

EPITOME OF BOOK LXXX

- α. Περὶ Ἀβίτου τοῦ καὶ Ψευδαντωνίου καὶ τῶν φόνων ὧν εἰργάσατο.
 β. Περὶ ὧν παρενόμησεν καὶ ὡς τὴν ἀειπαρθένον ἔγημε.
 γ. Περὶ τοῦ Ἐλεογαβάλου καὶ ὡς τὴν Οὐρανίαν ἐς τὴν Ῥώμην μεταπεμψάμενος τῷ Ἐλεογαβάλῳ συνῆκισεν.
 δ. Περὶ τῆς ἀσελγείας αὐτοῦ.
 ε. Ὡς τὸν ἀνεψιδὸν ἐποίησατο, ὃν καὶ Ἀλέξανδρον μετωνόμασεν.
 [ζ.] Ὡς κατελύθη καὶ ἐσφάγη.

Χρόνον πλήθος τὰ λοιπὰ τῆς Μακρίνου καὶ Ἀδβέντου¹ ὑπατείας² καὶ ἄλλα ἔτη δ', ἐν οἷς ἄρχοντες οἱ ἀριθμοῦμενοι οἶδε ἐγένοντο.

Ψευδαντωνίος τὸ β' καὶ
 Κ. Τινέιος³ Σακέρδως
 Ψευδαντωνίος τὸ γ' καὶ
 Μ. Οὐαλέριος⁴ Κωμάζων
 Γ. Βέττιος⁵ Γράτος⁶ Σαβινιανός⁷ καὶ
 Μ. Φλάβιος⁸ Βιτέλλιος⁹ Σέλευκος
 Ψευδαντωνίος τὸ δ' καὶ
 Μ. Αὐρήλιος Σεῦηρος¹⁰ Ἀλέξανδρος.

LXXX Ὁ δὲ δὴ Ἀουίτος εἴτε Ψευδαντωνίος εἴτε καὶ
 1, 1 Ἀσσύριος ἢ καὶ Σαρδανάπαλλος Τιβερίνος τε
 (καὶ γὰρ καὶ¹¹ ταύτην τὴν προσηγορίαν, ἐπειδὴ
 τὸ σῶμα σφαγέντος αὐτοῦ ἐς τὸν Τίβεριν ἐνε-
 βλήθη, ἔλαβεν) τότε μὲν μετὰ τὴν νίκην ἔς τε

¹ Ἀδβέντου Urs., ALBENTOT V.
² ὑπατείας Urs., ΥΠΑΤΙΑΣ V.
³ Κ. Τινέιος Bs., KTINA V.
⁴ Μ. Οὐαλέριος Bs., ΛΟΛΛΟΥΑΙ V.
⁵ Γ. Βέττιος Bs., ΓΒ. ΤΤ V.
⁶ Γράτος Leuncl. (Γράτος), ΤΡΑΤΟΣ V.
⁷ Σαβινιανός Leuncl., ΣΑΒΙΑΝ' V.
⁸ Φλάβιος Mommsen, ΦΑ V.

EPITOME OF BOOK LXXX

- About Avitus, called also the False Antoninus, and the murders that he committed (chaps. 1-7).
 About his lawless deeds and how he married the Vestal (chaps. 9, 11).
 About Eleogabalus and how he summoned Urania to Rome and united her in marriage with Eleogabalus (chaps. 11-12).
 About his licentiousness (chaps. 13-16).
 How he adopted his cousin and changed his name to Alexander (chaps. 17-18).
 How he was overthrown and slain (chaps. 19-21).

Duration of time, the remainder of the consulship of Macrinus and Adventus, together with four additional years, in which there were the magistrates (consuls) here enumerated:—

- A. D.
 219 The False Antoninus (II) and Q. Tineius Sacerdos.
 220 The False Antoninus (III) and M. Valerius Comazon.
 221 C. Vettius Gratus Sabinianus and M. Flavius Vitellius Seleucus.
 222 The False Antoninus (IV) and M. Aurelius Severus Alexander.

