

- 17 Ταῦτα μὲν οὕτως ἔσχευεν, Οὐεσπασιανὸς δέ, ὡς μὲν ἢ ἀλήθεια ἔχει, νοσήσας οὐ τῇ ποδάγρα τῇ συνήθει ἀλλὰ πυρετοῖς μετήλλαξεν ἐν τοῖς ὕδασι τῶν Σαβίνων τοῖς Κουτιλίοις ὠνομασμένοις, ὡς δέ τινες καταψευδόμενοι τοῦ Τίτου, ἄλλοι τε καὶ Ἀδριανὸς ὁ αὐτοκράτωρ, ἐφήμισαν, φάρμακον
 2 ἐν συμποσίῳ τινὶ λαβῶν. ἐγγένοι δὲ σημεῖα αὐτῷ φέροντα ἐς τοῦτο ὅ τε ἀστὴρ ὁ¹ κομήτης ἐπὶ πολὺ φαντασθεῖς καὶ τὸ μνημεῖον τὸ τοῦ Αὐγούστου αὐτόματον ἀνοιχθέν. τῶν δὲ ἰατρῶν ἐπιτιμώντων αὐτῷ ὅτι τῇ τε ἄλλῃ διαίτῃ ὁμοίᾳ νοσῶν ἐχρήθη καὶ πάντα τὰ προσήκοντα τῇ ἀρχῇ ἔπραττε, “τὸν αὐτοκράτορα” ἔφη “ἔστῶτα
 3 δεῖ ἀποθνήσκειν.” καὶ πρὸς τοὺς περὶ τοῦ κομήτου τι διαλαλοῦντας “οὐκ ἔμοιγε” εἶπεν “ἀλλὰ τῷ τῶν Πάρθων βασιλεῖ προσημαίνει. ἐκείνος μὲν γὰρ κομᾶ, ἐγὼ δὲ φαλακρὸς εἰμι.” ἐπειδὴ τε ἐπίστευσεν ὅτι τελευτήσει, ἔφη “θεὸς ἤδη γίνομαι.” ἔζησε δὲ ἔτη ἑννέα καὶ ἐξήκοντα καὶ μῆνας ὀκτώ,² ἐμονάρχησε δὲ ἔτη δέκα ἡμερῶν
 4 ἕξ δέοντα. κακὸν τούτου συμβαίνει ἐνιαυτὸν τε καὶ δύο καὶ εἴκοσιν ἡμέρας ἀπὸ τοῦ θανάτου τοῦ Νέρωνος μέχρι τῆς τοῦ Οὐεσπασιανοῦ ἀρχῆς διελθεῖν. ἔγραψα δὲ τοῦτο τοῦ μή τινας ἀπατηθῆναι, τὴν ἐξαριθμησιν τοῦ χρόνου πρὸς

¹ ὁ supplied by Bk.

It was after the events just narrated that Ves- A.D. 79
 pasian fell sick, not, if the truth be known, of his accustomed gout, but of a fever, and passed away at Aquae Cutiliae in the Sabine country. Some, however, in the endeavour falsely to incriminate Titus,—among them the Emperor Hadrian,—spread the report that he was poisoned at a banquet. Portents had occurred indicating his approaching end, such as the comet which was visible for a long time and the opening of the mausoleum of Augustus of its own accord. When his physicians chided him for continuing his usual course of living during his illness and attending to all the duties that belonged to his office, he answered: “The emperor ought to die on his feet.” To those who said anything to him about the comet he said: “This is an omen, not for me, but for the Parthian king; for he has long hair, whereas I am bald.” When at last he was convinced that he was going to die, he said: “I am already becoming a god.” He had lived sixty-nine years and eight months, and had reigned ten years lacking six days. From this it results that from the death of Nero to the beginning of Vespasian’s rule a year and twenty-two days elapsed. I make this statement in order to prevent any misapprehension on the part of such as might estimate

² καὶ μῆνας ὀκτώ VC, καὶ μῆνας ὀκτώ καὶ ἡμέρας ὀκτώ Zon.

