DIogenes Laertius
Lives of Eminent Philosophers

With an English Translation by
R. D. Hicks, M.A.
Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge

In Two Volumes
I

Cambridge, Massachusetts
Harvard University Press
London
William Heinemann Ltd
MCMXIX
## CONTENTS OF VOLUME I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
<td>xxxix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testimonia</td>
<td>xlvi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BOOK I—</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prologue</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thales</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solon</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chilon</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittacus</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bias</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleobulus</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periander</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anacharsis</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myson</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epimenides</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pherecydes</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BOOK II—</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaximander</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaximenes</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaxagoras</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archelaus</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socrates</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xenophon</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AESCHINES</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARISTIPPUS</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHAEDO</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUCLIDES</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STILPO</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRITO</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIMON</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLAUCON</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIMMIAK</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CESENE</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENEDEMUS</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOOK III—**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLATO</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOOK IV—**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPEUSIPPUS</td>
<td>374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XENOCRATES</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLEMO</td>
<td>392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRATES</td>
<td>398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRANTOR</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCESILAUS</td>
<td>404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BION</td>
<td>422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LACIDES</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARNEADES</td>
<td>436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLITOMACHUS</td>
<td>442</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOOK V—**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARISTOTLE</td>
<td>444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEOPHRUSTUS</td>
<td>482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRATO</td>
<td>508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LYSO</td>
<td>518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEMETRIUS</td>
<td>526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HERACLIDES</td>
<td>538</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

## PREFACE

A new translation of this author, though long overdue, may yet appear premature at the present moment when new editions of the text are promised. However, a most valuable portion of the work, the *Epistles* of Epicurus, has appeared in a new recension; and the text of the biographies is hardly likely to undergo radical reconstruction. There is substantial agreement that the MSS. are late; that the scribe of the best, the Borbonicus, did not know Greek; that the mistakes which all share most likely came from their common archetype. To reconstruct the text of an author from such sources would have been in any case difficult; the difficulty is increased by the misfortune that the Edito Princeps was printed, not from the Borbonicus or Parisiensis, but from a worthless interpolated later MS.

The efforts of early editors to remove the grossest blunders lasted more than a century and resulted in the edition of Marcus Meibomius, which has the commentary of Aegidius Menagius. After the publication of this edition our author fell into neglect until the nineteenth century brought fuller study of better MSS., initiated by Cobet and carried on especially by Usener for Book X. If anyone hold that the present is too early a time for a translator who has not first revised the text of the author, I
DIÓGENES LAERTIOY
LIVES AND OPINIONS OF EMINENT
PHILOSOPHERS IN TEN BOOKS

BOOK I
Prologue

There are some who say that the study of philosophy had its beginning among the barbarians. They urge that the Persians have had their Magi, the Babylonians or Assyrians their Chaldaeans, and the Indians their Gymnosophists; and among the Celts and Gauls there are the people called Druids or Holy Ones, for which they cite as authorities the Magius of Aristotle and Sotion in the twenty-third book of his Succession of Philosophers. Also they say that Mochus was a Phoenician, Zamolxis a Thracian, and Atlas a Libyan.

If we may believe the Egyptians, Hephaestus was the son of the Nile, and with him philosophy began, priests and prophets being its chief exponents. Hephaestus lived 48,863 years before Alexander of Macedon, and in the interval there occurred 373 solar and 832 lunar eclipses.

Alexandria must have taken what we find in Strom. 1. 71 concerning Chaldaeans, Druids, Magians, Gymnosophists, and other barbarian philosophers.
DIIOGENES LAERTIUS

\textquote{Απὸ δὲ τῶν Μάγων, ὃν ἀρξαὶ Ζωροᾶστρῃ τὸν Πέρσην, Ἐρμοδώρος μὲν ὁ Πλατωνικὸς ἐν τῷ Περὶ μαθημάτων φησιν εἰς τὴν Τρώας ἄλλως ἔτη γεγονέναι πυταγορικὴ ἡ. Ζάνθος δὲ ὁ Λῦδος εἰς τὴν Ἑρέμου διάβας ἀπὸ τοῦ Ζωροᾶστρου ἐξακολουθοῦσα ἡ ἀγωγή, καὶ μετ' αὐτῶν γεγονείνα πολλοὺς τινας Μάγων κατὰ διαδοχὴν, Ὁστάνας καὶ Ἀστραμψιχύσας καὶ Γοβρύας καὶ Παξάτας, μέχρι τῆς τῶν Περσῶν ὑπ’ Ἀλεξάνδρου καταλύσεως.}

3 Λαυθάνουσι δ’ αὐτοῖς τὰ τῶν Ἑλλήνων κατορθώματα, ἀφ’ ὅς μή ὑπὸ γε φιλοσοφία, ἀλλὰ καὶ γένος ἀνθρώπων ἤρε, βαρβάρως προσάπτουσε. Ἱδοὺ γοῦν παρὰ μὲν Ἀθηναίοις γέγονε Μουσαῖοι, παρὰ δὲ Θηβαίοις Λίνος. καὶ τὸν μὲν Ἐυμόλπου παῖδα φασὶ, ποιηθᾶ περὶ Θεογονίαν καὶ Σφαῖραν πρῶτον φάναι τε ἔν τοῖς πάντα γίνεσθαι καὶ εἰς ταῦτα αναλύεσθαι. τούτων τελευτήσας Φαληροῦ, καὶ αὐτῶ εἰπεγράθαι τόδε τὸ ἔλεγχον.

Ἐυμόλπου φίλον ύπὸ ἔχει τὸ Φαληρικὸν οὐδὰς,
Μουσαῖον, φαίμενον σῶμι’, ὅπο τόδε τάφῳ.

ἀπὸ δὲ τοῦ πατρὸς τοῦ Μουσαίου καὶ Εὐμολπίδας καλοῦνται παρ’ Ἀθηναίους.

4 Τὸν δὲ Λίνον παῖδα εἶναι Ἐρμοῦ καὶ Μοῦσης Ὀὐρανίας’ ποιηθήσα δὲ κοσμογονίαν, ἤλιον καὶ σελήνης πορείαν, καὶ ἔφασι καὶ καρπῶν γενεσίας. τούτω ἀρχῇ τῶν ποιημάτων ἦδε:

ἡμί ποτὲ τοῦ χρόνος οὕτωσι, ἐν ὅ ᾣμα πάντ’ ἐπι-

εφύκει.

οἴδας λαβῶν Ἀναξαγόρας πάντα ἐφί χρήματα

The date of the Magians, beginning with Zoroaster the Persian, was 5000 years before the fall of Troy, as given by Hermodorus the Platonist in his work on mathematics; but Xanthus the Lydian reckons 6000 years from Zoroaster to the expedition of Xerxes, and after that event he places a long line of Magians in succession, bearing the names of Ostanas, Astrampsychos, Gobryas, and Pazatas, down to the conquest of Persia by Alexander.

These authors forget that the achievements which they attribute to the barbarians belong to the Greeks, with whom not merely philosophy but the human race itself began. For instance, Musaeus is claimed by Athens, Linus by Thebes. It is said that the former, the son of Eumolpus, was the first to compose a genealogy of the gods and to construct a sphere, and that he maintained that all things proceed from unity and are resolved again into unity. He died at Phalerum, and this is his epitaph:

Musaeus, to his sire Eumolpus dear,
In Phaleren soil lies buried here;
and the Eumolpidae at Athens get their name from the father of Musaeus.

Linus again was (so it is said) the son of Hermes and the Muse Urania. He composed a poem describing the creation of the world, the courses of the sun and moon, and the growth of animals and plants. His poem begins with the line:

Time was when all things grew up at once;
and this idea was borrowed by Anaxagoras when he

\textquote{* Anth. Pal. vii. 615.}
DIOPGENES LAERTIUS

gεγονότας ὀμοίως, νῦν δὲ ἑλθόντα αὑτὰ διακοσμῆσαι. τὸν δὲ Λίγων τελευτήσα τὸν Εὔβοια τοξευθέντα ἔπό Ἀπόλλωνος, καὶ αὐτῷ ἐπιγεγράφας.

'Ἡδὲ Λίγων Ὁθηβαῖον ἐδέξατο γαλα ταυτόνα, Μοῦσας Ὀὐρανίης νῦν ἑυστεφάνου.

καὶ ὅδε μὲν ἀφ’ Ἐλλήνων ἥρξε φιλοσοφία, ής καὶ αὐτὸ τὸ οἴομα τὴν βάρβαρον ἀπεστάται προσ-

ηγοριαν.

5 Ὁי δὲ τὴν εὔρεσιν διδόντες ἔκεινος παράγοντα καὶ Ὅρφεα τὸν Θρῆκα, λέγοντες φιλόσοφον γέγο

νέαν καὶ εἶναι ἀρχαιότατον. ἐγώ δὲ, εἰ τὸν περὶ 

Θεῶν ἐξαγορεύσαντα ταιαῦτα χρῆ φιλόσοφον καλεῖν 

οὐχ οἶδα. <οὐδὲ> ἄρα τινὲς προσαγωγέων τὸν πᾶν 

τὸ ἀνθρώπων πάθος ἀφεδύντες τοῖς θεοῖς προσ-

τρίψαν, καὶ τὰ σπανίω ὑπὸ τῶν ἀνθρώπων 

ἀληθορρογούμενα τῷ τῆς φωνῆς ῥυμαῖς. τοῦτον 

δὲ ὁ μὲν μίθος ὑπὸ γυναικῶν ἀπολέσας φησί· τὸ 

δ' ἐν Δίῳ τῆς Μακεδονίας ἐπίγραμμα, κεραυνω-

θῆναι αὐτῶν, λέγον ὀψως.

Ὀρφῆκα χρυσολύρῳ τῷ Ὅρφεα Μουσών έθαφαί, 

ὅτι κτανὲς οἷς ἐνεδρῶν Ζεὺς ψόλεται βέλες.

6 Ὁι δὲ φάσκοντες ἀπὸ βαρβάρων ἀρξας φιλο-

σοφίαν καὶ τὸν τρόπον παρ’ έκάστοις αὐτής ἐκ-

τίθενται καὶ φασὶ τοὺς μὲν Γυμνοσοφιστὰς καὶ 

Δρυίδας αἰνηματοδῶς ἀποφθεγμούμονος φιλο-

σοφίας, σέξεντα θεοὺς καὶ μὴν κακῶν δρὰν καὶ 

ἀνδρείαν ἀσκεῖν· τοὺς γοῦν Γυμνοσοφιστὰς καὶ

1 ἶδεν Ὀρθ. Pal. vii. 616.

2 ὅδε addidit Apelt.

I. 4-6. PROLOGUE

declared that all things were originally together until Mind came and set them in order. Linus died in Euboea, slain by the arrow of Apollo, and this is his epitaph:

Here Theban Linus, whom Urania bore,
The fair-crowned Muse, sleeps on a foreign shore.

And thus it was from the Greeks that philosophy took its rise: its very name refuses to be translated into foreign speech.

But those who attribute its invention to barbarians bring forward Orpheus the Thracian, calling him a philosopher of whose antiquity there can be no doubt. Now, considering the sort of things he said about the gods, I hardly know whether he ought to be called a philosopher; for what are we to make of one who does not scruple to charge the gods with all human suffering, and even the foul crimes wrought by the tongue amongst a few of mankind? The story goes that he met his death at the hands of women; but according to the epitaph at Dim in Macedonia he was slain by a thunderbolt; it runs as follows:

Here have the Muses laid their minstrel true,
The Thracian Orpheus whom Jove's thunder slew.

But the advocates of the theory that philosophy took its rise among the barbarians go on to explain the different forms it assumed in different countries. As to the Gymnosophists and Druids we are told that they uttered their philosophy in riddles, bidding men to reverence the gods, to abstain from wrongdoing, and to practise courage. That the Gymno-

DIOCYENES LAERTIUS

sophists at all events despise even death itself is affirmed by Clitarchus in his twelfth book; he also says that the Chaldaeans apply themselves to astronomy and forecasting the future; while the Magi spend their time in the worship of the gods, in sacrifices and in prayers, implying that none but themselves have the ear of the gods. They propound their views concerning the being and origin of the gods, whom they hold to be fire, earth, and water; they condemn the use of images, and especially the error of attributing to the divinities difference of sex. They hold discourse of justice, and deem it impious to practise cremation; but they see no impiety in marriage with a mother or daughter, as Sotion relates in his twenty-third book. Further, they practise divination and forecast the future, declaring that the gods appear to them in visible form. Moreover, they say that the air is full of shapes which stream forth like vapour and enter the eyes of keen-sighted seers. They prohibit personal ornament and the wearing of gold. Their dress is white, they make their bed on the ground, and their food is vegetables, cheese, and coarse bread; their staff is a reed and their custom is, so we are told, to stick it into the chest and take up the part they eat.

With the art of magic they were wholly unacquainted, according to Aristotle in his Magicus and Dinon in the fifth book of his History. Dinon tells us that the name Zoroaster, literally interpreted, means "star-worshipper"; and Hermodorus agrees (a Zend stem, parallel to γεωρτ-;) and uesta="camel." Cf. J. H. Moulton, op. cit. p. 436, and, for star-lore in the Avesta, ib. p. 210.

* Compare Pliny, N.H. xx. 11. 242: Zoroaster lived in the wilderness on cheese (cf. Yašt, xxii. 18 "Spring butter is the ambrosia of the blessed"). For fuller comments on §§ 7-9 see J. H. Moulton's Early Zoroastrianism, pp. 410-418.

* This popular etymology, though widespread, is erroneous, the true form of the prophet's name being Zarathustra, almost certainly derived from zarat= "old."
DIOKENES LAERTIUS

touto kai o 'Ermoboros. 'Aristotelis 8' en
prwth Peri philosofias kai prosogetous einai
twn Alkushon kai dwo kat autous einai arxhs,
agnan daimona kai kakon daimona kai tw mev
oimma einai Zeos kai 'Oromoudhs, tw de Atheta
kai 'Aroumados. phosi de touto kai 'Ermoppos en
tw prwth peri Macwn kai Eudoxos en tw Perioud
kai Theopompos en tw yndhr twwn Filippikwn.
9os kai anaibwsetai kata tws Macws phoi tov
anrphous kai abanatous eseswai, kai ta huta
tais autwn epikelhesei dianmenei. tauta de kai
Evdemos o 'Roidos istorei. 'Ekataio kai
gennhous tov theou einai kat autous. Kleapos
de o 'Solus en tw Peri paideias kai twv
Genosofistas apogynous einai twv Macwn phoi
enoi de kai tov 'Ioudaios ek tovewn einai.
pros toutos kataagwskousin 'Hrodous o to peri
Macwn garantai: mve gar an ein twn thln beth
zirion akontos, mhe ein tw thlassan pedas
kasthai, theous upo twv Macwn paraqledomous.
ta mev twv agalwma eikotous kasthaiw.
10 Twn de twv Alkushon philosofian einai toiauth
peri tw theon kai uper dikaioswn. f garw te
arxha mev einai twn plhn, elta ta teswra stoigeta
ex auths diakrithsai, kai zoa pantos apo-

a In this clause the word epiklethes is usually taken as
equivalent to doymi (names). The meaning then would be:
What exists now will exist hereafter under its own
present name." Diels would alter epiklethes to perik
kales, thus obtaining something very like the Heraclitean
union of opposites: "the things which are will continue to
be through all their revolutions." But epiklesis like
epikaleisthai can be used of prayer, and there is some
with him in this. Aristotle in the first book of his
dialogue On Philosophy declares that the Magi are
more ancient than the Egyptians; and further, that
they believe in two principles, the good spirit and
the evil spirit, the one called Zeus or Oromasdes,
the other Hades or Arimanios. This is confirmed
by Hermippus in his first book about the Magi,
The last-named author says that according to the Magi
men will live in a future life and be immortal, and
that the world will endure through their invocations.a
This is again confirmed by Eudemus of Rhodes.
But Hecataeus relates that according to them the
gods are subject to birth. Clearchus of Soli in his
tract On Education further makes the Gymnosophists
be descended from the Magi; and some trace
the Jews also to the same origin. Furthermore,
those who have written about the Magi criticize
Herodotus. They urge that Xerxes would never
have cast javelins at the sun nor have let down
fetters into the sea, since in the creed of the Magi
sun and sea are gods. But that statues of the
gods should be destroyed by Xerxes was natural
enough.
The philosophy of the Egyptians is described as
follows so far as relates to the gods and to justice.
They say that matter was the first principle, next
the four elements were derived from matter, and
thus living things of every species were produced.
evidence that Avestan religion fully recognised the efficacy
of prayers and spells. The testimony of Theopompos, who
wrote in the fourth century, to the Zoroastrian doctrine of
immortality is regarded by J. H. Moulton as specially
important: cf. Early Zoroastrianism, pp. 177 sq. and 416.
DIGENES LAERTIUS

The sun and the moon are gods bearing the names of Osiris and Isis respectively; they make use of the beetle, the dragon, the hawk, and other creatures as symbols of divinity, according to Manetho in his Epitome of Physical Doctrines, and Hecataeus in the first book of his work On the Egyptian Philosophy. They also set up statues and temples to these sacred animals because they do not know the true form of the deity. They hold that the universe is created and perishable, and that it is spherical in shape. They say that the stars consist of fire, and that, according as the fire in them is mixed, so events happen upon earth; that the moon is eclipsed when it falls into the earth's shadow; that the soul survives death and passes into other bodies; that rain is caused by change in the atmosphere; of all other phenomena they give physical explanations, as related by Hecataeus and Aristogoras. They also laid down laws on the subject of justice, which they ascribed to Hermes; and they deified those animals which are serviceable to man. They also claimed to have invented geometry, astronomy, and arithmetic. Thus much concerning the invention of philosophy.

But the first to use the term, and to call himself a philosopher or lover of wisdom, was Pythagoras; a for, said he, no man is wise, but God alone. Heraclides of Pontus, in his De mortua, makes him say this at Sicyon in conversation with Leon, who was the prince of that city or of Phlius. All too quickly the study was called wisdom and its professor a sage, to denote his attainment of mental perfection; while the student who took it up was a philosopher or lover of wisdom. Sophists was another name for

\[\text{This is confirmed by Clement, Strom. i. 61, who also repeats (Strom. i. 24) the statement that } \text{σοφιστής} = \text{σοφός.}\]
DIogenes Laertius

the wise men, and not only for philosophers but for
the poets also. And so Cratinus when praising
Homer and Hesiod in his Archilochi gives them the

title of sophist.

The men who were commonly regarded as sages
were the following: Thales, Solon, Periander,
Cleobulus, Chilon, Bias, Pittacus. To these are
added Anacharsis the Scythian, Myson of Chen,
Pherecydes of Syros, Epimenides the Cretan; and
by some even Pisistratus the tyrant. So much for
the sages or wise men. a

But philosophy, the pursuit of wisdom, has had
a twofold origin; it started with Anaximander on
the one hand, with Pythagoras on the other. The
former was a pupil of Thales, Pythagoras was taught
by Pherecydes. The one school was called Ionian,
because Thales, a Milesian and therefore an Ionian,
instructed Anaximander; the other school was called
Italian from Pythagoras, who worked for the most
part in Italy. And the one school, that of Ionia,
terminates with Clitomachus and Chrysippus and
Theophrastus, that of Italy with Epicurus. The
succession passes from Thales through Anaximander,
Anaximenes, Anaxagoras, Archelaus, to Socrates,
who introduced ethics or moral philosophy; from
Socrates to his pupils the Socrates, and especially
to Plato, the founder of the Old Academy; from
Plato, through Speusippus and Xenocrates, the
succession passes to Polemo, Crantor, and Crates,
Arcesilaus, founder of the Middle Academy, Lacydes, b

Emp. Pyrrh. Hyp. i. 220, say the Third or New Academy
began with Carneades. But the claim of Lacydes is sup-
ported by Ind. Acad. pp. 76, 37 sg. Mekler, and the article
s.v. in Suidas, which comes from Hesychius.

a Compare Clem. Alex. Strom. i. 59. His authority
includes another candidate for admission to the Seven,
Acusilaus of Argos, but makes no mention of Pisistratus.

b See iv. 59-61, where Lacydes is made the founder of
the New Academy, although other authorities, e.g. Sext.
founder of the New Academy, Carneades, and Clitomachus. This line brings us to Clitomachus.

There is another which ends with Chrysippus, that is to say by passing from Socrates to Antisthenes, then to Diogenes the Cynic, Crates of Thebes, Zeno of Citium, Cleanthes, Chrysippus. And yet again another ends with Theophrastus; thus from Plato it passes to Aristotle, and from Aristotle to Theophrastus. In this manner the school of Ionia comes to an end.

In the Italian school the order of succession is as follows: first Pherecydes, next Pythagoras, next his son Telauges, then Xenophanes, Parmenides, Zeno of Elea, Leucippus, Democritus, who had many pupils, in particular Nausiphanes [and Nausiphanes], who were teachers of Epicurus.

Philosophers may be divided into dogmatists and sceptics: all those who make assertions about things assuming that they can be known are dogmatists; while all who suspend their judgement on the ground that things are unknowable are sceptics. Again, some philosophers left writings behind them, while others wrote nothing at all, as was the case according to some authorities with Socrates, Stilpo, Philippus, Menedemus, Pyrro, Theodorus, Carneades, Bryson; some add Pythagoras and Aristo of Chios, except that they wrote a few letters. Others wrote no more than one treatise each, as Melissus, Parmenides, Anaxagoras. Many works were written by Zeno, more by Xenophanes, more by Democritus, more by Aristotle, more by Epicurus, and still more by Chrysippus.

many of them are regarded as sporadic thinkers, according to the view expressed in viii. 91.
I. 17-19. PROLOGUE

Some schools took their name from cities, as the Elians and the Megarians, the Eretrians and the Cyrenaics; others from localities, as the Academicians and the Stoics; others from incidental circumstances, as the Peripatetics; others again from derivative nicknames, as the Cynics; others from their temperaments, as the Eudaemonists or Happiness School; others from a conceit they entertained, as Truth-lovers, Refutationists, and Reasoners from Analogy; others again from their teachers, as Socrates, Epicureans, and the like; some take the name of Physicists from their investigation of nature, others that of Moralists because they discuss morals; while those who are occupied with verbal jugglery are styled Dialecticians.

Philosophy has three parts, physics, ethics, and dialectic or logic. Physics is the part concerned with the universe and all that it contains; ethics that concerned with life and all that has to do with us; while the processes of reasoning employed by both form the province of dialectic. Physics flourished down to the time of Archelaus; ethics, as we have said, started with Socrates; while dialectic goes as far back as Zeno of Elea. In ethics there have been ten schools: the Academic, the Cyrenaic, the Elian, the Megarian, the Cynic, the Eretrian, the Dialectic, the Peripatetic, the Stoic, and the Epicurean.

The founders of these schools were: of the Old Academy, Plato; of the Middle Academy, Arcesilaus; of the New Academy, Lacydes; of the Cyrenaic, Aristippus of Cyrene; of the Elian, Phaedo of Elis; of the Megarian, Euclides of Megara; of the Cynic, Antisthenes of Athens; of the Eretrian, Menedemus.
of Eretria; of the Dialectical school, Clitomachus of Carthage; of the Peripatetic, Aristotle of Stagira; of the Stoic, Zeno of Citium; while the Epicurean school took its name from Epicurus himself.

Hippobatus in his work On Philosophical Sects declares that there are nine sects or schools, and gives them in this order: (1) Megarian, (2) Eretrian, (3) Cyrenaic, (4) Epicurean, (5) Annicerian, (6) Theodorean, (7) Zenonian or Stoic, (8) Old Academic, (9) Peripatetic. He passes over the Cynic, Elian, and Dialectical schools; for as to the Pyrrhonians, so indefinite are their conclusions that hardly any authorities allow them to be a sect; some allow their claim in certain respects, but not in others. It would seem, however, that they are a sect, for we use the term of those who in their attitude to appearance follow or seem to follow some principle; and on this ground we should be justified in calling the Sceptics a sect. But if we are to understand by "sect" a bias in favour of coherent positive doctrines, they could no longer be called a sect, for they have no positive doctrines. So much for the beginnings of philosophy, its subsequent developments, its various parts, and the number of the philosophic sects.

One word more: not long ago an Eclectic school was introduced by Potamo of Alexandria, who Porphyry in his Life of Plotinus, 9, 11, for Polemo, not Potamo, is the correct form of the name in that place. Potamo is said by Suidas (s.v. Ποτάμιος Ἀλ.) to have lived shortly before and contemporary with Augustus, whence it follows that Diogenes has taken without alteration a statement by an earlier writer who might truthfully say "not long ago" of the reign of Augustus. Suidas, whose article αἵρεσις agrees closely with our text, naturally omits πρὸ ὀλίγου.
made a selection from the tenets of all the existing sects. As he himself states in his *Elements of Philosophy*, he takes as criteria of truth (1) that by which the judgement is formed, namely, the ruling principle of the soul; (2) the instrument used, for instance the most accurate perception. His universal principles are matter and the efficient cause, quality, and place; for that out of which and that by which a thing is made, as well as the quality with which and the place in which it is made, are principles. The end to which he refers all actions is life made perfect in all virtue, natural advantages of body and environment being indispensable to its attainment.

It remains to speak of the philosophers themselves, and in the first place of Thales.

*Chapter 1. THALES (floruit circa 585 B.C., the date of the eclipse)*

Herodotus, Duris, and Democritus are agreed that Thales was the son of Examyas and Cleobulina, and belonged to the Thelidae who are Phoenicians, and among the noblest of the descendants of Cadmus and Agenor. As Plato testifies, he was one of the Seven Sages. He was the first to receive the name of Sage, in the archonship of Damasias at Athens, when the term was applied to all the Seven Sages, as Demetrius of Phalerum mentions in his *List of Archons*. He was admitted to citizenship at Miletus when he came to that town along with Nileos, who had been expelled from Phoenicia. Most writers, however, represent him as a genuine Milesian and of a distinguished family.
After engaging in politics he became a student of nature. According to some he left nothing in writing; for the *Nautical Astronomy* attributed to him is said to be by Phocion of Samos. Callimachus knows him as the discoverer of the Ursa Minor; for he says in his *Iambics*:

> Who first of men the course made plain
> Of those small stars we call the Wain,
> Whereby Phoenicians sail the main.

But according to others he wrote nothing but two treatises, one *On the Solstice* and one *On the Equinox*, regarding all other matters as incognizable. He seems by some accounts to have been the first to study astronomy,* the first to predict eclipses of the sun and to fix the solstices; so Eudemus in his *History of Astronomy*. It was this which gained for him the admiration of Xenophanes and Herodotus and the notice of Heraclitus and Democritus.

And some, including Choricius the poet, declare that he was the first to maintain the immortality of the soul. He was the first to determine the sun’s course from solstice to solstice, and according to some the first to declare the size of the sun to be one seven hundred and twentieth part of the solar circle, and the size of the moon to be the same fraction of the lunar circle. He was the first to give the last day of the month the name of Thirtieth, and the first, some say, to discuss physical problems.

Aristotle* and Hippias affirm that, arguing from the magnet and from amber, he attributed a soul or life even to inanimate objects. Pamphila states that,
pará te Aignputiów geowmetrwésw mabónta fhos
Pamphíly prwòtov katagráfwai kúklou to trígwn
io draxwómwnov, kai thásai boi. Oi dè Píthagóras
fásov, ów éstew 'Apolloódoivos ô logosikós.
Oúto proíchégen eti pléiston, ò fhsi Kaláimaros
én tois 'Iámbovis Eúrfrou diwéw tov Fíryng, ólon
"skalhna kai trígwna" kai òsa grámmwés
éxetai thewías.

Dokei dè kai én tois politików ériståk bélwou-
leúthwai. Króisou goin pémwsatos prós Mileisovn
etí svxamhía ékklwsew òper Kúron krateúswntos
éswse tón pòlwv. Kai autòs dè fhos, ós 'Hra-
kleidhs istoréi, mwnh kai autón xegóvënai kai idi-
ósthn. Énou dè kai gýma autón kai Kúmbasovn åw
schein o dè ågova mei, tís dè adelfhs tón
åw théswai. Òte kai érswthénata diá tì òw teko-
ptwéi, "dia filotekhí̂an" eitwv. Kai légoynw
wtì tís mntrós vànagkalwúsia autón gýma, "[nà
Díà]," élengou, "oudétpw kairos." étw, épseidh
paráblasa égkeméngas, eitwv, "oudétpw kairos." fhos
dè kai 'Ierónymos o 'Rodias ev tòw deuteúr
Tòw svnordhnhn svpmnwmátwn, òti boulómnwos
deitai rádion evi ploutw, fóros melloúsia
elaimí éswswi, pronoùsws émuowóswa tò elaimi-
ugwia kai pámplewa svnekl chrýmata.

I. 24–27. THALES

having learnt geometry from the Egyptians, he was
the first to inscribe a right-angled triangle in a circle,
whereupon he sacrificed an ox. Others tell this tale
of Pythagoras, amongst them Apollodorus the arith-
metician. (It was Pythagoras who developed to
their furthest extent the discoveries attributed by
Callimachus in his Iambics to Euphorbus the
Phrygian, I mean "scalene triangles" and whatever
else has to do with theoretical geometry.)

Thales is also credited with having given excellent
advice on political matters. For instance, when
Croesus sent to Miletus offering terms of alliance,
he frustrated the plan; and this proved the salvation
of the city when Cyrus obtained the victory. Hera-
clides makes Thales himself say that he had always
lived in solitude as a private individual and kept
aloof from State affairs. Some authorities say that
he married and had a son Cybisthus; others that
he remained unmarried and adopted his sister's son,
and that when he was asked why he had no children
of his own he replied "because he loved children."
The story is told that, when his mother tried to
force him to marry, he replied it was too soon, and
when she pressed him again later in life, he replied
that it was too late. Hieronymus of Rhodes in the
second book of his Scattered Notes relates that, in
order to show how easy it is to grow rich, Thales,
foreseeing that it would be a good season for olives,
rented all the oil-mills and thus amassed a fortune.

His doctrine was that water is the universal
primary substance, and that the world is animate
and full of divinities. He is said to have discovered
DI OGENES LA ER T IUS

the seasons of the year and divided it into 365 days.

He had no instructor, except that he went to Egypt and spent some time with the priests there. Hieronymus informs us that he measured the height of the pyramids by the shadow they cast, taking the observation at the hour when our shadow is of the same length as ourselves. He lived, as Minyas relates, with Thrasylalus, the tyrant of Miletus.

The well-known story of the tripod found by the fishermen and sent by the people of Miletus to all the Wise Men in succession runs as follows. Certain I onian youths having purchased of the Milesian fishermen their catch of fish, a dispute arose over the tripod which had formed part of the catch. Finally the Milesians referred the question to Delphi, and the god gave an oracle in this form: 

Who shall possess the tripod? Thus replies Apollo: "Whosoever is most wise." 

Accordingly they give it to Thales, and he to another, and so on till it comes to Solon, who, with the remark that the god was the most wise, sent it off to Delphi. Callimachus in his Iambi c s has a different version of the story, which he took from Maenandrius of Miletus. It is that Bathycles, an Arcadian, left at his death a bowl with the solemn injunction that it "should be given to him who had done most good by his wisdom." So it was given to Thales, went the round of all the sages, and came back to Thales again. And he sent it written a local history of Miletus. Such histories, e.g. of Sicyon, Megara, Samos, Naxos, Argolis, Epirus, Thessaly, abounded in the Alexandrian age.

I. 27–29. THALES

...
DIogenes Laertius

"Ἀπόλλωνι ἀπέστειλεν, εἰτῶν οὐτω κατὰ τὸν Καλλίμαχον.

Τὰ λόγια μὲ τῷ μεδείντι Νεῖλεον δῆμου δίδώσας, τούτῳ δὲ διὰ λαβὼν ἀριστεῖον.

τὸ δὲ πεζὸν οὖσα ἔχει, "Ταῦτα Ἐξεμύην Μιλήσιος "Ἀπόλλωνι Δελφινῶι Ἐλλήνων ἀριστεῖον διὰ λαβὼν." ὁ δὲ περιενεγκός τὴν φιάλην τοῦ Βαθυκλέους πᾶσι Θυρίων ἐκαλεῖτο, καθὰ φησὶν Ἑλεύσεως ἐν τῷ Περὶ Ἀχιλλέως καὶ Ἀλέξων ὅ Μύδιος ἐν ἐνάτῳ Μυθικών.

Εὐδοξὸς δ' ὁ Κνίδιος καὶ Εὐανθῆς ὁ Μιλήσιος φασὶ τῶν Κρόισου τινὰ φίλων λαβέναι παρὰ τοῦ βασιλέως σωτήριον χρυσῶν, ὡς διὸ τὸ φιλοτρόπου τῶν Ἐλλήνων τὸν δὲ δούναι Θαλή.

30 Καὶ περιέλθετο εἰς Χιλιών, δὲν πυθόμενοι τοῦ Πυθίου τὸς αὐτοῦ σοφότερος καὶ τὸν ἀνείλεν ὁ Μύτων, περὶ οὗ λέγουμεν. (τοῦτον οἱ περὶ τὸν Εὐδόξον ἀντὶ Κλεοβούλου τιθέασι, Πλάτων δ' ἄντι Περιάνθρου.) περὶ αὐτοῦ δὴ τάδε ἀνέιλεν ὁ Πυθίος.

Οἰσταῖν τινα φημὶ Μύτων' εἰν Χιλιν γενέσθαι σοῦ μάλλον πραπάθεσθαι ἀρηνάτα πευκαλίμησιν.

ὁ δ' ἐρωτήσας ἦν Ἀνάχαραν. Δαίμαχος δ' ὁ Πλατωνικός καὶ Κλέαρχος φίλην ἀποστάλλην ὑπὸ Κρόισου Πιττακῷ καὶ οὕτω περιενεκτήσας.

1 ἀνείλεν vulg.: corr. H. Richards.
2 ἀνείλεν vulg.: corr. H. Richards.

* Anth. Plan. vi. 40.

I. 29–30. Thales

to Apollo at Didyma, with this dedication, according to Callimachus:

Lord of the folk of Neleus' line,
Thales, of Greeks adjudged most wise,
Brings to thy Didymaean shrine
His offering, a twice-won prize.

But the prose inscription is:

Thales the Mileian, son of Eamyas [dedicates this] to Delphian Apollo after twice winning the prize from all the Greeks.

The bowl was carried from place to place by the son of Bathycles, whose name was Thyrian, so it is stated by Eleusis in his work On Achilles, and Alexo the Myndian in the ninth book of his Legends.

But Eudoxus of Cnidos and Euanthes of Miletus agree that a certain man who was a friend of Croesus received from the king a golden goblet in order to bestow it upon the wisest of the Greeks; this man gave it to Thales, and from him it passed to others and so to Chilon.

Chilon laid the question "Who is a wiser man than I?" before the Pythian Apollo, and the god replied "Myson." Of him we shall have more to say presently. (In the list of the Seven Sages given by Eudoxus, Myson takes the place of Cleobulus; Plato also includes him by omitting Periander.) The answer of the oracle respecting him was as follows:

Myson of Chen in Oeta; this is he
Who for wiseheartedness surpassthe thee;

and it was given in reply to a question put by Anacharsis. Daimachus the Platonist and Clearchus allege that a bowl was sent by Croesus to Pittacus and began the round of the Wise Men from him.
DIOMGENES LAERTIUS

"Andron d' en tō Ῥπίπδη. 'Aργείους ἄθλου ἀρετής τῷ σοφιστῶν τῶν Ἑλλήνων τρίποδα βεβαιο-κρίθημαι δὲ 'Αριστόδημον Ὑπαρτάττων, ὥς παρα-31 χωρῆται Χίλων. μέμνηται τοῦ 'Αριστόδημον καὶ Ἀλκαίος οὖν:"

beits γὰρ δὴ ποιετηθείμαι βασιλείον ὑπὸ Σαρταξ λόγον εἰπεῖν: χρήματ' ἀνήρ, πενηχροσ δ' οὐδὲς πέλετ' ἐλέος.

ἐνει ὅ οἷον ὑπὸ Περιάνδρου Ῥασεβούλου τῷ Μυλησίου τυράννῳ πλοῖου ἐμφαντότων ἀποσταλήματι τοῦ δὲ περὶ τὴν Κώπων ἡλικάσαν ναυαγήσαντος, ὑστερον εὑρεθήμαι πρὸς των ἀλέων τὸ τρίποδα. Φανοῦκας δὲ περὶ τὴν Ἀθηναίων ἡλίκσαν εὑρέθημαι καὶ ἀνεκχείνη τοῖς αὐτῷ γενομένης 32 εὐκλήσεις Βιαντινοίς οἴμοις. διὰ τί δὲ, ἐν τῷ περὶ Βιαντοίς λέγομεν.

"Ἀλλαὶ οὖν ἡμεῖς ἰδιαίτερον εἶναι αὐτὸν καὶ δοθῆλα πρὸς τοῦ θεοῦ Πέλατο γαμοῦντε: ἀδίδε τὲ εἰς Μενελαοῦ ἐλείν καὶ σὺν τῷ Ἐλένη ἁρπασθήναι ὑπὸ Ἀλεξάνδρου μιρῆμαι εἰς τὴν Κώπων ἡλίκσαν πρὸς τῆς Λακάνης, εἰποῦσις ὅτι περιμάχοτος ἐστὶ: χρώνιος δὲ Λεβεδίων τῶν αὐτῶν γράφον ἄνωθεν καταληψθήμαι καὶ τὸ τρίποδα, μα-χομένων δὲ πρὸς τοὺς ἀλέας γενόμενα τὴν ἀνδρόν ἐως τῆς Κώπων καὶ ὥς οὐδέν ἰσθενεῖν, τοῖς Μυλησίοις μητρόπολει οὔσῃ μηχανῆς. οἶ δὲ ἐπειδὴ διατρε-σεβούμενον ἠλευσίνη, πρὸς τοὺς Κώπων πολεμοῦσι καὶ πολλῶν ἔκατέρθησαν πιπτοῦντων ἐκπίπτει χρή-

---

32 Andron of Ephesus (§ 119) is known to have written in the life-time (or at least before the death) of Theopompus,

33 The story told by Andron in his work on The Tripod is that the Argives offered a tripod as a prize of virtue to the wisest of the Greeks; Aristodemus of Sparta was adjudged the winner but retired in favour of Chilon. Aristodemus is mentioned by Alcaeus thus b:

Surely no witless word was this of the Spartan, I deem,

"Wealth is the worth of a man; and poverty void of esteem."

Some relate that a vessel with its freight was sent by Periander to Thrasybulus, tyrant of Miletus, and that, when it was wrecked in Coan waters, the tripod was afterwards found by certain fishermen. However, Phanodicus declares it to have been found in Athenian waters and thence brought to Athens. An assembly was held and it was sent to Bias; for what reason shall be explained in the life of Bias.

There is yet another version, that it was the work of Hephaestus presented by the god to Pelops on his marriage. Thence it passed to Menelaus and was carried off by Paris along with Helen and was thrown by her into the Coan sea, for she said it would be a cause of strife. In process of time certain people of Lebedus, having purchased a catch of fish thereabouts, obtained possession of the tripod, and, quarrelling with the fishermen about it, put it to Cos, and, when they could not settle the dispute, reported the fact to Miletus, their mother-city. The Milesians, when their embassies were disregarded, made war upon Cos; many fell on both sides, and an oracle pronounced that the tripod

---

b Fr. 49 Bergk; cf. Schol. Pindar, Isthm. ii. 17.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

should be given to the wisest; both parties to the dispute agreed upon Thales. After it had gone the round of the sages, Thales dedicated it to Apollo of Didyma. The oracle which the Coans received was on this wise:

Hephaestus cast the tripod in the sea;
Until it quit the city there will be
No end to strife, until it reach the seer
Whose wisdom makes past, present, future clear.

That of the Milesians beginning "Who shall possess the tripod?" has been quoted above. So much for this version of the story.

Hermippus in his Lives refers to Thales the story which is told by some of Socrates, namely, that he used to say there were three blessings for which he was grateful to Fortune: "first, that I was born a human being and not one of thebrutes; next, that I was born a man and not a woman; thirdly, a Greek and not a barbarian." It is said that once, when he was taken out of doors by an old woman in order that he might observe the stars, he fell into a ditch, and his cry for help drew from the old woman the retort, "How can you expect to know all about the heavens, Thales, when you cannot even see what is just before your feet?" Timon too knows him as an astronomer, and praises him in the Sili where he says:

Thales among the Seven the sage astronomer.

His writings are said by Lobon of Argos to have run to some two hundred lines. His statue is said to bear this inscription:

\[ \text{\footnotesize Fr. 23 Diels.} \]
\[ \text{\footnotesize Anth. Pal. vii. 83.} \]
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

τόνδε Θαλῆς Μύητος ’Ια σθρέψας’ ἀνέδειξεν ἀστρολόγων πάντων πρεσβύτατον σοφία.

35 Τῶν τε ἄδομένων αυτοῦ τάδε εἴναι:

οὗ τι τὰ πολλὰ ἔφη φρονίμην ἀπεφήνατο δόξαν· ἐν ταῖς μέτευε σοφόν,
ἐν τῷ κεδυόν αἱροῦ·
δῆσεις γὰρ ἀνδρῶν κοιτιῶν γλώσσας ἀπεραντολόγους.

Φέρεται δὲ καὶ ἀποφθέγματα αυτοῦ τάδε:

πρεσβύτατον τῶν ὄντων θεοῦ· ἀγέρτητον γάρ,
κάλλιστον κόσμον· ποίημα γάρ θεοῦ.
μέγιστον τόπον· ἀπαντά γὰρ χωρεῖ.
τάξιστον νοῦ· διὰ πάντως γὰρ τρέχει.
ιαχώριστον ἀνάγκη· κρατεῖ γὰρ πάντων,
σοφώτατον κρόνον· ἀνεφόροις γὰρ πάντα.

οὐδὲν ἐφή τὸν θάνατον διαφέρει τοῦ ζῆν. "οὐ οὖν," ἐφη τις, "διὰ τι οὐκ ἀποθνῄσκεις;" "οὐ," ἐφη,
"οὐδὲν διαφέρεις." πρὸς τὸν πυθόμενον τὴν πρότερον
gεγονός, νῦν ἡ ἡμέρα, "ἡ νῦς," ἐφη, "μαὴ ἡμέρα
pρότερον." ἤρωτησε τις αὐτὸν εἰ λήβῃ θεοὺς
ἀνθρώπους ἀδικῶν. "ἀλλ’ οὐδὲ διανοούμενοι," ἐφη. πρὸς τὸν μοιχὸν ἐρώμενον εἰ δόμασε μὴ μεμοι-
χευκέναι, "οὐ χείρον," ἐφη, "μοιχεῖας ἐπιρροκία·
ἐρωτθεῖς τὶ δύσκολον, ἐφη, "τὸ ἐαυτὸν γρῶναί·
tὶ δὲ εὐκολον, "τὸ ἄλλω ὑποθέσαθαι" τὶ θέου,
"τὸ ἐπιτυγχάνειν" τὶ τὸ θεοῦ, "τὸ μήτε ἀρχήν
ἐχον μήτε τελευτήν." τὶ δὲ κανὸν εἰη τεθεαμένος

36

I. 34–36. THALES

Pride of Miletus and Ionian lands,
Wisest astronomer, here Thales stands.

Of songs still sung these verses belong to him:

Many words do not declare an understanding heart.
Seek one sole wisdom.
Choose one sole good.
For thou wilt check the tongues of chatterers prating
without end.

Here too are certain current apophthegms assigned
to him:

Of all things that are, the most ancient is God, for he is
uncreated.
The most beautiful is the universe, for it is God’s workmanship.
The greatest is space, for it holds all things.
The swiftest is mind, for it speeds everywhere.
The strongest, necessity, for it masters all.
The wisest, time, for it brings everything to light.

He held there was no difference between life and
death. "Why then," said one, "do you not die?"
"Because," said he, "there is no difference." To
the question which is older, day or night, he
replied: "Night is the older by one day." Some
one asked him whether a man could hide an evil
deed from the gods: "No," he replied, "nor yet
an evil thought." To the adulterer who inquired if
he should deny the charge upon oath he replied that
perjury was no worse than adultery. Being asked
what is difficult, he replied, "To know oneself.
"What is easy?" "To give advice to another.
"What is most pleasant?" "Success." "What
is the divine?" "That which has neither beginning
nor end." To the question what was the strangest
DIOGENES LAERTIUS


Φησὶ δ’ Ἀπολλόδωρος ἐν τοῖς Χρονικοῖς γεγενήθαι αὐτὸν κατὰ τὸ πρῶτον ἐτὸς τῆς τριάκοντης 88 πέμπτης [ἐνάτης;] Ὀλυμπιαδὸς. ἐτελεύτησε δ’ ἐτῶν ἐξειδίκευσαν ὁκτώ, (ἡ, ὡς Σωκράτης φησίν, ἐνεχικότα) τελεύτησα γὰρ ἐπὶ τῆς πνευματικῆς ῥήσεως Ὀλυμπιαδὸς, γεγονότα κατὰ Κρεσοῦ, ὡ καὶ τὸν "Αλην ὑποσχέσθαι ἄνευ γεφύρων περάσαι, τὸ ρεῖθρον παρατρέψατα.

Γεγόνασι δὲ καὶ ἄλλοι Θαλαῖ, καθαρὸς Δημήτριος ὁ Μάγνης ἐν τοῖς Ὀμωνίμοις, πάντες:

ῥήτωρ Καλλατιανός, κακόζηλος.
ζωγράφος Σικυώνιος, μεγαλοφυής.
τρίτος ἀρχιαίος πάνω, κατὰ Ησιόδον καὶ Ὀμηρον
καὶ Λυκοήγονι ἡμέρας.
τέταρτος οἰς μέμηται Δούρις ἐν τῷ Περὶ
ζωγραφίας.

I. 36-38. THALES

thing he had ever seen, his answer was, "An aged tyrant." "How can one best bear adversity?"
"If he should see his enemies in worse plight."
"How shall we lead the best and most righteous life?"
"By refraining from doing what we blame in others."
"What man is happy?"
"He who has a healthy body, a resourceful mind and a docile nature." He tells us to remember friends, whether present or absent; not to prize ourselves upon outward appearance, but to study to be beautiful in character. "Shun ill-gotten gains," he says.
"Let not idle words prejudice thee against those who have shared thy confidence." "Whatever provision thou hast made for thy parents, the same must thou expect from thy children." He explained the overflow of the Nile as due to the etesian winds which, blowing in the contrary direction, drove the waters upstream.

Apolloodorus in his Chronology places his birth in the first year of the 35th Olympiad [640 B.C.]. He died at the age of 78 (or, according to Sosicles, of 90 years); for he died in the 58th Olympiad, being contemporary with Croesus, whom he undertook to take across the Halys without building a bridge, by diverting the river.

There have lived five other men who bore the name of Thales, as enumerated by Demetrius of Magnesia in his Dictionary of Men of the Same Name:

1. A rhetorician of Callatia, with an affected style.
2. A painter of Sicyon, of great gifts.
3. A contemporary of Hesiod, Homer and Lycurgus, in very early times.
4. A person mentioned by Duris in his work On Painting.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

πέμπτος νεώτερος, ἰδοὺς, ὁ δὲ μνημονεύει Διο-
νύσιος ἐν Κριτικοῖς.

39 ὁ δὲ οὖν σοφὸς ἐπελεύσθησεν ἁγῶνα θεώμενος
γυμνικόν ὑπὸ τε καῦματος καὶ δίφους καὶ ἁσθενείας,
מתי γηραιός. καὶ αὐτοῦ ἐπιγέμησατο τῷ μνή-
ματι.

η ὁλίγων τόδε σάμα — τὸ δὲ κλέως οὐρανόμακες —
τῷ πολυτροντίστῳ τούτῳ Θάλητος ὄρη.

ἐστι καὶ παρ’ ἡμῖν ἐς αὐτὸν ἐν τῷ πρῶτῳ τῶν
’Επιγραμμάτων ἢ Παμμέτρῳ τόδε τὸ ἐπίγραμμα.

γυμνικόν αὐτὸσ’ ἁγῶνα θεώμενον, ἤλει Ζεῦ,
τόν σοφόν ἀνδρὰ Θαλήν ἠπασάς ἐκ σταδίου.
αὐνέῳ ὅτι μν ἐγγὺς ἀπήγαγος ὣ γὰρ ὁ πρέσβυς
οὐκὲν ἀπὸ γῆς ἀστέρας ἠδύνατο.

40 Τούτῳ ἑστίν τὸ Γνῶθι σαυτόν, ὅπερ ’Αντι-
σένης ἐν ταῖς Διαδοχαῖς Φημονός εἶναι φησιν,
ἐξιδιοποιήσασθαι δὲ αὐτὸ Χίλωνα.

Περὶ δὲ τῶν ἐπτὰ—ἀξίων γὰρ ἐνταῦθα καθολικῶς
κἀκεῖνων ἐπιμνηθήναι—λόγοι φέρονται τοιοῦτοι.
Δάμων ὁ Κυρηναῖος, γεγράφος Περὶ τῶν φιλο-
σόφων, πάσιν ἐγκαλεί, μάλιστα δὲ τοὺς ἐπτά.
’Αναξιμένης δὲ φησὶ πάντας ἐπιθέσαι ποιητικῇ
ὁ δὲ Δικαλαρχος οὔτε σοφὸς οὔτε ϕιλοσόφοις
φησίν αὐτοῦ γεγονέναι, συνετοῦς δὲ τινας καὶ

I. 38–40. THALES

5. An obscure person in more recent times who
is mentioned by Dionysius in his Critical
Writings.

Thales the Sage died as he was watching an athletic
contest from heat, thirst, and the weakness incident
to advanced age. And the inscription on his tomb
is a:

Here in a narrow tomb great Thales lies;
Yet his renown for wisdom reached the skies.

I may also cite one of my own, from my first book,
Epigrams in Various Metres b:

As Thales watched the games one festal day
The fierce sun smote him, and he passed away;
Zeus, thou didst well to raise him; his dim eyes
Could not from earth behold the starry skies.c

To him belongs the proverb “Know thyself,”
which Antisthenes in his Successions of Philosophers
attributes to Phemonoë, though admitting that it
was appropriated by Chilon.

This seems the proper place for a general notice of
the Seven Sages, of whom we have such accounts
as the following. Damon of Cyrene in his History
of the Philosophers carps at all sages, but especially
the Seven. Anaximenes remarks that they all
applied themselves to poetry; Dicaearchus that they
were neither sages nor philosophers, but merely

a Anth. Pal. vii. 84.
b Anth. Pal. vii. 85.
c In plain prose: “As the wise Thales was one day
watching the contest of the racers, thou, O Sun-god, O Zeus,
didst snatch him from the stadium. I praise thee for re-
moving him to be near thee; for verily the old man could
no more discern the stars from earth.”

41
shrewd men with a turn for legislation. Archetimus of Syracuse describes their meeting at the court of Cypselus, on which occasion he himself happened to be present; for which Ephorus substitutes a meeting without Thales at the court of Croesus. Some make them meet at the Pan-Ionian festival, at Corinth, and at Delphi. Their utterances are variously reported, and are attributed now to one now to the other, for instance the following:

Chilon of Lacedaemon's words are true:
Nothing too much; good comes from measure due.

Nor is there any agreement how the number is made up; for Mæandrius, in place of Cleobulus and Myson, includes Leophantus, son of Gorgiadas, of Lebedus or Ephesus, and Epimenides the Cretan in the list; Plato in his Protagoras admits Myson and leaves out Periander; Ephorus substitutes Anacharsis for Myson; others add Pythagoras to the Seven. Dicaearchus hands down four names fully recognized: Thales, Bias, Pittacus and Solon; and appends the names of six others, from whom he selects three: Aristodemus, Pamphylus, Chilon the Lacedaemonian, Cleobulus, Anacharsis, Periander. Others add Acusilaus, son of Cabas or Scabros, of Argos. Hermippus in his work On the Sages reckons seventeen, from which number different people make different selections of seven. They are: Solon, Thales, Pittacus, Bias, Chilon, Myson, Cleobulus, Periander, Anacharsis, and some add a romantic legend, the result being late biographies, collections of apopthegms, and letters attributed to various authors, e.g. the apopthegms of Demetrius of Phalerum. Diogenes Laertius swallows all this as true; modern criticism rejects it all as forgery.

* The opinion of Dicaearchus thus expressed is correct. With the exception of Thales, no one whose life is contained in Book I, has any claim to be styled a philosopher. The tradition of the Seven Wise Men and of their meeting at some court, whether of a native tyrant like Periander or of a foreign prince like Croesus, was used by Plato (Protag. 343 A) and, largely through his influence, grew into
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

βουλον, Περιάνδρον, 'Ανάχαρσιν, 'Ακουσίλαον, 'Επιμενήδην, Λεώφαντον, Φερεκύδην, 'Αριστόδημον, Πυθαγόραν, Λάσων Χαρμαντίδου ἢ Σισυφρίνου, ὡς 'Αριστόδεξιον Χαβρίνου, 'Ερμονέα, 'Αναξαγόραν. Ἱππόσωτος δὲ ἐν τῇ Τῶν φιλοσόφων ἀναγραφῇ Ὅρφέα, Δίνων, Σόλωνα, Περιάνδρον, 'Ανάχαρσι, Κλεόβουλον, Μύσινα, Θαλήν Βλάντα, Πιττάκον, Ἐπίχαρμον, Πυθαγόραν.

Θαλής Φερεκύδει

43 "Πιθανόναι σε πρῶτον Ἰώνων μέλλειν λόγους ἁμφὶ τῶν θείων χρημάτων ἢ τοὺς Ἑλλήνας φαίνειν. καὶ τάχα μὲν ἡ γνώμη τοῦ δικαίου ἢ τὸ ἱείνου καταθέσαι γραφῆν ἢ ἐφ’ ὀποιοσδέν ἐπιτρέπειν χρήμα ὡς οὐδὲν ὅφελος. εἰ δὲ τοῦ θινον, ἐθέλω γενέσθαι λεσχυνυνθῆς περὶ ὅτεν γράφεις καὶ ἢν κελεύτης, παρὰ σὲ ἀφίζομαι ἢ Σίρων. ἢ γὰρ ἄν οὐ φρενίσῃς εἴμην εὖν τε καὶ Σόλων ὁ Ἀθηναίος, εἰ πλάσαντες μὲν ἢ Κρήτην κατὰ τὴν τῶν κεκαθί ιστορίην, πλάσαντες δὲ ἢ Ἀιγυπτίων ὀμιλήσαντες τοῖς ἐκεῖ, δοσὶ ἑρείς τε καὶ ἀστρολόγοι, παρὰ σὲ δὲ μὴ [πλάσασθαι]. ἦξει γὰρ καὶ ὁ Σόλων, ἢν ἐπιτρέπει τοὺς μένοις φιλέων ὀλίγα φοιτεῖς ἢ Ἰωνίνην, οὐδὲ σε ποθὴ ἴσχει ἀνδρῶν ἔξειν. ἀλλὰ, ὡς ἐλπιομα, ἐνι μοῦνο χρήματι πρόσκεισας τῇ γραφῇ. ἤμες δὲ οἱ μὲν γράφοντες περικυρέομεν τὴν τε Ἑλλάδα καὶ Ἄσιν.

I. 42–44. THALES

charsis, Acusilaus, Epimenides, Leophantus, Pherecydes, Aristodemus, Pythagoras, Lasos, son of Charmantides or Sisybrinus, or, according to Aristoxenus, of Chabrinus, born at Hermione, Anaxagoras. Hippobotus in his List of Philosophers enumerates: Orpheus, Linus, Solon, Periander, Anacharsis, Cleobulus, Myson, Thales, Bias, Pittacus, Epicharmus, Pythagoras.

Here follow the extant letters of Thales.

Thales to Pherecydes

"I hear that you intend to be the first Ionian to expound theology to the Greeks. And perhaps it was a wise decision to make the book common property without taking advice, instead of entrusting it to any particular persons whatsoever, a course which has no advantages. However, if it would give you any pleasure, I am quite willing to discuss the subject of your book with you; and if you did me come to Syros I will do so. For surely Solon of Athens and I would scarcely be sane if, after having sailed to Crete to pursue our inquiries there, and to Egypt to confer with the priests and astronomers, we hesitated to come to you. For Solon too will come, with your permission. You, however, are so fond of home that you seldom visit Ionia and have no longing to see strangers, but, as I hope, apply yourself to one thing, namely writing, while we, who never write anything, travel all over Hellas and Asia."
I. 44–46. THALES—SOLON

Thales to Solon

“If you leave Athens, it seems to me that you could most conveniently set up your abode at Miletus, which is an Athenian colony; for there you incur no risk. If you are vexed at the thought that we are governed by a tyrant, hating as you do all absolute rulers, you would at least enjoy the society of your friends. Bias wrote inviting you to Priene; and if you prefer the town of Priene for a residence, I myself will come and live with you.”

CHAPTER 2. SOLON (archon 594 B.C.)

Solon, the son of Execestides, was born at Salamis. His first achievement was the σεισάχθεια or Law of Release, which he introduced at Athens; its effect was to ransom persons and property. For men used to borrow money on personal security, and many were forced from poverty to become serfs or day-labourers. He then first renounced his claim to a debt of seven talents due to his father, and encouraged others to follow his example. This law of his was called σεισάχθεια, and the reason is obvious.

He next went on to frame the rest of his laws, which would take time to enumerate, and inscribed them on the revolving pillars.

His greatest service was this: Megara and Athens laid rival claims to his birthplace Salamis, and after many defeats the Athenians passed a decree punishing with death any man who should propose a renewal of the Salaminian war. Solon, feigning madness, rushed into the Agora with a garland on his head; there he had his poem on Salamis read to
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

μύνος ελεγεία καὶ παράρμησεν αὐτοῖς. καὶ αὐθίς πρὸς τοὺς Μεγαρέας ἐπολέμησαν καὶ ἐνίκων διὰ
47 Σάλωνα. ἢν δὲ τὰ ελεγεία τὰ μάλιστα καθ-
αφάμενα τῶν Ἀθηναίων τάδε:

ev ἐθνὸν δη τότε ἐγκεφαλίζεται ἡ σκονίτης
5 υποτιθά "Ἀθηναίου, πατρίδο καθιμμμένονος.
ἀλὰ γαρ οὐ γάρ τις ἢδε μετα ἀνθρώποις γείνοντο.
Ἀττικὸς οὖσα ἁπλὴ τῶν Σαλαμιναφετῶν.
έτα:

ἰόμεν εἰς Σαλαμίνα μαχηθόμενοι περὶ νήσου
ἐμερίης χαλεποῦ τοῦ ἀλέχος ἀπωδύμενοι.

ἐπείτε δὲ αὐτοῦς καὶ τὴν ἐν Ὀράκλη Χερρώνησον
προσκήνησαν. ἦν δὲ μὴ δοκοὶ βία μόνον,
ἀλλὰ καὶ δικὴ τὴν Σαλαμίνα κεκτήθαι, ἀνακάλας
τῶν τάφων ἐδέσει τοὺς νεκροὺς πρὸς ἀναπλάθει
ἐκτομάκινον, ἢν ἐν δόξας βάπτεται Ἀθηναίος.
ἀλλὰ καὶ αὐτοὺς τῶν τάφων πρὸς ἐκβαλλόντως
καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν δήμων τοὺς χρηματισμένον ἐγκεχα-
ραγμένον, ὅπερ ἦν οἶδιν Ἀθηναίον. ἐνοῦ δὲ
φανεροὶ καὶ ἐγγραφαὶ αὐτῶν εἰς τὸν κατάλογον τοῦ
"Ομήρου μετὰ τοῦ

Αἴας δὲ ἐκ Σαλαμίνος ἄγεν δυσκαίδεκα νῆμα−
στήσε δὲ ἄγων, ἐν Ἀθηναίων ἵσταντο φάλαγγες.

49 Τοῦ δὴ λουποῦ προσέχων αὐτὸς δήμος καὶ ἤδεως

the Athenians by the herald and roused them to fury. They renewed the war with the Megarians
and, thanks to Solon, were victorious. These were the lines which did more than anything else to
inflame the Athenians:

Would I were citizen of some mean isle
Far in the Sporades! For men shall smile
And mock me for Athenian: "Who is this?"
"An Attic slave who gave up Salamis!"

and

Then let us fight for Salamis and fair fame,
Win the beloved isle, and purge our shame!

He also persuaded the Athenians to acquire the
Thracian Chersonese. And lest it should be thought
that he had acquired Salamis by force only and not of
right, he opened certain graves and showed that
the dead were buried with their faces to the east,
as was the custom of burial among the Athenians;
further, that the tombs themselves faced the east;
and that the inscriptions graven upon them named
the decease by their demes, which is a style peculiar
to Athens. Some authors assert that in Homer's
catalogue of the ships after the line:

Ajax twelve ships from Salamis commands,

Solon inserted one of his own:

And fixed their station next the Athenian bands.

Thereafter the people looked up to him, and
their feet to the west. Sir W. Ridgeway (Early Age of
Greece, c. 7) assumes that Plutarch and Aelian are right
and Diogenes either mistaken or inaccurate in his mode of
expression. Recently a view has been put forward that
there was no uniform orientation in early times (see H. J.
Rose, Classical Review, xxxiv. p. 141 sq.).

a H. ii. 557.

