

EPITOME OF BOOK LXXIV

LXXIV Περτίναξ δὲ ἦν μὲν τῶν καλῶν καγαθῶν, ἤρξε
 1, 1 δὲ πάνυ βραχύν τινα χρόνον, εἶτα πρὸς τῶν
 στρατιωτῶν ἀνηρέθη. λαυθάνοντος γὰρ ἔτι τοῦ
 γεγενημένου περὶ τὸν Κόμμοδον ἦλθον πρὸς αὐτὸν
 οἱ περὶ τὸν Ἐκλεκτον καὶ Λαίτον, καὶ τὸ πραχθὲν
 ἐμήνυσαν.¹ διὰ τὴν ἀρετὴν γὰρ καὶ τὸ ἀξίωμα
 2 αὐτοῦ ἠδέως αὐτὸν ἐπελέξαντο. ἰδὼν δὲ αὐτοὺς
 ἐκείνος, καὶ ἀκούσας ὧν ἔλεγον, ἔπεμψε τὸν
 πιστότατον τῶν ἐταίρων τὸ σῶμα τὸ τοῦ Κομ-
 μόδου ὑψόμενον. ὡς δὲ τὸ πραχθὲν ἐβεβαιώσατο,
 οὕτω δὴ εἰς τὸ στρατόπεδον κρύφα ἐσεκομίσθη,
 καὶ ἐκπληξιν μὲν τοῖς στρατιώταις παρέσχε, τῇ
 δὲ δὴ παρουσίᾳ τῶν περὶ τὸν Λαίτον, καὶ ἐξ ὧν
 ὑπέσχετο (τρισχιλίας γὰρ αὐτοῖς δραχμὰς κατ'
 ἄνδρα δώσειν ἐπηγγείλατο²), προσεποιήσατο
 3 αὐτοὺς. κὰν πάντως ἠσύχασαν, εἰ μὴ τελευτῶν
 τὸν λόγον³ ὧδέ πως εἶπε, “πολλὰ μὲν, ὦ ἄνδρες
 συστρατιῶται, καὶ δυσχερῆ τῶν παρόντων ἐστίν,
 ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν ἄλλα αὐθις σὺν ὑμῖν⁴ ἐπανορθώ-
 σεται.” ἀκούσαντες γὰρ τοῦτο ὑπετόπησαν πάντα
 τὰ ἑαυτοῖς ὑπὸ τοῦ Κομμόδου παρὰ τὸ καθεστηκὸς
 δεδομένα καταλυθήσεσθαι, καὶ ἐδυσκόλαναν μὲν,
 ἠσύχασαν δὲ ὁμῶς ἐπικρύπτουτες τὴν ὀργήν.
 4 ἐξελθὼν δὲ ἐκ τοῦ τείχους πρὸς τὸ συνέδριον

¹ ἐμήνυσαν H. Steph., ἐνόμισαν VC.

² ἐπηγγείλατο Bk., ἐψηφίσασατο VC.

³ τελευτῶν τὸν λόγον Bk., τελευτῆν τῶν λόγων VC.

EPITOME OF BOOK LXXIV

PERTINAX was an excellent and upright man, but A.D. 193
 he ruled only a very short time, and was then put
 out of the way by the soldiers. While the fate of
 Commodus still remained a secret, the followers of
 Laetus and Eclectus came to him and informed him
 what had been done; for because of his excellence
 and his rank they were glad to choose him. And
 he, after seeing them and hearing their story, sent
 his most trustworthy companion to view the body of
 Commodus. When this man had confirmed the
 report of the deed, Pertinax then betook himself
 secretly to the camp. At first his arrival caused the
 soldiers alarm; but thanks to the presence of Laetus'
 adherents and to the offers that Pertinax made (he
 promised to give them twelve thousand sesterces
 apiece), he won them over. Indeed, they would have
 remained perfectly quiet, had he not in closing his
 speech made some such remark as this: “There are
 many distressing circumstances, fellow-soldiers, in
 the present situation; but the rest with your help
 shall be set right again.” On hearing this, they
 suspected that all the privileges granted them by
 Commodus in violation of precedent would be
 abolished, and they were displeased; nevertheless,
 they remained quiet, concealing their anger. On
 leaving the camp, he came to the senate-house while

⁴ ὑμῖν R. Steph., ἡμῖν VC.

