὶ σιτίζουσι καὶ κομίζουσιν  
ἔνιοι μεθ' αὐτῶν. καὶ τίς ἐρεῖ τοῦτον τὸν  
λέοντα ἐλεύθερον; οὐχὶ δ' ὅσῳ μαλακώτερον  
διεξάγει, τοσούτῳ δουλικώτερον; τίς δ' ἂν λέων  
αἴσθησιν καὶ λογισμὸν λαβὼν βούλοιτο τού-  
26 των τις εἶναι τῶν λεόντων; ἄγε, τὰ δὲ πτηνὰ  
ταῦτα ὅταν ληφθῇ καὶ ἐγκεκλειμένα τρέφηται,  
οἷα πάσχει ζητοῦντα ἐκφυγεῖν; καὶ ἑνὶ γὰρ  
αὐτῶν λιμῷ διαφθείρεται μᾶλλον ἢ ὑπομένει τὴν  
27 τοιαύτην διεξαγωγὴν, ὅσα δ' οὖν διασώζεται,  
μόγις καὶ χαλεπῶς καὶ φθίνοντα, καὶ ὅλως

<sup>1</sup> Koraes: οὐδεὶς S.

<sup>2</sup> Meineke: πώποτε S.

<sup>3</sup> Carl Schenk's rewriting, based in part upon some old corrections in S, which is clearly right in the general sense:

A cheap little wench has made of me a perfect slave,  
Of me, though never a one among all my  
foemen might.<sup>1</sup>

Sad wretch, to be the slave of a wench, and a cheap one at that! Why, then, do you call yourself free any longer? And why do you talk of your campaigns? Then he calls for a sword, and gets angry at the man who refuses out of good-will to give it to him, and sends presents to the girl who hates him, and begs, and weeps, and again, when he has had a little success, he is elated. And yet even then, so long as he had not learned to give up passionate desire or fear, could this man have been in possession of freedom?

Consider now, in the case of the animals, how we employ the concept of freedom. Men shut up tame lions in a cage, and bring them up, and feed them, and some take them around with them. And yet who will call such a lion free? Is it not true that the more softly the lion lives the more slavishly he lives? And what lion, were he to get sense and reason, would care to be one of these lions? Why, yes, and the birds yonder, when they are caught and brought up in cages, what do they suffer in their efforts to escape? And some of them starve to death rather than endure such a life, while even such as live, barely do so, and suffer and pine away,

<sup>1</sup> From the *Misoumenos* of Menander: Koch 338; Körte<sup>2</sup>, p. 129; Allinson, p. 412 (Loeb Classical Library).

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φοβείσθαι οὐτ' ἐλευθερίαν *S* apparently at first; that is, ἀπομαθών and ἂν εἶχε are additions.



- εὔρη τι παρεωγμένον, ἐξεπήδησεν. οὕτως ὀρέ-  
γεται τῆς φυσικῆς ἐλευθερίας καὶ τοῦ αὐτόνομα  
28 καὶ ἀκώλυτα εἶναι. καὶ τί σοι κακόν ἐστιν  
ἐνταῦθα; “οἷα λέγεις; πέτεσθαι πέφυκα ὅπου  
θέλω, ὑπαιθρον διάγειν, ἄδειν ὅταν θέλω· σύ  
με πάντων τούτων ἀφαιρῇ καὶ λέγεις ‘τί σοι  
κακόν ἐστιν;’”
- 29 Διὰ τοῦτο ἐκείνα μόνα ἐροῦμεν ἐλεύθερα, ὅσα  
τὴν ἄλωσιν οὐ φέρει, ἀλλ’ ἅμα τε ἐάλω καὶ  
30 ἀποθανόντα διέφυγεν. οὕτως καὶ Διογένης που  
λέγει μίαν εἶναι μηχανὴν πρὸς ἐλευθερίαν τὸ  
εὐκόλως ἀποθνήσκειν, καὶ τῷ Περσῶν βασιλεῖ  
γράφει ὅτι “τὴν Ἀθηναίων πόλιν κατα-  
δουλώσασθαι οὐ δύνασαι· οὐ μᾶλλον,” φησίν,  
31 “ἢ τοὺς ἰχθύας.” “πῶς; οὐ γὰρ λήψομαι  
αὐτούς;” “ἂν λάβῃς,” φησίν, “εὐθὺς ἀπο-  
λιπόντες σε οἰχήσονται, καθάπερ οἱ ἰχθύες.  
καὶ γὰρ ἐκείνων ὃν ἂν λάβῃς, ἀπέθανεν· καὶ  
οὗτοι ληφθέντες ἂν ἀποθνήσκωσιν, τί σοί ἐστι  
32 τῆς παρασκευῆς ὄφελος;”<sup>1</sup> τοῦτ’ ἔστιν ἐλευθέρου  
ἀνδρὸς φωνὴ σπουδῇ ἐξητακότος τὸ πρᾶγμα καὶ  
ὥσπερ εἰκὸς εὐρηκότος. ἂν δ’ ἀλλαχοῦ ζητῆς  
ἢ ὅπου ἐστίν, τί θαυμαστόν, εἰ οὐδέποτε αὐτὸ  
εὕρισκεις;
- 33 Ὁ δοῦλος εὐθὺς εὐχεται ἀφεθῆναι ἐλεύθερος.  
διὰ τί; δοκεῖτε, ὅτι τοῖς εἰκοστώταις ἐπιθυμεῖ

<sup>1</sup> There is some uncertainty about the extent of the quotation from Diogenes. Capps extends it as far as this point, while Schenkl thought it stopped with ἰχθύες, three lines above.

<sup>1</sup> Here as in II. 3 and in § 156 of this same chapter Epictetus seems to have used a larger collection of letters

and if ever they find any opening, make their escape. Such is their desire for physical freedom, and a life of independence and freedom from restraint. And what is wrong with you here in your cage? "What a question! My nature is to fly where I please, to live in the open air, to sing when I please. You rob me of all this, and then ask, 'What is wrong with you?'"

That is why we shall call free only those animals which do not submit to captivity, but escape by dying as soon as they are captured. So also Diogenes says somewhere:<sup>1</sup> "The one sure way to secure freedom is to die cheerfully"; and to the Persian<sup>2</sup> king he writes: "You cannot enslave the Athenian State any more than you can enslave the fish." "How so? Shall I not lay hold of them?" "If you do," he replies, "they will forthwith leave you and escape, like the fish. And that is true, for if you lay hold of one of them, it dies; and if these Athenians die when you lay hold of them, what good will you get from your armament?" That is the word of a free man who has seriously examined the matter, and, as you might expect, had discovered truth about it. But if you look for it where it does not exist, why be surprised if you never find it?

It is the slave's prayer that he be set free immediately. Why? Do you think it is because he is eager to pay his money to the men who collect

ascribed to Diogenes than that which has survived to our time. See Schenkl's note on § 156 below.

<sup>2</sup> Schenkl deletes the word, and Orelli conjectures Μακεδόνων, making the reference to Philip or Alexander; but about 355 Artaxerxes Ochus seems actually to have threatened war against Athens. See Judeich in the *Real-Encyclopädie*<sup>2</sup>, 2, 1319, 25 ff.

δοῦναι ἀργύριον ; οὐ· ἀλλ' ὅτι φαντάζεται μέχρι  
 νῦν διὰ τὸ μὴ τετυχηκέναι τούτου ἐμποδίζεσθαι  
 34 καὶ δυσροεῖν. “ ἂν ἀφελθῶ,” φησὶν, “ εὐθὺς πᾶσα  
 εὐροια, οὐδενὸς ἐπιστρέφομαι, πᾶσιν ὡς ἴσος καὶ  
 ὅμοιος λαλῶ, πορεύομαι ὅπου θέλω, ἔρχομαι  
 35 ὅθεν θέλω καὶ ὅπου θέλω.” εἶτα ἀπηλευθέρω-  
 ται καὶ εὐθὺς μὲν οὐχ ἔχων, ποῖ φάγη, ζητεῖ,  
 τίνα κολακεύσῃ, παρὰ τίνι δειπνήσῃ· εἶτα ἡ  
 ἐργάζεται τῷ σώματι καὶ πάσχει τὰ δεινότατα  
 καὶ σχῇ τινὰ φάτνην, ἐμπέπτωκεν εἰς δουλείαν  
 36 πολὺ τῆς προτέρας χαλεπωτέραν ἢ καὶ εὐ-  
 πορήσας ἄνθρωπος ἀπειρόκαλος πεφίληκε παι-  
 δισκάριον καὶ δυστυχῶν ἀνακλαίεται καὶ τὴν  
 37 δουλείαν ποθεῖ. “ τί γάρ μοι κακὸν ἦν ; ἄλλος  
 μ' ἐνέδυνεν, ἄλλος μ' ὑπέδει, ἄλλος ἔτρεφεν,  
 ἄλλος ἐνοσοκόμει, ὀλίγα αὐτῷ ὑπηρέτουν. νῦν  
 δὲ τάλας οἷα πάσχω πλείοσι δουλεύων ἀνθ'  
 38 ἐνός ; ὅμως δ' ἐὰν δακτυλίους,” φησὶν, “ λάβω,  
 τότε γ' εὐρούστατα διάξω καὶ εὐδαιμονέστατα.”  
 πρῶτον μὲν ἵνα λάβῃ, πάσχει ὧν ἐστὶν ἄξιος·  
 39 εἶτα λαβὼν πάλιν ταυτά. εἶτά φησιν “ ἂν μὲν  
 στρατεύσωμαι, ἀπηλλάγην πάντων τῶν κακῶν.”  
 στρατεύεται, πάσχει ὅσα μαστιγίας καὶ οὐδὲν  
 ἡττον δευτέραν αἰτεῖ στρατείαν καὶ τρίτην.

<sup>1</sup> See note on II. 1, 26.

<sup>2</sup> For the euphemistic phrase used in the Greek see Demosthenes, 59, 20.

<sup>3</sup> The members of the Equestrian order at Rome had the right to wear a gold ring.

the five per cent. tax?<sup>1</sup> No, it is because he fancies that up till now he is hampered and uncomfortable, because he has not obtained his freedom from slavery. "If I am set free," he says, "immediately it is all happiness, I shall pay no attention to anybody, I talk to everybody as an equal and as one in the same station in life, I go where I please, I come whence I please, and where I please." Then he is emancipated, and forthwith, having no place to which to go and eat, he looks for someone to flatter, for someone at whose house to dine. Next he either earns a living by prostitution,<sup>2</sup> and so endures the most dreadful things, and if he gets a manger at which to eat he has fallen into a slavery much more severe than the first; or even if he grows rich, being a vulgarian he has fallen in love with a chit of a girl, and is miserable, and laments, and yearns for his slavery again. "Why, what was wrong with me? Someone else kept me in clothes, and shoes, and supplied me with food, and nursed me when I was sick; I served him in only a few matters. But now, miserable man that I am, what suffering is mine, who am a slave to several instead of one! However, if I get rings on my fingers,"<sup>3</sup> he says, "then indeed I shall live most prosperously and happily." And so, first, in order to get them he submits to—what he deserves! Then when he has got them, you have the same thing over again. Next he says, "If I serve in a campaign, I am rid of all my troubles." He serves in a campaign, he submits to all that a jail-bird suffers, but none the less he demands a second campaign and a third.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Required of those who held the higher offices. See note on II. 14, 17.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 40 εἶθ' ὅταν αὐτὸν τὸν κολοφῶνα ἐπιθῇ καὶ γέ-  
νηται συγκλητικός, τότε γίνεται δούλος εἰς  
σύλλογον ἐρχόμενος, τότε τὴν καλλίστην<sup>1</sup> καὶ  
λιπαρωτάτην δουλείαν δουλεύει.
- 41 "Ἰνα μὴ μωρὸς ᾦ, ἄγ',<sup>2</sup> ἵνα μάθῃ, ἃ ἔλεγεν ὁ  
Σωκράτης, "τί ἐστὶ τῶν ὄντων ἕκαστον," καὶ  
μὴ εἰκῇ τὰς προλήψεις ἐφαρμόξῃ ταῖς ἐπὶ  
42 μέρους οὐσίαις. τοῦτο γάρ ἐστι τὸ αἷτιον τοῖς  
ἀνθρώποις πάντων τῶν κακῶν, τὸ τὰς προλήψεις  
τὰς κοινὰς μὴ δύνασθαι ἐφαρμόζειν τοῖς<sup>3</sup> ἐπὶ  
43 μέρους. ἡμεῖς δ' ἄλλοι ἄλλο οἴομεθα. ὁ μὲν  
ὅτι νοσεῖ. οὐδαμῶς, ἀλλ' ὅτι τὰς προλήψεις  
οὐκ ἐφαρμόζει. ὁ δ' ὅτι πτωχὸς ἐστίν, ὁ δ'  
ὅτι πατέρα χαλεπὸν ἔχει ἢ μητέρα, τῷ δ' ὅτι  
ὁ Καῖσαρ οὐχ ἰλεῶς ἐστίν. τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶν ἐν  
καὶ μόνον τὸ τὰς προλήψεις ἐφαρμόζειν μὴ  
44 εἰδέναι. ἐπεὶ τίς οὐκ ἔχει κακοῦ πρόληψιν, ὅτι  
βλαβερόν ἐστίν, ὅτι φευκτόν ἐστίν, ὅτι παντὶ  
τρόπῳ ἀποικονόμητόν ἐστιν; πρόληψις προλήψει  
45 οὐ μάχεται, ἀλλ' ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐπὶ τὸ ἐφαρμόζειν.  
τί οὖν τὸ κακόν ἐστι τοῦτο καὶ βλαβερόν καὶ  
φευκτόν; λέγει τὸ Καίσαρος μὴ εἶναι φίλον·  
ἀπῆλθεν, ἀπέπεσεν τῆς ἐφαρμογῆς, θλίβεται,  
ζητεῖ τὰ μηδὲν πρὸς τὸ προκείμενον· ὅτι τυχὼν  
τοῦ φίλος εἶναι Καίσαρος οὐδὲν ἡττον τοῦ  
46 ζητουμένου οὐ τέτευχεν. τί γάρ ἐστίν, ὃ ζητεῖ  
πᾶς ἄνθρωπος; εὐσταθῆσαι, εὐδαιμονῆσαι, πάντα

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: καλλί (?) S.

<sup>2</sup> Elter: ἀλλ' S.

<sup>3</sup> Wolf: ταῖς S.

<sup>1</sup> i.e. the finishing touch. See note on II. 14, 19.

After that, when he adds the very colophon,<sup>1</sup> and becomes a senator, then he becomes a slave as he enters the senate, then he serves in the handsomest and sleekest slavery.

Come, let him not be a fool, let him learn, as Socrates used to say, "What each several thing means,"<sup>2</sup> and not apply his preconceptions at random to the particular cases. For this is the cause to men of all their evils, namely, their inability to apply their general preconceptions to the particular instances. But some of us think one thing and some another. One man fancies he is ill. Not at all; the fact is that he is not applying his preconceptions. Another fancies he is a beggar; another that he has a hard-hearted father or mother; still another that Caesar is not gracious to him. But this means one thing and one thing only—ignorance of how to apply their preconceptions. Why, who does not have a preconception of evil, that it is harmful, that it is to be avoided, that it is something to get rid of in every way? One preconception does not conflict with another, but conflict arises when one proceeds to apply them. What, then, is this evil that is harmful and is to be avoided? One person says it is not to be Caesar's friend;<sup>3</sup> he is off the course, he has missed the proper application, he is in a bad way, he is looking for what is not pertinent to the case in hand; because, when he has succeeded in being Caesar's friend, he has none the less failed to get what he was seeking. For what is it that every man is seeking? To live securely, to be happy, to do everything as he wishes to do,

<sup>2</sup> Xenophon, *Mem.* IV. 6, 1.

<sup>3</sup> That is, *persona grata* at court.

- ὥς θέλει ποιεῖν, μὴ κωλύεσθαι, μὴ ἀναγκάζεσθαι. ὅταν οὖν γένηται Καίσαρος φίλος, πέπανται κωλυόμενος, πέπανται ἀναγκαζόμενος, εὐσταθεῖ, εὐροεῖ; τίνας πυθώμεθα; τίνα ἔχομεν ἀξιοπιστότερον ἢ αὐτὸν τοῦτον τὸν γεγονότα φίλον;
- 47 ἔλθ' εἰς τὸ μέσον καὶ εἰπὲ ἡμῖν, πότε ἀταραχώτερον ἐκάθευδες, νῦν ἢ πρὶν γενέσθαι φίλος τοῦ Καίσαρος; εὐθὺς ἀκούεις ὅτι "παῦσαι, τοὺς θεοὺς σοι, ἐμπαίζων μου τῇ τύχῃ<sup>1</sup> οὐκ οἶδας, οἷα πάσχω τάλας· οὐδ' ὕπνος ἐπέρχεται μοι, ἀλλ' ἄλλος ἐπ' ἄλλῳ<sup>2</sup> ἐλθὼν λέγει, ὅτι ἤδη ἐγρηγορεῖ, ἤδη πρόεισιν· εἴτα ταραχαί, εἴτα
- 48 φροντίδες." ἄγε, ἐδείπνεις δὲ πότε εὐαρεστότερον, νῦν ἢ πρότερον; ἄκουσον αὐτοῦ καὶ περὶ τούτων τί λέγει· ὅτι, ἂν μὲν μὴ κληθῇ,<sup>3</sup> ὀδυνᾶται, ἂν δὲ κληθῇ, ὥς δοῦλος παρὰ κυρίῳ δειπνεῖ μεταξὺ προσέχων, μή τι μωρὸν εἶπη ἢ ποιήσῃ. καὶ τί δοκεῖς φοβεῖται; μὴ μαστιγωθῇ ὥς δοῦλος; πόθεν αὐτῷ οὕτως καλῶς; ἀλλ' ὥς πρέπει τηλικούτου ἄνδρα, Καίσαρος φίλον, μὴ ἀπο-
- 49 λέσῃ τὸν τράχηλον. ἐλούου δὲ πότε· σχολαίτερον; τὸ σύνολον ποῖον μᾶλλον ἤθελες βίον βιοῦν, τὸν νῦν
- 50 ἢ τὸν τότε; ὁμόσαι δύναμαι, ὅτι οὐδεὶς οὕτως ἐστὶν ἀναίσθητος ἢ ἀναλθής,<sup>4</sup> μὴ ἀποδύρασθαι τὰς αὐτοῦ συμφοράς, ὅσῳ ἂν ᾖ φίλτερος.

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: ψυχῇ S.

<sup>2</sup> ἐπ' ἄλλῳ added by Reiske.

<sup>3</sup> κληθῇ repeated in S.

<sup>4</sup> Oldfather: ἀναλθής S (and Scholiast).

<sup>1</sup> Compare with this section the grave words of Francis Bacon: "Men in great place are thrice servants, servants to the sovereign or state, servants of fame, and servants of



not to be hindered, not to be subject to compulsion. When, therefore, he becomes a friend of Caesar, has he been relieved of hindrance, relieved of compulsion, does he live securely, does he live serenely? From whom shall we inquire? What better witness have we than this very man who has become Caesar's friend? Come into the midst and tell us. When did you sleep more peacefully, now or before you became Caesar's friend? Immediately the answer comes: "Stop, I implore you by the gods, and do not jest at my lot; you don't know what I suffer, miserable man that I am; no sleep visits me, but first one person comes in and then another and reports that Caesar is already awake, and is already coming out; then troubles, then worries!" Come, when did you dine more pleasantly, now or formerly? Listen to him and to what he has to say on this topic. If he is not invited, he is hurt, and if he is invited, he dines like a slave at a master's table, all the time careful not to say or do something foolish. And what do you suppose he is afraid of? That he be scourged like a slave? How can he expect to get off as well as that? But as befits so great a man, a friend of Caesar, he is afraid he will lose his head. When did you take your bath in greater peace? And when did you take your exercise at greater leisure? In a word, which life would you rather live, your present life or the old one? I can take oath that no one is so insensate or so incurable as not to lament his misfortunes the more he is a friend of Caesar.<sup>1</sup>

business, so as they have no freedom, neither in their persons, nor in their actions, nor in their times." *Essays*, "Of Great Place."

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 51 "Οταν οὖν μήτε οἱ βασιλεῖς λεγόμενοι ζῶσιν  
ὥς θέλουσι μήθ' οἱ φίλοι τῶν βασιλέων, τίνες  
ἔτι εἰσὶν ἐλεύθεροι ;—Ζήτει καὶ εὐρήσεις. ἔχεις  
γὰρ ἀφορμὰς παρὰ τῆς φύσεως πρὸς εὕρεσιν τῆς  
ἀληθείας. εἰ δ' αὐτὸς οὐχ οἶός τε εἰ κατὰ ταύτας  
52 ψιλὰς πορευόμενος εὐρεῖν τὸ ἐξῆς, ἄκουσον παρὰ  
τῶν ἐξηγηκότων. τί λέγουσιν ; ἀγαθὸν σοι  
δοκεῖ ἢ ἐλευθερία ;—Τὸ μέγιστον.—Δύναται οὖν  
τις τοῦ μεγίστου ἀγαθοῦ τυγχάνων κακοδαι-  
μονεῖν ἢ κακῶς πράσσειν ;—Οὐ.—"Οσους οὖν  
ἂν ἴδῃς κακοδαιμονοῦντας, δυσροοῦντας, πεν-  
θοῦντας, ἀποφαίνου θαρρῶν μὴ εἶναι ἐλευ-  
53 θέρους.—'Αποφαίνομαι.—Οὐκοῦν ἀπὸ μὲν ὧνῃς  
καὶ πράσεως καὶ τῆς τοιαύτης ἐν κτήσει κατα-  
τάξεως ἤδη ἀποκεχωρήκαμεν. εἰ γὰρ ὀρθῶς  
ὡμολόγησας ταῦτα, ἂν τε μέγας βασιλεὺς κακο-  
δαιμονῇ, οὐκ ἂν ἐλεύθερος, ἂν τε μικρός, ἂν θ'  
ὑπατικός, ἂν τε δισύπατος.—'Εστω.  
54 "Ετι οὖν ἀπόκριναί μοι κακέينو· δοκεῖ σοι μέγα  
τι εἶναι καὶ γενναῖον ἢ ἐλευθερία καὶ ἀξιόλογον ;  
—Πῶς γὰρ οὐ ;—'Εστιν οὖν τυγχάνοντά τινος  
οὕτως μεγάλου καὶ ἀξιολόγου καὶ γενναίου τα-  
55 πεινὸν εἶναι ;—Οὐκ ἔστιν.—"Οταν οὖν ἴδῃς τινὰ  
ὑποπεπτωκότα ἐτέρῳ ἢ κολακεύοντα παρὰ τὸ  
φαινόμενον αὐτῷ, λέγε καὶ τοῦτον θαρρῶν μὴ  
εἶναι ἐλεύθερον· καὶ μὴ μόνον, ἂν δειπναρίου  
ἔνεκα αὐτὸ ποιῇ, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπαρχίας ἔνεκα καὶ  
ὑπατείας. ἀλλ' ἐκείνους μὲν μικροδούλους λέγε  
τοὺς μικρῶν τινῶν ἔνεκα ταῦτα ποιοῦντας, τού-

<sup>1</sup> The reference is to the ordinary method of acquiring slaves, since relatively few were ever bred.

When, therefore, neither those who are styled kings live as they will, nor the friends of these kings, what free men are left?—Seek and you will find. For nature has given you resources to find the truth. But if you are unable of yourself, by employing these resources alone, to find the next step, listen to those who have already made the search. What do they say? Does freedom seem to you to be a good?—Yes, the greatest.—Is it possible, then, for a man who has this greatest good to be unhappy, or to fare ill?—No.—When, therefore, you see men unhappy, miserable, grieving, declare confidently that they are not free.—I do so declare.—Very well, then, we have now got away from buying and selling<sup>1</sup> and arrangements of that kind in the acquisition of property. For if you are right in agreeing to these propositions, whether it be the Great King<sup>2</sup> who is unhappy, or a little king, whether it be a man of consular rank, or one who has been a consul twice, he could not be free.—Granted.

Answer me, then, this further question: Does freedom seem to you to be a great and noble thing, and precious?—Of course.—Is it possible, then, for a man who achieves a thing so great and precious and noble, to be of abject spirit?—It is not.—When, therefore, you see one man cringing before another, or flattering him contrary to his own opinion, say confidently of this man also that he is not free; and that not merely if he be doing so for the sake of a paltry meal, but even if it be for a governorship or a consulship. Call rather those who do these things for certain small ends slaves on a small scale, and

<sup>2</sup> That is, of Persia.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 56 τους δ', ὡς εἰσὶν ἄξιοι, μεγαλοδούλους.—Ἐστω καὶ ταῦτα.—Δοκεῖ δέ σοι ἡ ἐλευθερία αὐτεξούσιόν τι εἶναι καὶ αὐτόνομον ;—Πῶς γὰρ οὐ ;—  
 57 "Οντινα οὖν ἐπ' ἄλλῳ κωλύσαι ἔστι καὶ ἀναγκάσαι, θαρρῶν λέγε μὴ εἶναι ἐλεύθερον. καὶ μὴ μοι πάππους αὐτοῦ καὶ προπάππους βλέπε καὶ ὦνὴν ζήτει καὶ πρᾶσιν, ἀλλ' ἂν ἀκούσης λέγοντος ἔσωθεν καὶ ἐκ πάθους "κύριε," καὶ δώδεκα ῥάβδοι προάγωσιν, λέγε δοῦλον· καὶ ἀκούσης λέγοντος "τάλας ἐγώ, οἶα πᾶσχω," λέγε δοῦλον· ἂν ἀπλῶς ἀποκλαιόμενον ἴδῃς, μεμφόμενον, δυσροῦντα, λέγε δοῦλον περιπόρφυρον  
 58 ἔχοντα. ἂν οὖν μηδὲν τούτων ποιῇ, μήπω εἴπῃς ἐλεύθερον, ἀλλὰ τὰ δόγματα αὐτοῦ κατὰμαθε, μὴ τι ἀναγκαστά, μὴ τι κωλυτικά, μὴ τι δυσροητικά· καὶ εὖρης τοιοῦτον, λέγε δοῦλον ἀνοχὰς ἔχοντα ἐν Σατουρναλίοις· λέγε, ὅτι ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ ἀποδημεῖ· εἴθ' ἥξει καὶ γνώσῃ οἶα πᾶσχει.  
 59 —Τίς ἥξει ;—Πᾶς ὃς ἂν ἐξουσίαν ἔχῃ τῶν ὑπ' αὐτοῦ τινὸς θελομένων πρὸς τὸ περιποιῆσαι ταῦτα ἢ ἀφελέσθαι.—Οὕτως οὖν πολλοὺς κυρίους ἔχομεν ;—Οὕτως. τὰ γὰρ πράγματα προτέρους τούτων κυρίους ἔχομεν· ἐκεῖνα δὲ πολλὰ ἐστίν. διὰ ταῦτα ἀνάγκη καὶ τοὺς τούτων τινὸς ἔχοντας  
 60 ἐξουσίαν κυρίους εἶναι· ἐπεὶ τοι οὐδεὶς αὐτὸν τὸν Καίσαρα φοβεῖται, ἀλλὰ θάνατον, φυγὴν, ἀφαίρεσιν τῶν ὄντων, φυλακὴν, ἀτιμίαν. οὐδὲ φιλεῖ τις τὸν Καίσαρα, ἂν μὴ τι ἢ πολλοῦ ἄξιος, ἀλλὰ

<sup>1</sup> The number for a consul.

<sup>2</sup> The robe worn by high officials at Rome. Cf. I. 2, 18.

<sup>3</sup> When slaves had special liberties.

the others, as they deserve, slaves on a grand scale—This also I grant.—And does freedom seem to you to be something independent and self-governing?—Of course.—When, therefore, it is in another's power to put hindrances in a man's way and subject him to compulsion, say confidently that this man is not free. And please don't look at his grandfathers and great-grandfathers, or look for a deed of sale or purchase, but if you hear him say "Master," in the centre of his being and with deep emotion, call him a slave, even if twelve fasces<sup>1</sup> precede him; and if you hear him say, "Alas! What I must suffer!" call him a slave; and, in short, if you see him wailing, complaining, in misery, call him a slave in a *toga praetexta*.<sup>2</sup> However, if he does none of these things, do not call him free yet, but find out what his judgements are, whether they are in any respect subject to compulsion, to hindrance, to unhappiness; and if you find him to be that kind of a person, call him a slave on holiday at the Saturnalia;<sup>3</sup> say that his master is out of town; later on he will return, and then you will learn what the fellow suffers.—Who will return?—Anyone who has control over the things which some man desires, to get these for him or to take them away.—Have we, then, so many masters?—Yes, so many. For even before these personal masters we have masters in the form of circumstances, and these are many. Hence, it needs must follow that those too who have authority over some one of these circumstances are our masters. Why, look you, no one is afraid of Caesar himself, but he is afraid of death, exile, loss of property, prison, disfranchisement. Nor does anyone love Caesar himself, unless in some way Caesar is a person of great merit; but we love wealth, a

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICETUS

- πλούτον φιλοῦμεν, δημαρχίαν, στρατηγίαν, ὑπατείαν. ὅταν ταῦτα φιλῶμεν καὶ μισῶμεν καὶ φοβώμεθα, ἀνάγκη τοὺς ἔξουσίαν αὐτῶν ἔχοντας κυρίους ἡμῶν εἶναι. διὰ τοῦτο καὶ ὡς θεοὺς
- 61 αὐτοὺς προσκυνοῦμεν· ἐννοοῦμεν γάρ, ὅτι τὸ ἔχον ἔξουσίαν τῆς μεγίστης ὠφελείας θεῖόν ἐστιν. εἶθ' ὑποτάσσομεν κακῶς “οὗτος δ' ἔχει τῆς μεγίστης ὠφελείας<sup>1</sup> ἔξουσίαν.” ἀνάγκη καὶ τὸ γενόμενον ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐπενεχθῆναι κακῶς.
- 62 Τί οὖν ἐστὶ τὸ ποιοῦν ἀκώλυτον τὸν ἄνθρωπον καὶ αὐτεξούσιον; πλούτος γὰρ οὐ ποιεῖ οὐδ'
- 63 ὑπατεία οὐδ' ἐπαρχία οὐδὲ βασιλεία, ἀλλὰ δεῖ τι ἄλλο εὖρεθῆναι. τί οὖν ἐστὶ τὸ ἐν τῷ γράφειν ἀκώλυτον ποιοῦν καὶ ἀπαραπόδιστον;—Ἡ ἐπιστήμη τοῦ γράφειν.—Τί δ' ἐν τῷ κιθαρίζειν;—Ἡ ἐπιστήμη τοῦ κιθαρίζειν.—Οὐκοῦν καὶ ἐν τῷ
- 64 βιοῦν ἡ ἐπιστήμη τοῦ βιοῦν. ὡς μὲν οὖν ἀπλῶς, ἀκήκοας· σκέψαι δ' αὐτὸ καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἐπὶ<sup>2</sup> μέρους. τὸν ἐφιεμένον τινος τῶν ἐπ' ἄλλοις ὄντων ἐνδέχεται ἀκώλυτον εἶναι;—Οὔ.—Ἐνδέ-
- 65 χεται ἀπαραπόδιστον;—Οὔ.—Οὐκοῦν οὐδ' ἐλεύθερον. ὅρα οὖν· πότερον οὐδὲν ἔχομεν, ὃ ἐφ' ἡμῖν μόνοις ἐστίν, ἢ πάντα, ἢ τὰ μὲν ἐφ' ἡμῖν
- 66 ἐστίν, τὰ δ' ἐπ' ἄλλοις;—Πῶς λέγεις;—Τὸ σῶμα ὅταν θέλης ὀλόκληρον εἶναι, ἐπὶ σοί ἐστιν

<sup>1</sup> The last eleven words are here wrongly repeated in *S*, as Schenkl observed; but he was mistaken in assuming that the repetition began immediately after ἔχει, whereas it probably was due to the eye going back to the wrong ὠφελείας.

<sup>2</sup> ἐπὶ added by *Sh*.

<sup>1</sup> The major premiss is: “What has power to confer the greatest advantage is divine”; the minor premiss, as in the

tribuneship, a praetorship, a consulship. When we love and hate and fear these things, it needs must be that those who control them are masters over us. That is why we even worship those persons as gods; for we consider that what has power to confer the greatest advantage is divine. And then we lay down the wrong minor premiss: "This man has power to confer the greatest advantage." It needs must be that the conclusion from these premisses is wrong too.<sup>1</sup>

What, then, is it which makes a man free from hindrance and his own master? For wealth does not do it, nor a consulship, nor a province, nor a kingdom, but something else has to be found. What, therefore, is it which makes a man free from hindrance and restraint in writing?—The knowledge of how to write.—And what in playing on the harp?—The knowledge of how to play on the harp.—So also in living, it is the knowledge of how to live. Now you have already heard this, as a general principle, but consider it also in its particular applications. Is it possible for the man who is aiming at some one of these things which are under the control of others to be free from hindrance?—No.—Is it possible for him to be free from restraint?—No.—Therefore, it is not possible for him to be free, either. Consider then: Have we nothing which is under our own exclusive control, or is everything in that state; or are some things under our control and others under the control of others?—How do you mean?—When you want your body to be whole, is the matter under

text; from which follows the conclusion: "Therefore, this man is divine," which is wrong because of the false minor premiss.



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἢ οὐ;—Οὐκ ἐπ' ἐμοί.—"Οταν δ' ὑγιαίνειν;—  
 Οὐδὲ τοῦτο.—"Οταν δὲ καλὸν εἶναι;—Οὐδὲ  
 τοῦτο.—Ζῆν δὲ καὶ ἀποθανεῖν;—Οὐδὲ τοῦτο.—  
 Οὐκοῦν τὸ μὲν σῶμα ἀλλότριον, ὑπεύθυνον παν-  
 67 τὸς τοῦ ἰσχυροτέρου.—"Εστω.—Τὸν ἀγρὸν δ' ἐπὶ  
 σοί ἐστιν ἔχειν, ὅταν θέλῃς καὶ ἐφ' ὅσον θέλεις  
 καὶ οἶον θέλεις;—Οὔ.—Τὰ δὲ δουλάρια;—Οὔ.—  
 Τὰ δ' ἱμάτια;—Οὔ.—Τὸ δὲ οἰκίδιον;—Οὔ.—  
 Τοὺς δ' ἵππους;—Τούτων μὲν οὐδέν.—"Αν δὲ τὰ  
 τέκνα σου ζῆν θέλῃς ἐξ ἅπαντος ἢ τὴν γυναῖκα  
 ἢ τὸν ἀδελφὸν ἢ τοὺς φίλους, ἐπὶ σοί ἐστιν;—  
 Οὐδὲ ταῦτα.
- 68 Πότερον οὖν οὐδὲν ἔχεις αὐτεξούσιον, ὃ ἐπὶ  
 μόνῳ ἐστὶ σοί, ἢ ἔχεις τι τοιοῦτον;—Οὐκ οἶδα.
- 69 —"Ορα οὖν οὕτως καὶ σκέψαι αὐτό. μή τις  
 δύναται σε ποιῆσαι συγκαταθέσθαι τῷ ψεύδει;  
 —Οὐδεῖς.—Οὐκοῦν ἐν μὲν τῷ συγκαταθετικῷ  
 τόπῳ ἀκώλυτος εἶ καὶ ἀνεμπόδιστος.—"Εστω.—
- 70 "Αγε, ὀρμῆσαι δέ σε ἐφ' ὃ μὴ θέλεις τις δύναται  
 ἀναγκάσαι;—Δύναται. ὅταν γάρ μοι θάνατον  
 ἢ δεσμὰ ἀπειλῇ, ἀναγκάζει μ' ὀρμῆσαι.—"Αν  
 οὖν καταφρονῇς τοῦ ἀποθανεῖν καὶ τοῦ δεδέσθαι,
- 71 ἔτι αὐτοῦ ἐπιστρέφῃ;—Οὔ.—Σὸν οὖν ἐστὶν  
 ἔργον τὸ καταφρονεῖν θανάτου ἢ οὐ σόν;—"Εμόν.  
 —Σὸν ἄρα ἐστὶ καὶ τὸ ὀρμῆσαι ἢ οὐ;—"Εστω  
 ἐμόν.—Τὸ δ' ἀφορμῆσαι τίνος; σὸν καὶ τοῦτο.—
- 72 Τί οὖν, ἂν ἐμοῦ ὀρμήσαντος περιπατῆσαι ἐκείνός  
 με κωλύσῃ;—Τί σου κωλύσει; μή τι τὴν  
 συγκατάθεσιν;—Οὔ. ἀλλὰ τὸ σωματίον.—Ναί,  
 ὥς λίθον.—"Εστω. ἀλλ' οὐκέτι ἐγὼ περιπατῶ.—

your control, or not?—It is not.—And when you want it to be well?—Nor that, either.—And to live or to die?—Nor that, either.—Therefore, your body is not your own possession, it is subject to everyone who is stronger than you are.—Granted.—And your farm, is it under your control to have it when you want, and as long as you want, and in the condition that you want?—No.—And your paltry slaves?—No.—And your clothes?—No.—And your paltry house?—No.—And your horses?—None of these things.—And if you wish by all means your children to live, or your wife, or your brother, or your friends, is the matter under your control?—No, nor that, either.

Have you, then, nothing subject to your authority, which is under your control and yours only, or do you have something of that sort?—I do not know.—Look, then, at the matter this way, and consider it. No one can make you assent to what is false, can he?—No one.—Well, then, in the region of assent you are free from hindrance and restraint.—Granted.—Come, can anyone force you to choose something that you do not want?—He can; for when he threatens me with death or bonds, he compels me to choose.—If, however, you despise death and bonds, do you pay any further heed to him?—No.—Is it, then, an act of your own to despise death, or is it not your own act?—It is mine.—So it is your own act to choose, or is it not?—Granted that it is mine.—And to refuse something? This also is yours.—Yes, but suppose I choose to go for a walk and the other person hinders me?—What part of you will he hinder? Surely not your assent?—No; but my poor body.—Yes, as he would a stone.—Granted that, but I do not proceed to take my walk.—But

- 73 Τίς δέ σοι εἶπεν “ τὸ περιπατῆσαι σὸν ἔργον  
 ἐστὶν ἀκώλυτον ” ; ἐγὼ γὰρ ἐκεῖνο ἔλεγον ἀκώλυ-  
 τον μόνον τὸ ὀρμῆσαι· ὅπου δὲ σώματος χρεία  
 καὶ τῆς ἐκ τούτου συνεργείας, πάλαι ἀκήκοας,  
 74 ὅτι οὐδέν ἐστι σὸν.—Ἔστω καὶ ταῦτα.—Ὅρε-  
 γεσθαι δέ σε οὐ μὴ θέλεις τις ἀναγκάσαι δύνα-  
 ται ; —Οὐδεῖς.—Προθέσθαι δ’ ἢ ἐπιβαλέσθαι τις  
 ἢ ἀπλῶς χρῆσθαι ταῖς προσπιπτούσαις φαν-  
 75 τασίαις ; —Οὐδὲ τοῦτο· ἀλλὰ ὀρεγόμενόν με  
 κωλύσει τυχεῖν οὐ ὀρέγομαι.—Ἄν τῶν σῶν τινὸς  
 ὀρέγῃ καὶ τῶν ἀκωλύτων, πῶς σε κωλύσει ; —  
 Οὐδαμῶς.—Τίς οὖν σοι λέγει, ὅτι ὁ τῶν ἄλλο-  
 τρίων ὀρεγόμενος ἀκώλυτός ἐστιν ;  
 76 Ὑγείας οὖν μὴ ὀρέγωμαι ; —Μηδαμῶς, μηδ’  
 77 ἄλλου ἄλλοτρίου μηδενός. ὁ γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπὶ  
 σοὶ παρασκευάσαι ἢ τηρῆσαι ὅτε θέλεις, τοῦτο  
 ἄλλοτρίον ἐστιν. μακρὰν ἀπ’ αὐτοῦ οὐ μόνον  
 τὰς χεῖρας, ἀλλὰ πολὺ πρότερον τὴν ὄρεξιν· εἰ  
 δὲ μὴ, παρέδωκας σαυτὸν δοῦλον, ὑπέθηκας τὸν  
 τράχηλον, ὅ τι<sup>1</sup> ἂν θαυμάσης τῶν μὴ σῶν, ὧ τι  
 78 ἂν τῶν ὑπευθύνων καὶ θνητῶν προσπαθῇς.—Ἡ  
 χεὶρ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐμή ; —Μέρος ἐστὶ σὸν, φύσει δὲ  
 πηλός, κωλυτόν, ἀναγκαστόν, δοῦλον παντὸς τοῦ  
 79 ἰσχυροτέρου. καὶ τί σοι λέγω χεῖρα ; ὅλον τὸ  
 σῶμα οὕτως ἔχειν σε δεῖ ὥς ὄνάριον ἐπισεσαγ-  
 μένον, ἐφ’ ὅσον ἂν οἶόν τε ἦ, ἐφ’ ὅσον ἂν διδῶται·  
 ἂν δ’ ἀγγαρεία ἢ καὶ στρατιώτης ἐπιλάβηται,  
 ἄφες, μὴ ἀντίτεινε μηδὲ γόγγυζε. εἰ δὲ μὴ,  
 πληγὰς λαβὼν οὐδὲν ἡττον ἀπολεῖς καὶ τὸ ὄνά-

<sup>1</sup> ὅ τι added by Elter : τράχηλον, ἂν θαυμάσης τῶν τῷ (later erased) μὴ S.

who told you, "It is your own act to take a walk unhindered"? As for me, I told you that the only unhindered thing was the desire; but where there is a use of the body and its co-operation, you have heard long ago that nothing is your own.—Granted that also.—Can anyone force you to desire what you do not want?—No one.—Or to purpose or plan, or, in a word, to deal with the impressions that come to you?—No, nor that, either; but he will hinder me, when I set my desire upon something, from achieving what I desire.—If you desire something which is your own and not subject to hindrance, how will he hinder you?—Not at all.—Who, then, tells you that the man who sets his desire upon what is not his own is free from hindrance?

Shall I not, then, set my desire on health?—No, not at all, nor on anything else which is not your own. For that which is not in your power to acquire or to keep is none of yours. Keep far away from it not merely your hands, but above all your desire; otherwise, you have delivered yourself into slavery, you have bowed your neck to the burden, if you admire anything that is not your own, if you conceive a violent passion for anything that is in subjection to another and mortal.—Is not my hand my own?—It is a part of you, but by nature it is clay, subject to hindrance and compulsion, a slave to everything that is stronger than you are. And why do I name you the hand? You ought to treat your whole body like a poor loaded-down donkey, as long as it is possible, as long as it is allowed; and if it be commandeered and a soldier lay hold of it, let it go, do not resist nor grumble. If you do, you will get a beating and lose your little donkey just the same.

- 80 ριον. ὅταν δὲ πρὸς τὸ σῶμα οὕτως ἔχειν σε δέη, ὄρα, τί ἀπολείπεται περὶ τὰ ἄλλα, ὅσα τοῦ σώματος ἔνεκα παρασκευάζεται. ὅταν ἐκεῖνο ὀνάριον ᾗ, τὰλλα γίνεται χαλινάρια τοῦ ὀναρίου, σαγμάτια, ὑποδημάτια, κριθαί, χόρτος. ἄφες κἀκεῖνα, ἀπόλυε θᾶπτον καὶ εὐκολώτερον ᾗ τὸ ὀνάριον.
- 81 Καὶ ταύτην τὴν παρασκευὴν παρασκευασάμενος καὶ τὴν ἄσκησιν ἀσκήσας τὰ ἀλλότρια ἀπὸ τῶν ἰδίων διακρίνειν, τὰ κωλυτὰ ἀπὸ τῶν ἀκωλύτων, ταῦτα πρὸς σαυτὸν ἡγεῖσθαι, ἐκεῖνα μὴ πρὸς σαυτόν, ἐνταῦθα ἐπιστροφῶς ἔχειν τὴν ὄρεξιν, ἐνταῦθα τὴν ἔκκλισιν, μή τι ἔτι φοβῆ τινά;—
- 82 Οὐδένα.—Περὶ τίνος γὰρ φοβήσῃ; περὶ τῶν σεαυτοῦ, ὅπου σοι ἡ οὐσία τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ τοῦ κακοῦ; καὶ τίς τούτων ἐξουσίαν ἔχει; τίς ἀφελέσθαι αὐτὰ δύναται, τίς ἐμποδίσαι; οὐ μᾶλλον
- 83 ἢ τὸν θεόν. ἀλλ' ὑπὲρ τοῦ σώματος καὶ τῆς κτήσεως; ὑπὲρ τῶν ἀλλοτριῶν; ὑπὲρ τῶν οὐδὲν πρὸς σέ; καὶ τί ἄλλο ἐξ ἀρχῆς ἐμελέτας ἢ διακρίνειν τὰ σὰ καὶ οὐ σά, τὰ ἐπὶ σοὶ καὶ οὐκ ἐπὶ σοί, τὰ κωλυτὰ καὶ ἀκώλυτα; τίνος δὲ ἔνεκα προσῆλθες τοῖς φιλοσόφοις; ἵνα μηδὲν ᾗπτον
- 84 ἀτυχήσῃ καὶ δυστυχήσῃ; οὐκ οὖν<sup>1</sup> ἄφοβος μὲν οὕτως ἔσει καὶ ἀτάραχος. λύπη δὲ τί πρὸς σέ; ὦν

<sup>1</sup> Elter : οὐκοῦν S.

## BOOK IV. 1. 79-84

But when this is the way in which you should act as regards the body, consider what is left for you to do about all the other things that are provided for the sake of the body. Since the body is a little donkey, the other things become little bridles for a little donkey, little pack-saddles, little shoes, and barley, and fodder. Let them go too, get rid of them more quickly and cheerfully than of the little donkey itself.

Once prepared and trained in this fashion to distinguish what is not your own from what is your own possession, the things which are subject to hindrance from those which are free from it, to regard these latter as your concern, and the former as no concern of yours, diligently to keep your desire fixed on the latter, and your aversion directed toward the former, then have you any longer anyone to fear?—No one.—Of course; what is there to be fearful about? About the things that are your own, wherein is the true nature of good and evil for you? And who has authority over these? Who can take them away, who can hinder them, any more than one can hinder God? But shall you be fearful about your body and your property? About the things that are not your own? About the things that are nothing to you? And what else have you been studying, from the very outset, but how to discriminate between what is your own and what is not your own, what is under your control and what is not under your control, what is subject to hindrance and what is free from it? For what purpose did you go to the philosophers? That you might no less than before be unfortunate and miserable? You will not, then, in that case, be free from fear and perturbation. And what has pain to

γὰρ προσδοκωμένων φόβος, γίνεται<sup>1</sup> καὶ λύπη παρόντων. ἐπιθυμήσεις δὲ τίνος ἔτι; τῶν μὲν γὰρ προαιρετικῶν ἅτε καλῶν ὄντων καὶ παρόντων σύμμετρον ἔχεις καὶ καθισταμένην τὴν ὀρεξιν, τῶν δ' ἀπροαιρέτων οὐδενὸς ὀρέγῃ, ἵνα καὶ τόπον σχῇ τὸ ἄλογον ἐκείνο καὶ ὥστικόν καὶ παρὰ τὰ μέτρα ἡπειγμένον.

85 "Οταν οὖν πρὸς τὰ πράγματα οὕτως ἔχῃς, τίς ἔτι ἄνθρωπος δύναται φοβερὸς εἶναι; τί γὰρ ἔχει ἄνθρωπος ἀνθρώπῳ φοβερὸν ἢ ὀφθεῖς ἢ λαλήσας ἢ ὅλως συναναστραφεῖς; οὐ μᾶλλον ἢ ἵππος ἵππῳ ἢ κύων κυνὶ ἢ μέλισσα μελίσσῃ. ἀλλὰ τὰ πράγματα ἐκάστῳ φοβερά ἐστίν· ταῦτα δ' ὅταν περιποιεῖν τις δύνηται τινὶ ἢ ἀφελέσθαι, τότε καὶ αὐτὸς φοβερὸς γίνεται.

86 Πῶς οὖν ἀκρόπολις καταλύεται; οὐ σιδήρῳ οὐδὲ πυρί, ἀλλὰ δόγμασιν. ἂν γὰρ τὴν οὔσαν ἐν τῇ πόλει καθέλῳμεν, μή τι καὶ τὴν τοῦ πυρετοῦ, μή τι καὶ τὴν τῶν καλῶν γυναικαρέων, μή τι ἀπλῶς τὴν ἐν ἡμῖν ἀκρόπολιν καὶ τοὺς ἐν ἡμῖν τυράννους ἀποβεβλήκαμεν, οὓς ἐφ' ἐκάστοις καθ' ἡμέραν ἔχομεν, ποτὲ μὲν τοὺς αὐτούς, ποτὲ δ' ἄλλους; ἀλλ' ἔνθεν ἄρξασθαι δεῖ καὶ ἔνθεν καθελεῖν τὴν ἀκρόπολιν, ἐκβάλλειν τοὺς τυράννους· τὸ σωμάτιον ἀφεῖναι, τὰ μέρη αὐτοῦ, τὰς

<sup>1</sup> The punctuation is by Capps; φόβος γίνεται, καὶ is the ordinary reading.

<sup>1</sup> Probably a reference to some proverb, or well-known saying, like that of Alcaeus, "Valiant men are the tower of a city" (Smyth, *Greek Melic Poets*, frag. 15).—The citadel is the keep, or tower, from which a tyrant is represented as overawing a city.



do with you? For fear of things anticipated becomes pain when these things are present. And what will you any longer passionately seek? For you possess a harmonious and regulated desire for the things that are within the sphere of the moral purpose, as being excellent, and as being within your reach; and you desire nothing outside the sphere of the moral purpose, so as to give place to that other element of unreason, which pushes you along and is impetuous beyond all measure.

Now when you face things in this fashion, what man can inspire fear in you any longer? For what has one human being about him that is calculated to inspire fear in another human being, in either his appearance, or conversation, or intercourse in general, any more than one horse, or dog, or bee inspires fear in another horse, or dog, or bee? Nay, it is *things* that inspire man with fear; and when one person is able to secure them for another, or to take them away, then he becomes capable of inspiring fear.

How, then, is a citadel destroyed? <sup>1</sup> Not by iron, nor by fire, but by judgements. For if we capture the citadel in the city, have we captured the citadel of fever also, have we captured that of pretty wenches also, in a word, the acropolis within us, and have we cast out the tyrants within us, whom we have lord-ing it over each of us <sup>2</sup> every day, sometimes the same tyrants, and sometimes others? But here is where we must begin, and it is from this side that we must seize the acropolis and cast out the tyrants; we must yield up the paltry body, its members, the

<sup>2</sup> So Schweighäuser; but there is some uncertainty about the meaning of ἐφ' ἑκάστοις, which Schegk, Wolf, and Upton take to refer to matters, or affairs (πράγματα, as in § 85).

- δυνάμεις, τὴν κτῆσιν, τὴν φήμην, ἀρχάς, τιμάς, τέκνα, ἀδελφούς, φίλους, πάντα ταῦτα ἡγήσασθαι  
 88 ἀλλότρια. καὶ ἐνθεν ἐκβληθῶσιν οἱ τύραννοι, τί  
 ἔτι ἀποτεριχίζω τὴν ἀκρόπολιν ἐμοῦ γε ἔνεκα;  
 ἐστῶσα γὰρ τί μοι ποιεῖ; τί ἔτι ἐκβάλλω τοὺς  
 δορυφόρους; ποῦ γὰρ αὐτῶν αἰσθάνομαι; ἐπ'  
 89 τὰς μαχαίρας. ἐγὼ δ' οὐπώποτ' οὔτε θέλων  
 ἐκωλύθην οὔτ' ἡναγκάσθην μὴ θέλων. καὶ πῶς  
 τοῦτο δυνατόν; προσκατατέταχά μου τὴν ὁρμὴν  
 τῷ θεῷ. θέλει μ' ἐκεῖνος πυρέσσειν· καγὼ  
 θέλω. θέλει ὁρμᾶν ἐπὶ τι· καγὼ θέλω. θέλει  
 ὀρέγεσθαι· καγὼ θέλω. θέλει με τυχεῖν τινός·  
 90 καγὼ βούλομαι. οὐ θέλει· οὐ βούλομαι. ἀπο-  
 θανεῖν οὖν θέλω· στρεβλωθῆναι οὖν θέλω. τίς  
 ἔτι με κωλύσαι δύναται παρὰ τὸ ἐμοὶ φαινόμενον  
 ἢ ἀναγκάσαι; οὐ μᾶλλον ἢ τὸν Δία.  
 91 Οὕτως ποιοῦσι καὶ τῶν ὁδοιπόρων οἱ ἀσφα-  
 λέστεροι. ἀκήκοεν ὅτι ληστεύεται ἡ ὁδός· μόνος  
 οὐ τολμᾷ καθεῖναι, ἀλλὰ περιέμεινεν συνοδίαν ἢ  
 πρεσβευτοῦ ἢ ταμίου ἢ ἀνθυπάτου καὶ προσ-

<sup>1</sup> The metaphor in this passage is complicated. I take it to mean, using wealth as a convenient example, something like this: The tyrant is a false judgement (δόγμα) about wealth; the acropolis and the bodyguard are wealth itself, which is dangerous only so long as the false judgement prevails. Once that is overthrown, actual wealth itself need not be destroyed, at least for the man who is freed from the false judgement about it, because wealth as such has no longer any power over him. Other people may be menaced by it, but every man has a ready means of defence, which is to secure a correct judgement about the thing itself. Many matters or affairs (πράγματα) like death and disease cannot,

faculties, property, reputation, offices, honours, children, brothers, friends—count all these things as alien to us. And if the tyrants be thrown out of the spot, why should I any longer raze the fortifications of the citadel, on my own account, at least? For what harm does it do me by standing? Why should I go on and throw out the tyrant's body-guard? For where do I feel them? Their rods, their spears, and their swords they are directing against others. But I have never been hindered in the exercise of my will, nor have I ever been subjected to compulsion against my will.<sup>1</sup> And how is this possible? I have submitted my freedom of choice unto God. He wills that I shall have fever; it is my will too. He wills that I should choose something; it is my will too. He wills that I should desire something; it is my will too. He wills that I should get something; it is my wish too. He does not will it; I do not wish it. Therefore, it is my will to die; therefore, it is my will to be tortured on the rack. Who can hinder me any longer against my own views, or put compulsion upon me? That is no more possible in my case than it would be with Zeus.

This is the way also with the more cautious among travellers. A man has heard that the road which he is taking is infested with robbers; he does not venture to set forth alone, but he waits for a company, either that of an ambassador, or of a quaestor, or of a proconsul, and when he has attached

in any event, be destroyed. It is vain labour to try to destroy the things themselves, when it is only the false judgments that are dangerous, and these any man can himself overcome.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 92 κατατάξας ἑαυτὸν παρέρχεται ἀσφαλῶς. οὕτως  
καὶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ποιεῖ ὁ φρόνιμος. “πολλὰ  
ληστήρια, τύραννοι, χειμῶνες, ἀπορίαι, ἀποβολαὶ  
93 τῶν φιλτάτων. ποῦ τις καταφύγη; πῶς ἀλήστευ-  
τος παρέλθῃ; ποίαν συνοδίαν περιμείνας ἀσφα-  
94 λῶς διέλθῃ; τίνι προσκατατάξας ἑαυτόν; τῷ  
δεῖνι, τῷ πλουσίῳ, τῷ ὑπατικῷ; καὶ τί μοι  
ὄφελος; αὐτὸς ἐκδύεται, οἰμῶζει, πενθεῖ. τί δ',  
ἂν ὁ συνοδοιπóρος αὐτὸς ἐπ' ἐμὲ στραφεῖς ληστής  
95 μου γένηται; τί ποιήσω; φίλος ἔσομαι Καίσα-  
ρος· ἐκείνου με ὄντα ἐταῖρον οὐδεὶς ἀδικήσει.  
πρῶτον μὲν, ἵνα γένωμαι, πόσα<sup>1</sup> με δεῖ τλῆναι  
καὶ παθεῖν, ποσάκις καὶ ὑπὸ πόσων ληστευθῆναι.  
96 εἶτα ἂν γένωμαι, καὶ οὗτος θνητός ἐστιν.<sup>2</sup> ἂν  
δ' αὐτὸς ἔκ τινος περιστάσεως ἐχθρός μου γένηται,  
ἀναχωρῆσαί ποῦ ποτε κρεῖσσον; εἰς ἐρημίαν;  
97 ἄγε, ἐκεῖ πυρετός οὐκ ἔρχεται; τί οὖν γένηται;  
οὐκ ἔστιν εὐρεῖν ἀσφαλῇ σύνοδον, πιστόν, ἰσχυ-  
98 ρόν, ἀνεπιβούλευτον;” οὕτως ἐφίστησιν καὶ  
ἐννοεῖ, ὅτι, ἐὰν τῷ θεῷ προσκατατάξῃ ἑαυτόν,  
διελεύσεται ἀσφαλῶς.
- 99 Πῶς λέγεις προσκατατάξαι;—“ὼν, ὁ ἂν  
ἐκεῖνος θέλῃ, καὶ αὐτὸς θέλῃ, καὶ ὁ ἂν ἐκεῖνος μὴ  
100 θέλῃ, τοῦτο μὴδ' αὐτὸς θέλῃ.—Πῶς οὖν τοῦτο  
γένηται;—Πῶς γὰρ ἄλλως ἢ ἐπισκεψαμένῳ τὰς  
ὁρμὰς τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ τὴν διοίκησιν; τί μοι δέδωκεν  
ἐμὸν καὶ αὐτεξούσιον, τί αὐτῷ κατέλιπεν; τὰ

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl: πρόσα S.

<sup>2</sup> After this word S repeats καὶ οὗτος θνητός.

himself to them he travels along the road in safety. So in this world the wise man acts. Says he to himself: "There are many robber-bands, tyrants, storms, difficulties, losses of what is most dear. Where shall a man flee for refuge? How shall he travel secure against robbery? What company shall he wait for that he may pass through in safety? To whom shall he attach himself? To So-and-so, the rich man, or the proconsul? And what is the good of that? He himself is stripped, groans, sorrows. Yes, and what if my fellow-traveller himself turn upon me and rob me? What shall I do? I will become a friend of Caesar; no one will wrong me if I am a companion of his. But, in the first place, the number of things I must suffer and endure in order to become his friend! and the number of times, and the number of persons by whom I must first be robbed! And then, even if I do become his friend, he too is mortal. And if some circumstance lead him to become my enemy, where indeed had I better retire? To a wilderness? What, does not fever go there? What, then, is to become of me? Is it impossible to find a fellow-traveller who is safe, faithful, strong, free from the suspicion of treachery?" Thus he reflects and comes to the thought that, if he attach himself to God, he will pass through the world in safety.

How do you mean "attach himself"?—Why, so that whatever God wills, he also wills, and whatever God does not will, this he also does not will.—How, then, can this be done?—Why, how else than by observing the choices of God and His governance? What has He given me for my own and subject to my authority, and what has He left for Himself? Everything

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- προαιρετικά μοι δέδωκεν, ἐπ' ἐμοὶ πεποίηκεν, ἀνεμπόδιστα, ἀκώλυτα. τὸ σῶμα τὸ πῆλινον πῶς ἐδύνατο ἀκώλυτον ποιῆσαι; ὑπέταξεν οὖν τῇ τῶν ὅλων περιόδῳ, τὴν κτῆσιν, τὰ σκεύη, τὴν  
 101 οἰκίαν, τὰ τέκνα, τὴν γυναῖκα. τί οὖν θεομα-  
 χῶ; τί θέλω τὰ μὴ θελητά, τὰ μὴ δοθέντα μοι  
 ἐξ ἁπαντος ἔχειν; ἀλλὰ πῶς; ὡς δέδοται  
 καὶ ἐφ' ὅσον δύναται.<sup>1</sup> ἀλλ' ὁ δοὺς ἀφαιρεῖται.  
 τί οὖν ἀντιτείνω; οὐ λέγω, ὅτι ἡλίθιος ἔσομαι  
 τὸν ἰσχυρότερον βιαζόμενος, ἀλλ' ἔτι πρότερον  
 102 ἄδικος. πόθεν γὰρ ἔχων αὐτὰ ἦλθον; ὁ πατήρ  
 μου αὐτὰ ἔδωκεν. ἐκείνῳ δὲ τίς; τὸν ἥλιον δὲ  
 τίς πεποίηκε, τοὺς καρποὺς δὲ τίς, τὰς δ' ὥρας  
 τίς, τὴν δὲ πρὸς ἀλλήλους συμπλοκὴν καὶ κοινω-  
 νίαν τίς;  
 103 Εἶτα σύμπαντα εἰληφώς παρ' ἄλλου καὶ αὐτὸν  
 σεαυτὸν, ἀγανακτεῖς καὶ μέμφῃ τὸν δόντα, ἂν σοὺ  
 104 τι ἀφέληται; τίς ὢν καὶ ἐπὶ τί ἐληλυθώς; οὐχὶ  
 ἐκεῖνός σε εἰσήγαγεν; οὐχὶ τὸ φῶς ἐκεῖνός σοι  
 ἔδειξεν; οὐ συνεργοὺς δέδωκεν; οὐ καὶ αἰσθήσεις;  
 οὐ λόγον; ὡς τίνα δὲ εἰσήγαγεν; οὐχ ὡς θνητόν;  
 οὐχ ὡς μετὰ ὀλίγου σαρκιδίου ζήσοντα ἐπὶ γῆς  
 καὶ θεασόμενον τὴν διοίκησιν αὐτοῦ καὶ συμπομ-  
 πεύσοντα αὐτῷ καὶ συνεορτάζοντα πρὸς ὀλίγον;

<sup>1</sup> δέδοται s. But cf. explanatory note.

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<sup>1</sup> Very similar is the phrase ἐφ' ὅσον ἂν οἶόν τε ᾗ in § 79 above.

<sup>2</sup> As Job i. 21: "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away."

<sup>3</sup> That is, God.

within the sphere of the moral purpose He has given me, subjected them to my control, unhampered and unhindered. My body that is made of clay, how could He make that unhindered? Accordingly He has made it subject to the revolution of the universe—my property, my furniture, my house, my children, my wife. Why, then, shall I strive against God? Why shall I will what is not in the province of the will, to keep under all circumstances what has not been given me outright? But how should I keep them? In accordance with the terms upon which they have been given, and for as long as they can be given.<sup>1</sup> But He who gave also takes away.<sup>2</sup> Why, then, shall I resist? I do not say that I shall be a fool for trying to use force upon one who is stronger than I am, but before that I shall be wicked. For where did I get these things when I came into the world? My father gave them to me. And who gave them to him? Who has made the sun, who the fruits, who the seasons, who the union and fellowship of men one with another?

And so, when you have received everything, and your very self, from Another,<sup>3</sup> do you yet complain and blame the Giver, if He take something away from you? Who are you, and for what purpose have you come? Did not He bring you into the world? Did not He show you the light? Did not He give you fellow-workers? Did not He give you senses also and reason? And as what did He bring you into the world? Was it not as a mortal being? Was it not as one destined to live upon earth with a little portion of paltry flesh, and for a little while to be a spectator of His governance, and to join with Him in His pageant and holiday? Are



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 105 οὐ θέλεις οὖν, ἕως δέδοταί σοι, θεασάμενος τὴν  
πομπὴν καὶ τὴν πανήγυριν εἶτα, ὅταν σ' ἐξάγῃ,  
πορεύεσθαι προσκυνήσας καὶ εὐχαριστήσας ὑπὲρ  
ᾧ ἤκουσας καὶ εἶδες ; “ οὐ· ἀλλ' ἔτι ἐορτάζειν  
106 ἤθελον.” καὶ γὰρ οἱ μύσται μυεῖσθαι, τάχα καὶ  
οἱ ἐν Ὀλυμπίᾳ ἄλλους ἀθλητὰς βλέπειν· ἀλλὰ ἡ  
πανήγυρις πέρας ἔχει· ἔξελθε, ἀπαλλάγηθι ὡς  
εὐχάριστος, ὡς αἰδήμων· δὸς ἄλλοις τόπον· δεῖ  
γενέσθαι καὶ ἄλλους, καθάπερ καὶ σὺ ἐγένον, καὶ  
γενομένους ἔχειν χώραν καὶ οἰκήσεις, τὰ ἐπιτήδεια.  
ἂν δ' οἱ πρῶτοι μὴ ὑπεξάγωσιν, τί ὑπολείπεται ;  
τί ἄπληστος εἶ ; τί ἀνίκανος ; τί στενοχωρεῖς  
τὸν κόσμον ;
- 107 Ναί· ἀλλὰ τὰ τεκνία μετ' ἐμαντοῦ εἶναι θέλω καὶ  
τὴν γυναῖκα.—Σὰ γάρ ἐστιν ; οὐχὶ τοῦ δόντος ;  
οὐχὶ καὶ τοῦ σὲ πεποιηκότος ; εἶτα οὐκ ἐκστήσῃ  
τῶν ἀλλοτρίων ; οὐ παραχωρήσεις τῷ κρείσσονι ;
- 108 —Τί οὖν μ' εἰσῆγεν ἐπὶ τούτοις ;—Καὶ εἰ μὴ  
ποιεῖ σοι, ἔξελθε· οὐκ ἔχει χρεῖαν θεατοῦ μεμψι-  
μοίρου. τῶν συνεορταζόντων δεῖται, τῶν συγχο-  
ρευόντων, ἵν' ἐπικροτῶσι μᾶλλον, ἐπιθειάζωσιν,  
109 ὑμνῶσι δὲ τὴν πανήγυριν. τοὺς ἀταλαιπώρους<sup>1</sup>  
δὲ καὶ δειλοὺς οὐκ ἀηδῶς ὄψεται ἀπολελειμμένους  
τῆς πανηγύρεως· οὐδὲ γὰρ παρόντες ὡς ἐν ἐορτῇ  
διῆγον οὐδ' ἐξεπλήρουν τὴν χώραν τὴν πρέπουσαν,  
ἀλλ' ὠδυνῶντο, ἐμέμφοντο τὸν δαίμονα, τὴν  
τύχην, τοὺς συνόντας· ἀναίσθητοι καὶ ὧν ἔτυχον

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser : ταιλαιπώρους S.

<sup>1</sup> Or possibly, “He does not suit you,” as Capps suggests.

you not willing, then, for so long as has been given you, to be a spectator of His pageant and His festival, and then when He leads you forth, to go, after you have made obeisance and returned thanks for what you have heard and seen? "No," you say, "but I wanted to go on with the holiday." Yes, and so do the initiates in the mysteries want to go on with the initiation, and no doubt the spectators at Olympia want to see still other athletes; but the festival has come to an end; leave, depart as a grateful and reverent spectator departs; make room for others; yet others must be born, even as you were born, and once born they must have land, and houses, and provisions. But if the first-comers do not move along, what is left for those who follow after? Why are you insatiate? Why never satisfied? Why do you crowd the world?

Yes, but I want my little children and my wife to be with me.—Are they yours? Do they not belong to Him who gave them? To Him who made you? Will you not, therefore, give up what is not your own? Will you not yield to your superior?—Why, then, did He bring me into the world on these conditions?—And if they do<sup>1</sup> not suit you, leave; God has no need of a fault-finding spectator. He needs those who join in the holiday and the dance, that they may applaud rather, and glorify, and sing hymns of praise about the festival. But the peevish and the cowardly He will not be distressed to see left out of the festival; for when they were present they did not act as though they were on a holiday, nor did they fill the proper rôle; but they were distressed, found fault with the Deity, with fate, and with the company; insensible to what had been

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- καὶ τῶν ἐαυτῶν δυνάμεων, ἃς εἰλήφασι πρὸς τὰ ἐναιτία, μεγαλοψυχίας, γενναιότητος, ἀνδρείας,
- 110 αὐτῆς τῆς νῦν ζητουμένης ἐλευθερίας.—Ἐπὶ τί οὖν εἴληφα ταῦτα ;—Χρησόμενος.—Μέχρι τίνος ; —Μέχρις ἂν ὁ χρήσας θέλῃ.—Ἄν οὖν ἀναγκαῖα μοι ᾖ ;—Μὴ πρόσπασχε αὐτοῖς καὶ οὐκ ἔσται. σὺ αὐτὰ αὐτῷ μὴ εἶπης ἀναγκαῖα καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν.
- 111 Ταύτην τὴν μελέτην ἔωθεν εἰς ἐσπέραν μελετᾶν ἔδει. ἀπὸ τῶν μικροτάτων, ἀπὸ τῶν εὐεπηρεαστοτάτων ἀρξάμενος, ἀπὸ χύτρας, ἀπὸ ποτηρίου, εἶθ' οὕτως ἐπὶ χιτωνάριον πρόσελθε, ἐπὶ κυνάριον, ἐπὶ ἱππάριον, ἐπὶ ἀγρίδιον· ἔνθεν ἐπὶ σαυτόν, τὸ σῶμα, τὰ μέρη τοῦ σώματος, τὰ τέκνα,
- 112 τὴν γυναῖκα, τοὺς ἀδελφούς. πανταχοῦ περιβλέψας ἀπόρριψον ἀπὸ σεαυτοῦ· κάθηρον τὰ δόγματα, μὴ τι προσήρτηταί σοι τῶν οὐ σῶν, μὴ τι συμπέφυκεν, μὴ τι ὀδυνήσῃ σ' ἀποσπώμενον.
- 113 καὶ λέγε γυμναζόμενος καθ' ἡμέραν, ὥς ἐκεῖ, μὴ ὅτι φιλοσοφεῖς (ἔστω φορτικὸν τὸ ὄνομα), ἀλλ' ὅτι καρπιστὴν δίδως· τοῦτο γάρ ἐστιν ἡ ταῖς
- 114 ἀληθείαις ἐλευθερία. ταύτην ἡλευθερώθη Διογένης παρ' Ἀντισθένης καὶ οὐκέτι ἔφη καταδου-
- 115 λωθῆναι δύνασθαι ὑπ' οὐδενός. διὰ τοῦτο πῶς εἴλω, πῶς τοῖς πειραταῖς ἐχρήτο· μὴ τι κύριον

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<sup>1</sup> It is tempting to conjecture *καρπιστείαν*, "making provision for your emancipation," since every man must win his own freedom for himself. But Epictetus probably is thinking here of a man being won to freedom by following some great philosopher, who is his emancipator, as in the famous illustration in the next sentence. It is interesting to observe how, with all its insistence upon individual responsibility, even Stoicism at this time was becoming a religion of books, examples, and saviours.

vouchsafed them, and to their own powers which they had received for the very opposite use—high-mindedness, nobility of character, courage, and the very freedom for which we are now seeking.—For what purpose, then, did I receive these gifts?—To use them.—How long?—For as long as He who lent them to you wills.—But what if they are necessary to me?—Do not set your heart upon them, and they will not be necessary to you. Do not say to yourself that they are necessary, and they will not be.

This is what you ought to practise from morning till evening. Begin with the most trifling things, the ones most exposed to injury, like a pot, or a cup, and then advance to a tunic, a paltry dog, a mere horse, a bit of land; thence to yourself, your body, and its members, your children, wife, brothers. Look about on every side and cast these things away from you. Purify your judgements, for fear lest something of what is not your own may be fastened to them, or grown together with them, and may give you pain when it is torn loose. And every day while you are training yourself, as you do in the gymnasium, do not say that you are “pursuing philosophy” (indeed an arrogant phrase!), but that you are a slave presenting your emancipator in court;<sup>1</sup> for this is the true freedom. This is the way in which Diogenes was set free by Antisthenes,<sup>2</sup> and afterwards said that he could never be enslaved again by any man. How, in consequence, did he behave when he was captured!<sup>3</sup> How he treated the pirates!

<sup>2</sup> See III. 24, 67.