Fr. 2 Bergk.
6 Ib. 3.
If these words are pressed, they contradict the precise
statement in Plutarch's Life of Solon (c. 10) that the
Athenians buried their dead to face the setting sun; cf.
exceptions showed the dead with their heads to the east and
DIOGENSES LAERTIUS

κἂν τυραννεύσαταί ἦθελον πρὸς αὐτοῦ· ὁ δ' οὐχ εἴλετο, ἀλλὰ καὶ Πεισίστρατον τὸν συγγενῆ, καθὰ φήσῃ Σωκικράτης, προσασθόμενος τὸ ἐφ' ἑαυτῷ διεκάλυσεν. ἦς γὰρ εἰς τὴν ἐκκλησίαν μετὰ δόρατος καὶ ἀσπίδας προεῖπεν αὐτῶι τὴν επίθεσιν τοῦ Πεισίστρατοι καὶ οὐ μόνον, ἀλλὰ καὶ βοηθῶν ἐτοιμοὶ εἶναι, λέγων ταῦτα: "ἀνδρές Ἀθηναῖοι, τῶν μὲν σοφῶτερος, τῶν δὲ ἄνδρεώτερὸς εἰμι· σοφώτερος μέν τῶν τὴν ἄπασιν τοῦ Πεισίστρατοι μὴ συνιέσθως, ἄνδρεώτερος δὲ τῶν ἐπιστομένων μὲν, διὰ δεός δὲ σιωπῶν τ᾿ ῥά τοῖς βουλής, Πεισίστρατι διὰ ὄντες, μάινεσθαι ἐλεγον αὐτῶι· ὅτε εἴπε ταῦτα·

dieictai δὴ μανήν μὲν ἐμὴν βιαῖον χρόνον ἀστοῖς, dieictai, ἀλήθειας ἐς μέσον ἐρχομένης.

I. 49–50. SOLON

would gladly have had him rule them as tyrant; he refused, and, early perceiving the designs of his kinsman Pisistratus (so we are told by Sosicles), did his best to hinder them. He rushed into the Assembly armed with spear and shield, warned them of the designs of Pisistratus, and not only so, but declared his willingness to render assistance, in these words: "Men of Athens, I am wiser than some of you and more courageous than others: wiser than those who fail to understand the plot of Pisistratus, more courageous than those who, though they see through it, keep silence through fear." And the members of the council, who were of Pisistratus' party, declared that he was mad: which made him say the lines a:

A little while, and the event will show
To all the world if I be mad or no.

That he foresaw the tyranny of Pisistratus is proved by a passage from a poem of his b:

On splendid lightning thunder follows straight,
Clouds the soft snow and flashing hail-stones bring;
So from proud men comes ruin, and their state
Falls unaware to slavery and a king.

When Pisistratus was already established, Solon, unable to move the people, piled his arms in front of the generals' quarters, and exclaimed, "My country, I have served thee with my word and sword!" Thereupon he sailed to Egypt and to Cyprus, and thence proceeded to the court of Croesus. There Croesus put the question, "Whom do you consider happy?" and Solon replied, "Tellus of Athens, and Cleobis and Biton," and went on in words too familiar to be quoted here.

a Fr. 10 Bergk.  b Fr. 9 Bergk.
There is a story that Croesus in magnificent array
sat himself down on his throne and asked Solon if
he had ever seen anything more beautiful. “Yes,”
was the reply, “cocks and pheasants and peacocks;
for they shine in nature’s colours, which are ten
thousand times more beautiful.” After leaving that
place he lived in Cilicia and founded a city which he
called Soli after his own name. In it he settled
some few Athenians, who in process of time corrupted
the purity of Attic and were said to “solecize.”

Note that the people of this town are called Solenses,
the people of Soli in Cyprus Solii. When he learnt
that Pisistratus was by this time tyrant, he wrote to
the Athenians on this wise:*

* Fr. 11 Bergk.
ΔΙΟΓΕΝΗΣ ΛΑΕΡΤΙΟΣ

'Ἀθηναῖοις, ἐπιτρέπω πολιτεύειν. καὶ ἄμεινόν γε πολιτεύοντας ὡσ καὶ δημοκρατίαν· οὐκ ἐώ γὰρ ὁδένα ὑβρίζειν· καὶ τὸ τύραννος ἐγὼ οὐ πλέον τι φέρομαι τάξιματος καὶ τῆς τυμῆς· ὅπως δὲ καὶ τῶς πρόσθεν βασιλεύσων ἦν τὰ βρήκτα γέρα. ἀπάγει δὲ ἔκαστος 'Ἀθηναῖον τοῦ αὐτοῦ κλήρου δεκάτην, οὐκ ἐμοῖ, ἀλλ' ὅποθεν ἐσται ἀναλοῦν ἐστὶ τῆς κυρίας δημοτελείας καὶ ἐν ἡ ἄλλο τῶν κοινῶν καὶ ἦν [ὁ] πόλεμος ἥμας καταλάβη.

"Σοὶ δ' ἐγὼ οὖν μέμφομαι μηνύσαντι τὴν ἐμὴν διἀνοιαν. εὐνοίᾳ γὰρ τῆς πόλεως μᾶλλον ἦν κατὰ τὸ ἐμὸν ἕχον ἐμήνυσε· ἐτεὶ τῇ ἁμαρθίᾳ τῆς ἀρχής, ὅποιαν τῶν ἐγὼ καταστήσαμαι. ἐπεὶ μαθὼν τὰν ἂν ἡγεμόνα καθιστάμενον, οὖθεν ἐφυγε. ἑπαναθεὶ τοῖνος οἰκαδε, πιστεύων μοι καὶ ἀνωμότω, ἀρχαὶ μηδὲν πείτεσθαι Σόλωνα ἐκ Πεισάττατος. ἢσθι γὰρ μηδ' ἄλλον τινα πεποιθέναι τῶν ἐμὸν ἐπρόκρ. εἰ δὲ ἀξιώσεις τῶν ἐμῶν φίλων εἰς εὐλαβεί, ἐσθι ἀνὰ πρῶτος· οὐ γὰρ τὶ ἐν σοι ἐνορθὸ δολοφόνη ἡ ἀπειτοῦ· εἴτε ἄλλως Ἀθηναίων οἰκεῖω, ἐπιτετράγηται. ἤμων δὲ οὐνεκα μὴ ἔστερον τῆς πατρίδος."

Ταύτα μὲν Πεισάττατος. Σόλων δὲ ὄρον ἀνθρωπινοῦ βιῶν φησὶν ἐπὶ ἐβδομήκοντα.

Δοκεῖ δὲ καὶ κάλλιστα νομοθέτησαι· εὰν τὶς μὴ τρέψῃ τοὺς γονέας, ἀτιμος ἦστι· ἀλλὰ καὶ ὁ τὰ πατρίδα κατεδοξάσας ὁμοίως. καὶ ὁ ἁργῆς υπεύθυνος...
occupation is made a crime for which any one may, if he pleases, impeach the offender. Lysias, however, in his speech against Nicias ascribes this law to Draco, and to Solon another depriving open proffigates of the right to speak in the Assembly. He curtailed the honours of athletes who took part in the games, fixing the allowance for an Olympic victor at 500 drachmae, for an Isthmian victor at 100 drachmae, and proportionately in all other cases. It was in bad taste, he urged, to increase the rewards of these victors, and to ignore the exclusive claims of those who had fallen in battle, whose sons ought, moreover, to be maintained and educated by the State.

The effect of this was that many strove to acquit themselves as gallant soldiers in battle, like Polyzelus, Cynegirus, Callimachus and all who fought at Marathon; or again like Harmodius and Aristogiton, and Miltiades and thousands more. Athletes, on the other hand, incur heavy costs while in training, do harm when successful, and are crowned for a victory over their country rather than over their rivals, and when they grow old they, in the words of Euripides, 6

Are worn threadbare, cloaks that have lost the nap;
and Solon, perceiving this, treated them with scant respect. 5 Excellent, too, is his provision that the guardian of an orphan should not marry the mother of his ward, and that the next heir who would succeed on the death of the orphans should be disqualified from acting as their guardian. Furthermore, that no engraver of seals should be allowed to retain an impression of the ring which he has sold, and that the penalty for depriving a one-eyed man of his single eye should be the loss of the offender's two eyes. A deposit shall not be removed except by the

---

56 * Autolycus, Fr. 1, 1. 12 Nauck, T.G.F. 8. Eur. 299.

57 This censure of athletes recurs Diod. Sic. ix. 2. 3 f. It was probably a commonplace κεφάλαιον in some earlier life of Solon.
Τά τε Ὅμηρου εἳ ὑποβολῆς γέγραφε μάψι- δείσθαι, οἷον ὅπου δ᾽ ἑρέξεν, ἐκεῖθεν ἀρχεσθαι τὸν ἔχομενον. μᾶλλον οὖν Σόλων Ὅμηρον ἐφώτισεν ἢ Πεισιστράτους, ὡς φησὶ Διονύσιος ἐν πέμπτῳ Μεγαρικῷ. ἦν δὲ μάλιστα τὰ ἐπὶ ταύτῃ· "οἱ δ᾽ ἀρ᾽ Ἀθήνας εἶχον" καὶ τὰ ἔξης.

Πρῶτος δὲ Σόλων τὴν τριακάδα ἔστη καὶ νέαν ὀνόμασε. καὶ πρῶτος τὴν συναγωγὴν τῶν ἑνένα ἀρχόντων ἐποίησεν εἰς τὸ συνεπέν, ὡς Ἀπόλλων- δωρός φησίν ἐν δεύτερῳ Περὶ νομοθετῶν. ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴν στάσεως γενομένης οὐτὲ μετὰ τῶν ἡμῶν ἀστείων, οὐτὲ μετὰ τῶν πεδίων, ἀλλ᾽ οὐδὲ μετὰ τῶν παράλιων ἐτάχθη.

"Ελεγε δὲ τὸν μὲν λόγον εἰδωλον ἐνεία τῶν ἥρων βασιλεὰ δὲ τὸν ἴχνουματὸν τῷ δυνάμει· τοὺς δὲ νόμους τοὺς ἀραχνίους ὀμοίους· καὶ γὰρ ἑκεῖνα, ἐὰν μὲν ἐμπεσῇ τι κοῦφον καὶ ἀοσθεῖς, στέγεν· εἰδὲ μὲν εὐεύγειον, διακόμην ἰσχεθαί. ἐφάσακε τῷ οφραγμέθαν τὸν μὲν λόγον σιγῆ, τὴν δὲ συγῆ καιρὸ. ἐλέγε δὲ τοῦ παρὰ τοῖς τυράν- νοις δυναμένοις παραπλησίως εἶναι ταῖς ψήφοις τοῖς ἔτοι τῶν λογισμῶν. καὶ γὰρ ἑκείνων ἐκά- στουν τοτὲ μὲν πλεῖον σημαίνειν, τοτὲ δὲ ζητε- καὶ τούτων τοὺς τυράννους τοτὲ μὲν ἑκατον, μέγαν άγεν καὶ λαμπρόν, τοτὲ δὲ ἅτμον. ἐρωτή- 

θησὶ δὲ τὰ κατὰ πατροκτόνου νόμον οὐκ ἔθηκε,

depositor himself, on pain of death. That the magis-
trate found intoxicated should be punished with death.

He has provided that the public recitations of
Homer shall follow in fixed order* : thus the second
reciter must begin from the place where the first
left off. Hence, as Dicteuchidas says in the fifth book
of his Megarian History, Solon did more than Pis-
istratus to throw light on Homer. The passage in
Homer more particularly referred to is that be-
ginning "Who dwelt at Athens . . ." b

Solon was the first to call the 30th day of the
month the Old-and-New day, and to institute
meetings of the nine archons for private conference,
as stated by Apollodoros in the second book of his
work On Legislators. When civil strife began, he
did not take sides with those in the city, nor with
the plain, nor yet with the coast section.

One of his sayings is: Speech is the mirror of
action; and another that the strongest and most
 capable is king. He compared laws to spiders' webs,
which stand firm when any light and yielding object
falls upon them, while a larger thing breaks through
them and makes off. Secrecy he called the seal of
speech, and occasion the seal of secrecy. He used
to say that those who had influence with tyrants
were like the pebbles employed in calculations; for,
as each of the pebbles represented now a large and
now a small number, so the tyrants would treat each
one of those about them at one time as great and
famous, at another as of no account. On being asked
why he had not framed any law against parricide,

* Or "in succession," though this is rather εἰ ὑπολήφεις.
In Plato, Hipparchus 228 b, the same thing is expressed by
εἰ ὑπολήφεις ἑφθαίς.

b Iliad ii. 546.
he replied that he hoped it was unnecessary. Asked how crime could most effectually be diminished, he replied, “If it caused as much resentment in those who are not its victims as in those who are,” adding, “Wealth breeds satiety, satiety outrage.” He required the Athenians to adopt a lunar month. He prohibited Thespius from performing tragedies on the ground that fiction was pernicious. When therefore Pisistratus appeared with self-inflicted wounds, Solon said, “This comes from acting tragedies.” His counsel to men in general is stated by Apollodorus in his work on the Philosophic Sects as follows: Put more trust in nobility of character than in an oath. Never tell a lie. Pursue worthy aims. Do not be rash to make friends and, when once they are made, do not drop them. Learn to obey before you command. In giving advice seek to help, not to please, your friend. Be led by reason. Shun evil company. Honour the gods, reverence parents. He is also said to have criticized the couplet of Mimnermus:

Would that by no disease, no cares opprest,
I in my sixtieth year were laid to rest;

and to have replied thus:

Oh take a friend’s suggestion, blot the line,
Grudge not if my invention better thine;
Surely a wiser wish were thus expressed,
At eighty years let me be laid to rest.

Of the songs sung this is attributed to Solon:

Watch every man and see whether, hiding hatred in his

Fr. 20 Bergk.
Fr. 42 Bergk.
I. 61–63. SOLON

He is undoubtedly the author of the laws which bear his name; of speeches, and of poems in elegiac metre, namely, counsels addressed to himself, on Salamis and on the Athenian constitution, five thousand lines in all, not to mention poems in iambic metre and epodes.

His statue has the following inscription \(^a\):

At Salamis, which crushed the Persian might,
Solon the legislator first saw light.

He flourished, according to Sosicles, about the 46th Olympiad, in the third year of which he was archon at Athens \(^b\); it was then that he enacted his laws. He died in Cyprus at the age of eighty. His last injunctions to his relations were on this wise: that they should convey his bones to Salamis and, when they had been reduced to ashes, scatter them over the soil. Hence Cratinus in his play, The Chiron, makes him say \(^c\):

This is my island home, my dust, men say,
Is scattered far and wide o’er Ajax’ land.

An epigram of my own is also contained in the collection of Epigrams in Various Metres mentioned above, where I have disclosed of all the illustrious dead in all metres and rhythms, in epigrams and lyrics. Here it is \(^d\):

For Cyprian fire his body burnt; his bones,
Turned into dust, made grain at Salamis:
Wheel-like, his pillars bore his soul on high;
So light the burden of his laws on men.

\(^a\) Anth. Pal. vii. 86.  
\(^b\) 394 e.C. 
\(^c\) Fr. 5 Meineke, C.G.F. ii. 149. 
\(^d\) Anth. Pal. vii. 87.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

'Απεθάνετο δὲ, φασὶ, Μηδὲν ἁγαν. καὶ αὐτὸν φησὶ Δῖοςκορίδης ἐν τοῖς 'Ἀπομνημονεύμασιν, ἐπειδὴ δικρῶν τὸν παῖδα τελευτήσαντα, ὃν ἦμεις οὐ παρεμείφαμεν, πρὸς τὸν εὐποντά, "ἀλλὰ οὐδὲν ἄντεις," εἰπέν, "δὲ αὐτὸ δὲ τόσο δικρῶν, ὅτι οὐδὲν ἄντεις.

ἀνασταὶ δὲ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐπιστολὰι αἰών.

64

Solon Periander

"Ἀπαγγέλλεις μοι πολλοὺς τοῦ ἐπιβουλευέων. οὐ δὲ εἰ μὲν μέλλεις ἐκποδῶν ἀπαντὰς ποιήσεσθαι, οὐκ λέγω οὖς ἐπιβουλεύεσσι δὲ ἀν τὸς καὶ τῶν ἀντιπότων, ὦ μὲν δεδώσας περὶ αὐτῶ, ὦ δὲ σοὶ καταγγείας, οὐκ ἐσθ' ὃ τι οὖκ ἀρροδοῦντος: κἂν τῇ πόλει χάριν κατάθηκοι ἐξειρών, ἢ μὴ ὑποτόσιν εὑρίσ. ἀριστον μὲν οὖν ἀπέχεσθαι, ἢν τῆς αἰτίας ἀπελεγγῆς: εἰ δὲ πάντως πλανητήτων, ὕψοις ὑπὸ τὴν ἀλλοδαπὴν δύναμιν μείξονα ἔξειν τῶν ἐν τῇ πόλει, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐπὶ τοῦ δεινοῦ, μηδὲ συ ἐκποδῶν των ποιοῦ.

64

Solon to Epimenides

"Οὔτε οἱ ἐμοὶ θεομόι ἀρὰ Ἀθηναίοις ἐπιστόλῃ ἀνήσεων ἐμελλόν, οὔτε σὺ καθήρας τὴν πόλιν ὅνησας. τὸ τε γὰρ θέου καὶ οἱ νομοθέται οὐ καθ' ἐαυτὰ δύνασται ὅνησά τις πόλεις, οἱ δὲ αὐτὴ τὸ πλῆθος ἄγοντες ὡς ἀν γνώμης ἔχωσιν. οὕτως δὲ καὶ τὸ θεῖον καὶ οἱ νόμοι, εἰ μὲν ἄγοντων, εἰσὶν ὕψεσόμαι κακῶς δὲ ἀγοντων, οὐδὲν ὑψελοῦσιν.

64

I. 63–64. SOLON

It is said that he was the author of the apophthegm "Nothing too much," Ne quid nimis. According to Dioscurides in his Memorabilia, when he was weeping for the loss of his son, of whom nothing more is known, and some one said to him, "It is all of no avail," he replied, "That is why I weep, because it is of no avail."

The following letters are attributed to Solon:

Solon to Periander

"You tell me that many are plotting against you. You must lose no time if you want to get rid of them all. A conspirator against you might arise from a quite unexpected quarter, say, one who had fears for his personal safety or one who disliked your timorous dread of anything and everything. He would earn the gratitude of the city who found out that you had no suspicion. The best course would be to resign power, and so be quit of the reproach. But if you must at all hazards remain tyrant, endeavour to make your mercenary force stronger than the forces of the city. Then you have no one to fear, and need not banish any one."

Solon to Epimenides

"It seems that after all I was not to confer much benefit on Athenians by my laws, any more than you by purifying the city. For religion and legislation are not sufficient in themselves to benefit cities; it can only be done by those who lead the multitude in any direction they choose. And so, if things are going well, religion and legislation are beneficial; if not, they are of no avail."

65
"Nor are my laws nor all my enactments any better; but the popular leaders did the commonwealth harm by permitting licence, and could not hinder Pisistratus from setting up a tyranny. And, when I warned them, they would not believe me. He found more credit when he flattered the people than I when I told them the truth. I laid my arms down before the generals' quarters and told the people that I was wiser than those who did not see that Pisistratus was aiming at tyranny, and more courageous than those who shrank from resisting him. They, however, denounced Solon as mad. And at last I protested: "My country, I, Solon, am ready to defend thee by word and deed; but some of my countrymen think me mad. Wherefore I will go forth out of their midst as the sole opponent of Pisistratus; and let them, if they like, become his bodyguard." For you must know, my friend, that he was beyond measure ambitious to be tyrant. He began by being a popular leader; his next step was to inflict wounds on himself and appear before the court of the Heliaea, crying out that these wounds had been inflicted by his enemies; and he requested them to give him a guard of 400 young men. And the people without listening to me granted him the men, who were armed with clubs. And after that he destroyed the democracy. It was in vain that I sought to free the poor amongst the Athenians from their condition of servitude, if now they are all the slaves of one master, Pisistratus."

Solon to Pisistratus

"I am sure that I shall suffer no harm at your hands; for before you became tyrant I was your
I. 66-68. **SOLON—CHILON**

friend, and now I have no quarrel with you beyond that of every Athenian who disapproves of tyranny. Whether it is better for them to be ruled by one man or to live under a democracy, each of us must decide for himself upon his own judgement. You are, I admit, of all tyrants the best; but I see that it is not well for me to return to Athens. I gave the Athenians equality of civil rights; I refused to become tyrant when I had the opportunity; how then could I escape censure if I were now to return and set my approval on all that you are doing?"

**Solon to Croesus**

"I admire you for your kindness to me; and, by Athena, if I had not been anxious before all things to live in a democracy, I would rather have fixed my abode in your palace than at Athens, where Pisistratus is setting up a rule of violence. But in truth to live in a place where all have equal rights is more to my liking. However, I will come and see you, for I am eager to make your acquaintance."

**Chapter 3. CHILON (c. 560 B.C.)**

Chilon, son of Damagetas, was a Lacedaemonian. He wrote a poem in elegiac metre some 200 lines in length, and he declared that the excellence of a man is to divine the future so far as it can be grasped by reason. When his brother grumbled that he was not made ephor as Chilon was, the latter replied, "I know how to submit to injustice and you do not." He was made ephor in the 55th Olympiad; Pamphila, however, says the 56th. He first became ephor, according to Sosicrates, in the archonship of Euthy-
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

τος εἰσηγήσατο ἐφόροι τοὺς βασιλεύσα παρα-
ζευγνύναι: Σάτυρος δὲ Λυκοῦργον.

Ὁδὸς, ὡς φησὶν Ἡρόδοτος ἐν τῇ πρῶτῃ, Ἰππο-
κράτεις των θυμάμεν ὑπὸ Ἑλευμῆνα, τῶν λεβήτων αὐτο-
μάτων ζεύγην, συνεβούλευσαν ἡ μὴ γῆμα, ἡ ἡ ἤ
ἐχοι γυναῖκα, ἐκείμενα καὶ παύοις ἀπείπασαν.

69 φασὶ δὲ αὐτὸν καὶ Αἰσιόππον παθέσαν, ὁ Ζεὺς τὶ
ἔη ποιῶν· τὸν δὲ φάναι, "τὰ μὲν ύψωλα ταπει-
νών, τὰ δὲ ταπεινὰ ύψών," ἔρωτησε τίνι δια-
φέροντος οἱ πεπαιδευμένοι τῶν ἀπαδευτῶν, ἔφη,
"ἐλπίζω ἁγαθῶς," τί δύσκολον, "τὸ τὰ ἀπο-
ρητα σωπήσαι, καὶ σχολὴν εἰ διαφθεῖσαι, καὶ
ἀδικοῦμεν [δύνασθαι] φέρειν." προσέτατε δὲ
καὶ ταῦτα: γλῶττης κρατεῖν, καὶ μάλιστα ἐν
συμποσίῳ. μὴ κακολογεῖν τοὺς πλησίον εἰ δὲ
μὴ, ἀκούσεσθαι ἐφικουσθῆναι. μὴ ἀπει-
λεως μηδενίς γυναικαίδες γάρ. ταχύτερον ἐπὶ τὰς
ἀποχάς τῶν φίλων ἡ ἐπὶ τὰς εὐφύξιας πορεύεσθαι.
γάμων ὑπελειπτεῖσθαι, τὸ τεθνηκότα μὴ κακο-
λογεῖν. γῆρας τίμαι. φιλάστενεν ἐαυτὸν. ἐῖδον
αἰρεῖσθαι μᾶλλον ἢ κέρδος αἰγρόν. ἡ μὲν γάρ
ἀπαξ ἐλπίση, τὸ δὲ διὰ παντὸς. ἀνυχοῦντὰ μὴ
ἐπεγεγεῖλαν. ἱπποδότων ὡς ἡμῶν καὶ ὡς
πλησίον αἰώνας μᾶλλον ή ἀνδρότητα. μανθάνει
τὸς αὐτῶν οἰκίας καλὸς προστατέων. τὴν γλώτταν
μὴ προτρέχει τοῦ νοῦ. θυμοῦ κρατεῖν. μαντικὴν

1 αὐτῶ... Ἀλέων Reiske.

I. 68-70. CHILON
demus. He first proposed the appointment of ephors
as auxiliaries to the kings, though Satyrus says this
was done by Lycurgus.

As Herodotus relates in his first Book, when
Hippocrates was sacrificing at Olympia and his
cauldrons boiled out of their own accord, it was Chilon
who advised him not to marry, or, if he had a wife,
to divorce her and disown his children. The tale is
also told that he inquired of Aesop what Zeus was
doing and received the answer: "He is humbling
the proud and exalting the humble." Being asked
wherein lies the difference between the educated
and the uneducated, Chilon answered, "In good
hope." What is hard? "To keep a secret, to
employ leisure well, to be able to bear an injury."
These again are some of his precepts: To control
the tongue, especially at a banquet. Not to abuse
our neighbours, for if you do, things will be said
about you which you will regret. Do not use threats
to any one; for that is womanish. Be more ready
to visit friends in adversity than in prosperity.
Do not make an extravagant marriage. De mortuis
nisi bonum. Honour old age. Consult your own
safety. Prefer a loss to a dishonest gain: the one
brings pain at the moment, the other for all time.
Do not laugh at another's misfortune. When strong,
be merciful, if you would have the respect, not the
fear, of your neighbours. Learn to be a wise master
in your own house. Let not your tongue outrun
your thought. Control anger. Do not hate divina-
namely, the archonship of Euthydemus, meticulously correct-
ig this date from Pamphila. But he seems to have mis-
taken the meaning of πρῶτος ἐφόρος and to have rashly
inferred from it that it was Chilon who introduced the
ephorate.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

μὴ ἐχθαίρεω, μὴ ἐπιθυμεῖς ἀδινάτων. ἐν ὁδῷ μὴ σπείδως. λέγωντα μὴ κινεῖν τὴν χείρα· μα-
νικόν γάρ, νόμοις πείθεσθαι, ἢ ἡμεῖς χρῆσθαι.

71 Τῶν δὲ ἄδομένων αὐτοῦ μάλιστα ευδοκίμησεν ἐκεῖνον: ἦν λιθώνας ἀκόνιας ὁ χρυσὸς ξετάζεται,
διδοῦσι βάσανον φανερῶς ἐν δὲ χρυσῷ ἀνδρῶν ἀγαθῶν τε κακῶν τε νοῦς ἔως παρ’ ἐλεγοῦνν” φαί-
δ’ αὐτὸν ποτέ γνησίων ὅτα ἐπεῖπαι, ὥσ πολὺν συνειδεῖ ἀνομον ἐκτὸς ἐν τῷ βίω διατάξειν δὲ περὶ ἑνὸς,
κρίνων γάρ ποτε φίλων δίκην αὐτὸς μὲν κατὰ τὸν νόμον, τὸν δὲ φίλων πείσειν ἀπο-
δικάσαι αὐτοῦ, ίνα ἀμφότερα καὶ τὸν νόμον καὶ τὸν φίλον τηρήσαι.

Εὐδοκίμησεν δὲ μάλιστα παρὰ τοῖς Ἑλλήνων
ἐγένετο προειρήματα περὶ Κυθήρων τῆς νήσου τῆς
Λακωνίκης. καταμαθὼν γὰρ τὴν φύσιν αὐτῆς,
“εἰδε,” ἐφῆ, “μὴ ἐγενέσθαι, ἢ γενομένη κατ-
72 ἐβουλήθη,” καὶ εἶ διπρόνοστο. Δημάρατος μὲν
γὰρ φυγὰς ὅλων Λακεδαίμονων Ἑρέβη συνεβουλεύει
τὰς νοῦς συνεχέων ἐν τῇ νήσῳ καὶ ἐκάλωκεν ἢ
Ἑλλάς, ἢ ἐπείσθη Ἑρέβης. ὕστερον τε Νικίας
ἐπὶ τῶν Πελοποννησίων κατατρεφήμουσας τῆς
νήσου, φρονεῖν ἐγκατέστησεν Ἀθηναίων, καὶ σάμ-
πολλα τοὺς Λακεδαίμονις κακὰ διεξήκε.

Βραχυλόγος τε ἦν καὶ Ἀριστογόρας ὁ
Μηλησίας τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον Χιλώνειον καλεῖ.
. . . Βραχύχωρ δὲ εἶναι, ὅς τὸ ἱερὸν ἐκτίσε τὸ ἐν
Βραχύχωρε. ἦν δὲ γέρων περὶ τὴν πεντηκοστὴν
δευτέραν Ὀλυμπίαδα, ὅτε Αἰσχύνος ὁ λογοσοῦς

I. 70–72. CHILON

tion. Do not aim at impossibilities. Let no one see you in a hurry. Gesticulation in speaking should be avoided as a mark of insanity. Obey the laws. Be restful.

Of his songs the most popular is the following: “By the whetstone gold is tried, giving manifest proof; and by gold is the mind of good and evil men brought to the test.” He is reported to have said in his old age that he was not aware of having ever broken the law throughout his life; but on one point he was not quite clear. In a suit in which a friend of his was concerned he himself pronounced sentence according to the law, but he persuaded his colleague who was his friend to acquit the accused, in order at once to maintain the law and yet not to lose his friend.

He became very famous in Greece by his warning about the island of Cythera off the Laconian coast. For, becoming acquainted with the nature of the island, he exclaimed: “Would it had never been placed there, or else had been sunk in the depths of the sea.” And this was a wise warning; for Demaratus, when an exile from Sparta, advised Xerxes to anchor his fleet off the island; and if Xerxes had taken the advice Greece would have been conquered. Later, in the Peloponnesian war, Nicias reduced the island and placed an Athenian garrison there, and did the Lacedaemonians much mischief.

He was a man of few words; hence Aristagoras of Miletus calls this style of speaking Chilonean. . . is of Branchus, founder of the temple at Branchidae. Chilon was an old man about the 52nd Olympiad, when Aesop the fabulist was flourishing. According
I. 72–74. CHILON—PITTacus

to Hermippus, his death took place at Pisa, just after he had congratulated his son on an Olympic victory in boxing. It was due to excess of joy coupled with the weakness of a man stricken in years. And all present joined in the funeral procession.

I have written an epitaph on him also, which runs as follows a:

I praise thee, Pollux, for that Chilon’s son
By boxing feats the olive chaplet won.
Nor at the father’s fate should we repine:
He died of joy; may such a death be mine.

The inscription on his statue runs thus b:

Here Chilon stands, of Sparta’s warrior race,
Who of the Sages Seven holds highest place.

His apothegm is: “Give a pledge, and suffer for it.” A short letter is also ascribed to him.

Chilon to Periander

“You tell me of an expedition against foreign enemies, in which you yourself will take the field. In my opinion affairs at home are not too safe for an absolute ruler; and I deem the tyrant happy who dies a natural death in his own house.”

Chapter 4. PITTacus (c. 600 B.C.)

Pittacus was the son of Hyrrhadius and a native of Mitylene. Duris calls his father a Thracian. Aided by the brothers of Alcaeus he overthrew

* Anth. Pal. vii. 88.  
 b Anth. Pal. ix. 596.
Melanchrus, tyrant of Lesbos; and in the war between Mitylene and Athens for the territory of Achileis he himself had the chief command on the one side, and Phrynon, who had won an Olympic victory in the pancratium, commanded the Athenians. Pittacus agreed to meet him in single combat; with a net which he concealed beneath his shield he entangled Phrynon, killed him, and recovered the territory. Subsequently, as Apollodorus states in his Chronology, Athens and Mitylene referred their claims to arbitration. Periander heard the appeal and gave judgement in favour of Athens.

At the time, however, the people of Mitylene honoured Pittacus extravagantly and entrusted him with the government. He ruled for ten years and brought the constitution into order, and then laid down his office. He lived another ten years after his abdication and received from the people of Mitylene a grant of land, which he dedicated as sacred domain; and it bears his name to this day. Sosicles relates that he cut off a small portion for himself and pronounced the half to be more than the whole. Furthermore, he declined an offer of money made him by Croesus, saying that he had twice as much as he wanted; for his brother had died without issue and he had inherited his estate.

Pamphila in the second book of her Memorabilia narrates that, as his son Tyrraeus sat in a barber’s shop in Cyme, a smith killed him with a blow from an axe. When the people of Cyme sent the murderer to Pittacus, he, on learning the story, set him at liberty and declared that “It is better to pardon now than to repent later.” Heraclitus, however, says
that it was Alcaeus whom he set at liberty when he had got him in his power, and that what he said was: “Mercy is better than vengeance.”

Among the laws which he made is one providing that for any offence committed in a state of intoxication the penalty should be doubled; his object was to discourage drunkenness, wine being abundant in the island. One of his sayings is, “It is hard to be good,” which is cited by Simonides in this form: “Pittacus’s maxim, ‘Truly to become a virtuous man is hard.’” Plato also cites him in the Protagoras*: “Even the gods do not fight against necessity.” Again, “Office shows the man.” Once, when asked what is the best thing, he replied, “To do well the work in hand.” And, when Croesus inquired what is the best rule, he answered, “The rule of the shifting wood,” by which he meant the law. He also urged men to win bloodless victories. When the Phocaeans said that we must search for a good man, Pittacus rejoined, “If you seek too carefully, you will never find him.” He answered various inquiries thus: “What is agreeable?” “Time.” “Obscure?” “The future.” “Trustworthy?” “The earth.” “Untrustworthy?” “The sea.” “It is the part of prudent men,” he said, “before difficulties arise, to provide against their arising; and of courageous men to deal with them when they have arisen.” Do not announce your plans beforehand; for, if they fail, you will be laughed at. Never reproach any one with a misfortune, for fear of Nemesis. Duly restore what has been entrusted to you. Speak no ill of a friend, nor even of an enemy. Practise piety. Love temperance. Cherish truth, fidelity, skill, cleverness, sociability, carelessness.
DIogenes Laertius

To δὲ άδομένων αυτοῦ μάλωτα ευδοκίμασε τάδε:
εχόντα κρή τόξα καὶ ιοδόκων φαρέτρην
στείχεων ποτὶ φώτα κακόν.
πιστόν γάρ ουδὲν γλώσσα δία στόματος
λαλεῖ δισθήμισιν ἔχονσα
κραδή νόμημα.

78 ἐποίησε δὲ καὶ ἐλεγεία ἐπὶ ἐξακόσια, καὶ ὑπὲρ
νόμων καταλογάδην τοὺς πολιτιᾶς.

"Ημιαζε μὲν ὅπερ τὴν τετσαρακοστὴν δευ-
τέραν Ὀλυμπιάδα: ἐτελεύτησε δ' ἐπὶ Αριστομένους,
τῷ τρίτῳ ἐτεῖ τῆς πεντηκοστῆς δευτέρας Ὀλυμ-
πιάδος, βιών ὑπὲρ ἐπὶ ἐβδομήκοντα, [ἡ δ' γηραιός].
καὶ αὐτῷ ἐπὶ τοῦ μνήματος ἐπιγέγραται τάδε:

οἰκείους δικρύον ἃ γεναμένα κατακλαίει
Πιττακόν ἦδ' ἵππα Λέσβος ἀποφθέγμον.

ἀπόθεμα αὐτοῦ καιρὸν γνώθι.

Γέγονε δὲ καὶ έτερος Πιττακός νομοθέτης, ὃς
ϕησι Φαξυμίου ἐν Ἀπομνημονευμάτων πρῶτῳ καὶ
Δημήτριος ἐν Ὀμοιομοίοις, ὃς καὶ μικρός προ-
γεγραφθεί.

Τὸν δ' οὖν σοφὸν λέγεται ποτε νεανίσκῳ συμ-
βουλευμένον περὶ γάμου ταῦτα εἰπεῖν, ἢ φησὶ
Καλλίμαχος ἐν τοῖς ἐπιγράμμασι.

80 ξείνου Ἁταρνείτης τις ἀνήρ ετούτῳ Πιττακῷ οὕτω
τὸν Μυτιληναίον, παίδα τὸν Ῥιγραίον.

ἀττά γέρων, δούλος με καλεῖ γάμος: ἢ μιὰ μὲν ὅ
νύμφη καὶ πλούτῳ καὶ γενεῦ καὶ ἐμὲ.

ἡ δ' ἐτέρη προβέβηκε. τί λύτων; εἰ δ' ἄνει σῶν μοι
βουλευσον, ποτέρην εἰς ὑμέναυν ἀγν.

I. 78-80. Pittacus

Of his songs the most popular is this:

With bow and well-stored quiver
We must march against our foe,
Words of his tongue can no man trust,
For in his heart there is a deceitful thought.

He also wrote poems in elegiac metre, some 600
lines, and a prose work On Laws for the use of the
Citizens.

He was flourishing about the 42nd Olympiad. He
died in the archonship of Aristomenes, in the third
year of the 52nd Olympiad, having lived more than
seventy years, to a good old age. The inscription
on his monument runs thus:

Here holy Lesbos, with a mother's woe,
Bewails her Pittacus whom death laid low.

To him belongs the apophthegm, "Know thine oppor-
tunity."

There was another Pittacus, a legislator, as is
stated by Favorinus in the first book of his Memora-
bilia, and by Demetrius in his work on Men of the
Same Name. He was called the Less.

To return to the Sage: the story goes that a
young man took counsel with him about marriage,
and received this answer, as given by Callimachus
in his Epigrams:

A stranger of Atarneus thus inquired of Pittacus, the son
of Hyrradius:

Old sire, two offers of marriage are made to me: the one
bride is in wealth and birth my equal;
The other is my superior. Which is the better? Come now
and advise me which of the two I shall wed.

570 B.C. Anth. Plan. ii. 3.

Anth. Pal. vii. 89.
DIogenes Laertius

I. 80-81. Pittacus

So spake he. But Pittacus, raising his staff, an old man’s weapon, said, “See there, yonder boys will tell you the whole tale.”

The boys were whipping their tops to make them go fast and spinning them in a wide open space.

“Follow in their track,” said he. “So he approached near, and the boys were saying, “Keep to your own sphere.”

When he heard this, the stranger desisted from aiming at the lordlier match, assenting to the warning of the boys.

And, even as he led home the humble bride, so do you, Dion, keep to your own sphere.

The advice seems to have been prompted by his situation. For he had married a wife superior in birth to himself: she was the sister of Draco, the son of Penthius, and she treated him with great haughtiness.

Alcaeus nicknamed him σαράπος and σάραπος because he had flat feet and dragged them in walking; also “Chibblains,” because he had chopped feet, for which their word was χαμάς; and Braggadocio, because he was always swaggering; Paunch and Potbelly, because he was stout; a Diner-in-the-Dark, because he dispensed with a lamp; and the Sloven, because he was untidy and dirty. The exercise he took was grinding corn, as related by Clesarchus the philosopher.

The following short letter is ascribed to him:

Pittacus to Croesus

“You bid me come to Lydia in order to see your prosperity: but without seeing it I can well believe that the son of Alyattes is the most opulent of kings. There will be no advantage to me in a journey to
Sardis, for I am not in want of money, and my possessions are sufficient for my friends as well as myself. Nevertheless, I will come, to be entertained by you and to make your acquaintance."

Chapter 5. BIAS (c. 570 B.C.)

Bias, the son of Teutames, was born at Priene, and by Satyrus is placed at the head of the Seven Sages. Some make him of a wealthy family, but Duris says he was a labourer living in the house. Phanodicus relates that he ransomed certain Messenian maidens captured in war and brought them up as his daughters, gave them dowries, and restored them to their fathers in Messenia. In course of time, as has been already related, the bronze tripod with the inscription "To him that is wise" having been found at Athens by the fishermen, the maidens according to Satyrus, or their father according to other accounts, including that of Phanodicus, came forward into the assembly and, after the recital of their own adventures, pronounced Bias to be wise. And thereupon the tripod was dispatched to him; but Bias, on seeing it, declared that Apollo was wise, and refused to take the tripod. But others say that he dedicated it to Heracles in Thebes, since he was a descendant of the Thebans who had founded a colony at Priene; and this is the version of Phanodicus.

A story is told that, while Alyattes was besieging Priene, Bias fattened two mules and drove them into the camp, and that the king, when he saw them, was amazed at the good condition of the citizens actually extending to their beasts of burden. And he decided
to make terms and sent a messenger. But Bias piled up heaps of sand with a layer of corn on the top, and showed them to the man, and finally, on being informed of this, Alyattes made a treaty of peace with the people of Priene. Soon afterwards, when Alyattes sent to invite Bias to his court, he replied, "Tell Alyattes, from me, to make his diet of onions," that is, to weep. It is also stated that he was a very effective pleader; but he was accustomed to use his powers of speech to a good end. Hence it is to this that Demodicus of Leros makes reference in the line:

If you happen to be prosecuting a suit, plead as they do at Priene;

and Hipponax thus: "More powerful in pleading causes than Bias of Priene." a

This was the manner of his death. He had been pleading in defence of some client in spite of his great age. When he had finished speaking, he reclined his head on his grandson's bosom. The opposing counsel made a speech, the judges voted and gave their verdict in favour of the client of Bias, who, when the court rose, was found dead in his grandson's arms. The city gave him a magnificent funeral and inscribed on his tomb b:

Here Bias of Priene lies, whose name
Brought to his home and all Ionia fame.

My own epitaph is c:

Here Bias rests. A quiet death laid low
The aged head which years had strewn with snow.
His pleading done, his friend preserved from harms,
A long sleep took him in his grandson's arms.

a P. 79 Bergk; Strabo xiv. p. 636.

DIogenes Laertius

Ἐποίησε δὲ περὶ Ἰωνίας, τίνα μάλιστα ἂν τρόπον εὐδαιμονοίη, εἰς ἐπὶ διαχίλια. τῶν δὲ ἀδομένων αὐτοῦ εὐδοκίμησε τάδε:
ἀστοίσιν ἀρεσκε πάσιν, ἐν πόλει* αἴκε μένης
πλείσταν γὰρ ἔχει χάριν: αὐθάδης δὲ τρόπος πολλάκι
βλαβερὰν ἐξέλαμψεν ἄταν.

καὶ τὸ μὲν ἱσχυρὸν γενέσθαι τῆς φύσεως
ἔργον· τὸ δὲ λέγεις δύνασθαι τὰ συμφέροντα τῇ
πατρίδι φυσῆσθαι ἑαυτῷ καὶ φρονήσεως. εὐπορίας
dὲ χρημάτων πολλῶς καὶ διὰ τύχην περιγίνεσθαι.
ἔλεγε δὲ ἀτυχὴ εἶναι τῶν ἄνυσιν μὴ φέρονται: καὶ
νόσον φυσῆ τὸ τῶν ἀδυνάτων ἐρῶν, ἀλλὰ τῶν
δὲ κακῶν ἀνιμβόνων εἶναι. ἐρωτθείς τί
δυσχερές, τὴν "ἐπὶ τὸ χείρον," ἐφη, "μεταβολὴν
ἐὐγενέστατο ἐνεγκείν. " συμπλέων ποτὲ ἀσέβει, χει-
μαζομενής τῆς νεκρᾶς κακείων τοὺς θεοὺς ἐπι-
καλουμένων, "συνέλεγε," ἐφη, "μὴ αἰσθανότα ποῦ
ἐνθάδε πλέοντας." ἐρωτθείς ὑπὸ ἀσέβειος ἄνθρω-
ποι τί ποτὲ ἐστιν εὐσεβεία, ἐστιν. τοῦ δὲ τὴν
αἰτίαν τῆς σιγῆς πυθομένου, "σιωπῶ," ἐφη, "ὅτι
περὶ τῶν οὐδὲν σοὶ προσικοῦντων πυθαγῆ." 87

Ἐρωτθείς τί γλυκὸ ἄνθρωπος, "ἐλπίς," ἐφη.
ηῶν ἔλεγε δικάξεις μεταξὸς ἐχθρῶν ἢ φίλων· τῶν
μὲν γὰρ φίλων πάντως ἐχθρὸν ἔσεσθαι τὸν ἐτέρον,
tῶν δὲ ἐχθρῶν τὸν ἐτέρον φίλον. ἐρωτθείς τί
ποιῶν ἄνθρωπος τέρπεται, ἐφη, "κερδαινῶν."

88

I. 85–87. BIAS

He wrote a poem of 2000 lines on Ionia and the
manner of rendering it prosperous. Of his songs the
most popular is the following:

Find favour with all the citizens . . .
. . . in whatever state you dwell.

For this earns most gratitude;
the headstrong spirit often flashes forth with harmful bane.

The growth of strength in man is nature’s work;
but to set forth in speech the interests of one’s
country is the gift of soul and reason. Even chance
brings abundance of wealth to many. He also
said that he who could not bear misfortune was
truly unfortunate; that it is a disease of the soul to
be enamoured of things impossible of attainment;
and that we ought not to dwell upon the woes of
others. Being asked what is difficult, he replied,
"Nobly to endure a change for the worse." He
was once on a voyage with some impious men; and,
when a storm was encountered, even they began to
call upon the gods for help. "Peace!" said he,
"lest they hear and become aware that you are here
in the ship." When an impious man asked him to
define piety, he was silent; and when the other
inquired the reason, "I am silent," he replied,
"because you are asking questions about what does
not concern you."

Being asked "What is sweet to men," he
answered, "Hope." He said he would rather
decide a dispute between two of his enemies than
between two of his friends; for in the latter case
he would be certain to make one of his friends
his enemy, but in the former case he would make
one of his enemies his friend. Asked what occupa-
tion gives a man most pleasure, he replied, "Making

89
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

-money." He advised men to measure life as if they had both a short and a long time to live; to love their friends as if they would some day hate them, the majority of mankind being bad. Further, he gave this advice : Be slow to set about an enterprise, but persevere in it steadfastly when once it is undertaken. Do not be hasty of speech, for that is a sign of madness. Cherish wisdom. Admit the existence of the gods. If a man is unworthy, do not praise him because of his wealth. Gain your point by persuasion, not by force. Ascribe your good actions to the gods. Make wisdom your provision for the journey from youth to old age; for it is a more certain support than all other possessions.

Bias is mentioned by Hipponax as stated above, and Heraclitus, who is hard to please, bestows upon him especial praise in these words 9: "In Priene lived Bias, son of Teutames, a man of more consideration than any." And the people of Priene dedicated a precinct to him, which is called the Teutameum. His apophthegm is: Most men are bad.

CHAPTER 6 CLEOBULUS (c 600 B.C.)

Cleobulus, the son of Euagoras, was born at Lindus, but according to Duris he was a Carian. Some say that he traced his descent back to Heracles, that he was distinguished for strength and beauty, and was acquainted with Egyptian philosophy. He had a daughter Cleobiline, who composed riddles in hexameters; she is mentioned by Cratinus, who gives one of his plays her name, in the plural form Cleobilinae. He is also said to have rebuilt the temple of Athena which was founded by Danaus.

* P. 39 d, 112 b.
I. 69–91. CLEOBULUS

He was the author of songs and riddles, making some 3000 lines in all.

The inscription on the tomb of Midas is said by some to be his a:

I am a maiden of bronze and I rest upon Midas’s tomb. So long as water shall flow and tall trees grow, and the sun shall rise and shine, and the bright moon, and rivers shall run and the sea wash the shore, here abiding on his tearsprinkled tomb I shall tell the passers-by—Midas is buried here.

The evidence they adduce is a poem of Simonides in which he says b:

Who, if he trusts his wits, will praise Cleobulus the dweller at Lindus for opposing the strength of a column to everflowing rivers, the flowers of spring, the flame of the sun, and the golden moon and the eddies of the sea? But all things fall short of the might of the gods; even mortal hands break marble in pieces; this is a fool’s devising.

The inscription cannot be by Homer, because he lived, they say, long before Midas.

The following riddle of Cleobulus is preserved in Pamphila’s collection c:

One sire there is, he has twelve sons, and each of these has twice thirty daughters different in feature; some of the daughters are white, the others again are black; they are immortal, and yet they all die.

And the answer is, “The year.”


b Fr. 57 Bergk.

c Anth. Pal. xiv. 101; Stob. Écl. Phys. i. 99. 15 W.
Of his songs the most popular are: It is want of taste that reigns most widely among mortals and multitude of words; but due season will serve. Set your mind on something good. Do not become thoughtless or rude. He said that we ought to give our daughters to their husbands maidens in years but women in wisdom; thus signifying that girls need to be educated as well as boys. Further, that we should render a service to a friend to bind him closer to us, and to an enemy in order to make a friend of him. For we have to guard against the censure of friends and the intrigues of enemies. When anyone leaves his house, let him first inquire what he means to do; and on his return let him ask himself what he has effected. Moreover, he advised men to practise bodily exercise; to be listeners rather than talkers; to choose instruction rather than ignorance; to refrain from ill-omened words; to be friendly to virtue, hostile to vice; to shun injustice; to counsel the state for the best; not to be overcome by pleasure; to do nothing by violence; to educate their children; to put an end to enmity. Avoid being affectionate to your wife, or quarrelling with her, in the presence of strangers; for the one savours of folly, the other of madness. Never correct a servant over your wine, for you will be thought to be the worse for wine. Mate with one of your own rank; for if you take a wife who is superior to you, her kinsfolk will become your masters. When men are being bantered, do not laugh at their expense, or you will incur their hatred. Do not be arrogant in prosperity; if you fall into poverty, do not humble yourself. Know how to bear the changes of fortune with nobility.

* These moral precepts are similar to those of Stobaeus in the *Florilegium*, e.g. i. 172.
I. 93–94. CLEOBULUS—PERIANDER

He died at the ripe age of seventy; and the inscription over him is:

Here the wise Rhodian, Cleobulus, sleeps,
And o'er his ashes sea-proud Liadus weeps.

His apopthegm was: Moderation is best. And he wrote to Solon the following letter:

Cleobulus to Solon

“You have many friends and a home wherever you go; but the most suitable for Solon will, say I, be Lindus, which is governed by a democracy. The island lies on the high seas, and one who lives here has nothing to fear from Pisistratus. And friends from all parts will come to visit you.”

Chapter 7. PERIANDER (tyrant 625–585 B.C.)

Periander, the son of Cypselus, was born at Corinth, of the family of the Heraclidae. His wife was Lysida, whom he called Melissa. Her father was Procles, tyrant of Epidaurus, her mother Eristhenia, daughter of Aristocrates and sister of Aristodemus, who together reigned over nearly the whole of Arcadia, as stated by Heraclides of Pontus in his book On Government. By her he had two sons, Cypselus and Lycophon, the younger a man of intelligence, the elder weak in mind. However, after some time, in a fit of anger, he killed his wife by throwing a footstool at her, or by a kick, when she was pregnant, having been egged on by the slanderous tales of concubines, whom he afterwards burnt alive.

When the son whose name was Lycophon grieved

* Anth. Pal. vii. 618.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

μενον ἐπὶ τῇ μητρὶ, ὃ ὄνομα Λυκόφρων. ἦδη δὲ
96 εἰ γῆρα καθεστώς μετεπέμπτε τούτῳ ὅπως παραλάβοι τὴν τυραννίδα. ὃν φθάσαντες οἱ Κερκυραῖοι
dιεχρήσαντο. ὅτεν ὀργισθέν ἐπεμψα τοὺς πάιδας αὐτῶν πρὸς 'Αλμίτην ἐπὶ ἐκτομή: προσχώσετο δὲ
tῆς νεός Σάμων, ἱκετεύοντες τὴν 'Ηραν ὑπὸ τῶν Σαμίων διεσώθησαν.
Καὶ δὲ ἀθυμήσας ἐπελεήσετο, ἦδη γεγονός ἐτι ὑγιοῦκοντα. Σωκικράτης δὲ ψήφα πρὸτερον
Κραίσου τελευτήσας αὐτὸν ἔστη τεσσαράκοντα καὶ
ev, πρὸ τῆς τεσσαρακοστῆς ἀνάτης 'Ολυμπιάδος.
tοῦτον Ἡρόδοτος ἐν τῇ πρώτῃ ἔξον ἤσχου ἐνὶ
Θρασυβοῦν τῷ Μυλησίῳ τυράννῳ.
Φθορὶ δὲ Ἀριστιππὸς ἐν πρώτῳ Περὶ παλαιᾶς
τρυφῆς περὶ αὐτοῦ τάδε, ὡς ἂρα ἐρασθεῖσα ἡ
μητὴρ αὐτοῦ Κραίσεα συνήν αὐτῷ λάθρα: καὶ δὲ
ἵνειν. φανεροῦ δὲ γεγομένου βαρύς πάσων ἐγένετο
diὰ τὸ ἄλγεων ἐπὶ τῇ φωρᾷ. ἀλλὰ καὶ Ἐφορος
ἰστορεῖ ὡς ἐξαιτία, εἰ νικήσει 'Ολυμπία τεθρ-
thύποι, χρυσοῦν ἀνδραίαν ἀναθεῖναι, νικήσας δὲ
cαὶ ἀπορῶν χρυσίαν, κατὰ τινα ἐστήν ἐπιχώριον
ekεκοσμημένας ἰδαν τὰς γυναῖκας πάντα ἀφεῖλτο
tὸν κόσμον, καὶ ἐπέμψε τὸ ἀνάθημα.
Δένουσι δὲ τινες ὡς θελήσας αὐτοῦ τὸν τάφον
μὴ γυναῖθιναι, τοιοῦτον τί ἐμπιπτόμαστο. δυνάι
ἐκέλευσε νεανίσκους, δεῖξας τινὰ ὄδον, ἐξείλεις
νύκτωρ, καὶ τοῖς ἀπαιτήσαντα ἀνελεῖαι καὶ θάψαι,
ἐπειτα βαδίζειν ἄλλους τε κατὰ τούτων τέταρας.

I. 94–96. PERIANDER

for his mother, he banished him to Coreya. And
when well advanced in years he sent for his son to
be his successor in the tyranny; but the Coreyaean
put him to death before he could set sail. Enraged
at this, he dispatched the sons of the Coreyaean
to Alyattes that he might make eunuchs of them;
but, when the ship touched at Samos, they took
sanctuary in the temple of Hera, and were saved by
the Samians.

Periander lost heart and died at the age of
eighty. Sosicrates' account is that he died forty-
one years before Croesus, just before the 49th
Olympiad. Herodotus in his first book says that
he was a guest-friend of Thrasybulus, tyrant of
Miletus.

Aristippus in the first book of his work On the
Luxury of the Ancients accuses him of incest with
his own mother Crateia, and adds that, when the fact
came to light, he vented his annoyance in indis-
criminate severity. Ephorus records his vow that,
if he won the victory at Olympia in the chariot-race,
he would set up a golden statue. When the victory
was won, being in sore straits for gold, he despoiled
the women of all the ornaments which he had seen
them wearing at some local festival. He was thus
enabled to send the votive offering.

There is a story that he did not wish the place
where he was buried to be known, and to that end
contrived the following device. He ordered two
young men to go out at night by a certain road
which he pointed out to them; they were to kill
the man they met and bury him. He afterwards
ordered four more to go in pursuit of the two, kill
them and bury them; again, he dispatched a larger

---

98

99

---

584–580 n.c.

An unsavoury work by a scandal-monger who, to judge
from the fragment of bk. iv., bore a grudge against philoso-
phers, especially Academics: cf. Wilamowitz, Antigos
von Karystos, pp. 49 ff.
number in pursuit of the four. Having taken these measures, he himself encountered the first pair and was slain. The Corinthians placed the following inscription upon a cenotaph:

In mother earth here Periander lies,
The prince of sea-girl Corinth rich and wise.

My own epitaph on him is:

Grieve not because thou hast not gained thine end,
But take with gladness all the gods may send;
Be warned by Periander's fate, who died
Of grief that one desire should be denied.

To him belongs the maxim: Never do anything for money; leave gain to trades pursued for gain. He wrote a didactic poem of 2000 lines. He said that those tyrants who intend to be safe should make loyalty their bodyguard, not arms. When some one asked him why he was tyrant, he replied, "Because it is as dangerous to retire voluntarily as to be dispossessed." Here are other sayings of his: Rest is beautiful. Rashness has its perils. Gain is ignoble. Democracy is better than tyranny. Pleasures are transient, honours are immortal. Be moderate in prosperity, prudent in adversity. Be the same to your friends whether they are in prosperity or in adversity. Whatever agreement you make, stick to it. Betray no secret. Correct not only the offenders but also those who are on the point of offending.

He was the first who had a bodyguard and who changed his government into a tyranny, and he would let no one live in the town without his permission, as we know from Ephyrus and Aristotle.

* Anth. Pal. vii. 620.
I. 99–100. PERIANDER

He flourished about the 38th Olympiad and was tyrant for forty years.

Sotion and Heraclides and Pamphila in the fifth book of her Commentaries distinguish two Perianders, one a tyrant, the other a sage who was born in Ambracia. Neanthes of Cyzicus also says this; and adds that they were near relations. And Aristotle* maintains that the Corinthian Periander was the sage; while Plato denies this.

His apothegm is: Practice makes perfect. He planned a canal across the Isthmus.

A letter of his is extant:

Periander to the Wise Men

"Very grateful am I to the Pythian Apollo that I found you gathered together; and my letters will also bring you to Corinth, where, as you know, I will give you a thoroughly popular reception. I learn that last year you met in Sardis at the Lydian court. Do not hesitate therefore to come to me, the ruler of Corinth. The Corinthians will be pleased to see you coming to the house of Periander."

Periander to Procles

"The murder of my wife was unintentional; but yours is deliberate guilt when you set my son's heart against me. Either therefore put an end to your son's harsh treatment, or I will revenge myself enumerated, Periander's name is omitted, his place being taken by Myson. It would almost seem as if Diogenes Laertius knew of some passage in Aristotle in which Periander was called one of the Seven, though no such passage is extant.

* Periander is mentioned in the Politics of Aristotle (v. 4, 1304 a 32), but not as one of the Seven Wise Men. In Plato's Protagoras, 343 a, where the Seven Wise Men are
DIogeneS LaerTius

άμνονομαι. καὶ γὰρ δὴν καὶ αὐτὸς ποινᾶς ἔτσια
tὸν τὰ θυταρί, συγκατακαύσας αὐτῷ τὰ παιδιά
Κορυνθίαν ἔμεμα.

"Ἐγραψε δὲ αὐτῷ καὶ Ὀρασίβουλος οὕτως·

Ὀρασίβουλος Περιάνδρῳ

"Τὸ μὲν κήρυκα σεο ὀὐδὲν ύπεκρυπάμην ἀγαγών
dὲ αὐτόν ἐς λήμιν, τοὺς ύπερθυείες τῶν ἀσταχών
ῥάβδων παιῶν ἀπεθέριζον, ἀμαρτῶντος ἑκείνου.
καὶ σου ἀναγελέει ἐι ἐπέροιο, ὁ τι μεν ἀκούσῃν
ἣ ἰδοὺ. σὺ δὲ ποιεῖς οὕτως, ἢ νε\' ἐθηλής καρπύναοι
τὴν αἰσθητήτην τοὺς ἐξόχους τῶν πολιτῶν ἐξερεύνης,
ἢ τέ τις ἐχθρὸς τού φανθήσεται, ἢ τε μη.
ὕποπτος γὰρ ἀνδρὶ ἀισθητήτη καὶ τῶν τις ἑτάρων."

Κεφ. β'. ΑΝΑΧΑΡΣΙΣ Ο ΣΚΥΘΗΣ

101 Ἀνάχαρας ὁ Σκύθης Γνωρίου μὲν ἡν ὑώς,
ἀδελφὸς δὲ Καδούτα τοῦ Σκυθῶν βασιλέως,
μητέρος δὲ Ἐλληνίδος. διὸ καὶ διηλωττός ἦν.
οὕτως ἐποίησε τῶν τε παρὰ τοῖς Σκύθων νομίμων
καὶ τῶν παρὰ τοῖς Ἐλλησιώμ, εἰς εὐτέλειαν βίον καὶ
tα κατὰ τῶν πόλεμον ἐπὶ ὤκτακόσια. παρέσχε δὲ
cαὶ ἀφορμὴν παρομίζας διὰ τὸ παρρησιαστὴς εὑρί
tὴν ἀπὸ Σκύθων ῥήσαν.

Δεινὸς δὲ αὐτὸν Σιωσκράτης ἐλθεὶς εἰς Ἀθήνας
κατὰ τὴν τεσσαρακοστὴν ἐβδομην Ὀλυμπιάδα
ἐπὶ ἄρχοντος Ἐυκράτοιο, "Ερμιππος δὲ πρὸς
tὴν Ἐλλήνων οἰκίαν ἀφικόμενον τῶν θεραπόντων
τινὶ κελεύεται μηνύσαι ὅτι παρεῖ πρὸς αὐτὸν
Ἀνάχαρας, καὶ βούλοιτο αὐτὸν θέσασθαι, ἦνος
102 τε, εἰ οἶον τε, γενέσθαι. καὶ ὁ θεράπων εἰσ-

104

I. 100–102. PERIANDER—ANACHARSIS

on you. For long ago I made expiation to you for
your daughter by burning on her pyre the apparel
of all the women of Corinth."

There is also a letter written to him by Thrasybulus,
as follows:

Thrasybulus to Periander

"I made no answer to your herald; but I took him
into a cornfield, and with a staff smote and cut off
the over-grown ears of corn, while he accompanied
me. And if you ask him what he heard and what he
saw, he will give his message. And this is what you
must do if you want to strengthen your absolute
rule: put to death those among the citizens who
are pre-eminent, whether they are hostile to you or
not. For to an absolute ruler even a friend is an
object of suspicion."

Chapter 8. ANACHARSIS

Anacharsis the Scythian was the son of Gnurus
and brother of Caduidas, king of Scythia. His mother
was a Greek, and for that reason he spoke both
languages. He wrote on the institutions of the
Greeks and the Scythians, dealing with simplicity of
life and military matters, a poem of 800 lines. So
outspoken was he that he furnished occasion for a
proverb, "To talk like a Scythian."