νυκτὸς ἔτι οὐσης ἀφίκετο, καὶ ἀσπασάμενος ἡμᾶς ὅπως τις, οἷα ἐν ὀμίλῳ καὶ ἐν ὠθισμῷ τοσοῦτω, προσελθεῖν αὐτῷ ἠδυνήθη, ἔπειτα ἐκ τοῦ αὐτοσχεδίου εἶπεν ὅτι “ὠνόμασμαι μὲν ὑπὸ τῶν στρατιωτῶν αὐτοκράτωρ, οὐδὲν μέντοι τῆς ἀρχῆς δέομαι, ἀλλ’ ἐξίσταμαι ἤδη καὶ τήμερον αὐτῆς διὰ τε τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ἡλικίαν καὶ ἀρρωστίαν καὶ 5 διὰ τὴν τῶν πραγμάτων δυσχέρειαν.” λεχθέντων δὲ καὶ ἐπηνούμεν αὐτὸν ἀπὸ γνώμης καὶ ὡς ἀληθῶς ἠρούμεθα· τὴν τε γὰρ ψυχὴν ἀριστος ἦν καὶ τῷ σώματι ἔρρωτο, πλὴν καθ’ ὅσον βραχύ τι ὑπὸ τῶν ποδῶν ἐνεποδίζετο.

2 Καὶ οὕτως ὁ τε Περτίναξ αὐτοκράτωρ καὶ ὁ Κόμμοδος πολέμιος ἀπεδείχθη, πολλά γε ἐς αὐτὸν καὶ δεινὰ καὶ τῆς βουλῆς καὶ τοῦ δήμου συμβοησάντων. ἠθέλησαν μὲν γὰρ καὶ τὸ σῶμα αὐτοῦ σῦραι καὶ διασπάσαι ὥσπερ καὶ τὰς εἰκόνας, εἰπόντος δὲ τοῦ Περτίνακος τῇ γῆ ἤδη τὸν νεκρὸν κεκρύφθαι, τοῦ μὲν σώματος ἀπέσχοντο, τῶν δ’ ἄλλων ἐνεφοροῦντο, οὐδὲν ὅτι οὐκ ἐπιλέγοντες· Κόμμοδον μὲν γὰρ οὐδεὶς οὐδ’ αὐτοκράτορα αὐτὸν ὠνόμαζεν, ἀλιτήριον δέ τινα καὶ τύραννον ἀποκαλοῦντες προσετίθεσαν ἐπισκώπτουτες τὸν μονομάχον, τὸν ἀρματηλάτην, 3 τὸν ἀριστερόν, τὸν κηλήτην. τοῖς τε βουλευταῖς, ὅσοις καὶ μάλιστα¹ ἐκ τοῦ Κομμόδου φόβος ἐπήρητο,² ὁ ὄχλος ἐπέλεγεν “εὐγε εὐγε,³ ἐσώθης, ἐνίκησας.” ὅσα τε εἰώθεσαν ἐν τοῖς θεάτροις ἐπὶ τῇ τοῦ Κομμόδου θεραπείᾳ εὐρύθμως πως ἐκβοᾶν, ταῦτα τότε μετασχηματί-

¹ καὶ μάλιστα Sylb., μάλιστα καὶ VC.

² ἐπήρητο Kuiper, ἐπήρητο VC.

it was still night, and after greeting us, so far as it was A.D. 193 possible for anyone to approach him in the midst of such a jostling throng, he said off-hand: “I have been named emperor by the soldiers; however, I do not want the office and shall resign it at once, this very day, because of my age and feeble health, and because of the distressing state of affairs.” This was no sooner said than we gave him our genuine approbation and chose him in very truth; for he was not only most noble in spirit but also strong in body, except that he suffered from a slight impediment in walking by reason of his feet.