<sup>3</sup> A very famous incident in the life of the philosopher. See especially, Musonius frag. 9 (p. 49, 8 ff., Hense): Gellius, II, 18, 9-10; Lucian, *Vit. Auct.* 7; Diogenes Laertius, 6, 30; 36; 74; Ps.-Crates, *Epist.* 34; and above, III. 24, 66.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICETUS

- εἶπέν τινα αὐτῶν ; καὶ οὐ λέγω τὸ ὄνομα· οὐ γὰρ  
 τὴν φωνὴν φοβοῦμαι, ἀλλὰ τὸ πάθος, ἀφ' οὗ ἡ  
 116 φωνὴ ἐκπέμπεται. πῶς ἐπιτιμᾷ αὐτοῖς, ὅτι  
 κακῶς ἔτρεφον τοὺς ἐαλωκότας· πῶς ἐπράθη·  
 μή τι κύριον ἐζήτει ; ἀλλὰ δοῦλον. πῶς δὲ  
 πραθεὶς ἀνεστρέφετο πρὸς τὸν δεσπότην· εὐθὺς  
 διελέγετο πρὸς αὐτόν, ὅτι οὐχ οὕτως ἐστολίσθαι  
 δεῖ αὐτόν, οὐχ οὕτως κεκάρθαι, περὶ τῶν υἱῶν,  
 117 πῶς δεῖ αὐτοὺς διάγειν. καὶ τί θαυμαστόν ; εἰ  
 γὰρ παιδοτρίβην ἐώνητο, ἐν τοῖς παλαιστρικοῖς  
 ὑπηρέτῃ ἂν αὐτῷ ἐχρήτο ἢ κυρίῳ ; εἰ δ' ἰατρόν,  
 ὡσαύτως, εἰ δ' ἀρχιτέκτονα. καὶ οὕτως ἐφ'  
 ἐκάστης ὕλης τὸν ἔμπειρον τοῦ ἀπείρου κρατεῖν  
 118 πᾶσα ἀνάγκη. ὅστις οὖν καθόλου τὴν περὶ βίον  
 ἐπιστήμην κέκτηται, τί ἄλλο ἢ τοῦτον εἶναι δεῖ  
 τὸν δεσπότην ; τίς γάρ ἐστιν ἐν νηὶ κύριος ;—Ὁ  
 κυβερνήτης.—Διὰ τί ; ὅτι ὁ ἀπειθῶν αὐτῷ ζη-  
 119 μιούται.—'Αλλὰ δεῖραί με δύναται.—Μή τι οὖν  
 ἀζημίως ;—Οὕτως μὲν καγὼ ἔκρινον.—'Αλλ' ὅτι  
 οὐκ ἀζημίως, διὰ τοῦτο οὐκ ἔξεστιν· οὐδενὶ δ'  
 120 ἀζημιόν ἐστι τὸ ποιεῖν τὰ ἄδिका.—Καὶ τίς ἢ  
 ζημία τῷ δῆσαντι τὸν αὐτοῦ δοῦλον, ἣν δοκῇ ;<sup>1</sup>  
 —Τὸ δῆσαι· τοῦτο ὁ καὶ σὺ ὁμολογήσεις, ἂν  
 θέλῃς σώζειν, ὅτι ἄνθρωπος οὐκ ἔστι θηρίον, ἀλλ'  
 121 ἡμέρον ζῶον. ἐπεὶ πότ' ἄμπελος πράσσει κακῶς ;  
 ὅταν παρὰ τὴν ἑαυτῆς φύσιν πράσῃ. πότ'

<sup>1</sup> Matheson : ἣν δοκεῖς S.

<sup>1</sup> The phrase is from Plato, *Sophistes*, 222 B. See also IV, 5, 10.

He called none of them master, did he? And I am not referring to the name! it is not the word that I fear, but the emotion, which produces the word. How he censures them because they gave bad food to their captives! How he behaved when he was sold! Did he look for a master? No, but for a slave. And how he behaved toward his master after he had been sold! He began immediately to argue with him, telling him that he ought not to dress that way, or have his hair cut that way, and about his sons, how they ought to live. And what is there strange about that? Why, if he had bought a gymnastic trainer, would he have employed him as a servant, or as a master, in the exercises of the palaestra? And if he had bought a physician, or a master-builder, the same would have been true. And thus in every subject-matter, it is quite unavoidable that the man of skill should be superior to the man without skill. In general, therefore, whoever possesses the science of how to live, how can he help but be the master? For who is master in a ship?—The helmsman.—Why? Because the man who disobeys him is punished.—But my master is able to give me a sound flogging.—He cannot do so with impunity, can he?—So I thought.—But because he cannot do so with impunity, therefore he has no authority to do it; no man can do wrong with impunity.—And what is the punishment that befalls the man who has put his own slave in chains, when he felt like it?—The putting of him in chains; this is something which you will admit yourself, if you wish to maintain the proposition that man is not a wild beast but a tame animal.<sup>1</sup> For when is a vine faring badly? When it is acting contrary to its own

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 122 ἀλεκτρυών; ὡσαύτως. οὐκοῦν καὶ ἄνθρωπος.  
τίς οὖν αὐτοῦ ἡ φύσις; δάκνειν καὶ λακτίζειν καὶ  
εἰς φυλακὴν βάλλειν καὶ ἀποκεφαλίζειν; οὐ·  
ἀλλ' εὖ ποιεῖν, συνεργεῖν, ἐπεύχεσθαι. τότε οὖν  
κακῶς πράσσει, ἂν τε θέλῃς ἂν τε μή, ὅταν  
ἠγνωμονῇ.
- 123 Ὡστε Σωκράτης οὐκ ἔπραξε κακῶς;—Οὐ,  
ἀλλ' οἱ δικασταὶ καὶ οἱ κατήγοροι.—Οὐδ' ἐν  
Ῥώμῃ Ἐλουίδιος;—Οὐ, ἀλλ' ὁ ἀποκτείνας
- 124 αὐτόν.—Πῶς λέγεις;—Ὡς καὶ σὺ ἀλεκτρυόνα  
οὐ λέγεις κακῶς πράξαι τὸν νικήσαντα καὶ  
κατακοπέντα, ἀλλὰ τὸν ἀπλήγα ἡττηθέντα·  
οὐδὲ κύνα εὐδαιμονίζεις τὸν μήτε διώκοντα μήτε  
πονοῦντα, ἀλλ' ὅταν ἰδρῶντα ἴδῃς, ὅταν ὀδυνώ-
- 125 μενον, ὅταν ῥηγνύμενον ὑπὸ τοῦ δρόμου. τί  
παραδοξολογοῦμεν, εἰ λέγομεν παντὸς κακὸν  
εἶναι τὸ παρὰ τὴν ἐκείνου φύσιν; τοῦτο παρά-  
δοξόν ἐστιν; σὺ γὰρ αὐτὸ ἐπὶ πάντων τῶν  
ἄλλων οὐ λέγεις; διὰ τί ἐπὶ μόνου οὖν τοῦ
- 126 ἀνθρώπου ἄλλως φέρῃ; ἀλλ' ὅτι λέγομεν  
ἡμερον εἶναι τοῦ ἀνθρώπου τὴν φύσιν καὶ  
φιλάλληλον καὶ πιστήν, τοῦτο παράδοξον οὐκ
- 127 ἐστιν;—Οὐδὲ τοῦτο.—Πῶς οὖν ἔτι οὐ δερόμενος  
βλάπτεται ἢ δεσμευόμενος ἢ ἀποκεφαλιζόμενος;  
οὐχὶ οὕτως μὲν· εἰ<sup>1</sup> γενναίως πάσχει, καὶ  
προσκερδαίνων καὶ προσωφελούμενος ἀπέρχεται,  
ἐκεῖνος δὲ ὁ<sup>2</sup> βλαπτόμενός ἐστιν ὁ τὰ οἰκτρότατα  
πάσχων καὶ αἰσχιστα, ὁ ἀντὶ ἀνθρώπου λύκος  
γινόμενος ἢ ἔχῃς ἢ σφήξ;

<sup>1</sup> εἰ added by Schenkl (after Upton).    <sup>2</sup> δ added by Blass.

<sup>1</sup> A prominent Stoic senator at Rome. See I. 2, 19 ff.



nature. When is a cock faring badly? Under the same conditions. So also man. What, then, is his nature? To bite, and kick, and throw into prison, and behead? No, but to do good, to work together, and to pray for the success of others. Therefore, he is faring badly, whether you will or no, when he acts unfeelingly.

You imply, then, that Socrates did not fare badly?—He did not; it was his judges and accusers who fared badly.—Nor Helvidius<sup>1</sup> at Rome?—No, but the man who put him to death.—How so?—Just as you too do not say that the cock which has won a victory, even though he be severely cut up, has fared badly, but rather the one who has been beaten without suffering a blow. Nor do you call a dog happy when he is neither in pursuit nor toiling hard, but when you see him sweating, suffering, bursting from the chase. What is there paradoxical in the statement, if we say that everything's evil is what is contrary to its own nature? Is that paradoxical? Do you not say it yourself in the case of everything else? Why, then, do you take a different course in the case of man alone? But our statement that the nature of man is gentle, and affectionate, and faithful, is this not paradoxical?—No, that is not paradoxical, either.—How, then, does it come about that he suffers no harm, even though he is soundly flogged, or imprisoned, or beheaded? Is it not thus—if he bears it all in a noble spirit, and comes off with increased profit and advantage, while the other man is the one who suffers harm, the man who is subjected to the most pitiful and disgraceful experience, who becomes a wolf, or a snake, or a wasp, instead of a human being?

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- 128 Ἄγε οὖν ἐπέλθωμεν τὰ ὡμολογημένα. ὁ ἀκώλυτος ἄνθρωπος ἐλεύθερος, ὃ πρόχειρα τὰ πράγματα ὡς βούλεται. ὃν δ' ἔστιν ἢ κωλύσαι ἢ ἀναγκάσαι ἢ ἐμποδίσαι ἢ ἄκοντα εἷς τι ἐμβαλεῖν,
- 129 δοῦλός ἐστιν. τίς δ' ἀκώλυτος; ὁ μηδενὸς τῶν ἀλλοτρίων ἐφιεμένος. τίνα δ' ἀλλότρια; ἃ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐφ' ἡμῖν οὔτ' ἔχειν οὔτε μὴ ἔχειν οὔτε
- 130 ποιά ἔχειν ἢ πῶς ἔχοντα. οὐκοῦν τὸ σῶμα ἀλλότριον, τὰ μέρη αὐτοῦ ἀλλότρια, ἡ κτήσις ἀλλοτρία. ἂν οὖν τινὲ τούτων ὡς ἰδίῳ προσπαθῇς, δώσεις δίκας ἃς ἄξιον τὸν τῶν ἀλλοτρίων
- 131 ἐφιεμένον. αὕτη ἡ ὁδὸς ἐπ' ἐλευθερίαν ἄγει, αὕτη μόνη ἀπαλλαγὴ δουλείας, τὸ δυνηθῆναί ποτ' εἰπεῖν ἐξ ὅλης ψυχῆς τὸ
- ἄγου δέ μ', ὦ Ζεῦ, καὶ σύ γ' ἡ Πεπρωμένη, ὅποι ποθ' ὑμῖν εἰμὶ διατεταγμένος.
- 132 Ἀλλὰ τί λέγεις, φιλόσοφε; καλεῖ σε ὁ τύραννος ἐροῦντά τι ὧν οὐ πρόκειται σοι. λέγεις ἢ οὐ λέγεις; εἰπέ μοι.—Ἄφες σκέψωμαι.—Νῦν σκέψῃ; ὅτε δ' ἐν τῇ σχολῇ ἦς, τί ἐσκέπτου; οὐκ ἐμελέτας, τίνα ἐστὶ τὰ ἀγαθὰ καὶ τὰ κακὰ
- 133 καὶ τίνα οὐδέτερα;—Ἐσκεπτόμην.—Τίνα οὖν ἤρεσκεν ὑμῖν;—Τὰ δίκαια καὶ καλὰ ἀγαθὰ εἶναι, τὰ ἄδिका καὶ αἰσχροὶ κακά.—Μή τι τὸ ζῆν ἀγαθόν;—Οὔ.—Μή τι τὸ ἀποθανεῖν κακόν;

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<sup>1</sup> From the *Hymn* of Cleanthes. See on II. 23, 42.

Come, now, and let us review the points on which we have reached agreement. The unhampered man, who finds things ready to hand as he wants them, is free. But the man who can be hampered, or subjected to compulsion, or hindered, or thrown into something against his will, is a slave. And who is unhampered? The man who fixes his aim on nothing that is not his own. And what are the things which are not our own? All that are not under our control, either to have, or not to have, or to have of a certain quality, or under certain conditions. Therefore, the body is not our own, its members are not our own, property is not our own. If, then, you conceive a strong passion for some one of these things, as though it were your immediate possession, you will be punished as he should be who fixes his aim upon what is not his own. This is the road which leads to freedom, this is the only surcease of slavery, to be able to say at any time with your whole heart,

Lead thou me on, O Zeus, and Destiny,  
To that goal long ago to me assigned.<sup>1</sup>

But what say you, philosopher? The tyrant calls upon you to say something that is unworthy of you. Do you say it, or not say it? Tell me.—Let me think about it.—Think about it *now*? But what were you thinking about when you were attending lectures? Did you not study the questions, what things are good, and what bad, and what are neither good nor bad?—I did.—What conclusions were approved, then, by you and your fellows?—That things righteous and excellent were good, things unrighteous and disgraceful bad.—Life is not a good thing, is it?—No.—Nor death a bad thing?

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Οὔ.—Μή τι φυλακή;—Οὔ.—Λόγος δ' ἀγεννῆς  
 καὶ ἄπιστος καὶ φίλου προδοσία καὶ κολακεία  
 134 τυράννου τί ὑμῖν ἐφαίνετο;—Κακά.—Τί οὖν;  
 οὐχὶ σκέπτη, οὐχὶ δ' ἔσκεψαι καὶ βεβούλευσαι.  
 ποία γὰρ σκέψις, εἰ καθήκει μοι δυναμένῳ τὰ  
 μέγιστα ἀγαθὰ ἐμαυτῷ περιποιῆσαι, τὰ μέγιστα  
 κακὰ μὴ περιποιῆσαι; καλὴ σκέψις καὶ ἀναγ-  
 καία, πολλῆς βουλῆς δεομένη. τί ἡμῖν ἐμπαί-  
 ζεις, ἄνθρωπε; οὐδέποτε τοιαύτη σκέψις γίνεται.  
 135 οὐδ' εἰ ταῖς ἀληθείαις κακὰ μὲν ἐφαντάζου τὰ  
 αἰσχροτάτα, τὰ δ' ἄλλα οὐδέτερα, ἦλθες ἂν ἐπὶ  
 ταύτην τὴν ἐπίστασιν, οὐδ' ἐγγύς· ἀλλ' αὐτόθεν  
 136 διακρίνειν εἶχες, ὥσπερ ὄψει, τῇ διανοίᾳ. πότε  
 γὰρ σκέπτη, εἰ τὰ μέλανα λευκά ἐστιν, εἰ τὰ  
 βαρέα κοῦφα; οὐχὶ δὲ τοῖς ἐναργῶς φαινομένοις  
 ἐπακολουθεῖς; πῶς οὖν νῦν σκέπτεσθαι λέγεις,  
 137 εἰ<sup>1</sup> τὰ οὐδέτερα τῶν κακῶν φευκτότερα; ἀλλ'  
 οὐκ ἔχεις τὰ δόγματα ταῦτα, ἀλλὰ φαίνεται σοι  
 οὔτε ταῦτα οὐδέτερα, ἀλλὰ τὰ μέγιστα κακά,  
 138 οὔτ' ἐκεῖνα κακά,<sup>2</sup> ἀλλ' οὐδὲν πρὸς ἡμᾶς. οὕτως  
 γὰρ ἐξ ἀρχῆς εἴθισας σεαυτόν· “ποῦ εἰμί; ἐν  
 σχολῇ. καὶ ἀκούουσί μου τίνες; λέγω μετὰ τῶν  
 φιλοσόφων. ἀλλ' ἐξελήλυθα τῆς σχολῆς· ἄρον

<sup>1</sup> εἰ added by Wolf.

<sup>2</sup> κακά added by Upton.

— No. — Nor imprisonment? — No. — But ignoble speech and faithless, and betrayal of a friend, and flattery of a tyrant, what did you and your fellows think of these?—We thought them evil.—What then? You are not thinking about the question now, nor have you thought about it and considered it hitherto. Why, what kind of inquiry is it, to raise the question whether it is fitting, when it is in my power to get for myself the greatest goods, not to get for myself the greatest evils! A fine and necessary question, forsooth, that requires a great deal of deliberation. Why are you making fun of us, man? Such an inquiry is never made. Besides, if you had honestly imagined that disgraceful things were bad, and all else indifferent, you would never have approached this inquiry, no, nor anything near it; but you would have been able to settle the question on the spot, by intuition, just as in a case involving sight. Why, when do you stop to “think about it,” if the question is, Are black things white, or, Are heavy things light? Do you not follow the clear evidence of your senses? How comes it, then, that now you say you are thinking it over, whether things indifferent are more to be avoided than things bad? But you do not have these judgements; on the contrary, imprisonment and death do not appear to you to be indifferent, but rather the greatest evils, and dishonourable words and deeds are not bad in your sight, but rather things that do not concern us. For that is the habit which you developed from the start. “Where am I?” you say. “In school. And who are listening to me? I am talking in the company of philosophers. But now I have left the

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- ἐκεῖνα τὰ τῶν σχολαστικῶν καὶ τῶν μωρῶν.”  
οὕτως καταμαρτυρεῖται φίλος ὑπὸ φιλοσόφου,  
139 οὕτως παρασιτεῖ φιλόσοφος, οὕτως ἐπ' ἀργυρίῳ  
ἐκμισθοῖ ἑαυτόν, οὕτως ἐν συγκλήτῳ τις οὐ  
λέγει τὰ φαινόμενα· ἔνδοθεν τὸ δόγμα αὐτοῦ  
140 βοᾷ, οὐ<sup>1</sup> ψυχρὸν καὶ ταλαίπωρον ὑπολη-  
ψείδιον ἐκ λόγων εἰκαίων<sup>2</sup> ὥς ἐκ τριχὸς ἡρτη-  
μένον, ἀλλὰ ἰσχυρὸν καὶ χρηστικὸν καὶ ὑπὸ  
τοῦ διὰ τῶν ἔργων γεγυμνάσθαι μεμνημένον.  
141 παραφύλαξον σαυτόν, πῶς ἀκούεις—οὐ λέγω,  
ὅτι τὸ παιδίον σου ἀπέθανεν· πόθεν σοι; ἀλλ'  
ὅτι σου τὸ ἔλαιον ἐξεχέθη, ὁ οἶνος ἐξεπόθη,  
142 ἵνα τις ἐπιστὰς διατεινομένῳ σοι τοῦτ' αὐτὸ  
μόνον εἶπῃ “φιλόσοφε, ἄλλα λέγεις ἐν τῇ  
σχολῇ· τί ἡμᾶς ἐξαπατᾷς; τί σκώληξ ὦν  
143 λέγεις, ὅτι ἄνθρωπος εἶ;” ἤθελον ἐπιστηναί  
τινι αὐτῶν συνουσιάζοντι, ἵνα ἴδω, πῶς τείνεται  
καὶ ποίας φωνὰς ἀφήσιν, εἰ μέμνηται τοῦ  
ὀνόματος αὐτοῦ, τῶν λόγων οὓς ἀκούει ἢ λέγει  
ἢ ἀναγινώσκει.
- 144 Καὶ τί ταῦτα πρὸς ἐλευθερίαν;—Οὐκ ἄλλα  
μὲν οὖν ἢ ταῦτ', ἂν τε θέλητε ὑμεῖς οἱ πλούσιοι  
145 ἂν τε μὴ.—Καὶ τί<sup>3</sup> σοι μαρτυρεῖ ταῦτα;—Τί  
γὰρ ἄλλο ἢ αὐτοὶ ὑμεῖς οἱ τὸν κύριον τὸν μέγαν  
ἔχοντες καὶ πρὸς τὸ ἐκείνου νεῦμα καὶ κίνημα  
ζῶντες, καὶ τινὰ ὑμῶν ἴδη μόνον συνεστραμμένῳ  
βλέμματι, ἀποψυχόμενοι, τὰς γραίας θεραπεύον-

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser: σύ S.

<sup>2</sup> Reiske: εἰ καὶ ὦ S.

<sup>3</sup> Schenkl: τίς S.

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<sup>1</sup> Possibly an allusion to Egnatius Celer, who accused his friend, Barea Soranus, in the reign of Nero, A.D. 66, when

school; away with those sayings of pedants and fools!" That is how a friend is condemned on the testimony of a philosopher,<sup>1</sup> that is how a philosopher turns parasite, that is how he hires himself out for money, that is how at a meeting of the senate a man does not say what he thinks, while within his breast his judgement shouts loudly, no cold and miserable remnant suspended from idle argumentations as by a hair, but a strong and serviceable judgement, and familiar with its business by having been trained in action. Watch yourself, and see how you take the word—I do not say the word that your child is dead; how could you possibly bear that?—but the word that your oil is spilled, or your wine drunk up. Well might someone stand over you, when you are in this excited condition, and say simply, "Philosopher, you talk differently in the school; why are you deceiving us? Why, when you are a worm, do you claim that you are a man?" I should like to stand over one of these philosophers when he is engaged in sexual intercourse, so as to see how he exerts himself, what manner of words he utters, whether he remembers his own name, or the arguments that he hears, or repeats, or reads!

And what has all this to do with freedom?—Nay, nothing but all this has to do with freedom, whether you rich people so wish or not.—And what is your witness to this?—Why, what else but you yourselves who have this mighty master,<sup>2</sup> and live at his nod and gesture, who faint away if he but look at one of you with a scowl on his face, paying court to the

Epictetus was a boy. See Tacitus, *Annals*, 16, 32, and Juvenal, 3, 116f.

<sup>2</sup> *i.e.*, the Emperor.



146 *τες καὶ τοὺς γέροντας καὶ λέγοντες ὅτι "οὐ  
 δύναμαι τοῦτο ποιῆσαι· οὐκ ἔξεστί μοι"; διὰ  
 τί οὐκ ἔξεστίν σοι; οὐκ ἄρτι ἐμάχου μοι λέγων  
 ἐλεύθερος εἶναι; "ἀλλὰ Ἀπρυλλὰ με κεκώλυ-  
 κεν."* λέγε οὖν τὰς ἀληθείας, δοῦλε, καὶ μὴ  
 δραπετεύε σου τοὺς κυρίους μηδ' ἀπαρνοῦ μηδὲ  
 147 *τόλμα καρπιστὴν διδόναι τοσοῦτους ἔχων τῆς  
 δουλείας ἐλέγχους. καίτοι τὸν μὲν ὑπ' ἔρωτος  
 ἀναγκαζόμενόν τι ποιεῖν παρὰ τὸ φαινόμενον  
 καὶ ἅμα μὲν ὀρώντα τὸ ἄμεινον, ἅμα δ' οὐκ  
 ἐξευτονοῦντα ἀκολουθῆσαι αὐτῷ ἔτι μᾶλλον ἄν  
 τις συγγνώμης ἄξιον ὑπολάβοι, ἅθ' ὑπό τινος  
 βιαίου καὶ τρόπον τινὰ θείου κατεσχημένον.  
 148 *σοῦ δὲ τίς ἀνάσχοιτο τῶν γραῶν ἐρώντος καὶ  
 τῶν γερόντων καὶ ἐκείνας ἀπομύσσοντος καὶ  
 ἀποπλύνοντος καὶ δωροδοκοῦντος καὶ ἅμα μὲν  
 νοσοῦσας θεραπεύοντος ὡς δούλου, ἅμα δ' ἀπο-  
 θανεῖν εὐχομένου καὶ τοὺς ἰατροὺς διακρίνοντος,  
 εἰ ἤδη θανασίμως ἔχουσιν; ἢ πάλιν ὅταν ὑπὲρ  
 τῶν μεγάλων τούτων καὶ σεμνῶν ἀρχῶν καὶ  
 τιμῶν τὰς χεῖρας τῶν ἀλλοτρίων δούλων κατα-  
 149 *φιλῆς, ἵνα μηδ' ἐλευθέρων δούλος ᾖ; εἰτά μοι  
 σεμνὸς περιπατεῖς στρατηγῶν, ὑπατεύων. οὐκ  
 οἶδα, πῶς ἐστρατήγησας, πόθεν τὴν ὑπατείαν  
 150 ἔλαβες, τίς σοι αὐτὴν ἔδωκεν; ἐγὼ μὲν οὐδὲ  
 ζῆν ἠθελον, εἰ διὰ Φηλικίωνα ἔδει ζῆσαι τῆς  
 ὀφρύος αὐτοῦ καὶ τοῦ δουλικοῦ φρυγάματος  
 ἀνασχόμενον· οἶδα γάρ, τί ἐστὶ δούλος εὐτυχῶν  
 ὡς δοκεῖ καὶ τετυφωμένος.***

<sup>1</sup> Obviously some rich old woman.

<sup>2</sup> See § 113 and note.

<sup>3</sup> A freedman of Nero's. See I. 17, 19, 20 and 21.

old women and the old men, and saying, "I cannot do this; I am not allowed"? Why are you not allowed? Were you not just now arguing with me and claiming that you were free? "But Aprulla<sup>1</sup> has prevented me." Tell the truth, then, slave, and do not run away from your masters, nor make denial, nor dare to present your emancipator,<sup>2</sup> when you have so many proofs to convict you of slavery. And, indeed, when a man out of passionate love is under the compulsion to do something contrary to his opinion, all the time seeing the better thing but lacking the strength to follow, one might be all the more inclined to regard him as deserving pity, because he is in the grip of something violent, and, in a manner of speaking, divine. But who could endure you with your passion for old women and old men, wiping the noses and washing the faces of old women, corrupting them with presents, and all the while you are nursing them, like a slave, in some illness, praying for them to die, and asking the physicians if they are finally on their deathbed? Or again, when for the sake of these mighty and dignified offices and honours you kiss the hands of other men's slaves, so as to be the slave of men who are not even free? And then, God save the mark, you walk around in your dignity as a praetor or a consul! Don't I know how you came to be praetor, how you got your consulship, who gave it to you? As for me, I should not care even to live, if I had to owe my life to Felicio,<sup>3</sup> putting up with his insolence and slavish arrogance; for I know what a slave is, who is prosperous as the world goes, and puffed up with pride.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> A pretty clear reference to his experiences with his master, Epaphroditus, who had been a slave of Nero.

- 151 Σὺ οὖν, φησίν, ἐλεύθερος εἶ;—Θέλω νῆ τοὺς  
θεοὺς καὶ εὐχομαι, ἀλλ' οὐπω δύναμαι ἀντι-  
βλέψαι τοῖς κυρίοις, ἔτι τιμῶ τὸ σωματίον,  
ὀλόκληρον αὐτὸ ἔχειν ἀντὶ πολλοῦ ποιοῦμαι  
152 καίτοι μὴδ' ὀλόκληρον ἔχων. ἀλλὰ δύναμαί σοι  
δεῖξαι ἐλεύθερον, ἵνα μηκέτι ζητῇς τὸ παρά-  
δειγμα. Διογένης ἦν ἐλεύθερος. πόθεν τοῦτο;  
οὐχ ὅτι ἐξ ἐλευθέρων ἦν, οὐ γὰρ ἦν, ἀλλ' ὅτι  
αὐτὸς ἦν, ὅτι ἀποβεβλήκει πάσας τὰς τῆς  
δουλείας λαβὰς<sup>1</sup> οὐδ' ἦν, ὅπως τις προσέλθῃ  
πρὸς αὐτὸν οὐδ' ὅθεν λάβηται πρὸς τὸ κατα-  
153 δουλώσασθαι. πάντα εὐλυτα εἶχεν, πάντα  
μόνον προσηρτημένα. εἰ τῆς κτήσεως ἐπελάβου,  
αὐτὴν ἀφῆκεν ἂν σοι μᾶλλον ἢ ἠκολούθησεν  
δι' αὐτήν· εἰ τοῦ σκέλους, τὸ σκέλος· εἰ ὅλου  
τοῦ σωματίου, ὅλον τὸ σωματίον· οἰκείους,  
φίλους, πατρίδα ὡσαύτως. ἥδει, πόθεν ἔχει καὶ  
154 παρὰ τίνος καὶ ἐπὶ τίσιν λαβών. τοὺς μὲν γ'  
ἀληθινοὺς προγόνους, τοὺς θεοὺς, καὶ τὴν τῷ  
ὄντι πατρίδα οὐδεπώποτ' ἂν ἐγκατέλιπεν, οὐδὲ  
παρεχώρησεν ἄλλῳ μᾶλλον πείθεσθαι αὐτοῖς  
καὶ ὑπακούειν, οὐδ' ὑπεραπέθανεν ἂν εὐκολώτερον  
155 τῆς πατρίδος ἄλλος. οὐ γὰρ ἐζήτει ποτὲ δόξαι<sup>2</sup>  
τι ποιεῖν ὑπὲρ τῶν ὅλων, ἀλλ' ἐμέμνητο, ὅτι  
πᾶν τὸ γενόμενον ἐκεῖθεν ἐστίν καὶ ὑπὲρ<sup>3</sup>  
ἐκείνης πρᾶττεται καὶ ὑπὸ τοῦ διοικούντος

<sup>1</sup> Sb: βλαβάς S.<sup>2</sup> Meibom: δόξει S.<sup>3</sup> Schweighäuser: ὑπ' S.<sup>1</sup> Alluding to his lameness, as the Scholiast observes. See Vol. I, Introd., pp. ix-x.<sup>2</sup> That is, not grown to him so as to cause pain when torn loose, as in § 112.

## BOOK IV. 1. 151-155

Are *you*, then, free, says someone?—By the gods I wish to be, and pray to be, but I am not yet able to look into the face of my masters, I still honour my paltry body, I take great pains to keep it sound, although it is not sound in any case.<sup>1</sup> But I can show you a free man, so that you will never again have to look for an example. Diogenes was free. How did that come? It was not because he was born of free parents, for he was not, but because he himself was free, because he had cast off all the handles of slavery, and there was no way in which a person could get close and lay hold of him to enslave him. Everything he had was easily loosed, everything was merely tied on.<sup>2</sup> If you had laid hold of his property, he would have let it go rather than followed you for its sake; if you had laid hold of his leg, he would have let his leg go; if of his whole paltry body, his whole paltry body; and so also his kindred, friends, and country. He knew the source from which he had received them, and from whom, and upon what conditions. His true ancestors, indeed, the gods, and his real Country<sup>3</sup> he would never have abandoned, nor would he have suffered another to yield them more obedience and submission, nor could any other man have died more cheerfully for his Country. For it was never his wont to seek to *appear* to do anything in behalf of the Universe,<sup>4</sup> but he bore in mind that everything which has come into being has its source there, and is done on behalf of that Country, and is entrusted

<sup>3</sup> Clearly, from what follows, the Universe.

<sup>4</sup> Compare Marcus Aurelius, 7, 73: "When thou hast done well to another . . . why go on like the foolish to look for . . . the credit of having done well?" (Haines).

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αὐτὴν παρεγγυᾶται. τοιγαροῦν ὄρα, τί λέγει  
 156 αὐτὸς καὶ γράφει· “διὰ τοῦτό σοι,” φησὶν,  
 “ἔξεστιν, ὦ Διόγενες, καὶ τῷ Περσῶν βασιλεῖ  
 καὶ Ἀρχιδάμῳ τῷ Λακεδαιμονίων ὡς βούλει  
 157 διαλέγεσθαι.” ἄρ’ ἔστιν ὅτι ἐξ ἐλευθέρων ἦν;  
 πάντες γὰρ Ἀθηναῖοι καὶ πάντες Λακεδαιμόνιοι  
 καὶ Κορίνθιοι διὰ τὸ ἐκ δούλων εἶναι οὐκ  
 ἠδύναντο αὐτοῖς ὡς ἠβούλοντο διαλέγεσθαι,  
 158 ἀλλ’ ἐδεδοίκεσαν καὶ ἐθεράπευον; διὰ τί οὖν,  
 φησὶν, ἔξεστιν; “ὅτι τὸ σωματίον ἐμὸν οὐχ  
 ἠγοῦμαι, ὅτι οὐδενὸς δέομαι, ὅτι ὁ νόμος μοι  
 πάντα ἐστὶ καὶ ἄλλο οὐδέν.” ταῦτα ἦν τὰ  
 ἐλεύθερον ἐκείνον ἐάσαντα.  
 159 Καὶ ἵνα μὴ δόξης, ὅτι παράδειγμα δείκνυμι  
 ἀνδρὸς ἀπεριστάτου μήτε γυναῖκα ἔχοντος μήτε  
 τέκνα μήτε πατρίδα ἢ φίλους ἢ συγγενεῖς, ὑφ’  
 ὧν κάμπτεσθαι καὶ περισπᾶσθαι ἠδύνατο, λάβε  
 Σωκράτη καὶ θέασαι γυναῖκα καὶ παιδία ἔχοντα,  
 ἀλλὰ ὡς ἀλλότρια,<sup>1</sup> πατρίδα, ἐφ’ ὅσον ἔδει καὶ  
 ὡς ἔδει, φίλους, συγγενεῖς, πάντα ταῦτα ὑποτε-  
 ταχότα τῷ νόμῳ καὶ τῇ πρὸς ἐκείνον εὐπειθείᾳ.  
 160 διὰ τοῦτο, στρατεύεσθαι μὲν ὁπότ’ ἔδει, πρῶτος  
 ἀπῆει καὶ ἐκινδύνευεν ἀφειδέστατα· ἐπὶ Λέοντα  
 δ’ ὑπὸ τῶν τυράννων πεμφθεὶς, ὅτι αἰσχρὸν  
 ἠγεῖτο, οὐδ’ ἐπεβουλεύσατο εἰδώς, ὅτι ἀποθανεῖν  
 161 δεήσει, ἢ οὕτως τύχῃ. καὶ τί αὐτῷ διέφερεν;

<sup>1</sup> Salmasius: ἀλλοτρίαν δ.

<sup>1</sup> A leader of the opposition, whom the Thirty Tyrants wished to murder. See Plato, *Apology*, 32 C.

to us by Him who governs it. Therefore, see what he himself says and writes: "For this reason," he says, "you are permitted, O Diogenes, to converse as you please with the king of the Persians and with Archidamus, the king of the Lacedaemonians." Was it, indeed, because he was born of free parents? No doubt it was because they were all the children of slaves that the Athenians, and Lacedaemonians, and Corinthians were unable to converse with these monarchs as they pleased, but were afraid of them and paid court to them! Why, then, someone asks, are you permitted? "Because I do not regard my paltry body as my own; because I need nothing; because the law, and nothing else, is everything to me." This it was which allowed him to be a free man.

And that you may not think I am showing you an example of a man who was solitary, and had neither wife, nor children, nor country, nor friends, nor kinsmen, who might have bent him and diverted him from his purpose, take Socrates and observe a man who had a wife and little children, but regarded them as not his own, who had a country, as far as it was his duty, and in the way in which it was his duty, and friends, and kinsmen, one and all subject to the law and to obedience to the law. That is why, when it was his duty to serve as a soldier, he was the first to leave home, and ran the risks of battle most ungrudgingly; and when he was sent by the Tyrants to fetch Leon,<sup>1</sup> because he regarded it as disgraceful, he never deliberated about the matter at all, although he knew that he would have to die, if it so chanced. And what difference did it make to him? For there was



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ἄλλο γάρ τι σῶζειν ἤθελεν· οὐ τὸ σαρκίδιον,  
 ἀλλὰ τὸν πιστόν, τὸν αἰδήμονα. ταῦτα ἀπαρεγ-  
 162 χεῖρητα, ἀνυπότακτα. εἶθ' ὅτ' ἀπολογεῖσθαι  
 ἔδει ὑπὲρ τοῦ ζῆν, μή τι ὡς τέκνα ἔχων ἀναστρέ-  
 φεται, μή τι ὡς γυναῖκα; ἀλλ' ὡς μόνος. τί δ',  
 ὅτε πιεῖν ἔδει τὸ φάρμακον, πῶς ἀναστρέφεται;  
 163 δυνάμενος διασωθῆναι καὶ τοῦ Κρίτωνος αὐτῷ  
 λέγοντος ὅτι “ἐξέλθε διὰ τὰ παιδία” τί λέγει;  
 ἔρμαιον ἡγεῖτο αὐτό; πόθεν; ἀλλὰ τὸ εὖσχημον  
 σκοπεῖ, τὰλλα δ' οὐδ' ὀρά, οὐδ' ἐπιλογίζεται. οὐ  
 γὰρ ἤθελεν, φησὶν, σῶσαι τὸ σωμάτιον, ἀλλ'  
 ἐκείνο, ὃ τῷ δικαίῳ μὲν αὖξεται καὶ σῶζεται, τῷ  
 164 δ' ἀδίκῳ μειοῦται καὶ ἀπόλλυται. Σωκράτης δ'  
 αἰσχυρῶς οὐ σῶζεται, ὁ μὴ ἐπιψηφίσας Ἀθηναίων  
 κελευόντων, ὁ τοὺς τυράννους ὑπεριδών, ὁ τοιαῦτα  
 περὶ ἀρετῆς καὶ καλοκαγαθίας διαλεγόμενος·  
 165 τοῦτον οὐκ ἔστι σῶσαι αἰσχυρῶς, ἀλλ' ἀποθνήσκων  
 σῶζεται, οὐ φεύγων. καὶ γὰρ ὁ ἀγαθὸς ὑποκριτῆς  
 παυόμενος ὅτε δεῖ σῶζεται μᾶλλον ἢ ὑποκρινό-  
 166 μενος παρὰ καιρόν. τί οὖν ποιήσῃ τὰ παιδία;  
 “εἰ μὲν εἰς Θετταλίαν ἀπήειν, ἐπεμελήθητε  
 αὐτῶν· εἰς Ἀιδου δέ μου ἀποδημήσαντος οὐδεὶς  
 ἔσται ὁ ἐπιμελησόμενος;” ὅρα, πῶς ὑποκορίζεται  
 167 καὶ σκώπτει τὸν θάνατον. εἰ δ' ἐγὼ καὶ σὺ

<sup>1</sup> A free paraphrase of Plato, *Crito*, 47 D.

<sup>2</sup> In the illegal action of the assembly after the battle of Arginusae. See Xenophon, *Memorabilia*, I. 1, 18; Plato, *Apology*, 32 B.

<sup>3</sup> A singular parallel to “He that loseth his life for my sake shall find it” (Matt. x. 39).

<sup>4</sup> A paraphrase of Plato, *Crito*, 54 A.



something else that he wished to preserve; not his paltry flesh, but the man of honour, the man of reverence, that he was. These are things which are not to be entrusted to another, not to be made subject. Later on, when he had to speak in defence of his life, he did not behave as one who had children, or a wife, did he? Nay, but as one who was alone in the world. Yes, and when he had to drink the poison, how does he act? When he might have saved his life, and when Crito said to him, "Leave the prison for the sake of your children," what is his reply? Did he think it a bit of good luck? Impossible! No, he regards what is fitting, and as for other considerations, he does not so much as look at or consider them. For he did not care, he says, to save his paltry body, but only that which is increased and preserved by right conduct, and is diminished and destroyed by evil conduct.<sup>1</sup> Socrates does not save his life with dishonour, the man who refused to put the vote when the Athenians demanded it of him,<sup>2</sup> the man who despised the Tyrants, the man who held such noble discourse about virtue and moral excellence; this man it is impossible to save by dishonour, but he is saved by death,<sup>3</sup> and not by flight. Yes, and the good actor, too, is saved when he stops at the right time, rather than the one who acts out of season. What, then, will the children do? "If I had gone to Thessaly, you would have looked after them; but when I have gone down to the house of Hades, will there be no one to look after them?"<sup>4</sup> See how he calls death soft names,<sup>5</sup> and jests at it. But if it

<sup>5</sup> "I have been half in love with easeful Death,  
Call'd him soft names in many a musèd rime."

Keats, *Ode to a Nightingale*.

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- ἡμεν, εὐθὺς ἂν καταφιλοσοφήσαντες ὅτι “ τοὺς  
 ἀδικοῦντας δεῖ τοῖς ἴσοις ἀμύνεσθαι ” καὶ προσ-  
 θέντες ὅτι “ ὄφελος ἔσομαι πολλοῖς ἀνθρώποις  
 σωθείς, ἀποθανὼν δ’ οὐδενί, ” εἰ ἄρ’<sup>1</sup> ἔδει διὰ  
 168 τρώγλης ἐκδύντας, ἐξήλθομεν ἄν. καὶ πῶς ἂν  
 ὠφελήσαμεν τινα ; ποῦ γὰρ ἄν, εἰ ἔτι ἔμενον ἐκεῖ ;<sup>2</sup>  
 ἢ εἰ<sup>3</sup> ὄντες ἡμεν ὠφέλιμοι, οὐχὶ πολὺ μᾶλλον  
 ἀποθανόντες ἂν ὅτε ἔδει καὶ ὡς ἔδει ὠφελήσαμεν  
 169 ἀνθρώπους ; καὶ νῦν Σωκράτους ἀποθανόντος  
 οὐθὲν ἦττον ἢ καὶ πλεῖον ὠφέλιμός ἐστιν ἀνθρώ-  
 ποις ἢ μνήμη ὧν ἔτι ζῶν ἔπραξεν ἢ εἶπεν.  
 170 Ταῦτα μελέτα, ταῦτα τὰ δόγματα, τούτους  
 τοὺς λόγους, εἰς ταῦτα ἀφόρα τὰ παραδείγματα,  
 εἰ θέλεις ἐλεύθερος εἶναι, εἰ ἐπιθυμεῖς κατ’ ἀξίαν  
 171 τοῦ πράγματος. καὶ τί θαυμαστόν, εἰ τηλικούτο  
 πρᾶγμα τοσούτων καὶ τηλικούτων ὠνῇ ; ὑπὲρ  
 τῆς νομιζομένης ἐλευθερίας ταύτης οἱ μὲν ἀπάγ-  
 χονται, οἱ δὲ κατακρημνίζουσιν αὐτούς, ἔστι δ’  
 172 ὅτε καὶ πόλεις ὅλαι ἀπώλοντο· ὑπὲρ τῆς ἀ-  
 ληθινῆς καὶ ἀνεπιβουλεύτου καὶ ἀσφαλούς  
 ἐλευθερίας ἀπαιτοῦντι τῷ θεῷ ἃ δέδωκεν οὐκ  
 ἐκστήσει ;<sup>4</sup> οὐχ, ὡς Πλάτων λέγει, μελετήσεις  
 οὐχὶ ἀποθνήσκειν μόνον, ἀλλὰ καὶ στρεβλοῦσθαι  
 καὶ φεύγειν καὶ δέρεσθαι καὶ πάνθ’ ἀπλῶς  
 173 ἀποδιδόναι τὰλλότρια ; ἔσει τοίνυν δούλος ἐν  
 δούλοις, καὶ μυριάκις ὑπατεύσης, καὶ εἰς τὸ

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl : γάρ *S.*

<sup>2</sup> Capps : ἂν ἔτι ἔμενον ἐκεῖνοι *S.*

<sup>3</sup> Salmasius : \*\*οἱ *S.*

Schenkl (apparently) : οὐκ\*στήσει *S.*

<sup>1</sup> This is probably the best emendation that has been suggested for a corrupt passage, but I do not feel certain that it is what Epictetus actually said.

had been you or I, we should forthwith have fallen into the philosophic vein, and said, "One ought to repay evil-doers in kind," and added, "If I save my life I shall be useful to many persons, but if I die I shall be useful to no one"; yes, indeed, and if we had had to crawl out through a hole to escape, we should have done so! And how should we have been of use to anybody? For where could we have been of use, if the others still remained in Athens?<sup>1</sup> Or if we were useful to men by living, should we not have done much more good to men by dying when we ought, and as we ought? And now that Socrates is dead the memory of him is no less useful to men, nay, is perhaps even more useful, than what he did or said while he still lived.

Study these things, these judgements, these arguments, look at these examples, if you wish to be free, if you desire the thing itself in proportion to its value. And what wonder is there if you buy something so great at the price of things so many and so great? For the sake of what is called freedom some men hang themselves, others leap over precipices, sometimes whole cities perish; for true freedom, which cannot be plotted against and is secure, will you not yield up to God, at His demand, what He has given? Will you not, as Plato<sup>2</sup> says, study not merely to die, but even to be tortured on the rack, and to go into exile, and to be severely flogged, and, in a word, to give up everything that is not your own? If not, you will be a slave among slaves; even if you are consul ten thousand times, even if you go up to the

<sup>2</sup> *Phaedo*, 64 A, and *Republic*, II. 361 E.

- παλάτιον ἀναβῆς, οὐδὲν ἦττον· καὶ αἰσθήσει,  
 ὅτι παράδοξα μὲν ἴσως φασὶν οἱ φιλόσοφοι,  
 καθάπερ καὶ ὁ Κλεάνθης ἔλεγεν, οὐ μὴν παρά-  
 174 λογα. ἔργῳ γὰρ εἴσῃ, ὅτι ἀληθὴ ἐστὶ καὶ τού-  
 των τῶν θαυμαζομένων καὶ σπουδαζομένων  
 ὄφελος οὐδὲν ἐστὶ τοῖς τυχοῦσι· τοῖς δὲ μηδέπω  
 τετευχόσι φαντασία γίνεται, ὅτι παραγενομένων  
 αὐτῶν ἅπαντα παρέσται αὐτοῖς τὰ ἀγαθὰ· εἴθ’  
 ὅταν παραγένηται, τὸ καῦμα ἴσον, ὁ ῥιπτασμός  
 ὁ αὐτός, ἡ ἄση, ἡ<sup>1</sup> τῶν οὐ παρόντων ἐπιθυμία.  
 175 οὐ γὰρ ἐκπληρώσει τῶν ἐπιθυμουμένων ἐλευθερία  
 παρασκευάζεται, ἀλλὰ ἀνασκευῇ τῆς ἐπιθυμίας.  
 176 καὶ ἴν’ εἰδῆς, ὅτι ἀληθὴ ταῦτά ἐστιν, ὡς ἐκείνων  
 ἔνεκα πεπόνηκας, οὕτως καὶ ἐπὶ ταῦτα μετὰθες  
 τὸν πόνον· ἀγρύπνησον ἔνεκα τοῦ δόγμα περι-  
 177 ποιήσασθαι ἐλευθεροποιόν, θεράπευσον ἀντὶ  
 γέροντος πλουσίου φιλόσοφον, περὶ θύρας  
 ὄφθῃτι τὰς τούτου· οὐκ ἀσχημονήσεις ὀφθείς,  
 οὐκ ἀπελεύσῃ κενὸς οὐδ’ ἀκερδής, ἀν ὡς δεῖ  
 προσέλθῃς. εἰ δὲ μή, πείρασόν γ’· οὐκ ἔστιν  
 αἰσχρὰ ἢ πεῖρα.

### β'. Περὶ συμπεριφορᾶς.<sup>2</sup>

- 1 Τούτῳ τῷ τόπῳ πρὸ πάντων σε δεῖ προσέχειν,  
 μή ποτε ἄρα τῶν προτέρων συνήθων ἢ φίλων

<sup>1</sup> ἡ added by Wolf.

<sup>2</sup> Bentley (and the index of chapters): συμφορᾶς *S* here.

<sup>1</sup> A somewhat similar remark ascribed to Zeno (*Gnomol. Vat.*, ed. Sternbach, 295) has in the second clause “contrary to law,” a much less pointed remark, and true only with important qualifications.

Palace—a slave none the less; and you will perceive that, as Cleanthes<sup>1</sup> used to say, “Possibly the philosophers say what is contrary to opinion, but assuredly not what is contrary to reason.” For you will learn by experience that what they say is true, and that none of these things which are admired and sought after are of any good to those who attain them; while those who have not yet attained them get an impression that, if once these things come to them, they will be possessed of all things good, and then, when they do come, the burning heat is just as bad, there is the same tossing about on the sea, the same sense of surfeit, the same desire for what they do not have. For freedom is not acquired by satisfying yourself with what you desire, but by destroying your desire. And that you may learn the truth of all this, as you have toiled for those other things, so also transfer your toil to these; keep vigils for the sake of acquiring a judgement which will make you free, devote yourself to a philosopher instead of to a rich old man, be seen about *his* doors; it will be no disgrace to be so seen, you will not retire thence empty and without profit, if you approach him in the right fashion. Anyway, try it at least; there is no disgrace in making the attempt.

## CHAPTER II

*Of social intercourse*

To this topic you ought to devote yourself before every other, how, namely, you may avoid ever being so intimately associated with some one of your

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ἀνακραθῆς τινὲ οὕτως, ὥστ' εἰς τὰ αὐτὰ συγκατα-  
 2 βῆναι αὐτῷ· εἰ δὲ μή, ἀπολείς σεαυτόν. ἂν δέ σ'  
 ὑποτρέχῃ ὅτι “ἀδέξιός αὐτῷ φανοῦμαι καὶ οὐχ  
 ὁμοίως ἔξει ὡς πρότερον,” μέμνησο, ὅτι προῖκα  
 οὐδὲν γίνεται οὐδ' ἔστι δυνατόν μὴ τὰ αὐτὰ  
 3 ποιοῦντα τὸν αὐτὸν εἶναι τῷ ποτέ. ἐλοῦ οὖν  
 πότερον θέλεις, ὁμοίως φιλεῖσθαι ὑφ' ὧν πρότερον  
 ὅμοιος ὦν τῷ πρότερον σεαυτῷ ἢ κρείσσων ὦν  
 4 μὴ τυγχάνειν τῶν ἴσων. εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο κρείσσον,  
 αὐτόθεν ἀπόνευσον ἐπὶ τοῦτο μηδέ σε περι-  
 σπάτωσαν οἱ ἕτεροι διαλογισμοί· οὐδεὶς γὰρ  
 ἐπαμφοτερίζων δύναται προκόψαι, ἀλλ' εἰ τοῦτο  
 πάντων προκέκρικας, εἰ πρὸς τούτῳ μόνῳ θέλεις  
 εἶναι, εἰ τοῦτο ἐκπονῆσαι, ἄφες ἅπαντα τᾶλλα·  
 5 εἰ δὲ μή, οὗτος ὁ ἐπαμφοτερισμὸς ἀμφότερόν<sup>1</sup> σοι  
 ποιήσῃ, οὔτε προκόψῃς κατ' ἀξίαν οὔτ' ἐκείνων  
 6 τεύξῃ, ὧν πρότερον ἐτύγχανες. πρότερον γὰρ  
 εἰλικρινῶς ἐφιέμενος τῶν οὐδενὸς ἀξίων ἡδὺς  
 7 ἦς τοῖς συνοῦσιν. οὐ δύνασαι δ' ἐν ἀμφοτέρῳ τῷ  
 εἶδει διενεγκεῖν ἀλλ' ἀνάγκη, καθόσον ἂν τοῦ  
 ἐτέρου κοινωνῇς, ἀπολείπεσθαί σ' ἐν θατέρῳ. οὐ  
 δύνασαι μὴ πίνων μεθ' ὧν ἔπινες ὁμοίως ἡδὺς  
 αὐτοῖς φαίνεσθαι· ἐλοῦ οὖν, πότερον μεθυστῆς  
 εἶναι θέλεις καὶ ἡδὺς ἐκείνοις ἢ νήφων ἀηδῆς. οὐ  
 δύνασαι μὴ ἄδων μεθ' ὧν ᾗδες ὁμοίως φιλεῖσθαι

<sup>1</sup> Oldfather: ἐκάτερον S. Cf. IV. 10, 25; *Ench.* 1, 4.

acquaintances or friends as to descend to the same level with him; otherwise you will ruin yourself. But if there slips into your mind the thought, "He will think me unmannerly and will not be as friendly as he used to be," remember that nothing is done without paying for it, and that it is impossible for a man to remain the same person that he used to be, if he does not do the same things. Choose, therefore, which you prefer; either to be loved just as much as you used to be by the same persons, remaining like your former self, or else, by being superior to your former self, to lose the same affection. Because if this latter alternative is the better choice, turn forthwith in that direction, and let not the other considerations draw you away; for no man is able to make progress when he is facing both ways. But if you have preferred this course to every other, if you wish to devote yourself to this alone, and labour to perfect it, give up everything else. Otherwise this facing both ways will bring about a double result: You will neither make progress as you ought, nor will you get what you used to get before. For before, when you frankly aimed at nothing worth while, you made a pleasant companion. You cannot achieve distinction along both lines, but you must needs fall short in the one to the degree in which you take part in the other. If you do not drink with those you used to drink with, you cannot in their eyes be as pleasant a companion as you used to be; choose, therefore, whether you wish to be a hard drinker and pleasant to those persons, or a sober man and unpleasant. If you do not sing with those you used to sing with, you cannot be loved by them as you used to be; choose,



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- ὑπ' αὐτῶν· ἐλοῦ οὖν καὶ ἐνταῦθα, πότερον θέλεις.  
 8 εἰ γὰρ κρεῖσσον τὸ αἰδήμονα εἶναι καὶ κόσμον  
 τοῦ εἰπεῖν τινὰ “ ἡδὺς ἄνθρωπος,” ἄφες τὰ ἕτερα,  
 ἀπόγνωθι, ἀποστράφηθι, μηδὲν σοὶ καὶ αὐτοῖς.  
 9 εἰ δὲ μὴ ἀρέσει ταῦτα, ὅλος ἀπόκλινον ἐπὶ  
 τάναντία· γενοῦ εἰς τῶν κιναίδων, εἰς τῶν μοιχῶν,  
 καὶ ποίει τὰ ἐξῆς καὶ τεύξῃ ὧν θέλεις. καὶ  
 10 ἀναπηδῶν ἐπικραύγαζε τῷ ὀρχηστῇ. διάφορα δ'  
 οὕτως πρόσωπα οὐ μίγνυται· οὐ δύνασαι καὶ  
 Θερσίτην ὑποκρίνασθαι καὶ Ἀγαμέμνονα. ἂν  
 Θερσίτης εἶναι θέλῃς, κυρτόν σε εἶναι δεῖ,  
 φαλακρόν· ἂν Ἀγαμέμνων, μέγαν καὶ καλὸν καὶ  
 τοὺς ὑποτεταγμένους φιλοῦντα.

### γ. Τίνα τίνων ἀντικαταλλακτέον;

- 1 Ἐκεῖνο πρόχειρον ἔχει, ὅταν τινὸς ἀπολείπῃ  
 τῶν ἐκτός, τί ἀντ' αὐτοῦ περιποιῇ· κὰν ἢ πλείονος  
 2 ἄξιον, μηδέποτ' εἴπῃς ὅτι “ ἐξημίωμαι”· οὐδ' ἂν<sup>1</sup>  
 ἀντὶ ὄνου ἵππον, οὐδ' ἀντὶ προβάτου βοῦν οὐδ'  
 ἀντὶ κέρματος πρᾶξιν καλήν, οὐδ' ἀντὶ ψυχρο-  
 λογίας ἡσυχίαν οἷαν δεῖ, οὐδ' ἀντὶ αἰσχρολογίας  
 3 αἰδῶ. τούτων μεμνημένος πανταχοῦ διασώσεις  
 τὸ σαυτοῦ πρόσωπον οἷον ἔχειν σε δεῖ. εἰ δὲ  
 μή, σκόπει, ὅτι ἀπόλλυνται οἱ χρόνοι εἰκῇ καὶ

<sup>1</sup> ἂν added by Schweighäuser.

therefore, here also, which you wish. For if it is better to be a man of respectful and modest behaviour than for someone to say of you, "He is a pleasant fellow," give up all other considerations, renounce them, turn your back upon them, have nothing to do with them. But if that does not please you, turn about, the whole of you, to the opposite; become one of the addicts to unnatural vice, one of the adulterers, and act in the corresponding fashion, and you will get what you wish. Yes, and jump up and shout your applause to the dancer. But different characters do not mix in this fashion; you cannot act the part of Thersites and that of Agamemnon too. If you wish to be a Thersites, you ought to be humpbacked and bald; if an Agamemnon, you ought to be tall and handsome, and to love those who have been made subject to you.

## CHAPTER III

*What things should be exchanged for what things?*

HERE is a thought to keep ready at hand whenever you lose some external thing: What are you acquiring in its place? and if this be more valuable than the other, never say, "I have suffered a loss." You have lost nothing if you get a horse for an ass, an ox for a sheep, a noble action for a small piece of money, the proper kind of peace for futile discourse, and self-respect for smutty talk. If you bear this in mind you will everywhere maintain your character as it ought to be. If not, I would have you observe that your time is being

- ὅσα νῦν προσέχεις σεαυτῷ, μέλλεις ἐκχεῖν  
 4 ἅπαντα ταῦτα καὶ ἀνατρέπειν. ὀλίγου δὲ χρεία  
 ἐστὶ πρὸς τὴν ἀπώλειαν τὴν πάντων καὶ ἀνατρο-  
 5 πήν, μικρᾶς ἀποστροφῆς τοῦ λόγου. ἵνα ὁ  
 κυβερνήτης ἀνατρέψῃ τὸ πλοῖον, οὐ χρεῖαν ἔχει  
 τῆς αὐτῆς παρασκευῆς, ὅσης εἰς τὸ σῶσαι· ἀλλὰ  
 μικρὸν πρὸς τὸν ἄνεμον ἂν ἐπιστρέψῃ, ἀπώλετο.  
 καὶ μὴ αὐτὸς ἐκὼν, ὑποπαρενθυμηθῇ δ', ἀπώλετο.  
 6 τοιοῦτόν ἐστὶ τι καὶ ἐνθάδε· μικρὸν ἂν ἀπονυσ-  
 τάξης, ἀπῆλθεν πάντα τὰ μέχρι νῦν συνειλεγ-  
 7 μένα. πρόσεχε οὖν ταῖς φαντασίαις, ἐπαγρύπνει.  
 οὐ γὰρ μικρὸν τὸ τηρούμενον, ἀλλ' αἰδῶς καὶ  
 πίστις καὶ εὐστάθεια, ἀπάθεια, ἀλυπία, ἀφοβία,  
 8 ἀταραξία, ἀπλῶς ἐλευθερία. τίνων μέλλεις  
 ταῦτα πωλεῖν; βλέπε, πόσου ἀξίον.—'Αλλ' οὐ  
 τεύξομαι τοιούτου τινὸς ἀντ' αὐτοῦ.—Βλέπε καὶ  
 τυγχάνων<sup>1</sup> πάλιν ἐκείνου, τί ἀντ' αὐτοῦ λαμβά-  
 9 νεις.<sup>2</sup> “ἐγὼ εὐκοσμίαν, ἐκείνος δημαρχίαν· ἐκείνος  
 στρατηγίαν, ἐγὼ αἰδῶ. ἀλλ' οὐ κραυγάζω, ὅπου  
 ἀπρεπές· ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀναστήσομαι, ὅπου μὴ δεῖ.  
 ἐλεύθερος γάρ εἰμι καὶ φίλος τοῦ θεοῦ, ἵν' ἐκὼν  
 10 πείθωμαι αὐτῷ. τῶν δ' ἄλλων οὐδενὸς ἀντι-  
 ποιεῖσθαί με δεῖ, οὐ σώματος, οὐ κτήσεως, οὐκ  
 ἀρχῆς, οὐ φήμης, ἀπλῶς οὐδενός· οὐδὲ γὰρ

<sup>1</sup> ἀποτυγχάνων Reiske : τυγχάνοντος Elter.

<sup>2</sup> λαμβάνει Schweighäuser.

<sup>1</sup> This sense may conceivably be contained in the MS. reading, but it seems more probable that the text is corrupt, although no convincing correction has yet been made.—Capps regards ἐκείνου and ἐκείνος (§ 9) as referring to the same person.—The quotation following is what Epictetus suggests as appropriate comment for the man who has made a wise choice.

spent to no purpose, and all the pains you are now taking with yourself you are sure to spill out utterly and upset. Little is needed to ruin and upset everything, only a slight aberration from reason. For the helmsman to upset his ship he does not need the same amount of preparation that he does to keep it safe; but if he heads it a little too much into the wind, he is lost; yes, even if he does nothing by his own deliberate choice, but merely falls to thinking about something else for a moment, he is lost. In life also it is very much the same; if you doze but for a moment, all that you have amassed hitherto is gone. Pay attention, therefore, to your sense-impressions, and watch over them sleeplessly. For it is no small matter that you are guarding, but self-respect, and fidelity, and constancy, a state of mind undisturbed by passion, pain, fear, or confusion—in a word, freedom. What are the things for which you are about to sell *these* things? Look, how valuable are they?—But, you say, I shall not get anything of that kind in return for what I am giving up.—Observe also, when you do get something in the exchange, just what it is you are getting for what you give up.<sup>1</sup> “I have a modest behaviour, he has a tribuneship; he has a praetorship, I have self-respect. But I do not shout where it is unseemly; I shall not stand up where I ought not; for I am a free man and a friend of God,<sup>2</sup> so as to obey Him of my own free will. No other thing ought I to claim, not body, or property, or office, or reputation—nothing, in short; nor does

<sup>2</sup> Probably this was the phrase which suggested the point of the famous epigram: “. . . I, Epictetus, was the friend of God” (quoted Vol. I, Introd. p. vii).

- ἐκεῖνος βούλεται μ' ἀντιποιεῖσθαι αὐτῶν. εἰ γὰρ ἤθελεν, ἀγαθὰ πεποιήκει αὐτὰ ἂν ἐμοί. νῦν δ' οὐ πεποιήκεν· διὰ τοῦτο οὐδὲν δύναμαι παρα-  
 11 βῆναι τῶν ἐντολῶν." τήρει τὸ ἀγαθὸν τὸ σαυτοῦ ἐν παντί, τῶν δ' ἄλλων κατὰ τὸ διδόμενον μέχρι τοῦ εὐλογιστεῖν ἐν αὐτοῖς, τούτῳ μόνῳ ἀρκούμενος. εἰ δὲ μή, δυστυχήσεις, ἀτυχήσεις, κωλυ-  
 12 θήσῃ, ἐμποδισθήσῃ. οὗτοί εἰσιν οἱ ἐκείθεν ἀπεσταλμένοι νόμοι, ταῦτα τὰ διατάγματα· τούτων ἐξηγητὴν δεῖ γενέσθαι, τούτοις ὑποτεταγμένον, οὐ τοῖς Μασουρίου καὶ Κασσίου.

δ'. Πρὸς τοὺς περὶ τὸ ἐν ἡσυχίᾳ διαίγειν  
 ἐσπουδακότας.

- 1 Μέμνησο, ὅτι οὐ μόνον ἐπιθυμία ἀρχῆς καὶ πλούτου ταπεινοὺς ποιεῖ καὶ ἄλλοις ὑποτεταγμένους, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἡσυχίας καὶ σχολῆς καὶ ἀποδημίας καὶ φιλολογίας. ἀπλῶς γὰρ οἶον ἂν<sup>1</sup> ἢ  
 2 τὸ ἐκτός, ἢ τιμὴ αὐτοῦ ὑποτάσσει ἄλλῳ. τί οὖν διαφέρει συγκλήτου ἐπιθυμεῖν ἢ τοῦ μὴ εἶναι συγκλητικόν; τί διαφέρει ἀρχῆς ἐπιθυμεῖν ἢ ἀναρχίας; τί διαφέρει λέγειν ὅτι "κακῶς μοί ἐστιν, οὐδὲν ἔχω τί πράξω, ἀλλὰ τοῖς βιβλίοις προσδέδεμαι ὡς νεκρός," ἢ λέγειν "κακῶς μοί  
 3 ἐστιν, οὐκ εὐσχολῶ ἀναγνῶναι"; ὡς γὰρ ἀσπασ-

<sup>1</sup> Upton from his "codex" (after Schegk and Meibom): ἐάν S.

He wish me to claim them. Had He so desired He would have made them good for me. But as it is, He has not so made them; therefore I cannot transgress any of His commands." Guard your own good in everything you do; and for the rest be content to take simply what has been given you, in so far as you can make a rational use of it. If you do not, you will have bad luck and no good luck, you will be hampered and hindered. These are the laws that have been sent you from God, these are His ordinances; it is of these you ought to become an interpreter, to these you ought to subject yourself, not the laws of Masurius and Cassius.<sup>1</sup>

## CHAPTER IV

*To those who have set their hearts upon living in peace*

REMEMBER that it is not merely desire for office and wealth which makes men abject and subservient to others, but desire also for peace, and leisure, and travel, and scholarship. For it makes no difference what the external object be, the value you set upon it makes you subservient to another. What difference, then, does it make for you to set your heart on the senate, or on not becoming a senator? What difference does it make to desire office or to desire not to hold office? What difference does it make to say, "I am in a bad way, I have nothing to do, but am tied to my books as though I were a corpse," or to say, "I am in a bad way, I have no leisure to read"? For just as salutations and office-

<sup>1</sup> Two distinguished jurists of the first half of the first century after Christ.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 4 μοὶ καὶ ἀρχὴ τῶν ἐκτός ἐστι καὶ ἀπροαιρέτων, οὕτως καὶ βιβλίον. ἢ τίνος ἔνεκα θέλεις ἀναγινῶναι; εἰπέ μοι. εἰ μὲν γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτὸ<sup>1</sup> καταστρέφεις<sup>2</sup> τὸ ψυχαγωγηθῆναι ἢ μαθεῖν τι, ψυχρὸς εἶ καὶ ἀταλαίπωρος.<sup>3</sup> εἰ δ' ἐφ' ὃ δεῖ ἀναφέρεις, τί τοῦτ' ἐστὶν ἄλλο ἢ εὖροια; εἰ δέ σοι τὸ ἀναγιγνώσκειν εὖροϊαν μὴ περιποιῇ, τί ὄφελος
- 5 αὐτοῦ;—Ἀλλὰ περιποιεῖ, φησὶν, καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἀγανακτῶ ὡς ἀπολειπόμενος αὐτοῦ.—Καὶ τίς αὕτη ἢ εὖροια, ἣν ὁ τυχὼν ἐμποδίσαι δύναται, οὐ λεγῶ Καῖσαρ ἢ Καίσαρος φίλος, ἀλλὰ κόραξ, αὐλητής, πυρετός, ἄλλα τρισμύρια; ἢ δ' εὖροια οὐδὲν οὕτως ἔχει ὡς τὸ διηνεκὲς καὶ ἀνεμπόδιστον.
- 6 Νῦν καλοῦμαι πράξων τι, ἄπειμι νῦν προσέξων τοῖς μέτροις ἃ δεῖ τηρεῖν, ὅτι αἰδημόνως, ὅτι ἀσφαλῶς, ὅτι δίχα ὀρέξεως καὶ ἐκκλίσεως
- 7 τῆς πρὸς τὰ ἐκτός, καὶ λοιπὸν προσέχω τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, τίνα φασί, πῶς κινοῦνται, καὶ τοῦτο οὐ κακοήθως οὐδ' ἵνα ἔχω ψέγειν ἢ καταγελῶ, ἀλλ' ἐπ' ἐμαυτὸν ἐπιστρέφω, εἰ ταῦτ' ἀμαρτάνω. “πῶς οὖν παύσωμαι;” τότε καὶ ἐγὼ ἡμάρτανον· νῦν δ' οὐκέτι, χάρις τῷ θεῷ. . . .<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Reiske: αὐτοῦ S.

<sup>2</sup> The words ἐπ' αὐτό after this were deleted by Schweighäuser.

<sup>3</sup> Schweighäuser: ταλαίπωρος S.

<sup>4</sup> The lacuna marked by Oldfather. An answer to the question asked is obviously required.

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<sup>1</sup> Answering the man who complains because he has “nothing to do” (§ 2).

<sup>2</sup> So Horace, *Sat.* I. 4, 136 f.: . . . *numquid ego illi imprudens olim faciam simile?* Both were following the custom of Plato as recorded by Plutarch, *De capienda ex inimicis utilitate*, 5.



holding are among things external and those which lie outside the province of the moral purpose, so also is a book. Or for what purpose do you wish to read? Tell me. If you turn to reading merely for entertainment, or in order to learn something, you are futile and lazy. But if you refer reading to the proper standard, what else is this but a life of serenity? However, if reading does not secure for you a life of serenity, of what good is it?—Nay, it does secure me serenity, one says, and that is why I am discontented because I am deprived of it.—And what kind of serenity is this which any chance comer can impede, not merely Caesar, or a friend of Caesar, but a crow, a flutist, fever, thirty thousand other things? But no feature of serenity is so characteristic as continuity and freedom from hindrance.

At this instant I *am* being called to do something;<sup>1</sup> at this instant I shall go home with the purpose of observing the due measure which I ought to maintain, acting with self-respect, with security, apart from desire and avoidance of things external; and in the second place I observe men, what they say, how they move, and this in no malignant spirit, nor in order to have something to censure or ridicule, but I look at myself the while, to see if I too am making the same mistakes.<sup>2</sup> “How, then, shall I cease to make mistakes?” There was a time when I too made mistakes, but now no longer, thanks be to God. . . .<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> The exact connection of these two sentences is obscure. Matheson, with a certain degree of plausibility, divides them between the interlocutor and Epictetus, but they are generally assigned to one person.—See also the crit. note.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 8 Ἄγε, ταῦτα ποιήσας καὶ πρὸς τούτοις γενόμενος χεῖρον ἔργον πεποίηκας ἢ χιλίους στίχους ἀναγνοὺς ἢ γράψας ἄλλους τοσούτους; ὅταν γὰρ ἐσθίης, ἄχθῃ, ὅτι μὴ ἀναγιγνώσκεις; οὐκ ἀρκῇ τῷ καθ' ἃ ἀνέγνωκας ἐσθίειν; ὅταν λούῃ;
- 9 ὅταν γυμνάζῃ; διὰ τί οὖν ἐπὶ πάντων οὐχ ὀμαλίζεις, καὶ ὅταν Καίσαρι προσίης καὶ ὅταν τῷ δεῖνι; εἰ τὸν ἀπαθῇ τηρεῖς, εἰ τὸν ἀκατάπληκτον,
- 10 εἰ τὸν κατεσταλμένον, εἰ βλέπεις μᾶλλον τὰ γινόμενα ἢ βλέπῃ, εἰ μὴ φθονεῖς τοῖς προτιμωμένοις, εἰ μὴ ἐκπλήσσουσίν σε αἱ ὕλαι, τί σοι
- 11 λείπει; βιβλία; πῶς ἢ ἐπὶ τί; οὐχὶ γὰρ ἐπὶ τὸ βιοῦν παρασκευὴ τίς ἐστὶν αὕτη; τὸ βιοῦν δ' ἐξ ἄλλων τινῶν ἢ τούτων συμπληροῦται. οἶον ἂν εἰ ὁ ἀθλητὴς κλαίῃ εἰς τὸ στάδιον εἰσιῶν,
- 12 ὅτι μὴ ἔξω γυμνάζεται. τούτων ἕνεκα ἐγυμνάζου, ἐπὶ τοῦτο οἱ ἀλτῆρες, ἡ ἀφή, οἱ νεανίσκοι. καὶ νῦν ἐκεῖνα ζητεῖς, ὅτε τοῦ ἔργου καιρὸς ἐστὶν;
- 13 οἶον εἰ ἐπὶ τοῦ συγκαταθετικοῦ τόπου παρισταμένων φαντασιῶν τῶν μὲν καταληπτικῶν, τῶν δ' ἀκαταλήπτων μὴ ταύτας διακρίνειν θέλομεν, ἀλλ' ἀναγιγνώσκειν τὰ Περὶ καταλήψεως.
- 14 Τί οὖν τὸ αἷτιον; ὅτι οὐδέποτε τούτου ἕνεκα ἀνέγνωμεν, οὐδέποτε τούτου ἕνεκα ἐγράψαμεν,

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<sup>1</sup> In the absence of pages, as in the case of the papyrus roll, prose as well as poetry was counted by lines.

<sup>2</sup> See III. 15, 4.

## BOOK IV. iv. 8-14

Come, if you have acted like this and devoted yourself to these things, have you done anything worse than reading a thousand lines, or writing a thousand? <sup>1</sup> For when you eat, are you annoyed because you are not reading? Are you not satisfied to be eating in accordance with the principles you learned by reading? And when you bathe and take exercise? Why, then, are you not consistent in everything, both when you approach Caesar, and when you approach So-and-so? If you are maintaining the character of a man of tranquillity, of imperturbability, of sedateness, if you are observing what happens rather than being yourself observed, if you are not envying those who are preferred in honour above you, if the mere subject-matter of actions does not dazzle you, what do you lack? Books? How, or for what end? What, is not the reading of books a kind of preparation for the act of living? But the full measure of the act of living is made up of things other than books. It is as though the athlete on entering the stadium were to fall a-wailing because he is not exercising outside. This was what you exercised for, this is the purpose of your jumping-weights, your wrestler's sand, <sup>2</sup> your young training partners. And are you now asking for these things, when the time for action is come? It is as if, when in the sphere of assent we were surrounded with sense-impressions, some of them convincing, and others not convincing, we should not wish to distinguish between them, but to read a treatise *On Comprehension*!