Sosicles makes him come to Athens about the
47th Olympiad in the archonship of Eucrates.
Hermippus relates that on his arrival at the house
of Solon he told one of the servants to announce
that Anacharsis had come and was desirous of seeing
him and, if possible, of becoming his guest. The

* 591–588 B.C. 105
servant delivered his message and was ordered by Solon to tell him that men as a rule choose their guests from among their own countrymen. Then Anacharsis took him up and said that he was now in his own country and had a right to be entertained as a guest. And Solon, struck with his ready wit, admitted him into his house and made him his greatest friend.

After a while Anacharsis returned to Scythia, where, owing to his enthusiasm for everything Greek, he was supposed to be subverting the national institutions, and was killed by his brother while they were out hunting together. When struck by the arrow he exclaimed, "My reputation carried me safe through Greece, but the envy it excited at home has been my ruin." In some accounts it is said that he was slain while performing Greek rites.

Here is my own epitaph upon him:

Back from his travels Anacharsis came,
To hellenize the Scythians all aglow;
Ere half his sermon could their minds inflame,
A winged arrow laid the preacher low.

It was a saying of his that the vine bore three kinds of grapes: the first of pleasure, the next of intoxication, and the third of disgust. He said he wondered why in Greece experts contend in the games and non-experts award the prizes. Being asked how one could become a toper, he answered, "By keeping before your eyes the disgraceful exhibition made by the drunkard." Again, he expressed surprise that the Greek lawgivers should impose penalties on wanton outrage, while they honour athletes for bruising one another.

* Anth. Pal. VII. 92.
ascertaining that the ship's side was four fingers' breadth in thickness, he remarked that the passengers were just so far from death.

Oil he called a drug which produced madness, because the athletes when they anoint themselves with it are maddened against each other. How is it, he asked, that the Greeks prohibit falsehood and yet obviously tell falsehoods in retail trade? Nor could he understand why at the beginning of their feasts they drink from small goblets and when they are "full" from large ones. The inscription on his statues is: "Bridle speech, gluttony, and sensuality." Being asked if there were flutes in Scythia, he replied, "No, nor yet vines." To the question what vessels were the safest his reply was, "Those which have been hauled ashore." And he declared the strangest thing he had seen in Greece to be that they leave the smoke on the mountains and convey the fuel into the city. When some Athenian reproached him with being a Scythian, he replied, "Well, granted that my country is a disgrace to me, you are a disgrace to your country." To the question, "What among men is both good and bad?" his answer was "The tongue." He said it was better to have one friend of great worth than many friends worth nothing at all. He defined the market as a place set apart where men may deceive and overreach one another. When insulted by a boy over the wine he said, "If you cannot carry your liquor when you are young, boy, you will be a water carrier when you are old."
I. 105–107. ANACHARSIS—MYSON

According to some he was the inventor of the anchor and the potter’s wheel. To him is attributed the following letter:

Anacharsis to Croesus

“I have come, O King of the Lydians, to the land of the Greeks to be instructed in their manners and pursuits. And I am not even in quest of gold, but am well content to return to Scythia a better man. At all events here I am in Sardis, being greatly desirous of making your acquaintance.”

Chapter 9. MYSON (c. 600 B.C.)

Myson was the son of Strymon, according to Sosicrates, who quotes Hermippus as his authority, and a native of Chen, a village in the district of Oeta or Laconia; and he is reckoned one of the Seven Sages. They say that his father was a tyrant. We are told by some one that, when Anacharsis inquired if there were anyone wiser than himself, the Pythian priestess gave the response which has already been quoted in the Life of Thales as her reply to a question by Chilon:

Myson of Chen in Oeta; this is he
Who for wiseheartedness surpassest thee.

His curiosity aroused, Anacharsis went to the village in summer time and found him fitting a share to a plough and said, “Myson, this is not the season for the plough.” “It is just the time to repair it,” was the reply. Others cite the first line of the oracle differently, “Myson of Chen in Etes,” and inquire what

* Anth. Plan. vi. 40.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

ο 'Ητεύος. Παρμενίδης μὲν οὖν δήμον εἶναι Δακωνικῆς, οθεν εἶναι τὸν Μύσωνα. Σωσικράτης
δ' ἐν Διαδοχαί, ἀπὸ μὲν πατρὸς 'Ητεύον εἶναι, ἀπὸ
δὲ μητρὸς Χρεία. Εὐθύφρων δ' ὁ 'Ηρακλείδου
τοῦ Ποντικοῦ, Κρήτη φησὶν εἶναι. 'Ητεύον γὰρ
πόλιν εἶναι Κρήτης. Ἀναξίλαος δ' Ἀρκάδα.
Μέμνηται δ' αὐτοῦ καὶ Ἰππώναξ εἰπὼν.

καὶ Μύσων δὲν Ὄμπόλλων
ἀνέλεν ἀνδρῶν σωφρονεστατον πάντων.

'Αριστόξενος δέ φησιν ἐν τοῖς σποράδην οὐ πόρρω
Τίμωνος αὐτῶν καὶ 'Ασπημάντου γεγονέναι. μετ-
αὐτῶν αὐτῶν γὰρ ὁθενοί γοῦν ἐν Λακεδαιμονί
μόνων ἐπ' ερμήιος γελῶτα: ἄφων δὲ τοὺς ἐπι-
στάτας καὶ πυθομένου διὰ τί μηδὲν παρώντος
γελᾶ, φανεί: "δ' αὐτὸ τουτο."

ἀπὸ δ' 'Αριστό-
ξενοὺς ὅτι ἔθεν καὶ ἀδώξος ἢ, ὅτι μηδὲ πόλεως,
ἀλλὰ κόμης, καὶ ταῦτα ἀφαινότα. οὖθεν διὰ τὴν
ἀδοξίαν αὐτοῦ καὶ τὰ αὐτοῦ τιμας Πεισιοτράτω
περιβεθεὶν τῷ τυράννῳ, χωρὶς Πλάτωνος τοῦ
φιλοσοφοῦ. μέμνηται γὰρ αὐτοῦ καὶ οὕτως ἐν τῷ
Πρωταγόρα, ἀντὶ Περιάνδρου θεῖς αὐτῶν.

'Εφασκε δὲ μὴ ἐκ τῶν λόγων τὰ πράγματα,
ἀλλ' ἐκ τῶν πραγμάτων τῶν λόγως ζητεῖν: οὐ
γὰρ ἔνεκα τῶν λόγων τὰ πράγματα συντελεῖται,
ἀλλ' ἐνεκα τῶν πραγμάτων τῶν λόγως.

Κατέστρεψε δὲ βιοῦς ἐτῆ ἐπὶ τα καὶ ἐνενήκοντα.

I. 107-108. MYSON

"Myson of Etis" means. Parmenides indeed explains that Etis is a district in Laconia to which Myson belonged. Sosicrates in his Successions of Philosophers makes him belong to Etis on the father's side and to Chen on the mother's. Euthyphro, the son of Heraclides of Pontus, declares that he was a Cretan, Eteia being a town in Crete. Anaxilaus makes him an Arcadian.

Myson is mentioned by Hipponax, the words being a:

And Myson, whom Apollo’s self proclaimed
Wisest of all men.

Aristoxenus in his Historical Gleanings says he was not unlike Timon and Apemantus, for he was a misanthrope. At any rate he was seen in Lacedaemon laughing to himself in a lonely spot; and when some one suddenly appeared and asked him why he laughed when no one was near, he replied, “That is just the reason.” And Aristoxenus says that the reason why he remained obscure was that he belonged to no city but to a village and that an unimportant one. Hence because he was unknown, some writers, but not Plato the philosopher, attributed to Pisistratus the tyrant what properly belonged to Myson. For Plato mentions him in the Protagoras, b reckoning him as one of the Seven instead of Periander.

He used to say we should not investigate facts by the light of arguments, but arguments by the light of facts; for the facts were not put together to fit the arguments, but the arguments to fit the facts.

He died at the age of ninety-seven.

a Fr. 45 Bergk. b 343 A.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

Κ.Εφ. ἐν ἔπιμενεῖς, καθ’ ἄλλον Θεότομος καὶ ἄλλοι συγγραφεῖς, πατρὸς μὲν ὕπ Θανότων, οἱ δὲ Δωσιάδαι οἱ δὲ Ἀλκισάρχου. Κρήτης οὖν οὗτος ἀπὸ Κρήτην, καθευδεὶς τὴς κόμης τὸ εἶδος παράλλασσος. οὗτος ποτε πεμπθείς παρὰ τοῦ πατρὸς εἰς ἄγριον ἐπὶ πρόβατον, τῆς οὖν καταστρεφθείς ἐκκλαίει ψυχήν ἀντίων των κατακομμέσθη ἐπτά καὶ πεντήκοντα ἕξη. διανισταρεὶς δὲ μετὰ ταῦτα ἔξητε τὸ πρόβατον, νομίζων ἐπὶ ἄλγον κεκομίσθαι. οὐκ δὲ οὕς εὐρίκει, παρεγένετο εἰς τὸν ἄγριον καὶ μετακινημέναι πάντα καταλαβών καὶ παρ’ ἐπτέρφω τὴν κτήσιν, πάλιν ἔκεν εἰς ἀστιν διαπορώμενοι. κάκει δὲ εἰς τὴν ἐνεύμονα ἀνδρῶν οἰκίαν περιένειχατο τοῖς ποικιλομενοῖς τῖς εἶναι, ἔως τὸν νεὸν ἄλλον ἐφευρὼν τότε ἡμᾶς γέφυραν ἄντα, πάσαν ἔμαθε παρ’ ἐκείνου τὴν ἀλήθειαν. γνωσθεὶς δὲ παρὰ τοῖς Ἐλληνσι θεοφιλέστατοι εἶναι υπελήφθης.

Τότε καὶ Ἀθηναῖοι [τότε] λοιμῶν κατεχομένους ἔρχονται ἡ Πολία καθῆραι τὴν πόλιν· οἱ δὲ περιποιοῦντος οἱ καὶ Νικιάν τὸν Νικηφόρον Ἐλληνα, καλοῦντες τὸν Ἐπιμενίδην, καὶ δὲ ἐκεῖ ὦν Οἰλομπίδας τεσσαρακοστῆ ἐκεί ἐκάθισεν ἀυτῶν τῇ πόλις καὶ ἐπανεικασεν τοῖς λοιμῶν τοῦτον τὸν πρόπολιν. λαβὼν πρόβατα μελανὰ τε καὶ λευκά ἤγαγε πρὸς τὸν Ἀρείων πάγον καὶ ἤσαν εἰς δῶρον, προστάζως τοῖς ἀκολούθουσι ἐνδώ μοι κατακλών αὐτῶν ἐκαστὸν, ὥσπερ τῷ προσήκοντι θεῷ καὶ οὕς λήξας τὸ κακόν. ἔθεν ἐπὶ καὶ νῦν ἐστὶν εὐρείῳ κατὰ τοὺς δήμους τῶν.

I. 109–110. EPIMENIDES

CHAPTER 10. EPIMENIDES (c. 600 B.C.)

Epimenides, according to Theopompus and many other writers, was the son of Phaemus; some, however, make him the son of Dosiades, others of Agesarchus. He was a native of Cnossos in Crete, though from wearing his hair long he did not look like a Cretan. One day he was sent into the country by his father to look for a stray sheep, and at noon he turned aside out of the way, and went to sleep in a cave, where he slept for fifty-seven years. After this he got up and went in search of the sheep, thinking he had been asleep only a short time. And when he could not find it, he came to the farm, and found everything changed and another owner in possession. Then he went back to the town in utter perplexity; and there, on entering his own house, he fell in with people who wanted to know who he was. At length he found his younger brother, now an old man, and learnt the truth from him. So he became famous throughout Greece, and was believed to be a special favourite of heaven.

Hence, when the Athenians were attacked by pestilence, and the Pythian priestess bade them purify the city, they sent a ship commanded by Nicias, son of Niceratus, to Crete to ask the help of Epimenides. And he came in the 46th Olympiad, purified their city, and stopped the pestilence in the following way. He took sheep, some black and others white, and brought them to the Areopagus; and there he let them go whither they pleased, instructing those who followed them to mark the spot where each sheep lay down and offer a sacrifice to the local divinity. And thus, it is said, the plague was stayed. Hence even to this day altars may be
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

'Αθηναίων βιωμούς ἀνωνύμια, ὑπόμνημα τῆς τότε γενομένης ἐξελάσεως. οἱ δὲ τὴν αἰτίαν ἐπείνων τοῦ λομοῦ τὸ Κυλλάνειον ἄγος ἥρμανεν τῇ ἀπάλλαγῇ καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἀποδανεὶν δύο νεκράς, Κρατίνων καὶ Κτησίβων, καὶ λυθῆναι τὴν συμφοράν.

111 'Αθηναίοι δὲ τάλαντον ἐφημίσαντο δοῦναι αὑτῶν καὶ ναὸν τὴν ἐσ Κρήτην ἀπάλλουσαν αὐτῶν. ὁ δὲ τὸ μέν ἀργύριον οὐ προσήκτο φιλίαν δὲ καὶ συμμαχίαν ἐποίησατο Κυκλονόταν καὶ 'Αθηναίων.

Καὶ ἐπανελθὼν ἐπ' οἴκου μετ' οὐ πολὺ μετηλαβεν, ὡς φησι Φλέγων ἐν τῷ Περί μακροβίων, βιοὺς ἐπὶ ἡπτακοῦ καὶ πεντήκοντα καὶ ἑκατόν ὡς δὲ Κρήτες λέγουσαν, ἔνδος δέκα τριακοῦ. ὡς δὲ Ξενοφάνης ὁ Κολοφόνιος ἀκηκοῖνεν φησὶν, τέταρα πρὸς τοῖς πεντήκοντα καὶ ἑκατόν.

112 Ἐσπάσεις δὲ Κουρήτων καὶ Κορυβαντῶν γένεσι καὶ Θεογονίας, ἐπὶ πεντακισχίλια, 'Αργος ναυπηγίαν τε καὶ 'Ιάσωνος εἰς Κόλυμπος ἀπόπλουν ἐπὶ εὐκακισχίλια πεντακισχίλια. συνέγραψε δὲ καὶ καταλογίζων Περὶ θυσιῶν καὶ τῆς ἐν Κρήτῃ πολιτείας καὶ Περὶ Μήνων καὶ 'Ραδαμᾶνθου εἷς ἐπὶ τετρακισχίλια. ἒρμυστό ὁ καὶ παρ' 'Αθηναίων τὸ ἱερὸν τῶν Σεμνών, ὡς φησί Λόμων ὁ 'Ἀργεῖος ἐν τῷ Περὶ ποιητῶν. λέγεται δὲ καὶ πρῶτος ὁ χιάρ σα καὶ ἄργος καθήκατο καὶ ἱερὰ ἱδρύσαθαι. εἰσὶ δ' οἱ τῇ κοιμηθήσεται αὐτῶν λέγουσι, ἀλλὰ χρόνων τῶν ἐπατήθησαν ἀποχολούμενον περὶ μίσοτομίαν.

* These long poems may have been written by Lobon himself on the Hesiodic model; or Lobon may merely have affirmed their existence in his treatise *On Poets.*

I. 110–112. EPIMENIDES

found in different parts of Attica with no name inscribed upon them, which are memorials of this atonement. According to some writers he declared the plague to have been caused by the pollution which Cylon brought on the city and showed them how to remove it. In consequence two young men, Cratinus and Ctesibius, were put to death and the city was delivered from the scourge.

The Athenians voted him a talent in money and a ship to convey him back to Crete. The money he declined, but he concluded a treaty of friendship and alliance between Cnosos and Athens.

So he returned home and soon afterwards died. According to Phlegon in his work *On Longevity* he lived one hundred and fifty-seven years; according to the Cretans two hundred and ninety-nine years. Xenophanes of Colophon gives his age as 154, according to hearsay.

He wrote a poem *On the Birth of the Curetes and Corybantes* and a *Theogony,* 5000 lines in all; another on the building of the Argo and Jason’s voyage to Colchis in 6500 lines. He also compiled prose works *On Sacrifices and the Cretan Constitution,* also *On Minos and Rhadamantus,* running to about 4000 lines.

At Athens again he founded the temple of the Eumenes, as Lobon of Argos tells us in his work *On Poets.* He is stated to have been the first who purified houses and fields, and the first who founded temples. Some are found to maintain that he did not go to sleep but withdrew himself for a while, engaged in gathering simples.

* This is the meaning of ἐκπατέω in three other passages, iv. 19, ix. 3, 68, in the last of which it is glossed by ὠμοῦσα, as if the sage were a recluse, a lover of solitude.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

Φέρεται δ' αυτοῦ καὶ ἐπιστολὴ πρὸς Σόλωνα τὸν νομοθέτην, περιέχουσα πολιτειαν ἣν διέταξε Κρήτηι Μίνωι. ἀλλὰ Δημήτριος ὁ Μάγινης ἐν τοῖς περὶ ὑμνίσματι ποιητῶν τε καὶ συγγραφέων διελέγχειν πειράται τὴν ἐπιστολὴν ὡς νεαρᾶν καὶ μὴ τῇ Κρήτηι φωνῇ γεγραμμένην, Ἀθηναῖοι δὲ καὶ ταύτη νεὰ. ἐγώ δὲ καὶ ἄλλην εὖρον ἐπιστολὴν ἔχουσαν οὖν ὑώς.

'Επιμενίδης Σόλωνι

113 "Θάρρει, ὥ τειρέ. αἱ γὰρ ἔτη θητευόντεσσαν Ἀθηναίοις καὶ μὴ εὐνομημένοις ἐπεθήκατο Πεισιστράτος, εἶξα ἐκ τῶν ἀρχαίαν ἀεὶ, ἀνδραποδι-ἐχόμενοι τῶν πολίτων· νῦν δὲ ὅπως κἀκεῖνος ἄνδρας δουλώτατα· τοῦ μεμαρμένου τὸς Σόλωνος μανύσως ἀληθώτερα πεῖ· ἀλαχύνας οὐδὲ ἀνέξονται τυραννοῦσιν. ἀλλ' αἱ καὶ Πεισιστράτος <αὐτοῦ> κατα-σκέτη τάς πόλιν, οὐ μᾶν ἐς παιδάς γε τίμων ἔστωσιν τὸ κράτος ἰζεθαν. δυσμάχανον γὰρ ἄνθρωπος ἐλευθερίας ἐν τεθωμοῖς ἀρίστους δούλως ἦμεν. τὸ δὲ μὴ ἀλᾶσθαι, ἀλλ' ἔρπε ἐς Κρήτην ποδ' ἀμέ. 

114 Καὶ οὖσα μὲν ἄδε τῇ Δημήτριος τινας ἱστορεῖν ὡς λάβοι παρὰ Νυμφῶν ἐδεσμά τι καὶ ψυλλαίηρ ἐν χρήῃ βοῶς· προσφερόμενος τοι καὶ ἀλόγων μηδεμαίνα κενοῦσθαι ἀποκρίεται μηδὲ ὀδηγήσῃ ποτε ἐσθίων. μέμνηται αὐτοῦ καὶ Τίμαιος ἐν τῇ δευτέρᾳ. λέγουσι δὲ τινες ὅτι Κρήτης αὐτῷ

I. 112-114. EPIMENIDES

There is extant a letter of his to Solon the lawgiver, containing a scheme of government which Minos drew up for the Cretans. But Demetrius of Magnesia, in his work on poets and writers of the same name, endeavours to discredit the letter on the ground that it is late and not written in the Cretan dialect but in Attic, and New Attic too. However, I have found another letter by him which runs as follows:

Epimenides to Solon

"Courage, my friend. For if Pisistratus had attacked the Athenians while they were still serfs and before they had good laws, he would have secured power in perpetuity by the enslavement of the citizens. But, as it is, he is reducing to subjection men who are no cowards, men who with pain and shame remember Solon’s warning and will never endure to be under a tyrant. But even should Pisistratus himself hold down the city, I do not expect that his power will be continued to his children; for it is hard to contrive that men brought up as free men under the best laws should be slaves. But, instead of going on your travels, come quietly to Crete to me; for here you will have no monarch to fear, whereas, if some of his friends should fall in with you while you are travelling about, I fear you may come to some harm."

This is the tenor of the letter. But Demetrius reports a story that he received from the Nymphs food of a special sort and kept it in a cow’s hoof; that he took small doses of this food, which was entirely absorbed into his system, and he was never seen to eat. Timaeus mentions him in his second book. Some writers say that the Cretans sacrifice to him
I. 114-116. EPIMENIDES—PERECYDES

as a god; for they say that he had superhuman foresight. For instance, when he saw Munichia, at Athens, he said the Athenians did not know how many evils that place would bring upon them; for, if they did, they would destroy it even if they had to do so with their teeth. And this he said so long before the event. It is also stated that he was the first to call himself Aeacus; that he foretold to the Lacedaemonians their defeat by the Arcadians; and that he claimed that his soul had passed through many incarnations.

Theopompus relates in his Mirabilia that, as he was building a temple to the Nymphs, a voice came from heaven: "Epimenides, not a temple to the Nymphs, but to Zeus," and that he foretold to the Cretans the defeat of the Lacedaemonians by the Arcadians, as already stated; and in very truth they were crushed at Orchomenus.

And he became old in as many days as he had slept years; for this too is stated by Theopompus. Myronianus in his Parallels declares that the Cretans called him one of the Curetes. The Lacedaemonians guard his body in their own keeping in obedience to a certain oracle; this is stated by Sosibius the Laconian.

There have been two other men named Epimenides, namely, the genealogist and another who wrote in Doric Greek about Rhodes.

Chapter 11. PERECYDES (flor. c. 540 B.C.)

Pherecydes, the son of Babys, and a native of Syros according to Alexander in his Successions of Philosophers, was a pupil of Pittacus. Theopompus
DIOMENES LAERTIUS

φησι Θεόπομπος πρώτον περὶ φύσεως καὶ θεῶν γράφαι.

Πολλὰ δὲ καὶ θαμμάσια λέγεται περὶ αὐτοῦ. καὶ γὰρ παρὰ τὸν αἰγιαλὸν τῆς Σάμου περιπατοῦντα καὶ ναὸν οὐρανομοιότατον ἱδόντα εἰπέτω ὅσ τὸ μετὰ πολὺ καταδύνεται καὶ ἐν όφθαλμοῖς αὐτοῦ καταδύναι. καὶ ἀνιμηθέντος ἐκ φρέατος ὅθεν πλὴντα προετεῖν, ὅσ εἰς τρίτην ἡμέραν ἔσεσται σεισμός, καὶ γενέσθαι. ἀνώτατα τὸ Ἐκ Ολυμπίας εἰς Μεσσήνην τῷ Ξένῳ Περιλαῦ συμβουλεύει ἐξοικήσαι μετὰ τῶν οἰκείων καὶ τὸν μὴ πεισθῆναι, Μεσσήνην δὲ ἐσαλώκειν.

116 Καὶ Λακεδαιμονίοις εἰπέτε μὴ χρυσὸν τιμᾶν μὴτε ἀργυρον, ὅσ φησι Θεόπομπος ἐν Θαμμασίως προστάζει δὲ αὐτῇ ὄναρ τοῦτο τῷ Ἰερακλέα, ὅν καὶ τῆς αὐτῆς νυκτὸς τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κελεύσαι Φερεκυθῆ πείθεσθαι. ἐνοι δὲ Πυθαγόρα περιάπτουσι ταῦτα.

Φησι δ’ Ἐρμιππος πολέμου συνεττότως Ἐφεσίως καὶ Μάγνης Βουλόμενοι τοὺς Ἐφεσίους νικήσαι πυθέθαι τῶν παριστός πόθεν εἰ, τοῦ δ’ εἰπόντος "ἐξ Ἐφέσου," "ἔλυσαν με τούν, ἔφη, τῶν σκελῶν καὶ δῆς εἰς τὴν τῶν Μαγνητῶν χώραν, καὶ ἀπάγησον σοι τοῖς πολίταις μετὰ τὸ νικήσαι αὐτόθι μὲ βάφας ἐπεσκεφθέναι ταῦτα Φερεκυθῆ." ὁ μὲν ὁδὴν ἀπῆγγελεν οὐ δὲ μὲν ἐπελθόντες κρατοῦσα τῶν Μαγνητῶν, καὶ τὸν τε Φερεκυθῆν μεταλλάζαντα θάπτουσαν αὐτόθι καὶ μεγαλοπρεπῶς τιμῶσιν. ἐνοι δὲ φασιν

I. 116–118. PHERECYDES
tells us that he was the first who wrote in Greek on nature and the gods.

Many wonderful stories are told about him. He was walking along the beach in Samos and saw a ship running before the wind; he exclaimed that in no long time she would go down, and, even as he watched her, down she went. And as he was drinking water which had been drawn up from a well he predicted that on the third day there would be an earthquake; which came to pass. And on his way from Olympia he advised Perilaus, his host in Messene, to move thence with all belonging to him; but Perilaus could not be persuaded, and Messene was afterwards taken.6

He bade the Lacedaemonians set no store by gold or silver, as Theopompus says in his Mirabilia. He told them he had received this command from Heracles in a dream; and the same night Heracles enjoined upon the kings to obey Phercydes. But some fasten this story upon Pythagoras.

Hermippus relates that on the eve of war between Ephesus and Magnesia he favoured the cause of the Ephesians, and inquired of some one passing by where he came from, and on receiving the reply "From Ephesus," he said, "Drag me by the legs and place me in the territory of Magnesia; and take a message to your countrymen that after their victory they must bury me there, and that this is the last injunction of Phercydes." The man gave the message; a day later the Ephesians attacked and defeated the Magnesians; they found Phercydes dead and buried him on the spot with great honours. Another

6 These stories no doubt come from Theopompus, whose work on Marvels is cited in the next paragraph.
version is that he came to Delphi and hurled himself down from Mount Corycus. But Aristoxenus in his work *On Pythagoras and his School* affirms that he died a natural death and was buried by Pythagoras in Delos; another account again is that he died of a verminous disease, that Pythagoras was also present and inquired how he was, that he thrust his finger through the doorway and exclaimed, "My skin tells its own tale," a phrase subsequently applied by the grammarians as equivalent to "getting worse," although some wrongly understand it to mean "all is going well." He maintained that the divine name for "table" is θυώρος, or that which takes care of offerings.

Andron of Ephesus says that there were two natives of Syros who bore the name of Phercydes: the one was an astronomer, the other was the son of Babys and a theologian, teacher of Pythagoras. Eratosthenes, however, says that there was only one Phercydes of Syros, the other Phercydes being an Athenian and a genealogist.

There is preserved a work by Phercydes of Syros, a work which begins thus: "Zeus and Time and Earth were from all eternity, and Earth was called Γη because Zeus gave her earth (γή) as guerdon (γέρας)." His sun-dial is also preserved in the island of Syros.

Duris in the second book of his *Horae* gives the inscription on his tomb according to a:

All knowledge that a man may have had I;
Yet tell Pythagoras, were more thereby,
That first of all Greeks is he; I speak no lie.

Ion of Chios says of him b:

a *Anth. Pal.* vii. 93.  
b Fr. 4 Bergk.
I. 120–122. PHERECEYDES

With manly worth endowed and modesty,
Though he be dead, his soul lives happily.
If wise Pythagoras indeed saw light
And read the destinies of men aright.

There is also an epigram of my own in the Pherecratean metre:

The famous Pherecydes, to whom Syros gave birth, when
his former beauty was consumed by vermin, gave orders that
he should be taken straight to the Magnesian land in order
that he might give victory to the noble Ephesians. There
was an oracle, which he alone knew, enjoining this; and
there he died among them. It seems then it is a true tale:
if anyone is truly wise, he brings blessings both in his life-
time and when he is no more.

He lived in the 59th Olympiad. He wrote the
following letter:

PHERECEYDES TO THALES

“May yours be a happy death when your time
comes. Since I received your letter, I have been
attacked by disease. I am infested with vermin and
subject to a violent fever with shivering fits. I have
therefore given instructions to my servants to carry
my writing to you after they have buried me. I
would like you to publish it, provided that you and

* Anth. Plan. iii. 129.

This forgery is easily analysed. There is the tradition
of the malady which proved fatal to Pherecydes (cf. Por-
phyry, Vit. Pyth. § 65), with the anecdote of his protruding
his finger through the door. There is also an allusion to
the alleged obscurity of the work on the gods which passed
current as written by him.
I. 122. PHERECYDES

the other sages approve of it, and not otherwise. For I myself am not yet satisfied with it. The facts are not absolutely correct, nor do I claim to have discovered the truth, but merely such things as one who inquires about the gods picks up. The rest must be thought out, for mine is all guess-work. As I was more and more weighed down with my malady, I did not permit any of the physicians or my friends to come into the room where I was, but, as they stood before the door and inquired how I was, I thrust my finger through the keyhole and showed them how plague-stricken I was; and I told them to come to-morrow to bury Pherencydes.”

So much for those who are called the Sages, with whom some writers also class Pisistratus the tyrant. I must now proceed to the philosophers and start with the philosophy of Ionia. Its founder was Thales, and Anaximander was his pupil.
BOOK II

CHAPTER 1. ANAXIMANDER a (611-546 B.C.)

ANAXIMANDER, the son of Praxiades, was a native of Miletus. He laid down as his principle and element that which is unlimited without defining it as air or water or anything else. He held that the parts undergo change, but the whole is unchangeable; that the earth, which is of spherical shape, lies in the midst, occupying the place of a centre; that the moon, shining with borrowed light, derives its illumination from the sun; further, that the sun is as large as the earth and consists of the purest fire. b

He was the first inventor of the gnomon and set it up for a sundial in Lacedaemon, c as is stated by Favorinus in his Miscellaneous History, in order to mark the solstices and the equinoxes; he also constructed clocks to tell the time. He was the first to draw on a map the outline of land and sea, and he constructed a globe as well.

His exposition of his doctrines took the form of a summary which no doubt came into the hands, among others, of Apollodorus of Athens. He says in his Chronology that in the second year of the 58th

a These astronomical discoveries belong properly to Anaxagoras.

b With this Life Diels (Dox. Gr. p. 133) compares Hippolytus (Ref. Haer. i. 6), Plutarch (Strom. 2), Aelius, i. 3. 3; ili. 11. 1; iii. 10. 2; ii. 11. 5; ii. 20. 1; ii. 24. 2; ii. 29. 1; ii. 21. 1; iii. 15. 6; v. 19. 4, which go back to Theophrastus, Phys. Opin. Fr. 2.
II. 2-4. ANAXIMANDER—ANAXIMENES

Olympiad a Anaximander was sixty-four, and that he died not long afterwards. Thus he flourished almost at the same time as Polycrates the tyrant of Samos. b There is a story that the boys laughed at his singing, and that, when he heard of it, he rejoined, "Then to please the boys I must improve my singing."

There is another Anaximander, also of Miletus, a historian who wrote in the Ionic dialect.

CHAPTER 2. ANAXIMENES c (flor. c. 546 B.C.)

Anaximenes, the son of Eurystratus, a native of Miletus, was a pupil of Anaximander. According to some, he was also a pupil of Parmenides. He took for his first principle air or that which is unlimited. He held that the stars move round the earth but do not go under it. He writes simply and unaffectedly in the Ionic dialect.

According to Apollodorus he was contemporary with the taking of Sardis and died in the 63rd Olympiad.d

There have been two other men named Anaximenes, both of Lampsacus, the one a rhetorician who wrote on the achievements of Alexander, the other, the nephew of the rhetorician, who was a historian.

Anaximenes the philosopher wrote the following letters:

Anaximenes to Pythagoras

"Thales, the son of Examyas, has met an unkind fate in his old age. He went out from the court of

---

a 547-546 B.C.
b There is a chronological difficulty in this statement of Diogenes, for Polycrates of Samos died in 529. The difficulty, however, disappears if the statement be taken to refer not to Anaximander but to Pythagoras.
c Diels (op. cit. p. 135) compares Hippolytus, Ref. Haer.

---
Cep. γ'. ANAXAGORAS

6 'Αναξαγόρας Ἡγησιβούλης Ἡ Εὐβούλου Κλαζο-μένος. οὗτος ἦκουσεν 'Αναξιμένους, καὶ πρῶτος τῇ ὑλῇ νοῦν ἐπεστησεν, ἀρξάμενος οὕτω τοῦ συν-

II. 4–6. ANAXIMENES—ANAXAGORAS

his house at night, as was his custom, with his maidservant to view the stars, and, forgetting where he was, as he gazed, he got to the edge of a steep slope and fell over. In such wise have the Milesians lost their astronomer. Let us who were his pupils cherish his memory, and let it be cherished by our children and pupils; and let us not cease to entertain one another with his words. Let all our discourse begin with a reference to Thales."

And again:

Anaximenes to Pythagoras

"You were better advised than the rest of us when you left Samos for Croton, where you live in peace. For the sons of Aeaces work incessant mischief, and Miletus is never without tyrants. The king of the Medes is another terror to us, not indeed so long as we are willing to pay tribute; but the Ionians are on the point of going to war with the Medes to secure their common freedom, and once we are at war we have no more hope of safety. How then can Anaximenes any longer think of studying the heavens when threatened with destruction or slavery? Meanwhile you find favour with the people of Croton and with the other Greeks in Italy; and pupils come to you even from Sicily."

Chapter 3. ANAXAGORAS a (500–428 B.C.)

Anaxagoras, the son of Hexasibulus or Eubulus, was a native of Clazomenae. He was a pupil of Anaximenes, and was the first who set mind above

Opin. Fr. 4. For Anaxagoras as astronomer see Sir T. L. Heath, Aristarchus of Samos, pp. 78–85.

135
DIÓGENES LAERΤIUS

II. 6–8. ANAXAGORAS

matter, for at the beginning of his treatise, which is composed in attractive and dignified language, he says, “All things were together; then came Mind and set them in order.” This earned for Anaxagoras himself the nickname of Nous or Mind, and Timon in his Silli says of him:  

Then, I ween, there is Anaxagoras, a doughty champion, whom they call Mind, because forsooth his was the mind which suddenly woke up and fitted closely together all that had formerly been in a medley of confusion.

He was eminent for wealth and noble birth, and furthermore for magnanimity, in that he gave up his patrimony to his relations. For, when they accused him of neglecting it, he replied, “Why then do you not look after it?” And at last he went into retirement and engaged in physical investigation without troubling himself about public affairs. When some one inquired, “Have you no concern in your native land?” “Gently,” he replied, “I am greatly concerned with my fatherland,” and pointed to the sky.

He is said to have been twenty years old at the invasion of Xerxes and to have lived seventy-two years. Apollodorus in his Chronology says that he was born in the 70th Olympiad, and died in the first year of the 88th Olympiad. He began to study philosophy at Athens in the archonship of Callias when he was twenty; Demetrius of Phalerum states this in his list of archons; and at Athens they say he remained for thirty years.

He declared the sun to be a mass of red-hot metal and to be larger than the Peloponnesus, though others ascribe this view to Tantalus; he declared that there were dwellings on the moon, and moreover
hills and ravines. He took as his principles the homoeomeries or homogeneous molecules; for just as gold consists of fine particles which are called gold-dust, so he held the whole universe to be compounded of minute bodies having parts homogeneous to themselves. His moving principle was Mind. Of bodies, he said, some, like earth, were heavy, occupying the region below, others, light like fire, held the region above, while water and air were intermediate in position. For in this way over the earth, which is flat, the sea sinks down after the moisture has been evaporated by the sun. In the beginning the stars moved in the sky as in a revolving dome, so that the celestial pole is always visible was vertically overhead; but subsequently the pole took its inclined position. He held the Milky Way to be a reflection of the light of stars which are not shone upon by the sun; comets to be a conjunction of planets which emit flames; shooting-stars to be a sort of sparks thrown off by the air. He held that winds arise when the air is rarefied by the sun's heat; that thunder is a clashing together of the clouds, lightning their violent friction; an earthquake a subsidence of air into the earth.

Animals were produced from moisture, heat, and an earthly substance; later the species were propagated by generation from one another, males from the right side, females from the left.

There is a story that he predicted the fall of the meteoric stone at Aegospotami, which he said would fall from the sun. Hence Euripides, who was his pupil, in the Phaëthon calls the sun itself a "golden cloud." Furthermore, when he went to Olympia,

---

* This version agrees with Pliny, Nat. Hist. ii. 149
"celebrant Graeci Anaxagoram Clazomenen Olympiades septuagesimae octavae anno praedixisse caelestium litterarum scientia quibus diebus saxum casurum esse e sole."
he sat down wrapped in a sheep-skin cloak as if it were going to rain; and the rain came. When some one asked him if the hills at Lampasus would ever become sea, he replied, "Yes, it only needs time." Being asked to what end he had been born, he replied, "To study sun and moon and heavens." To one who inquired, "You miss the society of the Athenians?" his reply was, "Not I, but they miss mine." When he saw the tomb of Mausolus, he said, "A costly tomb is an image of an estate turned into stone." To one who complained that he was dying in a foreign land, his answer was, "The descent to Hades is much the same from whatever place we start."

Favorinus in his Miscellaneous History says Anaxagoras was the first to maintain that Homer in his poems treats of virtue and justice, and that this thesis was defended at greater length by his friend Metrodorus of Lampasus, who was the first to busy himself with Homer's physical doctrine. Anaxagoras was also the first to publish a book with diagrams. Silenus* in the first book of his History gives the archisonship of Demylus† as the date when the meteoric stone fell, and says that Anaxagoras declared the whole firmament to be made of stones; that the

---

* Anaxagoras, whose death falls in the fifth century, c. 428–425 B.C., could not possibly have seen the famous Mausoleum erected by Artemisia, the widow of Mausolus, not earlier than 350 B.C. Mausolus ruled over Caria, according to Diodorus, from 377 to 353. The apographism is therefore either wrongly attributed to Anaxagoras or, if genuine, must have been uttered on some other occasion.

† From Plutarch's Life of Nicias, c. 23, and Clement of Alexandria (Strom. i. 78, p. 364 L.), δια γραφὴς (for which Diels conjectures μετὰ διαγραφῆς) ἐκθεῖται βιβλίον ἱστοριῶν, the inference seems to be that Anaxagoras was credited with diagrams as well as text, διὰ σακραλία καὶ γραφή. Laertius, if the text is sound, is much too vague; and some translate "was the first to bring out a book written by himself."

‡ Silenus of Calatia, who served in the Hanniballic war, wrote a History quoted by Cicero, Livy and Pliny; also a work on Sicily, P.H.G. iii. 100.

§ We know no archon Demylus. Various dates are suggested by critics: the years of (1) Demotion, archon 470, (2) Lysistratus, 467, (3) Diphilus, 443 B.C. The letters -πιδον may not be part of the archon's name but a distinct word, calling the meteor a "millstone," i.e. in size.
DI OGENES LAERTIUS

syngkéto to τῇ σφοδρᾷ δὲ περιδυνήσει συνεστάναι καὶ ἀνεθεύτα κατενεχθῆσθαι.

Περὶ δὲ τῆς δίκης αὐτοῦ διάφορα λέγεται. Σωτῖων μὲν γὰρ φησὶν ἐν τῇ Διαδοχῇ τῶν φιλοσοφῶν ὑπὸ Κλέωνος αὐτὸν ἀσέβειας κρίθηκεν, διότι τὸν ἱλιον μύθρον ἔλεγε διάπυρον ἀπολογησαμένον δὲ ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ Περικλέους τοῦ μαθητοῦ, πέντε ταλάντων ἐξισωθήκει καὶ φυγαδευθῆκεν. Σάτυρος δὲ ἐν τοῖς Βίοις ὑπὸ Θουκυδίδου φησὶν εἰσαχθῆναι τὴν δίκην, αὐτοπολυτευμόνῳ τῷ Περικλεῖ: καὶ οἵ μόνων ἀσέβειας, ἀλλὰ καὶ μηδεμιοῦ: καὶ ἀπόντα κατα-

13 δικασθῆναι βανάτῳ. ὅτε καὶ ἀμφιτέρων αὐτῷ προσ-

αγγελεύων, τῆς τε καταδίκης καὶ τῆς τῶν παιδῶν τελευτῆς, εἰπεν περὶ μὲν τῆς καταδίκης, ὅτι ἀρα

"κακέων κάμοι πάλαι ἡ φύσις κατεφησίσατο," ἀρα περὶ τῶν παιδῶν, ὅτι "ἥ διεν αὐτῶν θνήτους γεννῆσας," οἱ δὲ εἰς Σωλώνα τοῦ ἀναφέροντο, ἀλλοι εἰς Ξεινοφῶνα. τοῦτον δὲ καὶ τάξιν τὰς ἰδίαις χεραν αὐτῶν Δημήτριος φησὶν ὁ Φαληρεύς ἐν τῷ Περὶ γῆρως. "Ερμποπος δὲ ἐν τοῖς Βίοις φησὶν ὅτι κατείρηθη ἐν τῷ δεσμωτηρίῳ τεθηκόμενος. Περικλῆς δὲ παρελθὼν εἰπεν εἰ τι ἔχουσιν ἐγκαλεῖ

14 αὐτῷ κατὰ τὸν βίον· οὐδὲν δὲ εἰσόντων, "καὶ μὴν ἔγω," ἔφη, "τοῦτον μαθητῆς εἰμι· μὴ οὖν διαβολάς επαρβέντες ἀποκτείνετε τὸν ἀνδροτον, ἀλλ' ἐμοὶ πειθέντες ἀφετε." καὶ ἀφετε οὐκ ἐνέγκω δὲ τὴν υβρίαν εὐτῶν ἔζηγαγεν. Ἰερώνυμος δὲ ἐν τῷ δευτέρῳ Τόμῳ περαιτέρων ὑπομνήματι φησιν ὅτι ὁ Περικλῆς παρήγαγε μαθητήν αὐτῶν ἐπὶ τὸ δικαστήριον, δια-

142

II. 12-14. ANAXAGORAS

rapidity of rotation caused it to cohere; and that if this were relaxed it would fall.\(^a\)

Of the trial of Anaxagoras different accounts are given. Sotion in his Succession of the Philosophers says that he was indicted by Cleon on a charge of impiety, because he declared the sun to be a mass of red-hot metal; that his pupil Pericles defended him, and he was fined five talents and banished. Satyrus in his Lives says that the prosecutor was Thucydides, the opponent of Pericles, and the charge one of treasonable correspondence with Persia as well as of impiety; and that sentence of death was passed on Anaxagoras by default. When news was brought him that he was condemned and his sons were dead, his comment on the sentence was, "Long ago nature condemned both my judges and myself to death"; and on his sons, "I knew that my children were born to die." Some, however, tell this story of Solon, and others of Xenophon. That he buried his sons with his own hands is asserted by Demetrius of Phalerum in his work On Old Age. Hermippus in his Lives says that he was confined in the prison pending his execution; that Pericles came forward and asked the people whether they had any fault to find with him in his own public career; to which they replied that they had not. "Well," he continued, "I am a pupil of Anaxagoras; do not then be carried away by slanders and put him to death. Let me prevail upon you to release him." So he was released; but he could not brook the indignity he had suffered and committed suicide. Hieronymus in the second book of his Scattered Notes states that Pericles brought him into court so weak and wasted from illness that he owed his

\(^a\) This version of the story agrees with that of Plutarch in his Life of Lysander, § 12 λέγεται δὲ ... τοῦ πατρός.
II. 14–16. ANAXAGORAS—ARCHELAUS

acquittal not so much to the merits of his case as to the sympathy of the judges. So much then on the subject of his trial.

He was supposed to have borne Democritus a grudge because he had failed to get into communication with him. At length he retired to Lampsacus and there died. And when the magistrates of the city asked if there was anything he would like done for him, he replied that he would like them to grant an annual holiday to the boys in the month in which he died; and the custom is kept up to this day. So, when he died, the people of Lampsacus gave him honourable burial and placed over his grave the following inscription:

Here Anaxagoras, who in his quest
Of truth scaled heaven itself, is laid to rest.
I also have written an epigram upon him:

The sun’s a molten mass,
Quoth Anaxagoras;
This is his crime, his life must pay the price.
Pericles from that fate
Rescued his friend too late;
His spirit crushed, by his own hand he dies.

There have been three other men who bore the name of Anaxagoras [of whom no other writer gives a complete list]. The first was a rhetorician of the school of Isocrates; the second a sculptor, mentioned by Antigonus; the third a grammarian, pupil of Zenodotus.

CHAPTER 4. ARCHELAUS *(c. 450 B.C.)*

Archelaus, the son of Apollodorus, or as some say
of Midon, was a citizen of Athens or of Miletus; he was a pupil of Anaxagoras, who first brought natural philosophy from Ionia to Athens. Archelaus was the teacher of Socrates. He was called the physicist inasmuch as with him natural philosophy came to an end, as soon as Socrates had introduced ethics. It would seem that Archelaus himself also treated of ethics, for he has discussed laws and goodness and justice; Socrates took the subject from him and, having improved it to the utmost, was regarded as its inventor. Archelaus laid down that there were two causes of growth or becoming, heat and cold; that living things were produced from slime; and that what is just and what is base depends not upon nature but upon convention.

His theory is to this effect. Water is melted by heat and produces on the one hand earth in so far as by the action of fire it sinks and coheres, while on the other hand it generates air in so far as it overflows on all sides. Hence the earth is confined by the air, and the air by the circumambient fire. Living things, he holds, are generated from the earth when it is heated and throws off slime of the consistency of milk to serve as a sort of nourishment, and in this same way the earth produced man. He was the first who explained the production of sound as being the concussion of the air, and the formation of the sea in hollow places as due to its filtering through the earth. He declared the sun to be the largest of the heavenly bodies and the universe to be unlimited.

There have been three other men who bore the name of Archelaus: the topographer who described the countries traversed by Alexander; the author...
II. 17-19. ARCHELAUS—SOCRATES

of a treatise on Natural Curiosities; and lastly a rhetorician who wrote a handbook on his art.

CHAPTER 5. SOCRATES (469-399 B.C.)

Socrates was the son of Sophroniscus, a sculptor, and of Phaenarete, a midwife; as we read in the Theaetetus of Plato; he was a citizen of Athens and belonged to the deme Alopece. It was thought that he helped Euripides to make his plays; hence Mnesimachus

* writes:

This new play of Euripides is The Phrygians; and Socrates provides the wood for frying.

And again he calls Euripides "an engine riveted by Socrates." And Callias in The Captives:

A. Pray why so solemn, why this lofty air?
B. I've every right; I'm helped by Socrates.

Aristophanes in The Clouds:

'Tis he composes for Euripides
Those clever plays, much sound and little sense.

According to some authors he was a pupil of Anaxagoras, and also of Damon, as Alexander states in his Successions of Philosophers. When Anaxagoras was condemned, he became a pupil of Archelaus the physicist; Aristoxenus asserts that Archelaus was very fond of him. Duris makes him out to have been a slave and to have been employed on stonework, and the draped figures of the Graces on the Acropolis have by some been attributed to him. Hence the passage in Timon's Sili:

corum Fragmenta, ii. p. 371 sq. Dindorf conjectured that τὰς σωκρατογύμναι belongs to the same passage of Teleclides' Clouds and might well follow sofás.

* Fr. 25 D.
II. 19-21. Socrates

From these diverged the sculptor, a prater about laws, the enchanter of Greece, inventor of subtle arguments, the sneerer who mocked at fine speeches, half-Attic in his mock humility.

He was formidable in public speaking, according to Idomeneus; moreover, as Xenophon tells us, the Thirty forbade him to teach the art of words. And Aristophanes attacks him in his plays for making the worse appear the better reason. For Favorinus in his Miscellaneous History says Socrates and his pupil Aeschines were the first to teach rhetoric; and this is confirmed by Idomeneus in his work on the Socratic circle. Again, he was the first who discoursed on the conduct of life, and the first philosopher who was tried and put to death. Aristoxenus, the son of Spintharus, says of him that he made money; he would at all events invest sums, collect the interest accruing, and then, when this was expended, put out the principal again.

Demetrius of Byzantium relates that Crito removed him from his workshop and educated him, being struck by his beauty of soul; that he discussed moral questions in the workshops and the market-place, being convinced that the study of nature is no concern of ours; and that he claimed that his inquiries embraced

Whatsoever is good or evil in an house:

that frequently, owing to his vehemence in argument, men set upon him with their fists or tore his hair out; and that for the most part he was despised and laughed at, yet bore all this ill-usage patiently. So much so that, when he had been kicked, and much earlier author, for he was a disciple of Epicurus, whom he knew from 310 to 270 B.C.  

---

*a* Possibly the reference is to the same citation as in § 19 which Diogenes Laertius may have found independently in two of his authorities. Diogenes himself notices the agreement between Favorinus and Idomeneus of Lampsacus, a
some one expressed surprise at his taking it so quietly, Socrates rejoined, “Should I have taken the law of a donkey, supposing that he had kicked me?” Thus far Demetrius.

Unlike most philosophers, he had no need to travel, except when required to go on an expedition. The rest of his life he stayed at home and engaged all the more keenly in argument with anyone who would converse with him, his aim being not to alter his opinion but to get at the truth. They relate that Euripides gave him the treatise of Heraclitus and asked his opinion upon it, and that his reply was, “The part I understand is excellent, and so too is, I dare say, the part I do not understand; but it needs a Delian diver to get to the bottom of it.”

He took care to exercise his body and kept in good condition. At all events he served on the expedition to Amphipolis; and when in the battle of Delium Xenophon had fallen from his horse, he stepped in and saved his life. In for the general flight of the Athenians he personally retired at his ease, quietly turning round from time to time and ready to defend himself in case he were attacked. Again, he served at Potidaea, whither he had gone by sea, as land communications were interrupted by the war; and while he is said to have remained a whole night without changing his position, and to have won the prize of valour. But he resigned it to Alcibiades, for whom he cherished the tenderest affection, according to Aristippus in the fourth book of his treatise On the Luxury of the Ancients. Ion of attend the Isthmian games during the early part of the Peloponnesian war, it was probably safer not to risk the land journey owing to the bitter hostility of the Megarians.
Chios relates that in his youth he visited Samos in the company of Archelaus; and Aristotle that he went to Delphi; he went also to the Isthmus, according to Favorinus in the first book of his Memorabilia.

His strength of will and attachment to the democracy are evident from his refusal to yield to Critias and his colleagues when they ordered him to bring the wealthy Leon of Salamis before them for execution, and further from the fact that he alone voted for the acquittal of the ten generals; and again from the facts that when he had the opportunity to escape from the prison he declined to do so, and that he rebuked his friends for weeping over his fate, and addressed to them his most memorable discourses in the prison.

He was a man of great independence and dignity of character. Pamphilus in the seventh book of her Commentaries tells how Alcibiades once offered him a large site on which to build a house; but he replied, "Suppose, then, I wanted shoes and you offered me a whole side to make a pair with, would it not be ridiculous in me to take it?" Often when he looked at the multitude of wares exposed for sale, he would say to himself, "How many things I can do without!" And he would continually recite the lines:

The purple robe and silver's shine
More fits an actor's need than mine.  

He showed his contempt for Archelaus of Macedon and Scopas of Cranon and Eurylochos of Larissa by refusing to accept their presents or to go to their court. He was so orderly in his way of life that on

---

*Stobaeus, Florilegium, lvi. 15, attributes these and three preceding lines to Philemon, the well-known poet of the New*
DI OGENES LAERTIUS

diátao oúτωs, ὡστε πολλάκις Ἀθήναις λοιμῶν
genoménoν μόνον οὐχ ἐνδόσησα.

26. Ὁσιοί Ἀριστοτέλης δύο γυναικές αὐτῶν ἀγα-
geóthai: προτέραν μὲν Σανθέππην, εἴ ἦσ αὐτῇ
genéoθα λαμπρόκλεα; δεύτεραν δὲ Μυρτώ, τὴν
Ἀριστείδου τοῦ δικαίου θυγατέρα, ἐν καὶ ἀρτικοὺν
λαβείν, ἐξ ἦσ γενέσθαι Σωφρονίσκον καὶ Μενε-
ξενον. οὗ δὲ προτέραν γῆμαι τὴν Μυρτώ φασιν-
έναι δὲ καὶ ἀμφότερα σχεῖν ὁμοί, ὡς ἐστὶ
Σάτυρος τε καὶ Ἰερώνυμος ὁ Ῥόδιος. διοῖ γὰρ
βουληθέντας Ἀθηναίους δία τὸ λεπανδρεῖν συν-
αυξάσαι τὸ πλῆθος, ψηφίσασθαι γαμεῖν μὲν ἀστὴ-
μίαν, παιδοποιεῖσθαι δὲ καὶ εἰς τέταρα: ὅθεν τοῦτο
ποῦσα καὶ Σωκράτην.

27. Ἡν δὲ ἰκανὸς καὶ τῶν σκοπτόντων [αὐτῶν]
ὑπερορᾶν: καὶ ἐσεμνύνετο ἐπὶ τῇ εὐτελείᾳ, μισθὸν
τε οὐδένα εἰσεπράβατο: καὶ ἐλεγεν ἠλίατα εἰςῆσθαι
ηκοστὶ ὄρον προσδείχας· καὶ ἠλίατα πλύνων ἡκοστὶ
τὸ μῆ παρὸν ποτὸν ἀναλέειν καὶ ἐλουχίστων δεσ-
μενος ἐγνιστα ἐναι θεων. τοῦτο δὲ ἐνέσται καὶ
παρὰ τῶν κωμιστικῶν λαβείν, οἱ λανθάνουσιν
ἰαντοὺς δι’ ὧν σκοπτονοι ἐπανοφέντες αὐτῶν.
Ἀριστοφάνης μὲν οὐτός:

ὁ τῆς μεγάλης ἐπιθυμήσας σοφίας ἄνδρωπε
dhikaios,
ὡς εὐθαλὸν παρ’ Ἀθηναίοις καὶ τοῖς Ἑλλησ
diaxeis:
εἶ γὰρ μνήμων καὶ προφετεύς, καὶ τὸ ταλαίπωρον
ἐνεστω
ἐν τῇ γνώμῃ, καῦτε τε κάμεις οὕθ’ ἐστώς οὐτὲ
βαδίζων,

II. 25–27. SOCRATES

several occasions when pestilence broke out in Athens
he was the only man who escaped infection.

Aristotle says that he married two wives: his first
wife was Xanthippe, by whom he had a son, Lam-
procles; his second wife was Myrto, the daughter of
Aristides the Just, whom he took without a dowry.
By her he had Sophroniscus and Menexenus. Others
make Myrto his first wife; while some writers,
including Satyrus and Hieronymus of Rhodes, affirm
that they were both his wives at the same time.
For they say that the Athenians were short of men
and, wishing to increase the population, passed a
decree permitting a citizen to marry one Athenian
woman and have children by another; and that
Socrates accordingly did so.

He could afford to despise those who scoffed
at him. He prided himself on his plain living, and
never asked a fee from anyone. He used to say that
he most enjoyed the food which was least in need
of condiment, and the drink which made him feel
the least hankering for some other drink; and that
he was nearest to the gods in that he had the fewest
wants. This may be seen from the Comic poets,
who in the act of ridiculing him give him high praise.
Thus Aristophanes:

Ο man that justly desirest great wisdom, how blessed will be
thy life amongst Athenians and Greeks, retentive of memory
and thinker that thou art, with endurance of toil for thy
character; never art thou weary whether standing or walk-

* Clouds, 412-417.
II. 27–29. SOCRATES

ing, never numb with cold, never hungry for breakfast; from wine and from gross feeding and all other frivolities thou dost turn away.

Ameipsias too, when he puts him on the stage wearing a cloak, says 6:

A. You come to join us, Socrates, worthiest of a small band and emptiest by far! You are a robust fellow. Where can we get you a proper coat?

B. Your sorry plight is an insult to the cobblers.

A. And yet, hungry as he is, this man has never stooped to flatter.

This disdainful, lofty spirit of his is also noticed by Aristophanes when he says 7:

Because you stalk along the streets, rolling your eyes, and endure, barefoot, many a hardship, and gaze up at us [the clouds].

And yet at times he would even put on fine clothes to suit the occasion, as in Plato’s Symposium,8 where he is on his way to Agathon’s house.

He showed equal ability in both directions, in persuading and dissuading men; thus, after conversing with Theaetetus about knowledge, he sent him away, as Plato says, fired with a divine impulse; but when Euthyphro had indicted his father for manslaughter, Socrates, after some conversation with him upon piety, diverted him from his purpose. Lysis, again, he turned, by exhortation, into a most virtuous character. For he had the skill to draw his arguments from facts. And when his son

---

6 Se. in the Connus, Meineke, C.G.F. i. 201 sq., ii. 703.
7 Clouds, 362.
8 174 A.
Lamprocles was violently angry with his mother. Socrates made him feel ashamed of himself, as I believe Xenophon has told us. When Plato’s brother Glauccon was desirous of entering upon politics, Socrates dissuaded him, as Xenophon relates, because of his want of experience; but on the contrary he encouraged Charmides to take up politics because he had a gift that way.¹

He roused Iphicrates the general to a martial spirit by showing him how the fighting cocks of Midias the barber flapped their wings in defiance of those of Callias. Glaucconides demanded that he should be acquired for the state as if he were some pleasant or peacock.

He used to say it was strange that, if you asked a man how many sheep he had, he could easily tell you the precise number; whereas he could not name his friends or say how many he had, so slight was the value he set upon them. Seeing Euclides keenly interested in eristic arguments, he said to him: “You will be able to get on with sophists, Euclides, but with men not at all.” For he thought there was no use in this sort of hair-splitting; as Plato shows us in the Euthydemus.

Again, when Charmides offered him some slaves in order that he might derive an income from them, he declined the offer; and according to some he scorned the beauty of Alcibiades. He would exalt leisure as the best of possessions, according to Xenophon in the Symposium. There is, he said, only one good, that is, knowledge, and only one evil, that is, ignorance; wealth and good birth bring their possessor no dignity, but on the contrary evil. At all events, when some one told him that Antisthenes’ mother

¹ Mem. iii. 7.
DI OGENES LAERTIUS

Θράττης, "σοῦ δ᾽ ὕπο, ἢ ἐφε, "οὕτως ἄν γενναίων ἐκ δυοῦν Ἄθηναῖων γενέθαι;" Φαίδωνα δὲ δὲ ἀλχαμάλατιν ἐπ᾽ οἰκήματος καθήμενον προσέταξε Κρίτωνι λυτρώσασθαι, καὶ φιλόσοφον ἀπειράσατο.

58 Ἀλλὰ καὶ κυρίευεν ἔμαθανεν ἢ ἡ γηραιός, ἢ μὲν λέγων ἀτόπων εἶναι ἡ τις μὴ ὁδόν ἐκμανθαίνειν. ἔτι τε ὑρχεύτω συνεχέτω, τῇ τοῦ σώματος εὐεξία λυπηλαῖον ἤγουμένος τὴν τοιαύτην γηραιάν, ὡς καὶ Ξενοφῶν ἐν Σύμποσίῳ φησίν. ἔλεγε δὲ καὶ προσημαίνει τὸ δαμόνιον τὰ μέλλοντα αὐτῷ: τὸ τε εὖ [ἀρχεσθαί] μικρὸν μὲν μὴ εἶναι, παρὰ μικρὸν δὲ· καὶ εἰδέναι μὲν μηδὲν πλὴν αὐτό τοῦτο [εἰδέναι].

τοῦτο τὰ πρῶτα πολλοὶ εὐνομένους ἀπογεγονόντος ἔλεγεν εἰς τὰς ὁρᾶς ἔλθεν. καὶ ποτε ἔρωτηθείς, τὸς ἡρετὴν νέον, "τὸ μηδὲν ἀγαν," ἔλεγε. ἔφασε δὲ ἐνομίστως μέχρι ἂν τις μὲν ἐν ὑπαράθυροι τῆς χήρᾳν κατ' αὐτό τὸ Σοκράτη.

33 Εὐριπίδου δὲ ἐν τῇ Ἁγχει ἐπίστος περὶ ἀρετῆς,

crátios et eikhe taih' evan afemvna,

ἀναστας ἐξήλθε, φήσας γελοῖον εἶναι ἀνδράποδον μὲν μὴ εὐρισκόμενον ἀξιών ὕπτεων, ἄρετην δ᾽ 

οὕτως εἶχαν ἀπολωλέναι· ἐρωτηθεῖς πότερον γῆμι ἢ μὴ, ἔφη, "δὲ ἂν αὐτῶν πούσμα, μεταγνώσθη." ἔλεγεν τα διαφημίζειν τῶν τὰς λείπους εἰκόνας κατα-

1 ἡ γηραιός corr. Cobet: ὧτε καίρως vulg.: ὧτε 〈οὐχεῖσι〉 καίρως Reiske.

II. 31–33. SOCRATES

was a Thracian, he replied, "Nay, did you expect a man so noble to have been born of two Athenian parents?" He made Crito ransom Phaedo who, having been taken prisoner in the war, was kept in degrading slavery, and so won him for philosophy.

Moreover, in his old age he learnt to play the lyre, declaring that he saw no absurdity in learning a new accomplishment. As Xenophon relates in the Symposium, it was his regular habit to dance, thinking that such exercise helped to keep the body in good condition. He used to say that his supernatural sign warned him beforehand of the future; that to make a good start was no trifling advantage, but a trifle turned the scale; and that he knew nothing except just the fact of his ignorance. He said that, when people paid a high price for fruit which had ripened early, they must despair of seeing the fruit ripen at the proper season. And, being once asked in what consisted the virtue of a young man, he said, "In doing nothing to excess." He held that geometry should be studied to the point at which a man is able to measure the land which he acquires or parts with.