Now Avitus, otherwise known as the False ^{A. D. 218} Antoninus, or the Assyrian, or Sardanapalus, or even Tiberinus (this last appellation he received after he had been slain and his body had been thrown into the Tiber), at the time of which we are speaking

⁹ Βιτέλλιος Bs., BITEAA V.
¹⁰ Αὐρήλιος Σεῦηρος Urs., ΑΥΡΗΑΙΟΣΕΥΗΡ' V.
¹¹ καὶ supplied by Urs.

τὴν Ἀντιόχειαν τῇ ὑστεραία ἐσῆλθε, πεντακοσίας τοῖς ἀμφ' αὐτὸν στρατιώταις δραχμάς, ὅπως μὴ διαρπάσωσιν αὐτήν, οὐδὲρ τὰ μάλιστα ἐπεθύμουν, προὔποσχόμενος.¹ ἄς που καὶ παρὰ τοῦ δῆμου ἐσέπραξεν· καὶ ἐς τὴν Ῥώμην ἄλλα τε οἷα εἰκὸς ἦν ἐπέστειλε, πολλὰ μὲν τὸν Μακρίνου ἄλλως τε καὶ ἐς τὴν δυσγένειαν τήν τε ἐπὶ τὸν Ἀντωνίου ἐπιβουλὴν διαβάλλων (πρὸς γοῦν τοῖς ἄλλοις τοῦτο ἔφη ὅτι “ὧ μὴδ' ἐσελθεῖν ἐς τὸ συνέδριον μετὰ τὸ κήρυγμα τὸ χωρὶς τῶν βουλευτῶν τοὺς λοιποὺς ἐξείργον² ἐξῆν, οὗτος ἐτόλμησεν τὸν αὐτοκράτορα, οὗ τὴν φρουρὰν ἐπεπίστευτο, δολοφονήσας τὴν ἀρχὴν αὐτοῦ παρασπάσασθαι καὶ αὐτοκράτωρ πρότερον ἢ βουλευτῆς γενέσθαι”), πολλὰ δὲ καὶ περὶ ἑαυτοῦ οὐχ ὅτι τοῖς στρατιώταις ἀλλὰ καὶ τῇ βουλῇ τῷ τε δήμῳ καθυπισχνούμενος (κατὰ τε γὰρ τὸν τοῦ Αὐγούστου, ὧ καὶ τὴν ἡλικίαν τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ἀφωμοίου, καὶ κατὰ τὸν τοῦ Ἀντωνίου τοῦ Μάρκου ζῆλον ἅπαντα ἅπαξ πράξειν ἐπηγγεί-
⁴ λατο), καὶ δῆτα καὶ αὐτὸ τοῦτο ἔγραψεν, αἰνιττόμενος πρὸς τὰς διαβολὰς τὰς ἐς αὐτὸν ὑπὸ τοῦ Μακρίνου θρυληθείσας, ὅτι “τὴν ἡλικίαν τὴν ἐμὴν διαβαλεῖν ἐπεχείρησεν, αὐτὸς πενταετῆ υἱὸν ἀποδείξας.”
² Ταῦτά τε οὖν τῇ βουλῇ ἐπέστειλεν, καὶ τὰ ὑπομνήματα τὰ παρὰ τοῖς στρατιώταις γενόμενα τὰ τε γράμματα τοῦ Μακρίνου τὰ τῷ Μαξίμῳ γραφέντα ἐπεμψεν μὲν καὶ τῇ γερουσίᾳ ἐπεμψεν δὲ καὶ τοῖς στρατεύμασιν, ἵν' ἐξ αὐτῶν ἔτι μᾶλλον τήν τε ἐκείνου μνήμην μισήσωσι καὶ

¹ προὔποσχόμενος Leuncl., ΠΡΟΣΥΠΟΣΧΟΜΕΝΟΣ V.