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4 ἀμαρτίαν τινὰ αὐτῷ ἐγγενέσθαι. δύο τε γὰρ ἔτη μετὰ τοῦτο καὶ μῆνας δύο ἡμέρας τε εἴκοσιν ἔζησεν ἐπ' ¹ ἑννέα καὶ τριάκοντα ἔτεσι καὶ μηνὶ πέντε καὶ ἡμέραις πέντε καὶ εἴκοσι. καὶ αὐτὸν ἐξ Ἰσου κατὰ τοῦτο τῆ τοῦ Αὐγούστου πολυετία ἄγουσι, λέγοντες ὅτι οὐτ' ἂν ἐκεῖνος ἐφιλήθη ποτὲ εἰ ἐλάττω χρόνον ἐζήκει, ² οὐτ' ἂν οὗτος

5 εἰ πλείονα, ὁ μὲν ὅτι τραχύτερος κατ' ἀρχὰς διὰ τε τοὺς πολέμους ³ καὶ διὰ τὰς στάσεις γενόμενος ἠδυνήθη μετὰ ταῦτα εὐεργεσίαις ἐν τῷ χρόνῳ λαμπρύνεσθαι, ὁ δ' ὅτι ἐπιεικῶς ἄρξας ἐν ἀκμῇ τῆς δόξης ἀπέθανε, τάχα ἂν ἐλεγχθεῖς, εἶγε ἐπὶ μακρὸν ἐβεβιώκει, ὅτι εὐτυχία πλείουσι ἢ ἀρετῇ ἐχρήσατο.

19 Οὐ μὴν ἄλλ' ὁ Τίτος οὐδένα τῶν βουλευτῶν ἐν τῇ αὐτοῦ ⁴ ἡγεμονίᾳ ἀπέκτεινε, ἀλλ' οὐδὲ ἄλλος τις αὐτῷ ἐπὶ τῆς αὐτοῦ ἀρχῆς ἐτελεύτησε. τὰς τε δίκας τὰς τῆς ἀσεβείας οὐτ' αὐτὸς ποτε ἐδέξατο οὐτ' ἄλλοις ἐπέτρεψε, λέγων ὅτι “ἐγὼ μὲν οὐδὲν οὐθ' ὑβρισθῆναι οὔτε προπηλακισθῆναι ² δύναμαι· οὔτε γὰρ ἀξίον τι ἐπηγορίας ποιῶ, οὔτε μοι μέλει τῶν ψευδῶς λεγομένων· οἱ δὲ μετηλλαχότες τῶν αὐτοκρατόρων αὐτοὶ ἑαυτοῖς, ἄνπερ ὡς ἀληθῶς ἠρώες τε ὧσι καὶ δυνάμιν τινα ἔχωσι, τιμωρήσουσιν ἂν τί τις αὐτοὺς ἀδικήσῃ.”

3 πολλὰ δὲ καὶ ἄλλα πρὸς τε τὸ ἀσφαλές καὶ πρὸς τὸ ἄλυπον τῶν ἀνθρώπων κατεστήσατο· καὶ γὰρ γράμματα ἐξέθηκε βεβαιῶν πάντα τὰ ὑπὸ τῶν προτέρων αὐτοκρατόρων δοθέντα ⁵ τισίν,

¹ ἐπ' Ζον., καὶ ἐπ' VC.

² ἐζήκει C², ἐζήτει VC.

³ πολέμους Ζον., πολεμίους VC.

tunity for wrongdoing. For he lived after this only ^{A.D. 79} two years, two months and twenty days—in addition to the thirty-nine years, five months and twenty-five days he had already lived at that time. In this respect, indeed, he is regarded as having equalled the long reign of Augustus, since it is maintained that Augustus would never have been loved had he lived a shorter time, nor Titus had he lived longer. For Augustus, though at the outset he showed himself rather harsh because of the wars and the factional strife, was later able, in the course of time, to achieve a brilliant reputation for his kindly deeds; Titus, on the other hand, ruled with mildness and died at the height of his glory, whereas, if he had lived a long time, it might have been shown that he owes his present fame more to good fortune than to merit.