On hearing the line of Euripides' play Auge where the poet says of virtue:

"Tis best to let her roam at will,"

he got up and left the theatre. For he said it was absurd to make a hue and cry about a slave who could not be found, and to allow virtue to perish in this way. Some one asked him whether he should marry or not, and received the reply, "Whichever you do you will repent it." He used to express his astonishment that the sculptors of marble statues
DI O I G E N E S  L A E R T I U S

II. 33-35. S O C R A T E S

should take pains to make the block of marble into a perfect likeness of a man, and should take no pains about themselves lest they should turn out mere blocks, not men. He recommended to the young the constant use of the mirror, to the end that handsome men might acquire a corresponding behaviour, and ugly men conceal their defects by education.

He had invited some rich men and, when Xanthippus said she felt ashamed of the dinner, "Never mind," said he, "for if they are reasonable they will put up with it, and if they are good for nothing, we shall not trouble ourselves about them." He would say that the rest of the world lived to eat, while he himself ate to live. Of the mass of men who do not count he said it was as if some one should object to a single tetradrachm as counterfeit and at the same time let a whole heap made up of just such pieces pass as genuine. Aeschines said to him, "I am a poor man and have nothing else to give, but I offer you myself," and Socrates answered, "Nay, do you not see that you are offering me the greatest gift of all?" To one who complained that he was overlooked when the Thirty rose to power, he said, "You are not sorry for that, are you?" To one who said, "You are condemned by the Athenians to die," he made answer, "So are they, by nature." But some ascribe this to Anaxagoras. When his wife said, "You suffer unjustly," he retorted, "Why, would you have me suffer justly?" He had a dream that some one said to him:

On the third day thou shalt come to the fertile fields of Phthia;

and he told Aeschines, "On the third day I shall die." * When he was about to drink the hemlock,
II. 35–37. SOCRATES

Apolloodorus offered him a beautiful garment to die in: "What," said he, "is my own good enough to live in but not to die in?" When he was told that So-and-so spoke ill of him, he replied, "True, for he has never learnt to speak well." When Antisthenes turned his cloak so that the tear in it came into view, "I see," said he, "your vanity through your cloak." To one who said, "Don't you find so-and-so very offensive?" his reply was, "No, for it takes two to make a quarrel." We ought not to object, he used to say, to be subjects for the Comic poets, for if they satirize our faults they will do us good, and if not they do not touch us. When Xanthippe first scolded him and then drenched him with water, his rejoinder was, "Did I not say that Xanthippe's thunder would end in rain?" When Alcibiades declared that the scolding of Xanthippe was intolerable, "Nay, I have got used to it," said he, "as to the continued rattle of a windlass. And you do not mind the cackle of geese." "No," replied Alcibiades, "but they furnish me with eggs and goslings." "And Xanthippe," said Socrates, "is the mother of my children." When she tore his coat off his back in the market-place and his acquaintances advised him to hit back, "Yes, by Zeus," said he, "in order that while we are sparring each of you may join in with 'Go it, Socrates!' 'Well done, Xanthippe!'" He said he lived with a shrew, as horsemen are fond of spirited horses, "but just as, when they have mastered these, they can easily cope with the rest, so I in the society of Xanthippe shall learn to adapt myself to the rest of the world."

These and the like were his words and deeds, to
DIOGENES LAERHTUS

this Pythian priestess bore testimony when she gave Chaerephon the famous response:

Of all men living Socrates most wise.

For this he was most envied; and especially because he would take to task those who thought highly of themselves, proving them to be fools, as to be sure he treated Anytus, according to Plato’s ‘Menon.’ For Anytus could not endure to be ridiculed by Socrates, and so in the first place stirred up against him Aristophanes and his friends; then afterwards he helped to persuade Meletus to indict him on a charge of impiety and corrupting the youth.

The indictment was brought by Meletus, and the speech was delivered by Polyeuctus, according to Favorinus in his ‘Miscellaneous History.’ The speech was written by Polycrates the sophist, according to Hermippus; but some say that it was by Anytus. Lycon the demagogue had made all the needful preparations.

Antisthenes in his ‘Successions of Philosophers,’ and Plato in his ‘Apology,’ say that there were three accusers, Anytus, Lycon and Meletus; that Anytus was roused to anger on behalf of the craftsmen and politicians, Lycon on behalf of the rhetoricians, Meletus of the poets, all three of which classes had felt the lash of Socrates. Favorinus in the first book of his ‘Memorabilia’ declares that the speech of Polycrates against Socrates is not authentic; for he mentions the rebuilding of the walls by Conon, which

Favorinus and the other from Hermippus. When these are removed, the parts assigned to the three accusers, Meletus, Anytus and Lycon, become clear: ἀπεικόνιζε μὲν ἀνὴρ τὴν ἱερατὴν ἡ Μέλητος, ἐπὶ δὲ τὸν δίκην Ἀντωνίαν, προσηκομάθα δὲ πάντα Δύσκων ἡ ὑπομαχωσία.
II. 39-42. SOCRATES

did not take place till six years after the death of Socrates. And this is the case.

The affidavit in the case, which is still preserved, says Favorinus, in the Metrod. ran as follows: “This indictment and affidavit is sworn by Meletus, the son of Meletus of Pittos, against Socrates, the son of Sophroniscus of Alopec : Socrates is guilty of refusing to recognize the gods recognized by the state, and of introducing other new divinities. He is also guilty of corrupting the youth. The penalty demanded is death.” The philosopher then, after Lysias had written a defense for him, read it through and said: “A fine speech, Lysias; it is not, however, suitable to me.” For it was plainly more forensic than philosophical. Lysias said, “If it is a fine speech, how can it fail to suit you?” “Well,” he replied, “would not fine raiment and fine shoes be just as unsuitable to me?

Justus of Tiberias in his book entitled The Wreath says that in the course of the trial Plato mounted the platform and began: “Though I am the youngest, men of Athens, of all who ever rose to address you”—whereupon the judges shouted out, “Get down! Get down!” When therefore he was condemned by 281 votes more than those given for acquittal, and when the judges were assessing what he should suffer or what fine he should pay, he proposed to pay 25 drachmae. Eubulides indeed says he offered 100. When this caused an uproar among the judges, he said, “Considering my services, I assess the penalty at maintenance in the Prytaneum at the public expense.”

Sentence of death was passed, with an accession of eighty fresh votes. He was put in prison, and a
few days afterwards drank the hemlock, after much noble discourse which Plato records in the \textit{Phaedo}. Further, according to some, he composed a paean beginning:

\begin{quote}
All hail, Apollo, Delos' lord!
Hail Artemis, ye noble pair!
\end{quote}

Dionysodorus denies that he wrote the paean. He also composed a fable of Aesop, not very skilfully, beginning:

\begin{quote}
"Judge not, ye men of Corinth," Aesop cried,
"Of virtue as the jury-courts decide."
\end{quote}

So he was taken from among men; and not long afterwards the Athenians felt such remorse that they shut up the training grounds and gymnasia. They banished the other accusers but put Meletus to death; they honoured Socrates with a bronze statue, the work of Lysippus, which they placed in the hall of processions. And no sooner did Anytus visit Heraclea than the people of that town expelled him on that very day. Not only in the case of Socrates but in very many others the Athenians repented in this way. For they fined Homer (so says Heraclides) 50 drachmæ for a madman, and said Tyrtaeus was beside himself, and they honoured Astydamas before Aeschylus and his brother poets with a bronze statue. Euripides upbraids them thus in his \textit{Palamedes}: "Ye have slain, have slain, the all-wise, the innocent, the Muses' nightingale."

\begin{quote}
This is one account; but Philochorus asserts that Euripides died before Socrates.
\end{quote}

\footnote{\textit{Anth. Plan.} iv. 16.}

\footnote{Most probably Heraclides of Pontus. This remarkable assertion may have occurred in one of his dialogues, and was perhaps not meant to be taken seriously.}

\footnote{Nauck, \textit{T.G.F.}, Eur. 588.}
II. 44-46. SOCRATES

He was born, according to Apollodorus in his Chronology, in the archonship of Apsephin, in the fourth year of the 77th Olympiad, on the 6th day of the month of Thargelion, when the Athenians purify their city, which according to the Delians is the birthday of Artemis. He died in the first year of the 95th Olympiad at the age of seventy. With this Demetrius of Phalerum agrees; but some say he was sixty when he died.

Both were pupils of Anaxagoras, I mean Socrates and Euripides, who was born in the first year of the 75th Olympiad in the archonship of Caliiades.

In my opinion Socrates discoursed on physics as well as on ethics, since he holds some conversations about providence, even according to Xenophon, who, however, declares that he only discussed ethics. But Plato, after mentioning Anaxagoras and certain other physicists in the Apology, treats for his own part themes which Socrates disowned, although he puts everything into the mouth of Socrates.

Aristotle relates that a magician came from Syria to Athens and, among other evils with which he threatened Socrates, predicted that he would come to a violent end.

I have written verses about him too, as follows:

Drink then, being in Zeus’s palace, O Socrates; for truly did the god pronounce thee wise, being wisdom himself; for when thou didst frankly take the hemlock at the hands of the Athenians, they themselves drained it as it passed thy lips.

He was sharply criticized, according to Aristotle...
DIogenes Laertius

in his third book On Poetry, by a certain Antilochus of Lemnos, and by Antiphon the soothsayer, just as Pythagoras was by Cylon of Croton, or as Homer was assailed in his lifetime by Syagrus, and after his death by Xenophanes of Colophon. So too Hesiod was criticized in his lifetime by Cercops, and after his death by the aforesaid Xenophanes; Pindar by Amphimenes of Cos; Thales by Pherecydes; Bias by Salarus of Priene; Pittacus by Antimenes and Alcaeus; Anaxagoras by Sosibius; and Simonides by Timocreon.

47. Of those who succeeded him and were called Socrates  a the chief were Plato, Xenophon, Antisthenes, and of ten names on the traditional list the most distinguished are Aeschines, Phaedo, Euclides, Aristippus. I must first speak of Xenophon; Antisthenes will come afterwards among the Cynics; after Xenophon I shall take the Socrates proper, and so pass on to Plato. With Plato the ten schools begin: he was himself the founder of the First Academy. This then is the order which I shall follow.

48. Of those who bear the name of Socrates there is one, a historian, who wrote a geographical work upon Argos; another, a Peripatetic philosopher of Bithynia; a third, a poet who wrote epigrams; lastly, Socrates of Cos, who wrote on the names of the gods.

Chapter 6. Xenophon (426?-354 B.C.)

Xenophon, the son of Gryllus, was a citizen of Athens and belonged to the deme Erchia; he was alpēs. The division of moral philosophers into ten schools was mentioned above, i. 18.
a man of rare modesty and extremely handsome. The story goes that Socrates met him in a narrow passage, and that he stretched out his stick to bar the way, while he inquired where every kind of food was sold. Upon receiving a reply, he put another question, “And where do men become good and honourable?” Xenophon was fairly puzzled; “Then follow me,” said Socrates, “and learn.” From that time onward he was a pupil of Socrates. He was the first to take notes of, and to give to the world, the conversation of Socrates, under the title of Memorabilia. Moreover, he was the first to write a history of philosophers.

Aristippus, in the fourth book of his work On the Luxury of the Ancients, declares that he was enamoured of Clinius, and said in reference to him, “It is sweeter for me to gaze on Clinius than on all the fair sights in the world. I would be content to be blind to everything else if I could but gaze on him alone. I am vexed with the night and with sleep because I cannot see Clinius, and most grateful to the day and the sun for showing him to me.”

He gained the friendship of Cyrus in the following way. He had an intimate friend named Proxenus, a Bocotian, a pupil of Gorgias of Leontini and a friend of Cyrus. Proxenus, while living in Sardis at the court of Cyrus, wrote a letter to Xenophon at Athens, inviting him to come and seek the friendship of Cyrus. Xenophon showed this letter to Socrates and asked his advice, which was that he should go to Delphi and consult the oracle. Xenophon complied and came into the presence of the god. He inquired, not whether he should go and seek service with Cyrus, but in what way he should do so.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

Σωκράτης αυτὸν ἣτισάτο, συνεβούλευσε δὲ ἐξελθεῖν. καὶ ὅς γίνεται παρὰ Κύρω, καὶ τοῦ Προξένου φίλος οὐχ ἦττον ἦν αὐτῷ. τὰ μὲν οὖν ἀλλὰ τὰ κατὰ τὴν ἀνάβασιν γενόμενα καὶ τὴν καθοδον ἱεραίας αὐτὸς ἦμων διηγεῖται. ἔξωρις δὲ διέκειτο πρὸς Μένωνα τῶν Φαρσάλιων παρὰ τὸν χρόνον τῆς ἀνάβασεως τὸν ἑβαγόν ὅτε καὶ λιοδόρον αὐτὸν φησὶν αὐτῷ μείζονι κεχρησθαί παιδικοῖς. ἀλλὰ καὶ Ἀπολλωνίδη τίνι ὄνειδεῖ τετρήθαι τὰ ὅτα.

51 Μετὰ δὲ τὴν τ' ἀνάβασιν καὶ τὸς ἐν τῷ Πόντῳ συμφορᾶς καὶ τὰς παραστοῦδησες τὰς Σειθοῦ τοῦ τῶν Ὀδρισῶν βασιλέως ᾧκεν εἰς Ἄσιαν πρὸς Ἀγησίλαον τῶν τῶν Λακεδαιμονίων βασιλέα, μισθοῦ τοὺς Κύρω στρατιώτας αὐτῷ παρασχὼν. φίλος τ' ἦν εἰς ὑπερβολήν. παρ' ἐν καπρώ ἐπὶ Λακωνιακῷ φυλήν ὑπ' Ἀθηναίων κατεγνώσθη. γενόμενος δ' ἐν Ἐφέσῳ καὶ χρυσῶν ἔχον τὸ μὲν ἡμῖν Μεγαβίζεως δίδωσι τής Ἀρτέμιδος ἱερεῖ φυλάττειν, ἐως ἀν ἐπανελθοῖ· εἰ δὲ μὴ, ἀγαλμα ποιησόμενον ἀναθέτει τῇ θεῷ· τοῦ δὲ ἡμίσεως ἐπεμψεν εἰς Δελφοὺς ἀναθήματα. ἐντεύθεν ἠλθεν εἰς τὴν Ἐλλάδα μετ' Ἀγησίλαον, κεκλημένου εἰς τὸν πρὸς Θηραῖος σῶλον καὶ αὐτὸ προφετεύον ἔδοσαν οἱ Λακεδαιμονίωι.

52 Εντεύθεν ἐδόσα τὸν Ἀγησίλαον ἤκεν εἰς Σκιλ- λούντα, χωρίον τῆς Ἡλείας ὑλίγιον τῆς πόλεως ἀπέχειν. εἴπετο δὲ αὐτῷ καὶ γυναικιών ὅρμων Φιληρή, καθα δῆρες Δημήτριος ὡς Μάγνης καὶ δύο ὑεῖς, Γρύλ- λος καὶ Διόδωρος, ὦς φῆσι Νεώταρχος εἰ τῷ πρὸς

II. 50–52. XENOPHON

this Socrates blamed him, yet at the same time he advised him to go. On his arrival at the court of Cyrus he became as warmly attached to him as Proxenus himself. We have his own sufficient narrative of all that happened on the expedition and on the return home. He was, however, at enmity with Meno of Pharsalus, the mercenary general, throughout the expedition, and, by way of abuse, charges him with having a favourite older than himself. Again, he reproaches one Apollonides with having had his ears bored.

After the expedition and the misfortunes which overtook it in Pontus and the treacheries of Seuthes, the king of the Odrysians, he returned to Asia, having enlisted the troops of Cyrus as mercenaries in the service of Agesilaus, the Spartan king, to whom he was devoted beyond measure. About this time he was banished by the Athenians for siding with Sparta. When he was in Ephesus and had a sum of money, he entrusted one half of it to Megabyzus, the priest of Artemis, to keep until his return, or if he should never return, to apply to the erection of a statue in honour of the goddess. But the other half he sent in votive offerings to Delphi. Next he came to Greece with Agesilaus, who had been recalled to carry on the war against Thebes. And the Lacedaemonians conferred on him a privileged position.

He then left Agesilaus and made his way to Scillus, a place in the territory of Elis not far from the city. According to Demetrius of Magnesia he was accompanied by his wife Philesia, and, in a speech written for the freedman whom Xenophon prosecuted for neglect of duty, Dinarchus mentions that his two

* Anab. iii. 1. 26-31.
II. 52-54. XENOPHON

sons Gryllus and Diodorus, the Dioscuri as they were called, also went with him. Megabyzus having arrived to attend the festival, Xenophon received from him the deposit of money and bought and dedicated to the goddess an estate with a river running through, which bears the same name Selinus as the river at Ephesus. And from that time onward he hunted, entertained his friends, and worked at his histories without interruption. Dinarchus, however, asserts that it was the Lacedaemonians who gave him a house and land.

At the same time we are told that Phylopidas the Spartan sent to him at Scillus a present of captive slaves from Dardanus, and that he disposed of them as he thought fit, and that the Elians marched against Scillus, and owing to the slowness of the Spartans captured the place, whereupon his sons retired to Lepreum with a few of the servants, while Xenophon himself, who had previously gone to Elis, went next to Lepreum to join his sons, and then made his escape with them from Lepreum to Corinth and took up his abode there. Meanwhile the Athenians passed a decree to assist Sparta, and Xenophon sent his sons to Athens to serve in the army in defence of Sparta. According to Diocles in his Lives of the Philosophers, they had been trained in Sparta itself. Diodorus came safe out of the battle without performing any distinguished service, and he had a son of the same name (Gryllus) as his brother. Gryllus was posted with the cavalry and, in the battle which took place about Mantinea, fought stoutly and fell, as Ephorus relates in his twenty-fifth book, Cephisodorus being in command of the cavalry
and Hegesilaus commander-in-chief. In this battle Epaminondas also fell. On this occasion Xenophon
is said to have been sacrificing, with a chaplet on his head, which he removed when his son's death was
announced. But afterwards, upon learning that he had fallen gloriously, he replaced the chaplet on his
head. Some say that he did not even shed tears, but exclaimed, "I knew my son was mortal." Aristotle
mentions that there were innumerable authors of epitaphs and eulogies upon Gryllus, who wrote, in
part at least, to gratify his father. Hermippus, too, in his Life of Theophrastus, affirms that even
Isocrates wrote an encomium on Gryllus. Timon, however, jeers at Xenophon in the lines:

A feeble pair or triad of works, or even a greater number,
such as would come from Xenophon or the might of
Aeschines, that not unpersuasive writer.

Such was his life. He flourished in the fourth
year of the 94th Olympiad, and he took part in the
expedition of Cyrus in the archonship of Xenaenetus
in the year before the death of Socrates.

He died, according to Ctesicles of Athens in
his list of archons and Olympic victors, in the first
year of the 105th Olympiad, in the archonship of
Callidemides, the year in which Philip, the son of
Amyntas, came to the throne of Macedon. He died
at Corinth, as is stated by Demetrius of Magnesia,
obviously at an advanced age. He was a worthy
man in general, particularly fond of horses and
hunting, an able tactician as is clear from his writings,

---

2. Fr. 26 D.
3. Ctesicles is known to us from Athenaeus, who cites his
Chronology, vi. 272 c, x. 445 D. It may seem rash to intrude
him here; but cf. iv. 5, where a similar error is certain.
4. 369-359 B.C.
pious, fond of sacrificing, and an expert in augury from the victims; and he made Socrates his exact model.

He wrote some forty books in all, though the division into books is not always the same, namely:

The Anabasis, with a preface to each separate book but not one to the whole work.
Cyropædia.
Hellenica.
Memorabilia.
Symposium.
Oeconomicus.
On Horsemanship.
On Hunting.
On the Duty of a Cavalry General.
A Defence of Socrates.
On Revenues.
Hieron or Of Tyranny.
Agesilaus.
The Constitutions of Athens and Sparta.

Demetrius of Magnesia denies that the last of these works is by Xenophon. There is a tradition that he made Thucydides famous by publishing his history, which was unknown, and which he might have appropriated to his own use. By the sweetness of his narrative he earned the name of the Attic Muse. Hence he and Plato were jealous of each other, as will be stated in the chapter on Plato.

There is an epigram of mine on him also *:

Up the steep path to fame toiled Xenophon
In that long march of glorious memories;

* Anth. Pal. vii. 97.
II. 58-60. XENOPHON—AESCHINES

In deeds of Greece, how bright his lesson shone! How fair was wisdom seen in Socrates! *

There is another on the circumstances of his death *:

Albeit the countrymen of Cranaus and Cercrops condemned thee, Xenophon, to exile on account of thy friendship for Cyrus, yet hospitable Corinth welcomed thee, so well content with the delights of that city wast thou, and there didst resolve to take up thy rest.

In other authorities I find the statement that he flourished, along with the other Socrates, in the 89th Olympiad, and Istrus affirms that he was banished by a decree of Eubulus and recalled by a decree of the same man.

There have been seven Xenophons: the first our subject himself; the second an Athenian, brother of Pythostratus, who wrote the Theseid, and himself the author, amongst other works, of a biography of Epaminondas and Pelopidas; the third a physician of Cos; the fourth the author of a history of Hannibal; the fifth an authority on legendary marvels; the sixth a sculptor, of Paros; the seventh a poet of the Old Comedy.

CHAPTER 7. AESCHINES (c. 400 B.C.)

Aeschines was the son of Charinus the sausage-maker, but others make his father’s name Lysianias. He was a citizen of Athens, industrious from his birth up. For this reason he never quitted Socrates; hence Socrates’ remark, “Only the sausage-maker’s son knows how to honour me.” Idomeneus declared the great deeds of Greece are the outcome of his training, he recalled what a beautiful thing was the wisdom of Socrates.”

* Or in plain prose: “Not only for Cyrus’s sake did Xenophon go up to Persia, but because he sought the path which leads to the abode of Zeus. For, having shown that
DIIOGENES LAERTIUS

Ἰδομενεὺς ἐν τῷ δεσμωτηρίῳ συμβούλευσαι περὶ τῆς φυγῆς Σωκράτης, καὶ οὐ Κρίτωνα: Πλάτωνα δὲ, ὅτι ἦν Ἀριστίππης μάλλον φίλος, Κρίτων περιθείναι τὸν λόγον. διεβαλλετο δ’ ὁ Ἀισχίνης καὶ μᾶλλον ὑπὸ Μενεδήμου τοῦ Ἐρετρίων τῶν πλείστων διαλόγους ἄντας Σωκράτους ὑπόβαλλον, λαμβάνων παρὰ Ξανθίτης. ὥστε οἱ μὲν καλούμενοι ἀκέφαλοι σφόδρ’ εἰσὶν ἐκλεύμην καὶ οὐκ ἐπιφανεῖσθαι τὴν Σωκρατικὴν εὐτοινίαν. ὅπει Πεισίστρατος δ’ Ἐφέσιος ἑλευε μή ἔξναι Ἀἰσχίνην.

61 καὶ τῶν ἐπὶ τῶν πλείστων Περσαίος φησι Πασιφώντος εἶναι τοῦ Ἐρετρίων, εἰς τοὺς Αἰσχίνου δὲ κατατάξας. ἀλλὰ καὶ τῶν Ἀριστίππου τῶν τῶν μικρῶν Κύρων καὶ τὸν Ἡρακλέα τὸν ἑλάσσων καὶ Ἀλκιβιάδην καὶ τοὺς τῶν ἄλλων δὲ ἐκενορρηταὶ, οἱ δ’ οὖν τῶν Αἰσχίνου τῶν Σωκρατικῶν ἄθος ἄποιμαμενεῖν εἰσὶν ἐπὶ πρῶτος Μιλιάδης, διὸ καὶ ἀσθενεστέροις πως ἔχει: Κάλλας, Ἀξιοχος, Ἀστασία, Ἀλκιβιάδης, Τῆλην, Ἀριστοκράτεις, ’’Ριθως.

Φασί δ’ αὐτὸν δὲ ἀπορηθαί ἐθεὶν εἰς Σικελία πρὸς Διονυσίου, καὶ ὑπὸ μὲν Πλάτωνος παραβηθαι, ὑπὸ δ’ Ἀριστίππου συντηναι: δόντα τε τῶν διαλόγων δόρα λαβεῖν. ἐπεὶ ἀφικόμενον Ἀθήνας ἐπὶ τοὺς οἰκεῖοι σοφιτεύειν, εὐδοκιμοῦντον τὸν περὶ Πλάτωνα καὶ Ἀριστίππου. ἐμμῖσθους δ’ ἀκροάσεις ποιεῖσθαι: εἶτα συγγράφεις λόγους δικαιοκρίνοις τοῖς ἀδικομενοῖς. διὸ καὶ τῶν Τίμωνα εἰπεῖν ἐπ’ αὐτοῦ Ἰδομένευς οὐκ ἀπειθής ἔστειν γράφαι.” φασί δ’ αὐτῶ λέγειν Σωκράτην, ἐπειδὴ—

II. 60-62. AESCHINES

that it was Aeschines, not Crito, who advised Socrates in the prison about making his escape, but that Plato put the words into the mouth of Crito because Aeschines was more attached to Aristippus than to himself. It was said maliciously—by Menedemus of Eretria in particular—that most of the dialogues which Aeschines passed off as his own were really dialogues of Socrates obtained by him from Xanthippe. Those of them which are said to have no beginning (ἀκέφαλοι) are very slovenly and show none of the vigour of Socrates; Pisistratus of Ephesus even denied that they were written by Aeschines. Persaeus indeed attributes the majority of the seven to Pasiphon of the school of Eretria, who inserted them among the dialogues of Aeschines. Moreover, Aeschines made use of the Little Cyrus, the Lesser Héraclides and the Alcibiades of Antisthenes as well as dialogues by other authors. However that may be, of the writings of Aeschines those stamped with a Socratic character are seven, namely Miltiades, which for that reason is somewhat weak; then Callias, Axiocles, Aspasia, Alcibiades, Telages, and Rhinon.

They say that they traveled to Sicily to the court of Dionysius, and that Plato took no notice of him, but he was introduced to Dionysius by Aristippus, and on presenting certain dialogues received gifts from him. Afterwards on his return to Athens he did not venture to lecture owing to the popularity of Plato and Aristippus. But he took fees from pupils, and subsequently composed forensic speeches for aggrieved clients. This is the point of Timon’s reference to him as “the might of Aeschines, that not unconvincing writer.” They say that Socrates,
seeing how he was pinched by poverty, advised him to borrow from himself by reducing his rations. Aristippus among others had suspicions of the genuineness of his dialogues. At all events, as he was reading one at Megara, Aristippus rallied him by asking, “Where did you get that, you thief?”

Polycritus of Mende, in the first book of his History of Dionysius, says that he lived with the tyrant until his expulsion from Syracuse, and survived until the return of Dion, and that with him was Carcinus the tragic poet. There is also extant an epistle of Aeschines to Dionysius. That he had received a good rhetorical training is clear from his defence of the father of Phaeax the general, and from his defence of Dion. He is a close imitator of Gorgias of Leontini. Moreover, Lysias attacked him in a speech which he entitled “On dishonesty.” And from this too it is clear that he was a rhetorician. A single disciple of his is mentioned, Aristotle, whose nickname was “Story.”

Panaetius thinks that, of all the Socratic dialogues, those by Plato, Xenophon, Antisthenes and Aeschines are genuine; he is in doubt about those ascribed to Phaedo and Euclides; but he rejects the others one and all.

There are eight men who have borne the name of Aeschines: (1) our subject himself; (2) the author of handbooks of rhetoric; (3) the orator who opposed Demosthenes; (4) an Arcadian, a pupil of Isocrates; (5) a Mitylenean whom they used to call the “scourge of rhetoricians”; (6) a Neapolitan, an Academic philosopher, a pupil and favourite of Melanthius of Rhodes; (7) a Miletian who wrote upon politics; (8) a sculptor.
II. 65-66. ARISTIPPUS

Aristippus was by birth a citizen of Cyrene and, as Aeschines informs us, was drawn to Athens by the fame of Socrates. Having come forward as a lecturer or sophist, as Phanias of Eresus, the Peripatetic, informs us, he was the first of the followers of Socrates to charge fees and to send money to his master. And on one occasion the sum of twenty minae which he had sent was returned to him, Socrates declaring that the supernatural sign would not let him take it; the very offer, in fact, annoyed him. Xenophon was no friend to Aristippus; and for this reason he has made Socrates direct against Aristippus the discourse in which he denounces pleasure. A Not but what Theodorus in his work On Sects abuses him, and so does Plato in the dialogue On the Soul, as has been shown elsewhere.

He was capable of adapting himself to place, time and person, and of playing his part appropriately under whatever circumstances. Hence he found more favour than anybody else with Dionysius, because he could always turn the situation to good account. He derived pleasure from what was present, and did not toil to procure the enjoyment of something not present. Hence Diogenes called him the king’s poodle. Timon, too, sneered at him for luxury in these words: 

that Diogenes Laertius refers to the Life of Plato as already written; see iii. 36.

Or "royal cynic." It is impossible to preserve the double entendre here, for κύων, dog, also means "cynic"; in fact the very name of that sect proclaims that they gloried in their dog-like attributes, especially in snarling and biting.

"Mem. ii. 1.

* In the Introduction to the Phaedo, 59 c, Aristippus is said to have been in Aegina on the day when Socrates drank the hemlock. How little this justifies the use of the terms ἐκάισε and διαβάλλων may be seen from the obvious statement in the Phaedo that Plato himself is said to have been absent through illness on that occasion. Notice

194 195
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

οτά τ' Ἀριστίππου τρυφερή φύσις ἀμφαφώντος ἠεύθη.


1 φῆσιν "οὐ" φῆσιν Richards: ἐφ' "οὐ Postgate.

II. 66-68. ARISTIPPUS

Such was the delicate nature of Aristippus, who groped after error by touch.

He is said to have ordered a partridge to be bought at a cost of fifty drachmae, and, when someone censured him, he inquired, "Would not you have given an obol for it?" and, being answered in the affirmative, rejoined, "Fifty drachmae are no more to me." And when Dionysius gave him his choice of three courtesans, he carried off all three, saying, "Paris paid dearly for giving the preference to one out of three." And when he had brought them as far as the porch, he let them go. To such lengths did he go both in choosing and in disdaining. Hence the remark of Strato, or by some accounts of Plato, "You alone are endowed with the gift to flaunt in robes or go in rags." He bore with Dionysius when he spat on him, and to one who took him to task he replied, "If the fishermen let themselves be drenched with sea-water in order to catch a gudgeon, ought I not to endure to be wetted with negus in order to take a blenny?"

Diogenes, washing the dirt from his vegetables, saw him passing and jeered at him in these terms, "If you had learnt to make these your diet, you would not have paid court to kings," to which his rejoinder was, "And if you knew how to associate with men, you would not be washing vegetables." Being asked what he had gained from philosophy, he replied, "The ability to feel at ease in any society." Being reproached for his extravagance, he said, "If it was wrong to be extravagant, it would not be in vogue at the festivals of the gods."

Sext. Emp. Adv. mathem. vii. 191. It has been paraphrased thus: "Quae potuit tactu falsa discernere verum."

70 Ἀνυγμά τινος αὐτῷ προτείναντο καὶ εἰπόντος, "λύσον," "τί, ὅ μάται," ἕφη, "λύσαι βέλεις, ὅ καὶ δεδεμένοι ήμιν πράγματα παρέχεις;" ἀμείνου ἐφι ἐπαίτητη ἦ ἀπαίδευτον εἶναι οἱ μὲν γὰρ κρημνάτων, οἱ δὲ ἀνθρωπομοί δέονται. λοιδορομένοι ποτε ἀνεχώρει τοῦ δ' ἐπιδιώκοντος εἰπόντος, τί λέγεις;" "ὅτιν," φησι, "τὸ μὲν κακῶς λέγειν οὐ τὴν ἐξουσίαν ἔχεις, τὸ δὲ μὴ ἀκούειν ἕνως." εἰπόντος τινὸς ὡς ἀεὶ τοὺς φιλόσοφους βλέποι παρὰ ταῖς τῶν πλουσίων θύραις; καὶ γὰρ καὶ οἱ ἰατροὶ, φησι, "παρὰ ταῖς τῶν νοσοῦντων ἀλλὰ οὐ παρὰ τούτῳ τις ἂν ἠλοιτο νοσεῖν ἢ ἰατρεύειν."

Being once asked what advantage philosophers have, he replied, "Should all laws be repealed, we shall go on living as we do now." When Dionysius inquired what was the reason that philosophers go to rich men's houses, while rich men no longer visit philosophers, his reply was that "the one know what they need while the other do not." When he was reproached by Plato for his extravagance, he inquired, "Do you think Dionysius a good man?" and the reply being in the affirmative, "And yet," said he, "he lives more extravagantly than I do. So that there is nothing to hinder a man living extravagantly and well." To the question how the educated differ from the uneducated, he replied, "Exactly as horses that have been trained differ from untrained horses." One day, as he entered the house of a courtesan, one of the lads with him blushed, whereupon he remarked, "It is not going in that is dangerous, but being unable to go out." Some one brought him a knotty problem with the request that he would untie the knot. "Why, you simpleton," said he, "do you want it untied, seeing that it causes trouble enough as it is?" "It is better," he said, "to be a beggar than to be uneducated; the one needs money, the others need to be humanized." One day that he was reviled, he tried to slip away; the other pursued him, asking, "Why do you run away?" "Because," said he, "as it is your privilege to use foul language, so it is my privilege not to listen." In answer to one who remarked that he always saw philosophers at rich men's doors, he said, "So, too, physicians are in attendance on those who are sick, but no one for that reason would prefer being sick to being a physician."
II. 71–73. ARISTIPPUS

It happened once that he set sail for Corinth and, being overtaken by a storm, he was in great consternation. Some one said, “We plain men are not alarmed, and are you philosophers turned cowards?” To this he replied, “The lives at stake in the two cases are not comparable.” When some one gave himself airs for his wide learning, this is what he said: “As those who eat most and take the most exercise are not better in health than those who restrict themselves to what they require, so too it is not wide reading but useful reading that tends to excellence.” An advocate, having pleaded for him and won the case, thereupon put the question, “What good did Socrates do you?” “Thus much,” was the reply, “that what you said of me in your speech was true.”

He gave his daughter Arete the very best advice, training her up to despise excess. He was asked by some one in what way his son would be the better for being educated. He replied, “If nothing more than this, at all events, when in the theatre he will not sit down like a stone upon stone.” When some one brought his son as a pupil, he asked a fee of 500 drachmae. The father objected, “For that sum I can buy a slave.” “Then do so,” was the reply, “and you will have two.” He said that he did not take money from his friends for his own use, but to teach them upon what objects their money should be spent. When he was reproached for employing a rhetorician to conduct his case, he made reply, “Well, if I give a dinner, I hire a cook.”

Being once compelled by Dionysius to enunciate some doctrine of philosophy, “It would be ludicrous,” he said, “that you should learn from me what to
say, and yet instruct me when to say it." At this, they say, Dionysius was offended and made him recline at the end of the table. And Aristippus said, "You must have wished to confer distinction on the last place." To some one who boasted of his diving, "Are you not ashamed," said he, "to brag of that which a dolphin can do?" Being asked on one occasion what is the difference between the wise man and the unwise, "Strip them both," said he, "and send them among strangers and you will know." To one who boasted that he could drink a great deal without getting drunk, his rejoinder was, "And so can a mule."

To one who accused him of living with a courtesan, he put the question, "Why, is there any difference between taking a house in which many people have lived before and taking one in which nobody has ever lived?" The answer being "No," he continued, "Or again, between sailing in a ship in which ten thousand persons have sailed before and in one in which nobody has ever sailed?" "There is no difference," "Then it makes no difference," said he, "whether the woman you live with has lived with many or with nobody." To the accusation that, although he was a pupil of Socrates, he took fees, his rejoinder was, "Most certainly I do, for Socrates, too, when certain people sent him corn and wine, used to take a little and return all the rest; and he had the foremost men in Athens for his stewards, whereas mine is my slave Eutychides." He enjoyed the favours of Lais, as Sotion states in the second book of his Successions of Philosophers. To those who censured him his defence was, "I have Lais, not she me; and it is not abstinence from
DIOGENES LAERTIUS


II. 75-77. ARISTIPPUS

pleasures that is best, but mastery over them without ever being worsted." To one who reproached him with extravagance in catering, he replied, "Wouldn't you have bought this if you could have got it for three obols?" The answer being in the affirmative, "Very well, then," said Aristippus, "I am no longer a lover of pleasure, it is you who are a lover of money." One day Simus, the steward of Dionysius, a Phrygian by birth and a rascally fellow, was showing him costly houses with tesselated pavements, when Aristippus coughed up phlegm and spat in his face. And on his resenting this he replied, "I could not find any place more suitable."

When Charondas (or, as others say, Phaedo) inquired, "Who is this who reeks with unguents?" he replied, "It is I, unlucky wight, and the still more unlucky Persian king. But, as none of the other animals are at any disadvantage on that account, consider whether it is not the same with man. Confound the effeminates who spoil for us the use of good perfume." Being asked how Socrates died, he answered, "As I would wish to die myself." Polycrates the sophist once paid him a visit and, after having seen ladies present and expensive entertainment, reproached him with it later. After an interval Aristippus asked him, "Can you join us today?" On the other accepting the invitation, Aristippus inquired, "Why, then, did you find fault? For you appear to blame the cost and not the entertainment." When his servant was carrying money and found the load too heavy—the story is told by Bion in his Lectures—Aristippus cried, "Pour away the greater part, and carry no more than you can manage." Being once on a voyage, as soon as he

Vol. 1

204

1

205
DIogenes Laertius

II. 77–79. Aristippus

discovered the vessel to be manned by pirates, he took out his money and began to count it, and then, as if by inadvertence, he let the money fall into the sea, and naturally broke out into lamentation. Another version of the story attributes to him the further remark that it was better for the money to perish on account of Aristippus than for Aristippus to perish on account of the money. Dionysius once asked him what he was come for, and he said it was to impart what he had and obtain what he had not. But some make his answer to have been, "When I needed wisdom, I went to Socrates; now that I am in need of money, I come to you." He used to complain of mankind that in purchasing earthenware they made trial whether it rang true, but had no regular standard by which to judge life. Others attribute this remark to Diogenes. One day Dionysius over the wine commanded everybody to put on purple and dance. Plato declined, quoting the line:

I could not stoop to put on women's robes.

Aristippus, however, put on the dress and, as he was about to dance, was ready with the repartee:

Even amid the Bacchic revelry
True modesty will not be put to shame.

He made a request to Dionysius on behalf of a friend and, failing to obtain it, fell down at his feet. And when some one jeered at him, he made reply, "It is not I who am to blame, but Dionysius who has his ears in his feet." He was once staying in Asia and was taken prisoner by Artaphernes, the satrap. "Can you be cheerful under these circumstances?"

* ib. 317.
some one asked. "Yes, you simpleton," was the reply, "for when should I be more cheerful than now that I am about to converse with Artaphernes?"

Those who went through the ordinary curriculum, but in their studies stopped short at philosophy, he used to compare to the suitors of Penelope. For the suitors won Melantho, Polydora and the rest of the handmaids, but were anything but successful in their wooing of the mistress. A similar remark is ascribed to Ariston. For, he said, when Odysseus went down into the under-world, he saw nearly all the dead and made their acquaintance, but he never set eyes upon their queen herself.

Again, when Aristippus was asked what are the subjects which handsome boys ought to learn, his reply was, "Those which will be useful to them when they are grown up." To the critic who censured him for leaving Socrates to go to Dionysius, his rejoinder was, "Yes, but I came to Socrates for education and to Dionysius for recreation." When he had made some money by teaching, Socrates asked him, "Where did you get so much?" To which he replied, "Where you got so little!"

A courtesan having told him that she was with child by him, he replied, "You are no more sure of this than if, after running through coarse rushes, you were to say you had been pricked by one in particular." Someone accused him of exposing his son as if it was not his offspring. Whereupon he replied, "Phlegm, too, and vermin we know to be of our own begettning, but for all that, because they are useless, we cast them as far from us as possible."

He received a sum of money from Dionysius at the same time that Plato carried off a book and, when
II. 81–83. ARISTIPPUS

he was twitted with this, his reply was, "Well, I want money, Plato wants books." Some one asked him why he let himself be refuted by Dionysius. "For the same reason," said he, "as the others refute him."

Dionysus met a request of his for money with the words, "Nay, but you told me that the wise man would never be in want." To which he retorted, "Pay! Pay! and then let us discuss the question;" and when he was paid, "Now you see, do you not," said he, "that I was not found wanting?" Dionysius having repeated to him the lines:

Whoso betakes him to a prince’s court
Becomes his slave, albeit of free birth,²

he retorted:

If a free man he come, no slave is he.³

This is stated by Diocles in his work On the Lives of Philosophers; other writers refer the anecdotes to Plato. After getting in a rage with Aeschines, he presently addressed him thus: "Are we not to make it up and desist from vapouring, or will you wait for some one to reconcile us?" To which he replied, "Agreed." "Then remember," Aristippus went on, "that, though I am your senior, I made the first approaches." Thereupon Aeschines said, "Well done, by Hera, you are quite right; you are a much better man than I am. For the quarrel was of my beginning, you make the first move to friendship." Such are the repartees which are attributed to him.

There have been four men called Aristippus, (1) our present subject, (2) the author of a book about

---

¹ Nauck, T.G.F., Soph. 789.
² From a lost play of Sophocles: Plutarch, De audiendiis poetis, 12, p. 33 d, Vita Pomp. 76, p. 661 s.f.
Arcadia, (3) the grandchild by a daughter of the first Aristippus, who was known as his mother’s pupil, (4) a philosopher of the New Academy.

The following books by the Cyrenaic philosopher are in circulation: a history of Libya in three Books, sent to Dionysius; one work containing twenty-five dialogues, some written in Attic, some in Doric, as follows:

Artabazus.
To the shipwrecked.
To the Exiles.
To a Beggar.
To Laïs.
To Porus.
To Laïs, On the Mirror.
Hermias.
A Dream.
To the Master of the Revels.
Philomelus.
To his Friends.
To those who blame him for his love of old wine and of women.
To those who blame him for extravagant living.
Letter to his daughter Arete.
To one in training for Olympia.
An Interrogatory.
Another Interrogatory.
An Occasional Piece to Dionysius.
Another, On the Statue.
Another, On the daughter of Dionysius.
To one who considered himself slighted.
To one who essayed to be a counsellor.

Some also maintain that he wrote six Books of
DIOCRENE LAERTIUS

féné, oi ò' oú't olouw gráfi'ai, dén esti kai Sowij-
kra'tás' ò' Pó dos. 85 Kαtà ðe Sowtíanâ en dénérîf kai Πanáítion
estin autîf syggyramata tâde' Peri taideias.
Peri ãrethis.
Protrîptikôs.
'Artaîâos.
Navaigoi.
Phygados.
Diambrîwv ðî.
Xreîwv tría.
Prôs Λaïda.
Prôs Pâron.
Prôs Sowkrâtîn.
Peri tôkîs.

Têlos ð' âpêfaînê tîn leias kînhsou eis àôthhsou
ânàididombhnhn.
'Hei'mes ð' èpêidh tîn bîon ìnegráfâmêv autôv,
fére nóv ìàiáthwv tîvns ìp' autôv Kûpînâkou's,
oi tôvês èautou's oî mêv 'Hûnîsakou's, oî ì dh 'Agni-
kereiouv, oî ì dh 'Theodwreîouv próswomâqovn. òv
mîn allâ kai tîvns ìp' Ìaïdînou's, ìw tîvns koru-
phaiotatous 'Èrêtrikou's. ëxê ì dh oútws. 'Aristi-
îppou diôkouv ìn ìhugghîn 'Ari'îh kai ìalîân

II. 84–86. ARISTIPPUS

Essays; others, and among them Sosicrates of
Rhodes, that he wrote none at all.
According to Sotion in his second book, and
Panactiou, the following treatises are his:
On Education.
On Virtue.
Introduction to Philosophy.
Artabazus.
The Ship-wrecked.
The Exiles.
Six books of Essays.
Three books of Occasional Writings (çrêias).
To Laïs.
To Porus.
To Socrates.
On Fortune.

He laid down as the end the smooth motion result-
ing in sensation.
Having written his life, let me now proceed to
pass in review the philosophers of the Cyrenaic school
which sprang from him, although some call them-
soever followers of Hegesias, others followers of
Aniceris, others again of Theodorus.4 Not but
what we shall notice further the pupils of Phaedo,
the chief of whom were called the school of Eretria.
The case stands thus. The disciples of Aristippus
were his daughter Arete, Aethiops of Ptolemaïs,4
the Eretrians at this stage is certainly strange: it looks as
if Diogenes Laertius jotted down a direction for his own
future guidance.

4 If the city was so named after a Ptolemy, it is im-
possible that one of its citizens could have been contemporary
with the first Aristippus, the companion of Socrates. Even
if Aristippus II. was the teacher of Aethiops the difficulty is
not removed.

214
and Antipater of Cyrene. The pupil of Aretē was Aristippus, who went by the name of mother-taught, and his pupil was Theodorus, known as the atheist, subsequently as “god.” Antipater’s pupil was Epitimides of Cyrene, his was Paraebates, and he had as pupils Hegesias, the advocate of suicide, and Anniceris, who ransomed Plato.

Those then who adhered to the teaching of Aristippus and were known as Cyrenaics held the following opinions. They laid down that there are two states, pleasure and pain, the former a smooth, the latter a rough motion, and that pleasure does not differ from pleasure nor is one pleasure more pleasant than another. The one state is agreeable and the other repellent to all living things. However, the bodily pleasure which is the end is, according to Panaetius in his work On the Sects, not the settled pleasure following the removal of pains, or the sort of freedom from discomfort which Epicurus accepts and maintains to be the end. They also hold that there is a difference between “end” and “happiness.” Our end is particular pleasure, whereas happiness is the sum total of all particular pleasures, in which are included both past and future pleasures.

Particular pleasure is desirable for its own sake, whereas happiness is desirable not for its own sake but for the sake of particular pleasures. That pleasure is the end is proved by the fact that from our youth up we are instinctively attracted to it, and, when we obtain it, seek for nothing more, and shun nothing so much as its opposite, pain. Pleasure is good even if it proceed from the most unseemly conduct, as Hippobatus says in his work On the Sects. For even if the action be irregular,
still, at any rate, the resultant pleasure is desirable for its own sake and is good. The removal of pain, however, which is put forward in Epicurus, seems to them not to be pleasure at all, any more than the absence of pleasure is pain. For both pleasure and pain they hold to consist in motion, whereas absence of pleasure like absence of pain is not motion, since painlessness is the condition of one who is, as it were, asleep. They assert that some people may fail to choose pleasure because their minds are perverted; not all mental pleasures and pains, however, are derived from bodily counterparts. For instance, we take disinterested delight in the prosperity of our country which is as real as our delight in our own prosperity. Nor again do they admit that pleasure is derived from the memory or expectation of good, which was a doctrine of Epicurus. For they assert that the movement affecting the mind is exhausted in course of time. Again they hold that pleasure is not derived from sight or from hearing alone. At all events, we listen with pleasure to imitation of mourning, while the reality causes pain. They gave the names of absence of pleasure and absence of pain to the intermediate conditions. However, they insist that bodily pleasures are far better than mental pleasures, and bodily pains far worse than mental pains, and that this is the reason why offenders are punished with the former. For they assumed pain to be more repellent, pleasure more congenial. For these reasons they paid more attention to the body than to the mind. Hence, although pleasure is in itself desirable, yet they hold that the things which are productive of certain pleasures are often of a painful nature, the very
opposite of pleasure; so that to accumulate the pleasures which are productive of happiness appears to them a most irksome business.

They do not accept the doctrine that every wise man lives pleasantly and every fool painfully, but regard it as true for the most part only. It is sufficient even if we enjoy but each single pleasure as it comes. They say that prudence is a good, though desirable not in itself but on account of its consequences; that we make friends from interested motives, just as we cherish any part of the body so long as we have it; that some of the virtues are found even in the foolish; that bodily training contributes to the acquisition of virtue; that the sage will not give way to envy or love or superstition, since these weaknesses are due to mere empty opinion; he will, however, feel pain and fear, these being natural affections; and that wealth too is productive of pleasure, though not desirable for its own sake.

They affirm that mental affections can be known, but not the objects from which they come; and they abandoned the study of nature because of its apparent uncertainty, but fastened on logical inquiries because of their utility. But Meleager in his second book On Philosophical Opinions, and Clitomachus in his first book On the Sects, affirm that they maintain Dialectic as well as Physics to be useless, since, when one has learnt the theory of good and evil, it is possible to speak with propriety, to be free from superstition, and to escape the fear of death. They also held that nothing is just or honourable or base by nature, but only by convention and custom. Nevertheless the good man will be deterred from
wrong-doing by the penalties imposed and the pre-judices that it would arouse. Further that the wise man really exists. They allow progress to be attainable in philosophy as well as in other matters. They maintain that the pain of one man exceeds that of another, and that the senses are not always true and trustworthy.

The school of Hagesias, as it is called, adopted the same ends, namely pleasure and pain. In their view there is no such thing as gratitude or friendship or beneficence, because it is not for themselves that we choose to do these things but simply from motives of interest, apart from which such conduct is nowhere found. They denied the possibility of happiness, for the body is infected with much suffering, while the soul shares in the sufferings of the body and is a prey to disturbance, and fortune often disappoints. From all this it follows that happiness cannot be realized. Moreover, life and death are each desirable in turn. But that there is anything naturally pleasant or unpleasant they deny; when some men are pleased and others pained by the same objects, this is owing to the lack or rarity or surfeit of such objects. Poverty and riches have no relevance to pleasure; for neither the rich nor the poor as such have any special share in pleasure. Slavery and freedom, nobility and low birth, honour and dishonour, are alike indifferent in a calculation of pleasure. To the fool life is advantageous, while to the wise it is a matter of indifference. The wise man will be guided in all he does by his own interests, for there is none other whom he regards as equally deserving. For supposing him to reap the greatest advantages from another, they would not be equal to
what he contributes himself. They also disallow the claims of the senses, because they do not lead to accurate knowledge. Whatever appears rational should be done. They affirmed that allowance should be made for errors, for no man errs voluntarily, but under constraint of some suffering; that we should not hate men, but rather teach them better. The wise man will not have any advantage over others in the choice of goods as in the avoidance of evils, making it his end to live without pain of body or mind. This then, they say, is the advantage accruing to those who make no distinction between any of the objects which produce pleasure.

The school of Anniceris in other respects agreed with them, but admitted that friendship and gratitude and respect for parents do exist in real life, and that a good man will sometimes act out of patriotic motives. Hence, if the wise man receive annoyance, he will be none the less happy even if few pleasures accrue to him. The happiness of a friend is not in itself desirable, for it is not felt by his neighbour. Instruction is not sufficient in itself to inspire us with confidence and to make us rise superior to the opinion of the multitude. Habits must be formed because of the bad disposition which has grown up in us from the first. A friend should be cherished not merely for his utility—for, if that fails, we should then no longer associate with him—but for the good feeling for the sake of which we shall even endure hardships. Nay, though we make pleasure the end and are annoyed when deprived of it, we shall nevertheless cheerfully endure this because of our love to our friend.

The Theodorians derived their name from Theo-
II. 97-99. ARISTIPPUS

dorus, who has already been mentioned, and adopted his doctrines. Theodorus was a man who utterly rejected the current belief in the gods. And I have come across a book of his entitled Of the Gods which is not contemptible. From that book, they say, Epicurus borrowed most of what he wrote on the subject.

Theodorus was also a pupil of Anniceris and of Dionysius the dialectician, as Antisthenes mentions in his Successions of Philosophers. He considered joy and grief to be the supreme good and evil, the one brought about by wisdom, the other by folly. Wisdom and justice he called goods, and their opposites evils, pleasure and pain being intermediate to good and evil. Friendship he rejected because it did not exist between the unwise nor between the wise; with the former, when the want is removed, the friendship disappears, whereas the wise are self-sufficient and have no need of friends. It was reasonable, as he thought, for the good man not to risk his life in the defence of his country, for he would never throw wisdom away to benefit the unwise.

He said the world was his country. Theft, adultery, and sacrilege would be allowable upon occasion, since none of these acts is by nature base, if once you have removed the prejudice against them, which is kept up in order to hold the foolish multitude together. The wise man would indulge his passions openly without the least regard to circumstances. Hence he would use such arguments as this. "Is a woman who is skilled in grammar useful in so far as she is skilled in grammar?" "Yes." "And is a boy or a youth skilled in grammar useful in so far as he is skilled in grammar?" "Yes." "Again,
II. 99–102. ARISTIPPUS

is a woman who is beautiful useful in so far as she is beautiful? And the use of beauty is to be enjoyed?" "Yes." When this was admitted, he would press the argument to the conclusion, namely, that he who uses anything for the purpose for which it is useful does no wrong. And by some such interrogatories he would carry his point.

He appears to have been called theos (god) in consequence of the following argument addressed to him by Stilpo. "Are you, Theodorus, what you declare yourself to be?" To this he assented, and Stilpo continued, "And do you say you are god?" To this he agreed. "Then it follows that you are god." Theodorus accepted this, and Stilpo said with a smile, "But, you rascal, at this rate you would allow yourself to be a jackdaw and ten thousand other things."

However, Theodorus, sitting on one occasion beside Euryclides, the hierophant, began, "Tell me, Euryclides, who they are who violate the mysteries?" Euryclides replied, "Those who disclose them to the uninitiated." "Then you violate them," said Theodorus, "when you explain them to the uninitiated." Yet he would hardly have escaped from being brought before the Areopagus if Demetrius of Phalerum had not rescued him. And Amphicrates in his book Upon Illustrious Men says he was condemned to drink the hemlock.

For a while he stayed at the court of Ptolemy the son of Lagus, and was once sent by him as ambassador to Lysimachus. And on this occasion his language was so bold that Lysimachus said, "Tell me, are you not the Theodorus who was banished from Athens?" To which he replied, "Your in-
II. 102-103. ARISTIPPUS

formation is correct, for, when Athens could not bear me any more than Semele could Dionysus, she cast me out.” And upon Lysimachus adding, “Take care you do not come here again,” “I never will,” said he, “unless Ptolemy sends me.” Mithras, the king’s minister, standing by and saying, “It seems that you can ignore not only gods but kings as well,” Theodorus replied, “How can you say that I ignore the gods when I regard you as hateful to the gods?” He is said on one occasion in Corinth to have walked abroad with a numerous train of pupils, and Metrocles the Cynic, who was washing chervil, remarked, “You, Sophist that you are, would not have wanted all these pupils if you had washed vegetables.” Thereupon Theodorus retorted, “And you, if you had known how to associate with men, would have had no use for these vegetables.” A similar anecdote is told of Diogenes and Aristippus, as mentioned above.

Such was the life and surroundings of Theodorus and his pupils. At last he retired to Cyrene, where he lived with Magas and continued to be held in high honour. The first time that he was expelled from Cyrene he is credited with a witty remark: “Many thanks, men of Cyrene,” said he, “for driving me from Libya into Greece.”

Some twenty persons have borne the name of Theodorus: (1) a Samian, the son of Rheocus. He it was who advised laying charcoal embers under the foundations of the temple in Ephesus; for, as the ground was very damp, the ashes, being free from woody fibre, would retain a solidity which is actually proof against moisture. (2) A Cyrenaean geometer,

---


* See § 68.

a Or, if kalw is the right reading, “It is unkind of you.” kalw is Stephanus’s conjecture.
II. 103–105. ARISTIPPOS—PHAEDO


Chapter 9. PHAEDO

Phaedo was a native of Elis, of noble family, who on the fall of that city was taken captive and forcibly consigned to a house of ill-fame. But he would close the door and so contrive to join Socrates’ circle, and in the end Socrates induced Alcibiades or Crito with their friends to ransom him; from that time onwards he studied philosophy as became a free man. Hieronymus in his work On Suspense of Judgement attacks him and calls him a slave. Of the dialogues which bear his name the Zephyrus and Simon are genuine; the Nicias is doubtful; the Medius is said by some to be the work of Aeschines, while
II. 105–107. PHAEDO—EUCLIDES

others ascribe it to Polyaeus; the Antimachus or The Elders is also doubted; the Cobblers’ Tales are also by some attributed to Aeschines.

He was succeeded by Plistanus of Elis, and a generation later by Menedemus of Eretria and Asclepiades of Philus, who came over from Stilpo’s school. Till then the school was known as that of Elis, but from Menedemus onward it was called the Eretrian school. Of Menedemus we shall have to speak hereafter, because he too started a new school.

Chapter 10. EUCLIDES

Euclides was a native of Megara on the Isthmus, or according to some of Gela, as Alexander states in his Successions of Philosophers. He applied himself to the writings of Parmenides, and his followers were called Megarians after him, then Eristics, and at a later date Dialecticians, that name having first been given to them by Dionysius of Chalcedon because they put their arguments into the form of question and answer. Hermodorus tells us that, after the death of Socrates, Plato and the rest of the philosophers came to him, being alarmed at the cruelty of the tyrants. He held the supreme good to be really one, though called by many names, sometimes wisdom, sometimes God, and again Mind, and so forth. But all that is contradictory of the good he used to reject, declaring that it had no existence.

When he impugned a demonstration, it was not the premises but the conclusion that he attacked. He rejected the argument from analogy, declaring that it must be taken either from similars or from
DI OGENES LA ER T IUS

άνομοιων συνίστασθαι καὶ εἰ μὲν ἐξ ὧδε, ἐπεὶ αὐτὰ δὲν μᾶλλον ἢ ὄσα ὁμοία ἐστὶν ἀναστρέφεσθαι, εἰ δὲ ἐξ ἀνομοίων, παρέλκεν τὴν παράθεσιν. διὰ ταύτα δὲ καὶ περὶ αὐτοῦ ταῦτα φησὶ Τίμων, προσπαρατρόφων καὶ τοὺς οὕτως Σωκρατικοὺς.

ἀλλ' οὗ μοι τούτων φλεῦδων μελεῖ, οὐδὲ γὰρ ἄλλου οὐδενός, οὐ Φαίδωνος, οὕτως γενότοι, οὐδὲ έριδαντές Εὐκλείδεως, Μεγαρείως. δεὶ έμβαλε λύσαν σεμειοῦ.

108 Διαλόγους δὲ συνέγραψεν εξ' Δαμπρίαν, Αλεξίνην, Φοίνικα, Κρίτωνα, Ἀλκιβιάδην, Ἐρωτικών. η γ' Εὐκλείδοις διάδοχης έστι καὶ Εὐκλείδης ο' Μυλήσιος, ος καὶ πολλοὺς έν διάλεκτῳ λόγους ἥρωτε, τον τε ψευδόμενον καὶ τον διαλαθόντα καὶ Ἡλέκτραν καὶ ἐγκεκαλυμμένον καὶ σωρίτην καὶ κερατίνην καὶ φαλακρόν. περὶ τούτου φησι τις τών κωμίκων.

ούριστοκ ε' Εὐκλείδης κερατίνας ἐφότων καὶ ψευδαλαξίων λόγους τούς μήτορας κυλίων ἀπήλο. έχειν δημοσθενέοις τιν ροπασπερήνων, έκεῖ γὰρ αὐτοῦ καὶ Δημοσθένης ἀκυκοῖναι καὶ 109 ραβδικατέρω τον πάνωσαν. ό ε' Εὐκλείδης καὶ πρός Άριστοτέλην διεφέρετο, καὶ πολλὰ αὐτὸν δια-βέβληκε.

Μεταξὺ δὲ ἄλλων ὀντων τῆς Εὐκλείδου δια-δοχῆς Ἀλεξίνου εξένειν Ἡλέον. ἀνὴρ φιλονεκό-τατος διό καὶ Ἐλεγξίνους ἔπεκληθή. διεφέρετο δὲ μάλιστα πρὸς Ζήνωνα. φησι δ' Ἐρμιππος περὶ αὐτοῦ ὡς ἀρα απελθῶν ἐκ τῆς Ἡλείας εἰς Ὀλυμπίαν αὐτὸθι φιλοσοφής. τῶν δὲ μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ πυθανομένων διὰ τὰ τῆτε κατοικεῖ, φάναι 236

II. 107–109. EU CL IDES

dissimilars. If it were drawn from similars, it is with these and not with their analogies that their arguments should deal; if from dissimilars, it is gratuitous to set them side by side. Hence Timon says of him, with a side hit at the other Socrates as well:

But I care not for these babblers, nor for anyone besides, not for Phaedo whoever he be, nor wrangling Euclid, who inspired the Megarians with a frenzied love of controversy.

He wrote six dialogues, entitled Lamprias, Aeschines, Phoenix, Crito, Alcibiades, and a Discourse on Love. To the school of Euclid belongs Eubulides of Miletus, the author of many dialectical arguments in an interrogatory form, namely, The Liar, The Disguised, Electra, The Veiled Figure, The Sorites, The Horned One, and The Bald Head. Of him it is said by one of the Comic poets:

Eubulides the Eristic, who propounded his quibbles about horns and confounded the orators with falsely pretentious arguments, is gone with all the bragadocio of a Demo-

Demosthenes was probably his pupil and thereby improved his faulty pronunciation of the letter R. Eubulides kept up a controversy with Aristotle and said much to discredit him.