In this way was Pertinax declared emperor and Commodus a public enemy, after both the senate and the populace had joined in shouting many bitter words against the latter. They wanted to drag off his body and tear it limb from limb, as they did do, in fact, with his statues; but when Pertinax informed them that the corpse had already been interred, they spared his remains, but glutted their rage against him in other ways, calling him all sorts of names. For no one called him Commodus or emperor; instead they referred to him as an accursed wretch and a tyrant, adding in jest such terms as “the gladiator,” “the charioteer,” “the left-handed,” “the ruptured.” To those senators on whom the fear of Commodus had rested most heavily, the crowd called out: “Huzza! Huzza! You are saved; you have won.” Indeed, all the shouts that they had been accustomed to utter with a kind of rhythmic swing in the amphitheatres, by way of paying court to Commodus, they now chanted with

³ εὐγε εὐγε Casaubon, ἄγε ἄγε VC.

4 ζουτες ἐς τὸ γελοιώτατον ἐξῆδον. τοῦ μὲν γὰρ ἀπηλλαγμένοι, τὸν δὲ οὐδέπω φοβούμενοι, τό τε διὰ μέσου αὐτῶν ὡς ἐλεύθεροι ἐκαρποῦντο, καὶ ἀξίωμα παρρησίας ἐν τῷ ἀδεεὶ αὐτοῦ ἐλάμβανον· οὐ γὰρ ἐξήρκει σφίσι τὸ μηκέτι φοβεῖσθαι, ἀλλ' ἐν τῷ θαρσοῦντι καὶ ἐξυβρίζειν ἤθελον.—Xiph. 282, 15—283, 29 R. St.

3 Ἦν δὲ ὁ Περτίναξ Λίγυς¹ ἐξ Ἀλβης Πομπηίας, πατὴρ οὐκ εὐγενοῦς, γράμματα ὅσον ἀποζῆν ἐξ αὐτῶν ἠσκημένος. καὶ κατὰ τοῦτο καὶ τῷ Πομπηϊανῷ τῷ Κλαυδίῳ συνεγεγόνει, καὶ δι' αὐτὸν² ἐν τοῖς ἵππεῦσι χιλιαρχήσας ἐς τοῦτο προεχώρησεν ὥστε καὶ ἐκείνου αὐτοῦ
2 αὐταρχῆσαι. καὶ ἔγωγε τότε ἐπὶ τοῦ Περτίνακος καὶ πρῶτον καὶ ἔσχατον ἐν τῷ βουλευτηρίῳ τὸν Πομπηϊανὸν εἶδον· ἐν γὰρ τοῖς ἀγροῖς τὰ πλεῖστα διὰ τὸν Κόμμοδον διῆγε, καὶ ἐς τὸ ἄστυ ἐλάχιστα κατέβαινε, τό τε γῆρας καὶ τὸ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν νόσημα προβαλλόμενος, οὐδὲ ἔστιν ὅτε πρότερον ἐμοῦ παρόντος ἐς τὴν γερο-
3 σίαν ἐσῆλθε. καὶ μέντοι καὶ μετὰ τὸν Περτίνακα πάλιν ἐνόσει· ἐπὶ γὰρ ἐκείνου καὶ ἔβλεπε καὶ ἔρρωτο³ καὶ ἐβούλευε, καὶ αὐτὸν ὁ Περτίναξ τά τε ἄλλα ἰσχυρῶς ἐτίμα καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ βάθρου ἐν τῷ συνεδρίῳ παρεκάθιζεν. καὶ τοῦτο καὶ τὸν Γλαβρίωνα τὸν Ἀκίλιον ἐποίει· καὶ γὰρ ἐκείνος
4 τότε καὶ ἤκουεν καὶ ἔβλεπε. τούτους μὲν οὖν

¹ Λίγυς Xyl., λίβυς VC.

² δι' αὐτόν Bk., κατὰ τοῦτ' VC.