entered Antioch on the day following the victory, A.D. 218 after first promising two thousand sesterces apiece to the soldiers with him to prevent them from sacking the city, a thing which they were very anxious to do. This amount he collected in part from the people. And he sent to Rome such a despatch as was to be expected, making many derogatory remarks about Macrinus, especially with reference to his low birth and his plot against Antoninus. For example, he said among other things: “This man, to whom it was not permitted even to enter the senate-house after the proclamation debarring all others than senators, dared treacherously to murder the emperor whom he had been trusted to guard, dared to appropriate his office and to become emperor before he had been senator.” About himself he made many promises, not only to the soldiers but also to the senate and to the people, asserting that he would always and in all things emulate Augustus, to whose youth he likened his own, and Marcus Antoninus. He also wrote the following, alluding to the derogatory remarks spread broadcast about him by Macrinus: “He undertook to disparage my age, when he himself had appointed his five-year-old son [emperor].”

Besides this communication that he forwarded to the senate, he sent not only to the senate but also to the legions the notebooks found among the soldiers and the letters of Macrinus written to Maximus, hoping that these would cause them to hold his predecessor's memory in even greater detestation

² ἐξείργον Leuncl., ΕΞΕΡΓΟΝ V.

2 ¹ ἑαυτὸν ἀγαπήσωσιν. καὶ ἐν μὲν τῇ πρὸς τὴν
 βουλὴν ἐπιστολῇ τῷ τε πρὸς τὸν δῆμον γράμματι
 καὶ αὐτοκράτορα καὶ Καίσαρα, τοῦ τε Ἀντωνίνου
 υἱὸν καὶ τοῦ Σεουήρου ἔγγονον, εὐσεβῆ τε καὶ
 εὐτυχῆ καὶ Αὐγουστον, καὶ ἀνθύπατον τὴν τε
 3 ἔξουσίαν τὴν δημαρχικὴν ἔχοντα ἑαυτὸν ἐνέγρα-
 ψεν, προλαμβάνων αὐτὰ πρὶν ψηφισθῆναι, τῷ
 | ματι οὐ τῷ τ | ἀλλὰ
 τῷ τοῦ π | ἐχρήσατο, ο
 . | ησεν καὶ αν | τὰ τῶν στρα-
 τιωτῶν ὑπομνήματα ο | γὰρ δὴ
 τοῦ Μακρίνου . . . | ματα καισαρ |
 δὲ δὴ δορυφόροις καὶ Ἀλβανίοις τοῖς ἐν τῇ
 4 Ἰταλία οὔσι | καὶ ὅτι ὑπάτο . . .
 . . . ρευσειητρ | λε καὶ τὰ με
 | ριος Κηνσωρίνος . . . | προστα-
 σίαν | ἀνελέξατο |
 Μακρίνου c | αὐτὸς ὡς οὐχ . . .
 . . . | διὰ τῆς ἑαυτ | δημοσιωθ . . .
 | ἀναγνῶναι | τὰ
 γράμματ Σαρδαναπαλλο
 . . | νος τοῦ κλ² | ἐς τοὺς ὑπα-
 τευκότας ἐγκατελέξατο, ἐνετείλατο
 ἵνα, εἴ τις ἀνθίσταίτο, τῇ χειρὶ τῇ τῶν στρατιω-
 5 τῶν χρήσεται· ἀφ' οὗ δὴ σια καὶ
 ἄκουσα πάντα ἐκείνοις δ . ἀνέγνω . τῇ γὰρ
 ἐπαρτηθείσῃ ἀνάγκῃ οὐδὲν οὔτε τῶν δεόντων οὔτε
 τῶν συμφερόντων σφίσι πράξαι ἠδυνήθησαν, . .
 . . . , ἀλλὰ ὑπὸ τοῦ φόβου ἐξεπλάγησαν . . .
 6 || καὶ τὸν τε Μα-
 κρίνον, ὃν πάμπολλα ἐπηνέκεσαν, ἐν πολεμίου

¹ ἑαυτὸν Urs., EΞAYTON V (EΞ deleted by V²).