What, then, is the reason for this? It is because we have never read for this purpose, we have never written for this purpose—in our actions, to treat in

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἵν' ἐπὶ τῶν ἔργων κατὰ φύσιν χρώμεθα ταῖς  
 προσπιπτούσαις φαντασίαις, ἀλλ' αὐτοῦ κατα-  
 λήγομεν ἐν τῷ<sup>1</sup> μαθεῖν, τί λέγεται, καὶ ἄλλῳ  
 δύνασθαι ἐξηγήσασθαι, τὸν συλλογισμόν ἀνα-  
 15 λῦσαι καὶ τὸν ὑποθετικὸν ἐφοδεῦσαι. διὰ τοῦτο  
 ὅπου ἡ σπουδὴ, ἐκεῖ καὶ ὁ ἐμποδισμός. θέλεις  
 τὰ μὴ ἐπὶ σοὶ ἐξ ἅπαντος; κωλύου τοίνυν, ἐμπο-  
 16 δίζου, ἀποτύγχανε. εἰ δὲ τὰ Περὶ ὁρμῆς τούτου  
 ἔνεκα ἀναγιγνώσκοιμεν, οὐχ ἵνα ἴδωμεν, τί λέγε-  
 ται περὶ ὁρμῆς, ἀλλ' ἵνα εὖ ὁρμῶμεν.<sup>2</sup> τὰ Περὶ  
 ὀρέξεως δὲ καὶ ἐκκλίσεως, ἵνα μήποτ' ὀρεγόμενοι  
 ἀποτυγχάνωμεν μήτ' ἐκκλίνοντες περιπίπτωμεν.  
 τὰ Περὶ καθήκοντος δ', ἵνα μεμνημένοι τῶν  
 σχέσεων μηδὲν ἀλογίστως μηδὲ παρ' αὐτὰ ποιῶ-  
 17 μεν· οὐκ ἂν ἡγανακτοῦμεν πρὸς τὰ ἀναγνώσματα  
 ἐμποδιζόμενοι, ἀλλὰ τῷ τὰ ἔργα ἀποδιδόναι τὰ  
 κατάλληλα ἡρκούμεθα καὶ ἡριθμοῦμεν ἂν οὐ  
 ταῦτα, ἀ μέχρι νῦν ἀριθμεῖν εἰθίσμεθα, "σήμερον  
 18 ἀνέγνων στίχους τοσούσδε, ἔγραψα τοσούσδε,"  
 ἀλλὰ "σήμερον ὁρμῇ ἐχρησάμην, ὡς παραγγέλ-  
 λεται ὑπὸ τῶν φιλοσόφων, ὀρέξει οὐκ ἐχρησάμην,  
 ἐκκλίσει πρὸς μόνα τὰ προαιρετικά, οὐ κατε-  
 πλάγην τὸν δεῖνα, οὐκ ἐδυσωπήθην ὑπὸ τοῦ  
 δεῖνος, τὸ ἀνεκτικὸν ἐγύμνασα, τὸ ἀφεκτικόν, τὸ  
 συνεργητικόν," καὶ οὕτως ἂν ἡύχαριστοῦμεν τῷ  
 θεῷ ἐφ' οἷς δεῖ εὐχαριστεῖν.  
 19 Νῦν δ' ἡμεῖς οὐκ ἴσμεν, ὅτι καὶ αὐτοὶ ἄλλον  
 τρόπον ὅμοιοι τοῖς πολλοῖς γινόμεθα. ἄλλος  
 φοβεῖται, μὴ οὐκ ἄρξῃ· σύ, μὴ<sup>3</sup> ἄρξῃς. μηδα-

<sup>1</sup> ἐν τῷ added by Richards.

<sup>2</sup> A late hand in S: ἵνα δ\*ῶμεν S.

<sup>3</sup> Wolf: μήσιν S.

accordance with nature the sense-impressions which come to us ; but we stop with having learned what is said, and with the ability to explain it to someone else, and with analysing the syllogism, and examining the hypothetical argument. That is why, where our heart is set, there also our impediment lies. Do you wish at any cost to have the things that are not under your control ? Very well then, be hindered, be obstructed, fail. If we should read a treatise *On Choice*, not in order to know about the subject, but in order to make correct choices ; a treatise *On Desire and Aversion*, in order that we may never fail in our desire nor fall into that which we are trying to avoid ; a treatise *On Duty*, in order that we may remember our relations in society and do nothing irrationally or contrary to the principles of duty ; we should not be vexed by being hindered in regard to what we have read, but we should find satisfaction in doing the deeds required by our mutual relations, and we should be reckoning, not the things which we have been accustomed hitherto to reckon : "To-day I have read so many lines, I have written so many," but, "To-day I made a choice in the way that the philosophers teach, I did not entertain desire, I avoided only those things that are in the sphere of the moral purpose, I was not overawed by So-and-so, I was not put out of countenance by So-and-so, I exercised my patience, my abstinence, my co-operation," and thus we should be giving thanks to God for those things for which we ought to give Him thanks.

But as it is, we do not realize that we ourselves, though in a different fashion, grow like the multitude. Another man is afraid that he will not have an office ; you are afraid that you will. Do not so,

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 20 μῶς, ἄνθρωπε. ἀλλ' ὡς καταγελᾶς τοῦ φοβου-  
 μένου μὴ οὐκ<sup>1</sup> ἄρξαι, οὕτως καὶ σαυτοῦ καταγέλα.  
 οὐδὲν γὰρ διαφέρει ἢ διψῆν πυρέσσοντα ἢ ὡς  
 21 λυσσώδη ὑδροφόβον εἶναι. ἢ πῶς ἔτι δυνήσῃ  
 εἰπεῖν τὸ τοῦ Σωκράτους “εἰ ταύτῃ φίλον τῷ  
 θεῷ, ταύτῃ γινέσθω”; δοκεῖς, Σωκράτης εἰ  
 ἐπεθύμει ἐν Λυκείῳ ἢ ἐν Ἀκαδημείᾳ σχολάζειν  
 καὶ διαλέγεσθαι καθ' ἡμέραν τοῖς νέοις, εὐκόλως  
 ἂν ἐστρατεύσατο ὅσάκις ἐστρατεύσατο; οὐχὶ δ'  
 ᾠδύρετ' ἂν καὶ ἔστενεν “τάλας ἐγώ, νῦν ἐνθάδ'  
 ἀτυχῶ ἄθλιος δυνάμενος ἐν Λυκείῳ ἡλιάζεσθαι”;  
 22 τοῦτο γάρ σου τὸ ἔργον ἦν, ἡλιάζεσθαι; οὐχὶ  
 δὲ τὸ εὐροεῖν, τὸ ἀκώλυτον εἶναι, τὸ ἀπαραπό-  
 διστον; καὶ πῶς ἂν ἔτι ἦν Σωκράτης, εἰ ταῦτα  
 ᾠδύρετο; πῶς ἂν ἔτι ἐν τῇ φυλακῇ παιᾶνας  
 ἔγραφεν;  
 23 Ἀπλῶς οὖν ἐκείνου μέμνησο, ὅτι, πᾶν ὃ ἔξω  
 τῆς προαιρέσεως τῆς σαυτοῦ τιμήσεις, ἀπώλεσας  
 τὴν προαίρεσιν. ἔξω δ' ἐστὶν οὐ μόνον ἀρχή,  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀναρχία, οὐ μόνον ἀσχολία, ἀλλὰ καὶ  
 24 σχολή. “νῦν οὖν ἐμὲ ἐν τῷ θορύβῳ τούτῳ  
 διεξάγειν;” τί λέγεις θορύβῳ; ἐν πολλοῖς  
 ἀνθρώποις; καὶ τί χαλεπόν; δόξον ἐν Ὀλυμπίᾳ  
 εἶναι, πανήγυριν αὐτὸν ἡγῆσαι. κακεῖ ἄλλος  
 ἄλλο τι κέκραγεν, ἄλλος ἄλλο τι πράσσει, ἄλλος

<sup>1</sup> οὐκ added by Schweighäuser.

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<sup>1</sup> Plato, *Crito*, 43 D (slightly modified). Compare I. 4, 24, where the quotation is exact.

<sup>2</sup> Referring to the famous gymnasia in these places.

<sup>3</sup> Plato, *Phaedo*, 60 D, says that he translated some fables of Aesop into verse and composed a hymn (προοίμιον) to Apollo. This latter composition is called a paeon by

## BOOK IV. IV. 19-24

man! But just as you laugh at the man who is afraid he will not have an office, so also laugh at yourself. For it makes no difference whether a person is thirsty with fever, or is afraid of water like a man with the rabies. Or how can you any longer say with Socrates, "If so it please God, so be it"?<sup>1</sup> Do you suppose that, if Socrates had yearned to spend his leisure in the Lyceum or the Academy,<sup>2</sup> and to converse daily with the young men, he would have gone forth cheerfully on all the military expeditions in which he served? Would he not have wailed and groaned, "Wretched man that I am! here I am now in misery and misfortune, when I might be sunning myself in the Lyceum"? What, was this your function in life, to sun yourself? Was it not rather to be serene, to be unhampered, to be unhindered? And how would he have been Socrates any longer, if he had wailed like this? How would he have gone on to write paeans in prison?<sup>3</sup>

In a word, then, remember this—that if you are going to honour anything at all outside the sphere of the moral purpose, you have destroyed your moral purpose. And outside the sphere of your moral purpose lie not merely office, but also freedom from office; not merely business, but also leisure. "Am I now, therefore, to pass my life in this turmoil?" What do you mean by "turmoil"? Among many people? And what is there hard about that? Imagine that you are in Olympia, regard the turmoil as a festival. There, too, one man shouts this and another that; one man does this and another

Diogenes Laertius, 2, 42, who professes to give the first line of it.



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- τῷ ἄλλῳ ἐνσεύεται· ἐν τοῖς βαλανείοις ὄχλος.  
καὶ τίς ἡμῶν οὐ χαίρει τῇ πανηγύρει ταύτῃ καὶ  
25 ὀδυνώμενος αὐτῆς ἀπαλλάσσεται; μὴ γίνου  
δυσάρεστος μηδὲ κακοστόμαχος πρὸς τὰ γινόμενα.  
“τὸ ὄξος σαπρόν, δριμὺ γάρ”· “τὸ μέλι  
σαπρόν, ἀνατρέπει γάρ μου τὴν ἕξιν”· “λάχανα  
οὐ θέλω.” οὕτως καὶ “σχολὴν οὐ θέλω, ἐρημί-  
26 ἔστιν,” “ὄχλον οὐ θέλω, θόρυβός ἐστιν.” ἀλλ’  
ἂν μὲν οὕτως φέρῃ τὰ πράγματα, ὥστε μόνον ἢ  
μετ’ ὀλίγων διεξαγαγεῖν, ἡσυχίαν αὐτὸ κύλει καὶ  
χρῶ τῷ πράγματι εἰς ὃ δεῖ· λάλει σεαυτῷ,  
γύμναζε τὰς φαντασίας, ἐξεργάζου τὰς προλή-  
ψεις. ἂν δ’ εἰς ὄχλον ἐμπέσης, ἀγῶνα αὐτὸ λέγε,  
27 πανήγυριν, ἐορτὴν, συνεορτάζειν πειρῶ τοῖς  
ἀνθρώποις. τί γάρ ἐστιν ἥδιον θέαμα τῷ φιλαν-  
θρώπῳ ἢ ἄνθρωποι πολλοί; ἵππων ἀγέλας ἢ  
βοῶν ἡδέως ὀρῶμεν, πλοῖα πολλὰ ὅταν ἴδωμεν,  
διαχεόμεθα· ἀνθρώπους πολλοὺς βλέπων τις  
28 ἀνιᾶται; “ἀλλὰ κατακραυγάζουσί μου.” οὐκοῦν  
ἢ ἀκοή σου ἐμποδίζεται. τί οὖν πρὸς σέ; μὴ τι  
καὶ δύναμις ἢ ταῖς φαντασίαις χρηστική; καὶ  
τίς σε κωλύει ὀρέξει καὶ ἐκκλίσει χρῆσθαι κατὰ  
φύσιν, ὀρμῇ καὶ ἀφορμῇ; ποῖος θόρυβος πρὸς  
τοῦτο ἱκανός;

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<sup>1</sup> Referring clearly, I believe, to the baths at Olympia, where the accommodation seems to have been inadequate. See I. 6, 26.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. “But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them” (Matt. ix. 36); and the remark attributed to Abraham Lincoln: “God must have loved the common people; He made so many of them.” The characteristic emotions here indicated as arising at the con-

that ; one man jostles another ; there is a crowd in the baths.<sup>1</sup> And yet who of us does not take delight in the Olympic festival and leave it with sorrow ? Do not become peevish or fastidious towards events. "The vinegar is rotten, for it is sour." "The honey is rotten, for it upsets my digestion." "I don't like vegetables." In the same fashion you say, "I don't like leisure, it is a solitude." "I don't like a crowd, it is turmoil." Say not so, but if circumstances bring you to spend your life alone or in the company of a few, call it peace, and utilize the condition for its proper end ; converse with yourself, exercise your sense-impressions, develop your preconceptions. If, however, you fall in with a crowd, call it games, a festival, a holiday, try to keep holiday with the people. For what is pleasanter to a man who loves his fellow-men than the sight of large numbers of them ?<sup>2</sup> We are glad to see herds of horses or cattle ; when we see many ships we are delighted ; is a person annoyed at the sight of many human beings ? "Yes, but they deafen me with their shouting." Oh, well, it is your hearing that is interfered with ! What, then, is that to you ? Your faculty of employing external impressions is not interfered with, is it ? And who prevents you from making natural use of desire and aversion, of choice and refusal ? What manner of turmoil avails to do that ?

temptation of large numbers of one's fellow-men, though somewhat different in tone from that in Epictetus, as well as from one another, are still essentially at one with the Stoic ideal of sympathetic fellowship, and are fundamentally opposed to that selfish or snobbish aversion towards mankind, which became so prevalent, even in religious circles, during the great decadence of ancient civilization.

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- 29 Σὺ μόνον μέμνησο τῶν καθολικῶν· “τί ἐμόν, τί οὐκ ἐμόν; τί μοι δίδοται; τί θέλει με ποιεῖν
- 30 ὁ θεὸς νῦν, τί οὐ θέλει;” πρὸ ὀλίγου χρόνου ἤθελέν σε σχολάζειν, στυγῶ λαλεῖν, γράφειν περὶ τούτων, ἀναγιγνώσκειν, ἀκούειν, παρασκευάζεσθαι· ἔσχες εἰς τοῦτο ἱκανὸν χρόνον. νῦν σοι λέγει “ἔλθ' ἤδη ἐπὶ τὸν ἀγῶνα, δεῖξον ἡμῖν, τί ἔμαθες, πῶς ἠθλησας. μέχρι τίνος γυμνασθήσῃ μόνος; ἤδη καιρὸς γινῶναί σε, πότερον τῶν ἀξιονίκων εἰ τις ἀθλητῶν ἢ ἐκείνων, οἱ τὴν οἰκουμένην περιέρχονται νικώμενοι.” τί οὖν ἀγανακτεῖς; οὐδεὶς ἀγῶν δίχα<sup>1</sup> θορύβου γίνεται. πολλοὺς δεῖ προγυμναστὰς εἶναι, πολλοὺς τοὺς ἐπικραυγάζοντας, πολλοὺς ἐπιστάτας, πολλοὺς
- 31 θεατάς.—Ἄλλ' ἐγὼ ἠθελὼν ἐφ' ἡσυχίας διάγειν.—Οἴμωζε τοίνυν καὶ στένε, ὥσπερ ἄξιός εἰ. τίς γὰρ ἄλλη μείζων ταύτης ζημία τῷ ἀπαιδεύτῳ καὶ ἀπειθοῦντι τοῖς θεοῖς διατάγμασιν ἢ τὸ λυπεῖσθαι, τὸ πενθεῖν, τὸ φθονεῖν, ἀπλῶς τὸ ἀτυχεῖν καὶ δυστυχεῖν; τούτων οὐ θέλεις ἀπαλλάξαι σεαυτόν;
- 32 Καὶ πῶς ἀπαλλάξω;—Οὐ πολλάκις ἤκουσας, ὅτι ὄρεξιν ἄραί σε δεῖ παντελῶς, τὴν ἑκκλίσιν ἐπὶ μόνῳ τρέψαι τὰ προαιρετικά, ἀφεῖναί σε δεῖ πάντα, τὸ σῶμα, τὴν κτῆσιν, τὴν φήμην, τὰ βιβλία, θόρυβον, ἀρχάς, ἀναρχίαν; ὅπου γὰρ αὖ κλίνης, ἐδούλευσας, ὑπετάγης, κωλυτὸς ἐγένου,

<sup>1</sup> Ed. of Salamanca, Bentley, and Upton's "codex" (after Schegk): *διὰ* S.

Do but keep in remembrance your general principles: "What is mine? What is not mine? What has been given me? What does God will that I do now, what does He not will?" A little while ago it was His will for you to be at leisure, to converse with yourself, to write about these things, to read, to listen, to prepare yourself; you had time sufficient for that. Now God says to you, "Come at length to the contest, show us what you have learned, how you have trained yourself. How long will you exercise alone? Now the time has come for you to discover whether you are one of the athletes who deserve victory, or belong to the number of those who travel about the world and are everywhere defeated." Why, then, are you discontented? No contest is held without turmoil. There must be many training-partners, many to shout applause, many officials, many spectators.—But I wanted to live a life of peace.—Wail, then, and groan, as you deserve to do. For what greater penalty can befall the man who is uninstructed and disobedient to the divine injunctions than to grieve, to sorrow, to envy, in a word to have no good fortune but only misfortune? Do you not wish to free yourself from all this?

And how shall I free myself?—Have you not heard over and over again that you ought to eradicate desire utterly, direct your aversion towards the things that lie within the sphere of the moral purpose, and these things only, that you ought to give up everything, your body, your property, your reputation, your books, turmoil, office, freedom from office? For if once you swerve aside from this course, you are a slave, you are a subject, you have become liable to hindrance and to compulsion, you

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34 ἀναγκαστός, ὅλος ἐπ' ἄλλοις. ἀλλὰ τὸ Κλεάν-  
θους πρόχειρον

ἄγου δέ μ', ὦ Ζεῦ, καὶ συ γ' ἡ Πεπρωμένη.

θέλετ' εἰς Ῥώμην; εἰς Ῥώμην.<sup>1</sup> εἰς Γύαρα; εἰς  
Γύαρα. εἰς Ἀθήνας; εἰς Ἀθήνας. εἰς φυλα-  
35 κήν; εἰς φυλακὴν. ἂν ἅπαξ εἴπῃς “πότε τις  
εἰς Ἀθήνας ἀπέλθῃ;” ἀπώλου. ἀνάγκη γε ταύ-  
την τὴν ὄρεξιν ἀτελῇ μὲν οὖσαν ἀτυχῇ σε ποιεῖν,  
τελειωθείσαν δὲ κενόν, ἐφ' οἷς οὐ δεῖ ἐπαιρό-  
μενον· πάλιν ἂν ἐμποδισθῇς, δυστυχῇ, περι-  
36 πίπτοντα οἷς οὐ θέλεις. ἄφες οὖν ταῦτα πάντα.  
“καλαὶ αἱ Ἀθῆναι.” ἀλλὰ τὸ εὐδαιμονεῖν κάλ-  
λιον πολὺ, τὸ ἀπαθῇ εἶναι, τὸ ἀτάραχον, τὸ ἐπὶ  
37 μηδενὶ κεῖσθαι τὰ σὰ πράγματα. “θόρυβος ἐν  
Ῥώμῃ καὶ ἀσπασμοί.” ἀλλὰ τὸ εὐροεῖν ἀντὶ  
πάντων τῶν δυσκόλων. εἰ οὖν τούτων καιρὸς  
ἐστίν, διὰ τί οὐκ αἶρεις αὐτῶν τὴν ἔκκλισιν; τίς  
38 ἀνάγκη ὥς ὄνον ξυλοκοπούμενον ἀχθοφορεῖν; εἰ  
δὲ μή, ὅρα ὅτι<sup>2</sup> δεῖ σε δουλεύειν αἰεὶ τῷ δυνα-  
μένῳ σοι διαπράξασθαι τὴν ἔξοδον, τῷ πᾶν  
ἐμποδίσαι δυναμένῳ, κακείνον θεραπεύειν ὥς  
Κακοδαίμονα.

39 Μία ὁδὸς ἐπὶ εὐροίαν (τοῦτο καὶ ὀρθρου καὶ

<sup>1</sup> The second εἰς Ῥώμην is supplied in the margin by *Sb*.

<sup>2</sup> Wolf (and Upton's “codex”): τίς.

<sup>1</sup> From a celebrated hymn. See on II. 23, 42.

<sup>2</sup> An island used as a place of exile. See on I. 25, 19.

<sup>3</sup> There may be here an allusion (before Lucian and Apuleius) to the theme of a (bewitched) ass trying to escape from being an ass, and constantly being hindered. In the famous romance the ass is certainly often enough overloaded and soundly cudgelled.

# BOOK IV. iv. 33-39

are entirely under the control of others. Nay, the word of Cleanthes is ready at hand,

Lead thou me on, O Zeus, and Destiny.<sup>1</sup>

Will ye have me go to Rome? I go to Rome. To Gyara? I go to Gyara.<sup>2</sup> To Athens? I go to Athens. To prison? I go to prison. If but once you say, "Oh, when may a man go to Athens?" you are lost. This wish, if unfulfilled, must necessarily make you unfortunate; if fulfilled, vain and puffed up over the wrong kind of thing; again, if you are hindered, you suffer a misfortune, falling into what you do not wish. Give up, then, all these things. "Athens is beautiful." But happiness is much more beautiful, tranquillity, freedom from turmoil, having your own affairs under no man's control. "There is turmoil in Rome, and salutations." But serenity is worth all the annoyances. If, then, the time for these things has come, why not get rid of your aversion for them? Why must you needs bear burdens like a belaboured donkey? Otherwise, I would have you see that you must be ever the slave of the man who is able to secure your release, to the man who is able to hinder you in everything,<sup>3</sup> and you must serve him as an Evil Genius.<sup>4</sup>

There is but one way to serenity (keep this

<sup>1</sup> For this rare spirit of folk-lore, see Aristophanes, *Equites*, 111-12, where he is called the *Δαίμων Κακοδαίμων*. His counterpart is the much commoner *Ἀγαθὸς Δαίμων*. The Evil Genius, though seldom referred to (and in fact ignored by many, if not all the standard works of reference, I believe), is presupposed by the association of the *Κακοδαίμονισται* (Lysias, frag. 53, 2, Thalheim), and by the very word *κακοδαίμων* itself. For similar devil-worship, cf. I. 19, 6, of the God Fever.

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μεθ' ἡμέραν καὶ νύκτωρ ἔστω πρόχειρον),  
 ἀπόστασις τῶν ἀπροαιρέτων, τὸ μηδὲν ἴδιον  
 ἡγεῖσθαι, τὸ παραδοῦναι πάντα τῷ δαιμονίῳ,  
 τῇ τύχῃ, ἐκείνους ἐπιτρόπους αὐτῶν ποιήσασθαι,  
 40 οὓς καὶ ὁ Ζεὺς πεποίηκεν, αὐτὸν δὲ πρὸς ἐνὶ  
 εἶναι μόνῳ, τῷ ἰδίῳ, τῷ ἀκωλύτῳ, καὶ ἀνα-  
 γιγνώσκειν ἐπὶ τοῦτο ἀναφέροντα τὴν ἀνάγνωσιν  
 41 καὶ γράφειν καὶ ἀκούειν. διὰ τοῦτο οὐ δύναμαι  
 εἰπεῖν φιλόπονον, ἂν ἀκούσω τοῦτο μόνον, ὅτι  
 ἀναγιγνώσκει ἢ γράφει, καὶ προσθῇ τις, ὅτι  
 ὅλας τὰς νύκτας, οὐπω λέγω, ἂν μὴ γνῶ τὴν  
 ἀναφοράν. οὐδὲ γὰρ σὺ λέγεις φιλόπονον τὸν  
 διὰ παιδισκάριον ἀγρυπνοῦντα· οὐ τοίνυν οὐδ'  
 42 ἐγώ. ἀλλ' ἐὰν μὲν ἔνεκα δόξης αὐτὸ ποιῇ, λέγω  
 φιλόδοξον, ἂν δ' ἔνεκα ἀργυρίου, φιλάργυρον, οὐ  
 43 φιλόπονον. ἂν δ' ἐπὶ τὸ ἴδιον ἡγεμονικὸν ἀνα-  
 φέρῃ τὸν πόνον, ἵν' ἐκείνο κατὰ φύσιν ἔχῃ καὶ  
 44 διεξάγῃ, τότε λέγω μόνον φιλόπονον. μηδέποτε  
 γὰρ ἀπὸ τῶν κοινῶν μήτ' ἐπαινεῖτε μήτε ψέγετε,  
 ἀλλὰ ἀπὸ δογμάτων. ταῦτα γάρ ἐστι τὰ ἴδια  
 ἐκάστου, τὰ καὶ τὰς πράξεις αἰσχροῦς ἢ καλᾶς  
 45 ποιοῦντα· τούτων μεμνημένος χαῖρε τοῖς πα-  
 46 ροῦσιν καὶ ἀγάπα ταῦτα, ὧν καιρὸς ἐστίν. εἴ  
 τινα ὀράς, ὧν ἔμαθες καὶ διεσκέψω, ἀπαντῶντάί  
 σοι εἰς τὰ ἔργα, εὐφραίνου ἐπ' αὐτοῖς. εἰ τὸ  
 κακόηθες καὶ λοῖδορον ἀποτέθεισαι, μεμείωκας,



thought ready for use at dawn, and by day, and at night), and that is to yield up all claim to the things that lie outside the sphere of the moral purpose, to regard nothing as your own possession ; to surrender everything to the Deity, to Fortune ; to yield everything to the supervision of those persons whom even Zeus has made supervisors ; and to devote yourself to one thing only, that which is your own, that which is free from hindrance, and to read referring your reading to this end, and so to write and so to listen. That is why I cannot call a man industrious, if I hear merely that he reads or writes, and even if one adds that he sits up all night, I cannot yet say that the man is industrious, until I know for what end he does so. For neither do you call a man industrious who loses sleep for the sake of a wench ; no more do I. But if he acts this way for the sake of reputation, I call him ambitious ; if for the sake of money, I call him fond of money, not fond of toil. If, however, the end for which he toils is his own governing principle, to have it be, and live continually, in accordance with nature, then and then only I call him industrious. For I would not have you men ever either praise or blame a man for things that may be either good or bad, but only for judgements. Because these are each man's own possessions, which make his actions either base or noble. Bearing all this in mind, rejoice in what you have and be satisfied with what the moment brings. If you see any of the things that you have learned and studied thoroughly coming to fruition for you in action, rejoice in these things. If you have put away or reduced a malignant disposition, and reviling, or impertinence, or foul language, or

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εἰ τὸ προπετές, εἰ τὸ αἰσχρολόγον, εἰ τὸ εἰκαῖον,  
 εἰ τὸ ἐπισεσυρμένον, εἰ οὐ κινῇ ἐφ' οἷς πρότερον,  
 εἰ οὐχ ὁμοίως γ' ὡς πρότερον, ἐορτὴν ἄγειν  
 δύνασαι καθ' ἡμέραν, σήμερον, ὅτι καλῶς ἀνε-  
 στράφης ἐν τῷδε τῷ ἔργῳ, αὔριον, ὅτι ἐν ἐτέρῳ.  
 47 πόσῳ μείζων αἰτία θυσίας ἢ ὑπατεία ἢ ἐπαρχία.  
 ταῦτα ἐκ σοῦ αὐτοῦ γίνεται σοι καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν  
 θεῶν. ἐκεῖνο μέμνησο, τίς ὁ διδούς ἐστι καὶ  
 48 τίσιν καὶ διὰ τίνα. τούτοις τοῖς διαλογισμοῖς  
 ἐντρεφόμενος ἔτι διαφέρῃ, ποῦ ὦν εὐδαιμονήσεις,  
 ποῦ ὦν ἀρέσεις τῷ θεῷ; οὐ πανταχόθεν τὸ  
 ἶσον ἀπέχουσιν; οὐ πανταχόθεν ὁμοίως ὀρώσιν  
 τὰ γινόμενα;

έ'. Πρὸς τοὺς μαχίμους καὶ θηριώδεις.

- 1 'Ο καλὸς καὶ ἀγαθὸς οὐτ' αὐτὸς μάχεται τινι
- 2 οὐτ' ἄλλον ἐὰ κατὰ δύναμιν. παράδειγμα δὲ καὶ  
 τούτου καθάπερ καὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἔκκειται ἡμῖν ὁ  
 βίος ὁ Σωκράτους, ὃς οὐ μόνον αὐτὸς πανταχοῦ  
 ἐξέφυγεν μάχην, ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἄλλους μάχεσθαι εἶα.
- 3 ὅρα παρὰ Ξενοφῶντι ἐν τῷ Συμποσίῳ πόσας  
 μάχας λέλυκεν, πῶς πάλιν ἠνέσχετο Θρασυ-  
 μάχου, πῶς Πώλου, πῶς Καλλικλέους, πῶς τῆς  
 γυναικὸς ἠνείχετο, πῶς τοῦ υἱοῦ ἐξελεγχόμενος

<sup>1</sup> The first in Plato's *Republic*, Book I; the other two in his *Gorgias*.

## BOOK IV. iv. 46-v. 3

recklessness, or negligence; if you are not moved by the things that once moved you, or at least not to the same degree, then you can keep festival day after day; to-day because you behaved well in this action, to-morrow because you behaved well in another. How much greater cause for thanksgiving is this than a consulship or a governorship! These things come to you from your own self and from the gods. Remember who the Giver is, and to whom He gives, and for what end. If you are brought up in reasonings such as these, can you any longer raise the questions where you are going to be happy, and where you will please God? Are not men everywhere equally distant from God? Do they not everywhere have the same view of what comes to pass?

## CHAPTER V

### *Against the contentious and brutal*

THE good and excellent man neither contends with anyone, nor, as far as he has the power, does he allow others to contend. We have an example before us of this also, as well as of everything else, in the life of Socrates, who did not merely himself avoid contention upon every occasion, but tried to prevent others as well from contending. See in Xenophon's *Symposium* how many contentions he has resolved, and again how patient he was with Thrasymachus, Polus, and Callicles,<sup>1</sup> and habitually so with his wife, and also with his son when the latter tried to confute him with sophistical argu-

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- 4 ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, σοφίζομενος. λίαν γὰρ ἀσφαλῶς  
 ἐμέμνητο, ὅτι οὐδεὶς ἀλλοτρίου ἡγεμονικοῦ κυ-  
 5 ριεύει. οὐδὲν οὖν ἄλλο ἠθέλεν ἢ τὸ ἴδιον. τί  
 δ' ἐστὶ τοῦτο; οὐχ ἰκ . . . ος οὗτος . . .<sup>1</sup> κατὰ  
 φύσιν· τοῦτο γὰρ ἀλλότριον· ἀλλ' ὅπως ἐκείνων  
 τὰ ἴδια ποιούντων, ὡς αὐτοῖς δοκεῖ, αὐτὸς μηδὲν  
 ἡττον κατὰ φύσιν ἔξει καὶ διεξάξει<sup>2</sup> μόνον τὰ  
 αὐτοῦ ποιῶν πρὸς τὸ κακείνους ἔχειν κατὰ φύσιν.  
 6 τοῦτο γὰρ ἐστίν, ὃ ἀεὶ πρόκειται τῷ καλῷ καὶ  
 ἀγαθῷ. στρατηγῆσαι; οὐ· ἀλλ', ἂν διδῶται,  
 ἐπὶ ταύτης τῆς ὕλης τὸ ἴδιον ἡγεμονικὸν τηρῆσαι.  
 γῆμαι; οὐ· ἀλλ', ἂν διδῶται γάμος, ἐν ταύτῃ  
 7 τῇ ὕλῃ κατὰ φύσιν ἔχοντα αὐτὸν τηρῆσαι. ἂν  
 δὲ θέλῃ τὸν υἱὸν μὴ ἀμαρτάνειν ἢ τὴν γυναῖκα,  
 θέλει τὰ ἀλλότρια μὴ εἶναι ἀλλότρια. καὶ τὸ  
 παιδεύεσθαι τοῦτ' ἐστίν, μαρθάνειν τὰ ἴδια καὶ  
 τὰ ἀλλότρια.
- 8 Ποῦ οὖν ἐτι μάχης τόπος τῷ οὕτως ἔχοντι;  
 μὴ γὰρ θαυμάζει τι τῶν γινομένων; μὴ γὰρ  
 καινὸν αὐτῷ φαίνεται; μὴ γὰρ οὐ χείρονα καὶ  
 χαλεπώτερα προσδέχεται τὰ παρὰ τῶν φαύλων  
 ἢ ἀποβαίνει αὐτῷ; μὴ γὰρ οὐ κέρδος λογίζεται  
 πᾶν ὃ τι ἀπολείπουσιν<sup>3</sup> τοῦ ἐσχάτου; “ἐλοι-  
 9 δόρησέν σε ὁ δεῖνα.” πολλὴ χάρις αὐτῷ, ὅτι

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl places a lacuna here: ἰκ . . . ος οὗτος κατὰ S.

<sup>2</sup> Salmasius: ἐξάξει S.

<sup>3</sup> Schenkl: ἀπολείπουσιν S.

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<sup>1</sup> This may be a reference to Xenophon, *Memorabilia*, II. 2, as is commonly supposed, but if so, it is a highly inadequate presentation of the case there described, where Socrates is the “confuter,” and the son merely makes a few natural and quite conventional attempts to defend himself. I

## BOOK IV. v. 3-9

ments.<sup>1</sup> For Socrates bore very firmly in mind that no one is master over another's governing principle. He willed, accordingly, nothing but what was his own. And what is that? [Not to try to make other people act<sup>2</sup>] in accordance with nature, for that does not belong to one; but, while they are attending to their own business as they think best, himself none the less to be and to remain in a state of harmony with nature, attending only to his own business, to the end that they also may be in harmony with nature. For this is the object which the good and excellent man has ever before him. To become praetor? No; but if this be given him, to maintain his own governing principle in these circumstances. To marry? No; but if marriage be given him, to maintain himself as one who in these circumstances is in harmony with nature. But if he wills that his son or his wife make no mistake, he wills that what is not his own should cease to be not his own. And to be getting an education means this: To be learning what *is* your own, and what is *not* your own.

Where, then, is there any longer room for contention, if a man is in such a state? Why, he is not filled with wonder at anything that happens, is he? Does anything seem strange to him? Does he not expect worse and harsher treatment from the wicked than actually befalls him? Does he not count it as gain whenever they fail to go to the limit? "So-and-so reviled you." I am greatly obliged to

suspect that Epictetus was referring (following Chrysippus, probably) to some other incident recorded in the very large body of Socratic dialogues that once existed.

<sup>2</sup> This is probably the general sense of a passage where something has evidently been lost.

- μὴ ἔπληξεν. “ἀλλὰ καὶ ἔπληξεν.” πολλὴ χάρις, ὅτι μὴ ἔτρωσεν. “ἀλλὰ καὶ ἔτρωσεν.”
- 10 πολλὴ χάρις, ὅτι μὴ ἀπέκτεινεν. πότε γὰρ ἔμαθεν ἢ παρὰ τίνι, ὅτι ἡμερόν ἐστι ζῶον, ὅτι φιλάλληλον, ὅτι μεγάλη βλάβη τῷ ἀδικοῦντι αὐτῇ ἢ ἀδικία; ταῦτα οὖν μὴ μεμαθηκὼς μηδὲ πεπεισμένος, διὰ τί μὴ ἀκολουθήσῃ τῷ φαινο-
- 11 μένῳ συμφέροντι; “βέβληκεν ὁ γείτων λίθους.” μὴ τι οὖν σὺ ἡμάρτηκας; “ἀλλὰ τὰ ἐν οἴκῳ
- 12 κατεάγη.” σὺ οὖν σκευάριον εἶ; οὔ, ἀλλὰ προαίρεσις. τί οὖν σοι δίδοται πρὸς τοῦτο; ὥς μὲν λύκῳ ἀντιδάκνειν καὶ ἄλλους πλείονας λίθους βάλλειν· ἀνθρώπῳ δ' ἐὰν ζητῆς, ἐπίσκειψαί σου τὸ ταμιεῖον, ἴδε τίνας δυνάμεις ἔχων ἐλήλυθας· μὴ τι τὴν θηριώδη; μὴ τι τὴν μνησι-
- 13 κακητικὴν; ἵππος οὖν πότ' ἄθλιός ἐστιν; ὅταν τῶν φυσικῶν δυνάμεων στέρηται· οὐχ ὅταν μὴ δύνῃται κοκκῦζειν, ἀλλ' ὅταν μὴ τρέχειν
- 14 ὁ δὲ κύων; ὅταν πέτεσθαι μὴ δύνῃται; ἀλλ' ὅταν μὴ ἰχνεύειν. μὴ ποτ' οὖν οὕτως καὶ ἄνθρωπος δυστυχὴς ἐστιν οὐχ ὁ μὴ δυνάμενος λέοντας πνίγειν ἢ ἀνδριάντας περιλαμβάνειν (οὐ γὰρ πρὸς τοῦτο δυνάμεις τινὰς ἔχων ἐλήλυθεν παρὰ τῆς φύσεως), ἀλλ' ὁ ἀπολωλεκὼς τὸ

<sup>1</sup> See IV. 1, 120.

<sup>2</sup> A familiar idea in Plato, especially in the *Crito*, *Gorgias*, and *Republic*, but nowhere, as I recall, in exactly these words, though *Crito* 49 B and *Republic* 366 E and 367 D bear a close resemblance.

him for not striking me. "Yes, but he struck you too." I am greatly obliged to him for not wounding me. "Yes, but he wounded you too." I am greatly obliged to him for not killing me. For when, or from what teacher, did he learn that man is a tame animal,<sup>1</sup> that he manifests mutual affection, that injustice in itself is a great injury to the unjust man?<sup>2</sup> If, therefore, he has never learned this, or become persuaded of this, why shall he not follow what appears to him to be his advantage? "My neighbour has thrown stones." *You* have not made a mistake, have you? "No, but my crockery is broken." Are *you* a piece of crockery, then? No, but *you* are moral purpose. What, then, has been given you with which to meet this attack? If you seek to act like a wolf, you can bite back and throw more stones than your neighbour did; but if you seek to act like a man, examine your store, see what faculties you brought with you into the world. You brought no faculty of brutality, did you? No faculty of bearing grudges, did you? When, then, is a horse miserable? When he is deprived of his natural faculties. Not when he can't sing "cuckoo!" but when he can't run. And a dog? Is it when he can't fly? No, but when he can't keep the scent. Does it not follow, then, that on the same principles a man is wretched, not when he is unable to choke lions,<sup>3</sup> or throw his arms about statues<sup>4</sup> (for no man has brought with him from nature into this world faculties for this), but when he has lost his kind-

<sup>3</sup> That is, accomplish something almost superhuman, like Heracles.

<sup>4</sup> That is, in cold weather, as Diogenes was able to do. See III. 12, 2.



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 15 εὐγνωμον, ὁ τὸ πιστόν; τοῦτον ἔδει συνελθόντας  
 θρηνεῖν, εἰς ὅσα κακὰ ἐλήλυθεν· οὐχὶ μὰ Δία  
 τὸν φύντα ἢ τὸν ἀποθανόντα, ἀλλ' ὃ ζῶντι  
 συμβεβήκει ἀπολέσαι τὰ ἴδια, οὐ τὰ πατρῶα,  
 τὸ ἀγρίδιον καὶ τὸ οἰκίδιον καὶ τὸ πανδοκεῖον  
 καὶ τὰ δουλάρια (τούτων γὰρ οὐδὲν ἴδιον τῷ  
 ἀνθρώπῳ ἐστίν, ἀλλὰ πάντα ἀλλότρια, δοῦλα,  
 ὑπεύθυνα ἄλλοτε ἄλλοις διδόμενα ὑπὸ τῶν κυ-  
 ρίων), ἀλλὰ τὰ ἀνθρωπικά, τοὺς χαρακτῆρας,  
 16 οὓς ἔχων ἐν τῇ διανοίᾳ ἐλήλυθεν, οἷους καὶ ἐπὶ  
 τῶν νομισμάτων ζητοῦντες, ἂν μὲν εὖρωμεν, δοκι-  
 μάζομεν, ἂν δὲ μὴ εὖρωμεν, ῥιπτοῦμεν. “τίνος  
 17 ἔχει τὸν χαρακτῆρα τοῦτο τὸ τετράσσαρον;  
 Τραιανοῦ; φέρε. Νέρωνος; ῥῖψον ἔξω, ἀδό-  
 κιμόν ἐστιν, σαπρόν.” οὕτως καὶ ἐνθάδε. τίνα

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<sup>1</sup> The quotations (slightly modified) are from a famous passage in Euripides, *Cresphontes*, frag. 449, Nauck<sup>2</sup>: “For we ought rather to come together to mourn for the one who is born, because of all the evils into which he is coming; but, on the other hand, the one who has died, we ought with joy and words of gladness to send forth from his former abode.”

<sup>2</sup> The gods.

<sup>3</sup> This reference is most obscure, for the coins of Nero still preserved are numerous and excellent, and there was a great systematic reform of coinage in A.D. 64, which became “the most complete monetary system of ancient times” (Mattingly and Sydenham, *The Roman Imperial Coinage* (1923), I, 138). After the death of Caligula, indeed, the senate ordered all his bronze coinage to be melted down (Dio, LX. 22, 3), but nothing of the sort is recorded, so far as I know, for Nero. There was, of course, a slight reduction in weight for the aureus and the denarius, and “the amount of alloy in the silver was increased from 5 to about 10 per cent.,” changes which have been regarded as the first step in the process of debasement that reached its climax in the third century.

ness, and his faithfulness? This is the kind of person for whom "men should come together and mourn, because of all the evils into which he has come"; not, by Zeus, "the one who is born," or "the one who has died,"<sup>1</sup> but the man whose misfortune it has been while he still lives to lose what is his own; not his patrimony, his paltry farm, and paltry dwelling, and his tavern, and his poor slaves (for none of these things is a man's own possession, but they all belong to others, are subservient and subject, given by their masters<sup>2</sup> now to one person and now to another); but the qualities which make him a human being, the imprints which he brought with him in his mind, such as we look for also upon coins, and, if we find them, we accept the coins, but if we do not find them, we throw the coins away. "Whose imprint does this sestertius bear? Trajan's? Give it to me. Nero's? Throw it out, it will not pass, it is rotten."<sup>3</sup> So also in the moral life. What imprint do his

See E. A. Sydenham, *Num. Chron.*, ser. 4, vol. 16 (1916), 19. Nero's particular system of brass and copper coinage was also discontinued after his death (*ibid.* p. 28). Yet it is scarcely credible that Epictetus can have had any trifles like these in mind.—Of course the *moral* point here, which Dr. Page wishes to have emphasized, is that Trajan was the typically good man (*felicior Augusto, melior Traiano* was an acclamation in the Roman Senate for centuries after his death—Eutropius, 8, 5), and Nero the opposite. But the difficulty in the passage is to understand how it ever occurred to Epictetus to imply that people actually refused to take coins of Nero, simply because they bore the imprint of a morally bad man, when, as a matter of fact, it is extremely doubtful if any human being, except perhaps some hopeless fanatic, ever really did so refuse. A note by T. O. Mabbott, "Epictetus and Nero's Coinage", *CP* 36 (1941) 398-9, explains this perfectly.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἔχει χαρακτῆρα τὰ δόγματα αὐτοῦ ; “ ἡμερον, κοινωνικόν, ἀνεκτικόν, φιλάλληλον.” φέρε, παραδέχομαι, ποιῶ πολίτην τοῦτον, παραδέχομαι  
 18 γείτονα, σύμπλουν. ὅρα μόνον, μὴ Νερωνιανὸν ἔχει χαρακτῆρα. μή τι ὀργίλος ἐστίν, μή τι μηνιτῆς, μή τι μεμψίμοιρος ; “ ἂν αὐτῷ φανῇ,  
 19 πατάσσει τὰς κεφαλὰς τῶν ἀπαντῶντων.” τί οὖν ἔλεγες, ὅτι ἄνθρωπός ἐστιν ; μὴ γὰρ ἐκ ψιλῆς μορφῆς κρίνεται τῶν ὄντων ἕκαστον ; ἐπεὶ  
 20 οὕτως λέγε καὶ τὸ κήρινον μῆλον εἶναι. καὶ ὁδμήν ἔχειν αὐτὸ δεῖ καὶ γεῦσιν· οὐκ ἄρκει ἡ ἐκτὸς περιγραφή. οὐκοῦν οὐδὲ πρὸς τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἡ ῥῖς ἐξαρκεῖ καὶ οἱ ὀφθαλμοί, ἀλλ’ ἂν τὰ  
 21 δόγματα ἔχῃ ἀνθρωπικά. οὗτος οὐκ ἀκούει λόγου, οὐ παρακολουθεῖ ἐλεγχόμενος· ὄνος ἐστίν. τούτου τὸ αἰδήμον ἀπονενέκρωται· ἄχρηστός ἐστιν, πρόβατον,<sup>1</sup> πάντα μᾶλλον ἢ ἄνθρωπος. οὗτος ζητεῖ, τίνα ἀπαντήσας λακτίσῃ ἢ δάκῃ· ὥστε οὐδὲ πρόβατον ἢ ὄνος, ἀλλὰ τί ποτε ἄγριον θηρίον.  
 22 Τί οὖν ; θέλεις με καταφρονεῖσθαι ;—Ὑπὸ τίνων ; ὑπὸ εἰδότων ; καὶ πῶς καταφρονήσουσιν εἰδότες τοῦ πράου, τοῦ αἰδήμονος ; ἀλλ’ ὑπὸ τῶν ἀγνοούντων ; τί σοι μέλει ; οὐ τινι γὰρ ἄλλῳ  
 23 τεχνίτῃ τῶν ἀτέχνων.—Ἀλλὰ πολὺ μᾶλλον

<sup>1</sup> πρόβατον added by C. Schenkl (after Salmasius).

<sup>1</sup> Suetonius, *Nero*, 26.

<sup>2</sup> It would seem that the beeswax used in leather sewing was familiarly called “the cobbler’s apple,” and when on sale may have been moulded in that shape. Such metaphors are common enough, as is also the habit of making things like

judgements bear? "He is gentle, generous, patient, affectionate." Give him to me, I accept him, I make this man a citizen, I accept him as a neighbour and a fellow-voyager. Only see that he does not have the imprint of Nero. Is he choleric, furious, querulous? "If he feels like it, he punches the heads of the people he meets."<sup>1</sup> Why, then, did you call him a human being? For surely everything is not judged by its outward appearance only, is it? Why, if that is so, you will have to call the lump of beeswax an apple.<sup>2</sup> No, it must have the smell of an apple and the taste of an apple; its external outline is not enough. Therefore, neither are the nose and the eyes sufficient to prove that one is a human being, but you must see whether one has the judgements that belong to a human being. Here is a man who does not listen to reason, he does not understand when he is confuted; he is an ass. Here is one whose sense of self-respect has grown numb; he is useless, a sheep, anything but a human being. Here is a man who is looking for someone whom he can kick or bite when he meets him; so that *he* is not even a sheep or an ass, but some wild beast.

What then? Do you want me to be despised?—By whom? By men of understanding? And how will men of understanding despise the gentle and the self-respecting person? No, but by men without understanding? What difference is that to you? Neither you nor any other craftsman cares about those who are not skilled in his art.—Yes, but they will fasten themselves upon me all the more.—What

vases, cakes, candy, pincushions, soap, etc., in the shape of fruits or animals.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἐπιφυήσονται μοι.—Τί λέγεις τὸ ἐμοί ; δύναται τις τὴν προαίρεσιν τὴν σὴν βλάψαι ἢ κωλύσαι ταῖς προσπιπτούσαις φαντασίαις χρῆσθαι ὡς
- 24 πέφυκεν ;—Οὔ.—Τί οὖν ἔτι ταραύσση καὶ φοβερὸν σαυτὸν θέλεις ἐπιδεικνύνειν ; οὐχὶ δὲ παρελθὼν εἰς μέσον κηρύσσεις, ὅτι εἰρήνην ἄγεις πρὸς πάντας ἀνθρώπους, ὅ τι ἂν ἐκεῖνοι ποιῶσι, καὶ μάλιστ' ἐκείνων καταγελαῆς, ὅσοι σε βλάπτειν δοκοῦσιν ; “ἀνδράποδα ταῦτα οὐκ οἶδεν οὐδὲ τίς εἰμὶ οὐδὲ ποῦ μου τὸ ἀγαθὸν καὶ τὸ κακόν· οὐ<sup>1</sup> πρόσσδος αὐτοῖς πρὸς τὰ ἐμά.”
- 25 Οὕτως καὶ ἐχυρὰν πόλιν οἱ<sup>2</sup> οἰκοῦντες καταγελῶσι τῶν πολιορκούντων· “νῦν οὗτοι τί πρᾶγμα ἔχουσιν ἐπὶ τῷ μηδενί ; ἀσφαλές ἐστιν ἡμῶν τὸ τεῖχος, τροφὰς ἔχομεν ἐπὶ πάμπολυν
- 26 χρόνον, τὴν ἄλλην ἅπασαν παρασκευήν.” ταῦτά ἐστι τὰ πόλιν ἐχυρὰν καὶ ἀνάλωτον ποιοῦντα, ἀνθρώπου δὲ ψυχὴν οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἢ δόγματα. ποῖον γὰρ τεῖχος οὕτως ἰσχυρὸν ἢ ποῖον σῶμα οὕτως ἀδαμάντινον ἢ ποία κτῆσις ἀναφαίρετος ἢ
- 27 ποῖον ἀξίωμα οὕτως ἀνεπιβούλευτον ; πάντα πανταχοῦ θνητά, εὐάλωτα, οἷς τισιν τὸν ὁπωσοῦν προσέχοντα πᾶσα ἀνάγκη ταραύσσεσθαι, κακελπιστεῖν, φοβεῖσθαι, πενθεῖν, ἀτελεῖς ἔχειν τὰς
- 28 ὀρέξεις, περιπτωτικὰς ἔχειν τὰς ἐκκλίσεις. εἴτα οὐ θέλομεν τὴν μόνην δεδομένην ἡμῖν ἀσφάλειαν ἐχυρὰν ποιεῖν ; οὐδ' ἀποστάντες τῶν θνητῶν καὶ δούλων τὰ ἀθάνατα καὶ φύσει ἐλεύθερα ἐκπο-

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl : ὅτι S.

<sup>2</sup> οἱ added by Schenkl.

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<sup>1</sup> Perhaps a reference to Xenophon, *Cyropædeia*, VII. 5, 13.

do you mean by the word "me"? Can anyone hurt your moral purpose, or prevent you from employing in a natural way the sense-impressions which come to you?—No.—Why, then, are you any longer disturbed, and why do you want to show that you are a timid person? Why do you not come forth and make the announcement that you are at peace with all men, no matter what they do, and that you are especially amused at those who think that they are hurting you? "These slaves do not know either who I am, or where my good and my evil are; they cannot get at the things that are mine."

In this way also those who inhabit a strong city laugh at the besiegers:<sup>1</sup> "Why are these men taking trouble now to no end? Our wall is safe, we have food for ever so long a time, and all other supplies." These are the things which make a city strong and secure against capture, and nothing but judgements make similarly secure the soul of man. For what manner of wall is so strong, or what manner of body so invincible, or what manner of possession so secure against theft, or what manner of reputation so unassailable? For all things everywhere are perishable, and easy to capture by assault, and the man who in any fashion sets his mind upon any of them must needs be troubled in mind, be discouraged, suffer fear and sorrow, have his desires fail, and his aversions fall into what they would avoid. If this be so, are we not willing to make secure the one means of safety which has been vouchsafed us? And are we not willing to give up these perishable and slavish things, and devote our labours to those which are imperishable and by

- νεῖν ; οὐδὲ μεμνήμεθα, ὅτι οὔτε βλάπτει ἄλλος  
 ἄλλον οὔτε ὠφελεῖ, ἀλλὰ τὸ περὶ ἐκάστου τού-  
 των δόγμα, τοῦτό ἐστι τὸ βλάπτον, τοῦτο τὸ  
 ἀνατρέπον, τοῦτο μάχη, τοῦτο στάσις, τοῦτο  
 29 πόλεμος ; Ἐτεοκλέα καὶ Πολυνείκη τὸ πεποιηκὸς  
 οὐκ ἄλλο ἢ τοῦτο, τὸ δόγμα τὸ περὶ τυραννίδος,  
 τὸ δόγμα τὸ περὶ φυγῆς, ὅτι τὸ μὲν ἔσχατον  
 30 τῶν κακῶν, τὸ δὲ μέγιστον τῶν ἀγαθῶν. φύσις  
 δ' αὕτη παντός, τὸ διώκειν τὸ ἀγαθόν, φεύγειν τὸ  
 κακόν· τὸν ἀφαιρούμενον θατέρου καὶ περι-  
 βάλλοντα τῷ ἐναντίῳ, τοῦτον ἡγεῖσθαι πολέμιον,  
 ἐπίβουλον, καὶ ἀδελφὸς ἢ, καὶ υἱός, καὶ πατήρ·  
 31 τοῦ γὰρ ἀγαθοῦ συγγενέστερον οὐδέν. λοιπὸν εἰ  
 ταῦτα ἀγαθὰ καὶ κακά, οὔτε πατήρ υἱοῖς φίλος  
 οὔτ' ἀδελφὸς ἀδελφῷ, πάντα δὲ πανταχοῦ μεστὰ  
 32 πολεμίῳ, ἐπιβούλων, συκοφαντῶν. εἰ δ' οἷα  
 δεῖ προαίρεσις, τοῦτο μόνον ἀγαθόν ἐστιν, καὶ οἷα  
 μὴ δεῖ, τοῦτο μόνον κακόν, ποῦ ἔτι μάχη, ποῦ  
 λοιδορία ; περὶ τίνων ; περὶ τῶν οὐδὲν πρὸς  
 ἡμᾶς ; πρὸς τίνας ; πρὸς τοὺς ἀγνοοῦντας, πρὸς  
 τοὺς δυστυχοῦντας, πρὸς τοὺς ἡπατημένους περὶ  
 τῶν μεγίστων ;  
 33 Τούτων Σωκράτης μεμνημένος τὴν οἰκίαν τὴν  
 αὐτοῦ ἄκει γυναικὸς ἀνεχόμενος τραχυτάτης,  
 υἱοῦ ἀγνώμονος. τραχεῖα γὰρ πρὸς τί ἦν ; ἔν'

<sup>1</sup> Famous enemy brothers : cf. II. 22, 13-14.



## BOOK IV. v. 28-33

nature free? And do we not remember that no man either hurts or helps another, but that it is his judgement about each of these things which is the thing that hurts him, that overturns him; this is contention, and civil strife, and war? That which made Eteocles and Polyneices<sup>1</sup> what they were was nothing else but this—their judgement about a throne, and their judgement about exile, namely, that one was the greatest of evils, the other the greatest of goods. And this is the nature of every being, to pursue the good and to flee from the evil; and to consider the man who robs us of the one and invests us with the other as an enemy and an aggressor, even though he be a brother, even though he be a son, even though he be a father; for nothing is closer kin to us than our good. It follows, then, that if these externals are good or evil, neither is a father dear to his sons, nor a brother dear to a brother, but everything on all sides is full of enemies, aggressors, slanderers. But if the right kind of moral purpose and that alone is good, and if the wrong kind of moral purpose and that alone is bad, where is there any longer room for contention, where for reviling? About what? About the things that mean nothing to us? Against whom? Against the ignorant, against the unfortunate, against those who have been deceived in the most important values?

All this is what Socrates bore in mind as he managed his house, putting up with a shrewish wife and an unkindly son.<sup>2</sup> For to what end was she

<sup>2</sup> Perhaps referring to Xenophon, *Memorabilia*, II. 2, where his son Lamprocles is represented as having lost his temper at the constant scolding of Xanthippe.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ὑδωρ καταχέη τῆς κεφαλῆς ὅσον καὶ θέλει, ἵνα  
καταπατήσῃ τὸν πλακοῦντα· καὶ τί πρὸς ἐμέ, ἂν  
34 ὑπολάβω, ὅτι ταῦτα οὐκ ἔστι πρὸς ἐμέ; τοῦτο δ'  
ἐμὸν ἔργον ἐστὶ καὶ οὔτε τύραννος κωλύσει με  
θέλοντα οὔτε δεσπότης οὔτε οἱ πολλοὶ τὸν ἕνα  
οὔθ' ὁ ἰσχυρότερος τὸν ἀσθενέστερον· τοῦτο γὰρ  
35 ἀκώλυτον δέδοται ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐκάστω. ταῦτα  
τὰ δόγματα ἐν οἰκίᾳ φιλίαν ποιεῖ, ἐν πόλει  
ὁμόνοϊαν, ἐν ἔθνεσιν εἰρήνην, πρὸς θεὸν εὐχάρισ-  
τον, πανταχοῦ θαρροῦντα, ὡς περὶ τῶν ἄλλο-  
36 τρίων, ὡς περὶ οὐδενὸς ἀξίων. ἀλλ' ἡμεῖς  
γράψαι μὲν καὶ ἀναγνῶναι ταῦτα καὶ ἀναγιγνω-  
σκόμενα ἐπαινέσαι ἱκανοί, πεισθῆναι δ' οὐδ'  
37 ἐγγύς. τοιγαροῦν τὸ περὶ τῶν Λακεδαιμονίων  
λεγόμενον

οἴκοι λέοντες, ἐν Ἐφέσῳ δ' αἰλώπεκες  
καὶ ἐφ' ἡμῶν ἀρμόσει· ἐν σχολῇ λέοντες, ἔξω δ'  
αἰλώπεκες.

ς'. Πρὸς τοὺς ἐπὶ τῷ ἐλεεῖσθαι ὀδυνωμένους.

- 1 Ἀνιῶμαι, φησίν, ἐλεούμενος.—Πότερον οὖν σὸν  
ἔργον ἐστὶ τὸ ἐλεεῖσθαί σε ἢ τῶν ἐλεούντων; τί  
δ'; ἐπὶ σοί ἐστι τὸ παῦσαι αὐτό;—Ἐπ' ἐμοί, ἂν

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<sup>1</sup> It was a present from Alcibiades. For the incidents here referred to see Seneca, *De Constantia*, 18, 5; Diogenes Laertius, 2, 36; Athenaeus, 5, 219 B and 14, 643 F; Aelian, *Varia Historia*, 11, 12.

shrewish? To the end that she might pour all the water she pleased over his head, and might trample underfoot the cake.<sup>1</sup> Yet what is that to me, if I regard these things as meaning nothing to me? But this control over the moral purpose is my true business, and in it neither shall a tyrant hinder me against my will, nor the multitude the single individual, nor the stronger man the weaker; for this has been given by God to each man as something that cannot be hindered. These are the judgements which produce love in the household, concord in the State, peace among the nations, make a man thankful toward God, confident at all times, on the ground that he is dealing with things not his own, with worthless things. We, however, although we are capable of writing and reading these things, and praising them when read, are nowhere near capable of being persuaded of them. Wherefore, the proverb about the Lacedaemonians,

Lions at home, but at Ephesus foxes,<sup>2</sup>  
will fit us too: Lions in the school-room, foxes outside.

## CHAPTER VI

*To those who are vexed at being pitied*

I AM annoyed, says one, at being pitied.—Is it, then, some doing of yours that you are pitied, or the doing of those who show the pity? Or again; is it in your power to stop it?—It is, if I can show

<sup>2</sup> Because of their ill-success in Asia Minor. See also the scholium on Aristophanes, *Pax*, 1189.

δεικνύω αὐτοῖς μὴ ἄξιον ἐλέου ὄντα ἑμαυτόν.—

- 2 Πότερον δ' ἤδη σοι ὑπάρχει τοῦτο, τὸ μὴ εἶναι ἐλέου ἄξιον ἢ οὐχ ὑπάρχει ;—Δοκῶ ἔγωγε, ὅτι ὑπάρχει. ἀλλ' οὐτοί γ' οὐκ ἐπὶ τούτοις ἐλεοῦσιν, ἐφ' οἷς, εἴπερ ἄρα, ἦν ἄξιον, ἐπὶ τοῖς ἁμαρτανόμενοις, ἀλλ' ἐπὶ πενία καὶ ἀναρχία καὶ νόσοις  
3 καὶ θανάτοις καὶ ἄλλοις τοιούτοις.—Πότερον οὖν πείθειν παρεσκεύασαι τοὺς πολλούς, ὡς ἄρα οὐδὲν τούτων κακὸν ἐστίν, ἀλλ' οἷόν τε καὶ πένητι καὶ ἀνάρχοντι<sup>1</sup> καὶ ἀτίμῳ εὐδαιμονεῖν, ἢ σαυτὸν ἐπιδεικνύειν αὐτοῖς πλουτοῦντα καὶ ἄρχοντα ;  
4 τούτων γὰρ τὰ μὲν δεύτερα ἀλαζόνος καὶ ψυχροῦ καὶ οὐδενὸς ἀξίου. καὶ ἡ προσποίησης ὅρα δι' οἷων ἂν γένοιτο· δουλάριά σε χρήσασθαι δεήσει καὶ ἀργυρωμάτια ὀλίγα κεκτῆσθαι καὶ ταῦτα ἐν φανερώῳ δεικνύειν, εἰ οἷόν τε, ταῦτά πολλάκις καὶ λανθάνειν πειρᾶσθαι ὅτι ταῦτά ἐστιν, καὶ ἱματίδια στιλπνὰ καὶ τὴν ἄλλην πομπὴν καὶ τὸν τιμώμενον ἐπιφαίνειν ὑπὸ τῶν ἐπιφανεστάτων<sup>2</sup> καὶ δειπνεῖν πειρᾶσθαι παρ' αὐτοῖς ἢ δοκεῖν γε, ὅτι δειπνεῖς, καὶ περὶ τὸ σῶμα δέ τινα κακοτεχνεῖν, ὡς εὐμορφότερον φαίνεσθαι καὶ γενναιότε-  
5 ρον τοῦ ὄντος· ταῦτά σε δεῖ μηχανᾶσθαι, εἰ τὴν δευτέραν ὁδὸν ἀπιέναι θέλεις ὥστε μὴ ἐλεεῖσθαι.

Ἡ πρώτη δὲ καὶ ἀνήνυτος καὶ μακρά, ὃ ὁ Ζεὺς οὐκ ἠδυνήθη ποιῆσαι, τοῦτο αὐτὸ ἐπιχειρεῖν, πάντας ἀνθρώπους πείσαι, τίνα ἐστὶν ἀγαθὰ καὶ

<sup>1</sup> Upton's "codex": ἄρχοντι S.

<sup>2</sup> Elter: ἐπιφανῶν τούτων S.

them that I do not deserve their pity.—And do you now possess the power of not being deserving of pity, or do you not possess it?—It seems to me, indeed, that I possess it. Yet these people do not pity me for what would deserve pity, if anything does, that is, my mistakes; but for poverty, and for not holding office, and for things like disease, and death, and the like.—Are you, then, prepared to convince the multitude that none of these things is bad, but that it is possible for a poor man, and one who holds no office or position of honour, to be happy; or are you prepared to show yourself off to them as a rich man and an official? Of these alternatives the second is the part of a braggart, and a tasteless and worthless person. Besides, observe the means by which you must achieve your pretence: You will have to borrow some paltry slaves; and possess a few pieces of silver plate, and exhibit these same pieces conspicuously and frequently, if you can, and try not to let people know that they are the same; and possess contemptible bright clothes, and all other kinds of finery, and show yourself off as the one who is honoured by the most distinguished persons; and try to dine with them, or at least make people think that you dine with them; and resort to base arts in the treatment of your person, so as to appear more shapely and of gentler birth than you actually are. All these contrivances you must adopt, if you wish to take the way of the second alternative and avoid pity.

But the first way is ineffectual and tedious—to attempt the very thing which Zeus himself has been unable to accomplish, that is, to convince all men of what things are good, and what evil. Why, that

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 6 κακά. μὴ γὰρ δέδοται σοι τοῦτο ; ἐκεῖνο μόνον  
 σοι δέδοται, σαυτὸν πείσαι. καὶ οὐπω πέπεικας·  
 7 εἰτά μοι νῦν ἐπιχειρεῖς πείθειν τοὺς ἄλλους ; καὶ  
 τίς σοι τοσούτῳ χρόνῳ σύνεστιν ὥς σὺ σαυτῷ ; τίς  
 δὲ οὕτως πιθανός ἐστί σοι πρὸς τὸ πείσαι ὥς σὺ  
 σαυτῷ ; τίς δ' εὐνούστερον καὶ οἰκειότερον ἔχων ἢ  
 8 σὺ σαυτῷ ; πῶς οὖν οὐπω πέπεικας σαυτὸν μαθεῖν ;  
 νῦν οὐχὶ ἄνω κάτω ; τοῦτ' ἔστι περὶ ὃ ἐσπού-  
 δακας ; οὐ<sup>1</sup> μαυθάνειν, ὥστε ἄλυπος εἶναι καὶ  
 9 ἀτάραχος καὶ ἀταπείνωτος καὶ ἐλεύθερος ; πρὸς  
 ταῦτα οὖν οὐκ ἀκήκοας, ὅτι μία ἐστὶν ἡ ὁδὸς ἢ  
 φέρουσα, ἀφεῖναι τὰ ἀπροαίρετα καὶ ἐκστήναι  
 10 αὐτῶν καὶ ὁμολογῆσαι αὐτὰ ἀλλότρια ; τὸ οὖν  
 ἄλλον τι ὑπολαβεῖν περὶ σοῦ ποίου εἵδους ἐστίν ;  
 —Τοῦ ἀπροαιρέτου.—Οὐκοῦν οὐδὲν πρὸς σέ ; —  
 Οὐδέν.—Ἔτι οὖν δακνόμενος ἐπὶ τούτῳ καὶ  
 ταρασσόμενος οἷε πεπεῖσθαι περὶ ἀγαθῶν καὶ  
 κακῶν ;  
 11 Οὐ θέλεις οὖν ἀφεῖς τοὺς ἄλλους αὐτὸς σαυτῷ  
 γενέσθαι καὶ μαθητῆς καὶ διδάσκαλος ; “ ὄψονται  
 οἱ ἄλλοι, εἰ λυσιτελεῖ αὐτοῖς παρὰ φύσιν ἔχειν  
 καὶ διεξάγειν, ἐμοὶ δ' οὐδεὶς ἐστὶν ἐγγίωv ἐμοῦ.  
 12 τί οὖν τοῦτό ἐστιν, ὅτι τοὺς μὲν λόγους ἀκήκοα  
 τοὺς τῶν φιλοσόφων καὶ συγκατατίθεμαι αὐτοῖς,

<sup>1</sup> οὐ added by Schenkl.

has not been vouchsafed to you, has it? Nay, this only has been vouchsafed—to convince yourself. And you have not convinced yourself yet! And despite that, bless me! are you now trying to convince all other men? Yet who has been living with you so long as you have been living with yourself? And who is so gifted with powers of persuasion to convince you, as you are to convince yourself? Who is more kindly disposed and nearer to you than you are to yourself? How comes it, then, that you have not persuaded yourself to learn? Are not things now upside down? Is this what you have been in earnest about? Not to learn how to get rid of pain, and turmoil, and humiliation, and so become free? Have you not heard that there is but a single way which leads to this end, and that is to give up the things which lie outside the sphere of the moral purpose, and to abandon them, and to admit that they are not your own? To what class of things, then, does another's opinion about you belong?—To that which lies outside the sphere of the moral purpose.—And so it is nothing to you?—Nothing.—So long, then, as you are stung and disturbed by the opinions of others, do you still fancy that you have been persuaded as to things good and evil?

Will you not, then, let other men alone, and become your own pupil and your own teacher? “All other men shall see to it, whether it is profitable for them to be in a state out of accord with nature and so to live, but as for me no one is closer to myself than I am. What does it mean, then, that I have heard the words of the philosophers and assent to them, but that in actual fact my burdens have



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἔργῳ δ' οὐδὲν γέγονα κουφότερος; μή τι οὕτως  
 ἀφυῆς εἰμι; καὶ μὴν περὶ τὰ ἄλλα, ὅσα ἐβου-  
 λήθην, οὐ λίαν ἀφυῆς εὐρέθην, ἀλλὰ καὶ γράμ-  
 ματα ταχέως ἔμαθον καὶ παλαίειν καὶ γεωμε-  
 13 τρεῖν καὶ συλλογισμοὺς ἀναλύειν. μή τι οὖν οὐ  
 πέπεικέ με ὁ λόγος; καὶ μὴν οὐκ ἄλλα τινὰ  
 οὕτως ἐξ ἀρχῆς ἐδοκίμασα ἢ εἰλόμην καὶ νῦν  
 περὶ τούτων ἀναγιγνώσκω, ταῦτα ἀκούω, ταῦτα  
 γράφω· ἄλλον οὐχ εὐρήκαμεν μέχρι νῦν ἰσχυ-  
 14 ρότερον τούτου λόγον. τί οὖν τὸ λείπόν μοι  
 ἐστίν; μὴ οὐκ ἐξήρηται τὰναντία δόγματα; μὴ  
 αὐταὶ αἱ ὑπολήψεις ἀγύμναστοί εἰσιν οὐδ' εἰθις-  
 μέναι ἀπαντᾶν ἐπὶ τὰ ἔργα, ἀλλ' ὥς ὀπλάρια  
 ἀποκείμενα<sup>1</sup> κατίωται καὶ οὐδὲ περιαρμόσαι μοι  
 15 δύναται; καίτοι οὐτ' ἐπὶ τοῦ παλαίειν οὐτ' ἐπὶ  
 τοῦ γράφειν ἢ ἀναγιγνώσκειν ἀρκούμαι τῷ μαθεῖν,  
 ἀλλ' ἄνω κάτω στρέφω τοὺς προτεινομένους καὶ  
 16 ἄλλους πλέκω καὶ μεταπίπτοντας ὡσαύτως. τὰ δ'  
 ἀναγκαῖα θεωρήματα, ἀφ' ὧν ἔστιν ὀρμώμενον  
 ἄλυπον γενέσθαι, ἄφοβον, ἀπαθῆ, ἀκώλυτον,  
 ἐλεύθερον, ταῦτα δ' οὐ γυμνάζω οὐδὲ μελετῶ  
 17 κατὰ ταῦτα τὴν προσήκουσαν μελέτην. εἰτά  
 μοι μέλει, τί οἱ ἄλλοι περὶ ἐμοῦ ἐροῦσιν, εἰ φανοῦ-  
 μαι αὐτοῖς ἀξιόλογος, εἰ φανοῦμαι εὐδαίμων;”  
 18 Ταλαίπωρε, οὐ θέλεις βλέπειν, τί σὺ λέγεις  
 περὶ σαυτοῦ; τίς φαίνῃ σαυτῷ; τίς ἐν τῷ ὑπο-  
 λαμβάνειν, τίς ἐν τῷ ὀρέγεσθαι, τίς ἐν τῷ ἐκκλί-  
 νειν· τίς ἐν ὀρμῇ, παρασκευῇ, ἐπιβολῇ, τοῖς ἄλλοις

<sup>1</sup> Reiske: ἐπικείμενα S.

become no lighter? Can it be that I am so dull? And yet, indeed, in everything else that I have wanted I was not found to be unusually dull, but I learned my letters rapidly, and how to wrestle, and do my geometry, and analyse syllogisms. Can it be, then, that reason has not convinced me? Why, indeed, there is nothing to which I have so given my approval from the very first, or so preferred, and now I read about these matters, and hear them, and write about them. Down to this moment we have not found a stronger argument than this. What is it, then, that I yet lack? Can it be that the contrary judgements have not all been put away? Can it be that the thoughts themselves are unexercised and unaccustomed to face the facts, and, like old pieces of armour that have been stowed away, are covered with rust, and can no longer be fitted to me? Yet in wrestling, or in writing, or in reading, I am not satisfied with mere learning, but I turn over and over the arguments presented to me, and fashion new ones, and likewise syllogisms with equivocal premisses. However, the necessary principles, those which enable a man, if he sets forth from them, to get rid of grief, fear, passion, hindrance, and become free, these I do not exercise, nor do I take the practice that is appropriate for them. After all that, am I concerned with what everyone else will say about me, whether I shall appear important or happy in their eyes?"