³ ἔρρωτο Rk., ἐώρα cod. Peir. (ἐπὶ γὰρ — ἐβούλευε om. VC).

certain changes that made them utterly ridiculous. A.D. 193 For now that they had got rid of one ruler and as yet had nothing to fear from his successor, they were making the most of their freedom in the interval, and were gaining a reputation for boldness of speech in the security of the moment. For they were not satisfied merely to be relieved of further terror, but in their confidence they also wished to indulge in wanton insolence.

Pertinax was a Ligurian from Alba Pompeia; his father was not of noble birth, and he himself had received just enough education to enable him to gain a livelihood. This had brought him into association with Claudius Pompeianus, through whose influence he had become a tribune in the cavalry, and had reached such a height that he now was actually the emperor of his former patron. And it was at this time, under Pertinax, that I myself saw Pompeianus present in the senate for both the first and the last time. For he had been wont to spend most of his time in the country because of Commodus, and very rarely came down to the City, alleging his age and an ailment of the eyes as an excuse; and he had never before, when I was present, entered the senate. Furthermore, after the reign of Pertinax he was once more ailing; whereas under this emperor he had both his sight and good health, and used to take part in the deliberations of the senate. Pertinax showed him great honour in every way; and, in particular, he made him sit beside him on his bench in the senate. He also granted the same privilege to Acilius Glabrio; for this man, too, could both hear and see at that period. In addition to showing unusual honour to these men, he also

ἐς ὑπερβολὴν ἐτίμα, ἐχρήτο δὲ καὶ ἡμῖν δημο-
τικώτατα· καὶ γὰρ εὐπροσήγορος ἦν, ἤκουέ τε
εἰστίως ὅ τι τις ἀξιοίη, καὶ ἀπεκρίνετο ἀνθρω-
πίνως ὅσα αὐτῷ δοκοίη. εἰστία τε ἡμᾶς σωφρό-
νως· καὶ ὁπότε μὴ τοῦτο ποιοίη, διέπεμπεν
ἄλλοις ἄλλα καὶ τὰ εὐτελέστατα. καὶ αὐτὸν
ἐπὶ τούτῳ οἱ μὲν πλούσιοι καὶ μεγάλαυχοι
διεγέλων, οἱ δὲ ἄλλοι, οἷς ἀρετὴ ἀσελγείας
προτιμότερα ἦν, ἐπηνούμεν.—Xiph. 283, 29—284,
12 R. St., Exc. Val. 327 (p. 729).

2, 5 "Ὅτι τοσοῦτον τὸ διάφορον τῆς περὶ Περτί-
νακος δόξης πρὸς τὸν Κόμμοδον πάντες εἶχον,
ὥστε τοὺς ἀκούοντας τὰ γεγονότα¹ ὑποπτεύειν
ὑπὸ τοῦ Κομμόδου τὸν λόγον τοῦτον ἐπὶ πείρα
καθεῖσθαι, καὶ διὰ τοῦτο πολλοὺς τῶν ἐν τοῖς
ἔθνεσιν ἀρχόντων τοὺς ἀγγείλαντάς σφισιν αὐτὰ
6 καταδῆσαι, οὐχ ὅτι οὐκ ἤθελον ἀληθῆ εἶναι,
ἀλλ' ὅτι μᾶλλον ἐφοβοῦντο δόξαι τὸν Κόμμοδον
ἀπολωλέναι βεβουλησθαι² ἢ τῷ Περτίνακι μὴ
προστίθασθαι,³ διότι τὸν μὲν καὶ ἀμαρτῶν τι
τοιούτο πᾶς ἐθάρσει, τὸν δὲ οὐδεὶς οὐδ' ἀνα-
μάρτητος ὄν.—Exc. Val. 328 (p. 729).