and to feel greater affection for him. In both the A.D. 218
 message to the senate and the letter to the people
 he styled himself emperor and Caesar, the son of
 Antoninus, the grandson of Severus, Pius, Felix,
 Augustus, proconsul, and holder of the tribunician
 power, assuming these titles before they had been
 voted, and he used, not the [na]me [of Avitus,] but
 that of his [pretended] f[ather],
 the notebooks of the sol-
 diers for
 Macrinus' Caesar
 to the Pretorians and to the Alban legionaries who
 were in Italy he <wro>te and that he was
 consul and [high p]riest (?) and the
 . . [Ma]rius Censorinus . . leadership . . read . . .
 of Macrinus himself, as if not [suffi-
 ciently] by his own [voice able] to make public . . .
 . . the letters of Sardanapalus to be read . . . by (?)
 Cl[audius Polli]o,¹ [whom] he had enrolled among
 the ex-consuls, [and] commanded that if anyone re-
 sisted him, he should call on the soldiers for
 assistance; accordingly, [the sen]ate, though unwill-
 ingly, read everything to those . . For, by reason of
 the necessity hanging over them, they were unable
 to do any of the things that were proper or
 expedient . . but were panic-stricken by fear
 and Macrinus, whom they had often commended,
 they now reviled, together with his son, regarding

¹ Cf. Exc. Val.: "The False Antoninus sent letters to the senate through Pollio, the consul, and commanded him," etc.

² Cf. Exc. Val. 403 (p. 761): ὅτι ὁ Ψευδαντωνίνος γράμματα πέμψας τῇ βουλῇ διὰ Πολλίωνος ὑπάτου ἐνετείλατο αὐτῷ ἵνα, κτέ.

μοίρα σύν τε τῷ υἱεὶ ἐλοιδόρησαν,¹ καὶ τὸν Ταραύταν, ὃν καὶ πολέμιον ἀποδείξαι πολλάκις ἠθελήκεσαν, τότε ἐσέμνυνον, καὶ τὸν υἱὸν δῆθεν αὐτοῦ ἠύχοντο ὅμοιον γενέσθαι αὐτῷ.

- 3 Ἐν μὲν οὖν τῇ Ῥώμῃ ταῦτα. ὁ δὲ Ἀουίτος τὸν Πολλίωνα . . . τῆς Γερμανίας ἄρξαι προσέταξεν, ἐπεὶ καὶ Βιθυνίας τα ἐκεῖνος περιεγεγόνει. αὐτὸς δὲ καταμείνας τινὰς μῆνας ἐν τῇ Ἀντιοχείᾳ μέχρι οὗ τὴν ἀρχὴν πανταχόθεν ἐβεβαιώσατο, ἐς τὴν Βιθυνίαν ἦλθεν, παρέδρον οἱ πολλάκις ν, ὥσπερ καὶ κατὰ τὴν Ἀντιόχαιαν εἰώθει, ποιούμενος. ἔνθα δὲ ἐπιχειμάσας ἐς τὴν Ἰταλίαν διὰ τῆς Θράκης καὶ τῆς Μυσίας καὶ τῆς Παννουσίας ἐκατέρως ἐπορεύθη, κάκει μέχρι τῆς τοῦ βίου τελευτῆς κατέμεινεν, ἐν μὲν τι καὶ σφόδρα ἀγαθοῦ αὐτοκράτορος ἔργον ποιήσας (πολλῶν γὰρ πολλὰ καὶ ἰδιωτῶν καὶ δήμων, τῶν τε² ι αὐτοῦ τούτων τῆς τε βουλῆς, καὶ ἰδίᾳ καὶ κοινῇ ἔς τε τὸν Καρακάλλον καὶ ἑαυτὸν, ἐκ τῶν τοῦ Μακρίνου γραμμάτων, καὶ λόγῳ καὶ ἔργῳ ὑβρισάντων, οὐδενί³ τὸ παράπαν οὔτε ἐπεξιέναι⁴ ἔφη οὔτε ἐπεξῆλθεν), ἐς δὲ δὴ τὰλλα πάντα καὶ αἰσχροουργότατα καὶ παρανομώτατα καὶ μαιφονώτατα ἐξοκείλας, ὥστε τὰ μὲν τινὰ αὐτῶν μηδ' ἀρχὴν πώποτ' ἐν τῇ Ῥώμῃ γενόμενα ὡς καὶ πάτρια ἀκμάσαι, τὰ δὲ καὶ τολμηθέντα ἄλλοτε⁵ ἄλλοις

¹ Cf. Exc. Val. 403: καὶ ἐψηφίσαντο τὸν Μακρίνον ἐν πολέμου μοίρᾳ καὶ ἐλοιδόρησαν, κτέ.