O miserable man, will you not see what you are saying about yourself? What sort of a person are you in your own eyes? What sort of a person in thinking, in desiring, in avoiding; what sort of a person in choice, preparation, design, and the other

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- τοῖς ἀνθρωπικοῖς ἔργοις ; ἀλλὰ μέλει σοι, εἴ σε  
 19 ἐλεοῦσιν οἱ ἄλλοι ;—Ναί· ἀλλὰ παρὰ τὴν ἀξίαν  
 ἐλεοῦμαι.—Οὐκοῦν ἐπὶ τούτῳ ὀδυνᾷ ; ὁ δέ γε  
 ὀδυνώμενος ἐλεεινός ἐστιν ;—Ναί.—Πῶς οὖν ἔτι  
 παρὰ ἀξίαν ἐλεῇ ; αὐτοῖς γὰρ οἷς περὶ τὸν ἔλεον  
 πάσχεις κατασκευάζεις σεαυτὸν ἄξιον τοῦ ἐλεεῖ-  
 20 σθαι. τί οὖν λέγει Ἀντισθένης ; οὐδέποτ' ἤ-  
 κουσας ; “ βασιλικόν, ὦ Κῦρε, πράττειν μὲν εὖ,  
 21 κακῶς δ' ἀκούειν.” τὴν κεφαλὴν ὑγιᾶ ἔχω καὶ  
 πάντες οἴονται ὅτι κεφαλαλγῶ. τί μοι μέλει ;  
 ἀπύρετός εἰμι καὶ ὥς πυρέσσοντί μοι συνάχθου-  
 ται. “ τάλας, ἐκ τοσούτου χρόνου οὐ διέλειπες  
 πυρέσσων.” λέγω καὶ ἐγὼ σκυθρωπάσας ὅτι  
 “ ναί· ταῖς ἀληθείαις πολὺς ἤδη χρόνος, ἐξ οὗ μοι  
 κακῶς ἐστίν.” “ τί οὖν γένηται ;” ὥς ἂν ὁ  
 θεὸς θέλῃ. καὶ ἅμα ὑποκαταγελῶ τῶν οἰκτει-  
 ρόντων με.
- 22 Τί οὖν κωλύει καὶ ἐνταῦθα ὁμοίως ; πένης  
 εἰμί, ἀλλὰ ὀρθὸν δόγμα ἔχω περὶ πενίας. τί οὖν  
 μοι μέλει, εἴ μ' ἐπὶ τῇ πενίᾳ ἐλεοῦσιν ; οὐκ ἄρχω,  
 ἄλλοι δ' ἄρχουσιν. ἀλλ' ὃ δεῖ ὑπειληφέναι,  
 ὑπείληφα περὶ τοῦ ἄρχειν καὶ μὴ ἄρχειν.
- 23 ὄψονται οἱ ἐλεοῦντές με, ἐγὼ δ' οὔτε πεινῶ οὔτε  
 διψῶ οὔτε ῥιγῶ, ἀλλ' ἀφ' ὧν αὐτοὶ πεινῶσιν ἢ  
 διψῶσιν οἴονται καὶ μέ. τί οὖν αὐτοῖς ποιήσω ;  
 περιερχόμενος κηρύσσω καὶ λέγω “ μὴ πλα-  
 νᾶσθε, ἄνδρες, ἐμοὶ καλῶς ἐστίν· οὔτε πενίας

<sup>1</sup> So also Marcus Aurelius, 7, 36 ; and cf. Diogenes Laertius, 6, 3.

activities of men? Yet you are concerned whether the rest of mankind pity you?—Yes, but I do not deserve to be pitied.—And so you are pained at that? And is the man who is pained worthy of pity?—Yes.—How, then, do you fail to deserve pity after all? By the very emotion which you feel concerning pity you make yourself worthy of pity. What, then, says Antisthenes? Have you never heard? “It is the lot of a king, O Cyrus, to do well, but to be ill spoken of.”<sup>1</sup> My head is perfectly sound and yet everybody thinks I have a headache. What do I care? I have no fever, and yet everybody sympathizes with me as though I had: “Poor fellow, you have had a fever for ever so long.” I draw a long face too, and say, “Yes, it truly is a long time that I have been in a bad way.” “What is going to happen, then?” As God will, I reply, and at the same time I smile quietly to myself at those who are pitying me.

What, then, prevents me from doing the same thing in my moral life also? I am poor, but I have a correct judgement about poverty. Why, then, am I concerned, if men pity me for my poverty? I do not hold office, while others do. But I have the right opinion about holding office and not holding it. Let those who pity me look to it,<sup>2</sup> but as for myself, I am neither hungry, nor thirsty, nor cold, but from their own hunger and thirst they think I too am hungry and thirsty. What, then, am I to do for them? Shall I go about and make proclamation, and say, “Men, be not deceived, it is well with me.

<sup>2</sup> As in IV. 7, 23, and 8, 24, and Acts xviii. 15. Probably ὀψεί, in *S*, I. 4, 13, can be defended on the analogy of these other cases.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ἐπιστρέφομαι οὔτε ἀναρχίας οὔτε ἀπλῶς ἄλλου  
οὐδενὸς ἢ δογμάτων ὀρθῶν· ταῦτα ἔχω ἀκώλυτα,  
24 οὐδενὸς πεφρόντικα ἔτι"; καὶ τίς αὕτη φλυαρία;  
πῶς ἔτι ὀρθὰ δόγματα ἔχω μὴ ἀρκούμενος τῷ  
εἶναι ὅς εἰμι, ἀλλ' ἐπτοημένος ὑπὲρ τοῦ δοκεῖν;  
25 Ἄλλ' ἄλλοι πλειόνων τεύξονται καὶ προτι-  
μηθήσονται.—Τί οὖν εὐλογώτερον ἢ τοὺς περὶ τι  
ἐσπουδακότας ἐν ἐκείνῳ πλεῖον ἔχειν, ἐν ᾧ ἐσπου-  
δάκασιν; περὶ ἀρχὰς ἐσπουδάκασιν, σὺ περὶ  
δόγματα· καὶ περὶ πλούτου, σὺ περὶ τὴν χρῆσιν  
26 τῶν φαντασιῶν. ὄρα, εἰ ἐν τούτῳ σου πλεόν  
ἔχουσιν, περὶ ᾧ σὺ μὲν ἐσπούδακας, ἐκείνοι δ'  
ἀμελοῦσιν· εἰ συγκατατίθενται μᾶλλον περὶ τὰ  
φυσικὰ μέτρα, εἰ ὀρέγονταί σου ἀναποτευκτότερον,  
εἰ ἐκκλίνουσιν ἀπεριπτωτότερον, εἰ ἐν ἐπιβολῇ,  
ἐν προθέσει, εἰ ἐν ὀρμῇ μᾶλλον εὐστοχοῦσιν, εἰ  
τὸ πρέπον σῶζουσιν ὡς ἄνδρες, ὡς υἱοί, ὡς γονεῖς,  
εἰθ' ἐξῆς κατὰ τὰ ἄλλα τῶν σχέσεων ὀνόματα.  
27 εἰ δ' ἄρχουσιν ἐκείνοι, σὺ δ' <sup>1</sup> οὐ θέλεις σαντῶ  
τὰς ἀληθείας εἰπεῖν, ὅτι σὺ μὲν οὐδὲν τούτου  
ἔνεκα ποιεῖς, ἐκείνοι δὲ πάντα, ἀλογώτατον δὲ  
τὸν ἐπιμελούμενόν τινος ἔλαττον φέρεσθαι ἢ τὸν  
ἀμελοῦντα;
- 28 Οὔ,<sup>2</sup> ἀλλ' ἐπειδὴ φροντίζω ἐγὼ δογμάτων  
ὀρθῶν, εὐλογώτερόν μέ ἐστιν ἄρχειν.—Ἐν ᾧ

<sup>1</sup> Defended in apodosis by Reiske and Schenkl: Upton added ἀνὰ after δ' and Schweighäuser οὐ.

<sup>2</sup> Transferred to this position by s from before ἢ just above.

I take heed neither of poverty, nor lack of office, nor, in a word, anything else, but only correct judgements; these I possess free from hindrance, I have taken thought of nothing further"? And yet, what foolish talk is this? How do I any longer hold correct judgements when I am not satisfied with being the man that I am, but am excited about what other people think of me?

But others will get more than I do, and will be preferred in honour above me.—Well, and what is more reasonable than for those who have devoted themselves to something to have the advantage in that to which they have devoted themselves? They have devoted themselves to office, you to judgements; and they to wealth, you to dealing with your sense-impressions. See whether they have the advantage over you in what you have devoted yourself to, but they neglect; whether their assent is more in accord with natural standards, whether their desire is less likely to achieve its aim than is yours, whether their aversion is less likely to fall into what it would avoid, whether in design, purpose, and choice they hit the mark better, whether they observe what becomes them as men, as sons, as parents, and then, in order, through all the other terms for the social relations. But if they hold office, will you not tell yourself the truth, which is, that you do nothing in order to get office, while they do everything, and that it is most unreasonable for the man who pays attention to something to come off with less than the man who neglects it?

Nay, but because I greatly concern myself with correct judgements, it is more reasonable for *me* to

- φροντίζεις, ἐν δόγμασιν· ἐν ᾧ δ' ἄλλοι μᾶλλον σου πεφροντίκασιν, ἐκείνοις παραχώρει. οἷον εἰ διὰ τὸ δόγματα ἔχειν ὀρθὰ ἡξίους τοξεύων μᾶλλον ἐπιτυγχάνειν τῶν τοξοτῶν ἢ χαλκεύων μᾶλλον  
 29 τῶν χαλκέων. ἄφες οὖν τὴν<sup>1</sup> περὶ τὰ δόγματα σπουδὴν καὶ περὶ ἐκείνα ἀναστρέφου, ἃ κτήσασθαι θέλεις, καὶ τότε κλαῖε, εἰ σοι μὴ προχωρῇ.  
 30 κλαίειν γὰρ ἄξιος εἶ. νῦν δὲ πρὸς ἄλλοις γίνεσθαι λέγεις, ἄλλων ἐπιμελεῖσθαι, οἱ<sup>2</sup> πολλοὶ δὲ τοῦτο καλῶς λέγουσιν, ὅτι ἔργον ἔργῳ οὐ  
 31 κοινωνεῖ. ὁ μὲν ἐξ ὀρθρου ἀναστὰς ζητεῖ, τίνα ἐξ οἴκου τοῦ Καίσαρος<sup>3</sup> ἀσπάσεται, τίνι κεχαρισμένον λόγον εἶπη, τίνι δῶρον πέμψῃ, πῶς τῷ ὀρχηστῇ ἀρέσῃ, πῶς κακοηθισάμενος ἄλλον  
 32 ἄλλῳ χαρίσεται. ὅταν εὖχῃται, περὶ τούτων εὖχεται· ὅταν θύῃ, ἐπὶ τούτοις θύει· τὸ τοῦ Πυθαγόρου

μὴ δ' ὕπνον μαλακοῖσιν ἐπ' ὄμμασι προσδέξασθαι

- 33 ἐνταῦθα παρατέθεικεν. “‘πῇ παρέβην’ τῶν πρὸς κολακείαν; ‘τί ἔρεξα;’<sup>4</sup> μή τι ὥς ἐλεύθερος, μή τι ὥς γενναῖος;” καὶ εὖρῃ τι τοιοῦτον, ἐπιτιμᾷ ἑαυτῷ καὶ ἐγκαλεῖ, “τί γάρ σοι καὶ

<sup>1</sup> τίν supplied by Sb.

<sup>2</sup> Upton: καὶ S.

<sup>3</sup> τοῦ Καίσαρος added by Wolf: ἐξιόντα suggested by Reiske.

<sup>4</sup> Salmasius: ἔρεξα S.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. IV. 10, 24.

<sup>2</sup> *Golden Verses*, 40. See III. 10, 2.



rule.—Yes, in what you greatly concern yourself with, that is, judgements; but in that with which other men have concerned themselves more greatly than you have, give place to them. It is as though, because you have correct judgements, you insisted that you ought in archery to hit the mark better than the archers, or to surpass the smiths at their trade. Drop, therefore, your earnestness about judgements, and concern yourself with the things which you wish to acquire, and *then* lament if you do not succeed, for you have a right to do that. But as it is, you claim to be intent upon other things, to care for other things, and there is wisdom in what common people say, “One serious business has no partnership with another.”<sup>1</sup> One man gets up at early dawn and looks for someone of the household of Caesar to salute, someone to whom he may make a pleasant speech, to whom he may send a present, how he may please the dancer, how he may gratify one person by maliciously disparaging another. When he prays, he prays for these objects, when he sacrifices, he sacrifices for these objects. The word of Pythagoras,<sup>2</sup>

Also allow not sleep to draw nigh to your languorous eyelids,

he has wrested to apply here. “ ‘Where did I go wrong—’<sup>3</sup> in matters of flattery? ‘What did I do?’ Can it be that I acted as a free man, or as a man of noble character?” And if he find an instance of the sort, he censures and accuses himself: “Why, what

<sup>3</sup> The single quotation-marks enclose famous phrases from the *Golden Verses*, which Epictetus, with bitter irony, represents such a self-seeker as employing in a sense appropriate to his own contemptible behaviour.

- τοῦτο εἰπεῖν; οὐ γὰρ ἐνὴν ψεύσασθαι; λέγουσιν  
καὶ οἱ φιλόσοφοι, ὅτι οὐδὲν κωλύει ψεῦδος  
34 εἰπεῖν." σὺ δ' εἴπερ ταῖς ἀληθείαις οὐδενὸς  
ἄλλου πεφρόντικας ἢ<sup>1</sup> χρήσεως οἷας δεῖ φαντα-  
σιῶν, εὐθὺς ἀναστὰς ἔωθεν ἐνθυμοῦ "τίνα μοι  
λείπει πρὸς ἀπάθειαν; τίνα πρὸς ἀταραξίαν;  
τίς εἰμι; μή τι σωματίον, μή τι κτήσις, μή τι  
φήμη; οὐδὲν τούτων. ἀλλὰ τί; λογικόν εἰμι  
35 ζῶν." τίνα οὖν τὰ ἀπαιτήματα; ἀναπόλει τὰ  
πεπραγμένα. "'πῇ παρέβην' τῶν πρὸς εὖροιαν;  
'τί ἔρεξα' ἢ ἄφιλον ἢ ἀκοινώνητον ἢ ἄγνωμον;  
'τί μοι δέον οὐκ ἐτελέσθη' πρὸς ταῦτα;"  
36 Τοσαύτης οὖν διαφορᾶς οὔσης τῶν ἐπιθυμου-  
μένων, τῶν ἔργων, τῶν εὐχῶν ἔτι θέλεις τὸ ἴσον  
ἔχειν ἐκείνοις, περὶ ᾧ σὺ μὲν οὐκ ἐσπούδακας,  
37 ἐκείνοι δ' ἐσπουδάκασιν; εἴτα θαυμάζεις, εἴ σ'  
ἐλεοῦσιν, καὶ ἀγανακτεῖς; ἐκείνοι δ' οὐκ ἀγα-  
νακτοῦσιν, εἰ σὺ αὐτοὺς ἐλεεῖς. διὰ τί; ὅτι  
ἐκείνοι μὲν πεπεισμένοι εἰσίν, ὅτι ἀγαθῶν τυγ-  
38 χάνουσιν, σὺ δ' οὐ πέπεισαι. διὰ τοῦτο σὺ  
μὲν οὐκ ἀρκῇ τοῖς σοῖς, ἀλλ' ἐφίεσαι τῶν  
ἐκείνων· ἐκείνοι δ' ἀρκοῦνται τοῖς ἑαυτῶν καὶ  
οὐκ ἐφίενται τῶν σῶν. ἐπεὶ τοι εἰ ταῖς  
ἀληθείαις ἐπέπεισο, ὅτι περὶ τὰ ἀγαθὰ σὺ ὁ  
ἐπιτυγχάνων εἶ, ἐκείνοι δ' ἀποπεπλάνηνται, οὐδ'  
ἂν ἐνεθυμοῦ, τί λέγουσι περὶ σοῦ.

<sup>1</sup> ἢ supplied by s.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Stobaeus, *Ecl.* II. 7, 11<sup>m</sup> (vol. II. p. 111, 13 ff. Wachsmuth): "They (the Stoics) think that he (the wise man) will upon occasion employ falsehood in a number of different ways."

business did you have to say that? For wasn't it possible to lie? Even the philosophers say that there is nothing to hinder one's telling a lie."<sup>1</sup> But if in all truth you have concerned yourself greatly with nothing but the proper use of sense-impressions, then as soon as you get up in the morning bethink you, "What do I yet lack in order to achieve tranquillity? What to achieve calm? What am I? I am not a paltry body, not property, not reputation, am I? None of these. Well, what am I? A rational creature." What, then, are the demands upon you? Rehearse your actions. "'Where did I go wrong?' in matters conducive to serenity? 'What did I do' that was unfriendly, or unsocial, or unfeeling? 'What to be done was left undone' in regard to these matters?"

Since, therefore, there is so great a difference between the things which men desire, their deeds, and their prayers, do you still wish to be on an equal footing with them in matters to which you have not devoted yourself, but they have? And after all that, are you surprised if they pity you, and are you indignant? But they are not indignant if you pity them. And why? Because they are convinced that they are getting good things, while you are not so convinced in your own case. That is why you are not satisfied with what you have, but reach out for what they have. Because, if you had been truly convinced that, in the case of the things which are good, you are the one who is attaining them, while they have gone astray, you would not even have taken account of what they say about you.

## ζ'. Περὶ ἀφοβίας.

- 1 Τί ποιεῖ φοβερὸν τὸν τύραννον;—Οἱ δορυ-  
φόροι, φησὶν, καὶ αἱ μάχαιραι αὐτῶν καὶ ὁ ἐπὶ  
τοῦ κοιτῶνος καὶ οἱ ἀποκλείοντες τοὺς εἰσιόντας.
- 2 —Διὰ τί οὖν, ἂν παιδίον αὐτῷ προσαγάγῃς μετὰ  
τῶν δορυφόρων ὄντι, οὐ φοβεῖται; ἢ ὅτι οὐκ
- 3 αἰσθάνεται τούτων τὸ παιδίον; ἂν οὖν τῶν  
δορυφόρων τις αἰσθάνηται καὶ ὅτι μαχαίρας  
ἔχουσιν, ἐπ' αὐτὸ δὲ τοῦτο προσέρχεται αὐτῷ  
θέλων ἀποθανεῖν διὰ τινὰ περίστασιν καὶ ζητῶν  
ὑπ' ἄλλου παθεῖν αὐτὸ εὐκόλως, μή τι φοβεῖται  
τοὺς δορυφόρους;—Θέλει γὰρ τοῦτο, δι' ὃ φο-
- 4 βεροί εἰσιν.—Ἄν οὖν τις μὴτ' ἀποθανεῖν μήτε  
ζῆν θέλων ἐξ ἅπαντος ἀλλ' ὥς ἂν διδῶται,  
προσέρχεται αὐτῷ, τί κωλύει μὴ δεδοικότα
- 5 προσέρχεσθαι αὐτόν;—Οὐδέν.—Ἄν τις οὖν καὶ  
πρὸς τὴν κτῆσιν ὡσαύτως ἔχῃ καθάπερ οὗτος  
πρὸς τὸ σῶμα, καὶ πρὸς τὰ τέκνα καὶ τὴν  
γυναῖκα καὶ ἀπλῶς ὑπὸ τινος μανίας καὶ ἀπο-  
νοίας οὕτως ἢ διακείμενος, ὥστ' ἐν μηδενὶ  
ποιεῖσθαι τὸ ἔχειν ταῦτα ἢ μὴ ἔχειν, ἀλλ' ὥς  
ὀστρακίοις τὰ παιδιά παίζοντα περὶ μὲν τῆς  
παιδιᾶς διαφέρεται, τῶν ὀστρακίων δ' οὐ πεφρόν-  
τικεν, οὕτως δὲ καὶ οὗτος τὰς μὲν ὕλας παρ'  
οὐδὲν ἢ πεποιημένος, τὴν παιδιὰν δὲ τὴν περὶ  
αὐτὰς καὶ ἀναστροφὴν ἀσπάζεταιται· ποῖος ἔτι  
τούτῳ τύραννος φοβερὸς ἢ ποῖοι δορυφόροι ἢ  
ποῖαι μάχαιραι αὐτῶν;

## BOOK IV. vii. 1-5

### CHAPTER VII

#### *Of freedom from fear*

WHAT makes the tyrant an object of fear?—His guards, someone says, and their swords, and the chamberlain, and those who exclude persons who would enter.—Why, then, is it that, if you bring a child into the presence of the tyrant while he is with his guards, the child is not afraid? Is it because the child does not really feel the presence of the guards? If, then, a man really feels their presence, and that they have swords, but has come for that very purpose, for the reason that he wishes to die because of some misfortune, and he seeks to do so easily at the hand of another, he does not fear the guards, does he?—No, for what makes them terrible is just what he wants.—If, then, a man who has set his will neither upon dying nor upon living at any cost, but only as it is given him to live, comes into the presence of the tyrant, what is there to prevent such a man from coming into his presence without fear?—Nothing.—If, then, a man feel also about his property just as this other person feels about his body, and so about his children, and his wife, and if, in brief, he be in such a frame of mind, due to some madness or despair, that he cares not one whit about having, or not having, these things; but, as children playing with potsherds strive with one another about the game, but take no thought about the potsherds themselves, so this man also has reckoned the material things of life as nothing, but is glad to play with them and handle them—what kind of tyrant, or guards, or swords in the hands of guards can any more inspire fear in the breast of such a man?

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 6 Εἶτα ὑπὸ μανίας μὲν δύναται τις οὕτως διατεθῆναι πρὸς ταῦτα καὶ ὑπὸ ἔθους οἱ Γαλι-  
 λαῖοι· ὑπὸ λόγου δὲ καὶ ἀποδείξεως οὐδεὶς  
 δύναται μαθεῖν, ὅτι ὁ θεὸς πάντα πεποίηκεν τὰ  
 ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ καὶ αὐτὸν τὸν κόσμον ὅλον μὲν  
 ἀκώλυτον καὶ αὐτοτελῆ, τὰ ἐν μέρει δ' αὐτοῦ  
 7 πρὸς χρείαν τῶν ὅλων; τὰ μὲν οὖν ἄλλα πάντα  
 ἀπήλλακται τοῦ δύνασθαι παρακολουθεῖν τῇ  
 διοικήσει αὐτοῦ· τὸ δὲ λογικὸν ζῶον ἀφορμὰς  
 ἔχει πρὸς ἀναλογισμὸν τούτων ἀπάντων, ὅτι τε  
 μέρος ἐστὶ καὶ ποῖόν τι μέρος καὶ ὅτι τὰ μέρη  
 8 τοῖς ὅλοις εἴκειν ἔχει καλῶς. πρὸς τούτοις δὲ  
 φύσει γενναῖον καὶ μεγαλόψυχον καὶ ἐλεύθερον  
 γενόμενον ὁρᾷ, διότι τῶν περὶ αὐτὸ τὰ μὲν ἀκώλυτα  
 ἔχει καὶ ἐπ' αὐτῷ, τὰ δὲ κωλυτὰ καὶ ἐπ' ἄλλοις·  
 ἀκώλυτα μὲν τὰ προαιρετικά, κωλυτὰ δὲ τὰ  
 9 ἀπροαίρετα. καὶ διὰ τοῦτο, εἰ μὲν ἐν τούτοις  
 μόνοις ἡγήσεται τὸ ἀγαθὸν τὸ αὐτοῦ καὶ συμ-  
 φέρον, τοῖς ἀκωλύτοις καὶ ἐφ' ἑαυτῷ, ἐλεύθερον  
 ἔσται, εὖρουν, εὐδαιμον, ἀβλαβές, μεγαλόφρον,  
 εὐσεβές, χάριν ἔχον ὑπὲρ πάντων τῷ θεῷ,  
 μηδαμοῦ μεμφόμενον μηδενὶ τῶν γενομένων,  
 10 μηδενὶ<sup>1</sup> ἐγκαλοῦν· ἂν δ' ἐν τοῖς ἐκτὸς καὶ  
 ἀπροαιρέτοις, ἀνάγκῃ κωλύεσθαι αὐτό, ἐμποδί-  
 ζεσθαι, δουλεύειν τοῖς ἐκείνων ἔχουσιν ἐξουσίαν,

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser : μηδέν S.

<sup>1</sup> Obviously referring to the Christians, as the Scholiast saw. Cf. also II. 9, 19-21 and note, and Introd. p. xxvi f.

Therefore, if madness can produce this attitude of mind toward the things which have just been mentioned, and also habit, as with the Galilaeans,<sup>1</sup> cannot reason and demonstration teach a man that God has made all things in the universe, and the whole universe itself, to be free from hindrance, and to contain its end in itself, and the parts of it to serve the needs of the whole? Now all other animals have been excluded from the capacity to understand the governance of God, but the rational animal, man, possesses faculties that enable him to consider all these things, both that he is a part of them, and what kind of part of them he is, and that it is well for the parts to yield to the whole. And furthermore, being by nature noble, and high-minded, and free, the rational animal, man, sees that he has some of the things which are about him free from hindrance and under his control, but that others are subject to hindrance and under the control of others. Free from hindrance are those things which lie in the sphere of the moral purpose, and subject to hindrance are those which lie outside the sphere of the moral purpose. And so, if he regards his own good and advantage as residing in these things alone, in those, namely, which are free from hindrance and under his control, he will be free, serene, happy, unharmed, high-minded, reverent, giving thanks for all things to God, under no circumstances finding fault with anything that has happened, nor blaming anything; if, however, he regards his good and advantage as residing in externals and things outside the sphere of his moral purpose, he must needs be hindered and restrained, be a slave to those who have control over these things



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 11 ἂ τεθαύμακεν καὶ φοβεῖται, ἀνάγκη δ' ἀσεβὲς εἶναι ἅτε βλάπτεσθαι οἰόμενον ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ ἄνισον, αἰὲν αὐτῷ τοῦ πλείονος περιποιη-  
 τικόν, ἀνάγκη δὲ καὶ ταπεινὸν εἶναι καὶ  
 μικροπρεπές.
- 12 Ταῦτα τί κωλύει διαλαβόντα ζῆν κούφως καὶ  
 εὐηνίως, πάντα τὰ<sup>1</sup> συμβαίνειν δυνάμενα πρῶως  
 ἐκδεχόμενον, τὰ δ' ἤδη συμβεβηκότα φέροντα;
- 13 “θέλεις πενίαν;” φέρε καὶ γνώσῃ, τί ἐστὶ πενία  
 τυχοῦσα καλοῦ ὑποκριτοῦ. “θέλεις ἀρχάς;”  
 φέρε. θέλεις ἀναρχίαν; φέρε. ἀλλὰ πόνους
- 14 θέλεις;<sup>2</sup> φέρε καὶ πόνους. “ἀλλ' ἐξορισμόν;”  
 ὅπου ἂν ἀπέλθω, ἐκεῖ μοι καλῶς ἔσται· καὶ  
 γὰρ ἐνθάδε οὐ διὰ τὸν τόπον ἦν μοι καλῶς, ἀλλὰ  
 διὰ τὰ δόγματα, ἃ μέλλω μετ' ἑμαυτοῦ ἀπο-  
 φέρειν. οὐδὲ γὰρ δύναταί τις ἀφελέσθαι αὐτά,  
 ἀλλὰ ταῦτα μόνα ἐμὰ ἐστὶ καὶ ἀναφαίρετα καὶ  
 ἀρκεῖ μοι παρόντα, ὅπου ἂν ᾧ καὶ ὅ τι ἂν ποιῶ.
- 15 “ἀλλ' ἤδη καιρὸς ἀποθανεῖν.” τί λέγεις ἀπο-  
 θανεῖν; μὴ τραγώδει τὸ πρᾶγμα, ἀλλ' εἰπὲ ὥς  
 ἔχει “ἤδη καιρὸς τὴν ὕλην, ἐξ ᾧ συνῆλθεν, εἰς  
 ἐκεῖνα πάλιν ἀποκαταστήναι.” καὶ τί δεινόν;  
 τί μέλλει ἀπόλλυσθαι τῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, τί
- 16 γενέσθαι καινόν, παράλογον; τούτων ἕνεκα φο-  
 βερὸς ἐστὶν ὁ τύραννος; διὰ ταῦτα οἱ δορυφόροι  
 μεγάλας δοκοῦσιν ἔχειν τὰς μαχαίρας καὶ

<sup>1</sup> τὰ supplied by Sb.

<sup>2</sup> These last seven words (with the change of ἔχεις before ἀναρχίαν to θέλεις, by Schenkl) in the scholia a little below this point were seen by Lindsay to belong here.

<sup>1</sup> See *Encheiridion*, 17, and frag. 11 for parallels.

which he has admired and fears; he must needs be irreverent, forasmuch as he thinks that God is injuring him, and be unfair, always trying to secure for himself more than his share, and must needs be of an abject and mean spirit.

When a man has once grasped all this, what is there to prevent him from living with a light heart and an obedient disposition; with a gentle spirit awaiting anything that may yet befall, and enduring that which has already befallen? "Would you have me bear poverty?" Bring it on and you shall see what poverty is when it finds a good actor to play the part.<sup>1</sup> "Would you have me hold office?" Bring it on. "Would you have me suffer deprivation of office?" Bring it on. "Well, and would you have me bear troubles?" Bring them on too. "Well, and exile?" Wherever I go it will be well with me, for here where I am it was well with me, not because of my location, but because of my judgements, and these I shall carry away with me; nor, indeed, can any man take these away from me, but they are the only things that are mine, and they cannot be taken away, and with the possession of them I am content, wherever I be and whatever I do. "But it is now time to die." Why say "die"? Make no tragic parade of the matter, but speak of it as it is: "It is now time for the material of which you are constituted to be restored to those elements from which it came." And what is there terrible about that? What one of the things that make up the universe will be lost, what novel or unreasonable thing will have taken place? Is it for this that the tyrant inspires fear? Is it because of this that his guards seem to have long and sharp

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ὀξείας; ἄλλοις ταῦτα· ἐμοὶ δ' ἔσκεπται περὶ  
 17 πάντων, εἰς ἐμὲ οὐδεὶς ἐξουσίαν ἔχει. ἡλευθέρω-  
 μαι ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ, ἔγνωκα αὐτοῦ τὰς ἐντολάς,  
 οὐκέτι οὐδεὶς δουλαγωγῆσαί με δύναται, καρ-  
 18 πιστὴν ἔχω οἶον δεῖ, δικαστὰς οἷους δεῖ. “οὐχὶ  
 τοῦ σώματός σου<sup>1</sup> κύριός εἰμι;”<sup>1</sup> τί οὖν πρὸς  
 ἐμέ; “οὐχὶ τοῦ κτησιδίου;” τί οὖν πρὸς ἐμέ;  
 “οὐχὶ φυγῆς ἢ δεσμῶν;” πάλιν τούτων πάντων  
 καὶ τοῦ σωματίου ὅλου σοι αὐτοῦ ἐξίσταμαι,  
 ὅταν θέλῃς. πείρασαί μοί σου τῆς ἀρχῆς<sup>2</sup> καὶ  
 γνώσῃ, μέχρι τίνος αὐτὴν ἔχεις.  
 19 Τίνα οὖν ἔτι φοβηθῆναι δύναμαι; τοὺς ἐπὶ  
 τοῦ κοιτῶνος; μὴ τί ποιήσωσιν; ἀποκλείσωσί  
 με; ἂν με εὖρωσι θέλοντα εἰσελθεῖν, ἀπο-  
 κλεισάτωσαν.—Τί οὖν ἔρχῃ ἐπὶ θύρας;—“Οτι  
 καθήκειν ἐμαυτῷ δοκῶ μενούσης τῆς παιδιᾶς  
 20 συμπαίξειν.—Πῶς οὖν οὐκ ἀποκλείῃ;—“Οτι ἂν  
 μὴ τίς με δέχεται, οὐ θέλω εἰσελθεῖν, ἀλλ' αἰὲ  
 μᾶλλον ἐκεῖνο θέλω τὸ γινόμενον. κρεῖττον γὰρ  
 ἡγοῦμαι ὃ ὁ θεὸς θέλει ἢ ὃ ἐγώ. προσκείσομαι  
 διάκονος καὶ ἀκόλουθος ἐκείνῳ, συνορμῶ, συνο-  
 ρέγομαι,<sup>3</sup> ἀπλῶς συνθέλω. ἀποκλεισμός ἐμοὶ  
 21 οὐ γίνεται, ἀλλὰ τοῖς βιαζομένοις. διὰ τί οὖν  
 οὐ βιάζομαι; οἶδα γάρ, ὅτι ἔσω ἀγαθὸν οὐδὲν  
 διαδίδοται τοῖς εἰσελθοῦσιν. ἀλλ' ὅταν ἀκούσω

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser (after Wolf): μου and εἰ S.

<sup>2</sup> s and Schenkl, who adds μοί: πειράσομαί σου τὴν ἀρχήν S.

<sup>3</sup> Wolf (after Schegk): ὀρέγομαι S.

swords? Let others see to that; I have considered all this, no one has authority over me. I have been set free by God, I know His commands, no one has power any longer to make a slave of me, I have the right kind of emancipator, and the right kind of judges. "Am I not master of your body?" Very well, what is that to me? "Am I not master of your paltry property?" Very well, what is that to me? "Am I not master of exile or bonds?" Again I yield up to you all these things and my whole paltry body itself, whenever you will. Do make trial of your power, and you will find out how far it extends.

Who is there, then, that I *can* any longer be afraid of? Shall I be afraid of the chamberlains? For fear they do what? Lock the door in my face? If they find me wanting to enter, let them lock the door in my face!—Why, then, do you go to the gate of the palace?—Because I think it fitting for me to join in the game while the game lasts.—How, then, is it that you are not locked out?<sup>1</sup>—Because, if anyone will not receive me, I do not care to go in, but always I wish rather the thing which takes place. For I regard God's will as better than my will. I shall attach myself to Him as a servant and follower, my choice is one with His, my desire one with His, in a word, my will is one with His will. No door is locked in my face, but rather in the face of those who would force themselves in. Why, then, do I not force myself in? Why, because I know that within nothing good is distributed among those who have entered. But when I hear someone called blessed,

<sup>1</sup> That is, it cannot properly be said of a man that he is "locked out" if he does not "wish" to enter.

- τινὰ μακαριζόμενον, ὅτι τιμᾶται ὑπὸ τοῦ Καί-  
σαρος, λέγω “τί αὐτῷ συμβαίνει; μή τι οὖν  
καὶ δόγμα, οἷον δεῖ ἐπαρχία;<sup>1</sup> μή τι οὖν καὶ  
τὸ χρῆσθαι ἐπιτροπῇ; τί ἔτι διωθοῦμαι; ἰσχα-  
22 δοκάρυά τις διαρριπτεῖ;<sup>2</sup> τὰ παιδία ἀρπάζει καὶ  
ἀλλήλοις διαμάχεται· οἱ ἄνδρες οὐχί, μικρὸν  
γὰρ αὐτὸ ἡγοῦνται. ἂν δ' ὅστράκια διαρριπτῇ  
23 τις, οὐδὲ τὰ παιδία ἀρπάζει. ἐπαρχίαι διαδί-  
δονται· ὄψεται τὰ παιδία. ἀργύριον· ὄψεται  
τὰ παιδία. στρατηγία, ὑπατεία· διαρπαζέτω  
τὰ παιδία· ἐκκλειέσθω, τυπτέσθω, καταφιλείτω  
24 τὰς χεῖρας τοῦ διδόντος, τῶν δούλων· ἐμοὶ δ'  
ἰσχαδοκάρυόν ἐστιν.” τί οὖν, ἂν<sup>3</sup> ἀπὸ τύχης  
ῥιπτοῦντος αὐτοῦ ἔλθῃ εἰς τὸν κόλπον ἰσχάς;  
ἄρας κατέφαγον<sup>4</sup> μέχρι τοσούτου γὰρ ἔστι καὶ  
ἰσχάδα τιμῆσαι. ἵνα δὲ κύψω<sup>5</sup> καὶ ἄλλον  
ἀνατρέψω ἢ ὑπ' ἄλλου ἀνατραπῶ καὶ κολακεύσω  
τοὺς εἰσιέντας,<sup>6</sup> οὐκ ἀξία οὐτ' ἰσχὰς οὐτ' ἄλλο τι  
τῶν οὐκ ἀγαθῶν, ἃ με ἀναπεπέικασιν οἱ φιλό-  
σοφοι μὴ δοκεῖν ἀγαθὰ εἶναι.
- 25 Δείκνυέ μοι τὰς μαχαίρας τῶν δορυφόρων.  
“ἰδοῦ, ἡλίκαι εἰσὶ καὶ πῶς ὀξεῖαι.” τί οὖν  
ποιοῦσιν αἱ μεγάλαι αὗται μάχαιραι καὶ ὀξεῖαι;  
26 “ἀποκτιννύουσιν.” πυρετὸς δὲ τί ποιεῖ; “ἄλλο  
οὐδέν.” κεραμῖς δὲ τί ποιεῖ; “ἄλλο οὐδέν.”

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl: ἐπαρχίαν S. The passage is extremely condensed if not actually lacunose. This comparatively simple change enables one to secure the general sense required, whether or not it was originally expressed in this form.

<sup>2</sup> Bentley and Schenkl<sup>2</sup>: διαρρίπτῃ S. But cf. *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* 52 (1921) 51.

<sup>3</sup> ἂν added by Sc.

<sup>4</sup> κατάφαγε s and Schenkl.

<sup>5</sup> Wolf: κρύψω S.

<sup>6</sup> Elter: εἰσιόντας (“those who enter the palace”) S.

because he is being honoured by Caesar, I say, "What is his portion? Does he, then, get also a judgement such as he ought to have for governing a province? Does he, then, get also the ability to administer a procuratorship? Why should I any longer push my way in? Somebody is scattering dried figs and nuts; the children snatch them up and fight with one another, the men do not, for they count this a small matter. But if somebody throws potsherds around, not even the children snatch them up. Governorships are being passed around. The children shall see<sup>1</sup> to that. Money. The children shall see to that. A praetorship, a consulship. Let the children snatch them up; let the children have the door locked in their faces, take a beating, kiss the hands of the giver, and the hands of his slaves. As for me, it's a mere scattering of dried figs and nuts." But what, then, if, when the man is throwing them about, a dried fig chances to fall into my lap? I take it up and eat it. For I may properly value even a dried fig as much as that. But neither a dried fig, nor any other of the things not good, which the philosophers have persuaded me not to think good, is of sufficient value to warrant my grovelling and upsetting someone else, or being upset by him, or flattering those who have flung the dried figs among us.

Show me the swords of the guards. "See how large and how sharp they are!" What, then, do these large and sharp swords do? "They kill." And what does fever do? "Nothing else." And what does a tile do? "Nothing else." Do you

<sup>1</sup> See note on IV. 6, 23.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

θέλεις οὖν πάντα ταῦτα θαυμάζω καὶ προσκυνῶ  
καὶ δοῦλος πάντων περιέρχωμαι; μὴ γένοιτο·  
27 ἀλλ' ἅπαξ μαθὼν, ὅτι τὸ γινόμενον καὶ φθαρῆναι  
δεῖ, ἵνα ὁ κόσμος μὴ ἴσθηται μηδ' ἐμποδίζεται,  
οὐκέτι διαφέρομαι, πότερον πυρετὸς αὐτὸ ποιή-  
σει ἢ κεραμὶς ἢ στρατιώτης, ἀλλ' εἰ δεῖ συγ-  
κρίναι, οἶδ' ὅτι ἀπονώτερον αὐτὸ καὶ ταχύτερον  
28 ὁ στρατιώτης ποιήσει. ὅταν οὖν μήτε φοβῶμαι  
τι ὧν διαθεῖναι με δύναται μήτ' ἐπιθυμῶ τινὸς  
ὧν παρασχεῖν, τί ἔτι θαυμάζω αὐτόν, τί ἔτι  
τέθηπα; τί φοβοῦμαι τοὺς δορυφόρους; τί  
χαίρω, ἂν μοι φιλανθρώπως λαλήσῃ καὶ ἀπο-  
δέξηται με, καὶ ἄλλοις διηγοῦμαι, πῶς μοι  
29 ἐλάλησεν; μὴ γὰρ Σωκράτης ἐστίν, μὴ γὰρ  
Διογένης, ἵν' ὁ ἔπαινος αὐτοῦ ἀπόδειξις ἢ περὶ  
30 ἐμοῦ; μὴ γὰρ τὸ ἦθος ἐξήλωκα αὐτοῦ; ἀλλὰ  
τὴν παιδιὰν σφύζων ἔρχομαι πρὸς αὐτόν<sup>1</sup> καὶ  
ὑπηρετῶ, μέχρις ἂν ὅτου μηδὲν ἀβέλτερον κελεύῃ  
μηδ' ἄρρυθμον. ἂν δέ μοι λέγῃ “ἀπελθε ἐπὶ  
Λέοντα τὸν Σαλαμίνιον,” λέγω αὐτῷ “ζήτει  
31 ἄλλον· ἐγὼ γὰρ οὐκέτι παίζω.” “ἅπαγε αὐτόν.”  
ἀκολουθῶ ἐν παιδιᾷ. “ἀλλ' ἀφαιρεῖταί σου ὁ  
τράχηλος.” ἐκείνου δ' αὐτοῦ αἰεὶ ἐπιμένει, ὑμῶν  
δὲ τῶν πειθομένων; “ἀλλ' ἄταφος ῥιφήσῃ.”  
εἰ ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ νεκρός, ῥιφήσομαι· εἰ δ' ἄλλος

<sup>1</sup> S: ἐμαντόν S.

<sup>1</sup> See note on IV. 1, 160.

<sup>2</sup> As was sometimes done as a last insult to the dead. Epictetus may also have had in mind the celebrated remark of Diogenes before his death, who, when his friends protested against his request that he be thrown out unburied (Diogenes



want me, then, to respect and do obeisance to all these things, and to go about as the slave of them all? Far from it! But if once I have learned that what is born must also perish, so that the world may not stand still, nor be hampered, it makes no difference to me whether a fever shall bring that consummation, or a tile, or a soldier; but, if I must make a comparison, I know that the soldier will bring it about with less trouble and more speed. Seeing, therefore, that I neither fear anything of all that the tyrant is able to do with me, nor greatly desire anything of all that he is able to provide, why do I any longer admire him, why any longer stand in awe of him? Why am I afraid of his guards? Why do I rejoice if he speaks kindly to me and welcomes me, and why do I tell others how he spoke to me? He is not Socrates, is he, or Diogenes, so that his praise should be a proof of what I am? I have not been ambitious to imitate his character, have I? Nay, but acting as one who keeps the game going, I come to him and serve him so long as he commands me to do nothing foolish or unseemly. If, however, he says, "Go and bring Leon of Salamis,"<sup>1</sup> I reply, "Try to get someone else, for I am not playing any longer." "Take him off to prison," says the tyrant about me. "I follow, because that is part of the game." "But your head will be taken off." And does the tyrant's head always stay in its place, and the heads of you who obey him? "But you will be thrown out unburied."<sup>2</sup> If the corpse is I, then I shall be thrown out; but if I am something different from

Laertius, 6, 79), ironically suggested that his staff be laid by his side to keep away the dogs and carrion birds. Cicero, *Tusc. Disp.* 1, 104; Ps.-Diog. *Epist.* 25.

- εἰμὶ τοῦ νεκροῦ, κομψότερον λέγε, ὥς ἔχει τὸ  
 32 πρᾶγμα, καὶ μὴ ἐκφόβει με. τοῖς παιδίοις ταῦτα  
 φοβερά ἐστι καὶ τοῖς ἀνοήτοις. εἰ δέ τις εἰς  
 φιλοσόφου σχολὴν ἄπαξ εἰσελθὼν οὐκ οἶδεν, τί  
 ἐστὶν αὐτός, ἄξιός ἐστι φοβεῖσθαι καὶ κολακεύειν  
 οὔσπερ πρότερον<sup>1</sup> ἐκολάκευεν· εἰ μήπω μεμείθηκεν.  
 ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι σὰρξ οὐδ' ὅστ' αὖ οὐδὲ νεῦρα, ἀλλὰ  
 τὸ τούτοις χρώμενον, τὸ<sup>2</sup> καὶ διοικοῦν καὶ παρα-  
 κολουθοῦν ταῖς φαντασίαις.
- 33 Ναί· ἄλλ' οἱ λόγοι οὗτοι καταφρονητὰς  
 ποιοῦσι τῶν νόμων.—Καὶ ποῖοι μᾶλλον λόγοι  
 πειθομένους παρέχουσι τοῖς νόμοις τοὺς χρω-  
 34 μένους; νόμος δ' οὐκ ἔστι τὰ ἐπὶ μωρῷ. καὶ  
 ὅμως ὅρα, πῶς καὶ πρὸς τούτους ὡς δεῖ ἔχοντας  
 παρασκευάζουσιν, οἳ γε διδάσκουσιν μηδενὸς  
 ἀντιποιεῖσθαι πρὸς αὐτούς, ἐν οἷς ἂν ἡμᾶς  
 35 νικῆσαι δύνωνται.<sup>3</sup> περὶ τὸ σωματίον διδάσκου-  
 σιν ἐξίστασθαι, περὶ τὴν κτῆσιν ἐξίστασθαι,  
 περὶ τὰ τέκνα, γονεῖς, ἀδελφούς, πάντων παρα-  
 χωρεῖν, πάντα ἀφιέναι· μόνα τὰ δόγματα ὑπε-  
 ξαιροῦνται, ἃ καὶ ὁ Ζεὺς ἐξαίρετα ἐκάστου  
 36 εἶναι ἠθέλησεν. ποία ἐνθάδε παρανομία, ποία  
 ἀβελτερία; ὅπου κρείττων εἶ καὶ ἰσχυρότερος,  
 ἐκεῖ σοι ἐξίσταμαι· ὅπου πάλιν ἐγὼ κρείττων,  
 37 σὺ παραχώρει μοι. ἐμοὶ γὰρ μεμέληκεν, σοὶ δ'  
 οὔ. σοὶ μέλει, πῶς ἐν ὀρθοστρώτοις οἰκῆς, ἔτι<sup>4</sup>  
 πῶς παῖδές σοι καὶ πιλλᾶτοι διακονῶσιν, πῶς

<sup>1</sup> οὔσπερ Capps (Schweighäuser οὔσ), πρότερον Oldfather (in part after Page): δ ὕστερον (sic) S. Capps would prefer οὔσπερ νῦν κολακεύεις.

<sup>2</sup> Schenkl: S uncertain.

<sup>3</sup> Schweighäuser: δύνανται S.

<sup>4</sup> Schenkl: οἰκῆσεται S.

the corpse, speak with more discrimination, as the fact is, and do not try to terrify me. These things are terrifying to the children and the fools. But if a man who has once entered a philosopher's lecture does not know what he himself is, he deserves to be in a state of fear, and also to flatter those whom he used to flatter before;<sup>1</sup> if he has not yet learned that he is not flesh, nor bones, nor sinews, but that which employs these, that which both governs the impressions of the senses and understands them.

Oh yes, but statements like these make men despise the laws.—Quite the contrary, what statements other than these make the men who follow them more ready to obey the laws? Law is not simply anything that is in the power of a fool. And yet see how these statements make us behave properly even toward these fools, because they teach us to claim against such persons nothing in which they can surpass us. They teach us to give way when it comes to our paltry body, to give way when it comes to our property, to our children, parents, brothers, to retire from everything, let everything go; they except only our judgements, and it was the will of Zeus also that these should be each man's special possession. What do you mean by speaking of lawlessness and stupidity here? Where you are superior and stronger, there I give way to you; and again, where I am superior, you retire in favour of me. For I have made these matters my concern, and you have not. It is your concern how to live in marble halls,<sup>2</sup> and further, how slaves and freedmen are to

<sup>1</sup> That is, before he began to attend lectures in philosophy. But the text is highly uncertain.

<sup>2</sup> Strictly speaking, walls covered with a veneer of variegated marble.

- ἐσθῆτα περίβλεπτον φορῆς, πῶς κυνηγοὺς πολ-  
 38 λούς ἔχης, πῶς κιθαρωδοὺς, τραγωδοὺς. μή τι  
 ἀντιποιοῦμαι; μή τι οὖν δογμάτων σοι μεμέ-  
 ληκε; μή τι τοῦ λόγου τοῦ σεαυτοῦ; μή τι  
 οἶδας, ἐκ τίνων μορίων συνέστηκεν, πῶς συνά-  
 γεται, τίς ἡ διάρθρωσις αὐτοῦ, τίνας ἔχει  
 39 δυνάμεις καὶ ποίας τινάς; τί οὖν ἀγανακτεῖς,  
 εἰ ἄλλος ἐν τούτοις σου πλεον ἔχει ὁ μεμελε-  
 τηκώς;—Ἀλλὰ ταῦτ' ἐστὶ τὰ μέγιστα.—Καὶ  
 τίς σε κωλύει περὶ ταῦτ' ἀναστρέφεισθαι καὶ  
 τούτων ἐπιμελεῖσθαι; τίς δὲ μείζονα ἔχει πα-  
 ρασκευὴν βιβλίων, εὐσυχολίας, τῶν ὠφελησόντων;  
 40 μόνον ἀπόνειυσόν ποτε ἐπὶ ταῦτα, ἀπόνειμον καὶ  
 ὀλίγον χρόνον τῷ σαυτοῦ ἡγεμονικῷ· σκέψαι τί  
 ποτ' ἔχεις τοῦτο καὶ πόθεν ἐληλυθός, τὸ πᾶσιν  
 τοῖς ἄλλοις χρώμενον, πάντα τᾶλλα δοκίμαζον,  
 41 ἐκλεγόμενον, ἀπεκλεγόμενον. μέχρι δ' ἂν οὐ  
 περὶ τὰ ἐκτὸς ἀναστρέφῃ, ἐκεῖνα ἔξεις οἷα οὐδεὶς,  
 τοῦτο δ' οἶον αὐτὸ ἔχειν θέλεις, ῥυπαρὸν καὶ  
 ἀτημέλητον.

ἡ'. Πρὸς τοὺς ταχέως ἐπὶ τὸ σχῆμα τῶν  
 φιλοσόφων ἐπιπηδῶντας.

- 1 Μηδέποτ' ἀπὸ τῶν κοινῶν τινὰ μήτ' ἐπαι-  
 νέσητε μήτε ψέξητε μήτε τέχνην τινὰ ἢ ἀτεχ-

<sup>1</sup> Those who sang to their own accompaniment on the harp.

<sup>2</sup> See IV. 4, 44.

serve you, how you are to wear conspicuous clothing, how to have many hunting dogs, citharoedes,<sup>1</sup> and tragedians. I do not lay claim to any of these, do I? You, then, have never concerned yourself with judgements, have you? Or with your own reason, have you? You do not know, do you, what are its constituent parts, how it is composed, what its arrangement is, what faculties it has, and what their nature is? Why, then, are you disturbed if someone else, the man, namely, who has concerned himself with these matters, has the advantage of you therein?—But these are the most important things that there are.—And who is there to prevent you from concerning yourself with these matters, and devoting your attention to them? And who is better provided with books, leisure, and persons to help you? Only begin some time to turn your mind to these matters; devote a little time, if no more, to your own governing principle; consider what this thing is which you possess, and where it has come from, the thing which utilizes everything else, submits everything else to the test, selects, and rejects. But so long as you concern yourself with externals, you will possess them in a way that no one else can match, but you will have this governing faculty in the state in which you want to have it, that is, dirty and neglected.

## CHAPTER VIII

*To those who hastily assume the guise of the philosophers*

NEVER bestow either praise or blame upon a man for the things which may be either good or bad,<sup>2</sup> nor

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νίαν προσμαρτυρήσητε· καὶ ἅμα μὲν προπετείας  
 2 ἑαυτοὺς ἀπαλλάξετε, ἅμα δὲ κακοηθείας. “οὗτος  
 ταχέως λούεται.” κακῶς οὖν ποιεῖ; οὐ πάντως.  
 3 ἀλλὰ τί; ταχέως λούεται.—Πάντα οὖν καλῶς  
 γίνεται;—Οὐδαμῶς· ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν ἀπὸ δογμα-  
 των ὀρθῶν καλῶς, τὰ δ' ἀπὸ μοχθηρῶν μοχ-  
 θηρῶς. σὺ δὲ μέχρις ἂν καταμάθῃς τὸ δόγμα, ἀφ'  
 οὗ τις ποιεῖ ἕκαστα, μήτ' ἐπαίνει τὸ ἔργον μήτε  
 4 ψέγει. δόγμα δ' ἐκ τῶν ἐκτὸς οὐ ῥαδίως κρίνεται.  
 “οὗτος τέκτων ἐστίν.” διὰ τί; “χρήται σκε-  
 πάρνῳ.” τί οὖν τοῦτο; “οὗτος μουσικός· ᾄδει  
 γάρ.” καὶ τί τοῦτο; “οὗτος φιλόσοφος.” διὰ  
 5 τί; “τρίβωνα γὰρ ἔχει καὶ κόμην.” οἱ δ'  
 ἀγύρται τί ἔχουσιν; διὰ τοῦτο, ἂν ἀσχημο-  
 νοῦντά τις ἴδῃ τινὰ αὐτῶν, εὐθύς λέγει “ἰδοὺ  
 ὁ φιλόσοφος τί<sup>1</sup> ποιεῖ.” ἔδει δ' ἀφ' ὧν ἡσχη-  
 μόνηι μᾶλλον λέγειν αὐτὸν μὴ εἶναι φιλόσοφον.  
 6 εἰ μὲν γὰρ αὕτη ἐστὶν ἡ τοῦ φιλοσόφου πρό-  
 ληψις καὶ ἐπαγγελία, ἔχειν τρίβωνα καὶ κόμην,  
 καλῶς ἂν ἔλεγον· εἰ δ' ἐκείνη μᾶλλον, ἀναμάρ-  
 τητον εἶναι, διὰ τί οὐχὶ διὰ τὸ μὴ πληροῦν τὴν  
 ἐπαγγελίαν ἀφαιροῦνται αὐτὸν τῆς προσηγορίας;  
 7 οὕτως γὰρ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων τεχνῶν. ὅταν  
 ἴδῃ τις κακῶς πελεκῶντα, οὐ λέγει “τί ὄφελος  
 τεκτονικῆς; ἰδοὺ οἱ τέκτονες οἷα ποιοῦσι κακά,”  
 ἀλλὰ πᾶν τοῦναντίον λέγει “οὗτος οὐκ ἔστι

<sup>1</sup> τί added by Reiske.

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<sup>1</sup> That is, no conclusion about right or wrong can be drawn from an action, in itself indifferent, the moral purpose of which one does not know.

credit him with either skill or want of skill; and by so doing you will escape from both rashness and malice. "This man is hasty about bathing." Does he, therefore, do wrong? Not at all. But what is he doing? He is hasty about bathing.—Is all well, then?—That by no means follows;<sup>1</sup> but only the act which proceeds from correct judgements is well done, and that which proceeds from bad judgements is badly done. Yet until you learn the judgement from which a man performs each separate act, neither praise his action nor blame it. But a judgement is not readily determined by externals. "This man is a carpenter." Why? "He uses an adze." What, then, has that to do with the case? "This man is a musician, for he sings." And what has that to do with the case? "This man is a philosopher." Why? "Because he wears a rough cloak and long hair." And what do hedge-priests wear? That is why, when a man sees some one of them misbehaving, he immediately says, "See what the philosopher is doing." But he ought rather to have said, judging from the misbehaviour, that the person in question was not a philosopher. For if the prime conception and profession of the philosopher is to wear a rough cloak and long hair, their statement would be correct; but if it is rather this, to be free from error, why do they not take away from him the designation of philosopher, because he does not fulfil the profession of one? For that is the way men do in the case of the other arts. When someone sees a fellow hewing clumsily with an axe, he does not say, "What's the use of carpentry? See the bad work the carpenters do!" but quite the contrary, he says, "This fellow is no



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- 8 τέκτων, πελεκᾶ γὰρ κακῶς.” ὁμοίως κὰν ἄδοντός  
 τινος ἀκούσῃ κακῶς, οὐ λέγει “ἰδοὺ πῶς  
 ἄδουσιν οἱ μουσικοί,” ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον ὅτι<sup>1</sup> “οὗτος  
 9 οὐκ ἔστι μουσικός.” ἐπὶ φιλοσοφίας δὲ μόνης  
 τοῦτο πάσχουσιν· ὅταν τινὰ ἴδωσι παρὰ τὸ  
 ἐπάγγελμα τὸ τοῦ φιλοσόφου ποιούντα, οὐχὶ  
 τῆς προσηγορίας ἀφαιροῦνται αὐτόν, ἀλλὰ  
 θέντες εἶναι φιλόσοφον, εἰτ’ ἀπ’ αὐτοῦ τοῦ  
 γινομένου λαβόντες, ὅτι ἀσχημονεῖ, ἐπάγουσι  
 10 μὴδὲν ὄφελος εἶναι τοῦ φιλοσοφεῖν.  
 Τί οὖν τὸ αἴτιον; ὅτι τὴν μὲν τοῦ τέκτονος  
 πρόληψιν πρεσβεύομεν καὶ τὴν τοῦ μουσικοῦ  
 καὶ ὡσαύτως τῶν ἄλλων τεχνιτῶν, τὴν τοῦ  
 φιλοσόφου δ’ οὐ, ἀλλ’ ἅτε συγκεχυμένην καὶ  
 11 ἀδιάρθρωτον ἀπὸ τῶν ἐκτὸς μόνον κρίνομεν. καὶ  
 ποία ἄλλη τέχνη ἀπὸ σχήματος ἀναλαμβάνεται  
 καὶ κόμης, οὐχὶ δὲ καὶ θεωρήματα ἔχει καὶ ὕλην  
 12 καὶ τέλος; τίς οὖν ὕλη τοῦ φιλοσόφου; μὴ  
 τρίβων; οὐ, ἀλλὰ ὁ λόγος. τί τέλος; μὴ τι  
 φορεῖν τρίβωνα; οὐ, ἀλλὰ τὸ ὀρθὸν ἔχειν τὸν  
 λόγον. ποῖα θεωρήματα; μὴ τι τὰ περὶ τοῦ  
 πῶς πώγων μέγας γίνεται ἡ κόμη βαθεῖα;  
 ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον ἂ Ζήνων λέγει, γνῶναι τὰ τοῦ  
 λόγου στοιχεῖα, ποῖόν τι ἕκαστον αὐτῶν ἐστὶ  
 καὶ πῶς ἀρμόττεται πρὸς ἄλληλα καὶ ὅσα  
 13 τούτοις ἀκόλουθά ἐστιν. οὐ θέλεις οὖν ἰδεῖν  
 πρῶτον, εἰ πληροῖ τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν ἀσχημονῶν,

<sup>1</sup> s: οὗτος ὅτι S.

<sup>1</sup> The technical terminology of syllogistic reasoning is employed. Men “assume” or “lay down” (θέντες) the general principle in the major premiss; “take” (λαβόντες) from

carpenter, for he hews clumsily with the axe." And, similarly, if a man hears somebody singing badly, he does not say, "See how the musicians sing!" but rather, "This fellow is no musician." But it is only in the case of philosophy that men behave like this; when they see somebody acting contrary to the profession of the philosopher, they do not take away from him the designation of philosopher, but, assuming that he is a philosopher, and then taking <sup>1</sup> from what goes on that he is misbehaving, they conclude that there is no good in being a philosopher.

What, then, is the reason for this? It is because we respect the prime conception of the carpenter, and the musician, and so also of all the other artisans and artists, while we do not respect that of the philosopher, but as if it were confused and inarticulate in our minds we judge of it only from externals. And what other art is there that is acquired by guise and hair-dress, and does not have also principles, and subject-matter, and end? What, then, is subject-matter for the philosopher? It is not a rough cloak, is it? No, but reason. What is end for the philosopher? It is not to wear a rough cloak, is it? No, but to keep his reason right. What is the nature of his principles? They do not have to do with the question how to grow a long beard, or a thick head of hair, do they? Nay, rather, as Zeno says, to understand the elements of reason, what the nature of each one is, and how they are fitted one to another, and all the consequences of these facts. Will you not, therefore, observe first of all whether the philosopher fulfils his profession by misbehaving, observation or experience a fact as a minor premiss; and then "induce" or "conclude" (*ἐπαγαγουσι*).

- καὶ οὕτως τῷ ἐπιτηδεύματι ἐγκαλεῖν; νῦν δ', αὐτὸς ὅταν σωφρονῇς, ἐξ ὧν ποιεῖν σοι δοκεῖ κακῶς, λέγεις "ὄρα τὸν φιλόσοφον" (ὡς<sup>1</sup> πρέποντος λέγειν τὸν τὰ τοιαῦτα<sup>2</sup> ποιοῦντα φιλόσοφον) καὶ πάλιν "τοῦτο φιλόσοφός ἐστιν;"<sup>3</sup> "ὄρα" δὲ "τὸν τέκτονα" οὐ λέγεις, ὅταν μοι χεύοντά τινα γνῶς ἢ λιχνεύοντα ἰδῇς, οὐδὲ
- 14 "ὄρα τὸν μουσικόν." οὕτως ἐπὶ ποσὸν<sup>4</sup> αἰσθάνη καὶ αὐτὸς τῆς ἐπαγγελίας τοῦ φιλοσόφου, ἀπολισθάνεις δὲ καὶ συγχέῃ ὑπὸ ἀμελετησίας.
- 15 Ἄλλὰ καὶ αὐτοὶ οἱ καλούμενοι φιλόσοφοι ἀπὸ τῶν κοινῶν τὸ πρᾶγμα μετίασιν· εὐθὺς ἀναλαμβάνοντες τρίβωνα καὶ πώγωνα καθέντες φασὶν
- 16 "ἐγὼ φιλόσοφός εἰμι." οὐδεὶς δ' ἐρεῖ "ἐγὼ μουσικός εἰμι," ἂν πληκτρον καὶ κιθάραν ἀγοράσῃ, οὐδ' "ἐγὼ χαλκεύς εἰμι," ἂν πιλίον καὶ περιζῶμα περιθῇται, ἀλλ' ἀρμόζεται μὲν τὸ σχῆμα πρὸς τὴν τέχνην, ἀπὸ τῆς τέχνης δὲ τὸ ὄνομα, οὐκ ἀπὸ τοῦ σχήματος ἀναλαμβάνουσιν.
- 17 διὰ τοῦτο καλῶς Εὐφράτης ἔλεγεν ὅτι "ἐπὶ πολὺν ἐπειρώμην λανθάνειν φιλοσοφῶν καὶ ἦν μοι," φησὶν, "τοῦτο ὠφέλιμον. πρῶτον μὲν γὰρ ἤδειν, ὅσα καλῶς ἐποιοῦν, ὅτι οὐ διὰ τοὺς θεατὰς ἐποιοῦν, ἀλλὰ δι' ἑμαυτόν· ἡσθιον ἑμαυτῷ καλῶς, κατεσταλμένον εἶχον τὸ βλέμμα, τὸν

<sup>1</sup> οὐ after ὡς deleted by Sb.

<sup>2</sup> τοιαῦτα added by Schenkl (after Wolf).

<sup>3</sup> Elter's punctuation.

and then, if that be the case, blame his way of acting? But as it is, when you yourself are behaving decently, you say, on the basis of the evil that he seems to you to be doing, "Look at the philosopher," just as though it were proper to call a man who acts like that a philosopher; and again, "Is that what a philosopher is?" But you do not say, "Look at the carpenter," when you know that a man is an adulterer, or see a man eating greedily, nor do you say, under similar circumstances, "Look at the musician." Thus to a certain degree you too realize what the philosopher's profession is, but you backslide and get confused through carelessness.

But even those who are styled philosophers pursue their calling with means which are sometimes good and sometimes bad. For example, when they have taken a rough cloak and let their beards grow, they say, "I am a philosopher." But nobody will say, "I am a musician," if he buys a plectrum and a cithara; nor, "I am a smith," if he puts on a felt cap and an apron; but the guise is fitted to the art, and they get their name from the art, but not from the guise. That is why Euphrates<sup>1</sup> was right when he used to say: "For a long time I tried not to let people know that I was a philosopher, and this," he says, "was useful to me. For, in the first place, I knew that whatever I did well, I did so, not on account of the spectators, but on my own account; it was for my own sake that I ate well, and kept my countenance

<sup>1</sup> See on III. 15, 8, and compare for the uncertainty in men's minds how to classify Euphrates, Apollonius of Tyana, *Epistles*, 1.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 18 περίπατον· πάντα ἑμαυτῷ καὶ θεῷ. εἴτα ὥσπερ  
 ὁ μόνος ἡγωνιζόμενος, οὕτως ὁ μόνος καὶ ἐκινδύνευον·  
 οὐδὲν ἑμοὶ δρᾶσαντι τὸ αἰσχροῦ ἢ ἀπρεπὲς τὸ  
 τῆς<sup>1</sup> φιλοσοφίας ἐκινδυνεύετο, οὐδ' ἔβλαπτον  
 19 τοὺς πολλοὺς ὡς φιλόσοφος ἀμαρτάνων. διὰ τοῦτο  
 οἱ μὴ εἰδότες μου τὴν ἐπιβολὴν ἐθαύμαζον, πῶς  
 πᾶσι φιλοσόφοις χρώμενος καὶ συζῶν αὐτὸς  
 20 οὐκ ἐφιλοσόφουν. καὶ τί κακόν, ἐν οἷς ἐποιοῦν  
 ἐπιγιγνώσκεσθαι τὸν φιλόσοφον, ἐν δὲ τοῖς  
 συμβόλοις μή;

Βλέπε, πῶς ἐσθίω, πῶς πίνω, πῶς καθεύδω, πῶς  
 ἀνέχομαι, πῶς ἀπέχομαι, πῶς συνεργῶ, πῶς ὀρέ-  
 ξει χρῶμαι, πῶς ἐκκλίσει, πῶς τηρῶ τὰς σχέσεις  
 τὰς φυσικὰς ἢ ἐπιθέτους ἀσυγχύτως καὶ ἀπαρα-  
 21 ποδίστως· ἐκεῖθὲν με κρίνε, εἰ δύνασαι· εἰ δ'  
 οὕτως κωφὸς εἶ καὶ τυφλός, ἵνα μὴδὲ τὸν  
 "Ἡφαιστον ὑπολαμβάνης καλὸν χαλκέα, ἂν μὴ  
 τὸ πιλίον ἴδῃς περὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν περικείμενον,  
 τί κακόν ὑφ' οὕτως ἡλιθίου κριτοῦ ἀγνοεῖσθαι;

- 22 Οὕτως ἐλάνθανε<sup>2</sup> παρὰ τοῖς πλείστοις Σω-  
 κράτης καὶ ἤρχοντο πρὸς αὐτὸν ἀξιοῦντες φιλο-  
 23 σόφοις συσταθῆναι. μή τι οὖν ἡγανάκτει ὡς  
 ἡμεῖς καὶ ἔλεγεν, "ἐγὼ δέ σοι οὐ φαίνομαι  
 φιλόσοφος;" ἀλλ' ἀπῆγεν καὶ συνίστα ἐνὶ  
 ἀρκούμενος τῷ εἶναι φιλόσοφος, χαίρων δὲ καὶ  
 ὅτι μὴ δοκῶν οὐκ ἐδάκνετο· ἐμέμνητο γὰρ τοῦ  
 24 ἰδίου ἔργου. τί ἔργον καλοῦ καὶ ἀγαθοῦ; μα-

<sup>1</sup> τῆς supplied by Reiske.

<sup>2</sup> Sb in margin: ἐλάνθα S.

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<sup>1</sup> See note on III. 23. 21.

and gait composed ; it was all for myself and for God. And, secondly, as the contest was mine alone, so also I alone ran the risks ; in no respect through me, if I did what was disgraceful or unseemly, did the cause of philosophy come into danger, nor did I do harm to the multitude by going wrong as a philosopher. For that reason those who were ignorant of my purpose wondered how it was that, although I was familiar with all the philosophers and lived with them, I was myself not acting in the rôle of a philosopher. And what harm was there in having the philosopher that I was, recognized by what I did, rather than by the outward signs ? ”

See how I eat, how drink, how sleep, how endure, how refrain, how help, how employ desire and how aversion, how I observe my relationships, whether they be natural or acquired, without confusion and without hindrance ; judge me on the basis of all this, if you know how. But if you are so deaf and blind as not to regard even Hephaestus as a good smith unless you see the felt cap resting on his head, what harm can come from passing unrecognized by a judge so foolish ?

In this way the great majority of men failed to recognize Socrates, and so they used to come to him and ask to be introduced to philosophers !<sup>1</sup> Was he, then, irritated as we are, and would he say, “ And don’t *I* look like a philosopher to you ? ” No, but he used to take them and introduce them, and was satisfied with one thing, that is, *being* a philosopher, and glad that he was not annoyed at not being taken for one ; for he habitually bore in mind his own proper function. What is the function of a good and excellent man ? To have many

- θητὰς πολλοὺς ἔχειν; οὐδαμῶς. ὄψονται οἱ  
περὶ τοῦτο ἐσπουδακότες. ἀλλὰ θεωρήματα  
δύσκολα ἀκριβοῦν; ὄψονται καὶ περὶ τούτων  
25 ἄλλοι. ποῦ οὖν αὐτὸς καὶ ἦν τις καὶ εἶναι  
ἤθελεν; ὅπου βλάβη καὶ ὠφέλεια. “εἴ μέ  
τις,” φησὶν, “βλάβη δύναται, ἐγὼ οὐδὲν ποιῶ·  
εἰ ἄλλον περιμένω, ἵνα με ὠφελήσῃ, ἐγὼ οὐδὲν  
εἶμι. θέλω τι καὶ οὐ γίνεται· ἐγὼ ἀτυχὴς εἶμι.”  
26 εἰς τοσοῦτο σκάμμα προεκαλείτο πάντα ὄντι-  
ναοῦν καὶ οὐκ ἂν μοι δοκεῖ ἐκστῆναι οὐδενί—  
τί δοκεῖτε; καταγγέλλων καὶ λέγων “ἐγὼ τοιοῦ-  
τός εἰμι”; μὴ γένοιτο, ἀλλὰ ὧν τοιοῦτος.  
27 πάλιν γὰρ τοῦτο μωροῦ καὶ ἀλαζόνο “ἐγὼ  
ἀπαθὴς εἶμι καὶ ἀτάραχος· μὴ ἀγνοεῖτε, ὦ  
ἄνθρωποι, ὅτι ὑμῶν κυκλωμένων<sup>1</sup> καὶ θορυβου-  
μένων περὶ τὰ μηδενὸς ἄξια μόνος ἐγὼ ἀπήλ-  
28 λαγμαι πάσης ταραχῆς.” οὕτως οὐκ ἀρκεῖ σοι  
τὸ μηδὲν ἀλγεῖν, ἂν μὴ κηρύσσης “συνέλθετε  
πάντες οἱ ποδαγρῶντες, οἱ κεφαλαλγοῦντες, οἱ  
πυρέσσοντες, οἱ χωλοί, οἱ τυφλοί, καὶ ἴδετέ με  
29 ἀπὸ παντὸς πάθους ὑγιᾶ”; τοῦτο κενὸν καὶ  
φορτικόν, εἰ μὴ τι ὡς ὁ Ἀσκληπιὸς εὐθύς ὑπο-  
δείξαι δύνασαι, πῶς θεραπεύοντες αὐθις<sup>2</sup> ἔσονται  
ἄνοσοι κακεῖνοι, καὶ εἰς τοῦτο φέρεις παρά-  
δειγμα τὴν ὑγίειαν τὴν σεαυτοῦ.  
30 Τοιοῦτος γάρ τίς ἐστιν ὁ Κυνικὸς τοῦ σκήπτρου  
καὶ διαδήματος ἡξιωμένος παρὰ τοῦ Διὸς καὶ

<sup>1</sup> Reiske: κοιμωμένων *S.*<sup>2</sup> Reiske: εὐθύς *S.*<sup>1</sup> See note on IV. 6, 23.<sup>2</sup> Strictly speaking, the loosened and smoothed earth on



pupils? Not at all. Those who have set their hearts on it shall see to that.<sup>1</sup> Well, is it to set forth difficult principles with great precision? Other men shall see to these things also. In what field *was* he, then, somebody, and wished so to be? In the field where there was hurt and help. "If," says he, "a man can hurt me, what I am engaged in amounts to nothing; if I wait for somebody else to help me, I am myself nothing. If I want something and it does not happen, it follows that I am miserable." This was the mighty ring<sup>2</sup> to which he challenged every man whomsoever, and therein he would not, I believe, have given way before anyone in—what do you suppose?—in proclaiming and asserting "I am such and such a man"? Far from it! but in *being* such and such a man. For, again, it is the part of a fool and blowhard to say, "I am tranquil and serene; be not ignorant, O men, that while you are tossed about and are in turmoil over worthless things, I alone am free from every perturbation." So is it not enough for you yourself to feel no pain without proclaiming, "Come together, all you who are suffering from gout, headaches, and fever, the halt, and the blind, and see how sound I am, and free from every disorder"? That is a vain and vulgar thing to say, unless, like Asclepius, you are able at once to show by what treatment those others will also become well again, and for this end are producing your own good health as an example.

Such is the way of the Cynic who is deemed worthy of the sceptre and diadem of Zeus, and which wrestling matches were held, the ancient equivalent of our ring.

- λέγων “ἴν’ ἴδητε, ὦ ἄνθρωποι, ὅτι τὴν εὐδαι-  
 31 μονίαν καὶ ἀταραξίαν οὐχ ὅπου ἐστὶ ζητεῖτε,  
 ἀλλ’ ὅπου μὴ ἐστίν, ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ ὑμῖν παράδειγμα  
 ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ ἀπέσταλμαι μήτε κτῆσιν ἔχων  
 μήτε οἶκον μήτε γυναῖκα μήτε τέκνα, ἀλλὰ μηδ’  
 ὑπόστρωμα μηδὲ χιτῶνα μηδὲ σκεῦος· καὶ ἴδετε,  
 πῶς ὑγιαίνω· πειράθητέ μου καὶ ἴδητε ἀτάραχον,  
 ἀκούσατε τὰ φάρμακα καὶ ὑφ’ ὧν ἐθεραπεύθην.”  
 32 τοῦτο γὰρ ἤδη καὶ φιλάνθρωπον καὶ γενναῖον.  
 ἀλλ’ ὁρᾶτε, τίνος ἔργον ἐστίν· τοῦ Διὸς ἢ ὃν  
 ἂν ἐκεῖνος ἄξιον κρίνῃ ταύτης τῆς ὑπηρεσίας,  
 ἵνα μηδαμοῦ μηδὲν παραγυμνώσῃ πρὸς τοὺς  
 πολλούς, δι’ οὗ τὴν μαρτυρίαν τὴν αὐτοῦ, ἣν  
 τῇ ἀρετῇ μαρτυρεῖ καὶ τῶν ἐκτὸς καταμαρτυρεῖ,  
 αὐτὸς ἄκυρον ποιήσῃ·

οὗτ’ ὠχρήσαντα<sup>1</sup> χρῶα κάλλιμον οὕτε παρειῶν  
 δάκρυ’ ὁμορξάμενον.