4 "Ἐτι δὲ ὄντος αὐτοῦ ἐν Βρεττανίᾳ μετὰ τὴν μεγά-
λην ἐκείνην στάσιν ἦν ἔπαυσε, καὶ ἐπαίνων παρὰ
πᾶσιν ἀξιουμένον, ἵππος τις ὄνομα Περτίναξ
ἐνίκησεν ἐν τῇ Ῥώμῃ· ἦν δὲ τῶν πρασίων καὶ
2 ὑπὸ τοῦ Κομμόδου ἐσπουδάζετο. τῶν οὖν στα-
σιωτῶν αὐτοῦ μέγα ἀναβοησάντων, καὶ εἰπόντων

¹ γεγονότα Val., γεγονότα cod. Peir.

conducted himself in a very democratic manner A.D. 193
toward us [senators]; for he was easy of access,
listened readily to anyone's requests, and in answer
gave his own opinion in a kindly way. Again, he
used to give us banquets marked by moderation;
and whenever he did not do this, he would send
round various dishes, even the most inexpensive, to
different ones of us. For this the wealthy and vain-
glorious made great sport of him; but the rest of us,
who valued virtue above licentiousness, approved his
course.

So different was the opinion of everybody regard-
ing Pertinax as contrasted with Commodus, that
when people heard what had happened, they sus-
pected that the story of his assassination had been
put forth by Commodus to test them, and in conse-
quence many of the governors in the provinces
imprisoned the men who brought the news. It was
not that they did not wish the report to be true,
but that they were more afraid of appearing to have
desired the death of Commodus than they were of
failing to attach themselves to Pertinax. For of
the latter no one, even if he committed an error so
serious as this, was afraid, but of the former, every
one, even if innocent of wrong-doing.

While Pertinax was still in Britain, after that
great revolt which he quelled, and was being
accounted worthy of praise on all sides, a horse
named Pertinax won a race at Rome. It belonged
to the Greens and was favoured by Commodus. So,
when its partisans raised a great shout, crying, "It

² βεβουλησθαι supplied by Bs.

³ Περτίνακι μὴ προστίθασθαι Val., Περτίναξι προστίθασθαι
cod. Peir.

αὐτὸ¹ τοῦτο, “Περτίναξ ἐστίν,” οἱ ἕτεροι οἱ ἀντιστασιωταί² σφῶν, οἷά που ἀχθόμενοι τῷ Κομμόδῳ, προσεπέψαυτο, εἰπόντες οὐ πρὸς τὸν ἵππον ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὸν ἄνδρα, “εἰ γὰρ ὄφειλεν
 3 εἶναι.” ὕστερον δὲ τὸν αὐτὸν τοῦτον ἵππον ἀπαλλαγέντα τε τῶν δρόμων ὑπὸ τοῦ γήρωσ καὶ ἐν ἀγρῷ ὄντα μετεπέμψατο ὁ Κόμμοδος, καὶ ἐσήγαγεν ἐς τὸν ἵππόδρομον τὰς τε ὀπλὰς αὐτοῦ καταχρυσώσας καὶ τὰ νῶτα³ δέρματι ἐπιχρυσῶ κοσμήσας· καὶ αὐτὸν οἱ ἄνθρωποι ἐξαπίνης
 4 ἰδόντες ἀνεβόησαν αὐθις “Περτίναξ ἐστί.” καὶ ἦν μὲν που μαντικὸν αὐτὸ καθ’ ἑαυτὸ τὸ λεχθέν, ἐπειδὴ τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἐν τῷ ἔτει ἐκείνῳ ἵπποδρομία ἐγένετο, καὶ εὐθύς ἐπ’ αὐτῇ τὸ κράτος ἐς τὸν Περτίνακα περιῆλθεν· ἐλογοποιήθη δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ῥοπάλου τὰ ὅμοια, ἐπειδὴ τῷ Περτίνακι αὐτὸ ὁ Κόμμοδος μονομαχήσειν τῇ τελευταίᾳ ἡμέρᾳ μέλλων ἔδωκεν.
 5 Οὕτω μὲν ἐς τὴν ἀρχὴν ὁ Περτίναξ κατέστη, καὶ ἔλαβε τὰς τε ἄλλας ἐπικλήσεις τὰς προσηκούσας καὶ ἑτέραν ἐπὶ τῷ δημοτικῷ εἶναι βούλεσθαι· πρόκριτος γὰρ τῆς γερουσίας κατὰ τὸ ἀρχαίου ἐπωνομάσθη. καὶ εὐθύς ἐς κόσμον, ὅσα πρὶν πλημμελῶς εἶχε καὶ ἀτάκτως, καθίστατο·
 2 φιλανθρωπία τε γὰρ καὶ χρηστότης καὶ οἰκονομία βελτίστη καὶ πρόνοια τοῦ κοινοῦ ἐπιμελεστάτη περὶ τὸν αὐτοκράτορα διεδείκνυτο. τὰ τε γὰρ ἄλλα, ὅσα ἂν ἀγαθὸς αὐτοκράτωρ, ἔπραττεν ὁ Περτίναξ, καὶ τὴν ἀτιμίαν ἀφείλε τῶν ἀδίκως πεφονευμένων, καὶ προσέτι καὶ ἐπώμοσε
 3 μηδέποτε τοιαύτην δίκην προσδέξεσθαι.⁴ καὶ