Be that as it may, Titus during his reign put no senator to death, nor, indeed, was anyone else slain by him during his rule. Cases based on the charge of *maiestas* he would never entertain himself nor allow others to entertain; for he declared: “It is impossible for me to be insulted or abused in any way. For I do naught that deserves censure, and I care not for what is reported falsely. As for the emperors who are dead and gone, they will avenge themselves in case anyone does them a wrong, if in very truth they are demigods and possess any power.” He also instituted various other measures designed to render men's lives more secure and free from trouble. Thus, he issued an edict confirming all gifts that had been bestowed upon any persons by the former emperors,

⁴ αὐτοῦ Bk., αὐτοῦ VC.

⁵ δοθέντα Ζον., βεβαιωθέντα VC.

ὥστε μὴ καθ' ἐκάστους σφῶν αἰτοῦντας αὐτὸν πράγματα ἔχειν, τοὺς τε μνηστὰς ἐξήλασεν ἐκ τῆς πόλεως.—Xiph. 211, 12–212, 17 R. St.

3^a Ἦν δὲ περὶ χρήματα ἀκριβῆς καὶ οὐ μάρτη ἀνήλσκειν, οὐδένα μέντοι ποτὲ διὰ ταῦτα ἐκόλασεν.—Zon. 11, 18, p. 55, 16–18 D.

3^b Ἐπὶ τούτου καὶ ὁ Ψευδονέρων ἐφάνη, ὃς Ἀσιανὸς ἦν, ἐκαλεῖτο δὲ Τερέντιος Μάξιμος, προσεικῶς δὲ τῷ Νέρωνι καὶ τὸ εἶδος καὶ τὴν φωνὴν (καὶ γὰρ καὶ ἐκιθαρόδει). ἔκ τε τῆς Ἀσίας τινας προσεποιήσατο καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν Εὐφράτην

3^c τὴν προχωρῶν πολλῶ πλείους ἀνητήσατο, καὶ τέλος πρὸς Ἀρτάβανον τὸν τῶν Πάρθων κατέφυγεν ἀρχηγόν, ὃς καὶ δι' ὀργῆς τὸν Τίτον ποιούμενος καὶ ἐδέξατο τούτον καὶ καταγαγεῖν εἰς Ῥώμην παρεσκευάζετο.¹—Zon. 11, 18, p. 55, 19–27 D.

20 Κὰν τούτῳ πολέμου αὐθις ἐν τῇ Βρεττανίᾳ γενομένου τά τε τῶν ἐκεῖ πολεμίων Γναῖος Ἰούλιος Ἀγρικόλας πάντα κατέδραμε, καὶ πρῶτός γε Ῥωμαίων ὧν ἡμεῖς ἴσμεν ἔγνω τοῦθ' ὅτι ἡ Βρεττανία περὶρρυτός ἐστιν. στρατιώται γάρ τινες στασιάζοντες, καὶ ἑκατοντάρχους χιλιάρχους 2 τε φονεύσαντες, εἰς πλοῖα κατέφυγον καὶ ἐξανα-

¹ Cf. Joann. Antioch. (*fr.* 104 Muell.): ὅτι ἐπὶ Τίτου . . . ἀνήρ τις . . . Νέρων τε εἶναι ἐπλάττετο, καὶ διαπεφυγένοι πάλοι τοὺς ἐπ' αὐτὸν σταλέντας στρατιώτας, ἐν ἀφανεί δὲ πού πεποιήσθαι τὰς διατριβὰς ἐς τότε. πολλοὺς γοῦν ἔκ τε τῆς κάτω Ἀσίας τούτοις ἀπατήσας τοῖς λόγοις ἔπεισθαι οἱ ἀνέπεισε, καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν Εὐφράτην προῖαν πολλῶ πλείους προσεποιήσατο. τέλος πρὸς Παρθυαίους, ὧς καὶ ὀφειλομένης αὐτῷ πρὸς ἐκείνων ἀμοιβῆς τινας διὰ τὴν τῆς Ἀρμενίας ἀπόδοσιν, κατέφυγεν. οὐ μὴν ἕξιν τι τῆς ἐπιβολῆς εἰργάσατο, ἀλλὰ φωραθεὶς ὃς ἦν ταχέως ἀπώλετο.

thus saving them the trouble of petitioning him A.D. 7 individually about the matter. He also banished the informers from the City.