- 33 κα οὐ μόνον ταῦτα, ἀλλ’ οὐδὲ ποθοῦντά τι ἢ  
 ἐπιζητοῦντα, ἄνθρωπον ἢ τόπον ἢ διαγωγὴν, ὥς  
 τὰ παιδία τὸν τρυγητὸν ἢ τὰς ἀργίας, αἰδοῖ  
 παταχοῦ κεκοσμημένον, ὥς οἱ ἄλλοι τοίχοις  
 καὶ θύραις καὶ θυρωροῖς.  
 34 Νῦν δ’ αὐτὸ μόνον κινηθέντες πρὸς φιλοσοφίαν,  
 ὥς οἱ κακοστόμαχοι πρὸς τι βρωμάτιον, ὃ μετὰ  
 μικρὸν σικχαίνειν μέλλουσιν, εὐθύς ἐπὶ τὸ σκῆπ-  
 τρον, ἐπὶ τὴν βασιλείαν. καθεῖκε τὴν κόμην,  
 ἀνείλκε τρίβωνα, γυμνὸν δεικνύει τὸν ὦμον,  
 μίχεται τοῖς ἀπαντῶσιν καὶ ἐν φαινόλῃ τινὰ

<sup>1</sup> Bentley : χωρήσαντα S.

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Odyssey*, XI. 529 f.

says, "That you may see yourselves, O men, to be looking for happiness and serenity, not where it is, but where it is not, behold, God has sent me to you as an example; I have neither property, nor house, nor wife, nor children, no, not even so much as a bed, or a shirt, or a piece of furniture, and yet you see how healthy I am. Make trial of me, and if you see that I am free from turmoil, hear my remedies and the treatment which cured me." For this, at length, is an attitude both humane and noble. But see whose work it is; the work of Zeus, or of him whom Zeus deems worthy of this service, to the end that he shall never lay bare to the multitudes anything whereby he shall himself invalidate the testimony which it is his to give in behalf of virtue, and against externals.

"Never there fell o'er his beauteous features a  
pallor, nor ever  
Wiped he the tears from his cheeks." <sup>1</sup>

And not merely that, but he must neither yearn for anything, nor seek after it—be it human being, or place, or manner of life—like children seeking after the season of vintage, or holidays; he must be adorned on every side with self-respect, as all other men are with walls, and doors, and keepers of doors.

But, as it is, being merely moved towards philosophy, like dyspeptics who are moved to some paltry foods, which they are bound in a short while to loathe, immediately these men are off to the sceptre, to the kingdom. One of them lets his hair grow long, he takes up a rough cloak, he shows his bare shoulder, he quarrels with the people he meets, and if he sees somebody in an overcoat he quarrels

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 35 ἴδῃ, μάχεται αὐτῷ. ἄνθρωπε, χειμάσκησον  
 πρῶτον· ἰδοῦ σου τὴν ὀρμὴν, μὴ κακοστομάχου  
 ἢ κισσώσης γυναικὸς ἔστιν. ἀγνοεῖσθαι μελέτη-  
 36 σον πρῶτον, τίς εἶ· σαυτῷ φιλοσόφησον ὀλίγον  
 χρόνον. οὕτως καρπὸς γίνεται· κατορυγῆναι δεῖ  
 εἰς<sup>1</sup> χρόνον τὸ σπέρμα, κρυφθῆναι, κατὰ μικρὸν  
 αὐξηθῆναι, ἵνα τελεσφορήσῃ. ἂν δὲ πρὸ τοῦ  
 γόνυ φῦσαι τὸν στάχυν ἐξενέγκῃ, ἀτελὲς ἔστιν,  
 37 ἐκ κήπου Ἀδωνιακοῦ. τοιοῦτον εἶ καὶ σὺ φυτά-  
 ριον· θάπτων τοῦ δέοντος ἡνθηκας, ἀποκαύσει σε  
 38 ὁ χειμῶν. ἰδοῦ, τί λέγουσιν οἱ γεωργοὶ περὶ τῶν  
 σπερμάτων, ὅταν πρὸ ὥρας θερμασίαι γένωνται ;  
 ἀγωνιώσιν, μὴ ἐξυβρίσῃ τὰ σπέρματα, εἴτα αὐτὰ  
 πάγος εἰς λαβὼν ἐξελέγξῃ. ὅρα καὶ σύ, ἄνθρωπε·  
 39 ἐξύβρικας, ἐπιπεπήδηκας δοξαρίῳ πρὸ ὥρας.  
 δοκεῖς τις εἶναι, μωρὸς παρὰ μωροῖς· ἀποπαγήσῃ,  
 μᾶλλον δ' ἀποπέπηγας ἤδη ἐν τῇ ῥίζῃ κάτω, τὰ  
 δ' ἄνω σου μικρὸν ἔτι ἀνθεῖ καὶ διὰ τοῦτο δοκεῖς  
 40 ἔτι ζῆν καὶ θάλλειν. ἄφες ἡμᾶς γε κατὰ φύσιν  
 πεπανθῆναι. τί ἡμᾶς ἀποδύεις, τί βιάζῃ ; οὐπω  
 δυνάμεθα ἐνεγκεῖν τὸν ἀέρα. ἔασον τὴν ῥίζαν

<sup>1</sup> εἰς added by Schenkl.

<sup>1</sup> Suggesting a very serious effort. See note on I. 2, 32.

<sup>2</sup> Early spring house-gardens in honour of Adonis, where seeds were thickly planted in porous earthenware, sponges, and the like, sprouting luxuriantly, and of course quickly fading (cf. the reference to them in Isaiah, 1. 29: "Ye shall be confounded for the gardens that ye have chosen.") The expression became proverbial for incompleteness and early fading.

<sup>3</sup> This metaphor is so preposterous, for it is always the extremities of plants which are the first to be frostbitten, and not the protected roots, that one is inclined to ask if the text

with him. Man, take a winter's training first; <sup>1</sup> look at your own choice, for fear it is like that of a dyspeptic, or a woman with the strange cravings of pregnancy. Practise first not to let men know who you are; keep your philosophy to yourself a little while. That is the way fruit is produced: the seed has to be buried and hidden for a season, and be grown by slow degrees, in order that it may come to perfection. But if it heads out before it produces the jointed stock, it never matures, it is from a garden of Adonis.<sup>2</sup> That is the kind of plant you are too; you have blossomed prematurely, and the winter will blight you utterly. See what the farmers say about their seeds, when the hot weather comes before its proper time. They are in utmost anxiety lest the seeds should grow insolently lush, and then but a single frost should lay hold of them and expose their weakness. Man, do you also beware; you have grown insolently lush, you have leaped forward to occupy some petty reputation before its due time; you think yourself somebody, fool that you are among fools; you will be bitten by the frost, or rather, you have already been bitten by the frost, down at the root, while your upper part still blooms a little, and for that reason you seem to be still alive and flourishing.<sup>3</sup> Allow *us* at least to ripen as nature wishes. Why do you expose us to the elements, why force us? We are not yet able to stand the open air. Let the root grow, next be sound. Clearly it is, since a whole series of corrections would have to be made in order to avoid the difficulty. Epictetus, a city dweller, probably knew little directly about the effects of frost on garden plants. The words "flower," "tree," and "herb" do not occur in his conversations at all, and even "plant" but rarely.—See note on IV. 11, 1.

αὐξηθῆναι, εἶτα γόνυ λαβεῖν τὸ πρῶτον, εἶτα τὸ  
 δεύτερον, εἶτα τὸ τρίτον· εἰθ' οὕτως ὁ καρπὸς  
 ἐκβιάσεται τὴν φύσιν, καὶ ἐγὼ μὴ θέλω.

- 41 Τίς γὰρ ἐγκύμων γενόμενος καὶ πλήρης τηλι-  
 κούτων δογμάτων οὐχὶ αἰσθάνεται τε τῆς αὐτοῦ  
 42 παρασκευῆς καὶ ἐπὶ τὰ κατάλληλα ἔργα ὁρμᾷ ;  
 ἀλλὰ ταῦρος μὲν οὐκ ἀγνοεῖ τὴν αὐτοῦ φύσιν καὶ  
 παρασκευήν, ὅταν ἐπιφανῇ τι θηρίον, οὐδ' ἀνα-  
 μένει τὸν προτρεψόμενον, οὐδὲ κύων, ὅταν ἴδῃ  
 43 τι τῶν ἀγρίων ζώων· ἐγὼ δ' ἂν ἴσχω τὴν ἀνδρὸς  
 ἀγαθοῦ παρασκευήν, ἐκδέξομαι, ἵνα με σὺ παρα-  
 σκευάσης ἐπὶ τὰ οἰκεία ἔργα ; ἵν' οὐπω ἔχω,  
 πιστευσόν μοι. τί οὖν με πρὸ ὥρας ἀποξηρᾶναι  
 θέλεις, ὥς αὐτὸς ἐξηράνθης ;

θ'. Πρὸς τὸν εἰς ἀναισχυντίαν μεταβληθέντα.

- 1 "Όταν ἄλλον ἴδῃς ἄρχοντα, ἀντίθες, ὅτι σὺ  
 ἔχεις τὸ μὴ δεῖσθαι ἀρχῆς· ὅταν ἄλλον πλου-  
 2 τοῦντα, ἰδοῦ τί ἀντὶ τούτου ἔχεις. εἰ μὲν γὰρ  
 μηδὲν ἔχεις ἀντ' αὐτοῦ, ἄθλιος εἶ· εἰ δ' ἔχεις  
 τὸ μὴ χρεῖαν ἔχειν πλούτου, γίγνωσκε, ὅτι πλείον  
 3 ἔχεις καὶ πολλῶ πλείονος ἄξιον. ἄλλος γυναιῖκα  
 εὖμορφον, σὺ τὸ μὴ ἐπιθυμεῖν εὖμόρφου γυναικός.  
 μικρά σοι δοκεῖ ταῦτα ; καὶ πόσου ἂν τιμή-  
 σαιντο οὗτοι αὐτοὶ οἱ πλουτοῦντες καὶ ἄρχοντες  
 καὶ μετ' εὖμόρφων διαιτώμενοι δύνασθαι πλούτου  
 καταφρονεῖν καὶ ἀρχῶν καὶ αὐτῶν τούτων τῶν

let it acquire the first joint, and then the second, and then the third ; and so finally the fruit will forcibly put forth its true nature, even against my will.

For who that has conceived and is big with such great judgements is not aware of his own equipment, and does not hasten to act in accordance with them? Why, a bull is not ignorant of his own nature and equipment, when some wild beast appears, nor does he hang back for someone to encourage him ; neither does a dog, when he sees some wild animal ; and shall I, if I have the equipment of a good man, hang back, so that you may encourage me to do what is my own proper work? But as yet I do not have the equipment, believe me. Why, then, do you wish to have me wither away before my time, as you yourself have withered?

## CHAPTER IX

### *To the man who had become shameless*

WHENEVER you see another person holding office, set over against this the fact that you possess the ability to get along without office ; whenever you see another person wealthy, see what you have instead. For if you have nothing instead, you are wretched ; but if you are capable of feeling no need of wealth, know that you are better off, and have something worth far more than wealth. Another has a comely wife, you the ability not to yearn for a comely wife. Is all this small in your eyes? Yet how much would these men give, who are rich and hold office, and live with beautiful women, to be able to despise wealth and offices, and these very same women whom they



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- 4 γυναικῶν, ὧν ἐρῶσιν καὶ ὧν τυγχάνουσιν ; ἀγνοεῖς οἷόν τί ἐστι δίψος πυρέσσοντος ; οὐδὲν ὅμοιον ἔχει τῷ τοῦ ὑγιαίνοντος. ἐκεῖνος πιὼν ἀποπέ-  
 παυται· ὁ δὲ πρὸς ὀλίγον ἡσθεῖς<sup>1</sup> ναυτιᾶ, χολὴν  
 5 αὐτὸ ποιεῖ ἀντὶ ὕδατος, ἐμεῖ, στροφούται, διψῇ  
 σφοδρότερον. τοιοῦτόν ἐστι μετ' ἐπιθυμίας πλου-  
 τεῖν, μετ' ἐπιθυμίας ἄρχειν, μετ' ἐπιθυμίας καλῇ  
 συγκαθεύδειν· ζηλοτυπία πρόσσεστιν, φόβος τοῦ  
 στερηθῆναι, αἰσχροὶ λόγοι, αἰσχροὰ ἐνθυμήματα,  
 ἔργα ἀσχήμονα.
- 6 Καὶ τί, φησὶν, ἀπολλύω ; — "Ἀνθρωπε, ὑπῆρχες αἰδήμων καὶ νῦν οὐκέτι εἶ· οὐδὲν ἀπολώλεκας ; ἀντὶ Χρυσίππου καὶ Ζήνωνος Ἀριστείδην ἀνα-  
 γιγνώσκεις καὶ Εὐηνόν·<sup>2</sup> οὐδὲν ἀπολώλεκας ; ἀντὶ Σωκράτους καὶ Διογένους τεθαύμακας τὸν  
 πλείστας διαφθεῖραι καὶ ἀναπεῖσαι δυνάμενον.
- 7 καλὸς εἶναι θέλεις καὶ πλάσσεις σεαυτὸν μὴ ὧν καὶ ἐσθῆτα ἐπιδεικνύειν θέλεις στιλπνὴν, ἵνα τὰς  
 γυναικάς ἐπιστρέφῃς, κἄν που μυραφίου ἐπι-  
 8 τύχῃς, μακάριος εἶναι δοκεῖς. πρότερον δ' οὐδὲ<sup>3</sup> ἐνεθυμοῦ τι τούτων, ἀλλὰ ποῦ εὐσχήμων λόγος, ἀνὴρ ἀξιόλογος, ἐνθύμημα γενναῖον. τοιγαροῦν ἐκάθευδες ὥς ἀνὴρ, προήεις ὥς ἀνὴρ, ἐσθῆτα ἐφόρεις ἀνδρικήν, λόγους ἐλάλεις πρέποντας αἰδρὶ

<sup>1</sup> Reiske: ἡσθετο S.

<sup>2</sup> See explanatory note.

<sup>3</sup> Wendland (and perhaps S originally): οὐδὲν Sc.

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<sup>1</sup> Typical erotic writers, the former the author of the celebrated *Milesian Tales*, the latter of an erotic work admired by Menander. Yet compare, on the Evenus of this passage, von Wilamowitz, *Hermes*, 11 (1876), 300, who conjectures Eubius (Εὐβιον), whom Ovid, *Tristia*, 2. 416, calls

passionately love and win? Do you not know what kind of thing the thirst of a man in fever is? It is quite unlike that of a man in health. The latter drinks and his thirst is gone, but the other gets a momentary satisfaction, and then becomes nauseated, turns the water into bile, throws up, has a pain in his bowels, and suffers more violent thirst than before. A similar thing it is to be rich and have strong desire, to hold office and have strong desire, to sleep by the side of a beautiful woman and have strong desire; jealousy is added to one's lot, fear of loss, disgraceful words, disgraceful thoughts, unseemly deeds.

And what do I lose? says somebody.—Man, you used to be modest, and are no longer so; have you lost nothing? Instead of Chrysippus and Zeno you now read Aristeides and Evenus;<sup>1</sup> have you lost nothing? Instead of Socrates and Diogenes you have come to admire the man who is able to corrupt and seduce the largest number of women. You wish to be handsome and make yourself up, though you are not handsome, and you wish to make a show of gay attire, so as to attract the women, and you think yourself blessed if perchance you light upon some trivial perfume. But formerly you used never even to think of any of these things, but only where you might find decent speech, a worthy man, a noble thought. Therefore you used to sleep as a man, to go forth as a man, to wear the clothes of a man, to utter the discourse that was suitable for a good man; and after all that do

*impurae conditor historiae*, and mentions together with Aristeides, as here. On the question see Crusius, *Real-Encyclopädie*<sup>2</sup>, 6, 850-51.

- ἀγαθῷ· εἰτά μοι λέγεις “οὐδὲν ἀπώλεσα” ;  
 9 οὕτως οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἢ κέρμα ἀπολλύουσιν ἄν-  
 θρωποι ; αἰδῶς οὐκ ἀπόλλυται, εὐσχημοσύνη  
 οὐκ ἀπόλλυται ; ἢ οὐκ ἔστι ζημιωθῆναι ταῦτα  
 10 ἀπολέσαντα ; σοὶ μὲν οὖν δοκεῖ τάχα τούτων  
 οὐδὲν οὐκέτι εἶναι ζημία· ἦν δέ ποτε χρόνος, ὅτε  
 μόνην αὐτὴν ὑπελογίζου καὶ ζημίαν καὶ βλάβην,  
 ὅτε ἡγωνίας, μή τις ἐκσείσῃ σε τούτων τῶν λόγων  
 καὶ ἔργων.  
 11 Ἴδού, ἐκσέσειςαι ὑπ’ ἄλλου μὲν οὐδενός, ὑπὸ  
 σαυτοῦ δέ. μαχέσθητι σαυτῷ, ἀφελοῦ σαυτὸν  
 12 εἰς εὐσχημοσύνην, εἰς αἰδῶ, εἰς ἐλευθερίαν. εἴ  
 σοί τις που ἔλεγεν περὶ ἐμοῦ ταῦτα, ὅτι μέ τις  
 μοιχεύειν ἀναγκάζει, ὅτι ἐσθῆτα φορεῖν τοιαύτην,  
 ὅτι μυρίζεσθαι, οὐκ ἂν ἀπελθὼν αὐτόχειρ ἐγένου  
 τούτου τοῦ ἀνθρώπου τοῦ οὕτως μοι παραχρω-  
 13 μένου ; νῦν οὖν οὐ θέλεις σαυτῷ βοηθῆσαι ; καὶ  
 πόσῳ ῥάων αὕτη ἢ βοήθεια ; οὐκ ἀποκτεῖναι  
 τινα δεῖ, οὐ δῆσαι, οὐχ ὑβρίσαι, οὐκ εἰς ἀγορὰν  
 προελθεῖν, ἀλλ’ αὐτὸν αὐτῷ λαλῆσαι, τῷ μάλιστα  
 πεισθησομένῳ, πρὸς ὃν οὐδεὶς ἐστὶ σου πιθανώ-  
 14 τερος. καὶ πρῶτον μὲν κατάγνωθι τῶν γιγνο-  
 μένων, εἰτα καταγνοὺς μὴ ἀπογνῶς σεαυτοῦ μηδὲ  
 πάθῃς τὸ τῶν ἀγεννῶν ἀνθρώπων, οἱ ἅπαξ ἐν-  
 δόντες εἰσάπαν ἐπέδωκαν ἑαυτοὺς καὶ ὥς ὑπὸ  
 15 ῥεύματος παρεσύρησαν, ἀλλὰ μάθε τὸ τῶν παιδο-  
 τριβῶν. πέπτωκε τὸ παιδίον· “ἀναστάς,” φησὶν,  
 16 “πάλιν πάλαιε, μέχρις ἂν ἰσχυροποιηθῇς.” τοιοῦ-  
 τόν τι καὶ σὺ πάθε· ἴσθι γάρ, ὅτι οὐδὲν ἐστίν

you still say, "I have lost nothing"? And is it nothing but small change that men lose in this way? Is not self-respect lost, is not decency lost? Or is it impossible that the loss of these things counts for anything? To you, indeed, the loss of none of these things, perhaps, seems any longer serious; but there once was a time when you thought it the only serious loss and harm, when you were in great anxiety lest anyone should dislodge you from these good words and deeds.

Behold, you *have* been dislodged, though by no one else but yourself. Fight against yourself, vindicate yourself for decency, for respect, for freedom. If anyone ever told you about me that someone was forcing me to commit adultery, to wear clothes like yours, or to perfume myself, would you not have gone and murdered the man who was so maltreating me? And now, therefore, are you not willing to come to your own rescue? Yet how much easier is the work of rescue in the latter case! It is not necessary to kill somebody, put him in bonds, or assault him; you do not have to come out into the market-place, but only to talk to yourself, the man most likely to be persuaded, to whom no one is more persuasive than yourself. And first of all condemn what you are doing; then, when you have passed your condemnation, do not despair of yourself, nor act like the spiritless people who, when once they have given in, surrender themselves completely, and are swept off by the current, as it were, but learn how the gymnastic trainer of boys acts. The boy he is training is thrown; "get up," he says, "and wrestle again, till you get strong." React in some such way yourself, for I would have

- εὐαγωγότερον ἀνθρωπίνης ψυχῆς. θελήσαι δ' ἔ  
καὶ γέγονεν, διώρθωται ὥς πάλιν ἀπονυστάσαι  
καὶ ἀπόλῳλεν. ἔσωθεν γάρ ἐστι καὶ ἀπώλεια  
17 καὶ<sup>1</sup> βοήθεια. — Εἴτα τί μοι ἀγαθόν; — Καὶ τί  
ζητεῖς τούτου μεῖζον; ἐξ ἀναισχύντου αἰδήμων  
ἔση, ἐξ ἀκόσμου κόσμιος, ἐξ ἀπίστου πιστός, ἐξ  
18 ἀκολάστου σώφρων. εἴ τινα ἄλλα τούτων μεῖζονα  
ζητεῖς, ποίει ἂ ποιεῖς· οὐδὲ θεῶν σέ τις ἔτι σῶσαι  
δύναται.

ι'. Τίνων δεῖ καταφρονεῖν καὶ πρὸς τίνα  
διαφέρεσθαι;

- 1 Ἀπορία πᾶσα ἐν<sup>2</sup> τοῖς ἀνθρώποις περὶ τὰ  
ἐκτὸς γίνεται, ἀμηχανία περὶ τὰ ἐκτός. “τί  
ποιήσω; πῶς γένηται; πῶς ἀποβῇ; μὴ τόδε  
2 ἀπαντήσῃ, μὴ τόδε.” πᾶσαι αὖται αἱ φωναὶ  
περὶ τὰ ἀπροαίρετα στρεφομένων εἰσὶν· τίς γὰρ  
λέγει “πῶς μὴ συγκατατιθῶμαι τῷ ψεύδει;  
3 πῶς μὴ ἀπονεύσω ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀληθοῦς;”; ἐὰν οὕτως  
ᾗ εὐφυής, ὥστε περὶ τούτων ἀγωνιᾷν, ὑπομνήσω  
αὐτὸν ὅτι “τί ἀγωνιᾷς; ἐπὶ σοί ἐστιν· ἀσφαλὲς  
ἴσθι· μὴ πρὸ τοῦ ἐπάγειν τὸν φυσικὸν κανόνα  
προπήδα ἐν τῷ συγκατατίθεσθαι.”

<sup>1</sup> Schegk, and Upton's "codex": ἡ S.

<sup>2</sup> Schenkl: πᾶσαν (apparently) S.

you know that there is nothing more easily prevailed upon than a human soul. You have but to will a thing and it has happened, the reform has been made; as, on the other hand, you have but to drop into a doze and all is lost. For it is within you that both destruction and deliverance lie.—But what good do I get after all that?—And what greater good than this are you looking for? Instead of shameless, you will be self-respecting; instead of faithless, faithful; instead of dissolute, self-controlled. If you are looking for anything else greater than these things, go ahead and do what you are doing; not even a god can any longer save you.

## CHAPTER X

*What ought we to despise and on what place a high value?*

MEN find all their difficulties in externals, their perplexities in externals. "What shall I do? How is it to take place? How is it to turn out? I am afraid that this will befall me, or that." All these are the expressions of men who concern themselves with the things that lie outside the sphere of the moral purpose. For who says, "How am I to avoid giving assent to the false? How am I to refuse to swerve aside from the true?"? If a man is so gifted by nature as to be in great anxiety about these things, I shall remind him, "Why are you in great anxiety? It is under your own control; rest secure. Do not be in a hurry to give your assent before applying the rule of nature."

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 4 Πάλιν ἂν περὶ ὀρέξεως ἀγωνιᾷ,<sup>1</sup> μὴ ἀτελής  
 5 γένηται καὶ ἀποτευκτική, περὶ ἐκκλίσεως, μὴ  
 περιπτωτική, πρῶτον μὲν αὐτὸν καταφιλήσω,  
 ὅτι ἀφείς περὶ ἃ οἱ ἄλλοι ἐπτόηνται καὶ τοὺς  
 ἐκείνων φόβους περὶ τῶν ἰδίων ἔργων πεφρόν-  
 6 τικεν, ὅπου αὐτός ἐστιν· εἶτα ἐρῶ αὐτῷ “εἰ μὴ  
 θέλης ὀρέγεσθαι ἀποτευκτικῶς μὴδ’ ἐκκλίνειν  
 περιπτωτικῶς, μηδενὸς ὀρέγου τῶν ἀλλοτρίων,  
 μηδὲν ἐκκλινε τῶν μὴ ἐπὶ σοί. εἰ δὲ μή, καὶ  
 7 ἀποτυχεῖν καὶ περιπεσεῖν ἀνάγκη.” ποία ἐνθάδ’  
 ἀπορία; ποῦ τόπον ἔχει “πῶς γένηται;” καὶ  
 “πῶς ἀποβῇ;” καὶ “μὴ ἀπαντήσῃ τόδε ἡ  
 τόδε”;  
 8 Νῦν οὐχὶ τὸ ἐκβησόμενον ἀπροαίρετον;—Ναί.  
 —Ἡ δ’ οὐσία τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ κακοῦ ἐστὶν ἐν  
 τοῖς προαιρετικοῖς;—Ναί.—Ἐξεστὶν οὖν σοι  
 παντὶ τῷ ἀποβάντι χρῆσθαι κατὰ φύσιν; μή τις  
 9 σε κωλύσαι δύναται;—Οὐδεῖς.—Μηκέτι οὖν μοι  
 λέγε “πῶς γένηται;” ὅπως γὰρ ἂν γένηται, σὺ  
 αὐτὸ θήσεις καλῶς καὶ ἔσται σοι τὸ ἀποβὰν  
 10 εὐτύχημα. ἡ τίς ἂν ἦν ὁ Ἡρακλῆς λέγων “πῶς  
 μοι μὴ μέγας λέων ἐπιφανῇ μὴδὲ μέγας σὺς μὴδὲ  
 θηριώδεις ἄνθρωποι;”; καὶ τί σοι μέλει; ἂν  
 μέγας σὺς ἐπιφανῇ, μείζον ἄθλον ἀθλήσεις· ἂν  
 κακοὶ ἄνθρωποι, κακῶν ἀπαλλάξεις τὴν οἰκου-

<sup>1</sup> μὴ before this word was deleted by Meibom.



Again, if a man is in great anxiety about desire, for fear lest it become incomplete and miss its mark, or about aversion, for fear lest it fall into what it would avoid, I shall first give him a kiss of congratulation, because he has got rid of what the rest of mankind are excited about, and their fears, and has turned his serious thought to his own true business in the realm where he himself is. And after that I shall say to him, "If you do not wish to desire without failing to get, or to avoid without falling into the object of your aversion, desire none of those things which are not your own, and avoid none of those things which are not under your control. If not, you are of necessity bound to fail in achieving your desires, and to fall into what you would avoid." Where is there any difficulty in that case? What room is there to ask, "How is it to take place?" and "How is it to turn out?" and to say, "I am afraid that this will befall me, or that"?

Is not the future outside the sphere of the moral purpose now?—Yes.—And is not the true nature of the good and evil inside the sphere of the moral purpose?—Yes.—Are you permitted, then, to make a natural use of every outcome? No one can prevent you, can he?—No one.—Therefore, say no longer to me, "How is it to take place?" Because, whatever takes place, you will turn it to good purpose, and the outcome will be a blessing for you. Or what would Heracles have been had he said "How am I to prevent a great lion from appearing, or a great boar, or savage men?"? And what do you care for that? If a great boar appears, the struggle in which you are to engage will be greater; if evil men appear, you will clear the world of evil men.—

- 11 μένην.—<sup>Α</sup>ν οὖν οὕτως ἀποθάνω ;—<sup>Α</sup>γαθὸς ὢν ἀποθανῇ, γενναίαν πράξιν ἐπιτελῶν. ἐπεὶ γὰρ δεῖ πάντως ἀποθανεῖν, ἀνάγκη τί ποτε ποιῶντα εὐρεθῆναι, ἢ γεωργοῦντα ἢ σκάπτοντα ἢ ἐμπορευόμενον ἢ ὑπατεύοντα ἢ ἀπεπτοῦντα ἢ διαρ-  
 12 ροιζόμενον. τί οὖν θέλεις ποιῶν εὐρεθῆναι ὑπὸ τοῦ θανάτου ; ἐγὼ μὲν τὸ ἐμὸν μέρος ἔργον τί ποτε ἀνθρωπικόν, εὐεργετικόν, κοινωφελές, γεν-  
 13 ναῖον. εἰ δὲ μὴ δύναμαι τὰ τηλικαῦτα ποιῶν εὐρεθῆναι, ἐκείνὸ γε τὸ ἀκώλυτον, τὸ διδόμενον, ἐμαυτὸν ἐπανορθῶν, ἐξεργαζόμενος τὴν δύναμιν τὴν χρηστικὴν τῶν φαντασιῶν, ἀπάθειαν ἐκπο-  
 νῶν, ταῖς σχέσεσι τὰ οἰκεία ἀποδιδούς.<sup>1</sup> εἰ οὕτως εὐτυχὴς εἰμι, καὶ τοῦ τρίτου τόπου παραπτόμενος, τοῦ περὶ τὴν τῶν κριμάτων ἀσφάλειαν.
- 14 <sup>Α</sup>ν μετὰ τούτων με ὁ θάνατος καταλάβῃ, ἀρκεῖ μοι ἂν δύνωμαι πρὸς τὸν θεὸν ἀνατεῖναι τὰς χεῖρας, εἰπεῖν ὅτι “ ἄς ἔλαβον ἀφορμὰς παρὰ σοῦ πρὸς τὸ αἰσθῆσθαι σου τῆς διοικήσεως καὶ ἀκολουθῆσαι αὐτῇ, τούτων οὐκ ἡμέλησα· οὐ  
 15 κατήσχυνά σε τὸ ἐμὸν μέρος. ἰδοῦ, πῶς κέχρημαι ταῖς αἰσθήσεσιν, ἰδοῦ, πῶς ταῖς προλήψεσιν. μή ποτέ σε ἐμεμφάμην, μή τι τῶν γινομένων τινὲ δυσηρέστησα ἢ ἄλλως γενέσθαι ἠθέλησα, μή τι

<sup>1</sup> Reiske : ἀποδιδόν S.

<sup>1</sup> See III. 2, 1, and note.

<sup>2</sup> These imaginary last words of Epictetus have given much offence to Elizabeth Carter (author of the most famous of the English translations), and no doubt others, who find them ostentatious and lacking in humility. They represent, however, an ideal and not an actual condition, and as such are entirely innocent. Epictetus, who was in fact the most humble

But if I die in so doing?—You will die as a good man, bringing to fulfilment a noble action. Why, since you have to die in any event, you must be found doing something or other—farming, or digging, or engaged in commerce, or holding a consulship, or suffering with dyspepsia or dysentery. What is it, then, you wish to be doing when death finds you? I for my part should wish it to be some work that befits a man, something beneficent, that promotes the common welfare, or is noble. But if I cannot be found doing such great things as these, I should like at least to be engaged upon that which is free from hindrance, that which is given me to do, and that is, correcting myself, as I strive to perfect the faculty which deals with the external impressions, labouring to achieve calm, while yet giving to each of my human relationships its due; and, if I am so fortunate, striving to attain to the third field of study,<sup>1</sup> that which has to do with security in the formation of judgements.

If death finds me occupied with these matters, it is enough for me if I can lift up my hands unto God, and say,<sup>2</sup> “The faculties which I received from Thee to enable me to understand Thy governance and to follow it, these I have not neglected; I have not dishonoured Thee as far as in me lay. Behold how I have dealt with my senses, behold how I have dealt with my preconceptions. Have I ever blamed Thee? Have I been discontented with any of these things which happen, or wished it to have been otherwise? Have I at all violated my

of men (see Vol. I. pp. xviii–xx), does not say, “It is enough for me *because* I can lift up my hands unto God, and say,” but, “*if* I can,” which is a very different matter.

- 16 τὰς σχέσεις παρέβην ;<sup>1</sup> χάριν ἔχω,<sup>2</sup> ὃ με σὺ ἐγέννησας, χάριν ἔχω, ὧν ἔδωκας· ἐφ' ὅσον ἐχρησάμην τοῖς σοῖς, ἄρκει μοι. πάλιν αὐτὰ ἀπύλαβε καὶ κατὰταξον εἰς ἣν θέλεις χώραν· σὰ γὰρ ἦν
- 17 πάντα, σύ μοι αὐτὰ δέδωκας.” οὐκ ἄρκει οὕτως ἔχοντα ἐξελθεῖν ; καὶ τίς βίων κρείττων ἢ εὐσχημονέστερος τοῦ οὕτως ἔχοντος, ποία δὲ καταστροφὴ εὐδαιμονεστέρα ;
- 18 “Ἰνα δὲ ταῦτα γένηται, οὐ μικρὰ δέξασθαι οὐδὲ μικρῶν ἀποτυχεῖν. οὐ δύνασαι καὶ ὑπατεῦσαι θέλεις καὶ ταῦτα καὶ ἀγροὺς ἔχειν ἐσπουδακέναι καὶ ταῦτα καὶ τῶν δουλαρίων φροντίζεις
- 19 καὶ σεαυτοῦ. ἀλλ' ἂν τι τῶν ἀλλοτριῶν θέλῃς, τὰ σὰ ἀπώλετο. αὕτη τοῦ πράγματος ἡ φύσις·
- 20 προῖκα οὐδὲν γίνεται. καὶ τί θαυμαστόν ; ἂν ὑπατεῦσαι θέλῃς, ἀγρυπνήσαι σε δεῖ, περιδραμεῖν, τὰς χεῖρας καταφιλήσαι, πρὸς ταῖς ἀλλοτρίαις θύραις κατασαπῆναι, πολλὰ μὲν εἰπεῖν, πολλὰ δὲ πρᾶξαι ἀνελεύθερα, δῶρα πέμψαι πολλοῖς, ξένια καθ' ἡμέραν ἐνίοις· καὶ τί τὸ γινόμενόν ἐστιν ;
- 21 δώδεκα δεσμὰ ῥάβδων καὶ τρεῖς ἢ τετράκις ἐπὶ βῆμα καθίσαι καὶ κερκῆσια δοῦναι καὶ σπυρίσιν δειπνίσαι.<sup>3</sup> ἢ δειξάτω μοί τις, τί ἐστὶ παρὰ
- 22 ταῦτα. ὑπὲρ ἀπαθείας οὖν, ὑπὲρ ἀταραξίας, ὑπὲρ τοῦ καθεύδοντα καθεύδειν, ἐγρηγορότα ἐγρηγορέναι, μὴ φοβεῖσθαι μηδέν, μὴ ἀγωνιᾶν

<sup>1</sup> Schweighäuser : παρεβῆναι S.

<sup>2</sup> χάριν ἔχω here added by Reiske.

<sup>3</sup> Reiske : δειπνήσαι S.

<sup>1</sup> The consular fasces.

<sup>2</sup> The *sportulae* which were distributed at Rome by a patron among his clients.

relationships with others? For that Thou didst beget me I am grateful; for what Thou hast given I am grateful also. The length of time for which I have had the use of Thy gifts is enough for me. Take them back again and assign them to what place Thou wilt, for they were all Thine, and Thou gavest them me." Is it not enough for a man to take his departure from the world in this state of mind? And what among all the kinds of life is superior to this, or more seemly than his who is so minded, and what kind of end is more fortunate?

But that this may take place a man must accept no small troubles, and must miss no small things. You cannot wish for a consulship and at the same time wish for this; you cannot have set your heart upon having lands and this too; you cannot at the same time be solicitous for your paltry slaves and yourself too. But if you wish for any one of the things that are not your own, what is your own is lost. This is the nature of the matter: Nothing is done except for a price. And why be surprised? If you wish to be consul you must keep vigils, run around, kiss men's hands, rot away at other men's doors, say and do many slavish things, send presents to many persons, and guest-gifts to some people every day. And what is the outcome of it all? Twelve bundles of rods,<sup>1</sup> and the privilege of sitting three or four times on the tribune, and giving games in the Circus, and lunches in little baskets.<sup>2</sup> Or else let someone show me what there is in it beyond this. For calm, then, for peace of mind, for sleeping when you are asleep, and being awake when you are awake, for fearing nothing, for being in great

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- ὑπὲρ μηδενὸς οὐδὲν ἀναλῶσαι θέλεις, οὐδὲν  
 23 πονῆσαι; ἀλλ' ἂν τι ἀπόληταί σου περὶ ταῦτα  
 γινομένου ἢ ἀναλωθῇ κακῶς ἢ ἄλλος τύχη ὧν  
 ἔδει σε τυχεῖν, εὐθύς<sup>1</sup> δηχθήσῃ ἐπὶ τῷ γενομένῳ;  
 24 οὐκ ἀντιθήσεις, τί ἀντὶ τίνος λαμβάνεις, πόσον  
 ἀντὶ πόσου; ἀλλὰ προῖκα θέλεις τὰ τηλικαῦτα  
 λαβεῖν; καὶ πῶς δύνασαι; ἔργον ἔργῳ.  
 25 Οὐ δύνασαι καὶ τὰ ἐκτὸς ἔχειν ἐπιμελείας  
 τετυχηκότα καὶ τὸ σαυτοῦ ἡγεμονικόν. εἰ δ'  
 ἐκεῖνα θέλεις, τοῦτο ἄφες· εἰ δὲ μή, οὔτε τοῦτο  
 ἔξεις οὔτ' ἐκεῖνα, περισπώμενος ἐπ' ἀμφότερα.  
 26 εἰ τοῦτο θέλεις, ἐκεῖνά σε ἀφεῖναι δεῖ. ἐκχε-  
 θήσεται τὸ ἔλαιον, ἀπολείται τὰ σκευάρια, ἀλλ'  
 ἐγὼ ἀπαθὴς ἔσομαι. ἐμπρησμὸς ἔσται ἐμοῦ μὴ  
 παρόντος καὶ ἀπολείται τὰ βιβλία, ἀλλ' ἐγὼ  
 χρήσομαι ταῖς φαντασίαις κατὰ φύσιν. ἀλλ'  
 27 οὐχ ἔξω φαγεῖν. εἰ οὕτως τάλας εἰμί, λιμὴν τὸ  
 ἀποθανεῖν. οὗτος δ' ἐστὶν ὁ λιμὴν πάντων, ὁ  
 θάνατος, αὕτη ἡ καταφυγή. διὰ τοῦτο οὐδὲν τῶν  
 ἐν τῷ βίῳ χαλεπὸν ἐστίν. ὅταν θέλῃς, ἐξῆλθες  
 28 καὶ οὐ καπνίζῃ. τί οὖν ἀγωνιᾷς, τί ἀγρυπνεῖς;  
 οὐχὶ δὲ εὐθύς ἀναλογισάμενος, ποῦ σου τὸ ἀγαθόν  
 ἐστι καὶ τὸ κακόν, λέγεις ὅτι “ἐπ' ἐμοὶ ἀμφότερα·  
 οὔτε τούτου τις ἀφελέσθαι με δύναται οὔτ' ἐκεῖνῳ  
 29 ἄκοντα περιβαλεῖν. τί οὖν οὐ ῥέγχω βαλὼν;

<sup>1</sup> μή after εὐθύς is deleted in S.

<sup>1</sup> Supply: “has no partnership.” See IV. 6, 30, where the proverb is given in full.

<sup>2</sup> The reference is to suicide. Cf. I. 25, 18 and 20.

anxiety about nothing, are you unwilling to spend anything, to make any exertion? But if something that belongs to you be lost while you are engaged in these affairs, or be spent to no purpose, or someone else get what you ought to have got, are you going to be vexed immediately at what has happened? Will you not balance off what you are getting in return for what, how much in return for how much? Nay, do you wish to get such valuable things for nothing? And how can you? "One serious business with another."<sup>1</sup>

You cannot be continually giving attention to both externals and your own governing principle. But if you want the former, let the latter go; otherwise you will have neither the latter nor the former, being drawn in both directions. If you want the latter, you must let the former go. The oil will be spilled, my paltry furniture will perish, but I shall be calm. There will be a fire when I am not at home, and my books will perish, yet I shall deal with my external impressions according to nature. But I shall have nothing to eat. If I am so badly off as all that, death is my harbour. And this is the harbour of all men, even death, and this their refuge. That is why no one of the things that befall us in our life is difficult. Whenever you wish, you walk out of the house, and are no longer bothered by the smoke.<sup>2</sup> Why, then, are you consumed with anxiety? Why do you keep vigils? And why do you not forthwith reckon up where your good and your evil lie, and say, "They are both under my control; no man can either rob me of the one, or plunge me in the other against my will? Why, then, do I not throw myself down and



- τὰ ἐμὰ ἀσφαλῶς ἔχει· τὰ ἀλλότρια ὄψεται αὐτὰ  
 30 ὃς ἂν φέρῃ, ὡς ἂν διδῶται παρὰ τοῦ ἔχοντος  
 ἐξουσίαν. τίς εἰμὶ ὁ θέλων αὐτὰ οὕτως ἔχειν ἢ  
 οὕτως; μὴ γάρ μοι δέδοται ἐκλογὴ αὐτῶν; μὴ  
 γὰρ ἐμέ τις αὐτῶν διοικητὴν πεποίηκεν; ἀρκεῖ  
 μοι ὧν ἔχω ἐξουσίαν. ταῦτά με δεῖ κάλλιστα  
 παρασκευάσαι, τὰ δ' ἄλλα ὡς ἂν θέλῃ ὁ ἐκείνων  
 κύριος.”
- 31 Ταῦτά τις ἔχων πρὸ ὀφθαλμῶν ἀγρυπνεῖ, καὶ  
 στρέφεται ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα; τί θέλων ἢ τί ποθῶν;  
 Πάτροκλον ἢ Ἀντίλοχον ἢ Πρωτεσίλαον;<sup>1</sup> πότε  
 γὰρ ἠγήσατο ἀθάνατόν τινα τῶν φίλων; πότε  
 γὰρ οὐκ εἶχεν πρὸ ὀφθαλμῶν, ὅτι αὔριον ἢ εἰς  
 32 τρίτην δεῖ ἢ αὐτὸν ἀποθανεῖν ἢ ἐκείνον; “ναί,”  
 φησὶν, “ἀλλ' ὥμην, ὅτι ἐκείνος ἐπιβιώσεται μοι  
 καὶ αὐξήσει μου τὸν νίον.” μωρὸς γὰρ ἦς καὶ τὰ  
 ἄδηλα ὥου. τί οὖν οὐκ ἐγκαλεῖς σεαυτῷ, ἀλλὰ  
 33 κλαίων κάθησαι ὡς τὰ κοράσια; “ἀλλ' ἐκείνός  
 μοι φαγεῖν παρετίθει.” ἔζη γάρ, μωρέ· νῦν δ' οὐ  
 δύναται. ἀλλ' Αὐτομέδων σοι παραθήσει· ἂν δέ  
 34 καὶ Αὐτομέδων ἀποθάνῃ, ἄλλον εὐρήσεις. ἂν δ'

<sup>1</sup> Oldfather: *Μενέλαον* S. See explanatory note.

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Iliad*, XXIV. 5, referring to Achilles on his bed when mourning for Patroclus.

<sup>2</sup> Patroclus and Antilochus were well-known friends of Achilles, but “Menelaus” (the reading of S) must be wrong, partly because he was not in any way a special friend, and particularly because he was not killed, as the context requires. Some other friend of the hero, who was killed, must be supplied, and that can hardly be anyone but Protesilaus, who was one of his playmates under the tutelage of Cheiron. Philostratus, *Her.* 176 K. Achilles leaped on shore im-

snore? What is mine is safe. What is not mine shall be the concern of whoever gets it, according to the terms upon which it may be given by Him who has authority over it. Who am I to wish that what is not mine should be either thus or so? For it has not been given me to make a choice among these things, has it? For no one has made me an administrator of them, has he? I am satisfied with the things over which I have authority. These I ought to treat so that they may become as beautiful as possible, but everything else as their master may desire."

Does any man who has all this before his eyes keep vigils, and does he "toss hither and thither"?<sup>1</sup> What does he wish, or what does he yearn for? For Patroclus, or Antilochus, or Protesilaus?<sup>2</sup> Why, when did he regard any of his friends as immortal? Yes, and when did he not have before his eyes the fact that on the morrow or the day after either he or his friend must die?<sup>3</sup> "Yes," he says, "but I had thought he was going to survive me, and bring up my son." No doubt, but then you were a fool, and were thinking of things that were uncertainties. Why, then, do you not blame yourself, instead of sitting and crying like little girls? "Nay, but he used to set my food before me." Yes, fool, for then he was alive; and now he cannot. But Automedon<sup>4</sup> will set your food before you, and if Automedon too die, you will find somebody else.

mediately after Protesilaus and avenged his death. See Escher in the *Real-Encyclopädie*<sup>2</sup>, I. 229, 9 ff.

<sup>3</sup> A kind of proverbial expression. Compare Marcus Aurelius, 4. 47.

<sup>4</sup> Comrade and charioteer of both Patroclus and Achilles.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

ἡ χύτρα, ἐν ᾗ ἤψετό σοι τὸ κρέας, καταγῇ, λιμῶ  
σε δεῖ ἀποθανεῖν, ὅτι μὴ ἔχεις τὴν συνήθη  
χύτραν; οὐ πέμπεις καὶ ἄλλην καινὴν ἀγο-  
ράζεις;

35 οὐ μὲν γάρ τι,  
φησίν,

κακώτερον ἄλλο πάθοιμι.

τοῦτο γάρ σοι κακὸν ἐστίν; εἴτ' ἀφείς τοῦτο  
ἐξελεῖν αἰτία τὴν μητέρα, ὅτι σοι οὐ προεῖπεν, ἵν'  
ὀδυνώμενος ἐξ ἐκείνου διατελῇς;

36 Τί δοκεῖτε; μὴ ἐπίτηδες ταῦτα συνθεῖναι Ὅμη-  
ρον, ἵν' ἴδωμεν, ὅτι οἱ εὐγενέστατοι, οἱ<sup>1</sup> ἰσχυρότα-  
τοι, οἱ πλουσιώτατοι, οἱ<sup>1</sup> εὐμορφότατοι, ὅταν  
οἷα δεῖ δόγματα μὴ ἔχωσιν, οὐδὲν κωλύονται  
ἀθλιώτατοι εἶναι καὶ δυστυχέστατοι;

ια'. Περὶ καθαριότητος.

- 1 Ἀμφισβητοῦσί τινες, εἰ ἐν τῇ φύσει τοῦ  
ἀνθρώπου περιέχεται τὸ κοινωνικόν· ὅμως δ'  
αὐτοὶ οὗτοι οὐκ ἂν μοι δοκοῦσιν ἀμφισβητῆσαι,  
ὅτι τό γε<sup>2</sup> καθάριον πάντως περιέχεται καὶ εἴ  
2 τινι ἄλλῳ καὶ τούτῳ τῶν ζώων χωρίζεται. ὅταν  
οὖν ἄλλο τι ζῶον ἴδωμεν ἀποκαθαῖρον ἑαυτό,  
ἐπιλέγειν εἰώθαμεν θαυμάζοντες ὅτι “ὥς ἄνθρω-

<sup>1</sup> οἱ added by s.

<sup>2</sup> τό γε Wolf: ποτέ S.

<sup>1</sup> Homer, *Iliad*, XIX. 321.

<sup>2</sup> The generalization is somewhat hasty. Many animals, like cats (and the felidae in general), moles, most birds, snakes, etc., are distinctly more cleanly than any but the

If the pot in which your meat used to be boiled gets broken, do you have to die of hunger because you do not have your accustomed pot? Won't you send out and buy a new one to take its place? He says,

Ill no greater than this could befall me.<sup>1</sup>

Why, is this what you call an ill? And then, forbearing to get rid of it, do you blame your mother, because she did not foretell it to you, so that you might continue to lament from that time forth?

What do you men think? Did not Homer compose this in order for us to see that there is nothing to prevent the persons of highest birth, of greatest strength, of most handsome appearance, from being most miserable and wretched, when they do not hold the right kind of judgements?

## CHAPTER XI

### *Of cleanliness*

SOME people raise the question whether the social instinct is a necessary element in the nature of man; nevertheless, even these people, as it seems to me, would not question that the instinct of cleanliness is most assuredly a necessary element, and that man is distinguished from the animals by this quality if by anything.<sup>2</sup> When, therefore, we see some other animal cleaning itself, we are in the habit of saying in surprise that it is acting "like a human

most civilized men. Epictetus was clearly not strong in natural history. Cf. notes on II. 24, 16; IV. 8, 39; IV. 11, 32, and *Ench.* 33, 16.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- πος.” καὶ πάλιν ἂν τις ἐγκαλῇ τινὲ ζῶω, εὐθὺς εἰώθαμεν ὥσπερ ἀπολογούμενοι λέγειν ὅτι “ οὐ  
 3 δῆπου ἄνθρωπός ἐστιν.” οὕτως ἐξαίρετόν τι περὶ τὸν ἄνθρωπον εἶναι οἴομεθα ἀπὸ τῶν θεῶν αὐτὸ πρῶτον λαμβάνοντες. ἐπεὶ γὰρ ἐκεῖνοι φύσει καθαροὶ καὶ ἀκήρατοι, ἐφ’ ὅσον ἡγγίκασιν αὐτοῖς οἱ ἄνθρωποι κατὰ τὸν λόγον, ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον καὶ τοῦ καθαροῦ καὶ τοῦ καθαρίου εἰσὶν ἀνθεκτι-  
 4 κοί. ἐπεὶ δ’ ἀμήχανον τὴν οὐσίαν αὐτῶν παντάπασιν εἶναι καθαρὰν ἐκ τοιαύτης ὕλης κεκραμένην, ὁ λόγος παραληφθεὶς εἰς τὸ ἐνδεχόμενον ταύτην καθάριον ἀποτελεῖν πειράται.
- 5 Ἡ<sup>1</sup> πρώτη οὖν καὶ ἀνωτάτω καθαρότης ἡ ἐν ψυχῇ γενομένη καὶ ὁμοίως ἀκαθαρσία. ψυχῆς δ’ ὡς σώματος μὲν ἀκαθαρσίαν οὐκ ἂν εὔροις,<sup>2</sup> ὡς ψυχῆς δὲ τί ἂν ἄλλο εὔροις ἢ τὸ παρέχον αὐτὴν  
 6 ῥυπαρὰν πρὸς τὰ ἔργα τὰ αὐτῆς; ἔργα δὲ ψυχῆς ὁρμᾶν, ἀφορμᾶν, ὀρέγεσθαι, ἐκκλίνειν, παρασκευάζεσθαι, ἐπιβάλλεσθαι, συγκατατίθεσθαι.  
 7 τί ποτ’ οὖν ἐστὶ τὸ ἐν τούτοις τοῖς ἔργοις ῥυπαρὰν παρέχον αὐτὴν καὶ ἀκάθαρτον; οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἢ τὰ  
 8 μοχθηρὰ κρίματα αὐτῆς. ὥστε ψυχῆς μὲν ἀκαθαρσία δόγματα πονηρά, κάθαρσις δ’ ἐμποίησις οἴων δεῖ δογμάτων. καθαρὰ δ’ ἡ ἔχουσα οἷα δεῖ δόγματα· μόνη γὰρ αὕτη ἐν τοῖς ἔργοις τοῖς αὐτῆς ἀσύγχυτος καὶ ἀμόλυντος.
- 9 Δεῖ δέ τι εἰκόδες τούτῳ καὶ ἐπὶ σώματος φιλο-

<sup>1</sup> ἡ added by Upton.      <sup>2</sup> Upton’s “codex”: εὔρης S.

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<sup>1</sup> Our idiom requires us to use both “clean” and “pure,” and their derivatives, for what in the Greek is expressed by a single word.

being." And again, if one finds fault with some beast, we are in the habit of saying immediately, as though in apology, "Well, of course it isn't a human being." So true it is that we consider cleanliness to be a special characteristic of man, deriving it in the first instance from the gods. For since they are by nature pure<sup>1</sup> and undefiled, in so far as men have approached them by virtue of reason, just so far are they attached to purity and cleanliness. But since it is impossible for the nature of men to be altogether pure, seeing that it is composed of such material as it is, the reason which they have received from the gods endeavours to render this material clean as far as is possible.

Therefore, the prime and highest purity is that which appears in the soul, and the same is true of impurity. But you would not find the same impurity in a soul as you would in a body, and as being soul, what else would you find impure about it than that which makes it dirty for the performance of its own functions? And the functions of a soul are the exercise of choice, of refusal, of desire, of aversion, of preparation, of purpose, and of assent. What, then, can that be which makes the soul dirty and unclean in these functions? Nothing but its erroneous decisions. It follows, therefore, that impurity of a soul consists of bad judgements, and purification consists in creating within it the proper kind of judgements; and a pure soul is the one which has the proper kind of judgements, for this is the only soul which is secure against confusion and pollution in its own functions.

Now one ought to be eager to achieve, as far



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- τεχνεῖν κατὰ τὸ ἐνδεχόμενον. ἀμήχανον ἦν  
 μύξας μὴ ρεῖν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου τοιοῦτον ἔχοντος τὸ  
 σύγκραμα· διὰ τοῦτο χεῖρας ἐποίησεν ἡ φύσις  
 καὶ αὐτὰς τὰς ῥίνας ὡς σωλῆνας πρὸς τὸ ἐκδι-  
 δόναι τὰ ὑγρά. ἂν οὖν ἀναρροφῇ τις αὐτάς, λέγω  
 10 ὅτι οὐ ποιεῖ ἔργον ἀνθρωπικόν. ἀμήχανον ἦν μὴ  
 πηλοῦσθαι τοὺς πόδας μηδὲ ὅλως μολύνεσθαι διὰ  
 τοιούτων τινῶν πορευομένους· διὰ τοῦτο ὕδωρ  
 11 παρεσκεύασεν, διὰ τοῦτο χεῖρας. ἀμήχανον ἦν  
 ἀπὸ τοῦ τρώγειν μὴ ῥυπαρόν τι προσμένειν τοῖς  
 ὁδοῦσι· διὰ τοῦτο “πλύνον,” φησίν, “τοὺς  
 ὁδόντας.” διὰ τί; ἵν’ ἀνθρωπος ἧς καὶ μὴ θηρίον  
 12 μηδὲ σὺίδιον. ἀμήχανον μὴ ἀπὸ τοῦ ἰδρώτος καὶ  
 τῆς κατὰ τὴν ἐσθῆτα συνοχῆς ὑπολείπεσθαι τι  
 περὶ τὸ σῶμα ῥυπαρὸν καὶ δεόμενον ἀποκαθάρ-  
 σεως· διὰ τοῦτο ὕδωρ, ἔλαιον, χεῖρες, ὀθόνιον,  
 ξύστρα, νίτρον, ἔσθ’ ὅθ’ ἡ ἄλλη πᾶσα παρασκευὴ  
 13 πρὸς τὸ καθῆραι αὐτό. οὐ· ἀλλ’ ὁ μὲν χαλκεὺς<sup>1</sup>  
 ἐξιώσει τὸ σιδήριον καὶ ὄργανα πρὸς τοῦτο ἔξει  
 κατεσκευασμένα, καὶ τὸ πινάκιον αὐτὸς σὺ πλυ-  
 νεῖς, ὅταν μέλλῃς ἐσθίειν, ἐὰν μὴ ἧς παντελῶς  
 ἀκάθαρτος καὶ ῥυπαρός· τὸ σωματίον δ’ οὐ  
 πλυνεῖς<sup>2</sup> οὐδὲ καθαρὸν ποιήσεις;—Διὰ τί;  
 14 φησίν.—Πάλιν ἐρῶ σοι· πρῶτον μὲν ἵνα τὰ  
 ἀνθρώπου ποιῇς, εἶτα ἵνα μὴ ἀνιᾶς τοὺς ἐν-

<sup>1</sup> The words ὡς χαλκεὺς following this word in *S* have been deleted in the MS.

<sup>2</sup> C. Schenkl: πλύνεις *S*.

<sup>1</sup> A sort of scraper, generally of metal, much used by athletes.

<sup>2</sup> The excesses, probably Oriental in origin, to which Christian ascetism soon went in regard to despising clean-



as may be, something similar to this in the case of the body also. It was impossible that there should be no discharge of mucus from the nose, since man's body has been composed as it is; for that reason nature made hands, and the nostrils like tubes to discharge the humours. If, therefore, a man snuffs back these discharges of mucus, I say that he is not acting as a human being should. It was impossible that the feet should not get muddy, nor dirty at all, when they pass through certain such substances; for that reason nature has provided water, for that hands. It was impossible that some impurity from eating should not remain on the teeth; for that reason nature says, "Wash your teeth." Why? In order that you may be a human being, and not a beast or a pig. It was impossible that something dirty and needing to be cleaned off should not be left on the person from our sweat and the pressure of our clothes; for that reason we have water, oil, hands, a towel, a strigil,<sup>1</sup> nitre, and, on occasion, every other kind of equipment to cleanse the body. Not so you.<sup>2</sup> But the smith will remove the rust from his iron tool, and will have implements made for this purpose, and you yourself will wash your plate when you are going to eat, unless you are utterly unclean and dirty; but will you not wash nor make clean your poor body?—Why? says someone.—Again I will tell you: First, so as to do what befits a man; and second, so as not to offend those

liness, seem to have begun to manifest themselves already in the early second century among enthusiastic young Stoics and would-be Cynics. It is interesting to see how Epictetus, simple and austere as he was, vigorously maintained the validity of older Greek and Roman feeling in this regard.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 15 τυγχάνοντας. τοιοῦτόν τι καὶ ἐνθάδε ποιεῖς καὶ οὐκ αἰσθάνῃ. σαυτὸν ἄξιον ἡγῇ τοῦ ὄξιν· ἔστω, ἴσθι ἄξιος. μή τι καὶ τοὺς παρακαθίζοντας, μή τι καὶ τοὺς συγκατακλινομένους, μή τι καὶ τοὺς
- 16 καταφιλοῦντας; ἔα<sup>1</sup> ἄπελθ' εἰς ἐρημίαν πού ποτε, ἧς ἄξιος εἶ, καὶ μόνος διάγε κατόζων σεαυτοῦ. δίκαιον γάρ ἐστι τῆς σῆς ἀκαθαρσίας σὲ μόνον ἀπολαύειν. ἐν πόλει δ' ὄντα οὕτως ἀπερισκέπτως καὶ ἀγνωμόνως ἀναστρέφεισθαι τίνος σοι φαίνεται;
- 17 εἰ δ' ἵππον σοι πεπιστεύκει ἡ φύσις, περιεώρας αὐτὸν καὶ ἀτημέλητον; καὶ νῦν οἴου σου τὸ σῶμα ὡς ἵππον ἐγκεχειρίσθαι· πλῦνον αὐτό, ἀπόσμηξον, ποίησον, ἵνα σε μηδεὶς ἀποστρέφηται,
- 18 μηδεὶς ἐκτρέπῃται. τίς δ' οὐκ ἐκτρέπεται ῥυπαρὸν ἄνθρωπον, ὄζοντα, κακόχρουν μᾶλλον ἢ τὸν κεκοπρωμένον; ἐκείνη ἡ ὅσμη ἕξωθέν ἐστιν ἐπίθετος, ἡ δ' ἐξ ἀθεραπευσίας ἔσωθεν καὶ οἴονεὶ διασεσηπότος.
- 19 Ἀλλὰ Σωκράτης ὀλιγάκις ἐλούετο.—Ἀλλὰ ἔστιλβεν<sup>2</sup> αὐτοῦ τὸ σῶμα, ἀλλ' ἦν οὕτως ἐπίχαρι καὶ ἡδύ, ὥστ' ἡρῶν αὐτοῦ οἱ ὠραιότατοι καὶ εὐγενέστατοι καὶ ἐπεθύμουν ἐκείνῳ παρακατακλίνεσθαι μᾶλλον ἢ τοῖς εὐμορφοτάτοις. ἐξῆν ἐκείνῳ μήτε λούεσθαι μήτε πλύνεσθαι, εἰ

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl: ἡ S.

whom you meet. You are doing something of the sort even here, and do not realize it. You think that you are worthy of the smell.<sup>1</sup> Very well, *be* worthy of it. Do you think, though, that those who sit by your side, those who recline beside you, those who kiss you, are worthy of it too? <sup>2</sup> Bah, go away into a wilderness somewhere or other, a place worthy of you, and live alone, smelling of yourself! For it is only right that you should enjoy your uncleanness all by yourself. But since you are living in a city, what kind of character do you fancy you are exhibiting, to behave so thoughtlessly and inconsiderately? If nature had committed to your care a horse, would you have utterly neglected it? And now I would have you think that your body has been entrusted to you like a horse; wash it, rub it down, make it so that nobody will turn his back on you or move aside. But who does not avoid a dirty fellow that smells and has an unsightly skin, even more than a man bespattered with dung? In this latter case the smell is external and acquired, in the other it comes from slovenliness that is internal, and is characteristic of one who has grown rotten through and through.

But Socrates bathed infrequently,<sup>3</sup> says someone.—Why, his body was radiant; why, it was so attractive and sweet that the handsomest and most high-born were in love with him, and yearned to sit by his side rather than beside those who had the prettiest

<sup>1</sup> That is, so good that his smell makes no real difference.

<sup>2</sup> That is, bad enough to deserve such treatment (ἄξιός meaning both "good enough" and "bad enough").

<sup>3</sup> Plato, *Symposium*, 174 A.

ἤθελεν· καίτοι καὶ τὸ ὀλιγάκις ἰσχὺν εἶχεν.<sup>1</sup>—  
20 Ἀλλὰ λέγει Ἀριστοφάνης

τοὺς ὠχριῶντας, τοὺς ἀνυποδήτους λέγω.—

Λέγει γὰρ καὶ ἀεροβατεῖν αὐτὸν καὶ ἐκ τῆς  
21 παλαίστρας κλέπτειν τὰ ἱμάτια. ἐπεὶ τοι πάντες  
οἱ γεγραφότες περὶ Σωκράτους πάντα τὰναντία  
αὐτῷ προσμαρτυροῦσιν, ὅτι ἡδὺς οὐ μόνον ἀκοῦσαι,  
ἀλλὰ καὶ ἰδεῖν ἦν. πάλιν περὶ Διογένους ταῦτα  
22 γράφουσι. δεῖ γὰρ μηδὲ κατὰ τὴν ἀπὸ τοῦ  
σώματος ἔμφασιν ἀπὸ φιλοσοφίας ἀποσοβεῖν  
τοὺς πολλούς, ἀλλ' ὥσπερ τὰ ἄλλα εὐθυμον καὶ  
ἀτάραχον ἐπιδεικνύειν αὐτὸν οὕτως καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ  
23 σώματος. “ἴδετε, ὦ ἄνθρωποι, ὅτι οὐδὲν ἔχω,  
οὐδενὸς δέομαι· ἴδετε πῶς ἄοικος ὢν καὶ ἄπολις  
καὶ φυγὰς, ἂν οὕτως τύχη, καὶ ἀνέστιος πάντων  
τῶν εὐπατριδῶν καὶ πλουσίων ἀταραχώτερον  
διάγω καὶ εὐρούστερον. ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ σωματίον<sup>2</sup>  
ὁρᾶτε ὅτι οὐ κακοῦται ὑπὸ τῆς αὐστηρᾶς διαίτης.”  
24 ἂν δέ μοι ταῦτα λέγῃ τις ἀνθρώπου σχῆμα  
καταδίκου ἔχων καὶ πρόσωπον, τίς με πείσει θεῶν  
προσελθεῖν φιλοσοφία, εἴ γε<sup>3</sup> τοιούτους ποιεῖ;  
μὴ γένοιτο· οὐδ', εἰ σοφὸς ἔμελλον εἶναι, ἤθελον.

<sup>1</sup> The words *κἂν θερμῷ μὴ θέλῃς, ψυχρῷ*, here, I have transferred to § 32, where, as Schweighäuser saw, they clearly belong.

<sup>2</sup> Wolf : *ἱμάτιον S.*

<sup>3</sup> *εἴ γε* Reiske, after Schlegk : *ᾧστε S.*

<sup>1</sup> *Ibid.*, 217–18.

<sup>2</sup> *λουέσθαι* is properly of “bathing,” as in the public baths, especially, in this passage, the warm baths of Roman times, which are clearly in mind; *πλύνεσθαι* is properly of cleaning clothes, as in a laundry, which was generally done

forms and features.<sup>1</sup> He might have neither bathed nor washed,<sup>2</sup> had he so desired; yet even his infrequent bathings were effective.—But Aristophanes says,

The pallid men I mean, who shoeless go.<sup>3</sup>—

Oh, yes, but then he says also that Socrates “trod the air,” and stole people’s clothes from the wrestling school.<sup>4</sup> And yet all who have written about Socrates unite in bearing testimony to the precise opposite of this; that he was not merely pleasant to hear, but also to see. Again, men write the same thing about Diogenes. For a man ought not to drive away the multitude from philosophy, even by the appearance of his body, but as in everything else, so also on the side of the body, he ought to show himself cheerful and free from perturbation. “See, O men, that I *have* nothing, and *need* nothing. See how, although I am without a house, and without a city, and an exile, if it so chance, and without a hearth, I still live a life more tranquil and serene than that of all the noble and the rich. Yes, and you see that even my paltry body is not disfigured by my hard way of living.” But if I am told this by a person who has the bearing and face of a condemned man, what one of all the gods shall persuade me to approach philosophy, if she makes people like that? Far be it from me! I shouldn’t be willing to do so, not even if it would make me a wise man.

in ancient Greece, as in modern, and in the Orient, with cold water. All that is meant, as far as Socrates is concerned, is that he generally washed at home in cold water, and very seldom used public baths or hot baths.

<sup>3</sup> *Clouds*, 103, slightly modified.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, 179 and 225. The argument is that the evidence of Aristophanes is worthless anyway, because he also made these two preposterously false statements about Socrates.

- 25 Ἐγὼ μὲν νῆ τοὺς θεοὺς τὸν νέον τὸν πρῶτως  
κινούμενον θέλω μᾶλλον ἐλθεῖν πρὸς με πεπλασ-  
μένον τὴν κόμην ἢ<sup>1</sup> κατεφθινηκότα καὶ ῥυπαρόν.  
βλέπεται γάρ τις ἐν ἐκείνῳ τοῦ καλοῦ φαντασία,  
ἔφεις δὲ τοῦ εὐσχήμονος. ὅπου δ' αὐτὸ εἶναι  
26 φαντάζεται, ἐκεῖ καὶ φιλοτεχνεῖ. λοιπὸν ὑπο-  
δεῖξαι μόνον αὐτῷ δεῖ καὶ εἰπεῖν “νεανίσκε, τὸ  
καλὸν ζητεῖς καὶ εὖ ποιεῖς. ἴσθι οὖν, ὅτι ἐκεῖ  
φύεται, ὅπου τὸν λόγον ἔχεις· ἐκεῖ αὐτὸ ζήτηι,  
ὅπου τὰς ὁρμὰς καὶ τὰς ἀφορμάς, ὅπου τὰς  
27 ὀρέξεις, τὰς ἐκκλίσεις. τοῦτο γὰρ ἔχεις ἐν  
σεαυτῷ ἐξαίρετον, τὸ σωματίον δὲ φύσει πηλὸς  
ἐστίν. τί πονεῖς εἰκῇ περὶ αὐτό; εἰ μὴδὲν  
28 ἕτερον, τῷ χρόνῳ γνώσῃ, ὅτι οὐδὲν ἐστίν.” ἂν δέ  
μοι ἔλθῃ κεκοπρωμένος, ῥυπαρὸς, μύστακα ἔχων  
μέχρι τῶν γονάτων, τί αὐτῷ εἰπεῖν ἔχω, ἀπὸ  
ποίας αὐτὸν ὁμοιότητος ἐπαγαγεῖν; περὶ τί γὰρ  
29 ἐσπούδακεν ὁμοιον τῷ καλῷ, ἵν' αὐτὸν μεταθῶ  
καὶ εἴπω “οὐκ ἐστίν ἐνθάδε τὸ καλόν, ἀλλ'  
ἐνθάδε”; θέλεις αὐτῷ λέγω “οὐκ ἐστίν ἐν τῷ  
κεκοπρωῶσθαι τὸ καλόν, ἀλλ' ἐν τῷ λόγῳ”;  
ἐφίεται γὰρ τοῦ καλοῦ; ἔμφασιν γὰρ τινα αὐτοῦ  
ἔχει; ἄπελθε καὶ χοίρῳ διαλέγου, ἵν' ἐν βορβόρῳ  
30 μὴ κυλίηται. διὰ τοῦτο καὶ Πολέμωνος ἤψαντο  
οἱ λόγοι οἱ Ξενοκράτους ὡς φιλοκάλου νεανίσκου·  
εἰσῆλθεν γὰρ ἔχων ἐναύσματα τῆς περὶ τὸ καλὸν  
σπουδῆς, ἀλλαχοῦ δ' αὐτὸ ζητῶν.

<sup>1</sup> ἢ added by Schenkl.

<sup>1</sup> See III. 1, 14, and note.

<sup>2</sup> Much as Suetonius so admirably says of Nero (c. 55):  
*Erat illi aeternitatis perpetuaeque famae cupido, sed inconsulta.*



As for me, by the gods, I should rather have the young man who was experiencing the first stirrings towards philosophy come to me with his hair carefully dressed, than with it in a state of desperate neglect and dirty. For the first case shows that there exists in the young man a sort of imaging of beauty, and an aiming at comeliness, and where he fancies it to be, there also he devotes his efforts. With that as a starting-point, all that it is necessary to do is to show him the way, and say, "Young man, you are seeking the beautiful, and you do well. Know, then, that it arises in that part of you where you have your reason; seek it there where you have your choices and your refusals, where you have your desires and your aversions. For this part is something of a special kind which you have within you, but your paltry body is by nature only clay. Why do you toil for it to no purpose? If you learn nothing else, time at least will teach you that it is nothing." But if he comes to me bespattered with dung, dirty, his moustache reaching down to his knees, what have I to say to him, from what point of resemblance can I start so as to prevail upon him? For what is there to which he is devoted, that bears any resemblance to the beautiful, so that I may turn him about and say, "Beauty is not there, but here"? Do you want me to say to him, "Beauty does not consist in being bespattered with dung, but in reason"? For is he aiming at beauty? Has he any manifestation of it? Go and talk to a pig, that he may wallow no more in mud! That is why the words of Xenocrates laid hold even of a Polemo,<sup>1</sup> because he was a young man who loved beauty. For he came to Xenocrates with glimmerings of a zeal for the beautiful, but was looking for it in the wrong place.<sup>2</sup>



- 31 Ἐπεὶ τοι οὐδὲ τὰ ζῶα τὰ ἀνθρώποις σύντροφα  
 ῥυπαρὰ ἐποίησεν ἢ φύσις. μή τι ἵππος κυλίνεται  
 ἐν βορβόρῳ, μή τι κύων γενναῖος ; ἀλλ' ὁ ὕς καὶ  
 τὰ σαπρὰ χηνίδια<sup>1</sup> καὶ σκώληκες καὶ ἀράχλαι,  
 τὰ μακροτάτῳ τῆς ἀνθρωπίνης συναναστροφῆς  
 32 ἀπεληλασμένα. σὺ οὖν ἄνθρωπος ὢν οὐδὲ ζῶον  
 εἶναι θέλεις τῶν ἀνθρώποις συντρόφων, ἀλλὰ  
 σκώληξ μᾶλλον ἢ ἀράχχιον ; οὐ λούσῃ πού ποτε  
 ὡς θέλεις, οὐκ ἀποπλυνεῖς σεαυτόν, κἂν θερμῷ  
 μὴ θέλῃς, ψυχρῷ.<sup>2</sup> οὐχ ἥξεις καθαρός, ἵνα σοι  
 χαίρωσιν οἱ συνόντες ; ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰς τὰ ἱερὰ  
 ἡμῖν συνέρχῃ τοιοῦτος, ὅπου πτύσαι οὐ νενό-  
 μισται οὐδ' ἀπομύξασθαι, ὅλος ὢν πτύσμα καὶ  
 μύξα ;
- 33 Τί οὖν ; καλλωπίζεσθαί τις ἀξιοῖ ; μὴ γένοιτο,  
 εἰ μὴ ἐκείνο ὃ πεφύκαμεν, τὸν λόγον, τὰ δόγματα,  
 τὰς ἐνεργείας, τὸ δὲ σῶμα μέχρι τοῦ καθαρίου,  
 34 μέχρι τοῦ μὴ προσκόπτειν. ἀλλ' ἂν ἀκούσῃς,  
 ὅτι οὐ δεῖ φορεῖν κόκκινα, ἀπελθὼν κόπρωσόν  
 σου τὸν τρίβωνα ἢ κατάρρηξον.—Ἀλλὰ πόθεν  
 ἔχω καλὸν τρίβωνα ;—Ἀνθρώπε, ὕδωρ ἔχεις,  
 35 πλύνων αὐτόν. ἰδοὺ νέος ἀξιέραστος, ἰδοὺ πρεσ-  
 βύτης ἄξιος τοῦ ἐρᾶν καὶ ἀντερᾶσθαι, ὃ τις υἱὸν  
 αὐτοῦ παραδώσει παιδευθησόμενον,<sup>3</sup> ὃ θυγατέρες,

<sup>1</sup> *Sb*: ἡνίδια *S*.