¹ αὐτό Reim., αὐτῷ VC.

is Pertinax!” the others, their opponents, in disgust A.D. 193 at Commodus, likewise prayed,—with reference to the man rather than to the horse,—“Would that it were so!” Later, when this same horse had left the race-track because of age and was in the country, it was sent for by Commodus, who brought it into the Circus after gilding its hoofs and adorning its back with a gilded skin. And the people, suddenly seeing it, cried out again: “It is Pertinax!” This very expression was doubtless an omen in itself, occurring, as it did, at the last horse-race that year; and immediately afterward the throne passed to Pertinax. Similar views were expressed also concerning the incident of the club; for Commodus when about to contend on the final day had given it to Pertinax.

It was in this manner that Pertinax came into power. And he obtained all the customary titles pertaining to the office, and also a new one to indicate his wish to be democratic; for he was styled Chief of the Senate in accordance with the ancient practice. He at once reduced to order everything that had previously been irregular and confused; for he showed not only humaneness and integrity in the imperial administration, but also the most economical management and the most careful consideration for the public welfare. Besides doing everything else that a good emperor should do, he removed the stigma attaching to those who had been unjustly put to death, and he furthermore took oath that he would never sanction such a penalty. And immediately some bewailed

² ἀντιστασιωταί Dind., ἀντιστασιασταί VC.

³ νῶτα Salmasius, ἀνώτατα VC.

⁴ προσδέξεσθαι R. Steph., προσδέξασθαι VC.

αὐτίκα οἱ μὲν τοὺς συγγενεῖς οἱ δὲ τοὺς φίλους ἀνεκάλουν μετὰ δακρύων ὁμοῦ καὶ χαρᾶς· οὐδὲ γὰρ οὐδὲ τοῦτο πρὶν ἐξῆν ποιεῖν· καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα ἀνορύττοντες τὰ σώματα, οἱ μὲν ὀλόκληρα οἱ δὲ μέρη, ὡς που ἕκαστον αὐτῶν ἢ τοῦ ὀλέθρου ἢ τοῦ χρόνου εἶχεν, εὐθέτουν καὶ ἐς τὰ προγονικὰ μνημεῖα ἀπετίθεντο.