² τῶν τε—τῆς τε βουλῆς V, καὶ αὐτῶν Ῥωμαίων Exc. Val. τῶν τε Ῥωμαίων αὐτῶν, τῶν τε ἰππέων τῆς τε βουλῆς Bs.

him in the light of a public enemy;¹ while as for A.D. 218 Tarautas, whom they had often wished to declare a public enemy, they now exalted him and prayed that his alleged son should be like him.

This was what was taking place in Rome. As for Avitus, he appointed Pollio to govern . . . Germany . . . since Pollio had very . . . ly subdued Bithynia. He himself, after remaining some months in Antioch, until he had established his authority on all sides, went to Bithynia, [where he] frequently employed [Ganny]s as his associate [in the government], as he had been accustomed to do at Antioch. After passing the winter there, he proceeded into Italy through Thrace, Moesia, and both the Pannonias, and there he remained until the end of his life. One action of his was worthy of a thoroughly good emperor; for, although many individuals and communities alike, including the [Romans] themselves (?), both [knights] and senators, had privately and publicly, by word and by deed, heaped insults upon both Caracallus and himself, as a result of the letters of Macrinus, he neither threatened to make reprisals nor actually did make any in a single instance. But, on the other hand, he drifted into all the most shameful, lawless, and cruel practices, with the result that some of them, never before known in Rome, came to have the authority of tradition, while others, that had been attempted by

¹ Cf. Exc. Val.: "And they voted Macrinus a public enemy and heaped abuse upon him."

³ οὐδενί Xiph., ΟΥΔΕΝ V cod. Peir.

⁴ ἐπεξιέναι Bk., ΕΠΕΞΗΝ V, ΕΠΕΞΗΞΕΙΝ V² cod. Peir.

⁵ ἄλλοτε Bk., ΑΛΛΑΤΕ V.

ὡς ἐκάστοις, ἔτεσι τρισὶ καὶ¹ μῆσιν ἐννέα
 ἡμέραις τε τέτταρσιν, ἐν αἷς² ἦρξεν, ὡς γ' ἂν τις
 ἀπὸ τῆς μάχης ἐν ἣ τὸ παντελὲς κράτος ἔσχευ
 4 ἀριθμήσειεν, ἀνθῆσαι. ἐφόνευσε μὲν γὰρ ἐν τῇ
 Συρία τὸν τε Νέστορα καὶ Φάβιον Ἀγριππίνου
 τὸν ἄρχοντα αὐτῆς, τῶν τε ἰππέων τῶν ἀμφὶ τὸν
 Μακρίνον τοὺς πρώτους· ὅπερ πού καὶ τῶν ἐν τῇ
 Ῥώμῃ τοὺς μάλιστα οἰκειωθέντας αὐτῷ εἰργά-
 σατο· καὶ τῇ Ἀραβίᾳ³ Πεῖκαν Καιριανὸν τὸν
 ἐπιτετραμμένον αὐτήν, ὅτι μὴ παραχρῆμα αὐτῷ
 5 προσέθετο, ἐν τε τῇ Κύπρῳ Κλαύδιον Ἀτταλον
 τὸν τῆς Θράκης ποτὲ ἄρξαντα, καὶ ὑπὸ μὲν τοῦ
 Σεουήρου ἐκ τοῦ συνεδρίου ἐν τῷ τοῦ Νίγρου⁴
 πολέμῳ ἐκπεσόντα, ὑπὸ δὲ τοῦ Ταραύτου ἐς αὐτὸ
 ἐπαναχθέντα, καὶ τότε ἐκ τοῦ κλήρου τῇ Κύπρῳ
 προσταχθέντα, ὅτι τῷ Κωμάζοντι προσεκεκρού-
 κει στρατευόμενον γὰρ ποτε αὐτὸν ἐν Θράκῃ
 καὶ κακουργήσαντά τι ἐς τοὺς τριηρίτας ἀπέω-
 4 σατο. τοιοῦτος γάρ τις ὁ Κωμάζων ὢν καὶ τοῦτο
 τοῦνομα ἐκ τε μίμων καὶ γελωτοποιίας ἔχων τῶν
 τε δορυφόρων ἦρξεν, ἐν μηδεμίᾳ τὸ παράπαν
 ἐπιτροπείᾳ ἢ καὶ προστασίᾳ⁵ τινὶ πλὴν τῆς τοῦ
 2 στρατοπέδου ἐξετασθείς, καὶ τὰς τιμὰς τὰς
 ὑπατικὰς ἔλαβεν, καὶ μετὰ τοῦτο καὶ ὑπάτευσεν
 καὶ ἐπολιάρχησεν, οὐχ ἅπαξ μόνον ἀλλὰ καὶ
 δεῦτερον καὶ τρίτον, ὃ μηδεὶ πώποτε ἄλλῳ
 ὑπήρξεν· ὅθεν πού καὶ τοῦτ' ἐν τοῖς παρανομω-
 τάτοις ἐξαριθμῆσεται.