In money matters he was frugal and made no unnecessary expenditures, yet he did not punish anyone for following a different course.

In his reign also the False Nero appeared, who was an Asiatic named Terentius Maximus. He resembled Nero both in appearance and in voice (for he too sang to the accompaniment of the lyre). He gained a few followers in Asia, and in his advance to the Euphrates attached a far greater number, and finally sought refuge with Artabanus, the Parthian leader, who, because of his anger against Titus, both received him and set about making preparations to restore him to Rome.¹

Meanwhile war had again broken out in Britain, and Gnaeus Julius Agricola overran the whole of the enemy's territory there. He was the first of the Romans whom we know to discover the fact that Britain is surrounded by water. It seems that some soldiers rebelled, and after slaying the centurions and a military tribune took refuge in boats, in which they put out to sea and sailed round the

¹ Cf. Joann. Antioch. : In Titus' reign . . . a man . . . pretended to be Nero, claiming that he had escaped from the soldiers who had been sent against him and that he had been living in concealment somewhere up to this time. He persuaded many from Asia Minor to follow him, deceiving them by these statements, and as he went on to the Euphrates won over a far greater number. Finally he fled to the Parthians, claiming that they owed him some requital for the return of Armenia. Yet he accomplished nothing commensurate with his purpose, but his identity was discovered and he soon perished.

χθέντες περιέπλευσαν τὰ πρὸς ἐσπέραν αὐτῆς, ὡς που τό τε κύμα καὶ ὁ ἄνεμος αὐτοὺς ἔφερε, καὶ ἔλαθον ἐκ τοῦ ἐπὶ θάτερα πρὸς τὰ στρατόπεδα τὰ ταύτη ὄντα προσσχόντες.¹ κακ τούτου καὶ ἄλλους ὁ Ἀγρικόλας² πειράσοντας τὸν περιπλουὺν πέμψας ἔμαθε καὶ παρ' ἐκείνων ὅτι νῆσός ἐστιν.

3 Ἐν μὲν τῇ Βρεττανίᾳ ταύτ' ἐγένετο, καὶ ἀπ' αὐτῶν ὁ μὲν Τίτος αὐτοκράτωρ τὸ πεντεκαίδεκατον ἐπεκλήθη, ὁ δὲ Ἀγρικόλας ἔν τε ἀτιμία τὸ λοιπὸν τοῦ βίου καὶ ἐν ἐνδείᾳ, ἅτε καὶ μείζονα ἢ κατὰ στρατηγὸν καταπράξας, ἔζησε, καὶ τέλος ἐσφάγη δι' αὐτὰ ταῦτα ὑπὸ Δομιτιανοῦ, καίπερ τὰς ἐπινικίους τιμὰς παρὰ τοῦ Τίτου³ λαβών.

21 Ἐν δὲ τῇ Καμπανίᾳ φοβερὰ τινα καὶ θαυμαστὰ συνηνέχθη· πῦρ γὰρ μέγα κατ' αὐτὸ τὸ φθινόπωρον ἐξαπιναιώς ἐξήφθη.⁴ τὸ γὰρ ὄρος τὸ Βέσβιον ἔστι μὲν πρὸς τῇ θαλάσῃ κατὰ Νέαν πόλιν, ἔχει δὲ πυρὸς πηγὰς ἀφθόνοους. καὶ ἦν μὲν ποτε πᾶν ὁμοίως ὑψηλόν, καὶ ἀπ' αὐτοῦ μέσου τὸ πῦρ ἀνέτελλε· ταύτη γὰρ πεπύρωται μόνον, τὰ δὲ ἔξωθεν αὐτοῦ πάντα ἄπυρα καὶ νῦν² ἐτι διαμένει. ἐκ δὲ τούτου, ἐκείνων μὲν ἀκαύστων αἰεὶ ὄντων, τῶν δὲ ἐν τῷ μέσῳ κραιουμένων καὶ τεφρουμένων, αἱ μὲν⁵ περίξ κορυφαὶ τὸ ἀρχαῖον ὕψος ἐς δεῦρο ἔχουσι, τὸ δὲ ἔμπυρον πᾶν