4 Τοσαύτη δ' ἄρα τότε τὸ βασιλείου εἶχεν ἀχρηματία ὥστε πέντε καὶ εἴκοσι μυριάδες δραχμῶν μόναι εὐρέθησαν. χαλεπῶς δ' οὖν ὁ Περτίναξ ἐκ τε τῶν εἰκόνων καὶ τῶν ὄπλων τῶν τε ἵππων καὶ ἐπίπλων καὶ τῶν παιδικῶν τῶν τοῦ Κομμόδου ἀγείρας ἀργύριον, τοῖς τε δορυφόροις ἔδωκεν ὅσα ὑπέσχητο,¹ καὶ τῷ δήμῳ καθ' ἑκατὸν² δραχμᾶς. σύμπαντα γὰρ ὅσα ὁ Κόμμοδος ἐπὶ τε τῇ τρυφῇ καὶ ἐς ὀπλομαχίαν ἢ καὶ ἐς ἀρματηλασίαν ἐκέκτητο, ἐς τὸ πωλητήριον ἐξετέθη, τὸ μὲν πλείστον πράσεως ἕνεκα, ἥδη δὲ καὶ ἐς ἐπίδειξιν τῶν τε ἔργων αὐτοῦ καὶ τῶν διαιτημάτων, καὶ προσέτι καὶ ἐς ἔλεγχον τῶν ὠνησομένων αὐτά.—Xiph. 284, 12—285, 19 R. St.

6 Ὁ δὲ Λαῖτος τὸν Περτίνακα δι' εὐφημίας ἤγε καὶ τὸν Κόμμοδον ὑβρίζε.³ βαρβάρους γοῦν τινὰς χρυσίον παρ' αὐτοῦ πολὺ ἐπ' εἰρήνην εἰληφότας μεταπεμφάμενος (ἔτι γὰρ ἐν ὁδῷ ἦσαν) ἀπήτησεν αὐτό, εἰπὼν αὐτοῖς ὅτι “λέγετε τοῖς οἴκοι Περτίνακα ἄρχειν” ἥδεσαν γὰρ καὶ πάνυ τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ ἐξ ὧν ἐπεπόνθησαν ὅτε

¹ ὑπέσχητο Bk., ὑπέσχετο VC Zon.

² ἑκατὸν Zon., ἕκαστον VC.

their relatives and others their friends with mingled A.D. 193 tears and joy, even these exhibitions of emotion not having been permitted formerly. After this they exhumed the bodies, some of which were found intact and some in fragments, according to the manner of death or the lapse of time in each case; and after duly arranging them, they deposited them in their ancestral tombs.

At this time, then, there was such a dearth of funds in the imperial treasury that only a million sesterces could be found. Pertinax therefore raised money as best he could from the statues, the arms, the horses, the furniture, and the favourites of Commodus, and gave to the Pretorians all that he had promised and to the populace a hundred denarii per man. Indeed, all the articles that Commodus had collected, whether as luxuries or for gladiatorial combats or for chariot-driving, were exposed in the auction-room, primarily, of course, to be sold, yet with the further purpose of showing up the late emperor's deeds and practices, and also of finding out who their purchasers would be.

Laetus kept speaking well of Pertinax and abusing Commodus.¹ For instance, he sent after some barbarians who had received a large sum of gold from Commodus for making peace (they were still on their way), and demanded its return, telling them to inform their people at home that Pertinax was ruler; for the barbarians knew his name only too well because of the reverses they had suffered

¹ Cf. Exc. Val.: “Laetus kept showing up all the evil deeds of Commodus.”

³ Cf. Exc. Val. 329 (p. 730): ὅτι ὁ Λαῖτος [ὁ ὑπατος] ὅσα κακῶς ἐποίησεν ὁ Κόμμοδος ἐξήλεγχεν.

2 μετὰ τοῦ Μάρκου ἐστρατεύετο.¹ καὶ ἕτερον δέ τι τοιόνδε ἐπὶ τῇ τοῦ Κομμόδου διαβολῇ ὁμοίως ἔπραξε. κοπρίας τινὰς καὶ γελωτοποιοὺς αἰσχίστα μὲν τὰ εἶδη αἰσχίω δὲ τὰ τε ὀνόματα καὶ τὰ ἐπιτηδεύματα ἔχοντας καὶ διὰ τὴν ὕβριν τὴν τε ἀσέλγειαν ὑπὸ τοῦ Κομμόδου ὑπερπλουτοῦντας εὐρών, ἐδημοσίευσεν τὰς τε προσηγορίας αὐτῶν καὶ τὸ πλῆθος ὧν ἐκέκτηντο, καὶ ἦν ἐπὶ μὲν τοῖς γέλως, ἐπὶ δὲ τοῖς ὀργῇ τε καὶ λύπῃ· τοσαῦτα γὰρ τινες αὐτῶν ἔχοντες ἦσαν ἐφ' ὅσοις