¹ καὶ Leuncl., KAIEN V.

² τε τέτταρσιν ἐν αἷς Leuncl., ΤΕΤΡΑΣΙΝΕΝΑΗ V.

³ τῇ Ἀραβίᾳ Urs., ΤΗΣΑΡΑΒΙΑΣ V.

⁴ τοῦ Νίγρου Leuncl., ΝΙΓΡΙΝΟΥ V.

⁵ προστασίᾳ Xiph., ΠΡΟΣΤΑΤΙΑ V.

various men at different times, flourished merely for A.D. 218
 the three years, nine months and four days during
 which he ruled,—reckoning from the battle in which
 he gained the supreme power. For example, while
 still in Syria, he slew Nestor and Fabius Agrippinus,
 the governor of the province, as well as the foremost
 knights among Macrinus' followers; and he visited
 the same punishment upon the men in Rome who
 had been most intimate with Macrinus. In Arabia
 he put to death Pica Caerianus,¹ who was in charge
 of that province, because he had not immediately
 declared his allegiance to the new ruler; and in
 Cyprus, Claudius Attalus, because he had offended
 Comazon. Attalus had once been governor of Thrace,
 had been expelled from the senate by Severus during
 the war with Niger, but had been restored to it by
 Tarautas, and had at this time been assigned by the
 lot to Cyprus. He had incurred Comazon's ill will
 by having once sent him to the galleys for some
 wrongdoing of which he was guilty while serving in
 Thrace. Yet this Comazon, in spite of having such a
 character and a name derived from mimes and buf-
 foonery, now commanded the Pretorians, though he
 had been tried in no position of responsibility or
 command whatever, except that over the camp;
 and he obtained the rank of consul and later actually
 became consul, and also city prefect, and that not
 once only, but even a second and a third time—a
 thing that had never before happened in the case of
 anybody else; hence this will be counted as one of
 the greatest violations of precedent.

¹ The name is probably erroneous; Hirschfeld would read
 Caecilianus, Klein suggests Caesianus.