Among other members the school of Eubulides included Alexinus of Elis, a man very fond of controversy, for which reason he was called Elenxinus. In particular he kept up a controversy with Zeno. Hermippus says of him that he left Elis and removed to Olympia, where he studied philosophy. His pupils inquired why he took up his abode here, and were

* Fr. 28 D.  b Meineke, C.G. F. iv. 618.

VOL. I.  k 237
told that it was his intention to found a school which should be called the Olympian school. But as their provisions ran short and they found the place unhealthy, they left it, and for the rest of his days Alexinus lived in solitude with a single servant. And some time afterwards, as he was swimming in the Alpheus, the point of a reed ran into him, and of this injury he died.

I have composed the following lines upon him:

It was not then a vain tale that once an unfortunate man, while diving, pierced his foot somehow with a nail; since that great man Alexinus, before he could cross the Alpheus, was pricked by a reed and met his death.

He has written not only a reply to Zeno but other works, including one against Ephorus the historian.

To the school of Eubulides also belonged Euphantus of Olynthus, who wrote a history of his own times. He was besides a poet and wrote several tragedies, with which he made a great reputation at the festivals. He taught King Antigonus and dedicated to him a work On Kingship which was very popular. He died of old age.

There are also other pupils of Eubulides, amongst them Apollonius surnamed Cronus. He had a pupil Diodorus, the son of Ameinias of Iassus, who was also nicknamed Cronus. Callimachus in his Epigrams says of him:

Momus himself chalked up on the walls "Cronus is wise."

He too was a dialectician and was supposed to have been the first who discovered the arguments

---

1 Anth. Plan. iii. 129.
2 i.e. Antigonus Doson, born 263 B.C. Of. F.H.G. iii. 20.
3 See Strabo xiv. 505, who says the nickname was transferred from the teacher to the more celebrated pupil.
known as the "Veiled Figure" and the "Horned One." When he was staying with Ptolemy Soter, he had certain dialectical questions addressed to him by Stilpo, and, not being able to solve them on the spot, he was reproached by the king and, among other slights, the nickname Cronus was applied to him by way of derision. He left the banquet and, after writing a pamphlet upon the logical problem, ended his days in despondency. Upon him too I have written lines:

Diodorus Cronus, what sad fate
Buried you in despair,
So that you hastened to the shades below,
Perplexed by Stilpo's quibbles?
You would deserve your name of Cronus better
If C and R were gone.  

The successors of Euclides include Ichthyas, the son of Metallus, an excellent man, to whom Diogenes the Cynic has addressed one of his dialogues; Clinomachus of Thrurii, who was the first to write about propositions, predications and the like; and Stilpo of Megara, a most distinguished philosopher, of whom we have now to treat.

CHAPTER 11. STILPO

Stilpo, a citizen of Megara in Greece, was a pupil of some of the followers of Euclides, although others make him a pupil of Euclides himself, and furthermore of Thrasymachus of Corinth, who was the friend of Ichthyas, according to Heraclides. And so far did he excel all the rest in inventiveness and sophistry that nearly the whole of Greece was attracted to
him and joined the school of Megara. On this let me cite the exact words of Philippus the Megarian philosopher: “for from Theophrastus he drew away the theorist Metrodorus and Timagoras of Gela, from Aristotle the Cyrenaic philosopher, Clitarchus, and Simmias; and as for the dialecticians themselves, he gained over Paenius from Aristides; Diphilus of Bosphorus, the son of Euphantus, and Myrmex, the son of Exaenetus, who had both come to refute him, he made his devoted adherents.” And besides these he won over Phrasidemus the Peripatetic, an accomplished physicist, and Alcimus the rhetorician, the first orator in all Greece; Crates, too, and many others he got into his toils, and, what is more, along with these, he carried off Zeno the Phocian.

He was also an authority on politics.

He married a wife, and had a mistress named Nicarete, as Onetor has somewhere stated. He had a profligate daughter, who was married to his friend Simmias of Syracuse. And, as she would not live by rule, some one told Stilpo that she was a disgrace to him. To this he replied, “Not so, any more than I am an honour to her.”

Ptolemy Soter, they say, made much of him, and when he had got possession of Megara, offered him a sum of money and invited him to return with him to Egypt. But Stilpo would only accept a very moderate sum, and he declined the proposed journey, and removed to Aegina until Ptolemy set sail. Again, when Demetrius, the son of Antigonus, had taken Megara, he took measures that Stilpo’s house should be preserved and all his plundered property restored to him. But when he requested that a schedule of the lost property should be drawn up,
Stilpo denied that he had lost anything which really belonged to him, for no one had taken away his learning, while he still had his eloquence and knowledge.

And conversing upon the duty of doing good to men he made such an impression on the king that he became eager to hear him. There is a story that he once used the following argument concerning the Athena of Phidias: “Is it not Athena the daughter of Zeus who is a goddess?” And when the other said “Yes,” he went on, “But this at least is not by Zeus but by Phidias,” and, this being granted, he concluded, “This then is not a god.” For this he was summoned before the Areopagus; he did not deny the charge, but contended that the reasoning was correct, for that Athena was no god but a goddess; it was the male divinities who were gods. However, the story goes that the Areopagites ordered him to quit the city, and that thereupon Theodorus, whose nickname was Θεός, said in derision, “Whence did Stilpo learn this? and how could he tell whether she was a god or a goddess?” But in truth Theodorus was most impudent, and Stilpo most ingenious.

When Crates asked him whether the gods take delight in prayers and adorations, he is said to have replied, “Don’t put such a question in the street, simpleton, but when we are alone!” It is said that Bion, when he was asked the same question whether there are gods, replied:

Will you not scatter the crowd from me, O much-enduring elder?

In character Stilpo was simple and unaffected, and he could readily adapt himself to the plain man. For instance, when Crates the Cynic did not answer the question put to him and only insulted the ques-
DIOGENES LAERTIUS


καὶ μὴ Στίλπον ἓσείδον χαλέπι ἄλγε ἔχωντα ἐν Μεγάραις, ὥθη φασὶ Τυφώς ἐμεμείναι εὐνάς. ἔνθα τ' ἐρρέσεν, πολλοί δ' ἀμφὶ αὐτῶν ἑταίροι τῇ δ' ἄρετῆν παρὰ γράμμα διάκονες κατείρμησι.

119 Ἀλέγεται δ' οὕτως Ἀθηναίην εἰσπρεπέσαι τούσ ἀνθρώπους, ὡστ' ἀπὸ τῶν ἐργαστηρίων συνεбежε αὐτῶν δἐκαύντω. καὶ τῶν εἰπόντων, "Στίλπον, θαυμάζοι σε ὡς θηρίον," "οὐ μὲν οὖν," εἰπέτω, "ἀλλ' ὡς ἄνθρωπον ἀληθῶν," δεινὸς δ' ἀγαν ὡν ἐν τοῖς ἐργαστικοῖς ἀνήρε καὶ τὰ ἐδώ καὶ ἔλει γνῶν αὐτῶν ἄνθρωπον εἶναι μιθένα. οὔτ' γὰρ τόνδε εἶναι οὔτε τόνδε τί γὰρ μᾶλλον τόνδε ἢ τόνδε; οὔδ' ἀρα τόνδε. καὶ πὰλιν τὸ λάγανον οὐκ ἐστὶ τὸ δεικνύμενον λάγανον μὲν γὰρ ἢν πρὸ μυρίων ἐτῶν οὐκ ἢρα ἐστὶ τοῦτο λάγανον. φασὶ δ' αὐτῶν ὑμάλωσα ἡ κράτητη μεταξοῦ στενοῖς ἤξνοις προσασημοῖς τοῖς ἐπιστημονέας καὶ φάσκοντες, "καταλείπεις τὸν λόγον;" "οὐκ ἐγώ γε, ἔφη, ἀλλὰ τὸν μὲν

II. 117–119. STILPO

tioner, "I knew," said Stilpo, "that you would utter anything rather than what you ought." And once when Crates held out a fig to him when putting a question, he took the fig and ate it. Upon which the other exclaimed, "O Heracles, I have lost the fig," and Stilpo remarked, "Not only that but your question as well, for which the fig was payment in advance." Again, on seeing Crates shrivelled with cold in the winter, he said, "You seem to me, Crates, to want a new coat," i.e. to be wanting in sense as well. And the other being annoyed replied with the following burlesque:

And Stilpo I saw enduring toilsome woes in Megara, where men say that the bed of Typhos is. There he would ever be wrangling, and many comrades about him, wasting time in the verbal pursuit of virtue.

It is said that at Athens he so attracted the public that people would run together from the workshops to look at him. And when some one said, "Stilpo, they stare at you as if you were some strange creature." "No, indeed," said he, "but as if I were a genuine man." And, being a consummate master of controversy, he used to demolish even the ideas, and say that he who asserted the existence of Man meant no individual; he did not mean this man or that. For why should he mean the one more than the other? Therefore neither does he mean this individual man. Again, "vegetable" is not what is shown to me, for vegetable existed ten thousand years ago. Therefore this is not vegetable. The story goes that while in the middle of an argument with Crates he hurried off to buy fish, and, when Crates tried to detain him and urged that he was leaving the argument, his answer was, "Not I. I

---

a The pun upon καυσόν ("new") and καυσόν ("mind as well") recurs vi. 3.


246

247
II. 119–121. STILPO—CRITO

keep the argument though I am leaving you; for the argument will remain, but the fish will soon be sold.”

Nine dialogues of his are extant written in frigid style, Moschus, Aristippus or Callias, Ptolemy, Chaerocrates, Metrocles, Anaximenes, Epigenes, To his Daughter, Aristotle. Heraclides relates that Zeno, the founder of the Stoic school, was one of Stilpo's pupils a; Hermippus that Stilpo died at a great age after taking wine to hasten his end.

I have written an epitaph on him also b:

Surely you know Stilpo the Megarian; old age and then disease laid him low, a formidable pair. But he found in wine a charioteer too strong for that evil team; he quaffed it eagerly and was borne along.

He was also ridiculed by Sophilus the Comic poet in his drama The Wedding c:

What Charinus says is just Stilpo's stoppers.

CHAPTER 12. CRITO

Crito was a citizen of Athens. He was most affectionate in his disposition towards Socrates, and took such care of him that none of his wants were left unsupplied. Further, his sons Critobulus, Hermogenes, Epigenes and Ctesippus were pupils of Socrates. Crito too wrote seventeen dialogues which are extant in a single volume under the titles:

That men are not made good by instruction.
Concerning superfluity.

a Compare the anecdote in vii. 24 from Apollonius of Tyre.

b Anth Plan. v. 42.

c Meineke, C.G.F. iv. 386, s.v. Diphilus.
II. 121–122. CRITO—SIMON

What is expedient, or The Statesman.
Of Beauty.
On Doing Ill.
On Tidiness.
On Law.
Of that which is Divine.
On Arts.
Of Society.
Of Wisdom.
Protagoras, or The Statesman.
On Letters.
Of Poetry.
Of Learning.
On Knowing, or On Science.
What is Knowledge.

CHAPTER 18. SIMON

Simon was a citizen of Athens and a cobbler. When Socrates came to his workshop and began to converse, he used to make notes of all that he could remember. And this is why people apply the term “leathern” to his dialogues. These dialogues are thirty-three in number, extant in a single volume:

Of the Gods.
Of the Good.
On the Beautiful.
What is the Beautiful.
On the Just: two dialogues.
Of Virtue, that it cannot be taught.
Of Courage: three dialogues.
On Law.
On Guiding the People.
Of Honour.
DI OGENES LAERTIUS

Περὶ ποιήσεως.
Περὶ εὐπαθείας.
Περὶ ἔρωτος.
Περὶ φιλοσοφίας.
Περὶ ἐπιστήμης.
Περὶ μουσικῆς.
Περὶ ποιήσεως.
Τι τὸ καλὸν.
Περὶ δίδασκαλίας.
Περὶ τοῦ διαλέγεσθαι.
Περὶ κρίσεως.
Περὶ τοῦ ὅντος.
Περὶ ἀριθμοῦ.
Περὶ ἕπιμελείας.
Περὶ τοῦ ἐργαζεῖσθαι.
Περὶ φιλοκέρδους.
Περὶ ἀλαζονείας.
Περὶ τοῦ καλοῦ.

οἱ δὲ,
Περὶ τοῦ βουλεύεσθαι.
Περὶ λόγου ἢ περὶ ἐπιτηδειότητος.
Περὶ κακοῦργίας.

Οὗτος, φασὶ, πρῶτος διελέξθη τοῦς λόγους τοὺς Σωκρατικοὺς. ἐπαγγελλαμένοι δὲ Περικλέους ὑβέθηκαν αὐτὸν καὶ κελεύοντος ἀπείκεν πρὸς αὐτὸν, οὐκ ἂν ἐπὶ τὴν παρθενίαν ἀποδόθαι.

Γέγονε δὲ καὶ ἄλλος Σίμων βηθοθικὰς τέχνας γεγραφώς καὶ ἐτέρος ἰατρός κατὰ Σέλευκον τῶν Νικάνωρα καὶ τις ἄνδριαντοποῖος.

II. 122–124. SIMON

Of Poetry.
On Good Eating.
On Love.
On Philosophy.
On Knowledge.
On Music.
On Poetry.
What is the Beautiful.
On Teaching.
On the Art of Conversation.
Of Judging.
Of Being.
Of Number.
On Diligence.
On Efficiency.
On Greed.
On Pretentiousness.
On the Beautiful.

Others are:

On Deliberation.
On Reason, or On Expediency.
On Doing Ill.

He was the first, so we are told, who introduced the Socratic dialogues as a form of conversation. When Pericles promised to support him and urged him to come to him, his reply was, “I will not part with my free speech for money.”

There was another Simon, who wrote treatises On Rhetoric; another, a physician, in the time of Seleucus Nicanor; and a third who was a sculptor.
GLAUCON—SIMMIAΣ

CHAPTER 14. GLAUCON

Glaucun was a citizen of Athens. Nine dialogues of his are extant in a single volume:

Phidylus.
Euripides.
Amyntichus.
Euthias.
Lysithides.
Aristophanes.
Cephalus.
Anaxiphemus.
Menexenus.

There are also extant thirty-two others, which are considered spurious.

CHAPTER 15. SIMMIAΣ

Simmias was a citizen of Thebes. Twenty-three dialogues of his are extant in a single volume:

On Wisdom.
On Reasoning.
On Music.
On Verses.
Of Courage.
On Philosophy.
Of Truth.
On Letters.
On Teaching.
On Art.
On Government.
Of that which is becoming.
Of that which is to be chosen and avoided.
On Friendship.
II. 124-126. SIMMIA—CEBES—MENEDEMUS

On Knowledge.
Of the Soul.
On a Good Life.
Of that which is possible.
On Money.
On Life.
What is the beautiful.
On Diligence.
On Love.

CHAPTER 16. CEBES

Cebes was a citizen of Thebes. Three dialogues of his are extant:

The Tablet.
The Seventh Day.
Phrynichus.

CHAPTER 17. MENEDEMUS

Menedemus belonged to Phaedo's school; he was the son of Clisthenes, a member of the clan called the Theopropidae, of good family, though a builder and a poor man; others say that he was a scene-painter and that Menedemus learnt both trades. Hence, when he had proposed a decree, a certain Alexinius attacked him, declaring that the philosopher was not a proper person to design either a scene or a decree. When Menedemus was dispatched by the Eretrians to Megara on garrison duty, he paid a visit to Plato at the Academy and was so captivated that he abandoned the service of arms. Asclepiades of Phlius drew him away, and he lived at Megara with Stilpo, whose lectures they both attended.
II. 126-128. MENEDEMUS

Thence they sailed to Elis, where they joined Anchippus and Moschus of the school of Phaedo. Down to their time, as was stated in the Life of Phaedo, the school was called the Elian school. Afterwards it was called the Eretrian school, from the city to which my subject belonged.

It would appear that Menedemus was somewhat pompous. Hence Crates burlesques him thus a:

Asclepiades the sage of Philias and the Eretrian bull;

and Timon as follows b:

A puffing, supercilious purveyor of humbug.

He was a man of such dignity that, when Eurylochus of Casandra was invited by Antigonus to court along with Cleippides, a youth of Cyzicus, he declined the invitation, being afraid that Menedemus would hear of it, so caustic and outspoken was he. When a young gallant would have taken liberties with him, he said not a word but picked up a twig and drew an insulting picture on the ground, until all eyes were attracted and the young man, perceiving the insult, made off. When Hierocles, who was in command of the Piraeus, walked up and down along with him in the shrine of Amphiaras, and talked much of the capture of Eretria, he made no other reply beyond asking him what Antigonus's object was in treating him as he did.

To an adulterer who was giving himself airs he said, "Do you not know that, if cabbage has a good flavour, so for that matter has radish?" Hearing a youth who was very noisy, he said, "See what there is behind you." When Antigonus consulted him as to whether he should go to a rout, he sent...
a message to say no more than this, that he was the son of a king. When a stupid fellow related something to him with no apparent object, he inquired if he had a farm. And hearing that he had, and that there was a large stock of cattle on it, he said, "Then go and look after them, lest it should happen that they are ruined and a clever farmer thrown away." To one who inquired if the good man ever married, he replied, "Do you think me good or not?" The reply being in the affirmative, he said, "Well, I am married." Of one who affirmed that there were many good things, he inquired how many, and whether he thought there were more than a hundred. Not being able to curb the extravagance of some one who had invited him to dinner, he said nothing when he was invited, but rebuked his host tacitly by confining himself to olives. However, on account of this freedom of speech he was in great peril in Cyprus with his friend Asclepiades when staying at the court of Nicocreon. For when the king held the usual monthly feast and invited these two along with the other philosophers, we are told that Menedemus said that, if the gathering of such men was a good thing, the feast ought to have been held every day; if not, then it was superfluous even on the present occasion. The tyrant having replied to this by saying that on this day he had the leisure to hear philosophers, he pressed the point still more stubbornly, declaring, while the feast was going on, that any and every occasion should be employed in listening to philosophers. The consequence was that, if a certain flute-player had not got them away, they would have been put to death; Hence when they were in a storm in the boat
Asclepiades is reported to have said that the flute-player through good playing had proved their salvation when the free speech of Menedemus had been their undoing.

He shirked work, it is said, and was indifferent to the fortunes of his school. At least no order could be seen in his classes, and no circle of benches; but each man would listen where he happened to be, walking or sitting, Menedemus himself behaving in the same way. In other respects he is said to have been nervous and careful of his reputation; so much so that, when Menedemus himself and Asclepiades were helping a man who had formerly been a builder to build a house, whereas Asclepiades appeared stripped on the roof passing the mortar, Menedemus would try to hide himself as often as he saw anyone coming. After he took part in public affairs, he was so nervous that, when offering the frankincense, he would actually miss the censor. And once, when Crates stood about him and attacked him for meddling in politics, he ordered certain men to have Crates locked up. But Crates none the less watched him as he went by and, standing on tiptoe, called him a pocket Agamemnon and Hegesipolis.

He was also in a way rather superstitious. At all events once, when he was at an inn with Asclepiades and had inadvertently eaten some meat which had been thrown away, he turned sick and pale when he learnt the fact, until Asclepiades rebuked him, saying that it was not the meat which disturbed him but merely his suspicion of it. In all other respects he was magnanimous and liberal. In his habit of body, even in old age, he was as firm and sunburnt in appearance as any athlete, being stout and always...
in the pink of condition; in stature he was well-proportioned, as may be seen from the statuette in the ancient Stadium at Eretria. For it represents him, intentionally no doubt, almost naked, and displays the greater part of his body.

He was fond of entertaining and used to collect numerous parties about him because Eretria was unhealthy; amongst these there would be parties of poets and musicians. He welcomed Aratus also and Lycophron the tragic poet, and Antagoras of Rhodes, but, above all, he applied himself to the study of Homer and, next, the Lyric poets; then to Sophocles, and also to Achaeus, to whom he assigned the second place as a writer of satiric dramas, giving Aeschylus the first. Hence he quoted against his political opponents the following lines a:

\[\text{Ere long the swift is overtaken by the feeble,}\]
\[\text{And the eagle by the tortoise,}\]

which are from the Omphale, a satiric drama of Achaeus. Therefore it is a mistake to say that he had read nothing except the Medea of Euripides, which some have asserted to be the work of Neophron of Sicily.

He despised the teachers of the school of Plato and Xenocrates as well as the Cyrenaic philosopher Farabates. He had a great admiration for Stilpo; and on one occasion when he was questioned about him, he made no other answer than that he was a gentleman. Menedemus was difficult to see through, and in making a bargain it was difficult to get the better of him. He would twist and turn in every direction, and he excelled in inventing objections. He was a great controversialist, according to Anti-

---


a. Nauck, T.G.F. 3, Achaeus, 34.
DIogenes Laertius

stoixei, ἤν. καὶ δὴ καὶ τόδε ἐρωτάτων εἶπεθείν. "τὸ ἐτερον τοῦ ἐτέρου ἐτερόν ἐστιν.; "ναι." "ἐτερον δὲ ἐστι τὸ ὀφθαλμόν τοῦ ἀγάθου.; "ναι." "οὐκ ἀρα τὸ ὀφθαλμόν ἀγάθον ἐστιν.;

II. 134-138. Menedemus

sthenes in his Successions of Philosophers. In particular he was fond of using the following argument:
"Is the one of two things different from the other?" "Yes." "And is conferring benefits different from the good?" "Yes." "Then to confer benefits is not good."

It is said that he disallowed negative propositions, converting them into affirmatives, and of these he admitted simple propositions only, rejecting those which are not simple, I mean hypothetical and complex propositions. Heraclides declares that, although in his doctrines he was a Platonist, yet he made sport of dialectic. So that, when Alexinus once inquired if he had left off beating his father, his answer was, "Why, I was not beating him and have not left off"; and upon Alexinus insisting that he ought to have cleared up the ambiguity by a plain "Yes" or "No," "It would be absurd," he said, "for me to conform to your rules when I can stop you on the threshold." And when Dion persistently ran down the soothsayers, Menedemus said he was slaying the slain.

On hearing some one say that the greatest good was to get all you want, he rejoined, "To want the right things is a far greater good." Antigonus of Carystus asserts that he never wrote or composed anything, and so never held firmly by any doctrine. He adds that in discussing questions he was so pugnacious that he would only retire after he had been badly mauled. And yet, though he was so violent in debate, he was as mild as possible in his conduct. For instance, though he made sport of Alexinus and bantered him cruelly, he was nevertheless very kind to him, for, when his wife was afraid
that on her journey she might be set upon and robbed, he gave her an escort from Delphi to Chalcis.

He was a very warm friend, as is shown by his affection for Asclepiades, which was hardly inferior to the devotion shown by Pylades. But, Asclepiades being the elder, it was said that he was the playwright and Menedemus the actor. They say that once, when Archipolis had given them a cheque for half a talent, they stickled so long over the point as to whose claim came second that neither of them got the money. It is said that they married a mother and her daughter; Asclepiades married the daughter and Menedemus the mother. But after the death of his own wife, Asclepiades took the wife of Menedemus; and afterwards the latter, when he became head of the state, married a rich woman as his second wife. Nevertheless, as they kept one household, Menedemus entrusted his former wife with the care of his establishment. However, Asclepiades died first at a great age at Eretria, having lived with Menedemus economically, though they had ample means. Some time afterwards a favourite of Asclepiades, having come to a party and being refused admittance by the pupils, Menedemus ordered them to admit him, saying that even now, when under the earth, Asclepiades opened the door for him. It was Hippionicus the Macedonian and Agetor of Lamia who were their chief supporters; the one gave each of the two thirty minae, while Hippionicus furnished Menedemus with two thousand drachmae with which to portion his daughters. There were three of them according to Heraclides, his children by a wife who was a native of Oropus.
DIÓGENES LAÉRTIUS

II. 139–140. MENEDEMUS

He used to give his parties in this fashion: he would breakfast beforehand with two or three friends and stay until it was late in the day. And in the next place some one would summon the guests who had arrived and who had themselves already dined, so that, if anyone came too soon, he would walk up and down and inquire from those who came out of the house what was on the table and what o’clock it was. If then it was only vegetables or salt fish, they would depart; but if there was meat, they would enter the house. In the summer time a rush mat was put upon each couch, in winter time a sheepskin. The guest brought his own cushion. The loving-cup which was passed round was no larger than a pint cup. The dessert consisted of lupins or beans, sometimes of ripe fruit such as pears, pomegranates, a kind of pulse, or even dried figs. All of these facts are mentioned by Lycephon in his satiric drama entitled Menedemus, which was composed as a tribute to him. Here is a specimen of it a:

And after a temperate feast the modest cup was passed round with discretion, and their dessert was temperate discourse for such as cared to listen.

At first he was despised, being called a cynic and a humbug by the Eretrians. But afterwards he was greatly admired, so much so that they entrusted him with the government of the state. He was sent as envoy to Ptolemy and to Lysimachus, being honoured wherever he went. He was, moreover, envoy to Demetrius, and he caused the yearly tribute of two hundred talents which the city used to pay Demetrius to be reduced by fifty talents. And when he was accused to Demetrius of intriguing to hand over the city to Ptolemy, he defended

* Nauck, T.G.F. 3 p. 818.
Πτολεμαίω, ἀπολογεῖται δὲ ἐπιστολῆς ἢς ἡ ἀρχή:

“Μενέδημος βασιλεὺς Δημητρίῳ χαίρειν. ἀκούω πρὸς σὲ ἀνατεθήκαι περὶ ἡμῶν.” λόγος δὲ δια-

βεβληκέναι αὐτὸν τῶν ἀντιπολεμομένων των Ἀισχύλων. δοκεῖ δ᾽ ἐμβρυθεστάτα προσβεβίται πρὸς

Δημήτριον ὑπὲρ τοῦ Ὀρωποῦ, ὡς καὶ Εὐφαντος ἐν Ἰστορίαις μνημονεύει. ἦγαπά δὲ αὐτὸν καὶ

Ἀντίγονος καὶ μαθητὴν ἀνεκτίρυτνεν αὐτὸν, καὶ

ἡμέρα ἐνίκα τοὺς βαρβάρους περὶ Λυσιμαχίαν,

γράφει ψήφισμα αὐτῷ Μενέδημος ἀπολόγει τε καὶ

ἀκόλακον, οὐ ἡ ἀρχή: “οἱ στρατηγοὶ καὶ οἱ

πρόβουλοι ἐλπίζοντο, ἐπειδὴ βασιλεὺς Ἀντίγονος

μάχῃ νικήσας τοὺς βαρβάρους παραγίνεται εἰς τὴν

ἰδιαί, καὶ τὰ ἄλλα πάντα πρᾶσσει κατὰ γνῶμην:

ἐδοξε τῇ βουλῇ καὶ τῷ δήμῳ.”

Διὰ ταῦτα δὴ καὶ τὴν ἄλλην φιλίαν ὑποτευθεὶς

προδιδόναι τὴν πόλιν αὐτῷ, διαβάλλοντος Ἀριστο-

δήμου ὑπεξῆλθε: καὶ διέτριβεν ἐν Ὀρωπῷ ἐν

τῷ τοῦ Ἀμφιάραου ἱερῷ ἐνθαρρύνων ποτηρίων

ἀπολομένων, καθά φησι "Ἐρμίππος, δόγματι

κοινῷ τῶν Βοιωτῶν ἐκελεύθη μετελθεῖν. ἐντεύ-

θεν ἄθυμης λαθραῖς παρεισδύσει εἰς τὴν πατρίδα

καὶ τὴν τε γυναῖκα καὶ τὰς θυγατέρας παρα-

λαβὼν πρὸς Ἀντίγονον ἔλθων ἄθμισα τὸν βίον

κατέστρεψε.

Φησὶ δ᾽ Ἡρακλείδης αὐτὸν πᾶν τοῦτοντιν, πρόβουλον γενόμενον τῶν Ἐρετρέων πολλάκις ἐλευθερώσατο τὴν πόλιν ἀπὸ τῶν τυράννων ἐπ-

αγόμενον Δημήτριον. οὐκ ἂν δὴ οὗν προδοῦναι

272
II. 143-144. MENEDEMUS

to Antigonus, but was made the victim of a false charge; that he betook himself to Antigonus and was anxious to regain freedom for his country; that, as Antigonus would not give way, in despair he put an end to his life by abstaining from food for seven days. The account of Antigonus of Carystus is similar. With Persaeus alone he carried on open warfare, for it was thought that, when Antigonus was willing for Menedemus's sake to restore to the Eretrians their democracy, Persaeus prevented him. Hence on one occasion over the wine Menedemus refuted Persaeus in argument and said, amongst other things, "Such he is as a philosopher but, as a man, the worst of all that are alive or to be born hereafter."

According to the statement of Heraclides he died in his seventy-fourth year. I have written the following epigram upon him:

I heard of your fate, Menedemus, how, of your own free will, you expired by starving yourself for seven days, a deed right worthy of an Eretrian, but unworthy of a man; but despair was your leader and urged you on.

These then are the disciples of Socrates or their immediate successors. We must now pass to Plato, the founder of the Academy, and his successors, so far as they were men of reputation.

Antigonus of Carystus (see Introd. p. xxiii) is the older authority, from whom Heraclides (probably Heraclides Lembos, see Introd. p. xxv.) directly or indirectly derived his information.

1 Anth. Plan. v. 40.
BOOK III

PLATO (427-347 B.C.)

Plato was the son of Ariston and a citizen of Athens. His mother was Perictione (or Potone), who traced back her descent to Solon. For Solon had a brother, Dropides; he was the father of Critias, who was the father of Callaesmachus, who was the father of Critias, one of the Thirty, as well as of Glaucias, who was the father of Charmides and Perictione. Thus Plato, the son of this Perictione and Ariston, was in the sixth generation from Solon. And Solon traced his descent to Neleus and Poseidon. His father too is said to be in the direct line from Codrus, the son of Melanthus, and, according to Thrasyllus, Codrus and Melanthus also trace their descent from Poseidon.

Speusippus in the work entitled Plato's Funeral Feast, Clearchus in his Encomium on Plato, and Anaxilades in his second book On Philosophers, tell us that there was a story at Athens that Ariston made violent love to Perictione, then in her bloom, and failed to win her; and that, when he ceased to offer violence, Apollo appeared to him in a dream, whereupon he left her unmolested until her child was born.

Apollophanes in his Chronology fixes the date of Plato's birth in the 88th Olympiad, on the seventh day of the month Thargelion, the same day on which
DIogenes Laertius

the Delians say that Apollo himself was born. He died, according to Hermippus, at a wedding feast, in the first year of the 108th Olympiad, in his eighty-first year. Neanthes, however, makes him die at the age of eighty-four. He is thus seen to be six years the junior of Isocrates. For Isocrates was born in the archonship of Lysimachus, Plato in that of Ameinias, the year of Pericles' death. He belonged to the deme Collytus, as is stated by Antileon in his second book On Dates. He was born, according to some, in Aegina, in the house of Phidias, the son of Thales, as Favorinus states in his Miscellaneous History, for his father had been sent along with others to Aegina to settle in the island, but returned to Athens when the Athenians were expelled by the Lacedaemonians, who championed the Aeginetan cause. That Plato acted as choregos at Athens, the cost being defrayed by Dion, is stated by Athenodorus in the eighth book of a work entitled Walks. He had two brothers, Adeimantus and Glaucon, and a sister, Potone, who was the mother of Speusippus. He was taught letters in the school of Dionysius, who is mentioned in the Rivals. And he learnt gymnastics under Ariston, the Argive wrestler. And from him he received the name of Plato on account of his robust figure, in place of his original name which was Aristocles, after his grandfather, as Alexander informs us in his Successions of Philosophers. But others affirm that he got the name Plato from the breadth of his style, or from the breadth of his forehead, as suggested by Neanthes. Others again affirm that he wrestled in the Isthmian Games—this is stated by Dicaearchus in his first book On Lives—

421-441 B.C. 436-435 B.C. 429 B.C.
DI OGENES LAERTIUS

and that he applied himself to painting and wrote poems, first dithyrambs, afterwards lyric poems and tragedies. He had, they say, a weak voice; this is confirmed by Timotheus the Athenian in his book On Lives. It is stated that Socrates in a dream saw a cymnet on his knees, which all at once put forth plumage, and flew away after uttering a loud sweet note. And the next day Plato was introduced as a pupil, and thereupon he recognized in him the swan of his dream.6

At first he used to study philosophy in the Academy, and afterwards in the garden at Colonus (as Alexander states in his Successions of Philosophers), as a follower of Heraclitus. Afterwards, when he was about to compete for the prize with a tragedy, he listened to Socrates in front of the theatre of Dionysus,6 and then consigned his poems to the flames, with the words 6:

Come hither, O fire-god, Plato now has need of thee.

From that time onward, having reached his twentieth year (so it is said), he was the pupil of Socrates. When Socrates was gone, he attached himself to Cratylus the Heraclitean, and to Hermogenes who preceded the philosophy of Parmenides. Then at the age of twenty-eight, according to Hermodorus, he withdrew to Megara to Euclides, with certain other disciples of Socrates. Next he proceeded to Cyrene on a visit to Theodorus the mathematician, thence to Italy to see the Pythagorean philosophers Philolaus and Eurytus, and thence to Egypt to see

---

6 It is suggested that this sentence also is an insertion by Diogenes, which interrupts the real sequence of the narrative.
those who interpreted the will of the gods; and Euripides is said to have accompanied him thither. There he fell sick and was cured by the priests, who treated him with sea-water, and for this reason he cited the line:

The sea doth wash away all human ills.

Furthermore he said that, according to Homer, beyond all men the Egyptians were skilled in healing. Plato also intended to make the acquaintance of the Magians, but was prevented by the wars in Asia. Having returned to Athens, he lived in the Academy, which is a gymnasium outside the walls, in a grove named after a certain hero, Hecademus, as is stated by Eupolis in his play entitled Shirkers:

In the shady walks of the divine Hecademus.

Moreover, there are verses of Timon which refer to Plato:

Amongst all of them Plato was the leader, a big fish, but a sweet-voiced speaker, musical in prose as the cicada who, perched on the trees of Hecademus, pours forth a strain as delicate as a lily.

Thus the original name of the place was Hecademy, spelt with "a." Now Plato was a friend of Isocrates. And Praxiphanes makes them converse about poets at a country-seat where Plato was entertaining Isocrates. And Aristoxenus asserts that he went on service three times, first to Tanagra, secondly to Corinth, and thirdly at Delium, where also he obtained the prize of valour. He mixed together  

does not His doctrines of Heraclitus, the Pythagoreans and

c Meineke, C.G.F. ii. 437. According to Suidas, s.v. Εὐριπίδης, this play had a second title, Αὐθρογόνων, by which alone it is cited in Etymol. Magnum.

d Fr. 30 D.
Socrates. In his doctrine of sensible things he agrees with Heraclitus, in his doctrine of the intelligible with Pythagoras, and in political philosophy with Socrates.

Some authorities, amongst them Satyrus, say that he wrote to Dion in Sicily instructing him to purchase three Pythagorean books from Philolaus for 100 minae. For they say he was well off, having received from Dionysius over eighty talents. This is stated by Onetor in an essay upon the theme, "Whether a wise man will make money." Further, he derived great assistance from Epicharmus the Comic poet, for he transcribed a great deal from him, as Alcimus says in the essays dedicated to Amyntas, of which there are four. In the first of them he writes thus:

"It is evident that Plato often employs the words of Epicharmus." Just consider. Plato asserts that the object of sense is that which never abides in quality or quantity, but is ever in flux and change. The assumption is that the things from which you take away number are no longer equal nor determinate, nor have they quantity or quality. These are the things to which becoming always, and being never, belongs. But the object of thought is something constant from which nothing is subtracted, to which nothing is added. This is the nature of the eternal things, the attribute of which is to be ever alike and the same. And indeed Epicharmus has expressed himself painingly about objects of sense and objects of thought.

---

a The genuineness of these fragments is doubted by Wilamowitz, Rohde, and others; see Wilamowitz, Platon, ii. 26 note 2, and on the other side Diels, note ad loc. (Frag. der Vorsok. 15 B. 1-5).
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

— ἀλλὰ λέγεται μᾶν χάος πρῶτον γενέθθαι τῶν θεῶν.
— πῶς δέ κα; μὴ ἔχον γ’ ἀπὸ τίνος μηδ’ ἐσ ὁ τι πρῶτον μόλις.
— οὖν ἂρ’ ἐμολε πρῶτον οὐθέν; — οὔδε μὰ Δία δεύτερον.

11 τῶνδέ γε δι’ ἀμέσ νῦν ὠδέ λέγομεν ἀλλ’ ἂι τάδ’ ήμ’ ἄρ’
αἱ πότ’ ἄρθρον τις περισσόν, αἱ δὲ λῆς, πότ’ ἄρθρον,
ποτέμειν λὴ ψάφον ἡ καὶ τῶν ὑπαρχοῦσιν λαβεῖν,
ἡ δοκεῖ κά τι τῷ γ’ ἐθ’ ωτός εἴμεν; — οὖκ ἐμίν γα κά.
— οὔδε μᾶν οὔδ’ αἱ ποτ’ μέτρον παχυαίον ποτέμειν
λὴ τις ἕτερον μάκος ἡ τοῦ πρόσθ’ εόντος ἀποταμεῖν,
ἔτι χ’ ὑπάρχοι κῆνο τό μέτρον; — οὖ γάρ.
— ὠδέ νῦν δρῆ
kαὶ τὸς ἄνθρωπος ὁ μὲν γὰρ αὐξῆθ’, ὁ δέ γα μᾶν φθίνει,
ἐν μεταλαμψά δὲ πάντες ἐντ’ πάντα τὸν χρόνον.
δ δὲ μεταλάβασει κατὰ φύσιν κοίτοκ’ ἐν ταύτῳ μένει,
ἔτερον εἶν’ κα τόδ’ ἀρ’ τῶν παρεξεστακότος.
καὶ τῷ δὴ κάγῳ χθές ἄλλοι καὶ νῦν ἄλλοι
tελέσθωμεν
καθὼς ἄλλοι κοίτοκ’ ωτός κατὰ <γα τούτον>
tὸν λόγον.

1 λέγω μέλλει τάδ’ εἰναι codd.: corr. Bergk.

III. 10-11. PLATO

b. Yet it is said that Chaos was the first-born of the gods.

a. How so? If indeed there was nothing out of which, or into which, it could come first.

b. What! Then did nothing come first after all?

a. No, by Zeus, nor second either, at least of the things which we are thus talking about now; on the contrary, they existed from all eternity...

a. But suppose some one chooses to add a single pebble to a heap containing either an odd or an even number, whichever you please, or to take away one of those already there; do you think the number of pebbles would remain the same?

b. Not I.

a. Nor yet, if one chooses to add to a cubit-measure another length,* or cut off some of what was there already, would the original measure still exist?

b. Of course not.

a. Now consider mankind in this same way. One man grows, and another again shrinks; and they are all undergoing change the whole time. But a thing which naturally changes and never remains in the same state must ever be different from that which has thus changed. And even so you and I were one pair of men yesterday, are another to-day, and again will be another to-morrow, and will never remain ourselves, by this same argument."

* Or, reading στερπον for ἕτερον, "a substantial length."
Again, Alcinous makes this further statement:
"There are some things, say the wise, which the soul perceives through the body, as in seeing and hearing; there are other things which it discerns by itself without the aid of the body. Hence it follows that of existing things some are objects of sense and others objects of thought." Hence Plato said that, if we wish to take in at one glance the principles underlying the universe, we must first distinguish the ideas by themselves, for example, likeness, unity and plurality, magnitude, rest and motion; next we must assume the existence of beauty, goodness, justice and the like, each existing in and for itself; in the third place we must see how many of the ideas are relative to other ideas, as are knowledge, or magnitude, or ownership, remembering that the things within our experience bear the same names as those ideas because they partake of them; I mean that things which partake of justice are just, things which partake of beauty are beautiful. Each one of the ideas is eternal, it is a notion, and moreover is incapable of change. Hence Plato says that they stand in nature like archetypes, and that all things else bear a resemblance to the ideas because they are copies of these archetypes. Now here are the words of Epicharmus about the good and about the ideas:

A. Is flute-playing a thing?
B. Most certainly.
A. Is man then flute-playing?
B. By no means.
A. Come, let me see, what is a flute-player? Whom do you take him to be? Is he not a man?
B. Most certainly.
A. Well, don’t you think the same would be the case with
III. 14–16. PLATO

the good? Is not the good in itself a thing? And does not he who has learnt that thing and knows it at once become good? For, just as he becomes a flute-player by learning flute-playing, or a dancer when he has learnt dancing, or a platter when he has learnt plaiting, in the same way, if he has learnt anything of the sort, whatever you like, he would not be one with the craft but he would be the craftsman.

Now Plato in conceiving his theory of Ideas says: Since there is such a thing as memory, there must be ideas present in things, because memory is of something stable and permanent, and nothing is permanent except the ideas. ‘For how,’ he says, could animals have survived unless they had apprehended the idea and had been endowed by Nature with intelligence to that end? As it is, they remember similarities and what their food is like, which shows that animals have the innate power of discerning what is similar. And hence they perceive others of their own kind.’ How then does Epicharmus put it?

Wisdom is not confined, Eumaeus, to one kind alone, but all living creatures likewise have understanding. For, if you will study intently the hen among poultry, she does not bring forth the chicks alive, but sits clutching on the eggs and wakes life in them. As for this wisdom of hers, the true state of the case is known to Nature alone, for the hen has learnt it from herself.

And again:

It is no wonder then that we talk thus and are pleased with ourselves and think we are fine folk. For a dog appears the fairest of things to a dog, an ox to an ox, an ass to an ass, and verily a pig to a pig."

a Cf. Phaedo, 96 a "(I considered) whether it is blood or air or fire with which we think, or none of these things, but the brain which furnishes the senses of hearing and sight and smell, and from these arise memory and opinion, and from memory and opinion, when they have become stable, in the same way knowledge arises."
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

17. Καὶ ταῦτα μὲν καὶ τὰ τοιαῦτα διὰ τῶν τετράων βιβλίων παραπτίγγυσον ο Ἀλκίμος παρασημαίνων τὴν εἴ Επιχάρμου Πλάτωνι περιγνωμένην ἀφέλειαν. ὦτι δ’ οὐδ’ αὐτὸς ἕπιχάρμος ἠγνοεῖ τὴν αὐτοῦ σοφίαν, μαθεῖν ἐστὶ κακὸ τούτων εἴ τις τὸν χηλώσων προμαντεύεται.

ῶς δ’ ἐγὼ δοκέω, — δοκέων γὰρ σάφα ἑαυτῷ τούθ’ ὅτι

τῶν ἐμῶν μνάμα ποι’ ἐσείται λόγω τούτων ἐπὶ

καὶ λοβῶν τις αὐτὰ περιδύσας τὸ μέτρον ὃ νῦν ἔχει,

ἐμα δους καὶ πορφυρῶν λόγοις ποικίλας καλοὶς

δυστάλαστος ὁ τὸς ἄλλως εὐπαλαίαστος ἁπο-

φανεῖ.

18. Δοκεῖ δὲ Πλάτων καὶ τὰ Σωφρόνου τοῦ μιμο-

γράφου βιβλία ἠμελημένα πρῶτος εἰς Ἀθηναί

διακόμισε καὶ ἠθοποίησε σὺν αὐτῷ ὃ καὶ

εὑρεθῆναι ὑπὸ τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ. τρῖς δὲ πέ-

πλευκέν εἰς Σικελίαν, πρῶτον μὲν κατὰ θέαν τῆς

νῆσου καὶ τῶν κράτηρων, ὡς καὶ Διονύσιος εἰς

Ἐρμοκράτους τύραννων ὁ ἡμᾶς ἦσαν ὡστε συμ-

μίζειν αὐτῷ δὲ διαλέγαμεν περὶ τυραννίδος

καὶ φασκῶν ὡς οὐκ ἔστι τὸ τὸ πρὸς τὸν κράτος

αὐτὸ † μόνον, εἰ μὴ καὶ ἀρετὴ διαφέρει, προσέκρουσ

αὐτῷ ὁργαθεῖς γὰρ ὁι λόγοι αὐτοῦ, φησι, ἁρμο-

νιῶς καὶ δὲ: "σοῦ δές γε τυραννίζων", ἐνεπείθ

ἀγανακτήσας ὁ τύραννος πρῶτον μὲν ἀνέλει

ἀρμῆρες αὐτῶν εἶτα παρακλῆεις ὑπὸ Διώνου καὶ

Ἀριστομένου τούτο μὲν οὐκ ἐποίησεν παρέδωκε

δὲ αὐτὸν Πόλιδι τῷ Δακεδαμονίῳ κατὰ καίρον

διὰ προσβεβαιν ἀφιγμένη ὡστε ἀποδοθαι. κα-

292

III. 17-19. PLATO

These and the like instances Alcimus notes through four books, pointing out the assistance derived by Plato from Epicharmus. That Epicharmus himself was fully conscious of his wisdom can also be seen from the lines in which he foretells that he will have an imitator:

And as I think—for when I think anything I know it full well—that my words will some day be remembered; some one will take them and free them from the metre in which they are now set, nay, will give them instead a purple robe, embroidering it with fine phrases: and, being invincible, he will make every one else an easy prey.

Plato, it seems, was the first to bring to Athens the mimes of Sophron which had been neglected, and to draw characters in the style of that writer; a copy of the mimes, they say, was actually found under his pillow. He made three voyages to Sicily, the first time to see the island and the craters of Etna: on this occasion Dionysius, the son of Hermocrates, being on the throne, forced him to become intimate with him. But when Plato held forth on tyranny and maintained that the interest of the ruler alone was not the best end, unless he were also pre-eminent in virtue, he offended Dionysius, who in his anger exclaimed, "You talk like an old dotard." “And you like a tyrant,” rejoined Plato. At this the tyrant grew furious and at first was bent on putting him to death; then, when he had been dissuaded from this by Dion and Aristomenes, he did not indeed go so far but handed him over to Pollis the Lacedaemonian, who had just then arrived on an embassy, with orders to sell him into slavery.

* This fragment (Fr. 6 D.), which has not the authority of Alcimus, is generally condemned as spurious.

1 σοῦ] τὸ σοῦ Richards.
And Pollis took him to Aegina and there offered him for sale. And then Charmandrus, the son of Charmandrides, indicted him on a capital charge according to the law in force among the Aeginetans, to the effect that the first Athenian who set foot upon the island should be put to death without a trial. This law had been passed by the prosecutor himself, according to Favorinus in his Miscellaneous History. But when some one urged, though in jest, that the offender was a philosopher, the court acquitted him. There is another version to the effect that he was brought before the assembly and, being kept under close scrutiny, he maintained an absolute silence and awaited the issue with confidence. The assembly decided not to put him to death but to sell him just as if he were a prisoner of war.

Anniceris the Cyrenaic happened to be present and ransomed him for twenty minae—according to others the sum was thirty minae—and dispatched him to Athens to his friends, who immediately remitted the money. But Anniceris declined it, saying that the Athenians were not the only people worthy of the privilege of providing for Plato. Others assert that Dion sent the money and that Anniceris would not take it, but bought for Plato the little garden which is in the Academy. Pollis, however, is stated to have been defeated by Chabrias and afterwards to have been drowned at Helice, a treatment of the philosopher having provoked the wrath of heaven, as Favorinus says in the first book of his Memorabilia. Dionysius, indeed, could not rest. On learning the facts he wrote and enjoined upon Plato not to speak evil of him. And Plato replied that he had not the leisure to keep Dionysius in his mind.
The second time he visited the younger Dionysius, requesting of him lands and settlers for the realization of his republic. Dionysius promised them but did not keep his word. Some say that Plato was also in great danger, being suspected of encouraging Dion and Theodotus in a scheme for liberating the whole island; on this occasion Archytas the Pythagorean wrote to Dionysius, procured his pardon, and got him conveyed safe to Athens. The letter runs as follows:

“Archytas to Dionysius, wishing him good health.

“We, being all of us the friends of Plato, have sent to you Lamiscus and Photidas in order to take the philosopher away by the terms of the agreement made with you. You will do well to remember the zeal with which you urged us all to secure Plato’s coming to Sicily, determined as you were to persuade him and to undertake, amongst other things, responsibility for his safety so long as he stayed with you and on his return. Remember this too, that you set great store by his coming, and from that time had more regard for him than for any of those at your court. If he has given you offence, it behoves you to behave with humanity and restore him to us unhurt. By so doing you will satisfy justice and at the same time put us under an obligation.”

The third time he came to reconcile Dion and Dionysius, but, failing to do so, returned to his own country without achieving anything. And there he refrained from meddling with politics, although his writings show that he was a statesman. The reason was that the people had already been accustomed to measures and institutions quite different from his own. Pamphila in the twenty-fifth book of her
Memorabilia says that the Arcadians and Thebans, when they were founding Megalopolis, invited Plato to be their legislator; but that, when he discovered that they were opposed to equality of possessions, he refused to go.² There is a story that he pleaded for Chabrias the general when he was tried for his life, although no one else at Athens would do so, and that, on this occasion, as he was going up to the Acropolis along with Chabrias, Crobylus the informer met him and said, “What, are you come to speak for the defence? Don’t you know that the hemlock of Socrates awaits you?” To this Plato replied, “As I faced dangers when serving in the cause of my country, so I will face them now in the cause of duty for a friend.”

He was the first to introduce argument by means of question and answer, says Favorinus in the eighth book of his Miscellaneous History; he was the first to explain to Leodamas of Thasos the method of solving problems by analysis; and the first who in philosophical discussion employed the terms antipodes, element, dialectic, quality, oblong number, and, among boundaries, the plane superficies; also divine providence.

He was also the first philosopher who controverted the speech of Lysias, the son of Cephalus, which he has set out word for word in the Phaedrus, and the first to study the significance of grammar. And, as he was the first to attack the views of almost all his predecessors, the question is raised why he makes no mention of Democritus. Neanthes of Cyzicus says that, on his going to Olympia, the eyes of all

1. τοιχάμα codd. 1. corr. Menagius.

² Compare Aelian, Var. Hist. ii. 42.

³ The same statement that Plato made over to Leodamas the analytical method occurs in Proclus, On Eucl. i. p. 211, 298
the Greeks were turned towards him, and there he met Dion, who was about to make his expedition against Dionysius. In the first book of the Memo-
rabilia of Favorinus there is a statement that
Mithradates the Persian set up a statue of Plato in
the Academy and inscribed upon it these words:
"Mithradates the Persian, the son of Orontobates,
dedicated to the Muses a likeness of Plato made by
Silanion."

Heraclides declares that in his youth he was so
modest and orderly that he was never seen to laugh
cutright. In spite of this he too was ridiculed by the
Comic poets. At any rate Theopompos in his
Hedychares says:

There is not anything that is truly one, even the number
two is scarcely one, according to Plato.

Moreover, Anaxandrides in his Theseus says:

He was eating olives exactly like Plato.

Then there is Timon who puns on his name thus:

As Plato placed strange platitudes.

Alexis again in the Merops:

You have come in the nick of time. For I am at my
wits' end and walking up and down, like Plato, and yet
have discovered no wise plan but only tired my legs.

And in the Ancylion:

You don't know what you are talking about: run about
with Plato, and you'll know all about soap and onions.

Amphis, too, in the Amphicratides:

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{a}} Meineke, C.G.F. ii. 796.
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{b}} Comic poet; ib. iii. 170.
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{c}} Ib. vi. 95.
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{d}} Ib. iii. 451.
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{e}} Ib. iii. 382.
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{f}} A poet of the Middle Comedy; Meineke, loc. cit. iii. 303,
III. 27-29. PLATO

A. And as for the good, whatever that be, that you are likely to get on her account, I know no more about it, master, than I do of the good of Plato.
B. Just attend.

And in the *Deixidemides*:

O Plato, all you know is how to frown with eyebrows lifted high like any snail.

Cratinus, too, in *The False Changeling*:

A. Clearly you are a man and have a soul.
B. In Plato's words, I am not sure but suspect that I have.

And Alexis in the *Olympiodorus*:

A. My mortal body withered up, my immortal part sped into the air.
B. Is not this a lecture of Plato's?

And in the *Parasite*:

Or, with Plato, to converse alone.

Anaxilas, again, in the *Botrylon*, and in *Circe* and *Rich Women*, has a gibe at him.

Aristippus in his fourth book *On the Luxury of the Ancients* says that he was attached to a youth named Aster, who joined him in the study of astronomy, as also to Dion who has been mentioned above, and, as some aver, to Phaedrus too. His passionate affection is revealed in the following epigrams which he is said to have written upon them:

Star-gazing Aster, would I were the skies,
To gaze upon thee with a thousand eyes.

---

* Meineke, *C.G.F.* iii. 305.
* So. Cratinus Junior, of the Middle Comedy; Meineke, *C.G.F.* iii. 378.
* Meineke, *C.G.F.* iii. 455.
* Ib. iii. 468.
* Of the Middle Comedy; Meineke, iii. 342-352.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

καὶ ἄλλος:

ἀστὴρ πρὶν μὲν ἔλαμπεσ ἐνὶ ζωτὰς Ἕβος,

νῦν δὲ θανὸν λάμπεις Ἐσπερός ἐν φθιμένους.

30 εἰς δὲ τὸν Δίωνα ἄδει:

δάκρυα μὲν Ἐκάβη τε καὶ Ἰλιάδεσσος γυναῖκι

Μοτραί ἐπέκλωσαν δὴ τότε γευσμέναις,

σοι δὲ, Δίων, μέξαντι καλῶν ἐπικίνδυνων ἔργων

δαίμονις εὔροις ἐλπίδας ἐξέχειν.

κείσαι δὲ εὐρυχόρῳ ἐν πατρίῳ τίμων ἄστοις,

ὡ ἐμὸν ἐκμίμηνας θυμὸν ἐρωτὶ Δίων.

31 τοῦτο καὶ ἐπιγεγράφατο φησίν ἐν Συρακούσαις ἐπὶ
tῷ τάφῳ.

'Ἀλλὰ καὶ Ἀλέξιδος, φασίν, ἐρασθεὶς καὶ

Φαιδρόν, καθὰ προείρηται, τοῦτον ἐποίησε τὸν

τρόπον:

νῦν, ὅτε μηδὲν 'Αλέξιος ὁσόν μόνον εἶδ' ὅτι καλὸς,

ἀπειταὶ καὶ πάντη πᾶσι τῆς ἐπιστρέφεται.

θυμεῖ, τὶ μηνείς καίων ὀστέον; εἰπ' ἀνήσθι' ὅστερον;

οὐχ οὖν Φαιδρὸν ἀπολέσαμεν;

ἐξειν τε 'Ἀρχεάνασσαν, εἰς ἢν καὶ αὐτὴν οὔτω

ποιήσας:

'Ἀρχεάνασσαν ἔχω τὴν ἐκ Κολοφῶνος ἑταίραν,

ἢ καὶ ἐπὶ ῥυτίδων ἔξετο δριμοὶ ἐρω.

ἀ δείλιον νεόσθησον ἀπαντήσαντες ἐκεῖνης

πρωτοπλοῦς, δὲ' ὅστις ἦλθετε πυρκαίης.

32 ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰς Ἀγάθωνα:

τὴν ψυχὴν Ἀγάθωνα φιλῶν ἐπὶ χείλεσιν εἰχὼν.

ἔλθε γὰρ ἡ πλήθων ὡς διαβησμένη.

And another:

Among the living once the Morning Star,

Thou shin'st, now dead, like Hesper from afar.

And he wrote thus upon Dion a:

Tears from their birth the lot had been

Of Ilium's daughters and their queen.

By thee, O Dion, great deeds done

New hopes and larger promise won.

Now here thou liest gloriously,

How deeply loved, how mourned by me.

This, they say, was actually inscribed upon his tomb

at Syracuse.

Again, it is said that being enamoured of Alexis

and Phaedrus, as before mentioned, he composed

the following lines b:

Now, when Alexis is of no account, I have said no more

than this. He is fair to see, and everywhere all eyes are

turned upon him. Why, my heart, do you show the dogs

a bone? And then will you smart for this hereafter? Was

it not thus that we lost Phaedrus?

He is also credited with a mistress, Archeanassa, upon

whom he wrote as follows c:

I have a mistress, fair Archeanassa of Colophon, on whose

very wrinkles sits hot love. O hapless ye who met such

beauty on its first voyage, what a flame must have been

kindled in you!

There is another upon Agathon d:

While kissing Agathon, my soul leapt to my lips, as if

fain, alas! to pass over to him.


And another a:

I throw an apple to you and, if indeed you are willing to love me, then receive it and let me taste your virgin charms. But if you are otherwise minded, which heaven forbid, take this very apple and see how short-lived all beauty is.

And another b:

An apple am I, thrown by one who loves you. Nay, Xanthippe, give consent, for you and I are both born to decay.

It is also said that the epigram on the Eretrians, who were swept out of the country, was written by him c:

We are Eretrians by race, from Euboea, and lie near Susa. How far, alas, from our native land!

And again d:

Thus Venus to the Muses spoke:

Damsels, submit to Venus' yoke,
Or dread my Cupid's arms.

Those threats, the virgins nine replied,
May weigh with Mars, but we deride
Love's wrongs, or darts, or charms.

And again e:

A certain person found some gold,
Carried it off and, in its stead,
Left a strong halter, neatly rolled.
The owner found his treasure fled,
And, daunted by his fortune's wreck,
Fitted the halter to his neck.

Further, Molon, being his enemy, said, "It is not wonderful that Dionysius should be in Corinth, but rather that Plato should be in Sicily." And it seems that Xenophon was not on good terms with him. At any rate, they have written similar narratives as if out of rivalry with each other, a Symposium, a

Defence of Socrates, and their moral treatises or Memorabilia. a Next, the one wrote a Republic, the other a Cyropaedia. And in the Lamps b Plato declares the story of the education of Cyrus to be a fiction, for that Cyrus did not answer to the description of him. And although both make mention of Socrates, neither of them refers to the other, except that Xenophon mentions Plato in the third book of his Memorabilia. It is said also that Antisthenes, being about to read publicly something that he had composed, invited Plato to be present. And on his inquiring what he was about to read, Antisthenes replied that it was something about the impossibility of contradiction. “How then,” said Plato, “can you write on this subject?” thus showing him that the argument refutes itself. Thereupon he wrote a dialogue against Plato and entitled it Sathon. After this they continued to be estranged from one another. They say that, on hearing Plato read the Lysis, Socrates exclaimed, “By Heracles, what a number of lies this young man is telling about me!” For he has included in the dialogue much that Socrates never said.

Plato was also on bad terms with Aristippus. At least in the dialogue Of the Soul c he disparages him by saying that he was not present at the death of Socrates, though he was no farther off than Aegina. Again, they say that he showed a certain jealousy of Aesches, because of his reputation with Dionysius, and that, when he arrived at the court, he was despised by Plato because of his poverty, but supported by Aristippus. And Idomeneus asserts that the arguments used by Crito, when in the prison he urges Socrates to escape, are really due to Aesches,
and that Plato transferred them to Crito because of his enmity to Aesclines.

Nowhere in his writings does Plato mention himself by name, except in the dialogue On the Soul and the Apology. Aristotle remarks that the style of the dialogues is half-way between poetry and prose. And according to Favorinus, when Plato read the dialogue On the Soul, Aristotle alone stayed to the end; the rest of the audience got up and went away. Some say that Philippus of Opus copied out the Lamps, which were left upon waxen tablets, and it is said that he was the author of the Epinomis. Euphorion and Panaetius relate that the beginning of the Republic was found several times revised and rewritten, and the Republic itself Aristoxenus declares to have been nearly all of it included in the Controversies of Protagoras. There is a story that the Phaedrus was his first dialogue. For the subject has about it something of the freshness of youth. Dicaearchus, however, censures its whole style as vulgar.

A story is told that Plato once saw some one playing at dice and rebuked him. And, upon his protesting that he played for a trifle only, "But the habit," rejoined Plato, "is not a trifle." Being asked whether there would be any memoirs of him as of his predecessors, he replied, "A man must first make a name, and he will have no lack of memoirs." One day, when Xenocrates had come in, Plato asked him to chastise his slave, since he was unable to do it himself because he was in a passion. Further, it is alleged that he said to one of his slaves, "I would have given you a flogging, had I not been in a passion." Being mounted on horseback, he quickly
got down again, declaring that he was afraid he would be infected with horse-pride. He advised those who got drunk to view themselves in a mirror; for they would then abandon the habit which so disfigured them. To drink to excess was nowhere becoming, he used to say, save at the feasts of the god who was the giver of wine. He also disapproved of over-sleeping. At any rate in the Laws⁴ he declares that "no one when asleep is good for anything." He also said that the truth is the pleasantest of sounds. Another version of this saying is that the pleasantest of all things is to speak the truth. Again, of truth he speaks thus in the Laws⁵: "Truth, O stranger, is a fair and durable thing. But it is a thing of which it is hard to persuade men." His wish always was to leave a memorial of himself behind, either in the hearts of his friends or in his books. He was himself fond of seclusion according to some authorities.