<sup>2</sup> These last five words, which appear in § 19, actually belong here, as Schweighäuser saw.

<sup>3</sup> παραδώσει Kronenberg ; παιδευθησόμενον Schenkl : παραδοθησόμενον *S*.

<sup>1</sup> Of course a spider is not ordinarily a dirty animal in its personal habits ; the most that can be said is that it is frequently found in quiet and hence dusty spots. Cf. note on § 1.

Why, look you, nature has not made dirty even the animals which associate with man. A horse doesn't roll around in the mud, does he? or a highly bred dog? No, but the hog, and the miserable rotten geese, and worms, and spiders, the creatures farthest removed from association with human beings. Do you, then, who are a human being, wish to be not even an animal of the kind that associates with men, but rather a worm, or a spider?<sup>1</sup> Will you not take a bath somewhere, some time, in any form you please? Will you not wash yourself? If you don't care to bathe in hot water, then use cold. Will you not come to us clean, that your companions may be glad? What, and do you in such a state go with us even into the temples, where it is forbidden by custom to spit or blow the nose, yourself being nothing but a mass of spit and drivel?

Well, what then? Is anyone demanding that you beautify yourself? Heaven forbid! except you beautify that which is our true nature<sup>2</sup>—the reason, its judgements, its activities; but your body only so far as to keep it cleanly, only so far as to avoid giving offence. But if you hear that one ought not to wear scarlet, go bespatter your rough cloak with dung—or tear it to pieces!<sup>3</sup> Yet where am I to get a rough cloak that looks well?—Man, you have water, wash it! See, here is a lovable young man, here an elderly man worthy to love and to be loved in return, to whom a person will entrust the education of his son, to whom daughters and young men will come, if it

<sup>2</sup> *i.e.* a man really is not body, which he has in common with other animals, but mind, reason, or moral purpose. Cf. such passages as I. 1. 23; III. 1, 25-6; 13, 17; IV. 5, 12 and 23; 7, 31 f.; and § 27 above.

<sup>3</sup> That is, the young man carries the precept to extremes, the command being ironical.

ὥ νέοι προσελεύσονται, ἂν οὕτως τύχη, ἵνα ἐν  
 36 κοπρῶνι λέγῃ τὰς σχολάς. μὴ γένοιτο. πᾶσα  
 ἐκτροπὴ ἀπὸ τινος ἀνθρωπικοῦ γίνεται, αὕτη  
 ἐγγύς ἐστι τῷ μὴ ἀνθρωπικῇ εἶναι.

ιβ'. Περὶ προσοχῆς.

- 1 "Ὅταν ἀφῆς<sup>1</sup> πρὸς ὀλίγον τὴν προσοχήν, μὴ  
 τοῦτο φαντάζου, ὅτι, ὁπότεν θέλῃς, ἀναλήψῃ  
 αὐτήν, ἀλλ' ἐκείνο πρόχειρον ἔστω σοι, ὅτι παρὰ  
 τὸ σήμερον ἀμαρτηθὲν εἰς τᾶλλα χεῖρον ἀνάγκη  
 2 σοι τὰ πράγματα ἔχειν. πρῶτον μὲν γὰρ τὸ πάν-  
 των χαλεπώτατον ἔθος τοῦ μὴ προσέχειν ἐγγίνε-  
 ται, εἴτα ἔθος τοῦ ἀναβάλλεσθαι τὴν προσοχήν·  
 αἰεὶ δ' εἰς ἄλλον καὶ ἄλλον χρόνον εἴωθας ὑπερτί-  
 θεσθαι<sup>2</sup> τὸ εὐροεῖν, τὸ εὐσχημονεῖν, τὸ κατὰ  
 3 φύσιν ἔχειν καὶ διεξάγειν. εἰ μὲν οὖν λυσιτελὴς  
 ἢ ὑπέρθεσις ἐστίν, ἢ παντελὴς ἀπόστασις αὐτῆς  
 ἐστὶ λυσιτελεστέρα· εἰ δ' οὐ λυσιτελεῖ, τί οὐχὶ  
 διηνεκῇ τὴν προσοχήν φυλάσσεις; "σήμερον  
 4 παῖξαι θέλω." τί οὖν κωλύει<sup>3</sup> προσέχοντα;  
 "ἄσαι." τί οὖν κωλύει προσέχοντα; μὴ γὰρ  
 ἐξαιρεῖται τι μέρος τοῦ βίου, ἐφ' ὃ οὐ διατείνει  
 τὸ προσέχειν; χεῖρον γὰρ αὐτὸ προσέχων ποιή-  
 σεις, βέλτιον δὲ μὴ προσέχων; καὶ τί ἄλλο τῶν  
 5 ἐν τῷ βίῳ κρεῖσσον ὑπὸ τῶν μὴ προσεχόντων  
 γίνεται; ὁ τέκτων μὴ προσέχων τεκταίνει

<sup>1</sup> Kronenberg (after Sb and s): φησί S.

<sup>2</sup> Schenkl: ἰ\*αθι (or ἰ\*φθας) ὑπερτιθέμενος S.

<sup>3</sup> κωλύει added by C. Schenkl.

so chance—all for the purpose of having him deliver his lectures sitting on a dunghill? Good Lord, no! Every eccentricity arises from some human trait, but this trait comes close to being non-human.

## CHAPTER XII

### *Of attention*

WHEN you relax your attention for a little while, do not imagine that whenever you choose you will recover it, but bear this in mind, that because of the mistake which you have made to-day, your condition must necessarily be worse as regards everything else. For, to begin with—and this is the worst of all—a habit of not paying attention is developed; and after that a habit of deferring attention; and always you grow accustomed to putting off from one time to another tranquil and appropriate living, the life in accordance with nature, and persistence in that life. Now if the postponement of such matters is profitable, it is still more profitable to abandon them altogether; but if it is not profitable, why do you not maintain your attention continuously? “To-day I want to play.” What is to prevent your playing, then,—but with attention? “I want to sing.” What is to prevent your singing, then,—but with attention? There is no part of the activities of your life excepted, to which attention does not extend, is there? What, will you do it worse by attention, and better by inattention? And yet what other thing, of all that go to make up our life, is done better by those who are inattentive? Does the inattentive carpenter do his work more accur-

- ἀκριβέστερον; ὁ κυβερνήτης μὴ προσέχων<sup>1</sup>  
κυβερνᾷ ἀσφαλέστερον; ἄλλο δέ τι τῶν μικρο-  
6 τερων ἔργων ὑπὸ ἀπροσεξίας ἐπιτελεῖται κρεῖσ-  
σον; οὐκ αἰσθάνη, ὅτι, ἐπειδὴν ἀφῆς τὴν γνώμην,  
οὐκ ἔτι ἐπὶ σοί ἐστιν ἀνακαλέσασθαι αὐτήν, οὐκ  
ἐπὶ τὸ εὖσχημον, οὐκ ἐπὶ τὸ αἰδῆμον, οὐκ ἐπὶ τὸ  
καίεσταλμένον; ἀλλὰ πᾶν τὸ ἐπελθὼν ποιεῖς,  
ταῖς προθυμίαις ἐπακολουθεῖς.
- 7 Τίσιν οὖν δεῖ με προσέχειν;—Πρῶτον μὲν  
ἐκείνοις τοῖς καθολικοῖς καὶ ἐκεῖνα πρόχειρα  
ἔχειν καὶ χωρὶς ἐκείνων μὴ καθεύδειν, μὴ ἀνίσ-  
τασθαι, μὴ πίνειν, μὴ ἐσθίειν, μὴ συμβάλλειν  
ἀνθρώποις· ὅτι προαιρέσεως ἀλλοτρίας κύριος  
οὐδεὶς, ἐν ταύτῃ δὲ μόνη τὰγαθὸν καὶ κακόν.  
8 οὐδεὶς οὖν κύριος οὔτ' ἀγαθὸν μοι περιποιῆσαι  
οὔτε κακῶ με περιβαλεῖν, ἀλλ' ἐγὼ αὐτὸς ἐμαυτοῦ
- 9 κατὰ ταῦτα ἐξουσίαν ἔχω μόνος. ὅταν οὖν  
ταῦτα ἀσφαλῆ μοι ᾗ, τί ἔχω περὶ τὰ ἐκτὸς  
ταράσσεσθαι; ποῖος τύραννος φοβερὸς, ποία  
νόσος, ποία πενία, ποῖον πρόσκρουσμα;—'Αλλ'
- 10 οὐκ ἤρεσα τῷ δεῖνι.—Μὴ οὖν ἐκεῖνος ἐμὸν ἐστιν  
ἔργον, μή τι ἐμὸν κρίμα;—Οὔ.—Τί οὖν ἔτι μοι  
μέλει;—'Αλλὰ δοκεῖ τις εἶναι.—'Οψεται αὐτὸς
- 11 καὶ οἷς δοκεῖ, ἐγὼ δ' ἔχω, τίμι με δεῖ ἀρέσκειν,  
τίμι ὑποτετάχθαι, τίμι πείθεσθαι· τῷ θεῷ καὶ
- 12 μετ' ἐκείνον ἐμοί.<sup>2</sup> ἐμὲ ἐκεῖνος συνέστησεν ἐμαυτῷ  
καὶ τὴν ἐμὴν προαίρεσιν ὑπέταξεν ἐμοὶ μόνῳ δούς  
κανόνας εἰς χρῆσιν αὐτῆς τὴν ὀρθήν, οἷς ὅταν

<sup>1</sup> These last six words are added, to fill an obvious lacuna, in Upton's "codex." Something like them is certainly needed.

<sup>2</sup> ἐμοί supplied by Diels.

ately? The inattentive helmsman steer more safely? And is there any other of the lesser functions of life which is done better by inattention? Do you not realize that when once you let your mind go wandering, it is no longer within your power to recall it, to bring it to bear upon either seemliness, or self-respect, or moderation? But you do anything that comes into your head, you follow your inclinations.

What are the things, then, to which I ought to pay attention?—First, these general principles, and you ought to have them at your command, and without them neither go to sleep, nor rise up, nor drink, nor eat, nor mingle with men; I mean the following: No man is master of another's moral purpose; and: In its sphere alone are to be found one's good and evil. It follows, therefore, that no one has power either to procure me good, or to involve me in evil, but I myself alone have authority over myself in these matters. Accordingly, when these things are secure for me, what excuse have I for being disturbed about things external? What kind of tyrant inspires fear, what kind of disease, or poverty, or obstacle?—But I have not pleased So-and-so.—He is not my function, is he? He is not my judgement, is he?—No.—Why, then, do I care any longer?—But he has the reputation of being somebody.—He and those who think so highly of him will have to see to that, but I have one whom I must please, to whom I must submit, whom I must obey, that is, God, and after Him, myself. God has commended me to myself, and He has subjected to me alone my moral purpose, giving me standards for the correct use of it; and when I follow



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- κατακολουθήσω, ἐν συλλογισμοῖς οὐκ ἐπιστρε-  
 φομαι οὐδενὸς τῶν ἄλλο τι λεγόντων, ἐν μεταπίπ-  
 13 τουσιν οὐ φροντίζω οὐδενός. διὰ τί οὖν ἐν τοῖς  
 μείζουσιν ἀνιῶσί με οἱ ψέγοντες; τί τὸ αἴτιον  
 ταύτης τῆς ταραχῆς; οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἢ ὅτι ἐν τού-  
 14 τῳ τῷ τόπῳ ἀγύμναστος εἰμι. ἐπεὶ τοι πᾶσα  
 ἐπιστήμη καταφρονητικὴ ἐστὶ τῆς ἀγνοίας καὶ  
 τῶν ἀγνοούντων καὶ οὐ μόνον αἱ ἐπιστήμαι, ἀλλὰ  
 καὶ αἱ τέχναι. φέρε ὃν θέλεις σκυτέα καὶ τῶν  
 πολλῶν καταγελαῖ περὶ τὸ αὐτοῦ ἔργον· φέρε ὃν  
 θέλεις τέκτονα.
- 15 Πρῶτον μὲν οὖν ταῦτα ἔχειν πρόχειρα καὶ  
 μηδὲν δίχα τούτων ποιεῖν, ἀλλὰ τετάσθαι τὴν  
 ψυχὴν ἐπὶ τούτῳ τὸν σκοπόν, μηδὲν τῶν ἔξω  
 διώκειν, μηδὲν τῶν ἀλλοτρίων, ἀλλ' ὥς διέταξεν  
 ὁ δυνάμενος, τὰ προαιρετικὰ ἐξ ἅπαντος, τὰ δ'  
 16 ἄλλα ὡς ἂν διδῶται. ἐπὶ τούτοις δὲ μεμνήσθαι,  
 τίνες ἐσμέν καὶ τί ἡμῖν ὄνομα, καὶ πρὸς τὰς  
 δυνάμεις τῶν σχέσεων πειρᾶσθαι τὰ καθήκοντα  
 17 ἀπευθύνειν· τίς καιρὸς ἀδῆς, τίς καιρὸς παιδιᾶς,<sup>1</sup>  
 τίνων παρόντων· τί ἔσται ἀπὸ τοῦ πράγματος·  
 μή τι καταφρονήσωσιν ἡμῶν οἱ<sup>2</sup> συνόντες, μή τι  
 ἡμεῖς αὐτῶν· πότε σκῶψαι καὶ τίνας ποτὲ κατα-  
 γελάσαι καὶ ἐπὶ τίνι ποτὲ συμπεριενεχθῆναι καὶ  
 τίνι, καὶ λοιπὸν ἐν τῇ συμπεριφορᾷ πῶς τηρῆσαι  
 τὸ αὐτοῦ. ὅπου δ' ἂν ἀπονεύσης ἀπὸ τιος τού-  
 18 των, εὐθὺς ζημία, οὐκ ἔξωθὲν ποθεν, ἀλλ' ἐξ  
 αὐτῆς τῆς ἐνεργείας.

<sup>1</sup> Upton's "codex" and Wolf: παιδείας S.

<sup>2</sup> οἱ supplied by Sb.

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<sup>1</sup> See note on I. 7, 1.



these standards, I pay heed to none of those who say anything else, I give not a thought to anyone in arguments with equivocal premisses.<sup>1</sup> Why, then, in the more important matters am I annoyed by those who censure me? What is the reason for this perturbation of spirit? Nothing but the fact that in this field I lack training. For, look you, every science is entitled to despise ignorance and ignorant people, and not merely the sciences, but also the arts. Take any cobbler you please, and he laughs the multitude to scorn when it comes to his own work; take any carpenter you please.

First, therefore, we ought to have these principles at command, and to do nothing apart from them, but keep the soul intent upon this mark; we must pursue none of the things external, none of the things which are not our own, but as He that is mighty has ordained; pursuing without any hesitation the things that lie within the sphere of the moral purpose, and all other things as they have been given us. And next we must remember who we are, and what is our designation, and must endeavour to direct our actions, in the performance of our duties, to meet the possibilities of our social relations. We must remember what is the proper time for song, the proper time for play, and in whose presence; also what will be out of place; lest our companions despise us, and we despise ourselves; when to jest, and whom to laugh at, and to what end to engage in social intercourse, and with whom; and, finally, how to maintain one's proper character in such social intercourse. But whenever you deviate from any one of these principles, immediately you suffer loss, and that not from anywhere outside, but from the very nature of the activity.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 19 Τί οὖν ; δυνατόν ἀναμάρτητον ἤδη εἶναι ; ἀμήχανον, ἀλλ' ἐκεῖνο δυνατόν πρὸς τὸ μὴ ἁμαρτάνειν τετάσθαι διηνεκῶς. ἀγαπητὸν γάρ, εἰ μηδέποτ' ἀνιέντες ταύτην τὴν προσοχὴν ὀλίγων
- 20 γε ἁμαρτημάτων ἐκτὸς ἐσόμεθα. νῦν δ' ὅταν εἴπῃς “ ἀπαύριον προσέξω,” ἴσθι ὅτι τοῦτο λέγεις “ σήμερον ἔσομαι ἀναίσχυντος, ἄκαιρος, ταπεινός· ἐπ' ἄλλοις ἔσται τὸ λυπεῖν με· ὀργισθήσομαι
- 21 σήμερον, φθονήσω.” βλέπε ὅσα κακὰ σεαυτῷ ἐπιτρέπεις. ἀλλ' εἰ σοι<sup>1</sup> αὔριον καλῶς ἔχει, πόσῳ κρεῖττον σήμερον ; εἰ αὔριον συμφέρει, πολὺ μᾶλλον σήμερον, ἵνα καὶ αὔριον δυνηθῇς καὶ μὴ πάλιν ἀναβάλλῃ εἰς τρίτην.

ιγ'. Πρὸς τοὺς εὐκόλως ἐκφέροντας τὰ αὐτῶν.

- 1 “ Ὅταν τις ἡμῖν ἀπλῶς δόξῃ διειλέχθαι περὶ τῶν ἑαυτοῦ πραγμάτων, πῶς<sup>2</sup> ποτε ἐξαγόμεθα καὶ αὐτοὶ πρὸς τὸ ἐκφέρειν πρὸς αὐτὸν τὰ ἑαυτῶν ἀπόρρητα καὶ τοῦτο ἀπλοῦν οἰόμεθα εἶναι·
- 2 πρῶτον μὲν ὅτι ἄνισον εἶναι δοκεῖ αὐτὸν μὲν ἀκηκοέναι τὰ τοῦ πλησίον, μὴ μέντοι μεταδιδόναι καὶ κείνῳ ἐν τῷ μέρει τῶν ἡμετέρων. εἰθ' ὅτι οἰόμεθα οὐχ ἀπλῶν ἀνθρώπων παρέξειν αὐτοῖς
- 3 φαντασίαν σιωπῶντες τὰ ἴδια. ἀμέλει πολλάκις εἰώθασιν λέγειν “ ἐγὼ σοι πάντα τὰ μαυτοῦ εἴρηκα,

<sup>1</sup> Schenkl: εἰς S.

<sup>2</sup> Trincavelli: πῶς S.

What then? Is it possible to be free from fault altogether? No, that cannot be achieved, but it is possible ever to be intent upon avoiding faults. For we must be satisfied, if we succeed in escaping at least a few faults by never relaxing our attention. But now, when you say, "To-morrow I will pay attention," I would have you know that this is what you are saying: "To-day I will be shameless, tactless, abject; it will be in the power of other men to grieve me; I will get angry to-day, I will give way to envy." Just see all the evils that you are allowing yourself! But if it is good for you to pay attention to-morrow, how much better is it to-day! If it is to your interest to-morrow, it is much more so to-day, that you may be able to do the same to-morrow also, and not put it off again, this time to the day after to-morrow.

### CHAPTER XIII

#### *To those who lightly talk about their own affairs*

WHEN someone gives us the impression of having talked to us frankly about his personal affairs, somehow or other we are likewise led to tell him our own secrets, and to think that is frankness! The first reason for this is because it seems unfair for a man to have heard his neighbour's affairs, and yet not to let him too have, in his turn, a share in ours. Another reason, after that, is because we feel that we shall not give the impression to these men of being frank, if we keep our own private affairs concealed. Indeed, men are frequently in the habit of saying, "I have told you everything

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σύ μοι οὐδὲν τῶν σῶν εἰπεῖν θέλεις ; ποῦ γίνεται  
 4 τοῦτο ;" πρόσσεστι<sup>1</sup> δὲ καὶ τὸ οἶεσθαι ἀσφαλῶς  
 πιστεύειν τῷ ἤδη τὰ αὐτοῦ πεπιστευκότι· ὑπέρχε-  
 ται γὰρ ἡμᾶς, ὅτι οὐκ ἂν ποτε οὗτος ἐξείποι τὰ  
 5 ἡμέτερα εὐλαβούμενος, μήποτε καὶ ἡμεῖς ἐξείπω-  
 μεν τὰ ἐκείνου. οὕτως καὶ ὑπὸ τῶν στρατιωτῶν  
 ἐν Ῥώμῃ οἱ προπετεῖς λαμβάνονται. παρακεκά-  
 θικέ σοι στρατιώτης ἐν σχήματι ἰδιωτικῷ καὶ  
 ἀρξάμενος κακῶς λέγει τὸν Καίσαρα, εἴτα σὺ  
 ὥσπερ ἐνέχυρον παρ' αὐτοῦ λαβὼν τῆς πίστεως  
 τὸ αὐτὸν τῆς λαιδορίας κατήρχθαι λέγεις καὶ αὐτὸς  
 6 ὅσα φρονεῖς, εἴτα δεθεῖς ἀπάγῃ. τοιοῦτόν τι καὶ ἐν  
 τῷ καθόλου πάσχομεν. οὐ γὰρ<sup>2</sup> ὡς ἐμοὶ ἐκεῖνος  
 ἀσφαλῶς πεπίστευκεν τὰ ἑαυτοῦ, οὕτως καὶ γὰρ  
 7 τῷ ἐπιτυχόντι· ἀλλ' ἐγὼ μὲν ἀκούσας σιωπῶ, ἂν  
 γέ ᾧ τοιοῦτος, ὁ δ' ἐξελθὼν ἐκφέρει πρὸς πάντας  
 εἴτ' ἂν γινῶ τὸ γενόμενον, ἂν μὲν ᾧ καὶ αὐτὸς  
 ἐκείνῳ ὅμοιος, ἀμύνασθαι θέλων ἐκφέρω τὰ  
 8 ἐκείνου καὶ φύρω καὶ φύρομαι. ἂν δὲ μνημονεύω,  
 ὅτι ἄλλος ἄλλον οὐ βλάπτει, ἀλλὰ τὰ αὐτοῦ  
 ἔργα ἕκαστον καὶ βλάπτει καὶ ὠφελεῖ, τούτου  
 μὲν κρατῶ τοῦ μὴ ὅμοιόν τι ποιῆσαι ἐκείνῳ,  
 ὅμως δ' ὑπὸ φλυαρίας τῆς ἑμαυτοῦ πέπονθα  
 ἂ πέπονθα.

9 Ναί· ἀλλ' ἄνισόν ἐστιν ἀκούσαντα τὰ τοῦ

<sup>1</sup> Wolf : προσέτι S.

<sup>2</sup> οὐ γάρ Schenkl : αὐτάρ S.

<sup>1</sup> It may possibly be, as Upton suggests, that this abuse led John the Baptist to warn soldiers specifically, "Neither accuse any falsely" (Luke iii. 14).

about myself, aren't you willing to tell me anything about yourself? Where do people act like that?" Furthermore, there is also the thought that we can safely trust the man who has already entrusted knowledge of his own affairs; for the idea occurs to us that this man would never spread abroad knowledge of our affairs, because he would be careful to guard against our too spreading abroad knowledge of his affairs. In this fashion the rash are ensnared by the soldiers in Rome. A soldier, dressed like a civilian, sits down by your side, and begins to speak ill of Caesar, and then you too, just as though you had received from him some guarantee of good faith in the fact that he began the abuse, tell likewise everything you think, and the next thing is—you are led off to prison in chains.<sup>1</sup> We experience something of the same sort also in the general course of our life. For even though this particular man has safely entrusted knowledge of his own affairs to me, I do not myself in like manner tell my affairs to any chance comer; no, I listen and keep still, if, to be sure, I happen to be that kind of a person, but he goes out and tells everybody. And then, when I find out what has happened, if I myself resemble the other person, because I want to get even with him I tell about his affairs, and confound him and am myself confounded. If, however, I remember that one person does not harm another, but that it is a man's own actions which both harm and help him, this much I achieve, namely, that I do not act like the other person, but despite that I get into the state in which I am because of my own foolish talking.

Yes, but it isn't fair to hear your neighbour's

- πλησίον ἀπόρρητα αὐτὸν ἐν τῷ μέρει μηδενὸς  
 10 μεταδιδόναι αὐτῷ.—Μὴ γάρ σε παρεκάλουν,  
 ἄνθρωπε; μὴ γὰρ ἐπὶ συνθήκαις τιςὶν ἐξήνεγκας  
 τὰ σαυτοῦ, ἵν' ἀκούσης ἐν τῷ μέρει καὶ τὰ ἐμά;  
 11 εἰ σὺ φλύαρος εἶ καὶ πάντας τοὺς ἀπαντήσαντας  
 φίλους εἶναι δοκεῖς, θέλεις καὶ ἐμὲ ὁμοίόν σοι  
 γενέσθαι; τί δ', εἰ σὺ καλῶς μοι πεπίστευκας τὰ  
 σαυτοῦ, σοὶ δ' οὐκ ἔστι καλῶς πιστεῦσαι, θέλεις  
 12 με προπεσεῖν; οἷον εἰ πίθον εἶχον ἐγὼ μὲν  
 στεγνόν, σὺ δὲ τετρυπημένον καὶ ἐλθὼν παρα-  
 κατέθου μοι τὸν σαυτοῦ οἶνον, ἵνα βάλω εἰς τὸν  
 ἐμὸν πίθον, εἰτ' ἡγανάκτεις ὅτι μὴ κἀγὼ σοὶ  
 πιστεύω τὸν ἐμαυτοῦ οἶνον· σὺ γὰρ τετρυπη-  
 13 μένον ἔχεις τὸν πίθον. πῶς οὖν ἔτι ἴσον γίνε-  
 ται; σὺ πιστῷ παρακατέθου, σὺ αἰδήμονι, τὰς  
 ἑαυτοῦ ἐνεργείας μόνας βλαβεράς ἡγουμένῳ καὶ  
 14 ὠφελίμους, τῶν δ' ἐκτὸς οὐδέν· ἐγὼ σοὶ θέλεις  
 παρακαταθῶμαι, ἀνθρώπῳ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ προαί-  
 ρεσιν ἡτιμακότι, θέλονται δὲ κερματίου τυχεῖν ἢ  
 15 ἀρχῆς τινὸς ἢ προαγωγῆς ἐν τῇ αὐλῇ, καὶ μέλλης  
 τὰ τέκνα σου κατασφάζειν, ὥς ἡ Μήδεια; ποῦ  
 τοῦτο ἴσον ἐστίν; ἀλλὰ δεῖξόν μοι σαυτὸν  
 πιστόν, αἰδήμονα, βέβαιον, δεῖξον, ὅτι δόγματα  
 ἔχεις φιλικά, δεῖξόν σου τὸ ἀγγεῖον ὅτι οὐ τέτρη-  
 16 ται καὶ ὄψει, πῶς οὐκ ἀναμενῶ<sup>1</sup> ἵνα μοι σὺ  
 πιστεύσης τὰ σαυτοῦ, ἀλλ' αὐτὸς ἐλθὼν σὲ  
 παρακαλῶ ἀκοῦσαι τῶν ἐμῶν. τίς γὰρ οὐ θέλει  
 χρήσασθαι ἀγγεῖῳ καλῷ, τίς ἀτιμάζει σύμβουλον  
 εὖνουν καὶ πιστόν, τίς οὐκ ἄσμενος δέξεται τὸν  
 ὥσπερ φορτίου μεταληψόμενον τῶν αὐτοῦ περι-

<sup>1</sup> Elter, after Wolf : ἀναμένω S.



secrets and then give him no share of your own in return.—Man, I did not invite your confidences, did I? You did not tell about your affairs on certain conditions, that you were to hear about mine in return, did you? If you are a babbler, and think that every person you meet is a friend, do you also want me to be like yourself? And why, if you did well to entrust your affairs to me, but it is impossible for me to do well in trusting you, do you wish me to be rash? It is just as though I had a jar that was sound, and you one with a hole in it, and you came to me and deposited your wine with me, for me to store it in my jar; and then you complained because I do not entrust to you my wine also; why, *your* jar has a hole in it! How, then, is equality any longer to be found? You made your deposit with a faithful man, with a respectful man, with a man who regards only his own activities as either harmful or helpful, and nothing that is external. Do you wish me to make a deposit with you—a man who has dishonoured his own moral purpose, and wants to get paltry cash, or some office, or advancement at court, even if you are going to cut the throats of your children, as Medea did? Where is there equality in that? Nay, show yourself to me as a faithful, respectful, dependable man; show that your judgements are those of a friend, show that your vessel has no hole in it, and you shall see how I will not wait for you to entrust the knowledge of your affairs to me, but I will go of myself and ask you to hear about mine. For who does not wish to use a good vessel, who despises a friendly and faithful counsellor, who would not gladly accept the man who is ready to share his difficulties, as he would



στάσεων καὶ αὐτῷ τούτῳ κουφιοῦντα αὐτὸν τῷ μεταλαβεῖν;

- 17     Ναί· ἀλλ' ἐγὼ σοὶ πιστεύω, σὺ ἐμοὶ οὐ πιστεύεις.—Πρῶτον μὲν οὐδὲ σὺ ἐμοὶ πιστεύεις, ἀλλὰ φλύαρος εἶ καὶ διὰ τοῦτο οὐδὲν δύνασαι κατασχεῖν. ἐπεὶ τοι εἰ τοῦτό ἐστιν, ἐμοὶ μόνῳ  
18     αὐτὰ πίστευσον· νῦν δ' ὃν ἂν εὐσχολοῦντα ἴδης, παρακαθίσας αὐτῷ λέγεις “ἀδελφέ, οὐδένα σου ἔχω εὐνότερον οὐδὲ φίλτερον, παρακαλῶ σε ἀκοῦσαι τὰ ἐμά”· καὶ τοῦτο πρὸς τοὺς οὐδέ τι  
19     ὀλίγον ἐγνωσμένους ποιεῖς. εἰ δὲ καὶ πιστεύεις ἐμοί, δῆλον ὅτι ὡς πιστῷ καὶ αἰδήμονι, οὐχ ὅτι  
20     σοὶ τὰ ἐμαυτοῦ ἐξείπον. ἄφες οὖν, ἵνα καὶ γὰρ ταῦτα ὑπολάβω. δεῖξόν μοι, ὅτι, ἂν τις τινὲς τὰ αὐτοῦ<sup>1</sup> ἐξείπῃ, ἐκεῖνος πιστὸς ἐστὶ καὶ αἰδήμων. εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο ἦν, ἐγὼ περιερχόμενος πᾶσιν ἀνθρώποις τὰ ἐμαυτοῦ ἂν ἔλεγον, εἰ τούτου ἕνεκα ἔμελλον πιστὸς καὶ αἰδήμων ἔσεσθαι. τὸ δ' ἐστὶν οὐ τοιοῦτον, ἀλλὰ δογμάτων δεῖ οὐχ ὧν  
21     ἔτυχεν. ἂν γοῦν τινὰ ἴδης περὶ τὰ ἀπροαίρετα ἐσπουδακότα καὶ τούτοις ὑποτεταχότα τὴν αὐτοῦ προαίρεσιν, ἴσθι ὅτι ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὗτος μυρίους ἔχει τοὺς ἀναγκάζοντας, τοὺς κωλύοντας. οὐκ  
22     ἐστὶν αὐτῷ χρεῖα πίσεως ἢ τροχοῦ πρὸς τὸ ἐξεῖπῃν ἃ οἶδεν, ἀλλὰ παιδισκαρίου νευμάτιον, ἂν οὕτως τύχῃ, ἐκσείσει αὐτόν, Καισαριανοῦ φιλοφροσύνη, ἀρχῆς ἐπιθυμία, κληρονομία, ἄλλα

<sup>1</sup> s: αὐτῷ S.

<sup>1</sup> Means of torture among the ancients. See also II. 6, 18.

share a burden with him, and to make them light for him by the very fact of his sharing in them?

Yes, but I trust you, while you do not trust me.—First, you do not trust me, either, but you are a babbler, and that is the reason why you cannot keep anything back. Why, look you, if that statement of yours is true, entrust these matters to me alone; but the fact is that whenever you see anybody at leisure you sit down beside him and say, “Brother, I have no one more kindly disposed or dearer to me than you, I ask you to listen to my affairs”; and you act this way to people whom you have not known for even a short time. And even if you do trust me, it is clear you trust me as a faithful and respectful person, not because I have already told you about my affairs. Allow me also, then, to have the same thought about you. Show me that, if a man unbosoms himself to somebody about his own affairs, he is faithful and respectful. For if that were so, I should have gone about and told my own affairs to all men, that is, if that was going to make me faithful and respectful. But that is not the case; to be faithful and respectful a man needs judgements of no casual sort. If, therefore, you see someone very much in earnest about the things that lie outside the province of his moral purpose, and subordinating his own moral purpose to them, rest assured that this man has tens of thousands of persons who subject him to compulsion and hinder him. He has no need of pitch or the wheel<sup>1</sup> to get him to speak out what he knows, but a little nod from a wench, if it so happen, will upset him, a kindness from one of those who frequent Caesar’s court, desire for office, or an inheritance, and thirty thousand

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- 23 τούτοις ὅμοια τρισμύρια. μεμνήσθαι οὖν ἐν τοῖς  
καθόλου, ὅτι οἱ ἀπόρρητοι λόγοι πίστεως χρεῖαν  
24 ἔχουσι καὶ δογμάτων τοιούτων· ταῦτα δὲ ποῦ  
νῦν εὑρεῖν ῥαδίως; ἢ δειξάτω μοί τις τὸν οὕτως  
ἔχοντα, ὥστε λέγειν “ἐμοὶ μόνων μέλει τῶν ἐμῶν,  
τῶν ἀκωλύτων, τῶν φύσει ἐλευθέρων. ταύτην  
οὐσίαν ἔχω τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ, τὰ δὲ ἄλλα γινέσθω ὡς  
ἂν διδῶται· οὐ διαφέρωμαι.”

other things of the sort. Remember, therefore, in general, that confidences require faithfulness and faithful judgements; and where can one readily find these things nowadays?<sup>1</sup> Or, let someone show me the man who is so minded that he can say, "I care only for what is my own, what is not subject to hindrance, what is by nature free. This, which is the true nature of the good, I have; but let everything else be as God has granted, it makes no difference to me."

<sup>1</sup> Cf. "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke xviii. 8).



## FRAGMENTS

### *Introductory Note*

THE genuine fragments of Epictetus are not very numerous, and since several of them are of unusual interest, it has seemed best to add them at this point. One fragment, No. 28 b, I have added to those listed by Schenkl, since its discovery was subsequent to his latest edition.

Earlier editions have included a large number of aphorisms gathered from Stobaeus, and from a gnomology purporting to contain excerpts from Democritus, Isocrates, and Epictetus. The researches of a group of scholars, principally H. Schenkl,<sup>1</sup> R. Asmus,<sup>2</sup> and A. Elter,<sup>3</sup> have thrown such doubt upon the authenticity of these aphorisms that it would scarcely serve any useful purpose to reproduce them in the present work.

<sup>1</sup> *Die epiktetischen Fragmente, Sitzungsberichte der philos.-hist. Classe der K. Akad. der Wiss.*, Wien, 115 (1888), 443-546. Also ed. maior 1916, Chapter III, pp. xlviii-lii.

<sup>2</sup> *Quaestiones Epicteteae*, Freiburg i. B., 1888.

<sup>3</sup> *Epicteti et Moschionis Sententiae*, Bonn, 1892.

## FRAGMENTA

1 (175<sup>1</sup>). Stobaeus, *Eclogae*, II. 1, 31

Ἀρριανοῦ Ἐπικτητείου πρὸς τὸν περὶ οὐσίας  
πολυπραγμονοῦντα <sup>2</sup>

Τί μοι μέλει, φησί, πότερον ἐξ ἀτόμων ἢ ἐξ ἀμερῶν ἢ ἐκ πυρὸς καὶ γῆς συνέστηκε τὰ ὄντα; οὐ γὰρ ἀρκεῖ μαθεῖν τὴν οὐσίαν τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ κακοῦ καὶ τὰ μέτρα τῶν ὀρέξεων καὶ ἐκκλίσεων καὶ ἔτι ὁρμῶν καὶ ἀφορμῶν καὶ τούτοις ὥσπερ κανόσι χρώμενον διοικεῖν τὰ τοῦ βίου, τὰ δ' ὑπὲρ ἡμᾶς ταῦτα χαίρειν ἔαν, ἃ τυχὸν μὲν ἀκατάληπτά ἐστι τῇ ἀνθρωπίνῃ γνώμῃ, εἰ δὲ καὶ τὰ μάλιστα θείῃ<sup>3</sup> τις εἶναι καταληπτὰ, ἀλλ' οὖν τί ὄφελος καταληφθέντων; οὐχὶ δὲ διακενῆς πράγματα ἔχειν φατέον τοὺς ταῦτα ὡς ἀναγκαῖα τῷ τοῦ φιλοσόφου λόγῳ προσνέμοντας; Μή τι οὖν καὶ τὸ ἐν Δελφοῖς παράγγελμα παρέλκον ἐστί, τὸ Γνώθι σαυτόν;—Γοῦτο δὲ μὲν οὐ, φησί.—Τίς οὖν ἡ δύναμις αὐτοῦ; εἰ χορευτῇ τις παρήγγελλε τὸ γινῶναι ἑαυτόν, οὐκ οὐκ<sup>4</sup> τῇ προστάξει προσεῖχε τῷ ἐπιστραφῆναι καὶ τῶν συγχορευτῶν καὶ τῆς πρὸς αὐτοὺς συμφωνίας;—Φησὶν.—Ἐἰ δὲ ναύτῃ;<sup>5</sup> εἰ δὲ στρατιώτῃ; πό-

<sup>1</sup> Numbers in parenthesis refer to Schweighäuser's edition, which was followed by Long in his translation.

<sup>2</sup> The final word of the title added by Wachsmuth.

<sup>3</sup> Schweighäuser: *θη* MSS.



## FRAGMENTS

### 1

*From Arrian the pupil of Epictetus. To the man  
who was bothering himself about the problem of  
being*

What do I care, says Epictetus, whether all existing things are composed of atoms, or of indivisibles, or of fire and earth? Is it not enough to learn the true nature of the good and the evil, and the limits of the desires and aversions, and also of the choices and refusals, and, by employing these as rules, to order the affairs of our life, and dismiss the things that are beyond us? It may very well be that these latter are not to be comprehended by the human mind, and even if one assume that they are perfectly comprehensible, well, what profit comes from comprehending them? And ought we not to say that those men trouble themselves in vain who assign all this as necessary to the philosopher's system of thought? Is, therefore, also the precept at Delphi superfluous, "Know thyself"?—That, indeed, no, the man answers.—What, then, does it mean? If one bade a singer in a chorus to "know himself," would he not heed the order by paying attention both to his fellows in the chorus and to singing in harmony with them?—Yes.—And so in the case of a sailor?

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<sup>4</sup> οὐκ οὖν ἄν Schenkl (οὐκ οὖν Wachsmuth): οὐκ ἄν ἐν MSS.

<sup>5</sup> Canter and Wachsmuth: εἶδεν αὐτῆς(ν) MSS.

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τερον οὖν ὁ ἄνθρωπος αὐτὸς ἐφ' <sup>1</sup> αὐτοῦ πεποιήσθαι σοι δοκεῖ ζῶν ἢ πρὸς κοινωνίαν;—Πρὸς κοινωνίαν.<sup>2</sup>—Ἐπὶ τίνος;—Ἐπὶ τῆς φύσεως.—Τίνος οὔσης καὶ πῶς διοικούσης τὰ ὅλα καὶ πότερον οὔσης ἢ μὴ, ταῦτα οὐκέτι ἀναγκαῖον πολυπραγμονεῖν.

2 (135). Stobaeus, IV. 44, 65

Ἀρριανοῦ Ἐπικτητείου.

Ὁ τοῖς παροῦσι καὶ δεδομένοις ὑπὸ τῆς τύχης δυσχεραίνων ἰδιώτης ἐν βίῳ, ὁ δὲ ταῦτα γενναίως φέρων καὶ εὐλογιστῶν πρὸς τὰ <sup>3</sup> ἀπ' αὐτῶν ἀνὴρ ἀγαθὸς ἄξιός <sup>4</sup> νομίζεσθαι.

3 (136). Stobaeus, IV. 44, 66

Τοῦ αὐτοῦ.

Πάντα ὑπακούει τῷ κόσμῳ καὶ ὑπηρετεῖ καὶ γῇ καὶ θάλασσᾳ καὶ ἥλιος καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ ἄστροι καὶ τὰ γῆς φυτὰ καὶ ζῶα· ὑπακούει δὲ αὐτῷ καὶ τὸ ἡμέτερον σῶμα καὶ νοσοῦν καὶ ὑγιαίνειν, ὅταν ἐκεῖνος θέλῃ, καὶ νέεσθαι καὶ γηρῶν καὶ τὰς ἄλλας διερχόμενον μεταβολάς. οὐκοῦν εὐλογον καί, ὃ ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἐστί, τουτέστι τὴν κρίσιν, μὴ ἀντιτείνειν μόνην πρὸς αὐτόν· καὶ γὰρ ἰσχυρὸς ἐστί καὶ κρείσσων καὶ ἄμεινον ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν βεβούλευται

<sup>1</sup> Cobet: ὑφ' MSS.

<sup>2</sup> πρὸς κοινωνίαν supplied by Heeren.

<sup>3</sup> Schenkl: εὐλογίστω τά MSS.

<sup>4</sup> Gesner: ἀξίως MSS.

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or a soldier? Does it seem to you, then, that man has been made a creature to live all alone by himself, or for society?—For society.—By whom?—By Nature.—What Nature is, and how she administers the universe, and whether she really exists or not, these are questions about which there is no need to go on to bother ourselves.

### 2

*From Arrian the pupil of Epictetus*

He who is dissatisfied with what he has and what has been given him by fortune is a layman in the art of living, but the man who bears all this in a noble spirit and makes a reasonable use of all that comes from it deserves to be considered a good man.

### 3

*From the same*

All things obey and serve the Cosmos,<sup>1</sup> both earth, and sea, and sun, and the other stars, and the plants and animals of earth; obedient to it also is our body, both in sickness and in health, when the Cosmos wishes, both in youth and in old age, and when passing through all the other changes. Therefore it is reasonable also that the one thing which is under our control, that is, the decision of our will, should not be the only thing to stand out against it. For the Cosmos is mighty and superior to us, and has taken better counsel for us than we can, by uniting

<sup>1</sup> A pantheistic form of expression for God, common enough in Stoicism in general, but rare in Epictetus. Cf. also frag. 4, where, however, the expression may really belong to Rufus.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

μετὰ τῶν ὅλων καὶ ἡμᾶς συνδιοικῶν. πρὸς δὲ  
τούτοις καὶ ἡ ἀντίπραξις μετὰ τοῦ ἀλόγου καὶ  
πλέον οὐδὲν ποιούσα πλὴν τὸ διακενῆς σπᾶσθαι  
καὶ περιπίπτειν ὀδύνας καὶ λύπαις ποιεῖ.

4 (169). Stobaeus, II. 8, 30. Musonius, frag.  
38 (H.)

Ῥούφου ἐκ τῶν Ἐπικτήτου περὶ φιλίας.

Τῶν ὄντων τὰ μὲν ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἔθετο ὁ θεός, τὰ  
δ' οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν. ἐφ' ἡμῖν μὲν τὸ κάλλιστον καὶ  
σπουδαιότατον, ᾧ δὴ καὶ αὐτὸς εὐδαίμων ἐστί,  
τὴν χρῆσιν τῶν φαντασιῶν. τοῦτο γὰρ ὀρθῶς  
γιγνόμενον ἐλευθερία ἐστίν, εὐροια, εὐθυμία,  
εὐστάθεια, τοῦτο δὲ καὶ δίκη ἐστὶ καὶ νόμος καὶ  
σωφροσύνη καὶ ξύμπασα ἀρετή. τὰ δ' ἄλλα  
πάντα οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἐποιήσατο. οὐκοῦν καὶ ἡμᾶς  
συμφήφους χρὴ τῷ θεῷ γενέσθαι καὶ ταύτῃ  
διελόντας τὰ πράγματα τῶν μὲν ἐφ' ἡμῖν πάντα  
τρόπον ἀντιποιεῖσθαι, τὰ δὲ μὴ ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἐπιτρέψαι  
τῷ κόσμῳ καί, εἴτε τῶν παίδων δέοιτο εἴτε τῆς  
πατρίδος εἴτε τοῦ σώματος εἴτε ὁτιοῦν,<sup>1</sup> ἀσμένους  
παραχωρεῖν.

5 (67). Stobaeus, III. 19, 13. Musonius, frag.  
39 (H.)

Ῥούφου ἐκ τοῦ Ἐπικτήτου περὶ φιλίας.

Τὸ δὲ Λυκούργου τοῦ Λακεδαιμονίου τίς ἡμῶν  
οὐ θαυμάζει; πηρωθεὶς γὰρ ὑπὸ τινος τῶν

<sup>1</sup> Meineke: ὅτιοῦν MSS.

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us together with the universe under its governance. Besides, to act against it is to side with unreason, and while accomplishing nothing but a vain struggle, it involves us in pains and sorrows.

### 4

*Rufus. From the remarks of Epictetus on friendship*<sup>1</sup>

Of things that are, God has put some under our control, and others not under our control. Under our control He put the finest and most important matter, that, indeed, by virtue of which He Himself is happy, the power to make use of external impressions. For when this power has its perfect work, it is freedom, serenity, cheerfulness, steadfastness; it is also justice, and law, and self-control, and the sum and substance of virtue. But all other things He has not put under our control. Therefore we also ought to become of one mind with God, and, dividing matters in this way, lay hold in every way we can upon the things that are under our control, but what is not under our control we ought to leave to the Cosmos, and gladly resign to it whatever it needs, be that our children, our country, our body, or anything whatsoever.

### 5

*Rufus. From Epictetus on friendship*

What man among us does not admire the saying of Lycurgus the Lacedaemonian? For when he had

The natural way to take this and the next few titles is to assume that Epictetus had quoted with approval a fairly long passage from his revered teacher Musonius Rufus.



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

πολιτῶν τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν τὸν ἕτερον καὶ παρα-  
 λαβὼν τὸν νεανίσκον παρὰ τοῦ δήμου, ἵνα  
 τιμωρήσαιο, ὅπως ἂν<sup>1</sup> αὐτὸς βούληται, τούτου  
 μὲν ἀπέσχετο, παιδεύσας δὲ αὐτὸν καὶ ἀποφήνας  
 ἄνδρα ἀγαθὸν παρήγαγεν εἰς τὸ θέατρον. θαυ-  
 μαζόντων δὲ τῶν Λακεδαιμονίων “τοῦτον μέντοι  
 λαβών,” ἔφη, “παρ’ ὑμῶν ὑβριστὴν καὶ βίαιον  
 ἀποδίδωμι ὑμῖν ἐπιεικὴ καὶ δημοτικόν.”

6 (69). Stobaeus, III. 20, 60. Musonius, frag.  
 40 (H.)

‘Ρούφου ἐκ τοῦ Ἐπικτήτου περὶ φιλίας.

Ἄλλὰ παντὸς μᾶλλον τῆς μὲν φύσεως ἐκείνο  
 τὸ ἔργον συνδῆσαι καὶ συναρμόσαι τὴν ὁρμὴν τῇ<sup>2</sup>  
 τοῦ προσήκοντος καὶ ὠφελίμου φαντασίᾳ.<sup>2</sup>

7 (70). Stobaeus, III. 20, 61. Musonius, frag.  
 41 (H.)

Τοῦ αὐτοῦ.

Τὸ δὲ οἶεσθαι εὐκαταφρονήτους τοῖς ἄλλοις  
 ἔσεσθαι, εἰ μὴ τοὺς πρῶτους ἐχθροὺς παντὶ  
 τρόπῳ βλάψωμεν, σφόδρα ἀγεννῶν καὶ ἀνοήτων  
 ἀνθρώπων. φαμέν γὰρ τὸν εὐκαταφρόνητον  
 νοεῖσθαι μὲν καὶ κατὰ τὸ ἀδύνατον εἶναι βλάψαι·  
 ἀλλὰ πολὺ μᾶλλον νοεῖται κατὰ τὸ ἀδύνατον  
 εἶναι ὠφελεῖν.

<sup>1</sup> ἂν added by C. Schenkl.

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been blinded in one eye by one of his fellow-citizens, and the people had turned over the young man to him, to take whatever vengeance upon the culprit he might desire, this he refrained from doing, but brought him up and made a good man of him, and presented him in the theatre. And when the Lacedaemonians expressed their surprise, he said, "This man when I received him at your hands was insolent and violent; I am returning him to you a reasonable and public-spirited person."

### 6

*Rufus. From Epictetus on friendship*

But above all else this is the function of nature, to bind together and to harmonize our choice with the conception of what is fitting and helpful.

### 7

*The same*

To fancy that we shall be contemptible in the sight of other men, if we do not employ every means to hurt the first enemies we meet, is characteristic of extremely ignoble and thoughtless men. For it is a common saying among us that the contemptible man is recognized among other things by his incapacity to do harm; but he is much better recognized by his incapacity to extend help.

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<sup>2</sup> Bücheler: τῆς . . . φαντασίας MSS.



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

8 (134). Stobaeus, IV. 44, 60. Musonius, frag.  
42 (H.)

Ῥούφου ἐκ τῶν Ἐπικτήτου περὶ φιλίας.

Ὅτι τοιαύτη ἡ τοῦ κόσμου φύσις καὶ ἦν καὶ ἔστι καὶ ἔσται καὶ οὐχ οἷόν τε ἄλλως γίγνεσθαι τὰ γιγνόμενα ἢ ὥς νῦν ἔχει· καὶ ὅτι ταύτης τῆς τροπῆς καὶ τῆς μεταβολῆς οὐ μόνον οἱ ἄνθρωποι μετελήφασιν καὶ τὰλλα ζῶα τὰ ἐπὶ γῆς, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὰ θεῖα καὶ νῆ Δι' αὐτὰ τὰ τέτταρα στοιχεῖα ἄνω καὶ κάτω τρέπεται καὶ μεταβάλλει καὶ γῇ τε ὕδωρ γίνεται καὶ ὕδωρ ἀήρ, οὗτος δὲ πάλιν εἰς αἰθέρα μεταβάλλει· καὶ ὁ αὐτὸς τρόπος τῆς μεταβολῆς ἄνωθεν κάτω. εἰς πρὸς ταῦτά τις ἐπιχειρῇ ῥέπειν τὸν νοῦν καὶ πείθειν ἑαυτὸν ἐκόντα δέχεσθαι τὰ ἀναγκαῖα, πάνυ μετρίως καὶ μουσικῶς διαβιώσεται τὸν βίον.

9 (180). Gellius, XIX. 1, 14–21<sup>1</sup>

- 14 *Philosophus in disciplina Stoica celebratus . . . ex sarcinula sua librum protulit Epicteti philosophi quintum Διαλέξεων, quas ab Arriano digestas congruere scriptis*  
15 *Zenonis et Chrysippi non dubium est. in eo libro, graeca scilicet oratione scriptum ad hanc sententiam legimus: Visa animi (quas φαντασίας philosophi appellant), quibus mens hominis prima statim specie accidentis ad animum rei pellitur, non voluntatis*

<sup>1</sup> Also in abbreviated form (from Gellius) in Augustine, *Civ. Dei*, 9, 4 (cf. 9, 5), and *Quaest. in Heptat.* 1, 30.

<sup>1</sup> That is, from the heavier to the lighter, and again from the lighter to the heavier.

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### 8

*Rufus. From the remarks of Epictetus on friendship*

Such was, and is, and will be, the nature of the universe, and it is not possible for the things that come into being to come into being otherwise than they now do. And not only has mankind participated in this process of change and transformation, and all the other living beings upon earth, but also those which are divine, and, by Zeus, even the four elements, which are changed and transformed upwards and downwards,<sup>1</sup> as earth becomes water, and water air, and air again is transformed into ether; and there is the same kind of transformation also downwards. If a man endeavours to incline his mind to these things, and to persuade himself to accept of his own accord what needs must befall him, he will have a very reasonable and harmonious life.

### 9

*A philosopher who is well known in the Stoic school . . . brought out of his handbag the fifth book of the Discourses of the philosopher Epictetus, which had been arranged by Arrian, and agree, no doubt, with the writings of Zeno and Chrysippus. In that book, written of course in Greek, we find a passage to this purport : Things seen by the mind (which the philosophers call φαντασίαις),<sup>2</sup> whereby the intellect of man is struck at the very first sight of anything which penetrates to the mind, are not subject to his will, nor to his*

<sup>2</sup> External impressions.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

sunt neque arbitraria,<sup>1</sup> sed vi quadam sua inferunt sese hominibus noscitanda;<sup>2</sup> probationes autem (*quas* 16 *συγκαταθέσεις vocant*), quibus eadem visa noscuntur, 17 voluntariae sunt fiuntque hominum arbitratu. propterea cum sonus aliquis formidabilis aut caelo aut ex ruina aut repentinus nescio cuius<sup>3</sup> periculi nuntius vel quid aliud est<sup>4</sup> eiusmodi factum, sapientis quoque animum paulisper moveri et contrahi et pallescere necessum est, non opinione alicuius mali praecepta, sed quibusdam motibus rapidis et inconsultis officium 18 mentis atque rationis praevertentibus. mox tamen ille sapiens ibidem τὰς τοιαύτας φαντασίας (*id est visa istaec animi sui terrifica*) non adprobat (*hoc est οὐ συγκατατίθεται οὐδὲ προσεπιδοξάζει*), sed abicit respuitque nec ei metuendum esse in his quicquam 19 videtur. atque hoc inter insipientis sapientisque animum differe dicunt quod insipiens, qualia sibi esse primo animi sui pulsu visa sunt saeva et aspera, talia esse vero putat et eadem incepta, tamquam<sup>5</sup> si iure metuenda sint, sua quoque adsensione adprobat 20 καὶ “προσεπιδοξάζει” (*hoc enim verbo Stoici, cum super ista re disserunt, uluntur*), sapiens autem, cum breviter et strictim colore atque vultu motus est, οὐ συγκατατίθεται, sed statum vigoremque sententiae suae retinet, quam de huiusmodi visis semper habuit, ut de

<sup>1</sup> L. Carrio : arbitrariae MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Salmasius : noscitandae MSS.

<sup>3</sup> Ed. Greifswald 1537 : nescius MSS.

<sup>4</sup> J. Gronov : ex MSS (or omit)

<sup>5</sup> Edd. : quamquam MSS.

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<sup>1</sup> Does not assent or confirm by approval.

<sup>2</sup> Such external impressions.

<sup>3</sup> Also confirms by his approval.

<sup>4</sup> The word seems to occur only here, and may be peculiar to Epictetus.

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control, but by virtue of a certain force of their own thrust themselves upon the attention of men; but the assents (*which they call συγκαταθέσεις*), whereby these same things seen by the mind are recognized, are subject to man's will, and fall under his control. Therefore, when some terrifying sound comes from the sky, or from the collapse of a building, or sudden word comes of some peril or other, or something else of the same sort happens, the mind of even the wise man cannot help but be disturbed, and shrink, and grow pale for a moment, not from any anticipation of some evil, but because of certain swift and unconsidered motions which forestall the action of the intellect and the reason. Soon, however, our wise man does not give his assent (*this is, οὐ συγκατατίθεται οὐδὲ προσεπιδοξάζει*)<sup>1</sup> to τὰς τοιαύτας φαντασίας<sup>2</sup> (*that is, these terrifying things seen by his mind*), but rejects and repudiates them, and sees in them nothing to cause him fear. And this, they say, is the difference between the mind of the fool and the mind of the wise man, that the fool thinks the cruel and harsh things seen by his mind, when it is first struck by them, actually to be what they appear, and likewise afterwards, just as though they really were formidable, he confirms them by his own approval also, καὶ προσεπιδοξάζει<sup>3</sup> (*the word the Stoics use when they discuss this matter*);<sup>4</sup> whereas the wise man, when his colour and expression have changed for a brief instant, οὐ συγκατατίθεται,<sup>5</sup> but keeps the even tenor and strength of the opinion which he has always had about mental impressions of this kind, as things

<sup>5</sup> Does not give his consent.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

minime metuendis, sed fronte falsa et formidine inani  
terrantibus.

- 21 *Haec Epictetum philosophum ex decretis Stoicorum  
sensisse atque dixisse, in eo, quo dixi, libro legimus.*

10 (179). Gellius, XVII. 19

- Favorinum ego audiavi dicere Epictetum philosophum  
dixisse plerosque istos, qui philosophari viderentur,  
philosophos esse eiuscemodi “ἀνευ τοῦ πράττειν, μέχρι  
τοῦ λέγειν” (id significat “factis procul, verbis tenuis”).*  
2 *iam illud est vehementius, quod Arrianus solitum eum  
dictitare in libris, quos de dissertationibus eius composuit,*  
3 *scriptum reliquit. nam, cum, inquit, animadverterat  
hominem pudore amisso, inportuna industria, cor-  
ruptis moribus, audacem, confidentem lingua cetera-  
que omnia praeterquam animam procurantem, istius-  
modi, inquit, hominem cum viderat studia quoque et  
disciplinas philosophiae contrectare et physica adire  
et meditari dialectica multaque id genus theoremata  
auspicari<sup>1</sup> sciscitarique: inclamabat deum atque  
hominum fidem ac plerumque inter clamandum his  
eum verbis increpabat: “Ἀνθρωπε, ποῦ βάλλεις; σκέψαι,  
εἰ κεκάθαρται τὸ ἀγγεῖον. ἂν γὰρ εἰς τὴν οἴησιν αὐτὰ  
βάλῃς,<sup>2</sup> ἀπώλετο· ἢν<sup>3</sup> σαπῇ, οὔρον ἢ ὄξος ἐγένετο<sup>4</sup> ἢ εἴ  
τι τούτων χεῖρον.” nihil profecto his verbis gravius,*  
4 *nihil verius: quibus declarabat maximus philosophorum  
litteras atque doctrinas philosophiae, cum in hominem*

<sup>1</sup> Eussner: suspicari MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Usener: βάλλῃς MSS.

<sup>3</sup> H or HC the MSS.

<sup>4</sup> Usener: γένοιτο MSS.

<sup>1</sup> Without doing, as far as speaking.

<sup>2</sup> Man, where are you stowing all this? Look and see if  
the vessel has been cleansed. For if you stow it in the

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that do not deserve to be feared at all, but terrify only with a false face and a vain fear.

*This is the sentiment and expression of the philosopher Epictetus, derived from the doctrines of the Stoics, that we have read in the book of which I spoke above.*

### 10

*I have heard Favorinus say that he had heard the philosopher Epictetus say, that most of those who gave the appearance of philosophizing were philosophers of this kind: ἀνεῖ τοῦ πράττειν, μέχρι τοῦ λέγειν<sup>1</sup> (this means, "apart from deeds, as far as words"). There is a still more vigorous expression which he was accustomed to use, that Arrian has recorded in the books which he wrote about his discourses. For Arrian says that when Epictetus had noticed a man lost to shame, of misdirected energy, and evil habits, bold, impudent in speech, and concerned with everything else but his soul, when he saw a man of that kind, continues Arrian, handling also the studies and pursuits of philosophy, and taking up physics, and studying dialectics, and taking up and investigating many a theoretical principle of this sort, he would call upon gods and men, and frequently, in the midst of that appeal, he would denounce the man in these words: "Ἀνθρώπε, ποῦ βάλλεις; σκέψαι, εἰ κεκάθαρται τὸ ἀγγεῖον. ἂν γὰρ εἰς τὴν οἴησιν αὐτὰ βάλης, ἀπώλετο· ἦν σαπῆ, οὖρον ἢ ὄξος ἐγένετο ἢ εἴ τι τούτων χεῖρον.<sup>2</sup> Surely there is nothing weightier, nothing truer than these words, in which the greatest of philosophers declared that the writings and teachings of philosophy, when poured into a false and low-lived vessel of opinion, it is ruined; if it spoils, it turns into urine, or vinegar, or, it may be, something worse.*



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falsum atque degenerem tamquam in vas spurcum atque pollutum influxissent, verti, mutari, corrumpi et (*quod ipse κυνικώτερον ait*) urinam fieri aut si quid est urina spurcius.

- 5 *Præterea idem ille Epictetus, quod ex eodem Fav-  
rino audivimus, solitus dicere est* duo esse vitia multo  
omnium gravissima ac taeterrima, intolerantiam et  
incontinentiam, cum aut iniurias, quae sunt ferendae,  
non toleramus neque ferimus aut, a quibus rebus  
voluptatibusque nos tenere debemus, non tenemus.  
6 “itaque,” *inquit*, “si quis haec duo verba cordi habeat  
eaeque sibi imperando atque observando curet, is  
erit pleraque inpeccabilis vitamque vivet tranquil-  
lissimam.” *verba haec duo dicebat*: “ἀνέχου” et  
“ἀπέχου.”

10a (181). Arnobius, *Adversus Gentes*, 2, 78

Cum de animarum agitur salute ac de respectu  
nostri, aliquid et sine ratione faciendum est, *ut  
Epictetum dixisse adprobat Arrianus.*

11 (174). Stobaeus, IV. 33, 28

Ἐκ τῶν Ἀρριανοῦ προτρεπτικῶν ὁμιλιῶν.

Ἀλλὰ δὴ Σωκράτης Ἀρχελάου μεταπεμπο-  
μένου αὐτὸν ὡς ποιήσοντος πλούσιον ἐκέλευσεν  
ἀπαγγεῖλαι αὐτῷ διότι<sup>1</sup> “Ἀθήνησι τέσσαρες εἰσι  
χοῖνικες τῶν ἀλφίτων ὀβολοῦ ὄνιοι καὶ κρῆναι

<sup>1</sup> Gesner : διὰ τῶν MSS.

<sup>1</sup> Somewhat after the fashion of the Cynics.



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person, as though into a dirty and defiled vessel, turn, change, are spoiled, and (*as he himself says* κυνικώτερον)<sup>1</sup> become urine, or something, it may be, dirtier than urine.

*The same Epictetus, moreover, as we have heard from Favorinus, was in the habit of saying* that there were two vices which are far more severe and atrocious than all others, want of endurance and want of self-control, when we do not endure or bear the wrongs which we have to bear, or do not abstain from, or forbear, those matters and pleasures which we ought to forbear. “And so,” he says, “if a man should take to heart these two words and observe them in controlling and keeping watch over himself, he will, for the most part, be free from wrongdoing, and will live a highly peaceful life.” *These two words, he used to say, were ἀνέχου and ἀπέχου.*<sup>2</sup>

### 10 a (181)

When the salvation of our souls and regard for our true selves are at stake, something has to be done, even without stopping to think about it, *a saying of Epictetus which Arrian quotes with approval.*

### 11

*From the homilies of Arrian, exhorting to virtue*

Now when Archelaus<sup>3</sup> sent for Socrates with the intention of making him rich, the latter bade the messenger take back the following answer: “At Athens four quarts of barley-meal can be bought for an obol,<sup>4</sup> and there are running springs

<sup>2</sup> Bear and forbear.

<sup>3</sup> The king of Macedon.

<sup>4</sup> A penny and a half, or three cents; in other terms, the sixth part of the day's wage of an ordinary labourer.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

ὔδατος ῥέουσιν.” εἰ γάρ τοι μὴ ἱκανὰ τὰ ὄντα ἐμοί, ἀλλ’ ἐγὼ τούτοις ἱκανὸς καὶ οὕτω κακέϊνα ἐμοί. ἢ οὐχ ὀρᾷς, ὅτι οὐκ εὐφρονότερον οὐδὲ ἡδιον<sup>1</sup> ὁ Πῶλος τὸν τύραννον Οἰδίποδα ὑπεκρίνετο ἢ τὸν ἐπὶ Κολωνῷ ἀλήτην<sup>2</sup> καὶ πτωχόν; εἶτα χείρων Πῶλου ὁ γενναῖος ἀνὴρ φανείται, ὥς μὴ πᾶν τὸ περιτεθὲν ἐκ τοῦ δαιμονίου πρόσωπον ὑποκρίνασθαι καλῶς; οὐδὲ τὸν Ὀδυσσεά μιμήσεται, ὃς καὶ ἐν τοῖς ῥάκεσιν οὐδὲν μείον διέπρεπεν ἢ ἐν τῇ οὕλῃ χλαίνῃ τῇ πορφυρᾷ;

12 (note to frag. 71). Stobaeus, III. 20, 47

Ἀρριανοῦ.

Μεγαλόθυμοι πρῶως εἰσὶ τινες ἡσυχῇ καὶ οἶον ἀοργήτως πράττοντες ὅσα καὶ οἱ σφόδρα τῷ θυμῷ φερόμενοι. φυλακτέον οὖν καὶ τὸ τούτων ἀβλέπτημα ὥς πολὺ χεῖρον ὂν τοῦ διατεινόμενον ὀργίζεσθαι. οὗτοι μὲν γὰρ ταχὺ κόρον τῆς τιμωρίας λαμβάνουσιν, οἱ δὲ εἰς μακρὸν παρατείνουσιν ὥς οἱ λεπτῶς πυρέττοντες.

13 (omitted). Stobaeus, I. 3, 50

Ἐκ τῶν Ἐπικτήτου ἀπομνημονευμάτων.

Ἄλλ’ ὀρῶ, φησί τις, τοὺς καλοὺς καὶ ἀγαθοὺς καὶ λιμῷ καὶ ρίγῃ ἀπολλυμένους.—Τοὺς δὲ μὴ

<sup>1</sup> Gaisford: δι’ ὧν MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Schweighäuser: ἀλείτην MSS.

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of water." For, look you, if what I have is not sufficient for me, still, I am sufficient for it, and so it too is sufficient for me. Or do you not see that Polus<sup>1</sup> was not accustomed to act Oedipus the King with any finer voice or more pleasure to his audience than Oedipus at Colonus, the outcast and beggar? And then shall the man of noble nature make a poorer showing than Polus, and not play well any rôle to which the Deity assigns him? And will he not follow the example of Odysseus, who was no less pre-eminent in his rags than in his rich and purple cloak?

### 12

*From Arrian*

There are certain persons who exhibit their high spirit rather gently,<sup>2</sup> and in a sort of passionless manner do everything that even those who are swept away by their anger do. We must be on our guard, therefore, against the error of these persons, as something much worse than violent anger. For those who give way to violent anger are soon sated with their revenge, but the others prolong it like men who have a light fever.

### 13

*From the Memorabilia of Epictetus*

But, says someone, I see the good and excellent perishing from hunger and cold.—And do you not see

<sup>1</sup> A famous actor of the fourth century. See J. B. O'Connor, *Chapters in the History of Actors and Acting* (1908), 128-30.

<sup>2</sup> Capps suggests that ἡσυχῇ is used here as it is in Menander, *Hero*, 20.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

καλοὺς καὶ μὴ ἀγαθοὺς οὐχ ὁρᾷς τρυφῇ καὶ ἀλαζονείᾳ καὶ ἀπειροκαλίᾳ ἀπολλυμένους;—'Αλλ' αἰσχρὸν τὸ παρ' ἄλλου τρέφεσθαι.—Καὶ τίς, ὦ κακὸδαίμον, αὐτὸς ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ τρέφεται ἄλλος γε ἢ ὁ κόσμος; ὅστις γοῦν ἐγκαλεῖ τῇ προνοίᾳ, ὅτι οἱ πονηροὶ οὐ διδόασιν δίκην, ὅτι ἰσχυροὶ εἰσι καὶ πλούσιοι, ὅμοιόν τι δρᾷ ὥσπερ εἰ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἀπολωλεκότων αὐτῶν ἔλεγε μὴ δεδωκέναι δίκην αὐτούς, ὅτι οἱ ὀνυχες ὑγιεῖς εἶεν. ἐγὼ μὲν γάρ φημι πολὺ<sup>1</sup> διαφέρειν μᾶλλον ἀρετὴν κτήσεως<sup>2</sup> ἢ ὀφθαλμοὶ ὀνύχων διαφέρουσιν.

14 (52). Stobaeus, III. 6, 57

Ἐκ τῶν Ἐπικτήτου ἀπομνημονευμάτων.<sup>3</sup>

. . .<sup>4</sup> τοὺς δυσχερεῖς δὲ φιλοσόφους εἰς μέσον ἄγοντες, οἷς οὐ δοκεῖ κατὰ φύσιν ἡδονὴ εἶναι, ἀλλ' ἐπιγίγνεσθαι τοῖς κατὰ φύσιν, δικαιοσύνη, σωφροσύνη, ἐλευθερία. τί ποτ' οὖν ἡ ψυχὴ ἐπὶ μὲν τοῖς τοῦ σώματος ἀγαθοῖς μικροτέροις οὖσι χαίρει καὶ γαληνῇ, ὥς φησιν Ἐπίκουρος, ἐπὶ δὲ τοῖς αὐτῆς ἀγαθοῖς μεγίστοις οὖσιν οὐχ ἡδεται; καίτοι καὶ δέδωκέ μοι ἡ φύσις αἰδῶ καὶ πολλὰ ὑπερυβριῶ, ὅταν τι ὑπολάβω αἰσχρὸν λέγειν. τοῦτό με τὸ κίνημα οὐκ ἐᾷ τὴν ἡδονὴν θέσθαι ἀγαθὸν καὶ τέλος τοῦ βίου.

<sup>1</sup> αἰ (ἔν P<sup>2</sup>) after this word was deleted by Meineke.

<sup>2</sup> Suggested by Schenkl: κακίας MSS.

<sup>3</sup> The last word of the title added by Asmus.

<sup>4</sup> Schenkl indicated the lacuna.

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those who are not good and excellent perishing from luxury, and bombast, and vulgarity?—Yes, but it is disgraceful to be supported by another.—And who, O miserable fellow, is supported by himself alone, except the Cosmos? Whoever accuses Providence, therefore, because the wicked are not punished, and because they are strong and rich, is acting just as though, when the wicked had lost their eyes, he said they were not being punished because their finger-nails were in good condition. Now, as for me, I assert that there is much more difference between virtue and property than there is between eyes and finger-nails.

### 14

#### *From the Memorabilia of Epictetus*

. . . bring forward the ill-natured<sup>1</sup> philosophers, who think that pleasure is not something natural, but a sequel of things that are natural, as justice, self-control, and freedom. Why indeed, then, does the soul take delight in the lesser goods of the body, and enjoy calm therein, as Epicurus says,<sup>2</sup> and yet not find pleasure in its own goods, which are very great? Verily nature has also given me a sense of shame, and frequently I blush, when I feel that I am saying something disgraceful. It is this emotion which does not allow me to lay down pleasure as the good and end of life.

<sup>1</sup> Or “morose,” that is, from the point of view of the Epicureans. The reference is to the Stoics, who rejected the “pleasure” of Epicurus, and accepted only that which followed on virtuous conduct.

<sup>2</sup> Frag. 425 (Usener).

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICETUS

15 (53). Stobaeus, III. 6, 58

Ἐκ τῶν Ἐπικτήτου ἀπομνημονευμάτων.

Ἐν Ῥώμῃ αἱ γυναῖκες μετὰ χειράς ἔχουσι τὴν Πλάτωνος Πολιτείαν, ὅτι κοινὰς ἀξιοῖ εἶναι τὰς γυναῖκας. τοῖς γὰρ ῥήμασι προσέχουσι τὸν νοῦν, οὐ τῇ διανοίᾳ τὰνδρός, ὅτι οὐ γαμεῖν κελεύων καὶ συνοικεῖν ἓνα μιᾷ εἶτα κοινὰς εἶναι βούλεται τὰς γυναῖκας, ἀλλ' ἐξαιρῶν τὸν τοιοῦτον γάμον καὶ ἄλλο τι εἶδος γάμου εἰσφέρειν. καὶ τὸ ὅλον οἱ ἄνθρωποι χαίρουσιν ἀπολογίας τοῖς ἑαυτῶν ἁμαρτήμασι πορίζοντες· ἐπεὶ τοι φιλοσοφία φησὶν, ὅτι οὐδὲ τὸν δάκτυλον ἐκτείνειν εἰκὴ προσήκει.

16 (78). Stobaeus, III. 29, 84

Ἐκ τῶν Ἐπικτήτου ἀπομνημονευμάτων.

Εἰδέναι χρή, ὅτι οὐ ῥάδιον δόγμα παραγενέσθαι ἀνθρώπῳ, εἰ μὴ καθ' ἑκάστην ἡμέραν τὰ αὐτὰ καὶ λέγοι τις καὶ ἀκούοι καὶ ἅμα χρῶτο πρὸς τὸν βίον.

17 (15). Stobaeus, III. 4, 91

Ἐπικτήτου.