¹ προσσχόντες Bk., προσχόντες VC.

² Ἀγρικόλας R. Steph., ἀγρικόλαος VC (so just below).

³ παρὰ τοῦ Τίτου VC, παρ' αὐτοῦ Polak, following Casaubon (παρ' αὐτοῦ τούτου).

⁴ Cf. Zonaras (11, 18, p. 55, 28-30 D.): ἐν δὲ τῷ πρώτῳ τῆς ἡγεμονίας αὐτοῦ ἔπει πῦρ ἐν Καμπανίᾳ πολὺ κατὰ τὸ φθινόπωρον ἀθρόον ἐξήνησε.

western portion of the country just as the wind and A.D. 79 the waves chanced to carry them; and without realizing it, since they approached from the opposite direction, they put in at the camps on the first side again. Thereupon Agricola sent others to attempt the voyage around Britain, and learned from them, too, that it was an island.

As a result of these events in Britain Titus received the title of *imperator* for the fifteenth time. But Agricola for the rest of his life lived not only in disgrace but in actual want, because the deeds which he had wrought were too great for a mere general. Finally, he was murdered by Domitian for no other reason than this, in spite of his having received triumphal honours from Titus.¹

In Campania remarkable and frightful occurrences took place; for a great fire suddenly flared up at the very end of the summer.² It happened on this wise. Mt. Vesuvius stands over against Neapolis near the sea and it has inexhaustible fountains of fire. Once it was equally high at all points and the fire rose from the centre of it; for here only have the fires broken out, whereas all the outer parts of the mountain remain even now untouched by fire. Consequently, as the outside is never burned, while the central part is constantly growing brittle and being reduced to ashes, the peaks surrounding the centre retain their original height to this day, but the whole section

¹ "Titus" is an error, whether due to Dio or to Xiphilinus; the honours were granted by Domitian (cf. Tac., *Agric.* 40) Polak would read "from him."

² Cf. Zonaras: In the first year of his reign a great volume of fire burst forth all at once at the end of the summer.

⁵ μὲν Zon., om. VC.