His death, the circumstances of which have already been related, took place in the thirteenth year of the reign of King Philip, as stated by Favorinus in the third book of his Memorabilia, and according to Theopompus⁶ honours were paid to him at his death by Philip.⁷ But Myronianus in his Parallels says that Philo mentions some proverbs that were in circulation about Plato's lice, implying that this was the mode of his death. He was buried in the Academy, where he spent the greatest part of his life in philosophical study. And hence the school which he founded was called the Academic school. And all the students there joined in the funeral procession. The terms of his will were as follows:

"These things have been left and devised by
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

"Ιφιστιαδῶν χωρίον, οὗ γείτων βορράθεν ἦ ὅδος ἐκ τοῦ Κηφισίαν ἱερὸν, νοτέθεν τὸ Ἰμάκλειον τὸ ἐν ᾽Ιφιστιαδῶν, πρὸς ἦλιον δέ αὖντος Ἀρχέ-στρατος Φρεάριος, πρὸς ἦλιον δὲ δυομένων Φιλίππος Χαλκείδης· καὶ μή ἐξότω τούτω μὴ δεῖν μήτε ἀποδόθαι μήτε ἀλλαζθαι, ἀλλ’ ἐστιν ᾿Αδει-μαντοῦ τοῦ παιδίου εἰς τὸ δικαίων· καὶ τὸ ἐν ᾽Εἰρεσίων χωρίον, ὁ παρὰ Καλλιμάχου ἐπηράμην, οὗ γείτων βορράθεν Εὐρυμέδων Μυρρυνώσιος, νοτέθεν δὲ Δημόστρατος Συνταιτῶν, πρὸς ἦλιον αὖντος Εὐρυμέδων Μυρρυνώσιος, πρὸς ἦλιον δυομένου Κηφισίας. ἀργυρίου μάς τρεῖς. φιάλην ἀργυρῶν ἑλκούσαν ρέε, κυμβιῶν ἄγον με’, δακτύλων χρυσῶν καὶ ἐνώτιον χρυσὸν ἄγοντα συνάψαι δ’ δραχμά, ὀβολοὺς γ’. ᾿Ευκλείδης ὁ λιβατόμος ὀφείλει μοι τρεῖς μᾶς. Ῥεταμαν ἁφήμιν ἐλευθεράν. οἰκέτας καταλείπων Τύχωνα Βίκτων Ἀπολλωνιάν

καὶ διέθετο μὲν οὕτως. ἐπεγράφη δ’ αὐτοῦ τῷ τάφῳ ἐπιγράμματα τάδε πρῶτον;

σωφρονύνη προφέρων θυγτῶν ἦθει τε δικαίων ἐνθάδε δὴ κεῖται θεῖος ᾿Αριστοκλῆς·
ei δὲ τις ἐκ πάντων σοφίας μέγαν ἔχειν ἐπανω τούτων ἔχει πλείοτον καὶ φύσιν ποιός ἐπέταται.

44 ἐτερον δὲ·

gαῖα μὲν ἐν κόλπῳ κρύπτει τόδε σάμα Πλάτωνος, ψυχή δ’ ἀβάνατον τάξιν ἔχει μακάρων

Plato: the estate in Iphiistiae, bounded on the north by the road from the temple at Cephasia, on the south by the temple of Heracles in Iphiistiae, on the east by the property of Archestratus of Phrearrhi, on the west by that of Philippus of Chollidae: this it shall be unlawful for anyone to sell or alienate, but it shall be the property of the boy Adeimantus to all intents and purposes: the estate in Eiresidae which I bought of Callimachus, bounded on the north by the property of Eurymedon of Myrrhinus, on the south by the property of Demostratus of Xypete, on the east by that of Eurymedon of Myrrhinus, and on the west by the Cephisus; three minae of silver; a silver vessel weighing 165 drachmas; a cup weighing 45 drachmas; a gold signet-ring and earring together weighing four drachmas and three obols. Euclides the lapidary owes me three minae. I enfranchise Artemis. I leave four household servants, Tychon, Bictas, Apollonides and Dionysius. Household furniture, as set down in the inventory of which Demetrius has the duplicate. I owe no one anything. My executors are Leosthenes, Speusippus, Demetrius, Hegias, Eurymedon, Callimachus and Thrasippus."

Such were the terms of his will. The following epitaphs were inscribed upon his tomb:

Here lies the god-like man Aristocles, eminent among men for temperance and the justice of his character. And he, if ever anyone, had the fullest meed of praise for wisdom, and was too great for envy.

Next:

Earth in her bosom here hides Plato's body, but his soul hath its immortal station with the deist, Ariston's son,

a Anth. Pal. vii. 60. b Anth. Pal. vii. 61.
whom every good man, even if he dwell afar off, honours because he discerned the divine life.

And a third of later date:

a. Eagle, why fly you o'er this tomb? Say, is your gaze fixed upon the starry house of one of the immortals?

b. I am the image of the soul of Plato, which has soared to Olympus, while his earth-born body rests in Attic soil.

There is also an epitaph of my own which runs thus:

If Phoebus did not cause Plato to be born in Greece, how came it that he healed the minds of men by letters? As the god's son Asclepius is a healer of the body, so is Plato of the immortal soul.

And another on the manner of his death:

Phoebus gave to mortals Asclepius and Plato, the one to save their souls, the other to save their bodies. From a wedding banquet he has passed to that city which he had founded for himself and planted in the sky.

Such then are his epitaphs.

His disciples were Speusippus of Athens, Xenocrates of Chalcedon, Aristocles of Stagira, Philippus of Opus, Hestiaeus of Perinthus, Dion of Syracuse, Amyclus of Heraclea, Erastus an Coriscus of Scipio, Timolus of Cyzicus, Euaeon of Lampsacus, Python and Heraclides of Aenus, Hippothales and Callippus of Athens, Demetrius of Amphipolis, Heraclides of Pontus, and many others, among them two women, Lasthenia of Mantinea and Axiotea of Phlius, who is reported by Dicaearchus to have worn men's clothes. Some say that Theophrastus too attended his lectures. Chamaeleon adds Hyper-


ides the orator and Lycurgus, and in this Polemos agrees. Sabinus makes Demosthenes his pupil, quoting, in the fourth book of his Materials for Criticism, Mnæstratus of Thasos as his authority. And it is not improbable. a

Now, as you are an enthusiastic Platonist, and rightly so, and as you eagerly seek out that philosopher's doctrines in preference to all others, I have thought it necessary to give some account of the true nature of his discourses, the arrangement of the dialogues, and the method of his inductive procedure, as far as possible in an elementary manner and in main outline, in order that the facts I have collected respecting his life may not suffer by the omission of his doctrines. For, in the words of the proverb, it would be owls to Athens, were I to give you of all the particulars.

They say that Zeno the Eleatic was the first to write dialogues. But, according to Favorinus in his Memorabilia, Aristotle in the first book of his dialogue On Poets asserts that it was Alexamenus of Styra or Teos. In my opinion Plato, who brought this form of writing to perfection, ought to be adjudged the prize for its invention as well as for its embellishment. A dialogue is a discourse consisting of question and answer on some philosophical or political subject, with due regard to the characters of the persons introduced and the choice of diction. Dialectic is the art of discourse by which we either refute or establish some proposition by means of question and answer on the part of the interlocutors.

The reader will note the careful style of the preface with its avoidance of hiatus. In x. 29 is a similar personal appeal to the reader. (See Introd. p. xx.)
III. 49–51. PLATO

Of the Platonic dialogues there are two most general types, the one adapted for instruction and the other for inquiry. And the former is further divided into two types, the theoretical and the practical. And of these the theoretical is divided into the physical and logical, and the practical into the ethical and political. The dialogue of inquiry also has two main divisions, the one of which aims at training the mind and the other at victory in controversy. Again, the part which aims at training the mind has two subdivisions, the one akin to the midwife's art, the other merely tentative. And that suited to controversy is also subdivided into one part which raises critical objections, and another which is subversive of the main position.

I am not unaware that there are other ways in which certain writers classify the dialogues. For some dialogues they call dramatic, others narrative, and others again a mixture of the two. But the terms they employ in their classification of the dialogues are better suited to the stage than to philosophy. Physics is represented by the Timaeus, logic by the Statesman, Cratylus, Parmenides and Sophist, ethics by the Apology, Crito, Phaedo, Phaedrus and Symposium, as well as by the Menexenus, Chloepon, the Epistles, Philebus, Hipparchus and the Rivals, and lastly politics by the Republic, the Laws, Minos, Epinomis, and the dialogue concerning Atlantis. To the class of mental obstetrics belong the two Alcibiades, Theages, Lysis and Laches, while the Euthyphro, Meno, Io, Charmides and Theaetetus illustrate the tentative method. In the Protagoras is seen the method of critical objections; in the

\* i.e. Critias.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

Euhydrymos Gorýias Ἱππίαν δύο. καὶ περὶ μὲν διαλόγου τί ποτὲ ἐστὶ καὶ τίνες αὐτοῦ διαφορά, ἀπὸ τοῦ ἱερὸν λέγειν.

Ἐς ἐς δὲ πολλὴς στάσις ἐστὶ καὶ οἱ μὲν φανὲρ αὐτῶν δογματίζειν, οἱ δὲ οὐ, φέρε καὶ περὶ τούτου διαλέγομαι. αὐτὸ τοῖνος τὸ δογματέως ἐστὶ δόγματα τιθέναι ὡς τὸ νομοθετεῖν νόμους τιθέναι. δόγματα δὲ ἐκατέρως καλεῖται, τὸ τε δοξαζόμενον καὶ ἡ δόξα αὐτῆ.

Τοὺς τοῖς δὲ τοὺς μὲν δοξαζόμενον πρώτας ἔστιν, ἡ δὲ δόξα ὑπολέγεισι. οἱ τοίνυν Πλάτων περὶ μὲν ἐνιαίον κατείλθησαν ἀποφαίνεται, τὰ δὲ ψευδὴ διελέγεται, περὶ δὲ τῶν ἄθλημα ἐτεχθεῖ. καὶ περὶ μὲν τῶν αὐτῶ δοκοῦντων ἀποφαίνεται διὰ τετράρχα προσώπων, Ἡσυχίας, Χορδάτους, Τιμαίου, τοῦ Ἀθηναίου ἔξον, τοῦ Ἐλεάτου ἔξον. ἐστὶ δὲ οἱ ἐξον ὁμιλεῖ, ὡς τῶν ὑπέλειπον, Πλάτων καὶ Παρμενίδης, ἀλλὰ πλάσματα ἔστιν ἀνώνυμα. ἐπει δὲ καὶ τὰ Σωκράτους καὶ τὰ Τιμαίου λέγουν Πλάτων δογματίζει. περὶ δὲ τῶν ψευδῶν εὐερχομένων εἰσάγει οὖν ὃ καὶ Καλλικλέα καὶ Πόλον Γοργίαν καὶ Πρωταγόρα, ἐπὶ Ἱππίαν καὶ Ἐυθύδημον καὶ δὴ καὶ τοῖς ὁμιλοῦσι.

Ποιούμενος δὲ τὰς ἀποδείξεις πλείστων χρήσαι τῷ τῆς ἐπαγωγῆς τρόπῳ, οὐ μὴν μονοτρόπῳ, ἀλλὰ δικῆς. ἐστὶ μὲν γὰρ ἐπαγωγὴ λόγος διὰ τῶν ἀληθῶν τὸ όμοιον ἐκατοπτρίζεις οἰκείους ἐπιφέρει. δύο δὲ τῆς ἐπαγωγῆς εἰσὶν τρόποι, ἡ γὰρ ἐναντίωσι καὶ ἡ ἐκ τῆς ἀκολουθίας. ὃ μὲν οὖν κατ' ἐναντίωσι ἐστίν εἰς οὐ τῶν ἐρωτημένων περὶ πάσην παρὰ Reiske.

---

III. 61-58. PLATO

Euthydemus, Gorgias, and the two dialogues entitled Hippias that of subversive argument. So much then for dialogue, its definition and varieties.

Again, as there is great division of opinion between those who affirm and those who deny that Plato was a dogmatist, let me proceed to deal with this further question. To be a dogmatist in philosophy is to lay down positive dogmas, just as to be a legislator is to lay down laws. Further, under dogma two things are included, the thing opined and the opinion itself.

Of these the former is a proposition, the latter a conception. Now where he has a firm grasp Plato expounds his own view and refutes the false one, but, if the subject is obscure, he suspends judgement. His own views are expounded by four persons, Socrates, Timaeus, the Athenian Stranger, the Eleatic Stranger. These strangers are not, as some hold, Plato and Parmenides, but imaginary characters without names, for, even when Socrates and Timaeus are the speakers, it is Plato's doctrines that are laid down. To illustrate the refutation of false opinions, he introduces Thrasydamus, Callicles, Polus, Gorgias, Protagoras, or again Hippias, Euthydemus and the like.

In constructing his proofs he makes most use of induction, not always in the same way, but under two forms. For induction is an argument which by means of certain true premisses properly infers a truth resembling them. And there are two kinds of induction, the one proceeding by way of contradiction, the other from agreement. In the kind which proceeds by contradiction the answer given to every question will necessarily be the contrary of the

---

* In the Laws.  * In the Sophist and the Statesman.
respondent’s position, e.g. “My father is either other than or the same as your father. If then your father is other than my father, by being other than a father he will not be a father. But if he is the same as my father, then by being the same as my father he will be my father.” And again: “If man is not an animal, he will be either a stick or a stone. But he is not a stick or a stone; for he is animate and self-moved. Therefore he is an animal. But if he is an animal, and if a dog or an ox is also an animal, then man by being an animal will be a dog and an ox as well.” This is the kind of induction which proceeds by contradiction and dispute, and Plato used it, not for laying down positive doctrines but for refutation. The other kind of induction by agreement appears in two forms, the one proving the particular conclusion under discussion from a particular, the other proceeding by way of the universal [by means of particular facts]. The former is suited to rhetoric, the latter to dialectic. For instance, under the first form the question is raised, “Did so-and-so commit a murder?” The proof is that he was found at the time with stains of blood on him. This is the rhetorical form of induction, since rhetoric also is concerned with particular facts and not with universals. It does not inquire about justice in the abstract, but about particular cases of justice. The other kind, where the general proposition is first established by means of particular facts, is the induction of dialectic. For instance, the question put is whether the soul is immortal, and whether the living come back from the dead. And this is proved in the dialogue On the Soul by means of a certain general proposition, that opposites pro-
ceed from opposites. And the general proposition itself is established by means of certain propositions which are particular, as that sleep comes from waking and \textit{vice versa}, the greater from the less and \textit{vice versa}. This is the form which he used to establish his own views.

But, just as long ago in tragedy the chorus was the only actor, and afterwards, in order to give the chorus breathing space, Thespis devised a single actor, Aeschylus a second, Sophocles a third, and thus tragedy was completed, so too with philosophy: in early times it discoursed on one subject only, namely physics, then Socrates added the second subject, ethics, and Plato the third, dialectics, and so brought philosophy to perfection. Thrasylius says that he published his dialogues in tetralogies, like those of the tragic poets. Thus they contended with four plays at the Dionysia, the Lenaea, the Panathenaea and the festival of Chytrii.\footnote{Of the four plays the last was a satiric drama; and the four together were called a tetralogy.}

Now, says Thrasylius, the genuine dialogues are fifty-six in all, if the \textit{Republic} be divided into ten and the \textit{Laws} into twelve. Favorinus, however, in the second book of his \textit{Miscellaneous History} declares that nearly the whole of the \textit{Republic} is to be found in a work of Protagoras entitled \textit{Controversies}.\footnote{This gives nine tetralogies, if the \textit{Republic} takes the place of one single work and the \textit{Laws} of another. His first tetralogy has a common plan underlying it, for he wishes to describe what the life of the philosopher

\footnote{From iii. 37 we infer that Favorinus drew upon Aristoxenus for this wildly improbable assertion.}
In each of the works Thrasylos affixes a double title, the one taken from the name of the interlocutor, the other from the subject. This tetralogy, then, which is the first, begins with the Euthyphro or On Holiness, a tentative dialogue; the Apology of Socrates, an ethical dialogue, comes second; the third is Crito or On what is to be done, ethical; the fourth Phaedo or On the Soul, also ethical. The second tetralogy begins with Cratylus or On Correctness of Names, a logical dialogue, which is followed by Theaetetus or On Knowledge, tentative, the Sophist or On Being, a logical dialogue, the Statesman or On Monarchy, also logical. The third tetralogy includes, first, Parmenides or On Ideas, which is logical, next Philebus or On Pleasure, an ethical dialogue, the Banquet or On the Good, ethical, Phaedrus or On Love, also ethical.

The fourth tetralogy starts with Alcibiades or On the Nature of Man, an obstetric dialogue; this is followed by the second Alcibiades or On Prayer, also obstetric; then comes Hipparchus or The Lover of Gain, which is ethical, and The Rivals or On Philosophy, also ethical. The fifth tetralogy includes, first, Theages or On Rhetoric, an obstetric dialogue, then Charmides or On Temperance, which is tentative, Laches or On Courage, obstetric, and Lysis or On Friendship, also obstetric. The sixth tetralogy starts with Euthydemus or The Eristic, a refutative dialogue, which is followed by Protagoras or Sophists, critical, Gorgias or On Rhetoric, refutative, and Meno or On Virtue, which is tentative. The seventh tetralogy contains, first, two dialogues entitled Hippias, the former On Beauty, the latter On Falsehood, both refutative; next Ion or On the Iliad, which is tentative,
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

Μενέξενος ἦ ἐπιτάφιος, ἢθικός. τῆς ὀψός ήγείται Κλεινοφόρων ἦ προτεττικός, ἢθικός. Πολιτεία ἦ περὶ δικαίου, πολιτικός. Τίμαιος ἦ περὶ φύσεως, φυσικός. Κριτίας ἦ 'Ατλαντικός, ἢθικός. τῆς ἐνάτης ήγείται Μίνως ἦ περὶ νόμου, πολιτικός. Νόμωι ἦ περὶ νομοθεσίας, πολιτικός. 'Επιστολαὶ τρεις καὶ εἰς τὰς ἐγγειαφιές ἐκ πράγματος, Ἐπικούρος δὲ εἰς διάγεια, Κλεών χαίρει—πρὸς 'Αριστοτήν μία, πρὸς 'Αρχύταν δύο, πρὸς Διομήνιον τέταρτη, πρὸς 'Ερμίαν καὶ 'Εραστον καὶ Κορίσκον μία, πρὸς Δευτέραν μία, πρὸς Περίδικαν μία, πρὸς τὸν Δίωνον οἰκείον δύο, καὶ οὕτως μὲν οὕτω διαφέρει καὶ τῶν.

'Ενιός δὲ, ὅσι καὶ 'Αριστοτένης ὁ γραμματικός, εἰς τριλογίας ἔδιδον τοὺς διάλογους, καὶ πρὸς τὸν μὲν τὴν Σοφίαν ἦς ἠγείται Πολιτεία Τίμαιος Κριτίας: δευτέραν Σοφίαν τοῖς Πολιτικοῖς Κρατυλός τρίτην Νόμωι Μίνως 'Επιστολαί: τετάρτην Θεοτυχίας Εὐθύφρων Ἀπολογία: πέμπτην Κρίτων Φαίδων Ἐπιστολαί: τὰ δὲ ἄλλα καθ' ἐν καὶ ἀτάκτως. ἄρχονται δὲ οἱ μὲν, ὡς προειρήται, ἀπὸ τῆς Πολιτείας: οἱ δ' ἀπὸ 'Αλκιβιάδου τοῦ μείζονος: οἱ δ' ἀπὸ Θεαῦον: ἔνιοι δὲ Εὐθύφρωνος: ἄλλοι Κλεινοφόρως: τέσσερες Τίμαιος: οἱ δ' ἀπὸ Φαίδρου ἐτέρου Θεοτυχίας: πόλοι δὲ ἀπὸ τῶν ἀρχέων ποιοῦνται: νοθεύονται δὲ τῶν διαλόγων ὁμολογομένως Μίδων ἢ Ἀποστρόφως, Ἐρυθίας ἦ

and Menexenus or The Funeral Oration, which is ethical. The eighth tetralogy starts with Citophon or Introduction, which is ethical, and is followed by the Republic or On Justice, political, Timaeus or On Nature, a physical treatise, and Critias or Story of Atlantis, which is ethical. The ninth tetralogy starts with Minos or On Law, a political dialogue, which is followed by the Laws or On Legislation, also political, Epinomis or Nocturnal Council, or Philosopher, political, and lastly the Epistles, thirteen in number, which are ethical. In these epistles his heading was “Welfare,” as that of Epicurus was “A Good Life,” and that of Clean “All Joy.” They comprise: one to Aristodemus, two to Archytas, four to Dionysius, one to Hermias, Erastus and Coriscus, one each to Leodamas, Dion and Perdiccas, and two to Dion’s friends. This is the division adopted by Thrasylus and some others.

Some, including Aristophanes the grammarian, arrange the dialogues arbitrarily in trilogies. In the first trilogy they place the Republic, Timaeus and Critias; in the second the Sophist, the Statesman and Cratylus; in the third the Laws, Minos and Epinomis; in the fourth Theaetetus, Euthyphro and the Apology; in the fifth Crito, Phaedo and the Epistles. The rest follow as separate compositions in no regular order. Some critics, as has already been stated, put the Republic first, while others start with the greater Alcibiades, and others again with the Theages; some begin with the Euthyphro, others with the Citophon; some with the Timaeus, others with the Phaedrus; others again with the Theaetetus, while many begin with the Apology. The following dialogues are acknowledged to be spurious: the Midon or Horse-
breeder, the Eryxias or Erasistratus, the Alcyon, the Acephali or Sisyphus, the Axioschus, the Phaenacian, the Demodocus, the Chelidon, the Seventh Day, the Epimenides. Of these the Alcyon is thought to be the work of a certain Leon, according to Favorinus in the fifth book of his Memorabilia.

Plato has employed a variety of terms in order to make his system less intelligible to the ignorant. But in a special sense he considers wisdom to be the science of those things which are objects of thought and really existent, the science which, he says, is concerned with God and the soul as separate from the body. And especially by wisdom he means philosophy, which is a yearning for divine wisdom. And in a general sense all experience is also termed by him wisdom, e.g. when he calls a craftsman wise. And he applies the same terms with very different meanings. For instance, the word φαύλος (slight, plain) is employed by him in the sense of ἀπλός (simple, honest), just as it is applied to Heracles in the Lycymnus of Euripides in the following passage:

Plain (φαύλος), unaccomplished, staunch to do great deeds, unversed in talk, with all his store of wisdom curtailed to action.

But sometimes Plato uses this same word (φαύλος) to mean what is bad, and at other times for what is small or petty. Again, he often uses different terms to express the same thing. For instance, he calls the Idea form (εἴδος), genus (γένος), archetype (παράδειγμα), principle (ἀρχή) and cause (αἰτία). He also uses contrary expressions for the same thing. Thus he calls the sensible thing both existent and non-

---

a Cf. Athenaeus xi. 506 c. The same statement about the authorship of the Alcyon is attributed to Nicias of Nicaea.

b As e.g. Theod., 147 c οὐδὲν ἐν τῇ τοῦ πηλοῦ ἐρωτηθέντες φαύλοι ποιήσαν ἐπὶ τοῖς ἠτόθητοι καὶ ὄν καὶ μὴ ὄν δὲν μέν.
DIogenes Laertius

διὰ τὸ γένευα αὐτοῦ εἶναι, μὴ ὅπνε 

"Εστὶ δὲ ἡ ἐξήγησις αὐτοῦ τῶν λόγων τριπλῆ 

πρῶτον μὲν γὰρ έκδιδάξαι χρῆ ὅ τι ἐστὶν ἔκαστον 

τῶν λεγομένων. ἔπειτα, τίνος εἶνεκά λέξεις, 

πότερα κατὰ προηγομένου ἠ ἐν εἰκόνος μέρει, καὶ 

<εἰ> εἰς δογμάτων κατακεκυρωμένη ἡ έλεγχον τοῦ 

προσδιορισμοῦ τὸ δέ τρίτον, εἰ ὀρθῶς λέξεις. 

"Επει δὲ καὶ σημεία των τόσο βιβλίων αὐτοῦ 

παρατίθενται, φέρει καὶ περὶ τούτων τι εἶπομεν. 

Χί λαμβάνεται πρὸς τὰς λέξεις καὶ τὰ σχήματα 

καὶ διὸς τὴν Πλατωνικὴν συνθέσειν διπλή πρὸς 

τὰ δόγματα καὶ τὰ ἀρέσκοντα Πλάτωνι. Χί 

περιεστύγημα πρὸς τὸν ἔκλογα καὶ καλλι 

γραφίας: διπλὴ περιεστύγης πρὸς τὰς εἰ 

καίους ἄνεσις: ἀντίσωμα περιεστύγημα πρὸς 

τὰς διπλὰς κρήσεις καὶ μεταθέσεις τῶν γραφών: 

καπνίσκος πρὸς τὴν ἁγωνία τῆς ἠλημοσίας: ἀστ 

έρισκας πρὸς τὴν συμφωνία τῶν δογμάτων: ὀξεῖ 

πρὸς τὴν ἀνθέσιον. τὰ μὲν σημεία ταῦτα καὶ τὰ 

βιβλία τοσάτα ἄντικα μὲν Ἀντιγόνος φησὶν Ἦρ κα 

νιστὸς ἐν τῷ Περὶ Ζήνωνος νεωτικοῖ ἐκδοθέντα εἰ τι 

ἡθελε διαγγελθῶν, μοναχὸν ἐκεῖ τοῖς κεκτημένοις. 

Τὰ δὲ ἀρέσκοντα αὐτῷ ταῦτα ἦν, ἀθάνατον

---

III. 64-67. Plato

existential, existent inasmuch as it comes into being, 
non-existent because it is continually changing. And 
he says the Idea is neither in motion nor at rest; 
that it is uniformly the same and yet both one and 
many. And it is his habit to do this in many more 
instances.

The right interpretation of his dialogues includes 
three things: first, the meaning of every statement 
must be explained; next, its purpose, whether it is 
made for a primary reason or by way of illustration, 
and whether to establish his own doctrines or to 
refute his interlocutor; in the third place it remains 
to examine its truth.

And since certain critical marks are affixed to his 
works let us now say a word about these. The cross 
X is taken to indicate peculiar expressions and 
figures of speech, and generally any idiom of Platonic 
usage; the <ellipse> (>) calls attention to doctrines 
and opinions characteristic of Plato; the dotted cross 
(◆) denotes select passages and beauties of style; 
the dotted diple (+) editors' corrections of the text; 
the dotted obelus (+) passages suspected without 
reason; the dotted antisigma (↺) repetitions and 
proposals for transpositions; the cerasium the 
philosophical school; the asterisk (*) an agreement 
of doctrine; the obelus (-) a spurious passage. So 
much for the critical marks and his writings in 
general. As Antigonus of Carystus says in his Life 
of Zeno, when the writings were first edited with 
critical marks, their possessors charged a certain fee 
to anyone who wished to consult them.

The doctrines he approved are these. He held 
absolutely no trace of Neo-Platonist tendencies. Cf. Plato, 
Tim. 42 ε-43 α, 69 α.
that the soul is immortal, that by transmigration it puts on many bodies, and that it has a numerical first principle, whereas the first principle of the body is geometrical; and he defined soul as the idea of vital breath diffused in all directions. He held that it is self-moved and tripartite, the rational part of it having its seat in the head, the passionate part about the heart, while the appetitive is placed in the region of the navel and the liver.

And from the centre outwards it encloses the body on all sides in a circle, and is compounded of elements, and, being divided at harmonic intervals, it forms two circles which touch one another twice; and the interior circle, being slit six times over, makes seven circles in all. And this interior circle moves by way of the diagonal to the left, and the other by way of the side to the right. Hence also the one is supreme, being a single circle, for the other interior circle was divided; the former is the circle of the Same, the latter that of the Other, whereby he means that the motion of the soul is the motion of the universe together with the revolutions of the planets.

And the division from the centre to the circumference which is adjusted in harmony with the soul being thus determined, the soul knows that which is, and adjusts it proportionately because she has the elements proportionately disposed in herself. And when the circle of the Other revolves aright, the result is opinion; but from the regular motion of the circle of the Same comes knowledge. He set forth two universal principles, God and matter, and he calls God mind and cause; he held that matter is devoid of form and unlimited, and that composite things arise out of it; and that it was once in
disorderly motion but, inasmuch as God preferred order to disorder, was by him brought together in one place.\footnote{Cf. Plato, \textit{Tim.} 30 A, 69 B.} This substance, he says, is converted into the four elements, fire, water, air, earth, of which the world itself and all that therein is are formed. Earth alone of these elements is not subject to change, the assumed cause being the peculiarity of its constituent triangles. For he thinks that in all the other elements the figures employed are homogeneous, the scalene triangle out of which they are all put together being one and the same, whereas for earth a triangle of peculiar shape is employed; the element of fire is a pyramid, of air an octahedron, of water an icosaedron, of earth a cube. Hence earth is not transmuted into the other three elements, nor these three into earth.

But the elements are not separated each into its own region of the universe, because the revolution unites their minute particles, compressing and forcing them together into the centre, at the same time as it separates the larger masses. Hence as they change their shapes, so also do they change the regions which they occupy.\footnote{Cf. Plato, \textit{Tim.} 58 A-C.}

And there is one created universe,\footnote{Cf. Plato, \textit{Tim.} 31 A, B; 33 A; 55 C, D; 92 A.} seeing that it is perceptible to sense, which has been made by God. And it is animate because that which is animate is better than that which is inanimate.\footnote{Cf. Plato, \textit{Tim.} 30 A, B; 55 C, D.} And this piece of workmanship is assumed to come from a cause supremely good.\footnote{Cf. Plato, \textit{Tim.} 30 A, B; 55 C, D.} It was made one and not unlimited because the pattern from which he made it was one. And it is spherical because such is the shape of its maker. For that maker contains the other living things, and this universe the shapes of
DIIOGENES LAERTIUS

II. 72-74. PLATO

them all. It is smooth and has no organ all round because it has no need of organs. Moreover, the universe remains imperishable because it is not dissolved into the Deity. And the creation as a whole is caused by God, because it is the nature of the good to be beneficent, and the creation of the universe has the highest good for its cause. For the most beautiful of created things is due to the best of intelligible causes; so that, as God is of this nature, and the universe resembles the best in its perfect beauty, it will not be in the likeness of anything created, but only of God.

The universe is composed of fire, water, air and earth; of fire in order to be visible; of earth in order to be solid; of water and air in order to be proportional. For the powers represented by solids are connected by two mean proportionals in a way to secure the whole. And the universe was made of all the elements in order to be complete and indestructible.

Time was created as an image of eternity. And while the latter remains for ever at rest, time consists in the motion of the universe. For night and day and month and the like are all parts of time; for which reason, apart from the nature of the universe, time has no existence. But so soon as the universe is fashioned time exists.

And the sun and moon and planets were created

\[\text{A perversion of Tim. 31 b. To that which is to comprehend all animals in itself that shape seems proper which comprehends in itself all shapes. Diogenes Laertius opposes, not universe and its shape, but maker and universe.}
\]

\[\text{Cf. Plato, Tim. 33 a-d; 34 b; 32 c; 63 a.}
\]

\[\text{Cf. Plato, Tim. 32 c, 33 a; 35 b; 41 a, 43 d.}
\]

\[\text{Cf. Plato, Tim. 39 e-30 a; 42 e.}
\]
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

πλανώμενα γενέσθαι. ὅπως δὲ διάδηλος τῶν ὑμῶν ἢ ἀριθμὸς καὶ μετάσχοι τὰ ζῷα ἄρθρω, τὸ τοῦ ἡλίου φῶς ἀνάβαι τὸν θεόν. εἶναι δὲ ἐν μὲν τῷ ὑπὲρ γῆς κύκλῳ σελήνην, ἐν δὲ τῷ ἐχομένῳ ἡλίῳ, ἐν δὲ τοῖς ἐπάνω τοῦ πλανήτα. ἐμφυκόν δὲ πάντως διὰ τὸ ἐμφυκόν φορά δεδεσθαι. ὁι δὲ ὁ κόσμος τελεωθῇ γενομένοις ὑμῖν τῷ νυκτὶ ἡμέρας, τὴν τῶν ἄλλων ἦλιον γενέσθαι φῶς. ἐπεὶ οὖν ἐκεῖνο εἴχε, καὶ τὸν οὐρανὸν δεῖν ἐκεῖν. θεοῦ μὲν οὖν ἐκεῖν τὸ πολὺ πυρῶν: εἶναι δὲ τρία γένη τάλλα, πτηνόν, ένυδρον, πεζον. γῆν δὲ προσβυτάτη περί μὲν εἶναι τῶν ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ θεῶν γενέσθαι δὲ οὐ δημούργημα νῦντα καὶ ἡμέραν ποιεῖν οὖν δὲ ἐπὶ τοῦ παροῦν κυνεσθαι περί τοῦ μέσου. ἐπεὶ δὲ αὐτίαν εἰς δύο, τὰ μὲν διὰ νοῦ εἶναι, τὰ δὲ εἴς ἀναγκαίας αἰτίας, φησί, λεκτέων. ταῦτα δὲ ἐστὶν ἀγρ. πόρ., γῆ, ὀδόρ — καὶ οὐκ ἄντων μὲν στοιχεῖα κατὰ ἀκρίβειαν, ἄλλα δεκτικὰ. ταῦτα δὲ ἐκ τῶν τριγώνων εἶναι συνιδεμένων καὶ διαλύσασθαι εἰς ταῦτα: στοιχεῖα δὲ αὐτῶν εἶναι τὸ τε πρῶτας τριγώνων καὶ τὸ ἱσοσκελές.

76 Ἀρχὸς δὲ οὖν εἶναι καὶ αὐτία τὰ λεγόμενα δύο ἢ μὲν παραδείγμα τῶν θεῶν καὶ τῆς ἡλίου. ὅπερ ἀνάγκη ἀμφοῦ εἶναι πιστεύει καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων δεκτικῶν. αὐτίον δὲ τούτων εἰς ἀναγκής εἶναι. δεξομένου γάρ τῷ τὸς ἱδέας γενναί τὸ σώμα, καὶ δὲ ἀναμοίρασε δυνάμεως κυνεσθαι καὶ κυνεσθαι as means to the creation of time. And God kindled the light of the sun in order that the number of the seasons might be definite and in order that animals might possess number. The moon is in the circle immediately above the earth, and the sun in that which is next beyond that, and in the circles above come the planets. Further, the universe is an animate being, for it is bound fast in animate movement. And in order that the universe which had been created in the likeness of the intelligible living creature might be rendered complete, the nature of all other animals was created. Since then its pattern possesses them, the universe also ought to exist with them. And thus it contains gods for the most part of a fiery nature; of the rest there are three kinds, winged, aquatic and terrestrial. And of all the gods in heaven the earth is the oldest. And it was fashioned to make night and day. And being at the centre it moves round the centre. And since there are two causes, it must be affirmed, he says, that some things are due to reason and others have a necessary cause, the latter being air, fire, earth and water, which are not exactly elements but rather recipients of form. They are composed of triangles, and are resolved into triangles. The scalene triangle and the isosceles triangle are their constituent elements.

The principles, then, and causes assumed are the two above mentioned, of which God and matter are the exemplar. Matter is of necessity formless like the other recipients of form. Of all these there is a necessary cause. For it somehow or other receives the ideas and so generates substances, and it moves because its power is not uniform, and, being in

---

* Cf. Plato, Tim. 38 c–39 d.
* Cf. Plato, Tim. 30 c–31 b; 39 c–40 A; 41 b, c.
* Cf. Plato, Tim. 40 b, c.
* Cf. Plato, Tim. 46 d, e; 47 b; 48 A; 68 e; 69 A.
* Cf. Plato, Tim. 49 A sqq.; 50 b–51 b; 52 A, b.
* Cf. Plato, Tim. 53 c–55 c.
motion, it in turn sets in motion those things which are generated from it. And these were at first in irrational and irregular motion, but after they began to frame the universe, under the conditions possible they were made by God symmetrical and regular. For the two causes existed even before the world was made, as well as becoming in the third place, but they were not distinct, merely traces of them being found, and in disorder. When the world was made, they too acquired order. And out of all the bodies there are the universe was fashioned. He holds God, like the soul, to be incorporeal. For only thus is he exempt from change and decay. As already stated, he assumes the Ideas to be causes and principles whereby the world of natural objects is what it is.

On good and evil he would discourse to this effect. He maintained that the end to aim at is assimilation to God, that virtue is in itself sufficient for happiness, but that it needs in addition, as instruments for use, first, bodily advantages like health and strength, sound senses and the like, and, secondly, external advantages such as wealth, good birth and reputation. But the wise man will be no less happy even if he be without these things. Again, he will take part in public affairs, will marry, and will refrain from breaking the laws which have been made. And as far as circumstances allow he will legislate for his own country, unless in the extreme corruption of the people he sees that the state of affairs completely justifies his abstention. He thinks that the gods take note of human life and that there are superhuman beings. He was the first to define the notion of good as that which is bound up with

---

1. Cf. Plato, Tim. 53 d; 53 b; 57 c; 69 b, c.
2. Cf. Plato, Tim. 30 b; 44 c.
III. 79–81. PLATO

whatever is praiseworthy and rational and useful and proper and becoming. And all these are bound up with that which is consistent and in accord with nature.

He also discoursed on the propriety of names, and indeed he was the first to frame a science for rightly asking and answering questions, having employed it himself to excess. And in the dialogues he conceived righteousness to be the law of God because it is stronger to incite men to do righteous acts, that malefactors may not be punished after death also. Hence to some he appeared too fond of myths. These narratives he intermingles with his works in order to deter men from wickedness, by reminding them how little they know of what awaits them a after death. Such, then, are the doctrines he approved.

He used also to divide things, according to Aristotle, in the following manner. a Goods are in the mind or in the body, or external. For example, justice, prudence, courage, temperance and such like are in the mind; beauty, a good constitution, health and strength in the body; while friends, the welfare of one's country and riches are amongst external things.

Thus there are three kinds of goods: goods of the mind, goods of the body and external goods. There are three species of friendship: one species is natural, another social, and another hospitable. By natural friendship we mean the affection which parents have for their offspring and kinsmen for each other. And other animals besides man have inherited this form.

Pseudoepigraphus, pp. 679 sqq., who gives a Christian recension. The original, the common source of Diogenes Laertius and the Christian writer, he refers vaguely to the Hellenistic age.
By the social form of friendship we mean that which arises from intimacy and has nothing to do with kinship; for instance, that of Pylades for Orestes. The friendship of hospitality is that which is extended to strangers owing to an introduction or letters of recommendation. Thus friendship is either natural or social or hospitable. Some add a fourth species, that of love.

There are five forms of civil government: one form is democratic, another aristocratic, a third oligarchic, a fourth monarchic, a fifth that of a tyrant. The democratic form is that in which the people has control and chooses at its own pleasure both magistrates and laws. The aristocratic form is that in which the rulers are neither the rich nor the poor nor the nobles, but the state is under the guidance of the best. Oligarchy is that form in which there is a property-qualification for the holding of office; for the rich are fewer than the poor. Monarchy is either regulated by law or hereditary. At Carthage the kingship is regulated by law, the office being put up for sale. But the monarchy in Lacedaemon and in Macedonia is hereditary, for they select the king from a certain family. A tyranny is that form in which the citizens are ruled either through fraud or force by an individual. Thus civil government is either democratic, aristocratic, oligarchic, or a monarchy or a tyranny.

There are three species of justice. One is con-

---

*a Plato probably refers to Carthage when he mentions purchasable kingship, ὑπηγαί βασιλεία, amongst barbarians, Rep. 544 d. Aristotle repeats the epithet in his description of the Carthaginian constitution, Pol. ii. 11, 1273 a 36. Polybius says that at Carthage magistrates attain office, δῶρα.
cerned with gods, another with men, and the third
with the departed. For those who sacrifice ac-
ing to the laws and take care of the temples are
obviously pious towards the gods. Those again who
repay loans and restore what they have received
upon trust act justly towards men. Lastly, those
who take care of tombs are obviously just towards
the departed. Thus one species of justice relates to
the gods, another to men, while a third species is
concerned with the departed.

There are three species of knowledge or science,
one practical, another productive, and a third theo-
retical. For architecture and shipbuilding are pro-
ductive arts, since the work produced by them can
be seen. Politics and flute-playing, harp-playing
and similar arts are practical. For nothing visible
is produced by them; yet they do or perform some-
thing. In the one case the artist plays the flute or
the harp, in the other the politician takes part in
politics. Geometry and harmonics and astronomy
are theoretical sciences. For they neither perform
nor produce anything. But the geometry considers
how lines are related to each other, the student of
harmony investigates sounds, the astronomer stars
and the universe. Thus some sciences are theoretical,
others are practical, and others are productive.

There are five species of medicine: the first is
pharmacy, the second is surgery, the third deals
with diet and regimen, the fourth with diagnosis,
the fifth with remedies. Pharmacy cures sickness
by drugs, surgery heals by the use of knife and
cautery, the species concerned with diet prescribes
a regimen for the removal of disease, that concerned
with diagnosis proceeds by determining the nature
of the ailment, that concerned with remedies by prescribing for the immediate removal of the pain. The species of medicine, then, are pharmacy, surgery, diet and regimen, diagnosis, prescription of remedies.

There are two divisions of law, the one written and the other unwritten. Written law is that under which we live in different cities, but that which has arisen out of custom is called unwritten law; for instance, not to appear in the market-place undressed or in women’s attire. There is no statute forbidding this, but nevertheless we abstain from such conduct because it is prohibited by an unwritten law. Thus law is either written or unwritten.

There are five kinds of speech, of which one is that which politicians employ in the assemblies; this is called political speech. The second division is that which the rhetors employ in written compositions, whether composed for display or praise or blame, or for accusation. Hence this division is termed rhetorical. The third division of speech is that of private persons conversing with one another; this is called the mode of speech of ordinary life. Another division of speech is the language of those who converse by means of short questions and answers; this kind is called dialectical. The fifth division is the speech of craftsmen conversing about their own subjects; this is called technical language. Thus speech is either political, or rhetorical, or that of ordinary conversation, or dialectical, or technical.

Music has three divisions. One employs the mouth alone, like singing. The second employs both the
mouth and the hands, as is the case with the harper singing to his own accompaniment. The third division employs the hands alone; for instance, the music of the harp. Thus music employs either the mouth alone, or the mouth and the hands, or the hands alone.

Nobility has four divisions. First, when the ancestors are gentle and handsome and also just, their descendants are said to be noble. Secondly, when the ancestors have been princes or magistrates, their descendants are said to be noble. The third kind arises when the ancestors have been illustrious; for instance, through having held military command or through success in the national games. For then we call the descendants noble. The last division includes the man who is himself of a generous and high-minded spirit. He too is said to be noble. And this indeed is the highest form of nobility. Thus, of nobility, one kind depends on excellent ancestors, another on princely ancestors, a third on illustrious ancestors, while the fourth is due to the individual's own beauty and worth.

Beauty has three divisions. The first is the object of praise, as of form fair to see. Another is serviceable; thus an instrument, a house and the like are beautiful for use. Other things again which relate to customs and pursuits and the like are beautiful because beneficial. Of beauty, then, one kind is matter for praise, another is for use, and another for the benefit it procures.

The soul has three divisions. One part of it is rational, another appetitive, and a third irascible. Of these the rational part is the cause of purpose, reflection, understanding and the like. The appeti-
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

ζησεν ψυχής αύτών τού ἐπιθυμεῖν φαγεῖν καὶ
tού πλησίασαι καὶ τῶν τοιούτων πάντων. τὸ δὲ
θυμικόν μέρος αὐτῶν ἔστι τοῦ θαρρεῖν καὶ ἠδοναῖ
καὶ λυπεῖσθαι καὶ ὀργίζεσθαι. τῆς ἄρα ψυχῆς
ἔστι τὸ μὲν λογιστικόν, τὸ δὲ ἐπιθυμητικόν, τὸ δὲ
θυμικόν.

Τῆς τελείας ἁρετής εἴδη τέταρτα: ἐν μὲν φρό
νοις, ἐν δὲ δικαιοσύνῃ, ἄλλο δὲ ἀνδρείᾳ, τέταρτον
σωφροσύνη. τούτων ἡ μὲν φρόνησις αὐτὰ τοῦ
πράττειν ὀρθώς τὰ πράγματα· ἡ δὲ δικαιοσύνη τοῦ
ἐν ταῖς κοινωνίαις καὶ τοῖς συναλλάγμασι δικαιο-
σαρχαῖς, ἡ δὲ ἀνδρεία τοῦ ἐν τοῖς κινδύνοις καὶ
φοβοῦσι μὴ ἐξισοτάσθαι ποιεῖν, ἄλλα μὲν εἰς
ἡ δὲ σωφροσύνη τοῦ κρατεῖν τῶν ἐπιθυμίων καὶ ὑπὸ
μυθεμένας ἠδονὰς δουλεύσαι, ἄλλα κασμίως ζῆν.
τῆς ἁρετῆς ἄρα τὸ μὲν ἔστι φρόνησις, ἄλλο δὲ
καιοσύνη, τρίτον ἀνδρεία, τέταρτον σωφροσύνη.

Ἡ ἀρχὴ διαιρεῖται εἰς μέρη πέντε: ἐν μὲν εἰς τὸ
cατὰ νόμον, ἐν δὲ εἰς τοῦ κατὰ φύσιν, ἐν δὲ εἰς τὸ
cατὰ ἔθος, τέταρτον εἰς τὸ κατὰ γένος, πέμπτον
ἐν δὲ κατὰ βίον. οἱ μὲν οὖν εἰς ταῖς πόλεσι ἄρχουσι
ὑπὸ τῶν πολιτῶν ἐπὶν αἰρεθείς, κατὰ νόμον
ἄρχουσιν: οἱ δὲ κατὰ φύσιν, οἱ ἀρρενεῖς, οὐ μόνον
ἐν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἄλλοις ζώοις·
ἐπὶ πολὺ γὰρ παντοῦ τὰ ἄρρητα τῶν θηλείων
ἄρχει. ἡ δὲ τοῦ κατὰ ἔθος ἀρχὴ τοιαῦτῇ ἔστιν,
οίαν οἱ παιδαγωγοὶ τῶν παιδῶν ἄρχουσι καὶ οἱ
διδάσκαλοι τῶν φοιτῶν, κατὰ γένος δὲ ἀρχὴ
tοιαύτῆς τις λέγεται, οίαν οἱ Λακεδαιμόνιοι βασιλεῖς
ἄρχουσιν: ἀπὸ γὰρ γένους τινὸς ἡ βασιλεία. καὶ
ἐν Μακεδονίᾳ δὲ τοῦ αὐτῶν τρόπον ἄρχουσιν: καὶ
gὰρ ἐκεῖ ἀπὸ γένους ἡ βασιλεία καθίσταται. οἱ

III. 90-92. PLATO

tive part of the soul is the cause of desire of eating,
sexual indulgence and the like, while the irascible
part is the cause of courage, of pleasure and pain,
and of anger. Thus one part of the soul is rational,
another appetite, and a third irascible.

Of perfect virtue there are four species: prudence,
justice, bravery and temperance. Of these prudence
is the cause of right conduct, justice of just dealing
in partnerships and commercial transactions. Bravery
is the cause which makes a man not give way but
stand his ground in alarms and perils. Temperance
causes mastery over desires, so that we are never
enslaved by any pleasure, but lead an orderly life.
Thus virtue includes first prudence, next justice,
thirdly bravery, and lastly temperance.

Rule has five divisions, one which is according
to law, another according to nature, another accord-
ing to custom, a fourth by birth, a fifth by force.
Now the magistrates in cities when elected by their
fellow-citizens rule according to law. The natural
rulers are the males, not only among men, but
also among the other animals; for the males every-
where exert wide-reaching rule over the females.
Rule according to custom is such authority as
attendants exercise over children and teachers over
their pupils. Hereditary rule is exemplified by that
of the Lacedaemonian kings, for the office of king is
confined to a certain family. And the same system
is in force for the kingdom of Macedonia; for there
too the office of king goes by birth. Others have
acquired power by force or fraud, and govern the citizens against their will; this kind of rule is called forcible. Thus rule is either by law, or by nature, or by custom, or by birth, or by force.

There are six kinds of rhetoric. For when the speakers urge war or alliance with a neighbouring state, that species of rhetoric is called persuasion. But when they speak against making war or alliance, and urge their hearers to remain at peace, this kind of rhetoric is called dissuasion. A third kind is employed when a speaker asserts that he is wronged by some one whom he makes out to have caused him much mischief; accusation is the name applied to the kind here defined. The fourth kind of rhetoric is termed defence; here the speaker shows that he has done no wrong and that his conduct is in no respect abnormal; defence is the term applied in such a case. A fifth kind of rhetoric is employed when a speaker speaks well of some one and proves him to be worthy and honourable; encomium is the name given to this kind. A sixth kind is that employed when the speaker shows some one to be unworthy; the name given to this is invective. Under rhetoric, then, are included encomium, invective, persuasion, dissuasion, accusation and defence.

Successful speaking has four divisions. The first consists in speaking to the purpose, the next to the requisite length, the third before the proper audience, and the fourth at the proper moment. The things to the purpose are those which are likely to be expedient for speaker and hearer. The requisite length is that which is neither more nor less than enough. To speak to the proper audience means this: in addressing persons older than yourself, the
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

ἀρμόττονται δὲ τοὺς λόγους διαλέγεσθαι ὡς πρεσβυτέρους· ἃν τε πρὸς νεωτέρους, ἀρμόττοντας δὲ λέγεσθαι ὡς νεωτέρους. οὕτως ἐὰν δέ λέγειν ἑστι, μὴ τροτέρω μὴ τυφέρω· εἰ δὲ μὴ, διαμαρτήσασθαι καὶ οὐκ ὅρθως ἔρειν.

Ἡ εὐρεγεσία διαιρεῖται εἰς τέσσαρα: ἣ γὰρ χρήμασιν ἢ σώμασιν ἢ ταῖς ἐπιστήμαις ἢ τοῖς λόγοις. τοῖς μὲν οὖν χρήμασιν, ὅταν δεομένων παραβουῦθησι τις εἰς χρημάτων λόγον εὐπορήσῃ τοῖς δὲ σώμασιν εἰ ποιοῦσθαι ἂλλος, ταῦτας παραγενόμενοι τυπομένους παραβουῆσαι· οἱ δὲ παιδεύοντες καὶ λατρεύοντες καὶ διδάσκοντες ἀγαθῶν τι, οὕτοι δὲ ταῖς ἐπιστήμαις εὐρεγετοῦσιν· ὅταν δὲ εἰσέλθωσι εἰς δικαστήριον ἄλλος ὑπὲρ ἄλλου βοηθός καὶ λόγον τινὰ ἐπιεικῆ ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ εἴπῃ, οὕτως δὲ λόγων εὐρεγετεί. τῆς ἀρα εὐρεγεσίας ἤ μὲν ἐστὶ διὰ χρημάτων, ἢ δὲ διὰ σωμάτων, ἢ δὲ διὰ ἐπιστημῶν, τετάρτη διὰ λόγων.

Διαιρεῖται τὸ τέλος τῶν πραγμάτων εἰς τέταρτα εἰδῆ· ἐν μὲν κατὰ νόμον τέλος τὰ πράγματα λαμβάνει, ὅταν ψήφισμα γένηται καὶ τοῦτο ὁ νόμος τελέσῃ κατὰ φύσιν δὲ τέλος τὰ πράγματα λαμβάνει, ἢ τε ἡμέρα καὶ ὁ ἐναυτός καὶ αἱ ἄραι κατὰ τέχνην δὲ τέλος τὰ πράγματα λαμβάνει, οἷον ἡ οἰκοδομικὴ· οὕτως γὰρ τις ἐπιτελεῖ καὶ ἡ ναυπηγικὴ· πλοίαν γὰρ. κατὰ τέχνην δὲ γίνεται τῶν πράγμασιν τέλος, ὅταν ἄλλως καὶ μὴ ὑπολαμβάνεις τις ἀποβαίνῃ. τοῦ τέλους ορᾶ τῶν πραγμάτων τὸ μὲν κατὰ νόμον, τὸ δὲ κατὰ φύσιν, τὸ δὲ κατὰ τέχνην, τὸ δὲ κατὰ τύχην ἐστιν.

Ἡ δύναμις διαιρεῖται εἰς τέσσαρα εἰδῆ· ἐν μὲν δυνάμεθα τῇ διανοίᾳ, λογιζομαι καὶ ὑπονοεῖν·

III. 95-97. PLATO
discourse must be made suitable to the audience as being elderly men; whereas in addressing juniors the discourse must be suitable to young men. The proper time of speaking is neither too soon nor too late; otherwise you will miss the mark and not speak with success.

Of conferring benefits there are four divisions. For it takes place either by pecuniary aid or by personal service, by means of knowledge or of speech. Pecuniary aid is given when one assists a man in need, so that he is relieved from all anxiety on the score of money. Personal service is given when men come up to those who are being beaten and rescue them. Those who train or heal, or who teach something valuable, confer benefit by means of knowledge. But when men enter a law-court and one appears as advocate for another and delivers an effective speech on his behalf, he is benefiting him by speech. Thus benefits are conferred by means either of money or of personal service, or of knowledge, or of speech.

There are four ways in which things are completed and brought to a close. The first is by legal enactment, when a decree is passed and this decree is confirmed by law. The second is in the course of nature, as the day, the year and the seasons are completed. The third is by the rules of art, say the builder’s art, for so a house is completed; and so it is with shipbuilding, whereby vessels are completed. Fourthly, matters are brought to an end by chance or accident, when they turn out otherwise than is expected. Thus the completion of things is due either to law, or to nature, or to art, or to chance.

Of power or ability there are four divisions. First, whatever we can do with the mind, namely calculate
or anticipate; next, whatever we can effect with the body, for instance, marching, giving, taking and the like. Thirdly, whatever we can do by a multitude of soldiers or a plentiful supply of money; hence a king is said to have great power. The fourth division of power or influence is doing, or being done by, well or ill; thus we can become ill or be educated, be restored to health and the like. Power, then, is either in the mind, or the body, or in armies and resources, or in acting and being acted upon.

Philanthropy is of three kinds. One is by way of salutations, as when certain people address every one they meet and, stretching out their hand, give him a hearty greeting; another mode is seen when one is given to assisting every one in distress; another mode of philanthropy is that which makes certain people fond of giving dinners. Thus philanthropy is shown either by a courteous address, or by conferring benefits, or by hospitality and the promotion of social intercourse.

Welfare or happiness includes five parts. One part of it is good counsel, a second soundness of the senses and bodily health, a third success in one's undertakings, a fourth a reputation with one's fellow-men, a fifth ample means in money and in whatever else subserves the end of life. Now deliberating well is a result of education and of having experience of many things. Soundness of the senses depends upon the bodily organs: I mean, if one sees with his eyes, hears with his ears, and perceives with his nostrils and his mouth the appropriate objects, then such a condition is soundness of the senses. Success is attained when a man does what he aims at in the right way, as becomes a good man.
A man has a good reputation when he is well spoken of. A man has ample means when he is so equipped for the needs of life that he can afford to benefit his friends and discharge his public services with lavish display. If a man has all these things, he is completely happy. Thus of welfare or happiness one part is good counsel, another soundness of senses and bodily health, a third success, a fourth a good reputation, a fifth ample means.

There are three divisions of the arts and crafts. The first division consists of mining and forestry, which are productive arts. The second includes the smith’s and carpenter’s arts which transform material; for the smith makes weapons out of iron, and the carpenter transforms timber into flutes and lyres. The third division is that which uses what is thus made, as horsemanship employs bridles, the art of war employs weapons, and music flutes and the lyre. Thus of art there are three several species, those above-mentioned in the first, second and third place.

Good is divided into four kinds. One is the possessor of virtue, whom we affirm to be individually good. Another is virtue itself and justice; these we affirm to be good. A third includes such things as food, suitable exercises and drugs. The fourth kind which we affirm to be good includes the arts of flute-playing, acting and the like. Thus there are four kinds of good: the possession of virtue; virtue itself; thirdly, food and beneficial exercises; lastly, flute-playing, acting, and the poetical art. Whatever is is either evil or good or indifferent. We call that evil which is capable of invariably doing harm; for
instance, bad judgement and folly and injustice and the like. The contraries of these things are good. But the things which can sometimes benefit and sometimes harm, such as walking and sitting and eating, or which can neither do any benefit nor harm at all, these are things indifferent, neither good nor evil. Thus all things whatever are either good, or evil, or neither good nor evil.

Good order in the state falls under three heads. First, if the laws are good, we say that there is good government. Secondly, if the citizens obey the established laws, we also call this good government. Thirdly, if, without the aid of laws, the people manage their affairs well under the guidance of customs and institutions, we call this again good government. Thus three forms of good government may exist, (1) when the laws are good, (2) when the existing laws are obeyed, (3) when the people live under salutary customs and institutions.

Disorder in a state has three forms. The first arises when the laws affecting citizens and strangers are alike bad, the second when the existing laws are not obeyed, and the third when there is no law at all. Thus the state is badly governed when the laws are bad or not obeyed, or lastly, when there is no law.

Contraries are divided into three species. For instance, we say that goods are contrary to evils, as justice to injustice, wisdom to folly, and the like. Again, evils are contrary to evils, prodigality is contrary to niggardliness, and to be unjustly tortured is the contrary of being justly tortured, and so with similar evils. Again, heavy is the contrary of light,
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

τῷ βραδεί καὶ τὸ μέλαι τῷ λευκῷ ὡς οὐδέτερα
105 οὐδετέροις ἐναντία ἔστιν. τῶν ἐναντίων ἂρα τὰ μὲν ὡς ἄγαθα κακοῖς ἐναντία ἐστὶν τὰ δὲ ὡς κακὰ κακοῖς, τὰ δὲ ὡς οὐδετέροις οὐδέτερα.

Τὸν ἀγαθὸν γένη ἐστὶ τρία: τὰ μὲν γὰρ ἐστὶν ἔκτα, τὰ δὲ μεθεκτά, τὰ δὲ ὑπαρκτά. τὰ μὲν ὅπως ἔκτα ἐστιν, ὅσα ἐνδέχεται ἔχειν, οἷον ἡ δι-
καιοσύνη καὶ ἡ υγεία, μεθεκτά δὲ ὅσα ἔχειν μὲν μὴ ἐνδέχεται, μετασχεῖν δὲ αὐτῶν ἐνδέχεται, ὅσον αὐτὸ τὸ ἀγαθὸν ἔχειν μὲν ὅπως ἐνδέχεται, μετασχεῖν δὲ αὐτῶν ἐνδέχεται. ὑπαρκτά δὲ, ὅσα μήτε μετασχεῖν μήτε σχεῖν ἐνδέχεται, ὑπάρχειν δὲ δέ: οἷον τὸ σπουδαῖον εἶναι καὶ τὸ δίκαιον εἶναι ἀγαθὸν ἐστιν καὶ ταῦτα οὕτω σχεῖν οὕτω μετασχεῖν ἔστω, ἀλλ' ὑπάρχειν δεὶ [σπουδαῖον εἶναι καὶ δίκαιον εἴναι]. τῶν ἀγαθῶν ἄρα τὰ μὲν ἔστω ἔκτα, τὰ δὲ μεθεκτά, τὰ δὲ ὑπαρκτά.

106 Ἡ συμβολία διαιρεῖται εἰς τρία: ἐστὶ γὰρ ἀρτὶς ἐν μὲν ἐκ τῶν παροιχομένων χρόνων λαμ-
βανόμενον, ἐν δὲ ἐκ τῶν μελλόντων, ἐν δὲ ἐκ τῶν ἑνεστῶτων. τὰ μὲν ὅπως ἐκ τῶν παροιχομένων παραδείγματα, όποι τὶ ἐπαθὸν Λακεδαιμονίου πι-
στεύσαντες: τὸ δ' ἐκ τῶν παρόντων, οἷον ἀποφαίνεται τείχη ἀσθενῆ, δειλοὺς ἀνθρώπους, στὸν ἄλγον: τὸ δ' ἐκ τῶν μελλόντων, οἷον ταῖς ὑπονοίαις μὴ ἀδικεῖν τὰς προεβίαις, ὡς μὴ ἀδοξοὶ ἢ Ἑλλάς γένηται. τὸς ἄρα συμβολίας τὰ μὲν ἔστω ἐκ τῶν παροιχομένων, τὰ δ' ἐκ τῶν παρόντων, τὰ δ' ἐκ τῶν μελλόντων.

III. 104–106. PLATO

quick of slow, black of white, and these pairs are contraries, while they are neither good nor evil. Thus, of contraries, some are opposed as goods to evils, others as evils to evils, and others, as things which are neither good nor evil, are opposed to one another.

There are three kinds of goods, those which can be exclusively possessed, those which can be shared with others, and those which simply exist. To the first division, namely, those which can be exclusively possessed, belong such things as justice and health. To the next belong all those which, though they cannot be exclusively possessed, can be shared with others. Thus we cannot possess the absolute good, but we can participate in it. The third division includes those goods the existence of which is necessary, though we can neither possess them exclusively nor participate in them. The mere existence of worth and justice is a good; and these things cannot be shared or had in exclusive possession, but must simply exist. Of goods, then, some are possessed exclusively, some shared, and others merely subsist.

Counsel is divided under three heads. One is taken from past time, one from the future, and the third from the present. That from past time consists of examples; for instance, what the Lacedaemonians suffered through trusting others. Counsel drawn from the present is to show, for instance, that the walls are weak, the men cowards, and the supplies running short. Counsel from the future is, for instance, to urge that we should not wrong the embassies by suspicions, lest the fair fame of Hellas be stained. Thus counsel is derived from the past, the present and the future.
Vocal sound falls into two divisions according as it is animate or inanimate. The voice of living things is animate sound; notes of instruments and noises are inanimate. And of the animate voice part is articulate, part inarticulate, that of men being articulate speech, that of the animals inarticulate. Thus vocal sound is either animate or inanimate.