3 Ὁ μὲν οὖν Ἀτταλος δι' ἐκείνον ἀπέθανεν, ὁ δὲ δὴ Τρικκιανὸς διὰ τοὺς Ἀλβανίους¹ ὧν ἐγκρατῶς ἐπὶ τοῦ Μακρίνου ἠγεῖτο, Καστίνος² θ' ὅτι δραστήριός τε ἦν καὶ πολλοῖς στρατιώταις, ἐκ τε τῶν ἀρχῶν ὧν ἠρξε καὶ ἐκ τῆς πρὸς τὸν Ἀντωνῖνον συνουσίας, ἐγνωστο· διόπερ καὶ ὑπὸ
4 τοῦ Μακρίνου τὴν ἄλλως προπεμφθεὶς ἐν Βιθυνίᾳ τὴν δίαυταν ἐποιεῖτο. τοῦτόν τε οὖν ἀπέκτεινεν, καίτοι τῇ γερουσίᾳ περὶ αὐτοῦ γράψας ὅτι αὐτὸν εἰρχθέντα τῆς Ῥώμης, ὥσπερ καὶ τὸν Ἀσπρον τὸν Ἰούλιον, ὑπὸ τοῦ Μακρίνου
5 ἀποκατέστησεν, καὶ Σύλλαν τὸν τῆς Καππαδοκίας ἄρξαντα, καίπερ ἀπηλλαγμένον ἐξ αὐτῆς, ὅτι τ' ἐπολυπραγμόνει τινά, καὶ ὅτι³ μεταπεμφθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἐκ τῆς Ῥώμης ἀπήντησε τοῖς στρατιώταις τοῖς Κελτικοῖς οἵκαδε μετὰ τὴν ἐν τῇ Βιθυνίᾳ χειμασίαν, ἐν ἣ τινὰ ὑπετάραξαν,
6 ἀπιούσιν. οὗτοι μὲν δὴ⁴ διὰ ταῦτα ἀπώλοντο, καὶ οὐδὲ ἐπεστάλη τι περὶ αὐτῶν τῇ γερουσίᾳ, Σείος δὲ δὴ Κᾶρος ὁ Φουσκιανοῦ τοῦ πολιάρχης-σαντος ἔκγονος ὅτι τε ἐπλούτει καὶ ὅτι μέγας καὶ νοῦν ἔχων ἦν, πρόφασιν ὡς καὶ συνιστάς τινος τῶν ἐν τῷ Ἀλβανῷ στρατευομένων (καὶ μόνου γε⁵ ἐκείνου ἀποδεικνύντος τινὰ ἠκούσεν
7 ἐν τῷ παλατίῳ, ἐν ᾧ καὶ ἐσφάγη), Οὐαλεριανὸς τε Παῖτος ὅτι εἰκόνας τινὰς ἑαυτοῦ ἐπιχρύσους

¹ Ἀλβανίους Falc., AABINIOTΣ V.
TI

² Καστίνος θ' ὅτι Bs., KAITINOΣΘ V (TI added by V² and first I corr. to Σ).

³ ὅτι Leuncl., OTITE V.

⁴ δὴ Urs., ΔΕ V.

Attalus, then, was put to death on Comazon's A.D. 218 account. Triccianus, however, lost his life because of the Alban legion, which he had commanded with a firm hand during Macrinus' reign. And Castinus perished because he was energetic and was known to many soldiers in consequence of the commands he had held and of his intimate association with Antoninus; he had accordingly been living in Bithynia, whither he had been sent ahead for other reasons. The emperor now put him to death, in spite of the fact that he had written concerning him to the senate that he had restored this man who had been banished from Rome by Macrinus, just as he had done in the case of Julius Asper. He also slew Sulla, who had been governor of Cappadocia but had left the province, because Sulla had meddled in some matters that did not concern him and also because, when summoned from Rome by the emperor, he had contrived to meet the German troops returning home after their winter in Bithynia, a period during which they had created some little disturbance. These men, then, perished for the reasons I have given, and no statements about them were communicated to the senate. On the other hand, Seius Carus, the grandson of Fuscianus, the former prefect of the city, was killed because he was rich, influential, and prudent, but on the pretext that he was forming a league of some of the soldiers stationed near the Alban Mount; he heard the emperor alone prefer certain charges against him in the palace, and there he was also slain. Valerianus Paetus lost his life because he had stamped some likenesses of himself and plated them with gold to serve as orna-

⁵ γε Bk., TE V.

πρὸς παλλακίδων κοσμήματα ἐξετύπωσεν· ἐκ γὰρ τούτου καὶ αἰτίαν ἔσχευ ὡς καὶ ἐς¹ Καππαδοκίαν ὁμορον τῇ πατρίδι αὐτοῦ οὔσαν (Γαλάτης γὰρ ἦν) ἀπελθεῖν ἐπὶ νεωτερισμῷ διανοούμενος, καὶ κατὰ τοῦτο χρυσοῦς γλύμμα ἑαυτοῦ φέροντας ποιούμενος.