Εἰς συμπόσιον μὲν οὖν παρακληθέντες τῷ παρόντι χρώμεθα· εἰ δέ τις κελεύοι τὸν ὑποδεχόμενον

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<sup>1</sup> The community of women which Plato proposed was, first of all, restricted to a small, highly-trained, and devoted band of warrior-saints; and, second, such that no man and woman should pair off for more than a very temporary "marriage," all such matings being carefully supervised by the highest authorities. Instead of being more licentious than

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### 15

#### *From the Memorabilia of Epictetus*

At Rome the women have in their hands Plato's *Republic*, because he insists on community of women. For they pay attention only to the words, and not to the meaning of the man; the fact is, he does not bid people marry and live together, one man with one woman, and then go on to advocate the community of women, but he first abolishes that kind of marriage altogether, and introduces another kind in its place.<sup>1</sup> And in general people delight in finding excuses for their own faults; for, indeed, philosophy says we ought not to stretch out even our finger at random!<sup>2</sup>

### 16

#### *From the Memorabilia of Epictetus*

One ought to know that it is not easy for a man to acquire a fixed judgement, unless he should day by day state and hear the same principles, and at the same time apply them to his life.

### 17

#### *From Epictetus*

Now when we have been invited to a banquet, we take what is set before us; and if a person should ordinary monogamous marriage (which frequently deserves Bernard Shaw's jibe, that it is popular largely because it combines the maximum of temptation with the maximum of opportunity), Plato's proposal was relatively a denial of the flesh, and a marked move towards asceticism.

<sup>2</sup> See II. 11, 17. The remark in this connection is no doubt ironical, mockingly justifying the process of "rationalization" just described.



## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

μενον ἰχθῦς αὐτῷ παρατιθέναι ἢ πλακοῦντας, ἄτοπος ἂν δόξειεν. ἐν δὲ τῷ κόσμῳ αἰτοῦμεν τοὺς θεούς, ἃ μὴ διδόασι, καὶ ταῦτα πολλῶν ὄντων, ἃ γε ἡμῖν δεδώκασι.

18 (16). Stobaeus, III. 4, 92

Τοῦ αὐτοῦ.

Χαρίεντες, ἔφη, εἰσὶν οἱ μέγα φρονοῦντες ἐπὶ τοῖς οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν. "ἐγώ," φησί, "κρείττων εἰμί σου."<sup>1</sup> ἄγρους γὰρ ἔχω πολλούς, σὺ δὲ λιμῷ παρατείνῃ." ἄλλος λέγει "ἐγὼ ὑπατικός εἰμι." ἄλλος "ἐγὼ ἐπίτροπος." ἄλλος "ἐγὼ οὐλας τρίχας ἔχω."<sup>2</sup> ἵππος δ' ἵππῳ οὐ λέγει ὅτι "κρείττων εἰμί σου· πολλὴν γὰρ κέκτημαι χιλὸν καὶ κριθὰς πολλὰς καὶ χαλινοὶ μοί εἰσι χρυσοὶ καὶ ἐφίππια ποικίλα," ἀλλ' ὅτι "ὠκύτερός σου εἰμι." καὶ πᾶν ζῷον κρείττον καὶ χειρόν ἐστὶν ἐκ τῆς ἑαυτοῦ ἀρετῆς καὶ κακίας. ἂρ' οὖν ἀνθρώπου μόνου ἀρετὴ οὐκ ἔστιν, ἀλλὰ δεῖ ἡμᾶς εἰς τὰς<sup>3</sup> τρίχας ἀφορᾶν καὶ τὰ ἱμάτια καὶ τοὺς πάππους;

19 (17). Stobaeus, III. 4, 93

Τοῦ αὐτοῦ.<sup>4</sup>

Τῷ μὲν ἰατρῷ μηδὲν συμβουλεύοντι ἄχθονται οἱ κάμνοντες καὶ ἡγοῦνται ἀπεγινῶσθαι ὑπ' αὐτοῦ.

<sup>1</sup> σου added here by Schenkl; after ἐγὼ *A man. alt.*, and Gesner.

<sup>2</sup> ἔχω added by Gesner.

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bid his host to set before him fish or cakes, he would be regarded as eccentric. Yet in the world at large we ask the gods for things which they do not give us, and that too when there are many things which they actually have given us.

### 18

#### *From the same*

Those are amusing persons, he said, who take great pride in the things which are not under our control. A man says, "I am better than you; for I have many estates, and you are half-dead with hunger."<sup>1</sup> Another says, "I am a consular." Another, "I am a procurator." Another, "I have thick curly hair." But one horse does not say to another horse, "I am better than you, for I have quantities of fodder, and a great deal of barley, and my bridles are of gold, and my saddle-cloths are embroidered," but "I can run faster than you can." And every creature is better or worse because of its own particular virtue or vice. Can it be, then, that man is the only creature without a special virtue, but he must have recourse to his hair, and his clothes, and his grandsires?

### 19

#### *The same*

When men are sick and their physician gives them no advice, they are annoyed, and think that

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<sup>1</sup> The phrase is from Plato, *Symposium*, 207 B.

<sup>3</sup> τὰς added by Meineke.

<sup>4</sup> The superscription added by Gaisford.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

πρὸς δὲ τὸν φιλόσοφον διὰ τί<sup>1</sup> οὐκ ἄν τις οὕτω διατεθείη, ὥστε οἰηθῆναι ἀπεγνώσθαι ὑπ' αὐτοῦ σωφρονήσειν, εἰ μηδὲν λέγοι ἔτι<sup>2</sup> πρὸς αὐτὸν τῶν χρησίμων;

20 (18). Stobaeus, III. 4, 94

Τοῦ αὐτοῦ.

Οἱ τὸ σῶμα εὖ διακείμενοι καὶ καύματα καὶ ψύχη ὑπομένουσιν· οὕτω δὲ καὶ οἱ τὴν ψυχὴν καλῶς διακείμενοι καὶ ὀργὴν καὶ λύπην καὶ περιχάρειαν καὶ τὰ ἄλλα πάθη φέρουσιν.

21 (56). Stobaeus, III. 7, 16

Ἐπικτήτου.

Διὰ τοῦτο ἐπαινεῖν Ἀγριππῖνον δίκαιον, ὅτι πλείστου ἄξιος ἀνὴρ γενόμενος οὐδεπώποτε ἐπήνεσεν ἑαυτόν, ἀλλ' εἰ καὶ ἄλλος τις αὐτὸν ἐπῆναι, ἡρυθρία. οὗτος δ', ἔφη, ὁ ἀνὴρ τοιοῦτος ἦν, ὥστε τοῦ συμβαίνοντος ἀεὶ ἑαυτῷ δυσκόλου ἔπαινον γράφειν· εἰ μὲν πυρέττοι, πυρετοῦ· εἰ δὲ ἀδοξοῖ, ἀδοξίας· εἰ δὲ φεύγοι,<sup>3</sup> φυγῆς. καί ποτε μέλλοντι, ἔφη, αὐτῷ<sup>4</sup> ἀριστήσκειν ἐπέστη ὁ λέγων, ὅτι φεύγειν αὐτὸν κελεύει Νέρων, καὶ ὃς<sup>5</sup> “οὐκοῦν,” εἶπεν, “ἐν Ἀρικίᾳ ἀριστήσομεν.”

<sup>1</sup> διὰ τί Gesner : διότι MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Bücheler : τι MSS.

<sup>3</sup> Meineke : φύγοι MSS.

<sup>4</sup> Gesner : τῷ or τῷ MSS.

<sup>5</sup> ἔφη after this word deleted by Schow.

<sup>1</sup> A distinguished Roman Stoic of the middle of the first century after Christ. See I. 1, 28–30; I. 2, 12–13; frag. 22.

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he has given them up. And why should not a man feel that way toward the philosopher, and so conclude that he has given up hope of one's ever coming to a sound state of mind, if he no longer tells one anything that is of any use?

### 20

#### *The same*

Those whose bodies are in good condition can endure heat and cold; so also those whose souls are in an excellent condition can endure anger, and grief, and great joy, and every other emotion.

### 21

#### *From Epictetus*

For this reason it is right to praise Agrippinus,<sup>1</sup> because, although he was a man of the very highest worth, he never praised himself, but used to blush even if someone else praised him. His character was such, said Epictetus, that when any hardship befell him he would compose a eulogy upon it; on fever, if he had a fever; on disrepute, if he suffered from disrepute; on exile, if he went into exile. And once, he said, when Agrippinus was preparing to take lunch, a man brought him word that Nero ordered him into exile; "Very well," said he, "we shall take our lunch in Aricia."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> The first stop outside Rome for persons travelling south and east, the common direction, as in the well-known *egressum magna me excepit Aricia Roma* (Horace, *Sat.* I. 5, 1). Compare the version of the same incident in I. 1, 30.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

22. Stobaeus, IV. 7, 44

Αγριππίνου.<sup>1</sup>

Ὁ Ἀγριππίνος ἡγεμονεύων ἐπειράτο τοὺς καταδικαζομένους ὑπ' αὐτοῦ πείθειν, ὅτι προσήκει αὐτοῖς καταδικασθῆναι. οὐ γὰρ ὡς πολέμιος αὐτοῖς, ἔφη, οὐδ' ὡς ληστῆς καταφέρω τὴν ψῆφον αὐτῶν, ἀλλ' ὡς ἐπιμελητῆς καὶ κηδεμών, ὥσπερ καὶ ὁ ἰατρὸς τὸν τεμνόμενον παραμυθεῖται καὶ πείθει παρέχειν ἑαυτόν.

23 (94). Stobaeus, IV. 53, 29

Ἐπικτήτου.

Θαυμαστὴ ἡ φύσις καί, ὥς φησιν ὁ Ξενοφῶν, φιλόζωος. τὸ γοῦν σῶμα, τὸ πάντων ἀηδέστατον καὶ ῥυπαρώτατον, στέργομεν καὶ θεραπεύομεν· εἰ γὰρ ἔδει πέντε μόναις ἡμέραις θεραπεῦσαι τὸ τοῦ γείτονος σῶμα, οὐκ ἂν ὑπεμείναμεν. ὅρα γὰρ οἶόν ἐστιν ἔωθεν ἀναστάντα τρίβειν τοὺς ὀδόντας τοὺς ἀλλοτρίους καὶ τι τῶν ἀναγκαίων ποιήσαντα ἀπονίξειν ἐκείνα τὰ μέρη. τῷ ὄντι θαυμαστόν ἐστι φιλεῖν πρᾶγμα, ᾧ τοσαῦτα λειτουργοῦμεν καθ' ἐκάστην ἡμέραν. νάττω τουτονὶ τὸν θύλακον· εἴτα κενῶ· τί τούτου βαρύτερον; ἀλλὰ θεῷ δεῖ με ὑπηρετεῖν. διὰ τοῦτο μένω καὶ ἀνέχομαι λούων τὸ δύστηνον

<sup>1</sup> See explanatory note.

<sup>1</sup> Ascribed to Epictetus by Gaisford and Asmus, but there is some doubt about the ascription, for the resemblance with I. 18 is not conclusive.

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### 22

*From Agrippinus*<sup>1</sup>

When Agrippinus was governor,<sup>2</sup> he used to try to persuade the persons whom he sentenced that it was proper for them to be sentenced. "For," he would say, "it is not as an enemy or as a brigand that I record my vote against them, but as a curator and guardian; just as also the physician encourages the man upon whom he is operating, and persuades him to submit to the operation."

### 23

*From Epictetus*

Nature is wonderful, and, as Xenophon<sup>3</sup> says, "fond of her creatures." At all events we love and tend our body, the most unpleasant and dirtiest thing that there is; why, if we had had to tend our neighbour's body for no more than five days, we could not have endured it. Just consider what a nuisance it is to get up in the morning and brush some other person's teeth, and then after attending to a call of nature to wash those parts. Truly it is wonderful to love a thing for which we perform so many services every day. I stuff this bag here;<sup>4</sup> and then I empty it; what is more tiresome? But I must serve God. For that reason I remain, and endure to wash this miserable paltry body, and to

<sup>2</sup> He was proconsul of Crete and Cyrenaica under Claudius. For all that is known about him see *Prosopographia Imperii Romani*, III. p. 4, No. 16.

<sup>3</sup> *Memorabilia*, I. 4, 7, where, however, the expression is used of a "wise Creator."

<sup>4</sup> Pointing to his belly.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

τοῦτο σωματίον, χορτάζων, σκέπων· ὅτε δὲ νεώτερος ἦν, καὶ ἄλλο τι προσέταπτε μοι καὶ ὁμως ἡνειχόμεν αὐτοῦ. διὰ τί οὖν οὐκ ἀνέχεσθε, ὅταν ἡ δοῦσα ἡμῖν φύσις τὸ σῶμα ἀφαιρῇται;— Φιλῶ, φησὶν, αὐτό.—Οὐκ οὖν, ὃ νῦν δὴ ἔλεγον, καὶ αὐτὸ τὸ φιλεῖν ἡ φύσις σοι δέδωκεν; ἡ δ' αὐτὴ λέγει “ἄφες αὐτὸ ἥδη καὶ μηκέτι πρᾶγμα ἔχε.”

24 (95). Stobaeus, IV. 53, 30

Τοῦ αὐτοῦ.

Ἐὰν νέος τελευτᾷ τὸν βίον, ἐγκαλεῖ τοῖς θεοῖς . . .,<sup>1</sup> ὅτι δέον αὐτὸν ἥδη ἀναπεπαῦσθαι πρᾶγμα ἔχει, καὶ οὐδὲν ἥττον, ὅταν προσίῃ<sup>2</sup> ὁ θάνατος, ζῆν βούλεται καὶ πέμπει παρὰ τὸν ἱατρὸν καὶ δεῖται αὐτοῦ μηδὲν ἀπολιπεῖν προθυμίας καὶ ἐπιμελείας. θαυμαστοί, ἔφη, ἄνθρωποι μήτε ζῆν θέλοντες μήτε ἀποθνήσκειν.

25 (71). Stobaeus, III. 20, 67

Ἐπικτήτου.

“Ὅτω μετὰ ἀνατάσεως καὶ ἀπειλῆς ἐπιχειρεῖς, μέμνησο προλέγειν, ὅτι ἡμερος εἶ· καὶ οὐδὲν ἄγριον δράσας ἀμετανόητος καὶ ἀνεύθυνος διαγενήσῃ.

<sup>1</sup> For the obvious lacuna the best suggestions seem to be: ὅτι πρὸ τῆς ὥρας ἀρπάζεται (Cobet)· ἐὰν δὲ γέρων τις ὦν μὴ τελευτᾷ τὸν βίον (Schweighäuser), καὶ οὗτος ἐγκαλεῖ τοῖς θεοῖς (Cobet).

<sup>2</sup> Meibom: προσήη or προσίγει MSS.



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feed and shelter it; and when I was younger, there was still another behest which it laid upon me, yet nevertheless I endured it. Why, then, when Nature, which gave us our body, takes it away, do you not bear it?—I love it, says somebody.—Well, but as I was just now saying, is it not Nature that has given you this very affection? But the same Nature also says, “Let it go now, and have no more trouble with it.”

### 24

#### *The same*

If a man dies young, he blames the gods (<because he is carried off before his time. But if a man fails to die when he is old, he too blames the gods>), because, when it was long since time for him to rest, he has trouble; yet none the less, when death draws nigh, he wishes to live, and sends for the doctor, and implores him to spare no zeal and pains. People are very strange, he used to say, wishing neither to live nor to die.

### 25

#### *From Epictetus*

When you attack someone with vehemence and threatening, remember to tell yourself beforehand that you are a tame animal;<sup>1</sup> and then you will never do anything fierce, and so will come to the end of your life without having to repent, or to be called to account.

<sup>1</sup> See IV. 5, 10.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

26 (176). Marcus Aurelius, 4, 41

Ψυχάριον εἰ βαστάζον νεκρόν, ὡς Ἐπίκτητος ἔλεγεν.

27 (177). Marcus Aurelius, 11, 37

Τέχνην ἔφη δὲ περὶ τὸ συγκατατίθεσθαι εὐρεῖν καὶ ἐν τῷ περὶ τὰς ὁρμὰς τόπῳ τὸ προσεκτικὸν φυλάσσειν, ἵνα μεθ' ὑπεξαιρέσεως, ἵνα κοινωνικαί, ἵνα κατ' ἀξίαν, καὶ ὀρέξεως μὲν παντάπασιν ἀπέχεσθαι, ἐκκλίσει δὲ πρὸς μηδὲν τῶν οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν χρῆσθαι.

28 (178). Marcus Aurelius, 11, 38

Οὐ περὶ τοῦ τυχόντος οὖν, ἔφη, ἐστὶν ὁ ἀγών, ἀλλὰ περὶ τοῦ μαίνεσθαι ἢ μή.

28 a. Marcus Aurelius, 11, 39<sup>1</sup>

Ὁ Σωκράτης ἔλεγεν “τί θέλετε; λογικῶν ψυχὰς ἔχειν ἢ ἀλόγων;” “λογικῶν.” “τίνων λογικῶν; ὑγιῶν ἢ φαύλων;” “ὑγιῶν.” “τί οὖν οὐ ζητεῖτε;” “ὅτι ἔχομεν.” “τί οὖν μάχεσθε καὶ διαφέρεσθε;”

28 b. Marcus Aurelius, 4, 49, 2-6<sup>2</sup>

“‘Ἀτυχῆς ἐγώ, ὅτι τοῦτό μοι συνέβη.’ οὐμενοῦν· ἀλλ’ ‘εὐτυχῆς ἐγώ, ὅτι τούτου μοι συμβε-

<sup>1</sup> Ascribed to Epictetus by Leopold and Breithaupt.

<sup>2</sup> Convincingly assigned to Epictetus for many reasons, chiefly lexicographical, by H. Fränkel, *Philologus* 80 (1924), 221. I give the text of Schenkl (1913), with the quotation marks adjusted to the new interpretation.

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26

You are a little soul, carrying around a corpse, as Epictetus used to say.

27

We must discover, said he, an art that deals with assent, and in the sphere of the choices we must be careful to maintain close attention, that they be made with due reservations, that they be social, and that they be according to merit; and from desire we must refrain altogether, and must exercise aversion towards none of the things that are not under our control.

28

It is no ordinary matter that is at stake, said he, but it is a question of either madness or sanity.

28a

Socrates used to say, "What do you want? To have souls of rational or irrational animals?" "Of rational animals." "Of what kind of rational animals? Sound or vicious?" "Sound." "Why, then, do you not try to get them?" "Because we have them." "Why, then, do you strive and quarrel?"

28b<sup>1</sup>

"Me miserable, that this has befallen me!" Say not so, but rather, "Fortunate that I am, because,

<sup>1</sup> This whole passage is taken to be a direct quotation from Epictetus, with the exception of the first two lines in the second paragraph, where Marcus Aurelius applies the doctrine to himself, and the last two lines, in which he characteristically condenses and summarizes it.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

βηκότος ἄλυπος διατελῶ οὔτε ὑπὸ παρόντος θραυόμενος, οὔτε ἐπιὸν φοβούμενος.' συμβῆναι μὲν γὰρ τὸ τοιοῦτον παντὶ ἐδύνατο· ἄλυπος δὲ οὐ πᾶς ἐπὶ τούτῳ ἂν διετέλεσεν. διὰ τί οὖν ἐκεῖνο μᾶλλον ἀτύχημα ἢ τοῦτο εὐτύχημα; λέγεις δὲ ὅλως ἀτύχημα ἀνθρώπου, ὃ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀπότευγμα τῆς φύσεως τοῦ ἀνθρώπου; ἀπότευγμα δὲ τῆς φύσεως τοῦ ἀνθρώπου εἶναι δοκεῖ σοι, ὃ μὴ παρὰ τὸ βούλημα τῆς φύσεως αὐτοῦ ἐστὶ; τί οὖν; τὸ βούλημα μεμάθηκας. μή τι οὖν τὸ συμβεβηκὸς τοῦτο κωλύει σε δίκαιον εἶναι, μεγαλόψυχον, σώφρονα, ἔμφρονα, ἀπρόπτωτον, ἀδιάψευστον, αἰδήμονα, ἐλεύθερον, τᾶλλα, ὧν συμπαρόντων ἢ φύσις ἢ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἀπέχει τὰ ἴδια;'

Μέμνησο λοιπὸν ἐπὶ παντὸς τοῦ εἰς λύπην σε προαγομένου, τούτῳ χρῆσθαι τῷ δόγματι· “οὐχ ὅτι τοῦτο ἀτύχημα, ἀλλὰ τὸ φέρειν αὐτὸ γενναίως εὐτύχημα.”

## FRAGMENTA DUBIA ET SPURIA

29 (77). Stobaeus, III. 35, 10<sup>1</sup>

Ἐκ τοῦ Ἐπικτήτου ἐγχειριδίου.

Μηδενὸς οὕτως ἐν παντὶ προνόει, ὥς τοῦ ἀσφαλοῦς· ἀσφαλέστερον γὰρ τοῦ λέγειν τὸ σιγᾶν· εἰ δὲ τὸ λέγειν, ὅσα δίχα ἔσται νοῦ καὶ ψόγου μεστά.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> These words are not found in the *Encheiridion*, and may very possibly not be by Epictetus at all.

## DOUBTFUL AND SPURIOUS FRAGMENTS

although this has befallen me, I continue to live untroubled, being neither crushed by the present nor afraid of the future." For something of this kind might have befallen anyone; but not everyone would have continued to live untroubled by it. Why, then, count the former aspect of the matter a misfortune, rather than this latter good fortune? And in general do you call a man's misfortune that which is not an aberration from man's nature? And does that seem to you to be an aberration from the nature of man which does not contravene the will of his nature? What then? This will of man's nature you have already learned; this, then, which has befallen you does not prevent you, does it, from being just, high-minded, self-controlled, self-possessed, deliberate, free from deceit, self-respecting, free, and everything else, the possession of which enables the nature of man to come into its own?

*Remember for the future, whenever anything begins to trouble you, to make use of the following judgement: This thing is not a misfortune, but to bear it in a noble spirit is good fortune.*

## DOUBTFUL AND SPURIOUS FRAGMENTS

29

*From the Encheiridion of Epictetus*

Under all circumstances take thought of nothing so much as safety; for it is safer to keep silence than to speak; and refrain from saying what will be devoid of sense and full of censure.

---

<sup>2</sup> Supplied by Hense.

30 (89). Stobaeus, IV. 46, 22 <sup>1</sup>

[Ἐπικτήτου.]

Οὐτε ναῦν ἐξ ἐνὸς ἀγκυρίου οὐτε βίον ἐκ μιᾶς ἐλπίδος ἁρμολύειν.

31 (90). Stobaeus, IV. 46, 23

Τοῦ αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ τοῖς σκέλεσι καὶ ταῖς ἐλπίσι τὰ δυνατὰ δεῖ διαβαίνειν.

32 (92). Stobaeus, IV. 53, 27 <sup>2</sup>

[Ἐπικτήτου.]

Ψυχὴν σώματος ἀναγκαιότερον ἰᾶσθαι· τοῦ γὰρ κακῶς ζῆν τὸ τεθνάναι κρεῖσσον.

33 (54). Stobaeus, III. 6, 59. Democritus, frag.  
232 (Diels)

[Τοῦ αὐτοῦ (Ἐπικλήτου)].<sup>3</sup>

Τῶν ἡδέων τὰ σπανιώτατα γινόμενα μάλιστα τέρπει.

34 (55). Stobaeus, III. 6, 60. Democritus, frag.  
233 (Diels)

Τοῦ αὐτοῦ.

Εἴ τις ὑπερβάλλοι τὸ μέτριον, τὰ ἐπιτερπέστατα ἀτερπέστατα ἂν γίνοιτο.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This and the next fragment probably belong to the collection of Aristonymus.

<sup>2</sup> Various ascribed elsewhere.

## DOUBTFUL AND SPURIOUS FRAGMENTS

30

*From Epictetus*

We ought neither to fasten our ship to one small anchor nor our life to a single hope.

31

*From the same*

We ought to measure both the length of our stride, and the extent of our hope, by what is possible.

32

*From Epictetus*

It is much more necessary to cure the soul than the body; for death is better than a bad life.

33

*From the same*

Those of our pleasures which come most rarely give the greatest delight.

34

*From the same*

If a man should overpass the mean, the most delightful things would become least delightful.

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<sup>3</sup> So in *Florilegium*, Cod. Paris. 1168 [500 E]. The fragment belongs to Democritus.

<sup>4</sup> Burchard: γέγνοιτο or γένοιτο MSS. The fragment belongs to Democritus.



# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

35 (114). *Florilegium*, Cod. Paris. 1168 [501 E]

Οὐδεὶς ἐλεύθερος ἑαυτοῦ μὴ κρατῶν.<sup>1</sup>

36 (140). Antonius, 1, 21<sup>2</sup>

Ἀθάνατον χρῆμα ἢ ἀλήθεια καὶ αἰδῖον,  
παρέχει δὲ ἡμῖν οὐ κάλλος χρόνῳ μαραινόμενον  
οὔτε παρρησίαν ἀφαιρετὴν<sup>3</sup> ὑπὸ δίκης, ἀλλὰ  
τὰ δίκαια καὶ τὰ νόμιμα διακρίνουσα ἀπ' αὐτῶν  
τὰ ἄδικα καὶ ἀπελέγχουσα.

<sup>1</sup> In Stobaeus the maxim is ascribed to Pythagoras.

<sup>2</sup> The style of this fragment is alien to Epictetus.

<sup>3</sup> Kronenberg: ἀφαιρείτην MS.

## DOUBTFUL AND SPURIOUS FRAGMENTS

35

No man is free who is not master of himself.

36

The truth is something immortal and eternal, and does not present us with a beauty that withers from the passage of time, nor a freedom of speech which can be taken away by justice, but it presents us with what is just and lawful, distinguishing the unlawful therefrom, and refuting it.



## THE *ENCHEIRIDION*, OR *MANUAL*

THIS celebrated work is a compilation made by Arrian himself from the *Discourses*, and the great majority of those who know Epictetus at all have come to do so from this little book alone. That is a pity, because the necessary aridity and formalism of such a systematization obscure the more modest, human, and sympathetic aspects of the great teacher's character. Most of the unfavourable criticism which has been passed upon Epictetus—and there is some of this, although not much—is clearly based upon the occasionally somewhat inadequate impressions which any compendium must produce. For it may be doubted whether even so noble a statement as the Apostles' Creed has ever made a single convert.

Occasionally Arrian has modified to a slight degree the form of statement, as we may observe from the numerous instances, amounting to somewhat more than half of the book, where material from the first four books of the *Discourses* has been employed; but the substance seems to have been faithfully preserved, wherever it is possible to follow his procedure in detail.

The separate editions and translations of the *Encheiridion*<sup>1</sup> are extremely numerous. Few, how-

<sup>1</sup> Those who are curious about bibliographical information may be referred to a separate study, *Contributions toward a Bibliography of Epictetus*, Urbana, Illinois, 1927.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

ever, have been of any notable value, except, perhaps, the celebrated translations by Politian and Leopardi, and Schweighäuser's separate edition of 1798,<sup>1</sup> which is still the last independent critical text,<sup>2</sup> and has been reprinted by most subsequent editors, even Schenkl, although the latter has added much useful critical material in his notes, especially those which indicate the probable sources of such passages as seem to be derived from the four books of the *Discourses*, and in particular has arranged the *apparatus criticus* in more convenient terms.

The *sigla* which Schenkl has devised for Schweighäuser's apparatus, and which may occasionally be employed below, are the following:

A MSS. in which portions of the *Encheiridion* precede the corresponding commentary of Simplicius.

V The ed. of 1528.

<sup>1</sup> For some unknown reason Schweighäuser in his *Epicteteae Philosophiae Monumenta*, III. 1799, reproduced Upton's much less satisfactory text.

<sup>2</sup> One reason for this delay is the extremely large number of MSS. involved, not merely of the work itself, but of the two Christian paraphrases and of the huge commentary by Simplicius, which is more than ten times the bulk of the original. The texts of these must first be critically determined before their value for the *Encheiridion* can be estimated, so that in reality four works instead of one have to be edited from the very foundations. Another is the very slight probability that any really notable contributions to knowledge might result therefrom. As an intellectual problem the preparation of a new edition of the *Encheiridion* presents certain interesting features, but as a practical undertaking it is outranked by a good many other possible investigations.

## THE *ENCEIRIDION*, OR *MANUAL*

- B MSS. in which the entire *Encheiridion* precedes the commentary of Simplicius.
- C MSS. containing the *Encheiridion* alone.
- v The edition of Trincavelli (1535).
- D MSS. of Class B which exhibit the text of the *Encheiridion* (frequently abbreviated) as *lemmata* before the commentary of Simplicius.
- un. unus.
- nonn. nonnulli.
- sing. singuli.
- Nil. The *Encheiridion* in the paraphrase of St. Nilus (Schweighäuser, V. 95–138).
- Par. The *Encheiridion* in the anonymous Christian paraphrase (Schweighäuser, V. 1–94).

## ΕΠΙΚΤΗΤΟΥ ΕΓΧΕΙΡΙΔΙΟΝ

- 1     c. 1. Τῶν ὄντων τὰ μὲν ἐστὶν ἐφ' ἡμῖν, τὰ δὲ οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν. ἐφ' ἡμῖν μὲν ὑπόληψις, ὀρμή, ὄρεξις, ἔκκλισις καὶ ἐνὶ λόγῳ ὅσα ἡμέτερα ἔργα· οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν δὲ τὸ σῶμα, ἡ κτῆσις, δόξαι, ἀρχαὶ καὶ ἐνὶ
- 2     λόγῳ ὅσα οὐχ ἡμέτερα ἔργα. καὶ τὰ μὲν ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἐστὶ φύσει ἐλεύθερα, ἀκώλυτα, ἀπαράποδιστα, τὰ δὲ οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἀσθενῇ, δοῦλα, κωλυτά,
- 3     ἀλλότρια. μέμνησο οὖν, ὅτι, ἐὰν τὰ φύσει δοῦλα ἐλεύθερα οἰηθῇς καὶ τὰ ἀλλότρια ἴδια, ἐμποδισθήσῃ, πενθήσῃς, ταραχθήσῃ, μέμψῃ καὶ θεοὺς καὶ ἀνθρώπους, ἐὰν δὲ τὸ σὸν μόνον οἰηθῇς σὸν εἶναι, τὸ δὲ ἀλλότριον, ὥσπερ ἐστίν, ἀλλότριον, οὐδεὶς σε ἀναγκάσει οὐδέποτε, οὐδεὶς σε κωλύσει, οὐ μέμψῃ οὐδένα, οὐκ ἐγκαλέσεις τινί, ἄκων πράξεις οὐδὲ ἔν, ἐχθρὸν οὐχ ἔξεις,<sup>1</sup> οὐδεὶς σε βλάψῃ, οὐδὲ γὰρ βλαβερόν τι πείσῃ.
- 4     Τηλικούτων οὖν ἐφιεμένος μέμνησο, ὅτι οὐ δεῖ μετρίως κεκινημένον ἄπτεσθαι αὐτῶν, ἀλλὰ τὰ

<sup>1</sup> This is the order for the last phrase in Nil. All other authorities put it after βλάψει.



## THE *ENCHEIRIDION* OF EPICTETUS

1. SOME things are under our control, while others are not under our control. Under our control are conception, choice, desire, aversion, and, in a word, everything that is our own doing; not under our control are our body, our property, reputation, office, and, in a word, everything that is not our own doing. Furthermore, the things under our control are by nature free, unhindered, and unimpeded; while the things not under our control are weak, servile, subject to hindrance, and not our own. Remember, therefore, that if what is naturally slavish you think to be free, and what is not your own to be your own, you will be hampered, will grieve, will be in turmoil, and will blame both gods and men; while if you think only what is your own to be your own, and what is not your own to be, as it really is, not your own, then no one will ever be able to exert compulsion upon you, no one will hinder you, you will blame no one, will find fault with no one, will do absolutely nothing against your will, you will have no personal enemy, no one will harm you, for neither is there any harm that can touch you.

With such high aims, therefore, remember that you must bestir yourself with no slight effort to lay hold of them, but you will have to give up some

μὲν ἀφιέναι παντελῶς, τὰ δ' ὑπερτίθεσθαι πρὸς τὸ παρόν. ἔαν δὲ καὶ ταῦτ' ἐθέλῃς καὶ ἄρχειν καὶ πλουτεῖν, τυχὸν μὲν οὐδ' αὐτῶν τούτων τεύξῃ διὰ τὸ καὶ τῶν προτέρων ἐφίεσθαι, πάντως γε μὴν ἐκείνων ἀποτεύξῃ, δι' ὧν μόνων ἐλευθερία καὶ εὐδαιμονία περιγίνεται.

- 5 Εὐθύς οὖν πάσῃ φαντασίᾳ τραχείᾳ μελέτα ἐπιλέγειν ὅτι “φαντασία εἶ καὶ οὐ πάντως τὸ φαινόμενον.” ἔπειτα ἐξέταξε αὐτὴν καὶ δοκίμαζε τοῖς κανόσι τούτοις οἷς ἔχεις, πρῶτῳ δὲ τούτῳ καὶ μάλιστα, πότερον περὶ τὰ ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἐστὶν ἢ περὶ τὰ οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν· καὶ περὶ τι τῶν οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἢ, πρόχειρον ἔστω τὸ διότι “οὐδὲν πρὸς ἐμέ.”

- 1 c. 2. Μέμνησο, ὅτι ὀρέξεως ἐπαγγελία ἐπιτυχία<sup>1</sup> οὐ ὀρέγῃ, ἐκκλίσεως ἐπαγγελία τὸ μὴ περιπεσεῖν ἐκείνῳ ὃ ἐκκλίνεται, καὶ ὁ μὲν ἐν<sup>2</sup> ὀρέξει ἀποτυγχάνων ἀτυχής, ὁ δὲ ἐν<sup>3</sup> ἐκκλίσει περιπίπτων δυστυχής. ἂν μὲν οὖν μόνᾳ ἐκκλίνης τὰ παρὰ φύσιν τῶν ἐπὶ σοί, οὐδενί, ὧν ἐκκλίνεις, περιπεσῇ· νόσον δ' ἂν ἐκκλίνης ἢ θάνατον ἢ  
2 πενίαν, δυστυχήσεις. ἄρον οὖν τὴν ἐκκλίσιν ἀπὸ πάντων τῶν οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν καὶ μετάθεσ ἐπὶ τὰ παρὰ φύσιν τῶν ἐφ' ἡμῖν. τὴν ὀρεξιν δὲ παντελῶς ἐπὶ τοῦ παρόντος ἄνελε· ἂν τε γὰρ ὀρέγῃ τῶν οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν τινός, ἀτυχεῖν ἀνάγκη,

<sup>1</sup> Nil. alone: ἐστὶν ἐπιτυχία AD, ἐστὶ τὸ ἐπιτυχεῖν C, τὸ ἐπιτυχεῖν B (τυχεῖν Par., τὸ τυχεῖν Simpl.).

<sup>2</sup> Nil. C un.

<sup>3</sup> Nil. alone.

<sup>1</sup> The remark, as many others of the admonitions, is addressed to a student or a beginner.

## THE ENCHEIRIDION OF EPICTETUS

things entirely, and defer others for the time being. But if you wish for these things also, and at the same time for both office and wealth, it may be that you will not get even these latter, because you aim also at the former, and certainly you will fail to get the former, which alone bring freedom and happiness.

Make it, therefore, your study at the very outset to say to every harsh external impression, "You are an external impression and not at all what you appear to be." After that examine it and test it by these rules which you have, the first and most important of which is this: Whether the impression has to do with the things which are under our control, or with those which are not under our control; and, if it has to do with some one of the things not under our control, have ready to hand the answer, "It is nothing to me."

2. Remember that the promise of desire is the attainment of what you desire, that of aversion is not to fall into what is avoided, and that he who fails in his desire is unfortunate, while he who falls into what he would avoid experiences misfortune. If, then, you avoid only what is unnatural among those things which are under your control, you will fall into none of the things which you avoid; but if you try to avoid disease, or death, or poverty, you will experience misfortune. Withdraw, therefore, your aversion from all the matters that are not under our control, and transfer it to what is unnatural among those which are under our control. But for the time being<sup>1</sup> remove utterly your desire; for if you desire some one of the things that are not under our control you are bound to be unfortunate; and, at the

τῶν τε ἐφ' ἡμῖν, ὅσων ὀρέγεσθαι καλὸν ἄν, οὐδὲν οὐδέπω σοι πάρεστι. μόνῳ δὲ τῷ ὀρμᾶν καὶ ἀφορμᾶν χρῶ, κούφως μέντοι καὶ μεθ' ὑπεξαιρέσεως καὶ ἀνειμένως.

c. 3. 'Εφ' ἐκάστου τῶν ψυχαγωγούντων ἢ χρεῖαν παρεχόντων ἢ στεργομένων μέμνησο ἐπιλέγειν, ὁποῖόν ἐστιν, ἀπὸ τῶν σμικροτάτων ἀρξάμενος. ἂν χύτραν στέργῃς, ὅτι "χύτραν στέργω". κατεαγείσης γὰρ αὐτῆς οὐ ταραχθήσῃ. ἂν παιδίον σαυτοῦ καταφιλήῃς ἢ γυναῖκα, ὅτι ἄνθρωπον καταφιλεῖς· ἀποθανόντος γὰρ οὐ ταραχθήσῃ.

c. 4. "Ὅταν ἄπτεσθαί τινος ἔργου μέλλῃς, ὑπομίμνησκε σεαυτόν, ὁποῖόν ἐστι τὸ ἔργον. εἰς λουσόμενος ἀπίης, πρόβαλλε σεαυτῷ τὰ γινόμενα ἐν βαλανείῳ, τοὺς ἀπορραίνοντας, τοὺς ἐγκρουομένους, τοὺς λοιδοροῦντας, τοὺς κλέπτοντας. καὶ οὕτως ἀσφαλέστερον ἄψῃ τοῦ ἔργου, εἰς ἐπιλέγῃς εὐθύς ὅτι "λούσασθαι θέλω καὶ τὴν ἐμαυτοῦ προαίρεσιν κατὰ φύσιν ἔχουσιν τηρῆσαι." καὶ ὡσαύτως ἐφ' ἐκάστου ἔργου. οὕτω γὰρ ἂν τι πρὸς τὸ λούσασθαι γένηται ἐμποδῶν, πρόχειρον ἔσται διότι "ἀλλ' οὐ τοῦτο ἠθέλον μόνον, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴν ἐμαυτοῦ προαίρεσιν κατὰ φύσιν ἔχουσιν τηρῆσαι· οὐ τηρήσω δέ, εἰς ἀγανακτῶ πρὸς τὰ γινόμενα."

c. 5. Ταράσσει τοὺς ἀνθρώπους οὐ τὰ πράγματα, ἀλλὰ τὰ περὶ τῶν πραγμάτων δόγματα·

<sup>1</sup> See M. Aurelius, 1, 4, where Mr. Haines (in *L.C.L.*) suggests that the reference is to some such reservations as

## THE *ENCHEIRIDION* OF EPICTETUS

same time, not one of the things that are under our control, which it would be excellent for you to desire, is within your grasp. But employ only choice and refusal, and these too but lightly, and with reservations,<sup>1</sup> and without straining.

3. With everything which entertains you, is useful, or of which you are fond, remember to say to yourself, beginning with the very least things, "What is its nature?" If you are fond of a jug, say, "I am fond of a jug"; for when it is broken you will not be disturbed. If you kiss your own child or wife, say to yourself that you are kissing a human being; for when it dies you will not be disturbed.

4. When you are on the point of putting your hand to some undertaking, remind yourself what the nature of that undertaking is. If you are going out of the house to bathe, put before your mind what happens at a public bath—those who splash you with water, those who jostle against you, those who vilify you and rob you. And thus you will set about your undertaking more securely if at the outset you say to yourself, "I want to take a bath, and, at the same time, to keep my moral purpose in harmony with nature." And so do in every undertaking. For thus, if anything happens to hinder you in your bathing, you will be ready to say, "Oh, well, this was not the only thing that I wanted, but I wanted also to keep my moral purpose in harmony with nature; and I shall not so keep it if I am vexed at what is going on."

5. It is not the things themselves that disturb men, but their judgements about these things. For

recommended in James iv. 15: "For that ye ought to say is, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that."

οἷον ὁ θάνατος οὐδὲν δεινόν, ἐπεὶ καὶ Σωκράτει ἂν ἐφαίνετο, ἀλλὰ τὸ δόγμα τὸ περὶ τοῦ θανάτου, διότι δεινόν, ἐκεῖνο τὸ δεινόν ἐστίν. ὅταν οὖν ἐμποδιζώμεθα ἢ ταρασσώμεθα ἢ λυπώμεθα, μηδέποτε ἄλλον αἰτιώμεθα, ἀλλ' ἑαυτούς, τοῦτ' ἐστὶ τὰ ἑαυτῶν δόγματα. ἀπαιδεύτου ἔργον τὸ ἄλλοις ἐγκαλεῖν, ἐφ' οἷς αὐτὸς πράσσει κακῶς· ἡργμένου παιδεύεσθαι τὸ ἑαυτῷ· πεπαιδευμένου τὸ μήτε ἄλλῳ μήτε ἑαυτῷ.

c. 6. Ἐπὶ μηδενὶ ἐπαρθῆς ἀλλοτρίῳ προτερήματι. εἰ ὁ ἵππος ἐπαιρόμενος ἔλεγεν ὅτι “καλὸς εἰμι,” οἷστον ἂν ἦν· σὺ δέ, ὅταν λέγῃς ἐπαιρόμενος ὅτι “ἵππον καλὸν ἔχω,” ἴσθι, ὅτι ἐπὶ ἵππου<sup>1</sup> ἀγαθῷ ἐπαίρη. τί οὖν ἐστὶ σόν; χρήσις φαντασιῶν. ὥσθ', ὅταν ἐν χρήσει φαντασιῶν κατὰ φύσιν σχῆς, τηνικαῦτα ἐπάρθητι· τότε γὰρ ἐπὶ σῷ τινὶ ἀγαθῷ ἐπαρθήσῃ.

c. 7. Καθάπερ ἐν πλῶ τοῦ πλοίου καθορμισθέντος εἰ ἐξέλθοις ὑδρεύσασθαι, ὁδοῦ μὲν πάρεργον καὶ κοχλίδιον ἀναλέξῃ καὶ βολβάριον, τετάσθαι δὲ δεῖ τὴν διάνοιαν ἐπὶ τὸ πλοῖον καὶ συνεχῶς ἐπιστρέφεσθαι, μή ποτε ὁ κυβερνήτης καλέσῃ, κἂν καλέσῃ, πάντα ἐκεῖνα ἀφιέναι, ἵνα μὴ δεδεμένος ἐμβληθῇς ὡς τὰ πρόβατα· οὕτω καὶ ἐν τῷ βίῳ, εἰ δίδωται ἀντὶ βολβαρίου καὶ κοχλιδίου γυναικάριον καὶ παιδίον, οὐδὲν κωλύσει· εἰ δὲ ὁ κυβερνήτης καλέσῃ, τρέχε ἐπὶ τὸ πλοῖον

<sup>1</sup> Upton, after Simplicius : ἵππῳ practically all MSS.

<sup>1</sup> The Greeks ate a good many different bulbous plants, as we use a variety of different plants for “greens.”



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example, death is nothing dreadful, or else Socrates too would have thought so, but the judgement that death is dreadful, *this* is the dreadful thing. When, therefore, we are hindered, or disturbed, or grieved, let us never blame anyone but ourselves, that means, our own judgements. It is the part of an uneducated person to blame others where he himself fares ill ; to blame himself is the part of one whose education has begun ; to blame neither another nor his own self is the part of one whose education is already complete.

6. Be not elated at any excellence which is not your own. If the horse in his elation were to say, "I am beautiful," it could be endured ; but when you say in your elation, "I have a beautiful horse," rest assured that you are elated at something good which belongs to a horse. What, then, is your own ? The use of external impressions. Therefore, when you are in harmony with nature in the use of external impressions, then be elated ; for then it will be some good of your own at which you will be elated.

7. Just as on a voyage, when your ship has anchored, if you should go on shore to get fresh water, you may pick up a small shell-fish or little bulb<sup>1</sup> on the way, but you have to keep your attention fixed on the ship, and turn about frequently for fear lest the captain should call ; and if he calls, you must give up all these things, if you would escape being thrown on board all tied up like the sheep. So it is also in life : If there be given you, instead of a little bulb and a small shell-fish, a little wife and child, there will be no objection to that ; only, if the Captain calls, give up all these things and run



ἀφείς ἐκεῖνα ἅπαντα μηδὲ ἐπιστρεφόμενος. εἰ δὲ γέρων ᾗς, μηδὲ ἀπαλλαγῆς ποτὲ τοῦ πλοίου μακράν, μή ποτε καλοῦντος ἐλλίπης.

c. 8. Μὴ ζῆτει τὰ γινόμενα γίνεσθαι ὡς θέλεις, ἀλλὰ θέλε τὰ γινόμενα ὡς γίνεται καὶ εὐροήσεις.

c. 9. Νόσος σώματός ἐστιν ἐμπόδιον, προαιρέσεως δὲ οὐ, εἰ μὴ αὐτὴ θέλῃ. χῶλανσις σκέλους ἐστὶν ἐμπόδιον, προαιρέσεως δὲ οὐ. καὶ τοῦτο ἐφ' ἐκάστου τῶν ἐμπιπτόντων ἐπίλεγε· εὐρήσεις γὰρ αὐτὸ ἄλλου τινὸς ἐμπόδιον, σὸν δὲ οὐ.

c. 10. Ἐφ' ἐκάστου τῶν προσπιπτόντων μέμνησο ἐπιστρέφων ἐπὶ σεαυτὸν ζητεῖν, τίνα δύναμιν ἔχεις πρὸς τὴν χρῆσιν αὐτοῦ. εἰ καλὸν ἴδῃς ἢ καλὴν, εὐρήσεις δύναμιν πρὸς ταῦτα ἐγκράτειαν· εἰ πόνος προσφέρηται, εὐρήσεις καρτερίαν· ἂν λοιδορία, εὐρήσεις ἀνεξικακίαν. καὶ οὕτως ἐθιζόμενόν σε οὐ συναρπάσουσιν αἱ φαντασίαι.

c. 11. Μηδέποτε ἐπὶ μηδενὸς εἶπῃς ὅτι “ἀπώλεσα αὐτό,” ἀλλ' ὅτι “ἀπέδωκα.” τὸ παιδίον ἀπέθανεν; ἀπεδόθη. ἡ γυνὴ ἀπέθανεν; ἀπεδόθη. “τὸ χωρίον ἀφῆρέθην.” οὐκοῦν καὶ τοῦτο ἀπεδόθη. “ἀλλὰ κακὸς ὁ ἀφελόμενος.” τί δὲ σοὶ μέλει, διὰ τίνος σε ὁ δοὺς ἀπήτησε; μέχρι δ' ἂν διδῶ, ὡς ἀλλοτρίου αὐτοῦ ἐπιμελοῦ, ὡς τοῦ πανδοχείου οἱ παριόντες.

1 c. 12. Εἰ προκόψαι θέλεις, ἄφες τοὺς τοιούτους

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to the ship, without even turning around to look back. And if you are an old man, never even get very far away from the ship, for fear that when He calls you may be missing.

8. Do not seek to have everything that happens happen as you wish, but wish for everything to happen as it actually does happen, and your life will be serene.

9. Disease is an impediment to the body, but not to the moral purpose, unless that consents. Lameness is an impediment to the leg, but not to the moral purpose. And say this to yourself at each thing that befalls you ; for you will find the thing to be an impediment to something else, but not to yourself.

10. In the case of everything that befalls you, remember to turn to yourself and see what faculty you have to deal with it. If you see a handsome lad or woman, you will find continence the faculty to employ here ; if hard labour is laid upon you, you will find endurance ; if reviling, you will find patience to bear evil. And if you habituate yourself in this fashion, your external impressions will not run away with you.

11. Never say about anything, "I have lost it," but only "I have given it back." Is your child dead ? It has been given back. Is your wife dead ? She has been given back. "I have had my farm taken away." Very well, this too has been given back. "Yet it was a rascal who took it away." But what concern is it of yours by whose instrumentality the Giver called for its return ? So long as He gives it you, take care of it as of a thing that is not your own, as travellers treat their inn.

12. If you wish to make progress, dismiss all

ἐπιλογισμούς. “ἐὰν ἀμελήσω τῶν ἐμῶν, οὐχ ἔξω διατροφάς”. “ἐὰν μὴ κολάσω τὸν παῖδα, πονηρὸς ἔσται.” κρεῖσσον γὰρ λιμῶ ἀποθανεῖν ἄλυπον καὶ ἄφοβον γενόμενον ἢ ζῆν ἐν ἀφθόνοις ταρασσόμενον. κρεῖττον δὲ τὸν παῖδα κακὸν εἶναι ἢ σὲ κακοδαίμονα. ἄρξαι τοιγαροῦν ἀπὸ  
2 τῶν σμικρῶν. ἐκχεῖται τὸ ἐλάδιον, κλέπτεται τὸ οἰνάριον· ἐπίλεγε ὅτι “τοσούτου πωλεῖται ἀπάθεια, τοσούτου ἀταραξία”. προῖκα δὲ οὐδὲν περιγίνεται. ὅταν δὲ καλῆς τὸν παῖδα, ἐνθυμοῦ, ὅτι δύναται μὴ ὑπακοῦσαι καὶ ὑπακούσας μηδὲν ποιῆσαι ὧν θέλεις· ἀλλ’ οὐχ οὕτως ἐστὶν αὐτῷ καλῶς, ἵνα ἐπ’ ἐκείνῳ ἢ τὸ σὲ μὴ ταραχθῆναι.

c. 13. Εἰ προκόψαι θέλεις, ὑπόμεινον ἔνεκα τῶν ἐκτὸς ἀνόητος δόξας καὶ ἡλίθιος, μηδὲν βούλου δοκεῖν ἐπίστασθαι· καὶ δόξης τις εἶναί τιςιν, ἀπίσται σεαυτῷ. ἴσθι γὰρ ὅτι οὐ ῥάδιον τὴν προαίρεσιν τὴν σεαυτοῦ κατὰ φύσιν ἔχουσιν φυλάξαι καὶ τὰ ἐκτός, ἀλλὰ τοῦ ἐτέρου ἐπιμελούμενον τοῦ ἐτέρου ἀμελῆσαι πᾶσα ἀνάγκη.

1 c. 14. Ἐὰν θέλῃς τὰ τέκνα σου καὶ τὴν γυναῖκα καὶ τοὺς φίλους σου πάντοτε ζῆν, ἡλίθιος εἶ· τὰ γὰρ μὴ ἐπὶ σοὶ θέλεις ἐπὶ σοὶ εἶναι καὶ τὰ ἀλλότρια σὰ εἶναι· οὕτω καὶ τὸν παῖδα θέλῃς μὴ ἀμαρτάνειν, μωρὸς εἶ· θέλεις γὰρ τὴν κακίαν

<sup>1</sup> That is, the slave-boy would be in a remarkable position of advantage if his master's peace of mind depended, not upon the master himself, but upon the actions of his slave-boy.

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reasoning of this sort : " If I neglect my affairs, I shall have nothing to live on." " If I do not punish my slave-boy he will turn out bad." For it is better to die of hunger, but in a state of freedom from grief and fear, than to live in plenty, but troubled in mind. And it is better for your slave-boy to be bad than for you to be unhappy. Begin, therefore, with the little things. Your paltry oil gets spilled, your miserable wine stolen ; say to yourself, " This is the price paid for a calm spirit, this the price for peace of mind." Nothing is got without a price. And when you call your slave-boy, bear in mind that it is possible he may not heed you, and again, that even if he does heed, he may not do what you want done. But he is not in so happy a condition that your peace of mind depends upon him.<sup>1</sup>

13. If you wish to make progress, then be content to appear senseless and foolish in externals, do not make it your wish to give the appearance of knowing anything ; and if some people think you to be an important personage, distrust yourself. For be assured that it is no easy matter to keep your moral purpose in a state of conformity with nature, and, at the same time, to keep externals ; but the man who devotes his attention to one of these two things must inevitably neglect the other.

14. If you make it your will that your children and your wife and your friends should live for ever, you are silly ; for you are making it your will that things not under your control should be under your control, and that what is not your own should be your own. In the same way, too, if you make it your will that your slave-boy be free from faults, you are a fool ; for you are making it your will that vice be not

μὴ εἶναι κακίαν, ἀλλ' ἄλλο τι. εἰ δὲ θέλῃς ὀρεγόμενος μὴ ἀποτυγχάνειν, τοῦτο δύνασαι.  
 2 τοῦτο οὖν ἄσκει, ὃ δύνασαι. κύριος ἐκάστου ἐστὶν ὁ τῶν ὑπ' ἐκείνου θελομένων ἢ μὴ θελομένων ἔχων τὴν ἐξουσίαν εἰς τὸ περιποιῆσαι ἢ ἀφελέσθαι. ὅστις οὖν ἐλεύθερος εἶναι βούλεται, μήτε θελέτω τι μήτε φευγέτω τι τῶν ἐπ' ἄλλοις· εἰ δὲ μή, δουλεύειν ἀνάγκη.

c. 15. Μέμνησο, ὅτι ὡς ἐν συμποσίῳ σε δεῖ ἀναστρέφεσθαι. περιφερόμενον γέγονέ τι κατὰ σέ· ἐκτείνας τὴν χεῖρα κοσμίως μετάλαβε. παρέρχεται· μὴ κάτεχε. οὐπω ἤκει· μὴ ἐπίβαλλε πόρρῳ τὴν ὄρεξιν, ἀλλὰ περίμενε, μέχρις ἂν γένηται κατὰ σέ. οὕτω πρὸς τέκνα, οὕτω πρὸς γυναῖκα, οὕτω πρὸς ἀρχάς, οὕτω πρὸς πλούτον καὶ ἔση ποτὲ ἄξιός τῶν θεῶν συμπότης. ἂν δὲ καὶ παρατεθέντων σοι μὴ λάβῃς, ἀλλ' ὑπερίδῃς, τότε οὐ μόνον συμπότης τῶν θεῶν ἔση, ἀλλὰ καὶ συνάρχων. οὕτω γὰρ ποιῶν Διογένης καὶ Ἡράκλειτος καὶ οἱ ὅμοιοι ἀξίως θεοῖς τε ἦσαν καὶ ἐλέγοντο.

c. 16. "Ὅταν κλαίοντα ἴδῃς τινὰ ἐν πένθει ἢ ἀποδημοῦντος τέκνου ἢ ἀπολωλεκότα τὰ ἑαυτοῦ, πρόσεχε μὴ σε ἡ φαντασία συναρπάσῃ ὡς ἐν κακοῖς ὄντος αὐτοῦ τοῖς ἐκτός, ἀλλ' εὐθύς ἔστω πρόχειρον ὅτι " τοῦτον θλίβει οὐ τὸ συμβεβηκός (ἄλλον γὰρ οὐ θλίβει), ἀλλὰ τὸ δόγμα τὸ περὶ

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vice, but something else. If, however, it is your will not to fail in what you desire, this is in your power. Wherefore, exercise yourself in that which is in your power. Each man's master is the person who has the authority over what the man wishes or does not wish, so as to secure it, or take it away. Whoever, therefore, wants to be free, let him neither wish for anything, nor avoid anything, that is under the control of others; or else he is necessarily a slave.

15. Remember that you ought to behave in life as you would at a banquet. As something is being passed around it comes to you; stretch out your hand and take a portion of it politely. It passes on; do not detain it. Or it has not come to you yet; do not project your desire to meet it, but wait until it comes in front of you. So act toward children, so toward a wife, so toward office, so toward wealth; and then some day you will be worthy of the banquets of the gods. But if you do not take these things even when they are set before you, but despise them, then you will not only share the banquet of the gods, but share also their rule. For it was by so doing that Diogenes and Heracleitus, and men like them, were deservedly divine and deservedly so called.

16. When you see someone weeping in sorrow, either because a child has gone on a journey, or because he has lost his property, beware that you be not carried away by the impression that the man is in the midst of external ills, but straightway keep before you this thought: "It is not what has happened that distresses this man (for it does not distress another), but his judgement about it." Do



τούτου.” μέχρι μέντοι λόγου μὴ ὀκνεῖ συμπεριφέρεισθαι αὐτῷ, καὶ οὕτω τύχῃ, καὶ συνεπιστενάζει· πρόσεχε μέντοι μὴ καὶ ἔσωθεν στενάξῃς.

c. 17. Μέμνησο, ὅτι ὑποκριτῆς εἶ δράματος, οἷον ἂν θέλῃ ὁ διδάσκαλος· ἂν βραχύ, βραχέος· ἂν μακρόν, μακροῦ· ἂν πτωχὸν ὑποκρίνασθαί σε θέλῃ, ἵνα καὶ τοῦτον εὐφυῶς ὑποκρίνῃ· ἂν χωλόν, ἂν ἄρχοντα, ἂν ἰδιώτην. σὸν γὰρ τοῦτ' ἔστι, τὸ δοθὲν ὑποκρίνασθαι πρόσωπον καλῶς· ἐκλέξασθαι δ' αὐτὸ ἄλλου.

c. 18. Κόραξ ὅταν μὴ αἴσιον κεκράγῃ, μὴ συναρπαζέτω σε ἢ φαντασία· ἀλλ' εὐθύς διαίρει παρὰ σεαυτῷ καὶ λέγε ὅτι “τούτων ἐμοὶ οὐδὲν ἐπισημαίνεται, ἀλλ' ἢ τῷ σωματίῳ μου ἢ τῷ κτησειδίῳ μου ἢ τῷ δοξαρίῳ μου ἢ τοῖς τέκνοις ἢ τῇ γυναικί. ἐμοὶ δὲ πάντα αἴσια σημαίνεται, εἰάν ἐγὼ θέλω· ὅτι γὰρ ἂν τούτων ἀποβαίῃ, ἐπ' ἐμοὶ ἐστὶν ὠφεληθῆναι ἀπ' αὐτοῦ.”

- 1 c. 19. Ἀνίκητος εἶναι δύνασαι, εἰάν εἰς μηδένα ἀγῶνα καταβαίῃς, ὃν οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπὶ σοὶ νικῆσαι.
- 2 ὅρα μήποτε ἰδὼν τινα προτιμώμενον ἢ μέγα δυνάμενον ἢ ἄλλως εὐδοκιμοῦντα μακαρίσης, ὑπὸ τῆς φαντασίας συναρπασθεῖς. εἰάν γὰρ ἐν τοῖς ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἡ οὐσία τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ ᾗ, οὔτε φθόνος οὔτε ζηλοτυπία χώραν ἔχει· σύ τε αὐτὸς οὐ στρατηγός, οὐ πρύτανις ἢ ὑπατος εἶναι θελήσεις, ἀλλ' ἐλεύθερος. μία δὲ ὁδὸς πρὸς τοῦτο, καταφρόνησις τῶν οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν.

<sup>1</sup> A reverent designation for God. See I. 25, 13.



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not, however, hesitate to sympathize with him so far as words go, and, if occasion offers, even to groan with him; but be careful not to groan also in the centre of your being.

17. Remember that you are an actor in a play, the character of which is determined by the Playwright: if He wishes the play to be short, it is short; if long, it is long; if He wishes you to play the part of a beggar, remember to act even this rôle adroitly; and so if your rôle be that of a cripple, an official, or a layman. For this is your business, to play admirably the rôle assigned you; but the selection of that rôle is Another's.<sup>1</sup>

18. When a raven croaks inauspiciously, let not the external impression carry you away, but straightway draw a distinction in your own mind, and say, "None of these portents are for me, but either for my paltry body, or my paltry estate, or my paltry opinion, or my children, or my wife. But for me every portent is favourable, if I so wish; for whatever be the outcome, it is within my power to derive benefit from it."

19. You can be invincible if you never enter a contest in which victory is not under your control. Beware lest, when you see some person preferred to you in honour, or possessing great power, or otherwise enjoying high repute, you are ever carried away by the external impression, and deem him happy. For if the true nature of the good is one of the things that are under our control, there is no place for either envy or jealousy; and you yourself will not wish to be a praetor, or a senator, or a consul, but a free man. Now there is but one way that leads to this, and that is to despise the things that are not under our control.

c. 20. Μέμνησο, ὅτι οὐχ ὁ λοιδορῶν ἢ ὁ τύπτων ὑβρίζει, ἀλλὰ τὸ δόγμα τὸ περὶ τούτων ὡς ὑβρίζοντων. ὅταν οὖν ἐρεθίσῃ σέ τις, ἴσθι, ὅτι ἡ σὴ σε ὑπόληψις ἠρέθικε. τοιγαροῦν ἐν πρώτοις πειρῶ ὑπὸ τῆς φαντασίας μὴ συναρπασθῆναι· ἂν γὰρ ἅπαξ χρόνου καὶ διατριβῆς τύχῃς, ῥᾶον κρατήσεις σεαυτοῦ.

c. 21. Θάνατος καὶ φυγὴ καὶ πάντα τὰ δεινὰ φαινόμενα πρὸ ὀφθαλμῶν ἔστω σοι καθ' ἡμέραν, μάλιστα δὲ πάντων ὁ θάνατος· καὶ οὐδὲν οὐδέποτε οὔτε ταπεινὸν ἐνθυμηθήσῃ οὔτε ἄγαν ἐπιθυμήσεις τινός.

c. 22. Εἰ φιλοσοφίας ἐπιθυμεῖς, παρασκευάζου αὐτόθεν ὡς καταγελασθησόμενος, ὡς καταμωκησομένων σου πολλῶν, ὡς ἐρούντων ὅτι “ἄφνω φιλόσοφος ἡμῖν ἐπανελήλυθε” καὶ “πόθεν ἡμῖν αὕτη ἡ ὀφρὺς;” σὺ δὲ ὀφρὺν μὲν μὴ σχῆς· τῶν δὲ βελτίστων σοι φαινομένων οὕτως ἔχου, ὡς ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ τεταγμένος εἰς ταύτην τὴν χώραν· μέμνησό τε διότι,<sup>1</sup> ἐὰν μὲν ἐμμείνης τοῖς αὐτοῖς, οἱ καταγελῶντές σου τὸ πρότερον οὗτοί σε ὕστερον θαυμάσονται, ἐὰν δὲ ἡττηθῇς αὐτῶν, διπλοῦν προσλήψῃ καταγέλωτα.

c. 23. Ἐάν ποτέ σοι γένηται ἔξω στραφῆναι πρὸς τὸ βούλεσθαι ἀρέσαι τινί, ἴσθι ὅτι ἀπώλεσας τὴν ἐνστασιν. ἀρκοῦ οὖν ἐν παντὶ τῷ εἶναι φιλόσοφος, εἰ δὲ καὶ δοκεῖν βούλει,<sup>2</sup> σαυτῷ φαίνου καὶ ἱκανὸς ἔσῃ.

1 c. 24. Οὗτοί σε οἱ διαλογισμοὶ μὴ θλιβέτωσαν·

<sup>1</sup> τε διότι Nil. : δὲ ὅτι *Ench.*

<sup>2</sup> The words τῷ εἶναι at this point are omitted by Par.

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20. Bear in mind that it is not the man who reviles or strikes you that insults you, but it is your judgement that these men are insulting you. Therefore, when someone irritates you, be assured that it is your own opinion which has irritated you. And so make it your first endeavour not to be carried away by the external impression; for if once you gain time and delay, you will more easily become master of yourself.

21. Keep before your eyes day by day death and exile, and everything that seems terrible, but most of all death; and then you will never have any abject thought, nor will you yearn for anything beyond measure.

22. If you yearn for philosophy, prepare at once to be met with ridicule, to have many people jeer at you, and say, "Here he is again, turned philosopher all of a sudden," and "Where do you suppose he got that high brow?" But do you not put on a high brow, and do you so hold fast to the things which to you seem best, as a man who has been assigned by God to this post; and remember that if you abide by the same principles, those who formerly used to laugh at you will later come to admire you, but if you are worsted by them, you will get the laugh on yourself twice.

23. If it should ever happen to you that you turn to externals with a view to pleasing someone, rest assured that you have lost your plan of life. Be content, therefore, in everything to *be* a philosopher, and if you wish also to be taken for one, show to yourself that you are one, and you will be able to accomplish it.

24. Let not these reflections oppress you: "I

- “ἄτιμος ἐγὼ βιώσομαι καὶ οὐδεὶς οὐδαμοῦ.” εἰ γὰρ ἡ ἀτιμία ἐστὶ κακόν, οὐ δύνασαι ἐν κακῷ εἶναι δι’ ἄλλον, οὐ μᾶλλον ἢ ἐν αἰσχυρῷ· μή τι οὖν σόν ἐστιν ἔργον τὸ ἀρχῆς τυχεῖν ἢ παραληφθῆναι ἐφ’ ἐστίασιν; οὐδαμῶς. πῶς οὖν ἔτι τοῦτ’ ἐστὶν ἀτιμία; πῶς δὲ οὐδεὶς οὐδαμοῦ ἔσῃ, ὃν ἐν μόνοις εἶναι τινα δεῖ τοῖς ἐπὶ σοί, ἐν οἷς
- 2 ἔξεστί σοι εἶναι πλείστου ἀξίῳ; ἀλλὰ σοι οἱ φίλοι ἀβοήθητοι ἔσονται; τί λέγεις τὸ ἀβοήθητοι; οὐχ ἔξουσι παρὰ σοῦ κερμάτιον· οὐδὲ πολίτας Ῥωμαίων αὐτοὺς ποιήσεις. τίς οὖν σοι εἶπεν, ὅτι ταῦτα τῶν ἐφ’ ἡμῖν ἐστίν, οὐχὶ δὲ ἀλλότρια ἔργα; τίς δὲ δοῦναι δύναται ἐτέρῳ, ἢ μὴ ἔχει αὐτός; “κτῆσαι οὖν,” φησὶν, “ἵνα ἡμεῖς
- 3 ἔχωμεν.” εἰ δύναμαι κτήσασθαι τηρῶν ἐμαυτὸν αἰδήμονα καὶ πιστὸν καὶ μεγαλόφρονα, δείκνυε τὴν ὁδὸν καὶ κτήσομαι. εἰ δ’ ἐμὲ ἀξιοῦτε τὰ ἀγαθὰ τὰ ἐμαυτοῦ ἀπολέσαι, ἵνα ὑμεῖς τὰ μὴ ἀγαθὰ περιποιήσησθε, ὁρᾶτε ὑμεῖς, πῶς ἄνισοί ἐστε καὶ ἀγνώμονες. τί δὲ καὶ βούλεσθε μᾶλλον; ἀργύριον ἢ φίλον πιστὸν καὶ αἰδήμονα; εἰς τοῦτο οὖν μοι μᾶλλον συλλαμβάνετε καὶ μή, δι’ ὧν ἀποβαλῶ αὐτὰ ταῦτα, ἐκεῖνά με πράσσειν ἀξιοῦτε.
- 4 “Ἄλλ’ ἡ πατρίς, ὅσον ἐπ’ ἐμοί,” φησὶν,

<sup>1</sup> That is, every man is exclusively responsible for his own good or evil. But honour and the lack of it are things which are obviously not under a man's control, since they depend upon the action of other people. It follows, therefore, that

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shall live without honour, and be nobody anywhere." For, if lack of honour is an evil, you cannot be in evil through the instrumentality of some other person, any more than you can be in shame.<sup>1</sup> It is not your business, is it, to get office, or to be invited to a dinner-party? Certainly not. How, then, can this be any longer a lack of honour? And how is it that you will be "nobody anywhere," when you ought to be somebody only in those things which are under your control, wherein you are privileged to be a man of the very greatest honour? But your friends will be without assistance? What do you mean by being "without assistance"? They will not have paltry coin from you, and you will not make them Roman citizens. Well, who told you that these are some of the matters under our control, and not rather things which others do? And who is able to give another what he does not himself have? "Get money, then," says some friend, "in order that we too may have it." If I can get money and at the same time keep myself self-respecting, and faithful, and high-minded, show me the way and I will get it. But if you require me to lose the good things that belong to me, in order that you may acquire the things that are not good, you can see for yourselves how unfair and inconsiderate you are. And which do you really prefer? Money, or a faithful and self-respecting friend? Help me, therefore, rather to this end, and do not require me to do those things which will make me lose these qualities.

"But my country," says he, "so far as lies in me, lack of honour cannot be an evil, but must be something indifferent.

“ἀβοήθητος ἔσται.” πάλιν, ποίαν καὶ ταύτην βοήθειαν; στοὰς οὐχ ἔξει διὰ σέ οὔτε βαλανεῖα. καὶ τί τοῦτο; οὐδὲ γὰρ ὑποδήματα ἔχει διὰ τὸν χαλκέα οὐδ’ ὄπλα διὰ τὸν σκυτέα· ἱκανὸν δέ, ἐὰν ἕκαστος ἐκπληρώσῃ τὸ ἑαυτοῦ ἔργον. εἰ δὲ ἄλλον τινὰ αὐτῇ κατεσκεύαζες πολίτην πιστὸν καὶ αἰδήμονα, οὐδὲν ἂν αὐτὴν ὠφέλεις; “ναί.” οὐκοῦν οὐδὲ σὺ αὐτὸς ἀνωφελὲς ἂν εἴης αὐτῇ. “τίνα οὖν ἔξω,” φησί, “χώραν ἐν τῇ πόλει;” ἦν ἂν δύνῃ φυλάττων ἅμα τὸν πιστὸν καὶ  
 5 αἰδήμονα. εἰ δὲ ἐκείνην ὠφελεῖν βουλόμενος ἀποβαλεῖς ταῦτα, τί ὄφελος ἂν αὐτῇ γένοιο ἀναιδὲς καὶ ἄπιστος ἀποτελεσθεῖς;

1 c. 25. Προετιμήθη σοῦ τις ἐν ἐστιάσει ἢ ἐν προσαγορεύσει ἢ ἐν τῷ παραληφθῆναι εἰς συμβουλίαν; εἰ μὲν ἀγαθὰ ταῦτά ἐστι, χαίρειν σε δεῖ, ὅτι ἔτυχεν αὐτῶν ἐκεῖνος· εἰ δὲ κακά, μὴ ἄχθου, ὅτι σὺ αὐτῶν οὐκ ἔτυχες· μέμνησο δέ, ὅτι οὐ δύνασαι μὴ ταῦτὰ ποιῶν πρὸς τὸ τυγχάνειν  
 2 τῶν οὐκ ἐφ’ ἡμῖν τῶν ἴσων ἀξιοῦσθαι. πῶς γὰρ ἴσον ἔχειν δύναται ὁ μὴ φοιτῶν ἐπὶ θύρας τινὸς τῷ φοιτῶντι; ὁ μὴ παραπέμπων τῷ παραπέμποντι; ὁ μὴ ἐπαινῶν τῷ ἐπαινοῦντι; ἄδικος οὖν ἔσῃ καὶ ἄπληστος, εἰ μὴ προῖέμενος ταῦτα, ἀνθ’ ὧν ἐκεῖνα πιπράσκειται, προῖκα αὐτὰ βουλήσῃ



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will be without assistance." Again I ask, what kind of assistance do you mean? It will not have loggias or baths of your providing. And what does that signify? For neither does it have shoes provided by the blacksmith, nor has it arms provided by the cobbler; but it is sufficient if each man fulfil his own proper function. And if you secured for it another faithful and self-respecting citizen, would you not be doing it any good? "Yes." Very well, and then you also would not be useless to it. "What place, then, shall I have in the State?" says he. Whatever place you *can* have, and at the same time maintain the man of fidelity and self-respect that is in you. But if, through your desire to help the State, you lose these qualities, of what good would you become to it, when in the end you turned out to be shameless and unfaithful?