Whatever exists is either divisible or indivisible. Of divisible things some are divisible into similar and others into dissimilar parts. Those things are indivisible which cannot be divided and are not compounded of elements, for example, the unit, the point and the musical note; whereas those which have constituent parts, for instance, syllables, concords in music, animals, water, gold, are divisible. If they are composed of similar parts, so that the whole does not differ from the part except in bulk, as water, gold and all that is fusible, and the like, then they are termed homogeneous. But whatever is composed of dissimilar parts, as a house and the like, is termed heterogeneous. Thus all things whatever are either divisible or indivisible, and of those which are divisible some are homogeneous, others heterogeneous in their parts.

Of existing things some are absolute and some are called relative. Things said to exist absolutely are those which need nothing else to explain them, as man, horse, and all other animals. For none of these gains by explanation. To those which are called relative belong all which stand in need of some explanation, as that which is greater than something or quicker than something, or more beautiful and the like. For the greater implies a less, and the quicker is quicker than something. Thus existing
things are either absolute or relative. And in this way, according to Aristotle, Plato used to divide the primary conceptions also.

There was also another man named Plato, a philosopher of Rhodes, a pupil of Panaetius, as is stated by Seleucus the grammarian in his first book *On Philosophy*; another a Peripatetic and pupil of Aristotle; and another who was a pupil of Praxiphanes; and lastly, there was Plato, the poet of the Old Comedy.
Κεφ. α’. ΣΠΕΥΣΙΠΠΟΣ

1 Τὰ μὲν περὶ Πλάτωνος τοσαῦτα ἤν ἐς τὸ δυνατὸν ἡμῶν συναγαγεῖν, φιλοτομῶς διεξήγασι τὰ λεγόμενα περὶ τάνδρος. διεδέχοτα δ’ αὐτὸν Σπεύσιππος Ἐυρυμέδοντος Ἀθηναίος, τῶν μὲν δήμων Μυρμυνώσιος, νῦν δὲ τῆς ἀδελφῆς αὐτοῦ Πιατώνης. καὶ ἐσχολάρχησεν ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ, ἀρξάμενος ἀπὸ τῆς ὀδύνης καὶ ἐκατοστὶς Ὀλυμπιάδος. Χαρίτων τ’ ἀγάλματ’ ἀνεύχετο ἐν τῷ μουσεῖῳ τῷ ὑπὸ Πλάτωνος ἑν’ Ἀκαδημείᾳ ἑδρυθέντι. καὶ ἐμείου μὲν ἐπὶ τῶν αὐτῶν Πλάτωνος δομιστῶν οὐ μὴν τὸ γ’ ἦδος διέμενε τοιούτος. καὶ γὰρ ὁμίλος καὶ ἑδονῶν ἔτη ἤδη. φασὶ γοῦν αὐτὸν ὑπὸ θυμοῦ τὸ κυνίδους εἰς τὸ φρεάρ ῥᾶμαι καὶ ὅθ’ ἑδονὴς ἐλθεῖν εἰς Μακεδονίαν ἐπὶ τὸν Κασάνδρου γάμον.

2 'Ελέγχοντο δὲ αὐτὸν καὶ αἱ Πλάτωνος ἀκόουσιν μαθητριαί, Λασθενεία τε ἦ Μαντινική καὶ Αξιοθέα ἡ Φλασά. δὲ τε καὶ Διονύσιος πρὸς αὐτὸν γράφων τονδαστικῶς φησιν. “καὶ ἐκ τῆς Ἀρκαδικῆς σου μαθητρίας ἐστι καταμαθεῖν τὴν σοφίαν. καὶ Πλάτων μὲν ἄτελεὶς φόρων τοὺς παρ’ αὐτὸν φοιτώντας

---

BOOK IV

CHAPTER 1. SPEUSIPPOS (circa 407-339 B.C.)
(Head of the Academy, 347-339 B.C.)

The foregoing is the best account of Plato that we were able to compile after a diligent examination of the authorities. He was succeeded by Speusippus, an Athenian and son of Eurymedon, who belonged to the deme of Myrrhinus, and was the son of Plato’s sister Potone. He was head of the school for eight years beginning in the 108th Olympiad. He set up statues of the Graces in the shrine of the Muses erected by Plato in the Academy. He adhered faithfully to Plato’s doctrines. In character, however, he was unlike him, being prone to anger and easily overcome by pleasures. At any rate there is a story that in a fit of passion he flung his favourite dog into the well, and that pleasure was the sole motive for his journey to Macedonia to be present at the wedding-feast of Casander.

It was said that among those who attended his lectures were the two women who had been pupils of Plato, Lastheneia of Mantinea and Axiotea of Phlius. And at the time Dionysius in a letter says derisively, “We may judge of your wisdom by the Arcadian girl who is your pupil. And, whereas Plato exempted from fees all who came to him, you
IV. 2–4. SPEUSIPPUS

levy tribute on them and collect it whether they will or no.”

According to Diodorus in the first book of his Memorabilia, Speusippus was the first to discern the common element in all studies and to bring them into connexion with each other so far as that was possible. And according to Caeneus he was the first to divulge what Isocrates called the secrets of his art, and the first to devise the means by which fagotes of firewood are rendered portable.

When he was already crippled by paralysis, he sent a message to Xenocrates entreatling him to come and take over the charge of the school. They say that, as he was being conveyed to the Academy in a tiny carriage, he met and saluted Diogenes, who replied, “Nay, if you can endure to live in such a plight as this, I decline to return your greeting.” At last in old age he became so despondent that he put an end to his life. Here follows my epigram upon him:

Had I not learnt that Speusippus would die thus, no one would have persuaded me to say that he was surely not of Plato’s blood; for else he would never have died in despair for a trivial cause.

Plutarch in the Lives of Lyssander and Sulla makes his malady to have been “morbus pedicularis.”

That his body wasted away is affirmed by Timotheus in his book On Lives. Speusippus, he says, meeting a rich man who was in love with one who was no beauty, said to him, “Why, pray, are you in such sore need of him? For ten talents I will find you a more handsome bride.”

* The most trustworthy account of what happened when Xenocrates was elected is furnished by Index Academicus, pp. 38 sqq. ed. Mekler.


* Cf. supra, iii. 40.

dioMorphoterev fort. Amorphoterev H. Richards.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

Καταλελούσε δὲ τάμπλευστα ὑπομνήματα καὶ
dιαλόγους πλείονας, ἐν οἷς καὶ

'Αριστιππὸς τῶν Κυρηναίων.
Περὶ πλούσιου α'.
Περὶ ἡδονῆς α'.
Περὶ δικαιοσύνης α'.
Περὶ φιλοσοφίας α'.
Περὶ φιλίας α'.
Περὶ θεῶν α'.
Φιλόσοφος α'.
Πρὸς Κέφαλον α'.
Κέφαλος α'.
Κλεινόμαχος ἢ Δυσίας α'.
Πολίτης α'.
Περὶ ψυχῆς α'.
Πρὸς Γρύλλου α'.

5 'Αριστιππὸς α'.
Τεχνῶν ἐλευχὸς α'.
'Υπομνήματικοὶ διάλογοι.
Τεχνικὸν α'.
Διάλογοι τῶν περὶ τὴν πραγματείαν ὁμοίων α' β' γ'/
δ' ε' σ' ζ' η' ζ'.
Διαιρέσεις καὶ πρὸς τὰ ὁμοία ὑποθέσεις.
Περὶ γενών καὶ εἰδῶν παραδειγμάτων.
Πρὸς τὸν Ἀμάρτυρον.
Πλάτωνος ἐγκώμιον.
'Επιστολαι πρὸς Δίωνα, Διονύσιον, Φιλίππον.
Περὶ νομοθεσίας.
Μαθηματικὸς.
Μανδρόβολος.
Δυσίας.
'Oροι.
Τάξεις ὑπομνήματων.

378

IV. 4-5. SPEUSIPPUS

He has left behind a vast store of memoirs and numerous dialogues, among them:

Aristippus the Cyrenaic.
On Wealth, one book.
On Pleasure, one book.
On Justice,
On Philosophy,
On Friendship,
On the Gods,
The Philosopher,
A Reply to Cephalus,
Cephalus,
Clinomachus or Lysias,
The Citizen,
Of the Soul,
A Reply to Gryllus,
Aristippus,
Criticism of the Arts, each in one book.
Memoirs, in the form of dialogues.
Treatise on System, in one book.
Dialogues on the Resemblances in Science, in ten books.
Divisions and Hypotheses relating to the Resemblances.
On Typical Genera and Species.
A Reply to the Anonymous Work.
Eulogy of Plato.
Epistles to Dion, Dionysius and Philip.
On Legislation.
The Mathematician.
Mandrobolus.
Lysias.
Definitions.
Arrangements of Commentaries.
IV. 5-7. SPEUSIPPUS—XENOCRATES

They comprise in all 43,475 lines. To him Timonides addresses his narrative in which he related the achievements of Dion and Bion.¹ Favorinus also in the second book of his Memorabilia relates that Aristotle purchased the works of Speusippus for three talents.

There was another Speusippus, a physician of Alexandria, of the school of Herophilus.

CHAPTER 2. XENOCRATES (386–314 B.C.)

(Head of the Academy 339–314 B.C.)

Xenocrates, the son of Agathenor, was a native of Chalcedon. He was a pupil of Plato from his earliest youth; moreover he accompanied him on his journey to Sicily. He was naturally slow and clumsy. Hence Plato, comparing him to Aristotle, said, “The one needed a spur, the other a bridle.” And again, “See what an ass I am training and what a horse he has to run against.” However, Xenocrates was in all besides dignified and grave of demeanour, which made Plato say to him continually, “Xenocrates, sacrifice to the Graces.” He spent most of his time in the Academy; and whenever he was going to betake himself to the city, it is said that all the noisy rabble and hired porters made way for him as he passed. And that once the notorious Phryne tried to make his acquaintance and, as if she were being chased by some people, took refuge under his roof; that he admitted her out of ordinary humanity and, there being but one small couch in the room, permitted her to share it with him, and at last, after in the expedition of Dion against Syracuse. There may be an error in the text arising from dittography.

¹ Nothing is known of any such Bion having taken part
many importunities, she retired without success, telling those who inquired that he whom she quitted was not a man but a statue. Another version of the story is that his pupils induced Lais to invade his couch; and that so great was his endurance that he many times submitted to amputation and cautery. His words were entirely worthy of credit, so much so that, although it was illegal for witnesses to give evidence unsworn, the Athenians allowed Xenocrates alone to do so. Furthermore, he was extremely independent; at all events, when Alexander sent him a large sum of money, he took three thousand Attic drachmas and sent back the rest to Alexander, whose needs, he said, were greater than his own, because he had a greater number of people to keep. Again, he would not accept the present sent him by Antipater, as Myronianus attests in his Parallels. And when he had been honoured at the court of Dionysius with a golden crown as the prize for his prowess in drinking at the Feast of Pitchers, he went out and placed it on the statue of Hermes just as he had been accustomed to place there garlands of flowers. There is a story that, when he was sent, along with others also, on an embassy to Philip, his colleagues, being bribed, accepted Philip's invitations to feasts and talked with him. Xenocrates did neither the one nor the other. Indeed on this account Philip declined to see him. Hence, when the envoys returned to Athens, they complained that Xenocrates had accompanied them without rendering any service. Thereupon the people were ready to fine him. But when he told them that now more than ever they ought to consider the interests of the state—"for," said he, "Philip knew
that the others had accepted his bribes, but that he would never win me over"—then the people paid him double honours. And afterwards Philip said that, of all who had arrived at his court, Xenocrates was the only man whom he could not bribe. Moreover, when he went as envoy to Antipater to plead for Athenians taken prisoners in the Lamian war, being invited to dine with Antipater, he quoted to him the following lines:

O Circe! what righteous man would have the heart to taste meat and drink ere he had redeemed his company and beheld them face to face?

and so pleased Antipater with his ready wit that he at once released them.

When a little sparrow was pursued by a hawk and rushed into his bosom, he stroked it and let it go, declaring that a suppliant must not be betrayed. When bantered by Bion, he said he would make no reply. For neither, said he, does tragedy deign to answer the banter of comedy. To some one who had never learnt either music or geometry or astronomy, but nevertheless wished to attend his lectures, Xenocrates said, "Go your ways, for you offer philosophy nothing to lay hold of." Others report him as saying, "It is not to me that you come for the carding of a fleece."

When Dionysius told Plato that he would lose his head, Xenocrates, who was present, pointed to his own and added, "No man shall touch it till he cut off mine." They say too that, when Antipater came to Athens and greeted him, he did not address him in return until he had finished what he was saying. He was singularly free from pride; more than once

---

* Hom. Od. x. 383-5.
IV. 11–12. XENOCRATES

a day he would retire into himself, and he assigned, it is said, a whole hour to silence.
He left a very large number of treatises, poems and addresses, of which I append a list:

On Wisdom, six books.
On Wealth, one book.
The Arcadian, one book.
On the Indeterminate, one book.
On the Child, one book.
On Continence, one book.
On Utility, one book.
On Freedom, one book.
On Death, one book.*
On the Voluntary, one book.
On Friendship, two books.
On Equity, one book.
On that which is Contrary, two books.
On Happiness, two books.
On Writing, one book.
On Memory, one book.
On Falsehood, one book.
Callicles, one book.
On Prudence, two books.
The Householder, one book.
On Temperance, one book.
On the Influence of Law, one book.
On the State, one book.
On Holiness, one book.
That Virtue can be taught, one book.
On Being, one book.
On Fate, one book.

* Supposed by Marsilius Ficinus to be the extant dialogue
_Aviochus_ attributed to Plato (cf. supra, iii. 62).
Περὶ παθῶν α.  
Περὶ βιων α'.  
Περὶ ὁμολογίας α'.  
Περὶ μαθητῶν α' β'.  
Περὶ δικαιοσύνης α'.  
Περὶ ἀρετῆς α' β'.  
Περὶ εἰδῶν α'.  
Περὶ Ἰδίων α' β'.  
Περὶ βίου α'.  
Περὶ ἀνδρείας α'.  
Περὶ τοῦ ἑνὸς α'.  
Περὶ ιδεῶν α'.  
Περὶ τέχνης α'.  
Περὶ θεών α' β'.  
Περὶ ψυχῆς α' β'.  
Περὶ ἐπιστήμης α'.  
Πολιτικός α'.  
Περὶ ἐπιστήμων α'.  
Περὶ φιλοσοφίας α'.  
Περὶ τῶν Παρμενίδου α'.  
Ἀρχέδημος ἦ περὶ δικαιοσύνης α'.  
Περὶ τάγματος α'.  
Τῶν περὶ τὴν διάνοιαν α' β' γ' δ' ε' ε' ζ' η'.  
Δύναι τῶν περὶ τούς λόγους ι'.  
Φυσικῆς ἀκράσιων α' β' γ' δ' ε' ε'.  
Κεφάλαιον α'.  
Περὶ γενέων καὶ εἰδῶν α'.  
Πυθαγόρεια α'.  
Δύναις α' β'.  
Διαμάραις η'.  
Θέσεων βιβλία κμγ'.  
Τῆς περὶ τὸ διαλέγεσθαι πραγματείας βιβλία ἰδιαρθημένης.

IV. 12-13. XENOCRATES

On the Emotions, one book.  
On Modes of Life, one book.  
On Concord, one book.  
On Students, two books.  
On Justice, one book.  
On Virtue, two books.  
On Forms, one book.  
On Pleasure, two books.  
On Life, one book.  
On Bravery, one book.  
On the One, one book.  
On Ideas, one book.  
On Art, one book.  
On the Gods, two books.  
On the Soul, two books.  
On Science, one book.  
The Statesman, one book.  
On Cognition, one book.  
On Philosophy, one book.  
On the Writings of Parmenides, one book.  
Archaelemus or Concerning Justice, one book.  
On the Good, one book.  

Things relating to the Understanding, eight books.

Solution of Logical Problems, ten books. 
Physical Lectures, six books. 
Summary, one book. 
On Genera and Species, one book. 
Things Pythagorean, one book. 
Solutions, two books. 
Divisions, eight books. 
Theses, in twenty books, 30,000 lines. 
The Study of Dialectic, in fourteen books, 12,740 lines.
After this come fifteen books, and then sixteen books of Studies relating to Style.

Nine books on Ratiocination.

Six books concerned with Mathematics.

Two other books entitled Things relating to the Intellect.

On Geometers, five books.

Commentaries, one book.

Contraries, one book.

On Numbers, one book.

Theory of Numbers, one book.

On Dimensions, one book.

On Astronomy, six books.

Elementary Principles of Monarchy, in four books, dedicated to Alexander.

To Arymbas.

To Hephæestion.

On Geometry, two books.

These works comprise in all 224,239 lines.

Such was his character, and yet, when he was unable to pay the tax levied on resident aliens, the Athenians put him up for sale. And Demetrius of Phalerum purchased him, thereby making twofold restitution, to Xenocrates of his liberty, and to the Athenians of their tax. This we learn from Myronianus of Amastris in the first book of his Chapters on Historical Parallels. He succeeded Speusippus and was head of the school for twenty-five years from the archonship of Lysimachides, beginning in the second year of the 110th Olympiad. He died in his 82nd year from the effects of a fall over some utensil in the night.

Upon him I have expressed myself as follows:

*a* 339-338 B.C.

*b* Anth. Pal. vii. 102.

391
χαλική προσκόψας λεκάνη ποτὲ καὶ τὸ μέτωπον πλήθας ἱαχεν ὁ σύντονον, εἰτ' ἐθανεν, ὁ πάντα πάντη Ξενοκράτης ἄντη γεγός.

Γεγόμασι δὲ καὶ ἄλλοι Ξενοκράτεις εἷς ὁ τε τακτικὸς ἄρχαῖος σφόδρα • • καὶ ὁ συγγενῆς ἄμα καὶ πολίτης τῷ προειρημένῳ φιλοσόφῳ φέρεται δὲ αὐτῷ λόγοι Ἀριστοτέλης, γεγραμένοι περὶ Ἀριστοτέλης ἀποθανούσης. τέταρτος φιλόσοφος, ἐλεγείαν γεγραφός οὐκ ἐπιτυχώς. ἵδιον δὲ ποιητὴς μὲν γὰρ ἐπιβαλλόμενοι πεζογραφεῖ έπιτυγχάνονοι πεζογράφοι δὲ ἐπιπεδέμενοι ποιητικὴ πταίον τῷ δήλῳ τὸ μὲν φύσεως εἶναι, τὸ δὲ τέχνης ἐργον. πέμπτῳ ἀνδριαντοποῖς ἔκτος ἄσματα γεγραφώς, ὡς φησιν Ἀριστόκρατος.

Κεφ. γ'. ΠΟΛΕΜΩΝ

Πολέμων Φιλοστράτου μὲν ἦν υἱός, Αθηναίου τῶν δήμων Οἰνθέν. νέος δ' ἦν ἀκόλαστός τε καὶ διακεχειμένος ὑπὲρ οὕτως, ὅστε καὶ περιφέρειν ἄργυρων πρὸς τὰς ἐποίησις λύσεις τῶν ἐπιθυμιῶν ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐν τοῖς στενωπῶς διέκρυτοιν. καὶ ἐν Ἀκαδημείᾳ πρὸς κλοιόν τινι τριῳβολον εὐρέθη προστεπλασιαμένοι αὐτῷ διὰ την ὁμοίως τῇ προειρημένῃ πρόφασιν. καὶ ποτὲ συνθέμενος τοῖς νέοις μεθύνων καὶ ἐσπεραμένως εἰς τὴν Ξενοκράτους ἡς σχολήν ὁ δὲ οὐδὲν διατραπεῖε εἰρετῶν λόγων ὁμοίως ἦν δὲ περὶ σωφροσύνης. ἀκούσιν δὲ τῷ μειράκιον κατ' ὡλίγον ἐδημάθη καὶ οὕτως

---

IV. 15–16. XENOCRATES—POLEMO

Xenocrates, that type of perfect manliness, stumbled over a vessel of bronze and broke his head, and, with a loud cry, expired.

There have been six other men named Xenocrates:
(1) a tactician in very ancient times; (2) the kinsman and fellow-citizen of the philosopher: a speech by him is extant entitled the Arsinoëtic, treating of a certain deceased Arsinoë; (4) a philosopher and not very successful writer of elegies; it is a remarkable fact that poets succeed when they undertake to write prose, but prose-writers who essay poetry come to grief; whereby it is clear that the one is a gift of nature and the other of art; (5) a sculptor; (6) a writer of songs mentioned by Aristoxenus.

Chapter 3. POLEMO

(Head of the Academy from 314 to c. 276 B.C.)

Polemo, the son of Philostratus, was an Athenian who belonged to the deme of Oea. In his youth he was so profligate and dissipated that he actually carried about with him money to procure the immediate gratification of his desires, and would even keep sums concealed in lanes and alleys. Even in the Academy a piece of three obols was found close to a pillar, where he had buried it for the same purpose. And one day, by agreement with his young friends, he burst into the school of Xenocrates quite drunk, with a garland on his head. Xenocrates, however, without being at all disturbed, went on with his discourse as before, the subject being temperance. The lad, as he listened, by degrees was taken in the toils. He became so industrious the more piquant because put into the mouth of Academy pleading against Carouse, Μέθη.
as to surpass all the other scholars, and rose to be
himself head of the school. And Gomus in his Biographies says that
his father was foremost among the citizens and kept
horses to compete in the chariot-race; that Polemo
never lost control of his voice. This in fact accounts
for the fascination which he exercised over Cantor's
wife, who changed him with cruelty owing to the
irregularities of his life; but that, from the time
when he began to study philosophy, he acquired
such strength of character as always to maintain
the same unmixed calm of demeanour. Nay more, he
in asking questions, but utterly at variance with
ourselves in the ordering of our lives.
He was, then, refined and generous, and would beg to be excused, in the words of Aristophanes about Euripides, the "acid, pungent style," which, as the same author says, is "strong seasoning for meat when it is high." Further, he would not, they say, even sit down to deal with the themes of his pupils, but would argue walking up and down. It was, then, for his love of what is noble that he was honoured in the state. Nevertheless would he withdraw from society and confine himself to the Garden of the Academy, while close by his scholars made themselves little huts and lived not far from the shrine of the Muses and the lecture-hall. It would seem that in all respects Polemo emulated Xenocrates. And Aristippus in the fourth book of his work On the Luxury of the Ancients affirms him to have been his favourite. Certainly he always kept his predecessor before his mind and, like him, wore that simple austere dignity which is proper to the Dorian mode. He loved Sophocles, particularly in those passages where it seemed as if, in the phrase of the comic poet,

A stout Molossian mastiff lent him aid, and where the poet was, in the words of Phrynichus,

Nor must, nor blended vintage, but true Prannian.

Thus he would call Homer the Sophocles of epic, and Sophocles the Homer of tragedy.

He died at an advanced age of gradual decay, leaving behind him a considerable number of works. I have composed the following epigram upon him:

Dost thou not hear? We have buried Polemo, laid here by that fatal scourge of wasted strength. Yet not Polemo,

---

* Frag. 180 Dind.
* Cf. supra, l. § 112 note.
DIogenes Laertius

οὐ μᾶλλον Πολέμωνα, τὸ σῶμα δέ τούτῳ γὰρ αὐτὸς βαίνων ἐς ἄστρα διάβορον θήκεν χαμαί.

Κεφ. 8. ΚΡΑΤΗΣ

21 Κράτηςς πατρὸς μὲν ἦν 'Ἄντιγένους ('Αθηναίος, Θηριάσιος δὲ τῶν δήμων, ἀκροατής ἅμα καὶ ἐρωμένος Πολέμωνος· ἀλλὰ καὶ διεδέχετο τὴν σχολήν αὐτοῦ. καὶ οὕτως ἄλληλως ἐφιλείτην ὅστε καὶ ἔζοντε χοινὸν τῶν αὐτῶν ἁστίνα ἐπιτηδευμάτων, ἀλλὰ καὶ μέχρι σχεδὸν ἀναπτοῦσας ἐξαιροφόρους ἄλληλοι καὶ θανόντε τῆς αὐτῆς ταφῆς ἐκοινωνεῖτο. θὲν ὁ 'Ἀνταγόρας εἰς ἀμφότερον ἐποίησε τόν τρόπον

μνήματι τῷ δὲ Κράτηττα θεοῦ εἰς Πολέμωνα.

ἐνεπερ κρύπτεσθαι, ἐξει, παρεφύλλοιν, ἄνδρας ὑμεροφόρους μεγαλητορας, ὄν ἀπο μουθός ἱερός ἤσσεν διαμονίου στόματος, καὶ βλαστός καθαρὸς σοφὶς ἐπὶ θεῶν ἐκδόσει αἰῶν' ἀστρεπτοῖς δύομαι πειθόμενος.

22 ἐνθὲν καὶ 'Αρκεσιλαὸν μετελθόντα παρὰ Θεοφράστου πρὸς αὐτοῦς λέγειν ὡς εἶναι τινὲς ἦ λεύφανα τῶν ἐκ τοῦ χρυσοῦ γένους. καὶ γὰρ ἄστρον οὐ φαλοδημεῦε· ἀλλ' οὖν Διομισσόμενον ποτὲ φαντασμάτων εἰπέν, σεμνομένοι ἐπὶ τῷ μηδένα τῶν κρυματος αὐτῶν μήτ' ἐπὶ τρίμηνος μήτ', ἐπὶ κρήνης ἀκηκόαν, καθάπερ Ἰσμηνίου, συσσίτων δὲ φανον αὐτῷ ὁ 'Ἀντίγνος εἶναι παρά Κράντορι, ὄμονως συμβιούων τούτων τε καὶ 'Αρκεσιλαόν. τὴν δὲ οὕκησεν 'Αρκεσιλαὸν μὲν ἔχειν μετὰ Κράντορος, Πολέμωνα δὲ σὺν Κράτηττι μετὰ Δυσι-

IV. 20–22. POLEMO—CRATES

but merely his body, which on his way to the stars he left to moulder in the ground.

Chapter 4. CRATES (of Athens)

(Head of the Academy in third century B.C.)

Crates, whose father was Antigonos, was an Athenian belonging to the deme of Thria. He was a pupil and at the same time a favourite of Polemo, whom he succeeded in the headship of the school. The two were so much attached to each other that they not only shared the same pursuits in life but grew more and more alike to their latest breath, and, dying, shared the same tomb. Hence Antagoras, writing of both, employed this figure:

Passing stranger, say that in this tomb rest godlike Crates and Polemo, men magnanimous in concord, from whose inspired lips flowed sacred speech, and whose pure life of wisdom, in accordance with unswerving tenets, decked them for a bright immortality.

Hence Arcesilaus, who had quitted Theophrastus and gone over to their school, said of them that they were gods or a remnant of the Golden Age. They did not side with the popular party, but were such as Dionysodorus the flute-player is said to have claimed to be, when he boasted that no one ever heard his melodies, as those of Ismenias were heard, either on shipboard or at the fountain. According to Antigonus, their common table was in the house of Crantor; and these two and Arcesilaus lived in harmony together. Arcesilaus and Crantor shared the same house, while Polemo and Crates lived with

*Anth. Pal. vii. 103.
Lysicles, one of the citizens. Crates, as already stated, was the favourite of Polemo and Arcesilaus of Crantor.

According to Apollodorus in the third book of his Chronology, Crates at his death left behind him works, some of a philosophical kind, others on comedy, others again speeches delivered in the assembly or when he was envoy. He also left distinguished pupils; among them Arcesilaus, of whom we shall speak presently—for he was also a pupil of Crates; another was Bion of Borysthenes, who was afterwards known as the Theodorean, from the school which he joined; of him too we shall have occasion to speak next after Arcesilaus.

There have been ten men who bore the name of Crates: (1) the poet of the Old Comedy; (2) a rhetorician of Tralles, a pupil of Isocrates; (3) a sapper and miner who accompanied Alexander; (4) the Cynic, of whom more hereafter; (5) a Peripatetic philosopher; (6) the Academic philosopher described above; (7) a grammarian of Malos; (8) the author of a geometrical work; (9) a composer of epigrams (10) an Academic philosopher of Tarsus.

Chapter 5. Crantor
(Perhaps about 340–290 B.C.)

Cranter of Sici, though he was much esteemed in his native country, left it for Athens and attended the lectures of Xenocrates at the same time as Polemo. He left memoirs extending to 30,000 lines, some of which are by some critics attributed to Arcesilaus. He is said to have been asked what it was in Polemo that attracted him, and to have
IV. 24–26. CRANTOR

replied, "The fact that I never heard him raise or lower his voice in speaking." He happened to fall ill, and retired to the temple of Asclepius, where he proceeded to walk about. At once people flocked round him in the belief that he had retired thither, not on account of illness, but in order to open a school. Among them was Arcesilaus, who wished to be introduced by his means to Polemo, notwithstanding the affection which united the two, as will be related in the Life of Arcesilaus. However, when he recovered, he continued to attend Polemo's lectures, and for this he was universally praised. He is also said to have left Arcesilaus his property, to the value of twelve talents. And when asked by him where he wished to be buried, he answered a:

Sweet in some nook of native soil to rest.

It is also said that he wrote poems and deposited them under seal in the temple of Athena in his native place. And Theaetetus the poet writes thus of him b:

Pleasing to men, more pleasing to the Muses, lived Crantor, and never saw old age. Receive, O earth, the hallowed dead; gently may he live and thrive even in the world below.

Cranter admired Homer and Euripides above all other poets; it is hard, he said, at once to write tragedy and to stir the emotions in the language of everyday life. And he would quote the line from the story of Bellerophon c:

Alas! But why Alas? We have suffered the lot of mortals.

And it is said that there are extant d these lines of the poet Antagoras, spoken by Crantor on Love:

---

IV. 26–28. CRANTOR—ARCESILAUS

My mind is in doubt, since thy birth is disputed, whether I am to call thee, Love, the first of the immortal gods, the eldest of all the children whom old Erebus and queenly Night brought to birth in the depths beneath wide Ocean; or art thou the child of wise Cypris, or of Earth, or of the Winds? So many are the goods and ills thou devisest for men in thy wanderings. Therefore hast thou a body of double form.

He was also clever at inventing terms. For instance, he said of a tragic player’s voice that it was unpolished and unpeeled. And of a certain poet that his verses abounded in miserliness. And that the disquisitions of Theophrastus were written with an oyster-shell. His most highly esteemed work is the treatise On Grief.\(^a\) He died before Polemo and Crates, his end being hastened by dropsy. I have composed upon him the following epigram \(^b\):

The worst of maladies overwhelmed you, Crantor, and thus did you descend the black abyss of Pluto. While you fare well even in the world below, the Academy and your country of Sali are bereft of your discourses.

Chapter 6. ARCESILAUS (c. 318–242 B.C.)

Arcesilaus, the son of Seuthes, according to Apollodorus in the third book of his Chronology, came from Pitane in Aeolis. With him begins the Middle Academy; he was the first to suspend his judgement owing to the contradictions of opposing arguments. He was also the first to argue on both sides of a question, and the first to meddle with the system handed down by Plato and, by means of question and answer, to make it more closely resemble eristic.

\(^a\) "Legimus omnes Crantoris, veteris Academici, de\n
\(^b\) "Anth. Plan. ii. 381."
He came across Crantor in this way. He was the youngest of four brothers, two of them being his brothers by the same father, and two by the same mother. Of the last two Pylades was the elder, and of the former two Moereas, and Moereas was his guardian. At first, before he left Pitane for Athens, he was a pupil of the mathematician Autolycus, his fellow-countryman, and with him he also travelled to Sardis. Next he studied under Xanthus, the musician, of Athens; then he was a pupil of Theophrastus. Lastly, he crossed over to the Academy and joined Crantor. For while his brother Moereas, who has already been mentioned, wanted to make him a rhetorician, he was himself devoted to philosophy, and Crantor, being enamoured of him, cited the line from the Andromeda of Euripides:

O maiden, if I save thee, wilt thou be grateful to me?

and was answered with the next line:

Take me, stranger, whether for maid servant or for wife.

After that they lived together. Whereupon Theophrastus, nettled at his loss, is said to have remarked, "What a quick-witted and ready pupil has left my school!" For, besides being most effective in argument and decidedly fond of writing books, he also took up poetry. And there is extant an epigram of his upon Attalus which runs thus:

Pergamos, not famous in arms alone, is often celebrated for its steeds in divine Pisa. And if a mortal may make bold to utter the will of heaven, it will be much more sung by bards in days to come.

---

a Nauck, T.G.F.³, Eur. 129.
b Ib. 139.
* Anth. Plan. iii. 56.
And again upon Menodorus, the favourite of Eugaumas, one of his fellow-students:

Far, far away are Phrygia and sacred Thyatira, thy native land, Menodorus, son of Cadanus. But to unspeakable Acheron the ways are equal, from whatever place they be measured, as the proverb saith. To thee Eugaumas raised this far-seen monument, for thou wert dearest to him of all who for him toiled.

He esteemed Homer above all the poets and would always read a passage from him before going to sleep. And in the morning he would say, whenever he wanted to read Homer, that he would pay a visit to his dear love. Pindar too he declared matchless for imparting fullness of diction and for affording a copious store of words and phrases. And in his youth he made a special study of Ion.

He also attended the lectures of the geometer Hipponicus, at whom he pointed a jest as one who was in all besides a listless, yawning sluggard but yet proficient in his subject. “Geometry,” he said, “must have flown into his mouth while it was agape.”

When this man’s mind gave way, Arcesilas took him to his house and nursed him until he was completely restored. He took over the school on the death of Crates, a certain Socratides having retired in his favour. According to some, one result of his suspending judgement on all matters was that he never so much as wrote a book. Others relate that he was caught revising some works of Cantor, which according to some he published, according to others he burnt. He would seem to have held Plato in admiration, and he possessed a copy of his works. Some represent him as emulous of Pyrrho as well. He was devoted to dialectic and adopted the methods...
of argument introduced by the Eretrian school. On account of this Ariston said of him:

Plato the head of him, Pyrrho the tail, midway Diodorus. 

And Timon speaks of him thus:

Having the lead of Menedemus at his heart, he will run either to that mass of flesh, Pyrrho, or to Diodorus.

And a little farther on he introduces him as saying:

I shall swim to Pyrrho and to crooked Diodorus.

He was highly axiomatic and concise, and in his discourse fond of distinguishing the meaning of terms. He was satirical enough, and outspoken. This is why Timon speaks of him again as follows:

And mixing sound sense with wily cavils.

Hence, when a young man talked more boldly than was becoming, Arcesilaus exclaimed, “Will no one beat him at a game of knuckle-bone?” Again, when some one of immodest life denied that one thing seemed to him greater than another, he rejoined, “Then six inches and ten inches are all the same to you?” There was a certain Hemon, a Chian, who, though ugly, fancied himself to be handsome, and always went about in fine clothes. He having propounded as his opinion that the wise man will never fall in love, Arcesilaus replied, “What, not with one so handsome as you and so handsomely dressed?” And when one of loose life, to imply that Arcesilaus was arrogant, addressed him thus:

\[\text{Cf. Hom. Od. v. 346.}\]

\[\text{Or possibly with Wachsmuth: “mixing jest in wily fashion (\textit{alumnos}) with abuse.”}\]

\[\text{Nauck, \textit{T.G.F.}^6, \textit{Adesp.} 282.}\]
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

IV. 35–36. ARCESILAEUS

Queen, may I speak, or must I silence keep?

his reply was a:

Woman, why talk so harshly, not as thou art wont?

When some talkative person of no family caused him considerable trouble, he cited the line b:

Right ill to live with are the sons of slaves.

Of another who talked much nonsense he said that he could not have had even a nurse to scold him. And some persons he would not so much as answer. To a money-lending student, upon his confessing ignorance of something or other, Arcesilaus replied with two lines from the Oenomaus of Sophocles c:

Be sure the hen-bird knows not from what quarter the wind blows until she looks for a new brood in the nest. a

A certain dialectic, a follower of Alexinus, was unable to repeat properly some argument of his teacher, whereupon Arcesilaus reminded him of the story of Philoxenus and the brickmakers. He found them singing some of his melodies out of tune; so he retaliated by trampling on the bricks they were making, saying, “If you spoil my work, I'll spoil yours.” He was, moreover, genuinely annoyed with any who took up their studies too late. By some natural impulse he was betrayed into using such phrases as “I assert,” and “So-and-so” (mentioning the name) “will not assent to this.” d And this trait

---

b Nauck, T.G.F., Eur. 976.
c Nauck, T.G.F., Soph. 436.
d “Men pay little heed to obvious facts except when their own interests are concerned.” So A.C. Pearson, ad loc., 412


* The use of these phrases was inconsistent with the suspension of judgement professed by Arcesilaus.
many of his pupils imitated, as they did also his style of speaking and his whole address.

Very fertile in invention, he could meet objection acutely or bring the course of discussion back to the point at issue, and fit it to every occasion. In persuasiveness he had no equal, and this all the more drew pupils to the school, although they were in terror of his pungent wit. But they willingly put up with that; for his goodness was extraordinary, and he inspired his pupils with hopes. He showed the greatest generosity in private life, being ever ready to confer benefits, yet most modestly anxious to conceal the favour. For instance, he once called upon Ctesibius when he was ill and, seeing in what straits he was, quietly put a purse under his pillow. He, when he found it, said, "This is the joke of Arcesilas." Moreover, on another occasion, he sent him 1000 drachmas. Again, by introducing Archias the Arcadian to Eumenes, he caused him to be advanced to great dignity. And, as he was very liberal, caring very little for money, so he was the first to attend performances where seats were paid for, and he was above all eager to go to those of Archocrates and Callocrates, for which the fee was a gold piece. And he helped many people and collected subscriptions for them. Some one once borrowed his silver plate in order to entertain friends and never brought it back, but Arcesilas did not ask him for it and pretended it had not been borrowed. Another version of the story is that he lent it on purpose, and, when it was returned, made the borrower a present of it because he was poor.
the son of Philetaerus, furnished him with large sums, and for this reason Eumenes was the only one of the contemporary kings to whom he dedicated any of his works.

And whereas many persons courted Antigonus and went to meet him whenever he came to Athens, Arcesilaus remained at home, not wishing to thrust himself upon his acquaintance. He was on the best of terms with Hierocles, the commandant in Munichia and Piraeus, and at every festival would go down to see him. And though Hierocles joined in urging him to pay his respects to Antigonus, he was not prevailed upon, but, after going as far as the gates, turned back. And after the battle at sea, when many went to Antigonus or wrote him flattering letters, he held his peace. However, on behalf of his native city, he did go to Demetrias as envoy to Antigonus, but failed in his mission. He spent his time wholly in the Academy, shunning politics.

Once indeed, when at Athens, he stopped too long in the Piraeus, discussing themes, out of friendship for Hierocles, and for this he was censured by certain persons. He was very lavish, in short another Aristippus, and he was fond of dining well, but only with those who shared his tastes. He lived openly with Theodete and Phila, the Elean courtemales, and to those who censured him he quoted the maxims of Aristippus. He was also fond of boys and very susceptible. Hence he was accused by Ariston of

if Αθηναίοι were transposed to come between τῶν and πολλῶν, adding καὶ πρὸς τῶν θεῶν λέγων after πολλῶν ἐκτοπίζων instead of after Πειραῖοι. This account seems in some respects to confirm the impression conveyed by the sentence a little higher up, beginning πολλῶν δὲ καὶ τῶν 'Ἀντίγωνον ... ἐκάστοτε.
Chios, the Stoic, and his followers, who called him a corrupter of youth and a shameless teacher of immorality. He is said to have been particularly enamoured of Demetrius who sailed to Cyrene, and of Cleochares of Myrlea; of him the story is told that, when a band of revellers came to the door, he told them that for his part he was willing to admit them but that Cleochares would not let him. This same youth had amongst his admirers Demochares the son of Laches, and Pythocles the son of Bugelus, and once when Arcesilaus had caught them, with great forbearance he ordered them off. For all this he was assailed and ridiculed by the critics above-mentioned, as a friend of the mob who courted popularity. The most virulent attacks were made upon him in the circle of Hieronymus the Peripatetic, whenever he collected his friends to keep the birthday of Halcyoneus, son of Antigonus, an occasion for which Antigonus used to send large sums of money to be spent in merrymaking. There he had always shunned discussion over the wine; and when Aridices, proposing a certain question, requested him to speak upon it, he replied, “The peculiar province of philosophy is just this, to know that there is a time for all things.” As to the charge brought against him that he was the friend of the mob, Timon, among many other things, has the following:

So saying, he plunged into the surrounding crowd. And they were amazed at him, like chaffinches about an owl, pointing him out as vain, because he was a flatterer of the mob. And why, insignificant thing that you are, do you puff yourself out like a simpleton?

And yet for all that he was modest enough to

---

*a* The reading of the mss. is *para* Ἰερώνυμων 70. II.

*b* Cf. infra, v. 59.
420

43 "Διδωκα Διογένει διαθήκης ἐμαυτοῦ κομίσαι πρὸς σὲ διὰ γὰρ τὸ πολλάκις ἄρρωστει καὶ τὸ σώμα ἀσθενῶς ἔχειν ἐδοξῆ ὅτι διαθέσαι, ἐνε εἰ τι γένοιτο ἄλλοιον, μῆτε σὲ ἡδικηκῶς ἀπὸ τὸν εἰς ἐμ’ ἐκτενῶς οὐτῶν πεφυλασσημένον. καὶ ἀξιοπηρτότατος δ’ εἴ τῶν ἔνιαδε σὺ μοι τηρῶν αὐτὰς διὰ τὴν ἡλικίαν καὶ τὴν πρὸς ἡμᾶς οἰκείοτητα. περὶ οὖν, μεμημένος διότι σοὶ πιστῶ τὴν ἀναγκαίωτάτην παρακατατήρειμα, δίκαιος ἡμῶν εἶναι,

421

44 "Ἀρκεσίλαος Θαυμασία χαίρειν.

"I have given Diogenes my will to be conveyed to you. For, owing to my frequent illnesses and the weak state of my body, I decided to make a will, in order that, if anything untoward should happen, you, who have been so devotedly attached to me, should not suffer by my decease. You are the most deserving of all those in this place to be entrusted with the will, on the score both of age and of relationship to me. Remember then that I have reposed the most absolute confidence in you, and strive to
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

διπος δυον ἐπὶ σοὶ τὰ κατ’ ἐμὲ ἐνταξιμένων ἦ μοι διωκημένα. κενταὶ δὲ Ἀθηναῖοι αὐται παρὰ τῶν γνωρίμων καὶ ἐν 'Ερετρίᾳ παρ’ Ἀμφικρίτω.

'Ετελεύτησε δὲ, ὡς φησιν Ἑρμιππός, ἀκρατον ἐμφορθείς πολὺ καὶ παρακόπας, ὡς γεγονός ἄτοσ πέμπτον καὶ ἐθδομηκοστόν, ἀποδεχθεῖς πρὸς Ἀθηναίων ὡς οὔδεις.

"Εστι καὶ εἰς τούτων ἦμως.

Ἀρκεσίλαε, τί μοι τόσον οἶδον ἀκρατον ἀφειδώς ἐστιασα, ἀστικὴν ἐκτὸς ὀλισθεὶς ἡν;
οἰκτείρῳ ο’ οὐ τόσον ἐπεὶ δάνει, ἀλλ’ ὅτι Μουσᾶς ὑβρισα οὐ μετρῆς ὑπηρεσίων καὶ κυνικι.

Γεγούνας δὲ καὶ ἀλλοι τρεῖς Ἀρκεσίλαιοι ποιήσα τάρχαίας καμφωδίας, ἀλλοὶ ἔλεγχαις, έτερος ἀγαλματιστόνως εἰς ὁν καὶ Σωμανθὸς ἐποίησαν ἐπὶ-
γραμμά τούτῳ.

'Ἀρτέμιδος τὸ τά ἀγαλμα, διηκόσιαι δ’ ἄρ’ ὡς μισθὸς δραματὶ ταὶ Πάραι, τῶν ἐπίσημαι τράγος.

ἀσκητοῖς δ’ ἐποίησαν Ἀθηναῖς παλάμιον ἄξιος Ἀρκεσίλα ὡς Ἀριστοδίκου.

'Ὁ δὲ προερημένος φιλόσοφος, καθά φησιν Ἀπολλόδωρος εὖ Χρονικοῖς, ἄκμαζε περὶ τὴν εἰκοστὴν καὶ ἐκατοστὴν Ὠλυμπιάδα.

Κεφ. ξ’. ΒΙΩΝ

46 Βιών τὸ μὲν γένος ἣν Βορυσθένης, ὄντων δὲ γονέων καὶ ἀρ’ ὅτων πραγμάτων ἦκεν ἐπὶ σιλο-

IV. 44-46. ARCESILAS—BIÖN
deal justly by me, in order that, so far as you are concerned, the provisions I have made may be carried out with fitting dignity. A copy is deposited at Athens with some of my acquaintance, and another in Eretria with Amphicritus."

He died, according to Hermippus, through drinking too freely of unmixed wine which affected his reason; he was already seventy-five and regarded by the Athenians with unparalleled good-will.

I have written upon him as follows a:

Why, pray, Arcesilas, didst thou quaff so unsparingly unmixed wine as to go out of thy mind? I pity thee not so much for thy death as because thou didst insult the Muses by improper potions.

Three other men have borne the name of Arcesilas: a poet of the Old Comedy, another poet who wrote elegies, and a sculptor besides, on whom Simonides composed this epigram b:

This is a statue of Artemis and its cost two hundred Parian drachmas, which bear a goat for their device. It was made by Arcesilas, the worthy son of Aristodicus, well practised in the arts of Athena.

According to Apollodorus in his Chronology, the philosopher described in the foregoing flourished about the 120th Olympiad. c

CHAPTER 7. BIÖN (third century B.C.)

Bion was by birth a citizen of Borysthenes [Olbia]; who his parents were, and what his circumstances before he took to philosophy, he himself told

a Anth. Pal. vii. 104.

b Anth. Plan. iii. 9.

c 300–296 B.C.
Antigonus in plain terms. For, when Antigonus inquired:

Who among men, and whence, are you? What is your city and your parents?*

he, knowing that he had already been maligned to the king, replied, "My father was a freedman, who wiped his nose on his sleeve"—meaning that he was a dealer in salt fish—"a native of Borysthenes, with no face to show, but only the writing on his face, a token of his master's severity. My mother was such as a man like my father would marry, from a brothel. Afterwards my father, who had cheated the revenue in some way, was sold with all his family. And I, then a not ungraceful youngster, was bought by a certain rhetorician, who on his death left me all he had. And I burnt his books, scraped everything together, came to Athens and turned philosopher.

This is the stock and this the blood from which I boast to have sprung."

Such is my story. It is high time, then, that Persaeus and Philonides left off recounting it. Judge me by myself."

In truth Bion was in other respects a shifty character, a subtle sophist, and one who had given the enemies of philosophy many an occasion to blaspheme, while in certain respects he was even pompous and able to indulge in arrogance. He left very many memoirs, and also sayings of useful application. For example, when he was reproached for not paying court to a youth, his excuse was, "You can't get hold of a soft cheese with a hook." Being once asked who suffers most from anxiety, he

---

*a Hom. Od. x. 335.  b Hom. II. vi. 211.
DI OGENES LAER T IUS

τίς μᾶλλον ἁγωνιᾷ, ἔφη, "ό τά μέγιστα βουλή-
μενος εὐημερεῖν." ἐρωτήθησε εἰ γῆμα—ἀναφέ-
ρεται γὰρ καὶ εἰς τούτον—ἔφη, "ἐὰν μὲν γῆμις
αὐτράπαν, εἰς εἰς πονηρὴν ἂν δὲ καλὴν, εἰς εἰς κοινήν."  
τὸ γῆμα ἔλεγεν ὅρμον εἶναι τῶν κακῶν εἰς αὐτὸ
γούν πάντα καταφεύγειν. τὴν δὲ ποτὶ τὰς ἐτῶν
μητέρα ἔλεγεν τὸ κάλλος ἀλλὸτριον ἀγαθὸν τῶν
πλοῦτον νεόρα προγμάτων. πρὸς τὸν τὰ χαρία
κατεδοκίστα, "τὸν μὲν Ἀμφιάραον," ἔφη, "ὁ
γῆ κατέπει, σὺ δὲ τὴν γῆν." μεγά κακὸν τὸ μὴ
δύνασθαι φέρειν κακόν. κατεγύμωσε δὲ καὶ τῶν
τους ἀνθρώπους κατακαύστων μὲν ός ἀναισθητοὺς,
παρακάτων δὲ ός αἰσθανομένους. ἔλεγε δὲ
συνεχεῖς ὅτι αἰρετῶτερόν ἔστι τὴν ὄραν ἄλλω
χαρίσεως ἡ ἀλλοτρία ἀποδέπεσθαι καὶ γὰρ
εἰς σώμα βλάπτεσθαι καὶ εἰς ψυχήν. διεσάλε δὲ
καὶ τὸν Σωκράτην, λέγων ός εἰ μὲν εἶχεν Ἀλκι-
βάδου χρείαν καὶ ἀπείχετο, μάταιος ἦν εἰ δὲ
μὴ εἶχεν, οὐδὲν ἐποίησε παράδοξον. εὐκολον ἐφάσκε
τὴν εἰς ἄσον δοῦν καταμένοντας γούν ἀπίστευα. τὸν
Ἀλκιβάδον μεμόρυμες ἔλεγεν ός νέος μὲν ἂν
τους ἄνδρας ἀπαγόρευε τῶν γυναικῶν, νεανίσκος
de γενόμενος τὰς γυναῖκας τῶν ἀνδρῶν. εἰ
Ῥόδῳ τὰ ῥητορικὰ διασκοίτων τῶν Ἀθηναίων
tὰ φιλοσοφούμενα ἐδίδακας πρὸς τὴν ἀτια-
σάμενον ἔφη, "πυρῶν ἐκόμισα καὶ κρίθας πι-
πράσκων;"

50 Ἔλεγε δὲ τοὺς ἐν ζώοι μᾶλλον ἂν κολάξεσθαι
εἰ δοκολήρως καὶ μὴ τετρημένοις ἀγγείοις ὑδρό-

replied, "He who is ambitious of the greatest pros-
perity." Being consulted by some one as to whether
he should marry—for this story is also told of Bion—
he made answer, "If the wife you marry be ugly,
she will be your bane; if beautiful, you will not
keep her to yourself."

He called old age the
harbour of all ills; at least they all take refuge
there. Renown he called the mother of virtues;
beauty another's good; wealth the sinews of success.
To some one who had devoured his patrimony he
said, "The earth swallowed Amphiaraus, but you
have swallowed your land." To be unable to bear
an ill is itself a great ill. He used to condemn those
who burnt men alive as if they could not feel, and
yet cauterized them as if they could. He used
repeatedly to say that to grant favours to another
was preferable to enjoying the favours of others.
For the latter means ruin to both body and soul.
He even abused Socrates, declaring that, if he felt
desire for Alcibiades and abstained, he was a fool; if
he did not, his conduct was in no way remarkable.
The road to Hades, he used to say, was easy to travel;
at any rate men passed away with their eyes shut.
He said in censure of Alcibiades that in his boyhood
he drew away the husbands from their wives, and as
a young man the wives from their husbands. When
the Athenians were absorbed in the practice of
rhetoric, he taught philosophy at Rhodes. To some
one who found fault with him for this he replied,
"How can I sell barley when what I brought to
market is wheat?"

He used to say that those in Hades would be
more severely punished if the vessels in which they
drew water were whole instead of being piercéd with
holes. To an importunate talker who wanted his help he said, "I will satisfy your demand, if you will only get others to plead your cause and stay away yourself." On a voyage in bad company he fell in with pirates. When his companions said, "We are lost if we are discovered," "And I too," he replied, "unless I am discovered." Conceit he styled a hindrance to progress. Referring to a wealthy miser he said, "He has not acquired a fortune; the fortune has acquired him." Misers, he said, took care of property as if it belonged to them, but derived no more benefit from it than if it belonged to others.

"When we are young," said he, "we are courageous, but it is only in old age that prudence is at its height."

Prudence, he said, excels the other virtues as much as sight excels the other senses. He used to say that we ought not to heap reproaches on old age, seeing that, as he said, we all hope to reach it. To a slanderer who showed a grave face his words were, "I don't know whether you have met with ill luck, or your neighbour with good." He used to say that low birth made a bad partner for free speech, for—

It coves a man, however bold his heart.a

We ought, he remarked, to watch our friends and see what manner of men they are, in order that we may not be thought to associate with the bad or to decline the friendship of the good.

Bion at the outset used to deprecate the Academic doctrines,b even at the time when he was a pupil of Crates. Then he adopted the Cynic discipline, donning cloak and wallet. For little else was needed to convert him to the doctrine of entire insensibility.

---

b i.e. he had his doubts. Reiske, however, by his con-
Next he went over to Theodorean views, after he had heard the lectures of Theodorus the Atheist, who used every kind of sophistical argument. And after Theodorus he attended the lectures of Theophrastus the Peripatetic. He was fond of display and great at cutting up anything with a jest, using vulgar names for things. Because he employed every style of speech in combination, Eratosthenes, we hear, said of him that he was the first to deck philosophy with bright-flowered robes. He was clever also at parody. Here is a specimen of his style:

O gentle Archytas, musician-born, blessed in thine own conceit, most skilled of men to stir the bass of strife.\(^a\)

And in general he made sport of music and geometry. He lived extravagantly, and for this reason he would move from one city to another, sometimes contriving to make a great show. Thus at Rhodes he persuaded the sailors to put on students’ garb and follow in his train. And when, attended by them, he made his way into the gymnasion, all eyes were fixed on him. It was his custom also to adopt certain young men for the gratification of his appetite and in order that he might be protected by their goodwill.\(^b\) He was extremely selfish and insisted strongly on the maxim that “friends share in common.” And hence it came about that he is not credited with a single disciple, out of all the crowds who attended his lectures. And yet there were some who followed his lead in shamelessness. For instance, Betion, one of his intimates, is said once to have addressed Menedemus in these words: “For my part, Menedemus, I pass the night with Bion, and I don’t think I am any the worse for it.”

---

\(^a\) Cf. Hom. II. iii. 182 δ μάκαρ Ἀρχύται, μουρμογενής, διβιδαμένος. The address πάντων ἐκπαιδεύσατ’ αὐτῶν occurs in II. i. 146 and xviii. 170.

\(^b\) See, however, supra, 49.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

πεπονθέναι." πολλὰ δὲ καὶ ἄθεοτερον προσφέρετο
tοὺς ὁμιλοῦσι, τοῦτο Θεοδώρειον ἀπολαμάσας. καὶ
ὕστερον πατε ἐμπεσὼν εἰς νόσον, ὡς ἐφαικνὸν οἱ
ἐν Χαλκίδι—ἀυτὸθα γὰρ καὶ κατέστρεψε—περίπατα
λαβέναι ἐπείσθη καὶ μεταγινώσκας ἐφ’ ὑσ’ ἐνηλιμ-
μέλησαν εἰς τὸ θεῖον. ἀπορία δὲ καὶ τῶν νοσο-
κομοῦσιν δευτέρῳ διειστῆτο, ἐξὸς Αὐτήγγοιον αὐτῷ
dύο θεραπωντας ἀπέστειλε. καὶ ἤκολουθεὶ γε
αὐτὸς ἐν φορείῳ, καθά φης Φαβρώνον ἐν Παντο-
δαπῇ ἱστορίᾳ.

'Ἀλλὰ καὶ ὡς κατέστρεψε καὶ ἠμέτς αὐτοῦ οὖτος
ἐπισάμεθα:'

55 Βίωνα, τὸν Βορυσθένεις ἐφύε εὐθύ Σκύθισσα,
λέγειν ἀκόμῳμεν θεοῦς ὡς οὐδὲν εἰσὶν οὖντις.
κει μὲν τὸ δόγμα τούτο ἔχων ἐμμένων, ἵν αἰκός
λέγειν, φρονεῖν ὅποιο δοκεῖ· κακίως μὲν, ἀλλ’ ἠδοξέ.
νῦν δ’ ἐς νόσον πεσὼν μακρὴν καὶ μὴ θάνη δεδοκικός
ὁ μὴ θεοῦς εἶναι λέγων, ὃ νῦν οὐδὲ βλέψας.

56 ὁ πολλὰ χλευάσας βροτοῦς, ὅσοι θεοῖς ἔδων,
οὐ μοῦνον ἐσχάρης ὑπὲρ βωμῶν τε καὶ τραπέζης
kynῆς, λιπῆς, νικήμασιν θεῶν ἐδαισε ὅμως·
oüδ’ εἶπε μοῦνον. Άλιτον, σύγγνωτε τοῖς πρὶν ἀλλά
καὶ γρατί δύκεν εὐμαρῆς τράχηλον εἰς ἐπίστηθι
καὶ σκυτῶν βραχίονος πεπεσμένως ἐδησα.

57 βάμον τε καὶ κλάδων δάφνης ὑπὲρ θύρην ἔθηκεν,
ἀπαντὰ μάλλον ὁ θανεῖν ἐτοιμὸς ὁν ὑπονεύειν.
μορός δ’ ὄς ἤθελεν τινος μισθῷ τὸ θεῖον εἶναι,
ὡς τῶν θεῶν ὡτως ἦταν Βίων θῆλη νομίζειν.
τοιγάρ μάτην ψηφιῶν, ὅτ’ ἤν ἄπας ο λέμφοι ἀθραξ,
τὴν χεῖρα τείνας ἀδὲ τῶν, Χαῖρ’, εἶπε, χαῖρε,
Πλουτεῖ.

432 1 αὐτῷ codd.: corr. Reiske.

IV. 54–57. BION

his familiar talk he would often vehemently assail
belief in the gods, a taste which he had derived from
Theodorus. Afterwards, when he fell ill (so it was
said by the people of Chalce where he died), he was
persuaded to wear an amulet and to repent of his
offences against religion. And even for want of
nurses he was in a sad plight, until Antigonus sent
him two servants. And it is stated by Favorinus
in his Miscellaneous History that the king himself
followed in a litter.

Even so he died, and in these lines a I have taken
him to task:

We hear that Bion, to whom the Scythian land of Bory-
sthenes gave birth, denied that the gods really exist. Had
he persisted in holding this opinion, he would have been right
to say, “He thinks as he pleases: wrongly, to be sure, but
still he does think so.” But in fact, when he fell ill of a
lingering disease and feared death, he who denied the exist-
ence of the gods, and would not even look at a temple, who
often mocked at mortals for sacrificing to deities, not only over
hearth and high altars and table, with sweet savour and fat
and incense did he gladden the nostrils of the gods; nor
was he content to say “I have sinned, forgive the past,”
but he cheerfully allowed an old woman to put a charm
round his neck, and in full faith bound his arms with leather
and placed the rhamnus and the laurel-branch over the
door, being ready to submit to anything sooner than die.
Fool for wishing that the divine favour might be purchased
at a certain price, as if the gods existed just when Bion chose
to recognize them! It was then with vain wisdom that,
when the driveller was all ashes, he stretched out his hand
and said “Hail, Pluto, hail!”

a Anth. Plan. v. 37.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

IV. 58–59. BION—LACYDES

Ten men have borne the name of Bion: (1) the contemporary of Pherecydes of Syria, to whom are assigned two books in the Ionic dialect; he was of Proconnesus; (2) a Syracusan, who wrote rhetorical handbooks; (3) our philosopher; (4) a follower of Democritus and mathematician of Abdera, who wrote both in Attic and in Ionic: he was the first to affirm that there are places where the night lasts for six months and the day for six months; (5) a native of Soli, who wrote a work on Aethiopia; (6) a rhetorician, the author of nine books called after the Muses; (7) a lyric poet; (8) a Milesian sculptor, mentioned by Polemo; (9) a tragic poet, one of the poets of Tarsus, as they are called; (10) a sculptor of Clazomenae or Chios, mentioned by Hipponax.

CHAPTER 8. LACYDES

(Head of the Academy c. 242–216 B.C.)

Lacydes, son of Alexander, was a native of Cyrene. He was the founder of the New Academy and the successor of Arcesilas: a man of very serious character who found numerous admirers; industrious from his youth up and, though poor, of pleasant manners and pleasant conversation. A most amusing story is told of his housekeeping. Whenever he brought anything out of the store-room, he would seal the door up again and throw his signet-ring inside through the opening, to ensure that nothing laid up there should be stolen or carried off. So soon, then, as his rogues of servants got to know this, they broke the seal and carried off what they pleased, afterwards throwing the ring in the same way through

* Possibly Pytheas of Massilia in his "Northern Voyage" had had experience of Arctic winters and summers.
the opening into the store-room. Nor were they ever detected in this.

Lacydes used to lecture in the Academy, in the garden which had been laid out by King Attalus, and from him it derived its name of Lacydeum. He did what none of his predecessors had ever done; in his lifetime he handed over the school to Telecles and Evander, both of Phocaea. Evander was succeeded by Hegesinus of Pergamum, and he again by Carneades. A good saying is attributed to Lacydes. When Attalus sent for him, he is said to have remarked that statues are best seen from a distance. He studied geometry late, and some one said to him, "Is this a proper time?" To which he replied, "Nay, is it not even yet the proper time?"