- δαπανηθὲν ἐν τῷ χρόνῳ κοῖλον ἐκ τοῦ συνίξειν γέγονεν, ὥστε κυνηγετικῷ τιμὴ θεάτρῳ τὸ ὄρος σύμπαυ, ὡς μικρὰ μεγάλους εἰκάσαι, εἰκέναι.
- 3 καὶ αὐτοῦ τὰ μὲν ἄκρα καὶ δένδρα καὶ ἀμπέλους πολλὰς ἔχει, ὁ δὲ δὴ κύκλος ἀνεῖται τῷ πυρὶ, καὶ ἀναδίδωσι τῆς μὲν ἡμέρας καπνὸν τῆς δὲ νυκτὸς φλόγα, ὥστε δόξαι πολλὰ ἐν αὐτῷ καὶ
- 4 παντοδαπὰ θυμιάσθαι θυμιάματα. καὶ τοῦτο μὲν οὕτως αἰεὶ, ποτὲ μὲν ἐπὶ μᾶλλον ποτὲ δὲ ἐπὶ ἥττον, γίνεται· πολλάκις δὲ καὶ τέφραν ἀναβάλλει, ὅταν ἀθρόον τι ὑφίξῃ, καὶ λίθους ἀναπέμπει, ὅταν ὑπὸ πνεύματος ἐκβιασθῇ. ἡχεῖ τε καὶ βοᾷ, ἅτε μὴ συμπεπιλημένας ἀλλ' ἀραιὰς καὶ λαθραίας¹ τὰς ἀναπνοὰς ἔχων.²
- 22 Τοιοῦτον μὲν τὸ Βέσβιον ἔστι, καὶ ταῦτα ἐν αὐτῷ κατ' ἔτος ὡς πλήθει γίνεται. ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν ἄλλα ὅσα ἐκείνῳ ἐν³ τῷ χρόνῳ συνήχθη, εἰ καὶ μεγάλα παρὰ τὸ καθεστηκὸς τοῖς αἰεὶ ὀρώσιν αὐτὰ εἶναι ἔδοξε, σμικρὰ ἂν πρὸς τὰ τότε συμβάντα, καὶ τὰ πάντα ἐς ἐν συναχθέντα,
- 2 νομισθεῖη. ἔσχε γὰρ οὕτως. ἄνδρες πολλοὶ καὶ μεγάλοι, πᾶσαν τὴν ἀνθρωπίνην φύσιν ὑπερβεβληκότες, οἳ οἱ γίγαντες γράφονται, τοῦτο μὲν ἐν τῷ ὄρει τοῦτο δ' ἐν τῇ περὶ αὐτὸ χώρα ταῖς τε πόλεσι μεθ' ἡμέραν καὶ νύκτωρ ἐν τῇ γῇ περιωστοῦντες καὶ ἐν τῷ ἀέρι δια-
- 3 φοιτῶντες ἐφαντάζοντο. καὶ μετὰ τοῦτ' αὐχμοὶ τε δεινοὶ καὶ σεισμοὶ ἐξαίφνης σφοδροὶ ἐγίγνοντο, ὥστε καὶ τὸ πεδίον ἐκεῖνο πᾶν ἀναβράττεσθαι

¹ λαθραίας VC, ἐλευθέρας Zon.² ἔχων VC, ἔχον Zon.³ ἐν supplied by Bk.

that is on fire, having been consumed, has in the A.D. 79 course of time settled and therefore become concave; thus the entire mountain resembles a hunting theatre¹—if we may compare great things to small. Its outlying heights support both trees and vines in abundance, but the crater is given over to the fire and sends up smoke by day and a flame by night; in fact, it gives the impression that quantities of incense of all kinds are being burned in it. This, now, goes on all the time, sometimes to a greater, sometimes to a less extent; but often the mountain throws up ashes, whenever there is an extensive settling in the interior, and discharges stones whenever it is rent by a violent blast of air. It also rumbles and roars because its vents are not all grouped together but are narrow and concealed.

Such is Vesuvius, and these phenomena usually occur there every year. But all the other occurrences that had taken place there in the course of time, however notable, because unusual, they may have seemed to those who on each occasion observed them, nevertheless would be regarded as trivial in comparison with what now happened, even if all had been combined into one. This was what befell. Numbers of huge men quite surpassing any human stature—such creatures, in fact, as the Giants are pictured to have been—appeared, now on the mountain, now in the surrounding country, and again in the cities, wandering over the earth day and night and also flitting through the air. After this fearful droughts and sudden and violent earthquakes occurred, so that the whole plain round about

¹ i.e. an amphitheatre.