- 5 Καὶ ἐπὶ τούτοις καὶ ὑπὸ τῆς βουλῆς ἐθανατώθη ὁ Μεσσάλας ὁ Σίλιος ὁ τε Βάσσοσ ὁ Πομπώνιος, ἐγκλήματα λαβόντες ὅτι² τοῖς 2 πραττομένοις ὑπ' αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἠρέσκοντο. τοῦτο γὰρ οὐδὲ τῇ βουλῇ γράψαι περὶ αὐτῶν ὄκνησεν, ἐξεταστάς τε αὐτοῦσ τοῦ ἑαυτοῦ βίου καὶ ἐπιτιμητὰς τῶν ἐν τῷ παλατίῳ δρωμένων εἰπὼν εἶναι· “τὰς γὰρ τοι τῆς ἐπιβουλῆς δῆθεν αὐτῶν ἀποδείξεις οὐκ ἔπεμψα ὑμῖν,” ἔφη, “ὅτι μάτην ἀγνωσθήσεσθαι ἔμελλον ἤδη σφῶν τεθνηκότων.” 3 ὑπὴν δέ τι καὶ ἕτερον αἰτίημα πρὸς Μεσσάλαν, ὅτι πολλὰ ἐρρωμένως ἐν τῷ συνεδρίῳ ἀπεφαίνετο· διόπερ καὶ κατ' ἀρχὰς αὐτὸν ἐς τὴν Συρίαν, ὡς καὶ πάνυ τι αὐτοῦ δέόμενος, μετεπέμψατο, ὅπως μὴ καὶ καθηγεμῶν αὐτῇ ἀλλοδοξίας γένηται. 4 τῷ δὲ δὴ Βάσσῳ, ὅτι γυναῖκα καὶ εὐπρεπῆ καὶ εὐγενῆ εἶχεν· τοῦ τε γὰρ Σεουήρου τοῦ³ Κλαυδίου καὶ τοῦ Ἀντωνίνου τοῦ Μάρκου ἀπόγονοσ ἦν. ἀμέλει καὶ ἔγημεν αὐτήν, μηδὲ ἐκθρηνηῆσαι 5 τὴν συμφορὰν ἐπιτρέψας. καὶ περὶ μὲν τῶν γάμων αὐτοῦ, ὧν τε ἐγάμει ὧν τε ἐγήματο, αὐτίκα λελέξεται· καὶ γὰρ ἠνδρίζετο καὶ ἐθελύνετο καὶ

¹ ἐς supplied by Leuncl.

² ὅτι Bs., ΟΤΙΕΦΗ V.

ments for his mistresses. This led to the charge A.D. 218 that he was intending to go off to Cappadocia, which bordered on his native land (he was a Galatian), for the purpose of starting a rebellion, and that this was the reason why he was making gold pieces bearing his own likeness.

Following these murders, Silius Messalla and Pomponius Bassus were condemned to death by the senate, on the charge of being displeased at what the emperor was doing. For he did not hesitate to write this charge against them even to the senate, calling them investigators of his life and censors of what went on in the palace. “The proofs of their plots I have not sent you,” he wrote, “because it would be useless to read them, as the men are already dead.” There was a further ground of complaint against Messalla, the fact, namely, that he resolutely laid bare many facts before the senate. This was what led the emperor in the first place to send for him to come to Syria, pretending to have great need of him, whereas he really feared that Messalla might take the lead in bringing about a change of mind on the part of the senators. In the case of Bassus, the real motive lay in the fact that he had a wife both fair to look upon and of noble rank; for she was a descendant of Claudius Severus and of Marcus Antoninus. At all events, the emperor married her, not allowing her even to mourn her loss. An account will be given presently of his marriages, in which he both married and was bestowed in marriage; for he appeared both as

³ τοῦ supplied by Bk.

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