3 ἐκεῖνος πολλοὺς καὶ τῶν βουλευτῶν ἐσφάκει. οὐ μέντοι γε καὶ δι' ὅλου ὁ Λαίτος πιστὸς ἔμεινε τῷ Περτίνακι, μᾶλλον δὲ οὐδ' ἐν ἀκαρεῖ· ὧν γὰρ ἤθελε μὴ τυγχάνων προσπαρώξυνε τοὺς στρατιώτας, ὡς λελέξεται, κατ' αὐτοῦ.—Xiph. 285, 19—286, 3 R. St., Exc. Val. 329, 330.

7 Τὸν μὲν οὖν πευθερὸν αὐτοῦ² ὁ Περτίναξ τὸν Σουλπικιανὸν τὸν Φλάουιον³ πολιαρχεῖν ἔταξε, καὶ ἄλλως ἄξιον ὄντα τούτου τυχεῖν· οὔτε δὲ τὴν γυναῖκα Αὐγουσταν οὔτε τὸν υἱὸν Καίσαρα, καίπερ ψηφισαμένων ἡμῶν, ποιῆσαι ἠθέλησεν,

2 ἀλλ' ἐκάτερον ἰσχυρῶς διεκρούσατο, εἴτ' οὖν ὅτι μηδέπω τὴν ἀρχὴν ἐρριζώκει, εἴτε καὶ ὅτι ἐκείνην τε ἀκολασταίνουσιν οὐκ ἠβουλήθη τὸ τῆς Αὐγουστής ὄνομα μιᾶναι, καὶ τὸν υἱὸν παιδίον ἔτι ὄντα οὐκ ἠθέλησε, πρὶν παιδευθῆναι, τῷ τε ὄγκῳ⁴ καὶ τῇ ἐλπίδι τῇ ἐκ τοῦ ὀνόματος δια-

3 φθαρῆναι. ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἐν τῷ παλατίῳ αὐτὸν ἔτρεφεν, ἀλλὰ καὶ πάντα τὰ ὑπάρχοντα αὐτῷ⁵ πρότερον ἐν τῇ πρώτῃ εὐθὺς ἡμέρᾳ ἀποθέμενος,

¹ ἐστρατεύετο R. Steph., ἐστράτευτο VC cod. Peir.

² αὐτοῦ Reim., αὐτοῦ VC.

when he made a campaign against them with Marcus. A.D. 193
 And here is another similar act of his intended to discredit Commodus. Discovering that some filthy clowns and buffoons, disgusting in appearance and with still more disgusting nicknames and habits, had been made extremely wealthy by Commodus on account of their wantonness and licentiousness, he made public their nicknames and the sums they had received. The former caused laughter and the latter wrath and grief, for there were some of them that possessed amounts such as Commodus had actually slain many senators to obtain. Laetus, however, did not remain permanently loyal to Pertinax, or, I might better say, he was never faithful even for a moment; for when he did not get what he wanted, he proceeded to incite the soldiers against him, as will be related.

Pertinax appointed as prefect of the city his father-in-law, Flavius Sulpicianus, a man in every way worthy of the office. Yet he was unwilling to make his wife Augusta or his son Caesar, though we granted him permission. In fact, he emphatically rejected both proposals, either because he had not yet firmly rooted his own power or because he did not choose either to let his unchaste consort sully the name of Augusta or to permit his son, who was still a boy, to be spoiled by the glamour and the prospects involved in the title of Caesar before he had received his education. Indeed, he would not even bring him up in the palace, but on the very first day he set aside everything that had belonged

³ Φλάουιον Casaubon, φλάκον VC.

⁴ ὄγκῳ Reim., ὄγκῳ VC.

⁵ αὐτῷ Bk., αὐτῷ VC.

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