25. Has someone been honoured above you at a dinner-party, or in salutation, or in being called in to give advice? Now if these matters are good, you ought to be happy that he got them; but if evil, be not distressed because you did not get them; and bear in mind that, if you do not act the same way that others do, with a view to getting things which are not under our control, you cannot be considered worthy to receive an equal share with others. Why, how is it possible for a person who does not haunt some man's door, to have equal shares with the man who does? For the man who does not do escort duty, with the man who does? For the man who does not praise, with the man who does? You will be unjust, therefore, and insatiable, if, while refusing to pay the price for which such things are bought, you want to obtain them for



- 3 λαμβάνειν. ἀλλὰ πόσου πιπράσκονται θρίδακες ; ὀβολοῦ, ἂν οὕτω τύχη. ἂν οὖν τις προέμενος τὸν ὀβολὸν λάβῃ θρίδακας, σὺ δὲ μὴ προέμενος μὴ λάβῃς, μὴ οἷου ἔλαττον ἔχειν τοῦ λαβόντος. ὥς γὰρ ἐκεῖνος ἔχει θρίδακας, οὕτω σὺ τὸν ὀβολόν, ὃν οὐκ ἔδωκας.
- 4 Τὸν αὐτὸν δὴ τρόπον καὶ ἐνταῦθα. οὐ παρεκλήθης ἐφ' ἐστίασίν τινος ; οὐ γὰρ ἔδωκας τῷ καλοῦντι, ὅσου πωλεῖ τὸ δεῖπνον. ἐπαίνου δ' αὐτὸ πωλεῖ, θεραπείας πωλεῖ. δὸς οὖν τὸ διάφορον, εἴ σοι λυσιτελεῖ, ὅσου πωλεῖται. εἰ δὲ κάκεῖνα θέλεις μὴ προῖεσθαι καὶ ταῦτα λαμβάνειν,
- 5 ἅπληστος εἰ καὶ ἀβέλτερος. οὐδὲν οὖν ἔχεις ἀντὶ τοῦ δείπνου ; ἔχεις μὲν οὖν τὸ μὴ ἐπαινέσαι τοῦτον, ὃν οὐκ ἠθέλες, τὸ μὴ ἀνασχέσθαι αὐτοῦ τῶν ἐπὶ τῆς εἰσόδου.

c. 26. Τὸ βούλημα τῆς φύσεως καταμαθεῖν ἔστιν ἐξ ὧν οὐ διαφερόμεθα πρὸς ἀλλήλους. οἷον, ὅταν ἄλλου παιδάριον κατεάξῃ τὸ ποτήριον, πρόχειρον εὐθὺς λέγειν ὅτι “ τῶν γινομένων ἐστίν.” ἴσθι οὖν, ὅτι, ὅταν καὶ τὸ σὸν κατεαγῇ, τοιοῦτον εἶναί σε δεῖ, ὁποῖον ὅτε καὶ τὸ τοῦ ἄλλου κατεάγῃ. οὕτω μετατίθει καὶ ἐπὶ τὰ μείζονα. τέκνον ἄλλου τέθνηκεν ἢ γυνή· οὐδεὶς ἐστίν ὃς οὐκ ἂν εἴποι ὅτι “ ἀνθρώπινον.” ἀλλ' ὅταν τὸ αὐτοῦ τινὸς ἀποθάνῃ, εὐθὺς “ οἴμοι, τάλας

<sup>1</sup> See note on frag. 11.

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nothing. Well, what is the price for heads of lettuce? An obol,<sup>1</sup> perhaps. If, then, somebody gives up his obol and gets his heads of lettuce, while you do not give your obol, and do not get them, do not imagine that you are worse off than the man who gets his lettuce. For as he has his heads of lettuce, so you have your obol which you have not given away.

Now it is the same way also in life. You have not been invited to somebody's dinner-party? Of course not; for you didn't give the host the price at which he sells his dinner. He sells it for praise; he sells it for personal attention. Give him the price, then, for which it is sold, if it is to your interest. But if you wish both not to give up the one and yet to get the other, you are insatiable and a simpleton. Have you, then, nothing in place of the dinner? Indeed you have; you have not had to praise the man you did not want to praise; you have not had to put up with the insolence of his doorkeepers.

26. What the will of nature is may be learned from a consideration of the points in which we do not differ from one another. For example, when some other person's slave-boy breaks his drinking-cup, you are instantly ready to say, "That's one of the things which happen." Rest assured, then, that when your own drinking-cup gets broken, you ought to behave in the same way that you do when the other man's cup is broken. Apply now the same principle to the matters of greater importance. Some other person's child or wife has died; no one but would say, "Such is the fate of man." Yet when a man's own child dies, immediately the cry is, "Alas! Woe is me!" But we

ἐγώ." ἐχρῆν δὲ μεμνήσθαι, τί πάσχομεν περὶ ἄλλων αὐτὸ ἀκούσαντες.

c. 27. "Ὡςπερ σκοπὸς πρὸς τὸ ἀποτυχεῖν οὐ τίθεται, οὕτως οὐδὲ κακοῦ φύσις ἐν κόσμῳ γίνεται.

c. 28. Εἰ μὲν τὸ σῶμά σου τις ἐπέτρεπε τῷ ἀπαντήσαντι, ἡγανάκτεις ἄν· ὅτι δέ σὺ τὴν γνώμην τὴν σεαυτοῦ ἐπιτρέπεις τῷ τυχόντι, ἵνα, εἰς λαιδορήσῃται σοι, ταραχθῇ ἐκείνη καὶ συγχυθῇ, οὐκ αἰσχύνη τούτου ἔνεκα;

- 1 c. 29. Ἐκάστου ἔργου σκόπει τὰ καθηγούμενα καὶ τὰ ἀκόλουθα αὐτοῦ καὶ οὕτως ἔρχου ἐπ' αὐτό. εἰ δὲ μή, τὴν μὲν πρώτην προθύμως ἤξεις ἅτε μηδὲν τῶν ἐξῆς ἐντεθυμημένος, ὕστερον δὲ ἀναφανέντων δυσχερῶν τινῶν αἰσχυρῶς ἀποστήσῃ. θέλεις Ὀλύμπια νικῆσαι; καὶ γὰρ, νῆ τοὺς θεοὺς· κομψὸν γάρ ἐστιν. ἀλλὰ σκόπει τὰ καθηγούμενα καὶ τὰ ἀκόλουθα καὶ οὕτως ἅπτου τοῦ ἔργου. δεῖ σ' εὐτακτεῖν, ἀναγκοτροφεῖν, ἀπέχεσθαι πεμμάτων, γυμνάζεσθαι πρὸς ἀνάγκην, ἐν ᾧ τεταγμένη, ἐν καύματι, ἐν ψύχει, μὴ ψυχρὸν πίνειν, μὴ οἶνον, ὥς ἔτυχεν, ἀπλῶς ὥς ἱατρῷ παραδεδωκέναι σεαυτὸν τῷ ἐπιστάτῃ, εἶτα ἐν τῷ ἀγῶνι παρορύσσεσθαι,<sup>1</sup> ἔστι δὲ ὅτε χεῖρα ἐκβαλεῖν,<sup>2</sup> σφυρὸν στρέψαι, πολλὴν ἀφὴν κατα-

<sup>1</sup> Upton from the *Disc.* : παρέρχεσθαι or παρέχεσθαι MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Upton from the *Disc.* : βαλεῖν, λαβεῖν, or βλαβεῖν MSS.

<sup>1</sup> That is, it is inconceivable that the universe should exist in order that some things may go wrong; hence, nothing natural is evil, and nothing that is by nature evil can arise.—Thus in effect Simplicius, and correctly, it seems.

<sup>2</sup> This chapter is practically word for word identical with III. 15. Since it was omitted in Par., and not commented on by Simplicius, it may have been added in some second edition, whether by Arrian or not.

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ought to remember how we feel when we hear of the same misfortune befalling others.

27. Just as a mark is not set up in order to be missed, so neither does the nature of evil arise in the universe.<sup>1</sup>

28. If someone handed over your body to any person who met you, you would be vexed; but that you hand over your mind to any person that comes along, so that, if he reviles you, it is disturbed and troubled—are you not ashamed of that?

29.<sup>2</sup> In each separate thing that you do, consider the matters which come first and those which follow after, and only then approach the thing itself. Otherwise, at the start you will come to it enthusiastically, because you have never reflected upon any of the subsequent steps, but later on, when some difficulties appear, you will give up disgracefully. Do you wish to win an Olympic victory? So do I, by the gods! for it is a fine thing. But consider the matters which come before that, and those which follow after, and only when you have done that, put your hand to the task. You have to submit to discipline, follow a strict diet, give up sweet cakes, train under compulsion, at a fixed hour, in heat or in cold; you must not drink cold water,<sup>3</sup> nor wine just whenever you feel like it; you must have turned yourself over to your trainer precisely as you would to a physician. Then when the contest comes on, you have to “dig in”<sup>4</sup> beside your opponent, and sometimes dislocate your wrist, sprain your ankle, swallow

<sup>3</sup> That is, *cold* water not at all; while wine may be drunk, but only at certain times, *i.e.*, probably with one's meals. Such prohibitions are still common in Europe, particularly in popular therapeutics.

<sup>4</sup> See note on III. 15, 4.

# ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 3 *πικρὸν, ἔσθ' ὅτε μαστιγωθῆναι, καὶ μετὰ τούτων*<sup>1</sup>  
*πάντων νικηθῆναι. ταῦτα ἐπισκεψάμενος, ἂν ἔτι*  
*θέλῃς, ἔρχου ἐπὶ τὸ ἀθλεῖν. εἰ δὲ μή, ὥς τὰ παιδία*  
*ἀναστραφῆσθαι, ἃ νῦν μὲν παλαιστὰς παίζει, νῦν*  
*δὲ μονομάχους, νῦν δὲ σαλπίζει, εἴτα τραγωδεῖ·*  
*οὕτω καὶ σὺ νῦν μὲν ἀθλητῆς, νῦν δὲ μονομάχος,*  
*εἴτα ῥήτωρ, εἴτα φιλόσοφος, ὅλη δὲ τῇ ψυχῇ*  
*οὐδέν· ἀλλ' ὥς πίθηκος πᾶσαν θέαν, ἣν ἂν ἴδῃς,*  
*μιμῇ καὶ ἄλλο ἐξ ἄλλου σοι ἀρέσκει. οὐ γὰρ*  
*μετὰ σκέψεως ἦλθες ἐπὶ τι οὐδὲ περιοδεύσας,*  
*ἀλλ' εἰκῇ καὶ κατὰ ψυχρὰν ἐπιθυμίαν.*
- 4 *Οὕτω θεασάμενοί τινες φιλόσοφον καὶ*  
*ἀκούσαντες οὕτω τινὸς λέγοντος, ὥς Εὐφράτης*<sup>2</sup>  
*λέγει (καίτοι τίς οὕτω δύναται εἰπεῖν, ὥς ἐκεῖνος;),*
- 5 *θέλουσι καὶ αὐτοὶ φιλοσοφεῖν. ἄνθρωπε, πρῶτον*  
*ἐπίσκειναι, ὁποῖόν ἐστι τὸ πρᾶγμα· εἴτα καὶ τὴν*  
*σεαυτοῦ φύσιν κατάμαθε, εἰ δύνασαι βαστάσαι.*  
*πένταθλος εἶναι βούλει ἢ παλαιστής; ἴδε*  
*σεαυτοῦ τοὺς βραχίονας, τοὺς μηρούς, τὴν ὀσφύν*
- 6 *κατάμαθε. ἄλλος*<sup>3</sup> *γὰρ πρὸς ἄλλο πέφυκε.*  
*δοκεῖς, ὅτι ταῦτα ποιῶν ὡσαύτως δύνασαι*  
*ἐσθίειν, ὡσαύτως πίνειν, ὁμοίως ὀρέγεσθαι,*  
*ὁμοίως δυσαρεστεῖν; ἀγρυπνήσαι δεῖ, πονῆσαι,*  
*ἀπὸ τῶν οἰκείων ἀπελθεῖν, ὑπὸ παιδαρίου*  
*καταφρονηθῆναι, ὑπὸ τῶν ἀπαντῶντων*<sup>4</sup> *καταγε-*  
*λασθῆναι, ἐν παντὶ ἡττον ἔχειν, ἐν τιμῇ, ἐν ἀρχῇ,*
- 7 *ἐν δίκῃ, ἐν πραγματίῳ παντί. ταῦτα ἐπίσκειναι,*

<sup>1</sup> Nil. and the *Discourses*: τῶν *Ench.*

<sup>2</sup> Wolf from the *Discourses*: ὥς εὖ Σωκράτης *Ench.*; ὥς εὖ τις σοφῶν Nil.

<sup>3</sup> Nilus and the *Discourses*: ἄλλο *Ench.*

<sup>4</sup> Schweighäuser from the *Discourses*: ἀπάντων A un., Nil.; the clause om. by other MSS.

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quantities of sand, sometimes take a scourging, and along with all that get beaten. After you have considered all these points, go on into the games, if you still wish to do so; otherwise, you will be turning back like children. Sometimes they play wrestlers, again gladiators, again they blow trumpets, and then act a play. So you too are now an athlete, now a gladiator, then a rhetorician, then a philosopher, yet with your whole soul nothing; but like an ape you imitate whatever you see, and one thing after another strikes your fancy. For you have never gone out after anything with circumspection, nor after you had examined it all over, but you act at haphazard and half-heartedly.

In the same way, when some people have seen a philosopher and have heard someone speaking like Euphrates<sup>1</sup> (though, indeed, who can speak like him?), they wish to be philosophers themselves. Man, consider first the nature of the business, and then learn your own natural ability, if you are able to bear it. Do you wish to be a contender in the pentathlon, or a wrestler? Look to your arms, your thighs, see what your loins are like. For one man has a natural talent for one thing, another for another. Do you suppose that you can eat in the same fashion, drink in the same fashion, give way to impulse and to irritation, just as you do now? You must keep vigils, work hard, abandon your own people, be despised by a paltry slave, be laughed to scorn by those who meet you, in everything get the worst of it, in honour, in office, in court, in every paltry affair. Look these drawbacks over carefully, if you

<sup>1</sup> See note on III. 15, 8.



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εἰ θέλεις ἀντικαταλλάξασθαι τούτων ἀπάθειαν, ἐλευθερίαν, ἀταραξίαν· εἰ δὲ μή, μὴ προσάγαγε, μὴ ὥς τὰ παιδία νῦν φιλόσοφος, ὕστερον δὲ τελώνης, εἴτα ῥήτωρ, εἴτα ἐπίτροπος Καίσαρος. ταῦτα οὐ συμφωνεῖ. ἓνα σε δεῖ ἄνθρωπον ἢ ἀγαθὸν ἢ κακὸν εἶναι· ἢ τὸ ἡγεμονικόν σε δεῖ ἐξεργάζεσθαι τὸ σαυτοῦ ἢ τὰ ἐκτός· ἢ περὶ τὰ ἔσω φιλοτεχνεῖν ἢ περὶ τὰ ἔξω· τοῦτ' ἔστιν ἢ φιλοσόφου τάξιν ἐπέχειν ἢ ἰδιώτου.

c. 30. Τὰ καθήκοντα ὥς ἐπίπαν ταῖς σχέσεσι παραμετρεῖται. πατήρ ἐστιν· ὑπαγορεύεται ἐπιμελεῖσθαι, παραχωρεῖν ἀπάντων, ἀνέχεσθαι λοιδοροῦντος, παίοντος. “ἀλλὰ πατήρ κακός ἐστι.” μή τι οὖν πρὸς ἀγαθὸν πατέρα φύσει ὠκειώθης; ἀλλὰ πρὸς πατέρα. “ὁ ἀδελφὸς ἀδικεῖ.” τήρει τοιγαροῦν τὴν τάξιν τὴν σεαυτοῦ πρὸς αὐτόν· μηδὲ σκόπει, τί ἐκεῖνος ποιεῖ, ἀλλὰ τί σοὶ ποιήσαντι κατὰ φύσιν ἢ σὴ ἔξει προαίρεσις. σὲ γὰρ ἄλλος οὐ βλάβει, ἂν μὴ σὺ θέλῃς· τότε δὲ ἔση βεβλαμμένος, ὅταν ὑπολάβῃς βλάπτεσθαι. οὕτως οὖν ἀπὸ τοῦ γείτονος, ἀπὸ τοῦ πολίτου, ἀπὸ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ τὸ καθήκον εὐρήσεις, ἐὰν τὰς σχέσεις ἐθίζῃ θεωρεῖν.

- 1 c. 31. Τῆς περὶ τοὺς θεοὺς εὐσεβείας ἴσθι ὅτι τὸ κυριώτατον ἐκεῖνό ἐστιν, ὀρθὰς ὑπολήψεις περὶ αὐτῶν ἔχειν ὥς ὄντων καὶ διοικούντων τὰ ὅλα καλῶς καὶ δικαίως, καὶ σαυτὸν εἰς τοῦτο κατατεταχέναι,<sup>1</sup> τὸ πείθεσθαι αὐτοῖς καὶ εἴκειν πᾶσι τοῖς γινομένοις καὶ ἀκολουθεῖν ἐκόντα ὥς

<sup>1</sup> κατατεταχότων suggested by Schweighäuser. The sense would then be: “and have appointed you to,” referring to the gods.



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are willing at the price of these things to secure tranquillity, freedom and calm. Otherwise, do not approach philosophy; don't act like a child—now a philosopher, later on a tax-gatherer, then a rhetorician, then a procurator of Caesar. These things do not go together. You must be one person, either good or bad; you must labour to improve either your own governing principle or externals; you must work hard either on the inner man, or on things outside; that is, play either the rôle of a philosopher or else that of a layman.

30. Our duties are in general measured by our social relationships. He is a father. One is called upon to take care of him, to give way to him in all things, to submit when he reviles or strikes you. "But he is a bad father." Did nature, then, bring you into relationship with a *good* father? No, but simply with a father. "My brother does me wrong." Very well, then, maintain the relation that you have toward him; and do not consider what he is doing, but what you will have to do, if your moral purpose is to be in harmony with nature. For no one will harm you without your consent; you will have been harmed only when you think you are harmed. In this way, therefore, you will discover what duty to expect of your neighbour, your citizen, your commanding officer, if you acquire the habit of looking at your social relations with them.

31. In piety towards the gods, I would have you know, the chief element is this, to have right opinions about them—as existing and as administering the universe well and justly—and to have set yourself to obey them and to submit to everything that happens, and to follow it voluntarily, in the

ὑπὸ τῆς ἀρίστης γνώμης ἐπιτελουμένοις. οὕτω  
 γὰρ οὐ μέμψῃ ποτὲ τοὺς θεοὺς οὔτε ἐγκαλέσεις  
 2 ὡς ἀμελούμενος. ἄλλως δὲ οὐχ οἷόν τε τοῦτο  
 γίνεσθαι, εἰ μὴ ἄρῃς ἀπὸ τῶν οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν καὶ  
 ἐν τοῖς ἐφ' ἡμῖν μόνοις θῆς τὸ ἀγαθὸν καὶ τὸ  
 κακόν. ὥς, ἂν γέ τι ἐκείνων ὑπολάβῃς ἀγαθὸν  
 ἢ κακόν, πᾶσα ἀνάγκη, ὅταν ἀποτυγχάνῃς ὧν  
 θέλεις καὶ περιπίπτῃς οἷς μὴ θέλεις, μέμψασθαι  
 3 σε καὶ μισεῖν τοὺς αἰτίους. πέφυκε γὰρ πρὸς  
 τοῦτο πᾶν ζῶον τὰ μὲν βλαβερὰ φαινόμενα καὶ  
 τὰ αἷτια αὐτῶν φεύγειν καὶ ἐκτρέπεσθαι, τὰ δὲ  
 ὠφέλιμα καὶ τὰ αἷτια αὐτῶν μετιέναι τε καὶ  
 τεθηπέναι.<sup>1</sup> ἀμήχανον οὖν βλάπτεσθαι τινα  
 οἰόμενον χαίρειν τῷ δοκοῦντι βλάπτειν, ὥσπερ  
 4 καὶ τὸ αὐτῇ τῇ βλάβῃ χαίρειν ἀδύνατον. ἔνθεν  
 καὶ πατὴρ ὑπὸ νιού λαιδορεῖται, ὅταν τῶν δο-  
 κούντων ἀγαθῶν εἶναι τῷ παιδὶ μὴ μεταδιδῶ·  
 καὶ Πολυνείκην καὶ Ἑτεοκλέα τοῦτ' ἐποίησε  
 πολεμίους ἀλλήλοις τὸ ἀγαθὸν οἶεσθαι τὴν  
 τυραννίδα. διὰ τοῦτο καὶ ὁ γεωργὸς λαιδορεῖ  
 τοὺς θεοὺς, διὰ τοῦτο ὁ ναύτης, διὰ τοῦτο ὁ  
 ἔμπορος, διὰ τοῦτο οἱ τὰς γυναῖκας καὶ τὰ τέκνα  
 ἀπολλύντες. ὅπου γὰρ τὸ συμφέρον, ἐκεῖ καὶ  
 τὸ εὐσεβές. ὥστε, ὅστις ἐπιμελεῖται τοῦ ὀρέ-  
 γεσθαι ὡς δεῖ καὶ ἐκκλίνειν, ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ καὶ  
 5 εὐσεβείας ἐπιμελεῖται. σπένδειν δὲ καὶ θύειν

<sup>1</sup> VV: τεθανυμάκναι *Ench.* (Nil. ; Simpl.).

## THE *ENCHEIRIDION* OF EPICTETUS

belief that it is being fulfilled by the highest intelligence. For if you act in this way, you will never blame the gods, nor find fault with them for neglecting you. But this result cannot be secured in any other way than by withdrawing your idea of the good and the evil from the things which are not under our control, and placing it in those which are under our control, and in those alone. Because, if you think any of those former things to be good or evil, then, when you fail to get what you want and fall into what you do not want, it is altogether inevitable that you will blame and hate those who are responsible for these results. For this is the nature of every living creature, to flee from and to turn aside from the things that appear harmful, and all that produces them, and to pursue after and to admire the things that are helpful, and all that produces them. Therefore, it is impossible for a man who thinks that he is being hurt to take pleasure in that which he thinks is hurting him, just as it is also impossible for him to take pleasure in the hurt itself. Hence it follows that even a father is reviled by a son when he does not give his child some share in the things that seem to be good; and this it was which made Polyneices and Eteocles enemies of one another, the thought that the royal power was a good thing. That is why the farmer reviles the gods, and so also the sailor, and the merchant, and those who have lost their wives and their children. For where a man's interest lies, there is also his piety. Wherefore, whoever is careful to exercise desire and aversion as he should, is at the same time careful also about piety. But it is always appropriate to make libations, and sacri-

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καὶ ἀπάρχεσθαι κατὰ τὰ πάτρια ἐκάστοτε  
προσῆκει καθαρῶς καὶ μὴ ἐπισεσυρμένως μηδὲ  
ἀμελῶς μηδὲ γε γλίσχρως μηδὲ ὑπὲρ δύναμιν.

- 1 c. 32. "Όταν μαντικῇ προσίης, μέμνησο,  
ὅτι, τί μὲν ἀποβήσεται, οὐκ οἶδας, ἀλλὰ  
ἦκεις ὡς παρὰ τοῦ μάντεως αὐτὸ πευσόμενος,  
ὅποιον δέ τι ἐστίν, ἐλήλυθας εἰδώς, εἴπερ εἰ  
φιλόσοφος. εἰ γάρ ἐστὶ τι τῶν οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμῖν,  
πᾶσα ἀνάγκη μήτε ἀγαθὸν αὐτὸ εἶναι μήτε  
2 κακόν. μὴ φέρε οὖν πρὸς τὸν μάντιν ὄρεξιν ἢ  
ἐκκλισιν μηδὲ<sup>1</sup> τρέμων αὐτῷ πρόσει, ἀλλὰ  
διεγνωκώς, ὅτι πᾶν τὸ ἀποβησόμενον ἀδιάφορον  
καὶ οὐδὲν πρὸς σέ, ὅποιον δ' ἂν ᾖ, ἔσται<sup>2</sup> αὐτῷ  
χρήσασθαι καλῶς καὶ τοῦτο οὐδεὶς κωλύσει.  
θαρρῶν οὖν ὡς ἐπὶ συμβούλους ἔρχου τοὺς  
θεοὺς· καὶ λοιπόν, ὅταν τί σοι συμβουλευθῇ,  
μέμνησο τίνας συμβούλους παρέλαβες καὶ τίνων  
3 παρακούσεις ἀπειθήσας. ἔρχου δὲ ἐπὶ τὸ μαν-  
τεύεσθαι, καθάπερ ἡξίου Σωκράτης, ἐφ' ᾧ ἢ  
πᾶσα σκέψις τὴν ἀναφορὰν εἰς τὴν ἐκβασιν ἔχει  
καὶ οὔτε ἐκ λόγου οὔτε ἐκ τέχνης τινὸς ἄλλης  
ἀφορμαὶ δίδονται πρὸς τὸ συνιδεῖν τὸ προκεί-  
μενον· ὥστε, ὅταν δεῖσῃ συγκινδυνεύσαι φίλῳ  
ἢ πατρίδι, μὴ μαντεύεσθαι, εἰ συγκινδυνευτέον.  
καὶ γὰρ ἂν προείπῃ<sup>3</sup> σοι ὁ μάντις φαῦλα  
γεγονέναι τὰ ἱερά, δῆλον ὅτι θάνατος σημαίνεται  
ἢ πῆρωςις μέρους τινὸς τοῦ σώματος ἢ φυγῇ·

<sup>1</sup> C un.: εἰ δὲ μή *Ench.*

<sup>2</sup> C un.: ἔσσαι γάρ MSS.

<sup>3</sup> C un.: προείπῃ or προσείποι MSS.

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<sup>1</sup> See II. 7 where the principal points made here are illustrated at greater length.

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fices, and to give of the firstfruits after the manner of our fathers, and to do all this with purity, and not in a slovenly or careless fashion, nor, indeed, in a niggardly way, nor yet beyond our means.

32.<sup>1</sup> When you have recourse to divination, remember that you do not know what the issue is going to be, but that you have come in order to find this out from the diviner ; yet if you are indeed a philosopher, you know, when you arrive, what the nature of it is. For if it is one of the things which are not under our control, it is altogether necessary that what is going to take place is neither good nor evil. Do not, therefore, bring to the diviner desire or aversion, and do not approach him with trembling, but having first made up your mind that every issue is indifferent and nothing to you, but that, whatever it may be, it will be possible for you to turn it to good use, and that no one will prevent this. Go, then, with confidence to the gods as to counsellors ; and after that, when some counsel has been given you, remember whom you have taken as counsellors, and whom you will be disregarding if you disobey. But go to divination as Socrates thought that men should go, that is, in cases where the whole inquiry has reference to the outcome, and where neither from reason nor from any other technical art are means vouchsafed for discovering the matter in question. Hence, when it is your duty to share the danger of a friend or of your country, do not ask of the diviner whether you ought to share that danger. For if the diviner forewarns you that the omens of sacrifice have been unfavourable, it is clear that death is portended, or the injury of some member of your body, or exile ;

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ἀλλ' αἰρεῖ<sup>1</sup> ὁ λόγος καὶ σὺν τούτοις παρίστα-  
σθαι<sup>2</sup> τῷ φίλῳ καὶ τῇ<sup>3</sup> πατρίδι συγκινδυνεύειν.  
τοιγαροῦν τῷ μείζονι μάντει πρόσεχε, τῷ Πυθίῳ,  
ὃς ἐξέβαλε τοῦ ναοῦ τὸν οὐ βοηθήσαντα ἀναι-  
ρουμένῳ τῷ φίλῳ.

- 1 c. 33. Τάξον τινὰ ἤδη χαρακτῆρα σαυτῷ καὶ  
τύπον, ὃν φυλάξεις ἐπὶ τε σεαυτοῦ ὧν καὶ
- 2 ἀνθρώποις ἐντυγχάνων. καὶ σιωπῇ τὸ πολὺ  
ἔστω ἢ λαλείσθω τὰ ἀναγκαῖα καὶ δι' ὀλίγων.  
σπανίως δέ ποτε καιροῦ παρακαλοῦντος ἐπὶ τὸ  
λέγειν λέξον μὲν, ἀλλὰ περὶ οὐδενὸς τῶν τυ-  
χόντων· μὴ περὶ μονομαχιῶν, μὴ περὶ ἵππο-  
δρομιῶν, μὴ περὶ ἀθλητῶν, μὴ περὶ βρωμάτων  
ἢ πομάτων, τῶν ἐκασταχοῦ,<sup>4</sup> μάλιστα δὲ μὴ  
περὶ ἀνθρώπων ψέγων ἢ ἐπαινῶν ἢ συγκρίνων.
- 3 ἂν μὲν οὖν οἷός τε ᾖς, μετάγαγε τοῖς σοῖς λόγοις<sup>5</sup>  
καὶ τοὺς τῶν συνόντων ἐπὶ τὸ προσῆκον. εἰ δὲ  
ἐν ἀλλοφύλοις ἀποληφθεὶς τύχοις, σιώπα.
- 4 Γέλως μὴ πολὺς ἔστω μηδὲ ἐπὶ πολλοῖς μηδὲ  
ἀνειμένος.
- 5 "Ορκον παραίτησαι, εἰ μὲν οἷόν τε, εἰς ἅπαν,  
εἰ δὲ μή, ἐκ τῶν ἐνόντων.
- 6 Ἔστιάσεις τὰς ἔξω καὶ ἰδιωτικὰς διακρούου·  
ἐὰν δέ ποτε γίνηται καιρὸς, ἐντετάσθω σοι ἡ

<sup>1</sup> Salmasius and Schweighäuser: ἐρεῖ or ἐνι MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Salmasius and Schweighäuser: παρίσταται MSS.

<sup>3</sup> Added by Salmasius and Schweighäuser.

<sup>4</sup> Nil., Simplicius: ἐκασταχοῦ λεγομένων *Ench.*

<sup>5</sup> C un.: τοὺς σοὺς λόγους MSS.

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<sup>1</sup> A few more unimportant details are given by Aelian, *Varia Historia*, 3, 44; and Simplicius in his commentary on this passage, p. 258 c ff. (Heinsius), or p. 411 (Schweighäuser).



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yet reason requires that even at this risk you are to stand by your friend, and share the danger with your country. Wherefore, give heed to the greater diviner, the Pythian Apollo, who cast out of his temple the man who had not helped his friend when he was being murdered.<sup>1</sup>

33. Lay down for yourself, at the outset, a certain stamp and type of character for yourself, which you are to maintain whether you are by yourself or are meeting with people. And be silent for the most part, or else make only the most necessary remarks, and express these in few words. But rarely, and when occasion requires you to talk, talk, indeed, but about no ordinary topics. Do not talk about gladiators, or horse-races, or athletes, or things to eat or drink—topics that arise on all occasions; but above all, do not talk about people, either blaming, or praising, or comparing them. If, then, you can, by your own conversation bring over that of your companions to what is seemly. But if you happen to be left alone in the presence of aliens, keep silence.

Do not laugh much, nor at many things, nor boisterously.

Refuse, if you can, to take an oath at all, but if that is impossible, refuse as far as circumstances allow.

Avoid entertainments given by outsiders and by persons ignorant of philosophy; but if an appropriate occasion arises for you to attend, be on the

The point of the story is that a man does not need to go to a diviner in order to learn whether he should defend his country or his friends. That question was long ago settled by the greatest of diviners, Apollo at Delphi, who ordered to be cast out of his temple an inquirer that had once failed to defend his own friend.



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προσοχή, μήποτε ἄρα ὑπορρυῆς εἰς ἰδιωτισμόν. ἴσθι γάρ, ὅτι, ἐὰν ὁ ἐταῖρος ἢ μεμολυσμένος, καὶ τὸν συνανατριβόμενον αὐτῷ συμμολύνεσθαι ἀνάγκη, καὶ αὐτὸς ὦν τύχη καθαρός.

7 Τὰ περὶ τὸ σῶμα μέχρι τῆς χρείας ψιλῆς παραλάμβανε, οἶον τροφάς, πόμα, ἀμπεχόνην, οἰκίαν, οἰκετίαν· τὸ δὲ πρὸς δόξαν ἢ τρυφήν ἅπαν περιέγραφε.

8 Περὶ ἀφροδίσια εἰς δύναμιν πρὸ γάμου καθαρευτέον· ἀπτομένῳ δὲ ὦν νομιμὸν ἐστι μεταληπτέον. μὴ μέντοι ἐπαχθῆς γίνου τοῖς χρωμένοις μηδὲ ἐλεγκτικός· μηδὲ πολλαχοῦ τὸ ὅτι αὐτὸς οὐ χρῆ, παράφερε.

9 Ἐάν τις σοι ἀπαγγείλῃ ὅτι ὁ δεῖνά σε κακῶς λέγει, μὴ ἀπολογοῦ πρὸς τὰ λεχθέντα, ἀλλ' ἀποκρίνου διότι "ἡγνόει γάρ τὰ ἄλλα τὰ προσόντα μοι κακά, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἂν ταῦτα μόνα ἔλεγεν."

10 Εἰς τὰ θέατρα τὸ πολὺ παριέναι οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον. εἰ δέ ποτε καιρὸς εἴη, μηδενὶ σπουδάζων φαίνου ἢ σεαυτῷ, τοῦτ' ἐστι θέλε γίνεσθαι μόνα τὰ γινόμενα καὶ νικᾶν μόνον τὸν νικῶντα· οὕτω γὰρ οὐκ ἐμποδισθήσῃ. βοῆς δὲ καὶ τοῦ ἐπιγελαῶντινι ἢ ἐπὶ πολὺ συγκινεῖσθαι παντελῶς ἀπέχου. καὶ μετὰ τὸ ἀπαλλαγῆναι μὴ πολλὰ περὶ τῶν γεγενημένων διαλέγου, ὅσα μὴ φέρει πρὸς τὴν σὴν ἐπανόρθωσιν· ἐμφαίνεται γὰρ ἐκ τοῦ τοιούτου, ὅτι ἐθαύμασας τὴν θεάν.

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alert to avoid lapsing into the behaviour of such laymen. For you may rest assured, that, if a man's companion be dirty, the person who keeps close company with him must of necessity get a share of his dirt, even though he himself happens to be clean.

In things that pertain to the body take only as much as your bare need requires, I mean such things as food, drink, clothing, shelter, and household slaves; but cut down everything which is for outward show or luxury.

In your sex-life preserve purity, as far as you can, before marriage, and, if you indulge, take only those privileges which are lawful. However, do not make yourself offensive, or censorious, to those who do indulge, and do not make frequent mention of the fact that you do not yourself indulge.

If someone brings you word that So-and-so is speaking ill of you, do not defend yourself against what has been said, but answer, "Yes, indeed, for he did not know the rest of the faults that attach to me; if he had, these would not have been the only ones he mentioned."

It is not necessary, for the most part, to go to the public shows. If, however, a suitable occasion ever arises, show that your principal concern is for none other than yourself, which means, wish only for that to happen which does happen, and for him only to win who does win; for so you will suffer no hindrance. But refrain utterly from shouting, or laughter at anyone, or great excitement. And after you have left, do not talk a great deal about what took place, except in so far as it contributes to your own improvement; for such behaviour indicates that the spectacle has aroused your admiration.

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- 11 Εἰς ἀκροάσεις τινῶν μὴ εἰκῇ μηδὲ ῥαδίως  
 παρίθι· παριῶν δὲ τὸ σεμνὸν καὶ τὸ<sup>1</sup> εὐσταθὲς  
 καὶ ἅμα ἀνεπαχθὲς φύλασσε.
- 12 "Ὅταν τινὲ μέλλῃς συμβαλεῖν, μάλιστα τῶν  
 ἐν ὑπεροχῇ δοκούντων, πρόβαλε σαυτῷ, τί ἂν  
 ἐποίησεν ἐν τούτῳ Σωκράτης ἢ Ζήνων, καὶ οὐκ  
 ἀπορήσεις τοῦ χρήσασθαι προσηκόντως τῷ
- 13 ἐμπεσόντι. ὅταν φοιτᾷς πρὸς τινα τῶν μέγα  
 δυναμένων, πρόβαλε, ὅτι οὐχ εὐρήσεις αὐτὸν  
 ἔνδον, ὅτι ἀποκλεισθήσῃ, ὅτι ἐντιναχθήσονται<sup>2</sup>  
 σοι αἱ θύραι, ὅτι οὐ φροντιεῖ σου. καὶ σὺν  
 τούτοις ἐλθεῖν καθήκη, ἐλθὼν φέρε τὰ γινόμενα  
 καὶ μηδέποτε εἴπῃς αὐτὸς πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ὅτι "οὐκ  
 ἦν τοσούτου". ἰδιωτικὸν γὰρ καὶ διαβεβλημένον  
 πρὸς τὰ ἐκτός.
- 14 Ἐν ταῖς ὀμιλίαις ἀπέστω τὸ ἑαυτοῦ τινῶν  
 ἔργων ἢ κινδύνων ἐπὶ πολὺ καὶ ἀμέτρως μεμνη-  
 σθαι. οὐ γάρ, ὥς σοὶ ἡδύ ἐστι τὸ τῶν σῶν  
 κινδύνων μεμνησθαι, οὕτω καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις ἡδύ  
 ἐστι τὸ τῶν σοὶ συμβεβηκότων ἀκούειν.
- 15 Ἀπέστω δὲ καὶ τὸ γέλωτα κινεῖν· ὀλισθηρὸς  
 γὰρ ὁ τρόπος<sup>3</sup> εἰς ἰδιωτισμὸν καὶ ἅμα ἱκανὸς  
 τὴν αἰδῶ τὴν πρὸς σὲ τῶν πλησίον ἀνιέναι.
- 16 ἐπισφαλὲς δὲ καὶ τὸ εἰς αἰσχρολογίαν προελθεῖν.  
 ὅταν οὖν τι συμβῇ τοιοῦτον, ἂν μὲν εὐκαιρον ἦ,

<sup>1</sup> In Nil. only.

<sup>2</sup> Nil.: ἐκτιναχθήσονται MSS.

<sup>3</sup> C un., Nil., Simpl.: τόπος MSS.

<sup>1</sup> A favourite way of introducing a new work of literature to the reading public, somewhat like our modern musical

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Do not go rashly or readily to people's public readings,<sup>1</sup> but when you do go, maintain your own dignity and gravity, and at the same time be careful not to make yourself disagreeable.

When you are about to meet somebody, in particular when it is one of those men who are held in very high esteem, propose to yourself the question, "What would Socrates or Zeno have done under these circumstances?" and then you will not be at a loss to make proper use of the occasion. When you go to see one of those men who have great power, propose to yourself the thought, that you will not find him at home, that you will be shut out, that the door will be slammed in your face, that he will pay no attention to you. And if, despite all this, it is your duty to go, go and take what comes, and never say to yourself, "It was not worth all the trouble." For this is characteristic of the layman, that is, a man who is vexed at externals.

In your conversation avoid making mention at great length and excessively of your own deeds or dangers, because it is not as pleasant for others to hear about your adventures, as it is for you to call to mind your own dangers.

Avoid also raising a laugh, for this is a kind of behaviour that slips easily into vulgarity, and at the same time is calculated to lessen the respect which your neighbours have of you. It is dangerous also to lapse into foul language. When, therefore, anything of the sort occurs, if the occasion be suitable, go even so far as to reprove the person recitals, or artists' exhibitions. See also III. 23 for similar public lectures given by a philosopher.

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καὶ ἐπίπληξον τῷ προελθόντι· εἰ δὲ μή, τῷ γε ἀποσιωπῆσαι καὶ ἐρυθριᾶσαι καὶ σκυθρωπάσαι δῆλος γίνου δυσχεραίνων τῷ λόγῳ.

c. 34. "Ὅταν ἡδονῆς τινὸς φαντασίαν λάβῃς, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων, φύλασσε σαυτόν, μὴ συναρπασθῇς ὑπ' αὐτῆς· ἄλλ' ἐκδεξάσθω σε τὸ πρᾶγμα, καὶ ἀναβολὴν τινα παρὰ σεαυτοῦ λάβε. ἔπειτα μνήσθητι ἀμφοτέρων τῶν χρόνων, καθ' ὃν τε ἀπολαύσεις τῆς ἡδονῆς, καὶ καθ' ὃν ἀπολαύσας ὕστερον μετανοήσεις καὶ αὐτὸς σεαυτῷ λαιδορήσῃ· καὶ τούτοις ἀντίθες ὅπως ἀποσχόμενος χαιρήσεις καὶ ἐπαινέσεις αὐτὸς σεαυτόν. ἔαν δέ σοι καιρὸς φανῇ ἄψασθαι τοῦ ἔργου, πρόσεχε, μὴ ἡττήσῃ σε τὸ προσηνὲς αὐτοῦ καὶ ἡδὺ καὶ ἐπαγωγόν· ἄλλ' ἀντιτίθει, πόσῳ ἄμεινον τὸ συνειδέναι σεαυτῷ ταύτην τὴν νίκην νενικηκότι.

c. 35. "Ὅταν τι διαγνούς, ὅτι ποιητέον ἐστί, ποιῇς, μηδέποτε φύγῃς ὀφθῆναι πράσσων αὐτό, καὶ ἀλλοῖόν τι μέλλωσιν οἱ πολλοὶ περὶ αὐτοῦ ὑπολαμβάνειν. εἰ μὲν γὰρ οὐκ ὀρθῶς ποιεῖς, αὐτὸ τὸ ἔργον φεῦγε· εἰ δὲ ὀρθῶς, τί φοβῇ τοὺς ἐπιπλήξοντας οὐκ ὀρθῶς;

c. 36. "Ὡς τὸ "ἡμέρα ἐστί" καὶ "νύξ ἐστι" πρὸς μὲν τὸ διεξευγμένον μεγάλην ἔχει ἀξίαν, πρὸς δὲ τὸ συμπεπλεγμένον ἀπαξίαν, οὕτω καὶ

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<sup>1</sup> The ordinary person, to be sure, can no more call up a blush off-hand than he can a sneeze or a hiccough, and the observation of nature implied by the command is, therefore, imperfect (cf. note in IV. 11, 1). But all Epictetus means is that one should make no effort to conceal any natural expression of moral resentment under such circumstances.

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who has made such a lapse ; if, however, the occasion does not arise, at all events show by keeping silence, and blushing,<sup>1</sup> and frowning, that you are displeased by what has been said.

34. When you get an external impression of some pleasure, guard yourself, as with impressions in general, against being carried away by it ; nay, let the matter wait upon *your* leisure, and give yourself a little delay. Next think of the two periods of time, first, that in which you will enjoy your pleasure, and second, that in which, after the enjoyment is over, you will later repent and revile your own self ; and set over against these two periods of time how much joy and self-satisfaction you will get if you refrain. However, if you feel that a suitable occasion has arisen to do the deed, be careful not to allow its enticement, and sweetness, and attractiveness to overcome you ; but set over against all this the thought, how much better is the consciousness of having won a victory over it.

35. When you do a thing which you have made up your mind ought to be done, never try not to be seen doing it, even though most people are likely to think unfavourably about it. If, however, what you are doing is not right, avoid the deed itself altogether ; but if it is right, why fear those who are going to rebuke you wrongly ?

36. Just as the propositions, "It is day," and "It is night," are full of meaning when separated, but meaningless if united ;<sup>2</sup> so also, granted that for

<sup>2</sup> Compare I. 25, 11-13. It does not seem possible in our idiom to use the same expressions for ἀξία, "worth," or "value," which occurs three times in this section, and ἀπαξία, "lack of worth," or "lack of value," which occurs twice.



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τὸ τὴν μείζω μερίδα ἐκλέξασθαι πρὸς μὲν τὸ σῶμα ἐχέτω ἀξίαν, πρὸς δὲ τὸ<sup>1</sup> τὸ κοινωνικὸν ἐν ἐστιάσει, οἷον δεῖ, φυλάξαι, ἀπαξίαν ἔχει. ὅταν οὖν συνεσθίης ἐτέρῳ, μέμνησο, μὴ μόνον τὴν πρὸς τὸ σῶμα ἀξίαν τῶν παρακειμένων ὁρᾶν, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴν πρὸς τὸν ἐστιάτορα αἰδῶ φυλάξαι.<sup>2</sup>

c. 37. Ἐὰν ὑπὲρ δύναμιν ἀναλάβῃς τι πρόσωπον, καὶ ἐν τούτῳ ἡσχημόνησας καί, ὃ ἡδύνασο ἐκπληρῶσαι, παρέλιπες.

c. 38. Ἐν τῷ περιπατεῖν καθάπερ προσέχεις, μὴ ἐπιβῇς ἡλῶ ἢ στρέψῃς τὸν πόδα σου, οὕτω πρόσεχε, μὴ καὶ τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν βλάβῃς τὸ σεαυτοῦ. καὶ τοῦτο ἐὰν ἐφ' ἐκάστου ἔργου παραφυλάσσωμεν, ἀσφαλέστερον ἀψόμεθα τοῦ ἔργου.

c. 39. Μέτρον κτήσεως τὸ σῶμα ἐκάστῳ ὡς ὁ πούς ὑποδήματος. ἐὰν μὲν οὖν ἐπὶ τούτου στηῇ, φυλάξεις τὸ μέτρον· ἐὰν δὲ ὑπερβῇς, ὡς κατὰ κρηνοῦ λοιπὸν ἀνάγκη φέρεσθαι· καθάπερ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ὑποδήματος, ἐὰν ὑπὲρ τὸν πόδα ὑπερβῇς, γίνεται κατάχρυσον ὑπόδημα, εἴτα πορφυροῦν, κεντητόν. τοῦ γὰρ ἅπαξ ὑπὲρ τὸ μέτρον ὅρος οὐθεὶς ἐστίν.

c. 40. Αἱ γυναῖκες εὐθὺς ἀπὸ τεσσαρεσκαίδεκα ἐτῶν ὑπὸ τῶν ἀνδρῶν κυρίαι καλοῦνται. τοιγαροῦν ὁρῶσαι, ὅτι ἄλλο μὲν οὐδὲν αὐταῖς πρόσεστι, μόνον δὲ συγκοιμῶνται τοῖς ἀνδράσι, ἄρχονται καλλωπίζεσθαι καὶ ἐν τούτῳ πάσας

<sup>1</sup> τό added by Schweighäuser from Simplicius.

<sup>2</sup> αἰδῶ φυλάξαι Schweighäuser: οἷαν δεῖ φυλαχθῆναι MSS.

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<sup>1</sup> That is, property, which is of use only for the body, should be adjusted to a man's actual bodily needs, just as a



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you to take the larger share at a dinner is good for your body, still, it is bad for the maintenance of the proper kind of social feeling. When, therefore, you are eating with another person, remember to regard, not merely the value for your body of what lies before you, but also to maintain your respect for your host.

37. If you undertake a rôle which is beyond your powers, you both disgrace yourself in that one, and at the same time neglect the rôle which you might have filled with success.

38. Just as you are careful, in walking about, not to step on a nail or to sprain your ankle, so be careful also not to hurt your governing principle. And if we observe this rule in every action, we shall be more secure in setting about it.

39. Each man's body is a measure for his property,<sup>1</sup> just as the foot is a measure for his shoe. If, then, you abide by this principle, you will maintain the proper measure, but if you go beyond it, you cannot help but fall headlong over a precipice, as it were, in the end. So also in the case of your shoe; if once you go beyond the foot, you get first a gilded shoe, then a purple one, then an embroidered one. For once you go beyond the measure there is no limit.

40. Immediately after they are fourteen, women are called "ladies" by men. And so when they see that they have nothing else but only to be the bed-fellows of men, they begin to beautify themselves,

shoe is (or at least should be) adjusted to the actual needs of a man's foot. The comparison seems to have been a commonplace; see Demophilus, *Similitudines*, 20 (Mullach); Horace, *Epist.* I. 7, 98 and 10, 42 f.

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ἔχειν τὰς ἐλπίδας. προσέχειν οὖν ἄξιον, ἵνα αἰσθωνται, διότι ἐπ' οὐδενὶ ἄλλῳ τιμῶνται ἢ τῷ κόσμῳ φαίνεσθαι καὶ αἰδήμονες.<sup>1</sup>

c. 41. Ἀφυΐας σημείον τὸ ἐνδιατρίβειν τοῖς περὶ τὸ σῶμα, οἷον ἐπὶ πολὺ γυμνάζεσθαι, ἐπὶ πολὺ ἐσθίειν, ἐπὶ πολὺ πίνειν, ἐπὶ πολὺ ἀποπατεῖν, ὀχεύειν. ἀλλὰ ταῦτα μὲν ἐν παρέργῳ ποιητέον· περὶ δὲ τὴν γνώμην ἡ πᾶσα ἔστω ἐπιστροφή.

c. 42. "Ὅταν σέ τις κακῶς ποιῇ ἢ κακῶς λέγῃ, μέμνησο, ὅτι καθήκειν αὐτῷ οἰόμενος ποιεῖ ἢ λέγει. οὐχ οἷόν τε οὖν ἀκολουθεῖν αὐτὸν τῷ σοὶ φαινομένῳ, ἀλλὰ τῷ ἑαυτῷ, ὥστε, εἰ κακῶς αὐτῷ<sup>2</sup> φαίνεται, ἐκεῖνος βλάπτεται, ὅστις καὶ ἐξηπάτηται. καὶ γὰρ τὸ ἀληθὲς συμπεπλεγμένον ἂν τις ὑπολάβῃ ψεῦδος, οὐ τὸ συμπεπλεγμένοι βέβλαπται, ἀλλ' ὁ ἐξαπατηθεῖς. ἀπὸ τούτων οὖν ὁρμώμενος πρῶως ἕξεις πρὸς τὸν λοιδοροῦντα. ἐπιφθέγγου γὰρ ἐφ' ἐκάστῳ ὅτι "ἔδοξεν αὐτῷ."

c. 43. Πᾶν πρᾶγμα δύο ἔχει λαβάς, τὴν μὲν φορητὴν, τὴν δὲ ἀφόρητον. ὁ ἀδελφὸς ἐὰν ἀδικῇ, ἐντεῦθεν αὐτὸ μὴ λάμβανε, ὅτι ἀδικεῖ (αὕτη γὰρ ἡ λαβὴ ἐστὶν αὐτοῦ οὐ φορητή), ἀλλὰ ἐκεῖθεν μᾶλλον, ὅτι ἀδελφός, ὅτι σύντροφος, καὶ λήψῃ αὐτὸ καθ' ὃ φορητόν.

<sup>1</sup> C un., Nil.: αἰδήμονες ἐν σωφροσύνῃ other MSS.

<sup>2</sup> C un., Nil. (ed. Rom.): om. other MSS.

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<sup>1</sup> Two judgements connected with "and." Zeller, *Philosophie der Griechen*,<sup>4</sup> III. 1 (1909), 106, and note 3. Compare also I. 26, 14; II. 9, 8. An example of an inconsistent composite judgement is given in *Ench.* 36.

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and put all their hopes in that. It is worth while for us to take pains, therefore, to make them understand that they are honoured for nothing else but only for appearing modest and self-respecting.

41. It is a mark of an ungifted man to spend a great deal of time in what concerns his body, as in much exercise, much eating, much drinking, much evacuating of the bowels, much copulating. But these things are to be done in passing; and let your whole attention be devoted to the mind.

42. When someone treats you ill or speaks ill of you, remember that he acts or speaks thus because he thinks it is incumbent upon him. That being the case, it is impossible for him to follow what appears good to you, but what appears good to himself; whence it follows, that, if he gets a wrong view of things, the man that suffers is the man that has been deceived. For if a person thinks a true composite judgement<sup>1</sup> to be false, the composite judgement does not suffer, but the person who has been deceived. If, therefore, you start from this point of view, you will be gentle with the man who reviles you. For you should say on each occasion, "He thought that way about it."

43. Everything has two handles, by one of which it ought to be carried and by the other not. If your brother wrongs you, do not lay hold of the matter by the handle of the wrong that he is doing, because this is the handle by which the matter ought not to be carried; but rather by the other handle—that he is your brother, that you were brought up together, and then you will be laying hold of the matter by the handle by which it ought to be carried.

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c. 44. Οὗτοι οἱ λόγοι ἀσύνακτοι· “ἐγώ σου πλουσιώτερός εἰμι, ἐγώ σου ἄρα κρείσσων”. “ἐγώ σου λογιώτερος, ἐγώ σου ἄρα κρείσσων” ἐκεῖνοι δὲ μᾶλλον συνακτικοί· “ἐγώ σου πλουσιώτερός εἰμι, ἢ ἐμὴ ἄρα κτήσις τῆς σῆς κρείσσων”. “ἐγώ σου λογιώτερος, ἢ ἐμὴ ἄρα λέξις τῆς σῆς κρείσσων.” σὺ δέ γε οὔτε κτήσις εἶ οὔτε λέξις.

c. 45. Λούεται τις ταχέως· μὴ εἴπῃς ὅτι κακῶς, ἀλλ’ ὅτι ταχέως. πίνει τις πολὺν οἶνον· μὴ εἴπῃς ὅτι κακῶς, ἀλλ’ ὅτι πολὺν. πρὶν γὰρ διαγνῶναι τὸ δόγμα, πόθεν οἶσθα, εἰ κακῶς; οὕτως οὐ<sup>1</sup> συμβήσεται σοι ἄλλων<sup>2</sup> μὲν φαντασίας καταληπτικὰς λαμβάνειν,<sup>3</sup> ἄλλοις δὲ συγκατατίθεσθαι.

- 1 c. 46. Μηδαμοῦ σεαυτὸν εἴπῃς φιλόσοφον μὴδὲ λάλει τὸ πολὺ ἐν ἰδιώταις περὶ τῶν θεωρημάτων, ἀλλὰ ποίει τὸ ἀπὸ τῶν θεωρημάτων· οἷον ἐν συμποσίῳ μὴ λέγε, πῶς δεῖ ἐσθίειν, ἀλλ’ ἐσθιε, ὡς δεῖ. μέμνησο γάρ, ὅτι οὕτως ἀφηρῇκει πανταχόθεν Σωκράτης τὸ ἐπιδεικτικόν, ὥστε<sup>4</sup> ἤρχοντο πρὸς αὐτὸν βουλόμενοι φιλοσόφοις ὑπ’ αὐτοῦ συσταθῆναι, καὶ κεῖνος ἀπῆγεν αὐτούς. οὕτως
- 2 ἠνείχετο παρορώμενος. καὶ περὶ θεωρήματός τινος ἐν ἰδιώταις ἐμπύπτη λόγος, σιώπα τὸ πολὺ· μέγας γὰρ ὁ κίνδυνος εὐθύς ἐξεμέσαι, ὃ οὐκ

<sup>1</sup> Nil.: οἶν *Ench.*

<sup>2</sup> C un., Nil., Simpl.: ἄλλας other MSS.

<sup>3</sup> C un., Nil.: καταλαμβάνειν other MSS.

<sup>4</sup> C un., Nil., Simpl.: om. here but placed before καὶ (below) by other MSS.

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44. The following statements constitute a *non sequitur*: "I am richer than you are, therefore I am superior to you"; or, "I am more eloquent than you are, therefore I am superior to you." But the following conclusions are better: "I am richer than you are, therefore my property is superior to yours"; or, "I am more eloquent than you are, therefore my elocution is superior to yours." But *you* are neither property nor elocution.

45. Somebody is hasty about bathing;<sup>1</sup> do not say that he bathes badly, but that he is hasty about bathing. Somebody drinks a good deal of wine; do not say that he drinks badly, but that he drinks a good deal. For until you have decided what judgment prompts him, how do you know that what he is doing is bad? And thus the final result will not be that you receive convincing sense-impressions of some things, but give your assent to others.

46. On no occasion call yourself a philosopher, and do not, for the most part, talk among laymen about your philosophic principles, but do what follows from your principles. For example, at a banquet do not say how people ought to eat, but eat as a man ought. For remember how Socrates had so completely eliminated the thought of ostentation, that people came to him when they wanted him to introduce them to philosophers, and he used to bring them along. So well did he submit to being overlooked. And if talk about some philosophic principle arises among laymen, keep silence for the most part, for there is great danger that you will spew up immediately what you have not digested.

<sup>1</sup> The implication must be that a hurried bath, like a hurried shave, is apt to leave something to be desired.

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ἔπεψας. καὶ ὅταν εἴπῃ σοί τις, ὅτι οὐδὲν οἶσθα, καὶ σὺ μὴ δηχθῆς, τότε ἴσθι, ὅτι ἄρχῃ τοῦ ἔργου. ἐπεὶ καὶ τὰ πρόβατα οὐ χόρτον φέροντα τοῖς ποιμέσιν ἐπιδεικνύει πόσον ἔφαγεν, ἀλλὰ τὴν νομὴν ἔσω πέψαντα ἔρια ἔξω φέρει καὶ γάλα· καὶ σὺ τοίνυν μὴ τὰ θεωρήματα τοῖς ἰδιώταις ἐπιδείκνυε, ἀλλ' ἀπ' αὐτῶν πεφθέντων τὰ ἔργα.

c. 47. "Ὅταν εὐτελῶς ἡρμοσμένος ᾖ κατὰ τὸ σῶμα, μὴ καλλωπίζου ἐπὶ τούτῳ μῆδ', ἂν ὕδωρ πίνῃς, ἐκ πάσης ἀφορμῆς λέγε, ὅτι ὕδωρ πίνεις. κἂν ἀσκήσῃ ποτε πρὸς πόνον θέλῃς, σεαυτῷ καὶ μὴ τοῖς ἔξω· μὴ τοὺς ἀνδριάντας περιλάμβανε· ἀλλὰ διψῶν ποτὲ σφοδρῶς ἐπίσπασαι ψυχροῦ ὕδατος καὶ ἔκπτυσον καὶ μηδενὶ εἴπῃς.

1 c. 48. Ἰδιώτου στάσις καὶ χαρακτήρ· οὐδέποτε ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ προσδοκᾷ ὠφέλειαν ἢ βλάβην, ἀλλ' ἀπὸ τῶν ἔξω. φιλοσόφου στάσις καὶ χαρακτήρ· πᾶσαν ὠφέλειαν καὶ βλάβην ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ προσδοκᾷ.

2 Σημεῖα προκόπτοντος· οὐδένα ψέγει, οὐδένα ἐπαινεῖ, οὐδένα μέμφεται, οὐδενὶ ἐγκαλεῖ, οὐδὲν περὶ ἑαυτοῦ λέγει ὡς ὄντος τινὸς ἢ εἰδότος τι. ὅταν ἐμποδισθῇ τι ἢ κωλυθῇ, ἑαυτῷ ἐγκαλεῖ. κἂν τις αὐτὸν ἐπαινῇ, καταγελαῖ τοῦ ἐπαινοῦντος αὐτὸς παρ' ἑαυτῷ· κἂν ψέγῃ, οὐκ ἀπολογεῖται. περίει-

<sup>1</sup> That is, in cold weather (see III. 12, 2 and 10), because this takes a person out of doors where people can see him.

<sup>2</sup> See III. 12, 17, and note.



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So when a man tells you that you know nothing, and you, like Socrates, are not hurt, then rest assured that you are making a beginning with the business you have undertaken. For sheep, too, do not bring their fodder to the shepherds and show how much they have eaten, but they digest their food within them, and on the outside produce wool and milk. And so do you, therefore, make no display to the laymen of your philosophical principles, but let them see the results which come from these principles when digested.

47. When you have become adjusted to simple living in regard to your bodily wants, do not preen yourself about the accomplishment; and so likewise, if you are a water-drinker, do not on every occasion say that you are a water-drinker. And if ever you want to train to develop physical endurance, do it by yourself and not for outsiders to behold; do not throw your arms around statues,<sup>1</sup> but on occasion, when you are very thirsty, take cold water into your mouth, and then spit it out, without telling anybody.<sup>2</sup>

48. This is the position and character of a layman: He never looks for either help or harm from himself, but only from externals. This is the position and character of the philosopher: He looks for all his help or harm from himself.

Signs of one who is making progress are: He censures no one, praises no one, blames no one, finds fault with no one, says nothing about himself as though he were somebody or knew something. When he is hampered or prevented, he blames himself. And if anyone compliments him, he smiles to himself at the person complimenting; while if anyone censures him, he makes no defence. He goes



σι δὲ καθάπερ οἱ ἄρρωστοι, εὐλαβούμενός τι κινῆσαι τῶν καθισταμένων, πρὶν πῆξιν λαβεῖν.  
 3 ὁρεξιν ἅπασαν ἤρκεν ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ· τὴν δ' ἑκκλίσιν  
 εἰς μόνα τὰ παρὰ φύσιν τῶν ἐφ' ἡμῖν μετατέθεικεν.  
 ὁρμῇ πρὸς ἅπαντα ἀνειμένη χρῆται. ἂν ἡλίθιος  
 ἢ ἀμαθὴς δοκῇ, οὐ πεφρόντικεν. ἐνὶ τε λόγῳ, ὡς  
 ἐχθρὸν ἑαυτὸν παραφυλάσσει καὶ ἐπίβουλον.

c. 49. "Ὅταν τις ἐπὶ τῷ νοεῖν καὶ ἐξηγεῖσθαι  
 δύνασθαι τὰ Χρυσίππου βιβλία σεμνύνηται, λέγε  
 αὐτὸς πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ὅτι " εἰ μὴ Χρῦσιππος ἀσαφῶς  
 ἐγεγράφει, οὐδὲν ἂν εἶχεν οὗτος, ἐφ' ᾧ ἐσεμνύ-  
 νετο."

Ἐγὼ δὲ τί βούλομαι; καταμαθεῖν τὴν φύσιν  
 καὶ ταύτῃ ἔπεσθαι. ζητῶ οὖν, τίς ἐστὶν ὁ ἐξηγού-  
 μενος· καὶ ἀκούσας, ὅτι Χρῦσιππος, ἔρχομαι  
 πρὸς αὐτόν. ἀλλ' οὐ νοῶ τὰ γεγραμμένα· ζητῶ  
 οὖν τὸν ἐξηγούμενον. καὶ μέχρι τούτων οὐπω  
 σεμνὸν οὐδέν. ὅταν δὲ εὕρω τὸν ἐξηγούμενον,  
 ἀπολείπεται χρῆσθαι τοῖς παρηγγελμένοις· τοῦ-  
 το αὐτὸ μόνον σεμνὸν ἐστίν. ἂν δὲ αὐτὸ τοῦτο  
 τὸ ἐξηγεῖσθαι θαυμάσω, τί ἄλλο ἢ γραμματικὸς  
 ἀπετελέσθην ἀντὶ φιλοσόφου; πλήν γε δὴ ὅτι  
 ἀντὶ Ὁμήρου Χρῦσιππον ἐξηγούμενος. μᾶλλον  
 οὖν, ὅταν τις εἶπῃ μοι "ἐπανάγνωθί μοι<sup>1</sup> Χρῦ-  
 σιππον," ἐρυθριῶ, ὅταν μὴ δύνωμαι ὅμοια τὰ  
 ἔργα καὶ σύμφωνα ἐπιδεικνύειν τοῖς λόγοις.

c. 50. "Ὅσα προτίθεται, τούτοις ὡς νόμοις, ὡς

<sup>1</sup> In A alone.

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about like an invalid, being careful not to disturb, before it has grown firm, any part which is getting well. He has put away from himself his every desire, and has transferred his aversion to those things only, of what is under our control, which are contrary to nature. He exercises no pronounced choice in regard to anything. If he gives the appearance of being foolish or ignorant he does not care. In a word, he keeps guard against himself as though he were his own enemy lying in wait.

49. When a person gives himself airs because he can understand and interpret the books of Chrysippus, say to yourself, "If Chrysippus had not written obscurely, this man would have nothing about which to give himself airs."

But what is it I want? To learn nature and to follow her. I seek, therefore, someone to interpret her; and having heard that Chrysippus does so, I go to him. But I do not understand what he has written; I seek, therefore, the person who interprets Chrysippus. And down to this point there is nothing to justify pride. But when I find the interpreter, what remains is to put his precepts into practice; this is the only thing to be proud about. If, however, I admire the mere act of interpretation, what have I done but turned into a grammarian instead of a philosopher? The only difference, indeed, is that I interpret Chrysippus instead of Homer. Far from being proud, therefore, when somebody says to me, "Read me Chrysippus," I blush the rather, when I am unable to show him such deeds as match and harmonize with his words.

50. Whatever principles are set before you, stand fast by these like laws, feeling that it would be

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ἀσεβήσων, ἂν παραβῆς, ἔμμενε. ὅ τι δ' ἂν ἐρῇ  
τις περὶ σοῦ, μὴ ἐπιστρέφου· τοῦτο γὰρ οὐκ ἔτ'  
ἐστὶ σόν.

- 1 c. 51. Εἰς ποῖον ἔτι χρόνον ἀναβάλλῃ τὸ τῶν  
βελτίστων ἀξιούν σεαυτὸν καὶ ἐν μηδενὶ παρα-  
βαίνειν τὸν διαιροῦντα λόγον; παρείληφας τὰ  
θεωρήματα, οἷς ἔδει σε συμβάλλειν, καὶ συμβέ-  
βληκας. ποῖον οὖν ἔτι διδάσκαλον προσδοκᾷς,  
ἵνα εἰς ἐκείνον ὑπερβῇ τὴν ἐπανόρθωσιν ποιῆσαι  
τὴν σεαυτοῦ; οὐκ ἔτι εἰ μεράκιον, ἀλλὰ ἀνὴρ  
ἤδη τέλειος. ἂν νῦν ἀμελήσῃς καὶ ῥαθυμύσῃς  
καὶ αἰεὶ προθέσεις<sup>1</sup> ἐκ προθέσεως<sup>2</sup> ποιῇ<sup>3</sup> καὶ  
ἡμέρας ἄλλας ἐπ' ἄλλαις ὀρίξῃς, μεθ' ἧς προ-  
σέξεις σεαυτῷ, λήσεις σεαυτὸν οὐ προκόψας,  
ἀλλ' ἰδιώτης διατελέσεις καὶ ζῶν καὶ ἀποθνήσκων.
- 2 ἤδη οὖν ἀξίωσον σεαυτὸν βιοῦν ὡς τέλειον καὶ  
προκόπτοντα· καὶ πᾶν τὸ βέλτιστον φαινόμενον  
ἔστω σοι νόμος ἀπαράβατος. καὶ ἐπίπονόν τι  
ἢ ἡδὺ ἢ ἔνδοξον ἢ ἄδοξον προσάγῃται, μέμνησο,  
ὅτι νῦν ὁ ἀγὼν καὶ ἤδη πάρεστι τὰ Ὀλύμπια καὶ  
οὐκ ἔστιν ἀναβάλλεσθαι οὐκέτι καὶ ὅτι<sup>4</sup> παρὰ  
μίαν ἡμέραν καὶ ἐν πρᾶγμα<sup>5</sup> καὶ<sup>6</sup> ἀπόλλυται
- 3 προκοπὴ καὶ<sup>6</sup> σφύζεται. Σωκράτης οὕτως ἀπε-  
τελέσθη, ἐπὶ πάντων τῶν προσαγομένων αὐτῷ<sup>7</sup>  
μηδενὶ ἄλλῳ προσέχων ἢ τῷ λόγῳ. σὺ δὲ εἰ καὶ  
μήπω εἰ Σωκράτης, ὡς Σωκράτης γε εἶναι βουλό-  
μενος ὀφείλεις βιοῦν.

<sup>1</sup> A un., Nil.: ὑπερθέσεις the other MSS.

<sup>2</sup> A un., Nil.: ὑπερθέσεως (—εων) the other MSS.

<sup>3</sup> Nil.: ποιῆς *Ench.*

<sup>4</sup> C (several), Nil.: ἔτι the other MSS.

<sup>5</sup> ἡμέραν καὶ ἐν πρᾶγμα *Simpl.*: ἦτταν καὶ ἔνδοσιν *Ench.*

<sup>6</sup> C un., Nil., *Simpl.*: ἢ the other MSS. (except in the second case ἢ καὶ B A sing.).

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impiety for you to transgress them. But pay no attention to what somebody says about you, for this is, at length, not under your control.

51. How long will you still wait to think yourself worthy of the best things, and in nothing to transgress against the distinctions set up by the reason? You have received the philosophical principles which you ought to accept, and you have accepted them. What sort of a teacher, then, do you still wait for, that you should put off reforming yourself until he arrives? You are no longer a lad, but already a full-grown man. If you are now neglectful and easy-going, and always making one delay after another, and fixing first one day and then another, after which you will pay attention to yourself, then without realizing it you will make no progress, but, living and dying, will continue to be a layman throughout. Make up your mind, therefore, before it is too late, that the fitting thing for you to do is to live as a mature man who is making progress, and let everything which seems to you to be best be for you a law that must not be transgressed. And if you meet anything that is laborious, or sweet, or held in high repute, or in no repute, remember that *now* is the contest, and here before you are the Olympic games, and that it is impossible to delay any longer, and that it depends on a single day and a single action, whether progress is lost or saved. This is the way Socrates became what he was, by paying attention to nothing but his reason in everything that he encountered. And even if you are not yet a Socrates, still you ought to live as one who wishes to be a Socrates.

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<sup>7</sup> τῶν προσαγομένων αὐτῷ Meibom : προσάγων ἑαυτὸν Ench.

## ARRIAN'S DISCOURSES OF EPICTETUS

- 1 c. 52. Ὁ πρῶτος καὶ ἀναγκαιότατος τόπος ἐστὶν ἐν φιλοσοφίᾳ ὁ τῆς χρήσεως τῶν θεωρημάτων, οἷον τὸ<sup>1</sup> μὴ ψεύδεσθαι· ὁ δεύτερος ὁ τῶν ἀποδείξεων, οἷον πόθεν ὅτι οὐ δεῖ ψεύδεσθαι; τρίτος ὁ αὐτῶν τούτων βεβαιωτικὸς καὶ διαρθρωτικός, οἷον πόθεν ὅτι τοῦτο ἀπόδειξις; τί γάρ ἐστιν ἀπόδειξις, τί ἀκολουθία, τί μάχη, τί ἀληθές, τί ψεῦδος; οὐκοῦν ὁ μὲν τρίτος τόπος ἀναγκαῖος διὰ τὸν δεύτερον, ὁ δὲ δεύτερος διὰ τὸν πρῶτον· ὁ δὲ ἀναγκαιότατος καὶ ὅπου ἀναπαύεσθαι δεῖ, ὁ πρῶτος. ἡμεῖς δὲ ἔμπαλιν ποιούμεν· ἐν γὰρ τῷ τρίτῳ τόπῳ διατρίβομεν καὶ περὶ ἐκεῖνόν ἐστιν ἡμῖν ἡ πᾶσα σπουδή· τοῦ δὲ πρῶτου παντελῶς ἀμελοῦμεν. τοιγαροῦν ψευδόμεθα μὲν, πῶς δὲ ἀποδείκνυται ὅτι οὐ δεῖ ψεύδεσθαι, πρόχειρον ἔχομεν.
- 1 c. 53. Ἐπὶ παντὸς πρόχειρα ἐκτέον<sup>2</sup> ταῦτα· ἄγου δέ<sup>3</sup> μ', ὦ Ζεῦ, καὶ σύ γ' <sup>4</sup> ἡ Πεπρωμένη, ὅποι ποθ' ὑμῖν εἰμὶ διατεταγμένος· ὥς ἔψομαί γ' ἄοκνος· ἦν δέ γε μὴ θέλω, κακὸς γενόμενος, οὐδὲν ἥττον ἔψομαι.
- 2 “ὅστις δ' ἀνάγκη συγκεχώρηκεν καλῶς, σοφὸς παρ' ἡμῖν, καὶ τὰ θεῶν<sup>5</sup> ἐπίσταται.”
- 3 “ἀλλ', ὦ Κρίτων, εἰ ταύτῃ τοῖς θεοῖς φίλον,
- 4 ταύτῃ γενέσθω.”
- “ἐμὲ δὲ Ἄνυτος καὶ Μέλητος<sup>6</sup> ἀποκτεῖναι μὲν δύνανται, βλάψαι δὲ οὔ.”

<sup>1</sup> C un., and perhaps Simpl.: ὁ τοῦ the other MSS.

<sup>2</sup> C nonn., Par., Simpl.: ἐκτέον the other MSS.

<sup>3</sup> Meibom (from the *Disc.*): ἄγε δή με *Ench.*

<sup>4</sup> Meibom (from s in three of the four quotations in the *Disc.*): καί A un., and S generally. The other MSS. omit.

<sup>5</sup> C nonn., Plutarch: θεῶν the other MSS. <sup>6</sup> Μέλῖτος MSS.

## THE ENCHEIRIDION OF EPICTETUS

52. The first and most necessary division in philosophy is that which has to do with the application of the principles, as, for example, Do not lie. The second deals with the demonstrations, as, for example, How comes it that we ought not to lie? The third confirms and discriminates between these processes, as, for example, How does it come that this is a proof? For what is a proof, what is logical consequence, what contradiction, what truth, what falsehood? Therefore, the third division is necessary because of the second, and the second because of the first; while the most necessary of all, and the one in which we ought to rest, is the first. But we do the opposite; for we spend our time in the third division, and all our zeal is devoted to it, while we utterly neglect the first. Wherefore, we lie, indeed, but are ready with the arguments which prove that one ought not to lie.

53. Upon every occasion we ought to have the following thoughts at our command:

Lead thou me on, O Zeus, and Destiny,  
To that goal long ago to me assigned.  
I'll follow and not falter; if my will  
Prove weak and craven, still I'll follow on.<sup>1</sup>

"Whoso has rightly with necessity complied,  
We count him wise, and skilled in things divine."<sup>2</sup>

"Well, O Crito, if so it is pleasing to the gods, so let it be."<sup>3</sup>

"Anytus and Meletus can kill me, but they cannot hurt me."<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> From Cleanthes. See note on II. 23, 42.

<sup>2</sup> Euripides, frag. 965 Nauck.

<sup>3</sup> Plato, *Crito*, 43 D (slightly modified).

<sup>4</sup> Plato, *Apology*, 30 C-D (somewhat modified).







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## IN PREPARATION

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### *Greek Authors*

- ARISTOTLE: HISTORY OF ANIMALS. A. L. Peck.
- PLOTINUS: A. H. Armstrong.

### *Latin Authors*

- BABRIUS AND PHAEDRUS. Ben E. Perry.

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