καὶ τὰ ἄκρα ἀναπηδᾶν. ἤχαι τε αἱ μὲν ὑπόγειοι βρονταῖς ἔοικυῖαι αἱ δὲ καὶ ἐπίγειοι μυκηθμοὶ ὁμοίαι συνέβαινον, καὶ ἡ τε θάλασσα συνέβρεμε
 4 καὶ οὐρανὸς συνεπήχει. καὶ τούτου κτύπος τε ἐξαισίως ἐξαπινάως ὡς καὶ τῶν ὀρῶν συμπιπτόντων ἐξηκούσθη, καὶ ἀνέθορον πρῶτον μὲν λίθοι ὑπερμεγέθεις, ὥστε καὶ ἐς αὐτὰ τὰ ἄκρα ἐξικέσθαι, ἔπειτα πῦρ πολὺ καὶ καπνὸς ἄπλετος, ὥστε πάντα μὲν τὸν ἀέρα συσκιασθῆναι, πάντα δὲ τὸν ἥλιον συγκρυφθῆναι καθάπερ ἐκλειοπότα.
 23 νύξ τε οὖν ἐξ ἡμέρας καὶ σκότος ἐκ φωτὸς ἐγένετο· καὶ ἐδόκουν οἱ μὲν τοὺς γίγαντας ἐπανίστασθαι (πολλὰ γὰρ καὶ τότε εἶδωλα αὐτῶν ἐν τῷ καπνῷ διεφαίνετο, καὶ προσέτι καὶ σαλπίγγων τις βοή ἤκουετο), οἱ δὲ καὶ ἐς χάος ἢ καὶ πῦρ
 2 τὸν κόσμον πάντα ἀναλίσκεσθαι. καὶ διὰ ταῦτ' ἔφυγον οἱ μὲν ἐκ τῶν οἰκιῶν ἐς τὰς ὁδοὺς οἱ δὲ ἔξωθεν εἴσω, ἐκ τε τῆς θαλάσσης ἐς τὴν γῆν καὶ ἐξ ἐκείνης ἐς τὴν θάλασσαν, οἷα¹ τεταραγμένοι² καὶ πᾶν τὸ ἀπὸ σφῶν ἀπὸν ἀσφαλέστερον
 3 τοῦ παρόντος ἡγούμενοι. ταῦτά τε ἅμα ἐγίγνετο, καὶ τέφρα ἀμύθητος ἀνεφυσήθη³ καὶ τὴν τε γῆν τὴν τε θάλασσαν καὶ τὸν ἀέρα πάντα κατέσχε, καὶ πολλὰ μὲν καὶ ἄλλα, ὥς που καὶ ἐτυχε, καὶ ἀνθρώποις καὶ χώραις καὶ βοσκήμασιν ἐλμηματο, τοὺς δὲ δὴ ἰχθύας τὰ τε ὄρνεα πάντα διέφθειρε, καὶ προσέτι καὶ πόλεις δύο ὄλας, τὴν Ἐρкулάνεον καὶ τοὺς Πομπηίους,⁴ ἐν θεάτρῳ
 4 τοῦ ὀμίλου αὐτῆς⁵ καθημένου, κατέχωσε. το-

¹ οἷα Rk., οἱ ἄλλοι VC.

² τεταραγμένοι Bk., τε παραττόμενοι VC.

³ ἀνεφυσήθη Zon., ἐφυσήθη VC.

seethed and the summits leaped into the air. A.D. 79
 There were frequent rumblings, some of them subterranean, that resembled thunder, and some on the surface, that sounded like bellowsings; the sea also joined in the roar and the sky re-echoed it. Then suddenly a portentous crash was heard, as if the mountains were tumbling in ruins; and first huge stones were hurled aloft, rising as high as the very summits, then came a great quantity of fire and endless smoke, so that the whole atmosphere was obscured and the sun was entirely hidden, as if eclipsed. Thus day was turned into night and light into darkness. Some thought that the Giants were rising again in revolt (for at this time also many of their forms could be discerned in the smoke and, moreover, a sound as of trumpets was heard), while others believed that the whole universe was being resolved into chaos or fire. Therefore they fled, some from the houses into the streets, others from outside into the houses, now from the sea to the land and now from the land to the sea; for in their excitement they regarded any place where they were not as safer than where they were. While this was going on, an inconceivable quantity of ashes was blown out, which covered both sea and land and filled all the air. It wrought much injury of various kinds, as chance befell, to men and farms and cattle, and in particular it destroyed all fish and birds. Furthermore, it buried two entire cities, Herculaneum and Pompeii, the latter place while its populace was seated in the theatre. Indeed, the amount of dust,

⁴ τοὺς Πομπηίους Reim., τοὺς πομπίους VC Zon. (πομπείους Zon. E).

⁵ αὐτῆς VC, αὐτῶν Zon.

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