He assumed the headship of the school in the fourth year of the 134th Olympiad, and at his death he had been head for twenty-six years. His end was a palsy brought on by drinking too freely. And here is a quip of my own upon the fact:

Of thee too, O Lacydes, I have heard a tale, that Bacchus seized thee and dragged thee on tip-toe to the underworld. Nay, was it not clear that when the wine-god comes in force into the frame, he loosens our limbs? Perhaps this is why he gets his name of the Loosener.
IV. 62–64. CARNEADES

carefully the writings of the Stoics and particularly those of Chrysippus, and by combating these successfully he became so famous that he would often say :

Without Chrysippus where should I have been?
The man's industry was unparalleled, although in physics he was not so strong as in ethics. Hence he would let his hair and nails grow long from intense devotion to study. Such was his predominance in philosophy that even the rhetoricians would dismiss their classes and repair to him to hear him lecture.

His voice was extremely powerful, so that the keeper of the gymnasion sent to him and requested him not to shout so loud. To which he replied, "Then give me something by which to regulate my voice." Thereupon by a happy hit the man replied in the words, "You have a regulator in your audience." His talent for criticizing opponents was remarkable, and he was a formidable controversialist. And for the reasons already given he further declined invitations to dine out. One of his pupils was Mentor the Bithynian, who tried to ingratiate himself with a concubine of Carneades; so on one occasion (according to Favorinus in his Miscellaneous History), when Mentor came to lecture, Carneades in the course of his remarks let fall these lines by way of parody at his expense :

Hither comes an old man of the sea, infallible, like to Mentor in person and in voice. Him I proclaim to have been banished from this school:

Thereupon the other got up and replied :

Carneades applies two lines from the Odyssey, namely iv. 384 and (with a change to the masculine participle) ii. 268 or 401.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

οἱ μὲν ἐκήρυσσον, τοι δ᾽ ἤγείροντο μὰλ' ἄκα.

Δειλότερον δὲ ποις δοκεῖ περὶ τὴν τελευτὴν ἀνεστράφθαι, ὅτε συνεχές ἔλεγεν, "ἡ συντήρασα φύσις καὶ διαλύει." μαθὼν τε Ἀντιπάτρων φάρμακον πίοντα ἀποθανεῖν, παραμυθήσθ᾽ ἀργοῦ τοῦ εὐθαρσῆς τῆς ἀπαλλαγῆς καὶ φησι, "δότης οὖν κάμψιν... τῶν δὲ εἰπότων, "τὶ; "οἶνομελὲς" εἶπεν. τελευτῶντος δ᾽ αὐτῶν φασὶν ἔκλειψεν γενέσθαι σελήνης, συμπάθειαν, ὡς ἂν εἰποῖ τις, αἰνητομένου τοῦ μὲθ᾽ ἦλιον καλλιστόν τῶν ἄστρων.

Φησὶ δὲ Ἀπολλόδωρος ἐν Χροκοίδος ἀπελθέντων αὐτῶν ἐξ ἀνθρώπων ἔτει τεταρτῆς τῆς δευτέρας καὶ ἔξθισιν τῆς ἑκατοστῆς Ὁλυμπιάδος, βιώσαντα ἐπὶ πέντε πρὸς τοῖς ὠγδόκοντα. φέροντα δὲ αὐτὸν ἐπιστολαὶ πρὸς Ἀριαράθην τοῦ Καππαδοκίας βασιλέα. τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ αὐτῶν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτῶν καὶ εἰς τὸν ἡμῶν τῷ λογοειδείᾳ μέτρῳ τοῖς Ἀρχαῖοι ἤθελον;

τί μὲ Καρνέαθν, τί μὲ, Μοῦσα, θέλεις ἔλεγχεν; ἀμάθης γὰρ ὡς ἑτοὶ κατοικεῖν ὅπου δεδοίκει τοι ὄντι καὶ φθαρσάν ποιεῖν εὐχαῖς κακίσταν νόσον, οὐκ έθελεν λύσον ἰσχυρῶς ἀλλὰ ἀκούσας ἢ φάρμακον Ἄντιπάτρων τι πιών ἀπέδρα, "δοτε τοῖς σαν, ἐμφήσε "τι καμέ πεὶν; "τι μένοι; τι; "δοτι οἰνόμελει" σφόδρα τε ἐχεῖ πρόχειρα ταύτι; "φύσις ἢ συνεχοῦσα με καὶ διαλύεσθαι δή." ὁ μὲν οὖν ἐλάσσον ἔβη κατὰ γῆς, ἐννάοι δὲ τὰ πλέω κακὰ κέρδε, ἐχοντα μολέων ἐς ἔρου.

Δέγεται καὶ τὰς ὄψεις νυκτὸς ὑποκυθήναι καὶ

IV. 64–66 CARNEADES

Those on their part made proclamation, and these speedily assembled.2

He seems to have shown some want of courage in the face of death, repeating often the words, "Nature which framed this whole will also destroy it." When he learnt that Antipater committed suicide by drinking a potion, he was greatly moved by the constancy with which he met his end, and exclaimed, "Give it then to me also." And when those about him asked "What?" "A honeyed draught," said he. At the time he died the moon is said to have been eclipsed, and one might well say that the brightest luminary in heaven next to the sun thereby gave token of her sympathy.

According to Apollodorus in his Chronology, he departed this life in the fourth year of the 162nd Olympiad b at the age of eighty-five years. Letters of his to Ariarathes, king of Cappadocia, are extant. Everything else was compiled by his pupils; he himself left nothing in writing. I have written upon him in logoeidic metre as follows e:

Why, Muse, oh why wouldst thou have me censure Carneades? For he is ignorant who knoweth not how he feared death. When wasting away with the worst of diseases, he would not find release. But when he heard that Antipater's life was quenched by drinking a potion, "Give me too," he cried, "a draught to drink." "What? pray what?" "Give me a draught of honeyed wine." He had often on his lips the words, "Nature which holds this frame together will surely dissolve it." None the less he too went down to the grave, and he might have got there sooner by cutting short his tale of woes.

It is said that his eyes went blind at night without

* Hom. II. ii. 52.
* b 129–128 B.C.
* Anth. Plan. v. 39.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

άγνοειν κελεύει τε τον παῖδα λύχνων ἀφαίρεσκα μίσαι τοὺς, "κεκόμηκα," "οὐκ ὁ ἐπιθετέω, "σὺ ἁγιανούσκε.
Τούτου πολλοί μὲν καὶ ἄλλοι γεγονοῦν μαθηταί, ἀλλα γεγονοῦτο τοῦ Kleitomachos περὶ οὗ κἀκεκέντων.
Γέγονε μὲν τοι καὶ ἄλλος Karneades, ἐλεγείας ποιητής ψυχρός.

Κεφ. τ'. KLEITOMACHOS

67. Kleitomachos Karneadōnios, oütos ékaleitò mēn 'Astartēs καὶ τῇ ἱδίᾳ φωνῇ κατὰ τὴν πατρίδα ἐφιλοσόφηκε. ἔθνων δ' εἰς 'Atheans ἐπὶ τεταρτάκοντα' ἐτῶν γεγονός ἔκαψε Karneadou kákeinou ἀποδεξάμενον αὐτοῦ τὸ φιλότον γραμματα' τῇ ἐπιστήμῃ μαθηικαὶ καὶ συνήθει τὸν ἄνδρα. δ' ἐτῇ τοσοῦτον ἠλάσει ἐπιμελείας, ὅτε ὑπὲρ τὰ τετρακόσια βιβλία συνεγράφη. καὶ διδάξατο τὸν Karneadou kαὶ τὰ αὐτοῦ μάλιστα διὰ τῶν συγγραμμάτων ἐφώτισεν. ἀνὴρ ἐν ταῖς τρισίν αἱρέσεις διατρήφατο, ἐν τῇ Ἁκαδημαίκῃ καὶ περιπατητική καὶ σταυρικῇ. Καθόλου δὲ τῶν Ἁκαδημαίκων ὁ Τίμων ὄντω διασώπει: οὔτ' Ἁκαδημαίκων πλατυρημοσύνης ἀναλύειν.

'Ἡμεῖς δὲ τῶν Ἁκαδημαίκων τοὺς ἀπὸ Πλάτωνος διεληλυθότες ἐλθόμεν ἐπὶ τοὺς ἀπὸ Πλάτωνος περιπατητικοὺς, εἶν ἦρξαν Ἁριστοτέλης.

IV. 68–67. CARNEADES–CLITOMACHUS

his knowing it, and he ordered the slave to light the lamp. The latter brought it and said, “Here it is.” “Then,” said Carneades, “read.”

He had many other disciples, but the most illustrious of them all was Clitomachus, of whom we have next to speak.

There was another Carneades, a frigid elegiac poet.

CHAPTER 10. CLITOMACHUS

(Head of the Academy from 129 B.C.)

Clitomachus was a Carthaginian, his real name being Hasdrubal, and he taught philosophy at Carthage in his native tongue. He had reached his fortieth year when he went to Athens and became a pupil of Carneades. And Carneades, recognizing his industry, caused him to be educated and took part in training him. And to such lengths did his diligence go that he composed more than four hundred treatises. He succeeded Carneades in the headship of the school, and by his writings did much to elucidate his opinions. He was eminently well acquainted with the three sects—the Academy, the Peripatetics, and the Stoics.

The Academics in general are assailed by Timon in the line:

The proximity of the Academics unseasoned by salt.

Having thus reviewed the Academics who derived from Plato, we will now pass on to the Peripatetics, who also derived from Plato. They begin with Aristotle.
BOOK V

CHAPTER 1. ARISTOTLE (384–322 B.C.)

Aristotle, son of Nicomachus and Phaestus, was a native of Stagira. His father, Nicomachus, as Hermippus relates in his book On Aristotle, traced his descent from Nicomachus who was the son of Machaon and grandson of Asclepius; and he resided with Amyntas, the king of Macedon, in the capacity of physician and friend. Aristotle was Plato's most genuine disciple; he spoke with a lisp, as we learn from Timotheus the Athenian in his book On Lives; further, his calves were slender (so they say), his eyes small, and he was conspicuous by his attire, his rings, and the cut of his hair. According to Timaeus, he had a son by Herpyllis, his concubine, who was also called Nicomachus.

He seceded from the Academy while Plato was still alive. Hence the remark attributed to the latter: "Aristotle spurns me, as colts kick out at the mother who bore them." * Hermippus in his Lives mentions that he was absent as Athenian envoy at the court of Philip when Xenocrates became head of the Academy, and that on his return, when he saw the school under a new head, he made choice of a public walk in the Lyceum where he would walk

---

1 codd. Τιμόθεος repeated from above.

DI OGENES LAERTIUS

μέχρι μὲν ἄλειμματος ἀνακάμπτοντα τοὺς μαθητὰς συμφιλοσοφεῖν ὃθεν περιπατητικὸν προσαγορευθῆναι. οἷς δ᾽, ὅτι ἐκ νόσου περιπατοῦντι Ἀλέξανδρος συμπαρὼν διελέγετο ἄττα.

3 Ἐπειδὴ δὲ πλείους ἐγένοντο ἤδη, καὶ ἐκάθισεν εἰπὼν:

αὐσχρὸν σωπᾶν, Ξενοκράτην δ᾽ ἐὰν λέγειν.

καὶ πρὸς θέαν συνεγύμναζε καὶ πρὸς δητορικὸς ἐπασκών. ἔπειτα μέντοι ἀπήρε πρὸς Ἐρμίων τὸν εὐνοῦχον, Ἀταρνεὺς διὰ ττά τύραννον: ὅτι μὲν ψυχὴ παῦλα γενέσθαι αὐτοῦ, οἰ διὰ κηδεῖσαι αὐτῷ δόντα τῇ θυγατέρᾳ ἡ ἀδελφίδην, ὡς φησὶ Δημήτριος ὁ Μάγνης εἰς τὸν Περὶ ὀμονύμων ποιητῶν τε καὶ συγγραφέων: ὃς καὶ δύον Εὐβοῦλον γνοῦ γενέσθαι τὸν Ἐρμίων, γένει τῆς  ὡς καὶ τοῦ δεσπότην ἁνέλυμα. 'Ἀριστοτέλες δ᾽ ἐν τῷ πρῶτῳ Περὶ παλαιᾶς τρυφῆς φησὶν ἔρασθήναι τὸν

4 Ἀριστοτέλην παλλακίδος τοῦ Ἐρμίων. τοῦ δὲ συγκυρίσατον ἐγιμε τῷ αὐτῷ καὶ ἐθεῖν ὑπερχαίρον τῷ γυναῖκι, ὡς 'Αθηναίοι τῇ 'Ελευσίνῃ Δήμητρι: τῷ τῇ Ἐρμίων παἰδα δέρασθε, ὡς ἔνδον γεγραπται. ἐντεύθεν τε γενέσθαι ἐν Μακεδονίᾳ παρὰ Φιλίππῳ καὶ λαβεῖν μαθὴρ παρὰ αὐτῷ τοῦ ὑπὸ Ἀλέξανδρον, καὶ αὐτῇ ἄναστησαι αὐτῷ τὴν πατρίδα κατασκαφεσθαὶ ὑπὸ Φιλίππου καὶ τυχεῖν.

1 ἄλειμματος. By water puts this between daggers.


V. 2-4. ARISTOTLE

up and down discussing philosophy with his pupils until it was time to rub themselves with oil. Hence the name "Peripatetic." But others say that it was given to him because, when Alexander was recovering from an illness and taking daily walks, Aristotle joined him and talked with him on certain matters.

In time the circle about him grew larger; he then sat down to lecture, remarking:

It were base to keep silence and let Xenocrates speak.

He also taught his pupils to discourse upon a set theme, besides practising them in oratory. Afterwards, however, he departed to Hermias the eunuch, who was tyrant of Atarneus, and there is one story that he was on very affectionate terms with Hermias; according to another, Hermias bound him by ties of kinship, giving him his daughter or his niece in marriage, and so Demetrius of Magnesia narrates in his work on Poets and Writers of the Same Name. The same author tells us that Hermias had been the slave of Eubulus, and that he was of Bithynian origin and had murdered his master. Aristippus in his first book On the Luxury of the Ancients says that Aristotle fell in love with a concubine of Hermias, and married her with his consent, and in an excess of delight sacrificed to the Athenians did to Demeter of Eleusis; and that he composed a paean in honour of Hermias, which is given below; next that he stayed in Macedonia at Philip's court and received from him his son Alexander as his pupil; that he petitioned Alexander to restore his native city which had been destroyed by Philip and obtained his

θέειν Ἀριστοτέλην θυσιὰν τετελευτηκυθα τῇ γυναικί τοιαύτῃ ὄποιαν Ἀθηναίοι τῇ Δήμητρι. This version is irreconcilable with ὑπερχαίρον in D. L.
DIogenes Laertius

οἷς καὶ νόμους θείαν, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐν τῇ σχολῇ νομοθετεῖν μημονούμενον Ἴσον χρόνην, ὡστε κατὰ δέκα ἡμέρας ἀρχοντα ποιεῖν. ἑπεδή τ' εἶδος ἐπεικικὰς αὐτῷ συγγεγενήσαται Ἀλέξανδρος, ἀπῆρεν εἰς ’Αθῆνας, συνήθος αὐτῷ τὸν συγγενῆ Καλλικράτην ὑπένθυ τὸν ’Ολύμπιον. δὲ καὶ παρρησιαστικάτερον λαλούντα τῷ βασιλεί τῷ πειθόμενον αὐτῷ φασών ἐπιθαμβάνεται εἰπεῖν.

ὡκύρωπος δὴ μοι, τέκος, ἐσσεαί, ο’ ἀγορεύεις.

καὶ δὴ καὶ ἐγένετο. δόξας γὰρ Ἐρμολάω συμμετεχθῆκε τῆς εἰς ’Αλέξανδρον ἐπιβουλῆς ἐν σιδηριᾷ περινύγει γαλαξίας, φθαρμός καὶ ἀκόμματος καὶ τέλος λέοντα παραβαίνεις, οὕτω κατεστρέφειν.

Ὁ δὲ οὖν Ἀριστοτέλης ἔλθων εἰς τὰς ’Αθῆνας καὶ τρία πρὸς τοὺς δέκα τῆς σχολῆς ἀφηγησάμενος ἐκ τὴν υπέχθειν εἰς Χαλκίδα, Εὐρυμέδαντος αὐτῶν τοῦ ἑροφάντον δικὴν ἀσεβείας γραμμένου, ἡ Δημοσφύλα, ὡς φήμη Φασιβρώνος ἐν Παντοδαπῇ ἱστορίᾳ, ἑπείθησαίς τοῖς ὑμνοῖς ἐποίησαίς εἰς τῶν ἐποιησάμενος Ὁμήρου, ἄλλα καὶ ἑπιγραμμα ἐπὶ τοῦ ἐν Δελφοῖς ἀνδριάτος τοιοῦτος.

τῶν δὲ ποτ’ οὐχ ὁμοίως παραβᾶς μακάρων θέμιν ἁγνήν ἔκτενεν Περσῶν τοξοφόρων βασιλεύς, οὐ φανερῶς λόγχη φονίου ἐν ἁγόσι κρατήσας, ἀλλὰ ἀνδρός πλατείς χρησάμενος δολίου.

Ἐνταῦθα δὴ πιὸν ἀκόνιστον ἐτελεύτησεν, ὡς

---

V. 4–6. ARISTOTLE

request; and that he also drew up a code of laws for the inhabitants. We learn further that, following the example of Xenocrates, he made it a rule in his school that every ten days a new president should be appointed. When he thought that he had stayed long enough with Alexander, he departed to Athens, having first presented to Alexander his kinsman Callisthenes of Olynthos. But when Callisthenes talked with too much freedom to the king and disregarded his own advice, Aristotle is said to have rebuked him by citing the line a:

Short-lived, I ween, wilt thou be, my child, by what thou sayest.

And so indeed it fell out. For he, being suspected of complicity in the plot of Hermolaus against the life of Alexander, was confined in an iron cage and carried about until he became infested with vermin through lack of proper attention; and finally he was thrown to a lion and so met his end.

To return to Aristotle: he came to Athens, was head of his school for thirteen years, and then withdrew to Chalcis because he was indicted for impiety by Eurymedon the hierophant, or, according to Favorinus b in his Miscellaneous History, by Demophilus, the ground of the charge being the hymn he composed to the aforesaid Hermias, as well as the following inscription for his statue at Delphi c:

This man in violation of the hallowed law of the immortals was unrighteously slain by the king of the bow-bearing Persians, who overcame him, not openly with a spear in murderous combat, but by treachery with the aid of one in whom he trusted.

At Chalcis he died, according to Eumelus in the

---

a Hom. ll. xviii. 95.
b As in ii. 78, iii. 19 and v. 77, Favorinus is curious to state the names of the accusers of philosophers put upon trial.
c Anth. Plan. iii. 48.
fifth book of his Histories, by drinking aconite, at the age of seventy. The same authority makes him thirty years old when he came to Plato; but here he is mistaken. For Aristotle lived to be sixty-three, and he was seventeen when he became Plato’s pupil.

The hymn in question runs as follows:

O virtue, toilsome for the generation of mortals to achieve, the fairest prize that life can win, for thy beauty, O virgin, it were a doom glorious in Hellas even to die and to endure fierce, untiring labours. Such courage dost thou implant in the mind, imperishable, better than gold, dearer than parents or soft-eyed sleep. For thy sake Heracles, son of Zeus, and the sons of Leda endured much in the tasks whereby they pursued thy might. And yearning after thee came Achilles and Ajax to the house of Hades, and for the sake of thy dear form the nursling of Atarneus too was bereft of the light of the sun. Therefore shall his deeds be sung, and the Muses, the daughters of Memory, shall make him immortal, exalting the majesty of Zeus, guardian of strangers, and the grace of lasting friendship.

There is, too, something of my own upon the philosopher which I will quote:

Eurymedon, the priest of Deo’s mysteries, was once about to indict Aristotle for impiety, but he, by a draught of poison, escaped prosecution. This then was an easy way of vanquishing unjust calumnies.

*Anth. Pal. vii. 107.*
DI OGENES LAERTIUS

9 Tootous prwton Fwavgwos en Pwntodapht historia
logon dikanikon uper eaxutou syngraphai phsou ep'
auth' taug' th' dikai kai legew' wos 'Athmwn

'oghyn ep'm' 'oghyn ggraskw, sykon d' epi sycr.

Phgoi d' Apollodwros en Xroinikos gennhtwnai
men autou to prwtw etei ths enat' kai enep-
kosths 'Olmpwadhs, parabalew de Pltwnw kai
diafrmpw para autw eikous et' ep'ts, ep'ttaikadektn
sustanta' kai eis te Mytihnhn elthw ep' arxwntos
Ebdoulw to tetartw etei ths ogyhs kai ekato-
ssth 'Olmpwadhs. Pltwnwos de teleunhastw

tow prwtw etei et' Theoflou, prs 'Ermian aphiai

10 kai neina et' tria' eti Pwvdhtwn d' elhewn prs
Filippw to deuterw etei ths enat' kai ekato-
ssth 'Olmpwadhs, 'Alyzndrou pentekaiduka en' th
gegonntos. eis d' 'Athmws ofwths to deuterw
etei ths evdeknta' kai ekato-
ssth 'Olmpwadhs

ei Dwelew sogalw et' tria prs tois deka,
ep' aphiai eis Xalkida to triw tois tetart-

ths kai deknta' kai ekato-
ssth 'Olmpwadhs, kai
teleunhsw eton trwov wov kai ejkwna nos',
sth kai Dmouzenthn katastrephai en Kalwvra, epi
Filokleous. Legew de dii thn Kalwvnav
prs 'Alyzndrou sustasw proskrousw to basilew
kalewto eti to toivon lupthsa 'Anaxihemw men

Aphotpws d' eis autwn epigrwma kai Thd-

V. 9-11. ARISTOTLE

Favorinus in his Miscellaneous History affirms that
Aristotle was the first to compose a forensic speech
in his own defence written for this very suit; and
he cites him as saying that at Athens

Pear upon pear grows old and fig upon fig.

According to Apollodorus in his Chronology he
was born in the first year of the 99th Olympiad.
He attached himself to Plato and resided with him
twenty years, having become his pupil at the age of
seventeen. He went to Mitylene in the archonship of
Eubulus in the fourth year of the 108th Olympiad.
When Plato died in the first year of that Olympiad,
during the archonship of Theophilus, he went to
Hermias and stayed with him three years. In the
archonship of Pythodotus, in the second year of the
199th Olympiad, he went to the court of Philip,
Alexander being then in his fifteenth year.
His arrival at Athens was in the second year of
the 111th Olympiad, and he lectured in the Lyceum for
thirteen years; then he retired to Chalcis in the
third year of the 114th Olympiad and died a natural
death, at the age of about sixty-three, in the archon-
ship of Philocrates, in the same year which Demo-
sthene died at Calauria. It is said that he incurred
the king's displeasure because he had introduced
Callisthenes to him, and that Alexander, in order to
cause him annoyance, honoured Anaximenes
and sent presents to Xenocrates.

Theocritus of Chios, according to Ambryon in his

452 453
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

κρίτως ὁ Χίος, οὔτωι ποιήσας, ὦς φησίν Ἀμβρότων ἐν τῷ Περὶ Θεοκρήτου.

'Ερμίου εὐνούχου ᾦδ' Εὐβούλου ἀμα δούλου σήμα κενὸν κενόφων τεῦξεν 'Αριστοτέλης, ὁς διὰ τὴν ἀκρατὴ γαστρὸς φύσιν εἴλετο ταῖς, ἀντ' Ἀκαδημείας, Βορβόρον ἐν προχοσίς.

όλλα καὶ Τίμων αὐτὸν καθηματο εἴτον.

οὐδ' ἄρ' Αριστοτέλους εἰκασσόνης ἀλεγενῆς.

Καὶ οὔτος μὲν ὁ βίος τοῦ φιλοσόφου. ἡμεῖς δὲ καὶ διαθήκαις αὐτὸν περιετύχωμεν, οὕτω ποὺς ἐχοῦσιν.

"Εσταὶ μὲν εὖ, εὰν δὲ τὰς συμβαίνης, τάδε διέθετο 'Αριστοτέλης: ἐπήρημον μὲν εἶναι πάντων καὶ διὰ 12 παντὸς 'Αντίπατρον ἐως δ' ἂν Νικάνωρ καταλαβῇ, ἐπιμελεῖσθαι 'Αριστομενῆν, Τίμαρχον, Ἴππαρχον, Διοτέλη, Θεόφραστον, ἐκεῖ δηληται καὶ ἐνδηχηταί αὐτῶ, τόν τε παιδίων καὶ ἔρπυλίδος καὶ τῶν καταλελομένων. καὶ οὗτος ὁ τῇ παιδί, ἐκδιοσσαί αὐτὴν Νικάνορι' εὰν δὲ τῇ παιδί συμβῇ τήρησαι — δ' μὴ γένοιτο οὔδε ἐσταὶ̣ — πρὸ τοῦ γήμασθαι ἡ ἐπείναις γήμαται, μήπω παιδίν ὑπαίτιν, Νικάνωρ κύριος ἐστο καὶ περὶ τοῦ παιδίον καὶ περὶ τῶν ἄλλων διακεφαλῆς ἀξίως καὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἠμῶν. ἐπιμελεῖαθαι δὲ Νικάνωρ καὶ τῆς παιδίς καὶ τοῦ παιδὸς Νικομάχου, ὡς ὅν ἀξίω τὰ περὶ αὐτῶ, ὡς καὶ πατὴρ ὡν καὶ ἀδελφός. εὰν δὲ τὰ πρότερον συμβῇ Νικάνορι— δ μὴ γένοιτο— ἐπὸ τοῦ λαβέων τὴν

---

V. 11–12. ARISTOTLE

book On Theoritrus, ridiculed him in an epigram which runs as follows:

To Hermias the eunuch, the slave withal of Eubulus, an empty monument was raised by empty-witted Aristotle, who by constraint of a lawless appetite chose to dwell at the mouth of the Borborus [muddy stream] rather than in the Academy.

Timon again attacked him in the line:

No, nor yet Aristotle’s painful futility.

Such then was the life of the philosopher. I have also come across his will, which is worded thus:

"All will be well; but, in case anything should happen, Aristotle has made these dispositions. Antipater is to be executor in all matters and in general; but, until Nicanor shall arrive, Aristomenes, Timarchus, Hipparchus, Diotæs and (if he consent and if circumstances permit him) Theophrastus shall take charge as well of Herpyllis and the children as of the property. And when the girl shall be grown up she shall be given in marriage to Nicanor; but if anything happen to the girl (which heaven forbid and no such thing will happen) before her marriage, or when she is married but before there are children, Nicanor shall have full powers, both with regard to the child and with regard to everything else, to administer in a manner worthy both of himself and of us. Nicanor shall take charge of the girl and of the boy Nicomachus as he shall think fit in all that concerns them as if he were father and brother. And if anything should happen to Nicanor (which heaven forbid!) either before he marries the girl, or

---

1 addunt editores ex Plutarcho et Eusebio.
2 αὐτῶν codd.: αὐτῷ Reiske.

*Auth. Plan. ii. 46.
*Cf. Hom. II. xxiii. 701.
when he has married her but before there are children, any arrangements that he may make shall be valid. And if Theophrastus is willing to live with her, she shall have the same rights as Nicanor. Otherwise the executors in consultation with Antipater shall administer as regards the daughter and the boy as seems to them to be best. The executors and Nicanor, in memory of me and of the steady affection which Herpyllis has borne towards me, shall take care of her in every other respect and, if she desires to be married, shall see that she be given to one not unworthy; and besides what she has already received they shall give her a talent of silver out of the estate and three handmaids whomsoever she shall choose besides the maid she has at present and the man-servant Pyrrhaeus; and if she chooses to remain at Chalcis, the lodge by the garden, if in Stagira, my father's house. Whichever of these two houses she chooses, the executors shall furnish with such furniture as they think proper and as Herpyllis herself may approve. Nicanor shall take charge of the boy Myrmex, that he be taken to his own friends in a manner worthy of me with the property of his which we received. Ambracis shall be given her freedom, and on my daughter's marriage shall receive 500 drachmas and the maid whom she now has. And to Thale shall be given, in addition to the maid whom she has and who was bought, a thousand drachmas and a maid. And Simon, in addition to the money before paid to him towards another servant, shall either have a servant purchased for him or receive a further sum of money. And Tycho, Philo, Olympius and his child shall have their freedom when my daughter is married. None of
the servants who waited upon me shall be sold but they shall continue to be employed; and when they arrive at the proper age they shall have their freedom if they deserve it. My executors shall see to it, when the images which Gryllion has been commissioned to execute are finished, that they be set up, namely that of Nicanor, that of Proxenus, which it was my intention to have executed, and that of Nicanor’s mother; also they shall set up the bust which has been executed of Arinnes, to be a memorial of him seeing that he died childless, and shall dedicate my mother’s statue to Demeter at Nemea or wherever they think best. And wherever they bury me, there the bones of Pythias shall be laid, in accordance with her own instructions. And to commemorate Nicanor’s safe return, as I vowed on his behalf, they shall set up in Stagira stone statues of life size to Zeus and Athena the Saviours.  

Such is the tenor of Aristotle’s will. It is said that a very large number of dishes belonging to him were found, and that Lyco mentioned his bathing in a bath of warm oil and then selling the oil. Some relate that he placed a skin of warm oil on his stomach, and that, when he went to sleep, a bronze ball was placed in his hand under it, in order that, when the ball dropped from his hand into the vessel, he might be waked up by the sound.

of deities) some critics regard with suspicion, because they see in it a resemblance to the last words of Socrates (Plato, Phaedo, 118a). Accordingly they are disposed to doubt the genuineness of the will. But see C. G. Bruns, K. S. Schr. ii. 192 sqq.; H. Diels, Philos. Aufsätze, 231 sqq.; B. Laum, Stellungen in der griech. u. röm. Antike.

Next come (a) the sayings of Aristotle (§§ 17-21); (b) the catalogue of his writings (§§ 21-27); (c) his tenets (§§ 28-34).
DIogenes Laertius


19 οἱ δὲ οὗτοι μὲν Διογένην πασίν ὀρίσαντα, αὐτὸν δὲ θεόν δόθων εἰπεν εὐμορφίαν. Ἐσκράτην

V. 17-19. Aristotle

Some exceedingly happy sayings are attributed to him, which I proceed to quote. To the question, "What do people gain by telling lies?" his answer was, "Just this, that when they speak the truth they are not believed." Being once reproached for giving alms to a bad man, he rejoined, "It was the man and not his character that I pitied." He used constantly to say to his friends and pupils, whenever or wherever he happened to be lecturing, "As sight takes in light from the surrounding air, so does the soul from mathematics." Frequently and at some length he would say that the Athenians were the discoverers of wheat and of laws; but, though they used wheat, they had no use for laws.

"The roots of education," he said, "are bitter, but the fruit is sweet." Being asked, "What is it that soon grows old?" he answered, "Gratitude." He was asked to define hope, and he replied, "It is a waking dream." When Diogenes offered him dried figs, he saw that he had prepared something caustic to say if he did not take them; so he took them and said Diogenes had lost his figs and his jest into the bargain. And on another occasion he took them when they were offered, lifted them up aloft, as you do babies, and returned them with the exclamation, "Great is Diogenes." Three things he declared to be indispensable for education: natural endowment, study, and constant practice. On hearing that some one abused him, he rejoined, "He may even scourge me so it be in my absence." Beauty he declared to be a greater recommendation than any letter of introduction. Others attribute this definition to Diogenes; Aristotle, they say, defined good looks as the gift of god, Socrates as a short-lived reign,
Plato as natural superiority, Theophrastus as a mute deception, Theocritus as an evil in an ivory setting, Carneades as a monarchy that needs no bodyguard. Being asked how the educated differ from the uneducated, "As much," he said, "as the living from the dead." He used to declare education to be an ornament in prosperity and a refuge in adversity. Teachers who educated children deserved, he said, more honour than parents who merely gave them birth; for bare life is furnished by the one, the other ensures a good life. To one who boasted that he belonged to a great city his reply was, "That is not the point to consider, but who it is that is worthy of a great country." To the query, "What is a friend?" his reply was, "A single soul dwelling in two bodies." Mankind, he used to say, were divided into those who were as thrifty as if they would live for ever, and those who were as extravagant as if they were going to die the next day. When some one inquired why we spend much time with the beautiful, "That," he said, is a blind man's question. When asked what advantage he had ever gained from philosophy, he replied, "This, that I do without being ordered what some are constrained to do by their fear of the law." The question being put, how can students make progress, he replied, "By pressing hard on those in front and not waiting for those behind." To the chatterbox who poured out a flood of talk upon him and then inquired, "Have I bored you to death with my chatter?" he replied, "No, indeed; for I was not attending to you." When some one accused him of having given a subscription to a dishonest man—for the story is also
DIogenes Laertius

fell in the form of a man—"It was not the man," said he, "that I assisted, but humanity." To the question how we should behave to friends, he answered, "As we should wish them to behave to us." Justice he defined as a virtue of soul which distributes according to merit. Education he declared to be the best provision for old age. Favorinus in the second book of his Memorabilia mentions as one of his habitual sayings that "He who has friends can have no true friend." Further, this is found in the seventh book of the Ethics. These then are the sayings attributed to him.

His writings are very numerous and, considering the man's all-round excellence, I deemed it incumbent on me to catalogue them:

Of Justice, four books.
On Poets, three books.
On Philosophy, three books.
Of the Statesman, two books.
On Rhetoric, or Grylus, one book.
Nerinxus, one book.
The Sophist, one book.
Menexenus, one book.
Concerning Love, one book.
Symposium, one book.
Of Wealth, one book.
Exhortation to Philosophy, one book.
Of the Soul, one book.
Of Prayer, one book.
On Noble Birth, one book.

to his Life of Aristotle; see V. Rose's edition of the Fragments, p. 9 seq. Another by Plutarch the philosopher, of which the Greek original has perished, is preserved in Arabic; see V. Rose, Frag. p. 18 seq.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

Περὶ ἠθονῆς α'.
Ἀλέξανδρος ἦ ὑπὲρ ἀνοικῶν α'.
Περὶ βασιλείας α'.
Περὶ ταῦτα δὲ α' β' γ'.
Τὰ ἐκ τῶν νόμων Πλάτωνος α' β' γ'.
Τὰ ἐκ τῆς πολιτείας α' β'.
Περὶ οἰκονομίας α'.
Περὶ φιλίας α'.
Περὶ τοῦ πάσχειν ἢ πεπονθέναι α'.
Περὶ ἐπιστήμων α'.
Περὶ ἐρωτικῶν α' β'.
Δίσεις ἐρωτικαὶ δ'.
Διαμόρφωσις σοφιστικὴ δ'.
Περὶ ἐναντίων α'.
Περὶ εἰδών καὶ γενών α'.
Περὶ ιδίων α'.

23 Ὑπομνήματα ἑπεχειρηματικά γ'.
Προτάσεις περὶ ἀρετῆς α' β'.
'Ενοτάσεις α'.
Περὶ τῶν ποσακῶν λεγομένων ἡ κατὰ πρόσθεσιν α'.
Περὶ παθῶν ὑπ' ἑπεξεργάζοντας ὁργῆς α'.
'Ημικών α' β' γ' δ' ε'.
Περὶ στοιχείων α' β' γ'.
Περὶ ἐπιστήμης α'.
Περὶ ἀρχῆς α'.
Διαμόρφωσις τζ'.
Διαμορφικὴ α'.
<Περὶ> ἐρωτικῶν καὶ ἀποκρίτων α' β'.
Περὶ κινήσεως α'.
Προτάσεις α'.
Προτάσεις ἐρωτικαὶ α'.

1 διαμορφικὸν Rose: -ον codd.

V. 22-23. ARISTOTLE

On Pleasure, one book.
Alexander, or a Plea for Colonies, one book.
On Kingship, one book.
On Education, one book.
Of the Good, three books.
Extracts from Plato’s Laws, three books.
Extracts from the Republic, two books.
Of Household Management, one book.
Of Friendship, one book.
On being or having been affected, one book.
Of Sciences, one book.
On Controversial Questions, two books.
Solutions of Controversial Questions, four books.
Sophistical Divisions, four books.
On Contraries, one book.
On Genera and Species, one book.
On Essential Attributes, one book.
Three note-books on Arguments for Purposes of Refutation.
Propositions concerning Virtue, two books.
Objections, one book.
On the Various Meanings of Terms or Expressions where a Determinant is added, one book.
Of Passions or of Anger, one book.
Five books of Ethics.
On Elements, three books.
Of Science, one book.
Of Logical Principle, one book.
Logical Divisions, seventeen books.
Concerning Division, one book.
On Dialectical Questioning and Answering, two books.
Of Motion, one book.
Propositions, one book.
Controversial Propositions, one book.
Συλλογισμοὶ α'.
Προτέρων ἀναλυτικῶν α' β' γ' δ' ε' σ' ζ' η'.
Ἀναλυτικῶν ὑποτέρων μεγάλων α' β'.
Περὶ προβλημάτων α'.
Μεθοδικά α' β' γ' δ' ε' σ' ζ' η'.
Περὶ τοῦ βελτίωνος α'.
Περὶ τῆς ἱδεᾶς α'.
"Οροι πρὸ τῶν τοπικῶν α' β' γ' δ' ε' σ' ζ'.
Συλλογισμῶν α' β'.

24 Συλλογισμικὸν καὶ ὁροὶ α'.
Περὶ τοῦ αἵρετον καὶ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος α'.
Τὰ πρὸ τῶν τόπων α'.
Τοπικὸν πρὸς τὸν ὀροὺς α' β'.
Πάθη α'.
Διαρετικὸν α'.
Μαθηματικὸν α'.
"Ορισμοὶ εὗ'.
"Επικεχερισμάτων α' β'.
Περὶ ἱδιότητα α'.
Προτάσεις α'.
Περὶ ἐκοινώναν α'.
Περὶ καλοῦ α'.
Θέσεις ἐπικεχερισμικαὶ κε'.
Θέσεις ἐρωτικαὶ δ'.
Θέσεις φιλικαὶ β'.
Θέσεις περὶ ψυχῆς α'.
Πολιτικὰ β'.
Πολιτικῆς ἀκροάσεως ὡς ἡ Θεοφράστου α' β' γ' δ' ε'
ζ' ζ' η'.
Περὶ δικαῖων α' β'.
Τεχνῶν συναγωγὴ α' β'.
Τέχνης ῥητορικῆς α' β'.
Τέχνη α'.

1 <Θέσεις> πολιτικαί Rose: Πολιτικαὶ codd.
Another Collection of Handbooks, two books.
Concerning Method, one book.
Compendium of the "Art" of Theodectes, one book.
A Treatise on the Art of Poetry, two books.
Rhetorical Enthymemes, one book.
Of Degree, one book.
Divisions of Enthymemes, one book.
On Diction, two books.
Of Taking Counsel, one book.
A Collection or Compendium, two books.
On the Philosophy of Archytas, three books.
On the Philosophy of Speusippus and Xenocrates, one book.

Extracts from the Timaeus and from the Works of Archytas, one book.
A Reply to the Writings of Melissus, one book.
A Reply to the Writings of Alcmaeon, one book.
A Reply to the Pythagoreans, one book.
A Reply to the Writings of Gorgias, one book.
A Reply to the Writings of Xenophanes, one book.
A Reply to the Writings of Zeno, one book.
On the Pythagoreans, one book.
On Animals, nine books.
Eight books of Dissections.
A selection of Dissections, one book.
On Composite Animals, one book.
On the Animals of Fable, one book.
On Sterility, one book.
On Plants, two books.
Concerning Physiognomy, one book.
DIogenes Laertius

26 Σημεία χειρώνων α',
'Αστρονομίκος α',
'Οπτικόν α'.

55 Περί κύκλους α',
Περί μονάδας α',
Μηχανικόν α'.

'Απορρηματίζων Ομηρικών α' β', γ', δ', ε', σ'.
Ποιητικά α'.

Φυσικών κατά στοιχείων λη'.
'Επιτεθεμένων προβλημάτων α' β'.
'Εγκυκλίων α' β'.
Μηχανικών α'.
Προβλήματα έκ τῶν Δημοκρίτου β'.
Περί τῆς λίθου α'.
Παραβολαί α'.
'Ατάκτα αβ'.

'Εξηγημένα κατά γένος ιδ'.
Δικαίωματα α'.
'Ολυμπιονικά α'.
Πυθιονικαί α'.
Περί μοναδίς α'.
Πυθικός α',
Πυθιονικών έλεγχος α'.
Νικαί Διονυσιακά α'.
Περί τραγωδίων α'.
Διαδίκασεις α'.
Παραμικαί α',
Νόμοι συστατικοί α'.
Νόμων α' β' γ' δ',
Κατηγορίων α'.

1 νομος συστατικός codd.: corr. Rose.

V. 25-26. ARISTOTLE

Two books concerning Medicine.
On the Unit, one book.
Prognostics of Storms, one book.
Concerning Astronomy, one book.
Concerning Optics, one book.
On Motion, one book.
On Music, one book.
Concerning Memory, one book.
Six books of Homeric Problems.
Poetics, one book.
Thirty-eight books of Physics according to the lettering.

Two books of Problems which have been examined.
Two books of Routine Instruction.
Mechanics, one book.
Problems taken from the works of Democritus, two books.
On the Magnet, one book.
Analogies, one book.
Miscellaneous Notes, twelve books.
Descriptions of Genera, fourteen books.
Claims advanced, one book.
Victors at Olympia, one book.
Victors at the Pythian Games, one book.
On Music, one book.
Concerning Delphi, one book.
Criticism of the List of Pythian Victors, one book.
Dramatic Victories at the Dionysia, one book.
Of Tragedies, one book.
Dramatic Records, one book.
Proverbs, one book.
Laws of the Mess-table, one book.
Four books of Laws.
Categories, one book.
DI OGENES LAERTIUS

Περὶ ἐρμηνείας α’.
27 Πολιτείαι πάλιν δυοῖν δευτέρων β’ <κοινά> καὶ ἔνδια, δημοκρατικαί, ὀλιγαρχικαί, ἀριστοκρατικαί καὶ τυραννικαί.
’Επιστολαὶ πρὸς Φίλιππον.
Σημειώσεις ἐπιστολαὶ δ’.
Πρὸς Ἀλέξανδρον ἐπιστολαὶ θ’.
Πρὸς Ἀντίπατρον θ’.
Πρὸς Μέντωρα α’.
Πρὸς ’Αρίστωνα α’.
Πρὸς ’Ολυμπιάδα α’.
Πρὸς Ἡφαιστίωνα α’.
Πρὸς Θεμιστοκλῆς α’.
Πρὸς Φιλόξενον α’.
Πρὸς Δημόκριτον α’.
’Επὶ δὲν ἄρχῇ, Ἀγνὸν θεῶν πρέσβισθ’ ἐκατηβδέλε.
’Ελεγεία δὲν ἄρχῇ, Καλλιτέκκου μητρὸς θύγατερ.

ΔΙΟΓΕΝΗΣ ΛΕΡΤΙΟΥ

Γίνονται αἱ πᾶσαι μυρίαδες στίχων τέτταρες καὶ τεττάρκοντα πρὸς τοὺς πεντακοσιηλίους καὶ διακοσιοῖς ἐβδομήκοντα.

28 Καὶ τοσότα μὲν αὐτῷ πεπραγμάτευται βιβλία, βούλεται δὲ ἐν αὐτοῖς τάδε: διπλῶν εἶναι τὸν κατὰ φιλοσοφίαν λόγον, τὸν μὲν πρακτικὸν, τὸν δὲ θεωρητικὸν καὶ τοῦ πρακτικοῦ τὸν τε ἡθικὸν καὶ πολιτικὸν, οδὸ τὰ τε πέρι πόλεως καὶ τὰ περὶ οἰκῶν ὑπογεγραμμένα. τοῦ δὲ θεωρητικοῦ τὸν τε φυσικὸν καὶ λογικὸν, οδὸ τὸ λογικὸν οὐκ ἀληθείαν, ἀλλ’ ὡς ὄργανον προσηκρισμένου, καὶ τοῦτον διπλῶν ὑποθέμενοι σκοποῦσι τὸ τε πιθανὸν καὶ τὸ ἀληθὲς διεσάφησε. δύο δὲ πρὸς ἐκάτερον διδόμεναι ἐχρήσατο, διαλεκτικὴ μὲν καὶ μητρικὴ πρὸς τὸ πθα-

474

V. 26–28. ARISTOTLE

De Interpretatione, one book.
Constitutions of 158 Cities, in general and in particular, democratic, oligarchic, aristocratic, tyrannical.

Letters to Philip.
Letters of Selymbrians.
Letters to Alexander, four books.
Letters to Antipater, nine books.
To Mentor, one book.
To Ariston, one book.
To Olympias, one book.
To Hēphaieston, one book.
To Themistagoras, one book.
To Philoxenus, one book.
In reply to Demosthenes, one book.
Verses beginning Ἀγνέθεν πρέσβισθ’ ἐκατηβδέλε ("Holy One and Chieftest of Gods, far-darting").
Elegiac verses beginning Καλλιτέκκου μητρὸς θύγατερ ("Daughter of a Mother blessed with fair offspring").

In all 445,270 lines.

Such is the number of the works written by him. And in them he puts forward the following views. There are two divisions of philosophy, the practical and the theoretical. The practical part includes ethics and politics, and in the latter not only the doctrine of the state but also that of the household is sketched. The theoretical part includes physics and logic, although logic is not an independent science, but is elaborated as an instrument to the rest of science. And he clearly laid down that it has a twofold aim, probability and truth. For each of these he employed two faculties, dialectic and rhetoric where probability is aimed at, analytic and
philosophy where the end is truth; he neglects nothing which makes either for discovery or for judgement or for utility. As making for discovery he left in the Topics and Methodics a number of propositions, whereby the student can be well supplied with probable arguments for the solution of problems. As an aid to judgement he left the Prior and Posterior Analytics. By the Prior Analytics the premises are judged, by the Posterior the process of inference is tested. For practical use there are the precepts on controversy and the works dealing with question and answer, with sophistical fallacies, syllogisms and the like. The test of truth which he put forward was sensation in the sphere of objects actually presented, but in the sphere of morals dealing with the state, the household and the laws, it was reason.

The one ethical end he held to be the exercise of virtue in a completed life. And happiness he maintained to be made up of goods of three sorts: goods of the soul, which indeed he designates as of the highest value; in the second place bodily goods, health and strength, beauty and the like; and thirdly external goods, such as wealth, good birth, reputation and the like. And he regarded virtue as not of itself sufficient to ensure happiness; bodily goods and external goods were also necessary, for the wise man would be miserable if he lived in the midst of pains, poverty, and similar circumstances. Vice, however, is sufficient in itself to secure misery, even if it be ever so abundantly furnished with corporeal and external goods. He held that the virtues are not mutually interdependent. For a man might be prudent, or again just, and at the same
time profligate and unable to control his passions. He said too that the wise man was not exempt from all passions, but indulged them in moderation. He defined friendship as an equality of reciprocal good-will, including under the term as one species the friendship of kinsmen, as another that of lovers, and as a third that of host and guest. The end of love was not merely intercourse but also philosophy. According to him the wise man would fall in love and take part in politics; furthermore he would marry and reside at a king’s court. Of three kinds of life, the contemplative, the practical, and the pleasure-loving life, he gave the preference to the contemplative. He held that the studies which make up the ordinary education are of service for the attainment of virtue.

In the sphere of natural science he surpassed all other philosophers in the investigation of causes, so that even the most insignificant phenomena were explained by him. Hence the unusual number of scientific notebooks which he compiled. Like Plato he held that God was incorporeal; that his providence extended to the heavenly bodies, that he is unmoved, and that earthly events are regulated by their affinity with them (the heavenly bodies). Besides the four elements he held that there is a fifth, of which the celestial bodies are composed. Its motion is of a different kind from that of the other elements, being circular. Further, he maintained the soul to be incorporeal, defining it as the first entelechy [i.e. realization] of a natural organic body potentially possessed of life. By the term realization he means that which has an incorporeal form. This realization, according to him, is twofold.

---

1 ditth... auton ante lēgei d' vulg.

2 De anima, ii. 1, 412 a 27.

3 Cf. supra, iii. 81. and Aristotle, Rhet. ii. 4 § 28, 1381 b 33
Either it is potential, as that of Hermes in the wax, provided the wax be adapted to receive the proper mouldings, or as that of the statue implicit in the bronze; or again it is determinate, which is the case with the completed figure of Hermes or the finished statue. The soul is the realization of a natural body, since bodies may be divided into (a) artificial bodies made by the hands of craftsmen, as a tower or a ship, and (b) natural bodies which are the work of nature, such as plants and the bodies of animals. And when he said "organic" he meant constructed as means to an end, as sight is adapted for seeing and the ear for hearing. Of a body potentially possessed of life, that is, in itself.

There are two senses of "potential," one answering to a formed state and the other to its exercise in act. In the latter sense of the term he who is awake is said to have soul, in the former he who is asleep. It was then in order to include the sleeper that Aristotle added the word "potential."

He held many other opinions on a variety of subjects which it would be tedious to enumerate. For altogether his industry and invention were remarkable, as is shown by the catalogue of his writings given above, which come to nearly 400 in number, i.e. counting those only the genuineness of which is not disputed. For many other written works and pointed oral sayings are attributed to him.

There were in all eight Aristotles: (1) our philosopher himself; (2) an Athenian statesman, the author of graceful forensic speeches; (3) a scholar who commented on the Iliad; (4) a Sicilian rhetorician, who wrote a reply to the Panegyric of Isocrates; (5) a disciple of Aeschines the Socratic philosopher,
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

Either it is potential, as that of Hermes in the wax, provided the wax be adapted to receive the proper mouldings, or as that of the statue implicit in the bronze; or again it is determinate, which is the case with the completed figure of Hermes or the finished statue. The soul is the realization of a natural body, since bodies may be divided into (a) artificial bodies made by the hands of craftsmen, as a tower or a ship, and (b) natural bodies which are the work of nature, such as plants and the bodies of animals. And when he said "organic" he meant constructed as means to an end, as sight is adapted for seeing and the ear for hearing. Of a body "potentially possessed of life," that is, in itself.

There are two senses of "potential," one answering to a formed state and the other to its exercise in act. In the latter sense of the term he who is awake is said to have soul in the former he who is asleep. It was then in order to include the sleeper that Aristotle added the word "potential."

He held many other opinions on a variety of subjects which it would be tedious to enumerate. For altogether his industry and invention were remarkable, as is shown by the catalogue of his writings given above, which come to nearly 400 in number, i.e. counting those only the genuineness of which is not disputed. For many other written works and pointed oral sayings are attributed to him.

There were in all eight Aristotles: (1) our philosopher himself; (2) an Athenian statesman, the author of graceful forensic speeches; (3) a scholar who commented on the Iliad; (4) a Sicilian rhetorician, who wrote a reply to the Panegyric of Isocrates; (5) a disciple of Aeschines the Socratic philosopher,

* Probably this is the Aristotle who appears in Plato's dialogue Parmenides.
V. 35–37. ARISTOTLE—THEOPHRASTUS

surnamed Myth; (6) a native of Cyrene, who wrote upon the art of poetry; (7) a trainer of boys, mentioned by Aristoxenus in his Life of Plato; (9) an obscure grammarian, whose handbook On Redundancy is still extant.

Aristotle of Stagira had many disciples; the most distinguished was Theophrastus, of whom we have next to speak.

CHAPTER 2. THEOPHRASTUS (c. 370–286 B.C.)
(Head of the School from 323 B.C.)

Theophrastus was a native of Eresus, the son of Melantes, a fuller, as stated by Athenodorus in the eighth book of his Walks. He first heard his countryman Aleippus lecture in his native town and afterwards he heard Plato, whom he left for Aristotle. And when the latter withdrew to Chalcis he took over the school himself in the 114th Olympiad. A slave of his named Pompylus is also said to have been a philosopher, according to Myronianus of Amastris in the first book of his Historical Parallels. Theophrastus was a man of remarkable intelligence and industry and, as Pamphila says in the thirty-second book of her Memorabilia, he taught Menander the comic poet. Furthermore, he was ever ready to do a kindness and fond of discussion. Casander certainly granted him audience and Ptolemy made overtures to him. And so highly was he valued at Athens that, when Agnonides ventured to prosecute him for impiety, the prosecutor himself narrowly escaped punishment. About 2000 pupils used to attend his lectures. In a letter to Phianias the

\[ \text{energeticis R.} \]
Peripatetic, among other topics, he speaks of a tribunal as follows: "To get a public or even a select circle such as one desires is not easy. If an author reads his work, he must re-write it. Always to shirk revision and ignore criticism is a course which the present generation of pupils will no longer tolerate." And in this letter he has called some one "pedant."

Although his reputation stood so high, nevertheless for a short time he had to leave the country with all the other philosophers, when Sophocles the son of Amphiclides proposed a law that no philosopher should preside over a school except by permission of the Senate and the people, under penalty of death. The next year, however, the philosophers returned, as Philo had prosecuted Sophocles for making an illegal proposal. Whereupon the Athenians repealed the law, fined Sophocles five talents, and voted the recall of the philosophers, in order that Theophrastus also might return and live there as before. He bore the name of Tyrtamus, and it was Aristotle who re-named him Theophrastus on account of his graceful style. And Aristippus, in his fourth book On the Luxury of the Ancients, asserts that he was enamoured of Aristotle's son Nicomachus, although he was his teacher. It is said that Aristotle applied to him and Callisthenes what Plato had said of Xenocrates and himself (as already related), namely, that the one needed a bridle and the other a goad; for Theophrastus interpreted all his meaning with 2000. It is difficult to see how this topic can have been worked into a letter on the law courts as such, and there is much to be said for Mr. Wyse's emendation διδασκαλον. If this be accepted, the whole letter would be about means or subjects of instruction in lecture.
an excess of cleverness, whereas the other was naturally backward. He is said to have become the owner of a garden of his own after Aristotle's death, through the intervention of his friend Demetrius of Phalerum. There are pithy sayings of his in circulation as follows: "An unbridled horse," he said, "ought to be trusted sooner than a badly-arranged discourse." To some one who never opened his lips at a banquet he remarked: "Yours is a wise course for an ignoramus, but in an educated man it is sheer folly." He used constantly to say that in our expenditure the item that costs most is time.

He died at the age of eighty-five, not long after he had relinquished his labours. My verses upon him are these:

Not in vain was the word spoken to one of human kind, "Slacken the bow of wisdom and it breaks." Of a truth, so long as Theophrastus laboured he was sound of limb, but when released from toil his limbs failed him and he died.

It is said that his disciples asked him if he had any last message for them, to which he replied: "Nothing else but this, that many of the pleasures which life boasts are but in the seeming. For when we are just beginning to live, lo! we die. Nothing then is so unprofitable as the love of glory. Farewell, and may you be happy. Either drop my doctrine, which involves a world of labour, or stand forth its worthy champions, for you will win great glory. Life holds more disappointment than advantage. But, as I can no longer discuss what we ought to do, do you go on with the inquiry into right conduct."

* Anth. Pal. vii. 110.
With these words, they say, he breathed his last. And according to the story all the Athenians, out of respect for the man, escorted his bier on foot. And Favorinus tells that he had in his old age to be carried about in a litter; and this he says on the authority of Hermippus, whose account is taken from a remark of Aresilaus of Pitane to Lacydes of Cyrene.

He too has left a very large number of writings. I think it right to catalogue them also because they abound in excellence of every kind. They are as follows:

Three books of Prior Analytics.
Seven books of Posterior Analytics.
On the Analysis of Syllogisms, one book.
Epitome of Analytics, one book.
Two books of Classified Topics.
Polemical discussion on the Theory of Eristic Argument.

Of the Senses, one book.
A Reply to Anaxagoras, one book.
On the Writings of Anaxagoras, one book.
On the Writings of Anaximenes, one book.
On the Writings of Archelaus, one book.
Of Salt, Nitre and Alum, one book.
Of Petrifications, two books.
On Indivisible Lines, one book.
Two books of Lectures.
Of the Winds, one book.
Characteristics of Virtues, one book.
Of Kingship, one book.
Of the Education of Kings, one book.
Of Various Schemes of Life, three books.
Of Old Age, one book.
On the Astronomy of Democritus, one book.

a Cf. a similar statement about Bion, also attributed to Favorinus.
V. 43–44. THEOPHRASTUS

On Meteorology, one book.
On Visual Images or Emanations, one book.
On Flavours, Colours and Flesh, one book.
Of the Order of the World, one book.
Of Mankind, one book.
Compendium of the Writings of Diogenes, one book.
Three books of Definitions.
Concerning Love, one book.
Another Treatise on Love, one book.
Of Happiness, one book.
On Species or Forms, two books.
On Epilepsy, one book.
On Frenzy, one book.
Concerning Empedocles, one book.
Eighteen books of Refutative Arguments.
Three books of Polemical Objections.
Of the Voluntary, one book.
Epitome of Plato’s Republic, two books.
On the Diversity of Sounds uttered by Animals of the same Species, one book.
Of Sudden Appearances, one book.
Of Animals which bite or gore, one book.
Of Animals reputed to be spiteful, one book.
Of the Animals which are confined to Dry Land, one book.
Of those which change their Colours, one book.
Of Animals that burrow, one book.
Of Animals, seven books.
Of Pleasure according to Aristotle, one book.
Another treatise on Pleasure, one book.
Theses, twenty-four books.
On Hot and Cold, one book.
On Vertigo and Dizziness, one book.
On Sweating Sickness, one book.
On Affirmation and Negation, one book.
On Callisthenes, or On Bereavement, one book.
On Fatigues, one book.
On Motion, three books.
On Precious Stones, one book.
On Pestilences, one book.
On Fainting, one book.
On Megarian Treatise, one book.
On Melancholy, one book.
On Mines, two books.
On Honey, one book.
On Compendium on the Doctrines of Metrodorus, one book.
On Books of Meteorology.
On Intoxication, one book.
On Twenty-four books of Laws distinguished by the letters of the alphabet.
On Ten books of an Epitome of Laws.
On Remarks upon Definitions, one book.
On On Smells, one book.
On On Wine and Oil.
On Introduction to Propositions, eighteen books.
On Of Legislators, three books.
On Of Politics, six books.
On A Political Treatise dealing with important Crises, four books.
On Of Social Customs, four books.
On Of the Best Constitution, one book.
On A Collection of Problems, five books.
On Of Proverbs, one book.
On Of Coagulation and Liquefaction, one book.
On Of Fire, two books.
On Of Winds, one book.
On Of Paralysis, one book.
Of Suffocation, one book.
Of Mental Derangement, one book.
On the Passions, one book.
On Symptoms, one book.
Two books of Sophisms.
On the solution of Syllogisms, one book.
Two books of Topics.
Of Punishment, two books.
On Hair, one book.
Of Tyranny, one book.
On Water, three books.
On Sleep and Dreams, one book.
Of Friendship, three books.
Of Ambition, two books.
On Physics, eighteen books.
An Epitome of Physics, two books.
Eight books of Physics.
A Reply to the Physical Philosophers, one book
Of Botanical Researches, ten books.
Of Botanical Causes, eight books.
On Juices, five books.
Of False Pleasure, one book.
One Dissertation on the Soul.
On Unscientific Proofs, one book.
On Simple Problems, one book.
Harmonics, one book.
Of Virtue, one book.
Materials for Argument, or Contrarieties, one book.
On Negation, one book.
On Judgement, one book.
Of the Ludicrous, one book.
Afternoon Essays, two books.
Διαφάνειας α' β'.
Περὶ τῶν διαφορῶν α'.
Περὶ τῶν ἀριθμῶν α'.
Περὶ διαβολῆς α'.
Περὶ ἐπαίνου α'.
Περὶ ἐμπερίας α'.
Περὶ τῶν καταλαμμένων ζῶντων α'.
Περὶ εἰκράτειας α'.

V. 46-47. THEOPHRASTUS

Divisions, two books.
On Differences, one book.
On Crimes, one book.
On Calumny, one book.
Of Praise, one book.
Of Experience, one book.
Three books of Letters.
On Animals produced spontaneously, one book.
Of Secretion, one book.
Panegyrics on the Gods, one book.
On Festivals, one book.
Of Good Fortune, one book.
On Enthymemes, one book.
Of Discoveries, two books.
Lectures on Ethics, one book.
Character Sketches, one book.
On Tumult or Riot, one book.
On Research, one book.
On Judging of Syllogisms, one book.
Of Flattery, one book.
Of the Sea, one book.
To Casander on Kingship, one book.
Of Comedy, one book.
[Of Metres, one book.]
Of Diction, one book.
A Compendium of Arguments, one book.
Solutions, one book.
On Music, three books.
On Measures, one book.
Megacles, one book.
On Laws, one book.
On Illegalities, one book.
A Compendium of the Writings of Xenocrates, one book.
Concerning Conversation, one book.
On Taking an Oath, one book.
Rhetorical Precepts, one book.
Of Wealth, one book.
On the Art of Poetry, one book.
Problems in Politics, Ethics, Physics, and in the Art of Love, one book.
Preludes, one book.
A Collection of Problems, one book.
On Physical Problems, one book.
On Example, one book.
On Introduction and Narrative, one book.
Another tract on the Art of Poetry, one book.
Of the Wise, one book.
On Consultation, one book.
On Solcccism, one book.
On the Art of Rhetoric, one book.
The Special Commonplaces of the Treatises on Rhetoric, seventeen books.
On Acting, one book.
Lecture Notes of Aristotle or Theophrastus, six books.
Sixteen books of Physical Opinions.
Epitome of Physical Opinions, one book.
On Gratitude, one book.
[Character Sketches, one book."
On Truth and Falsehood, one book.
The History of Theological Inquiry, six books.
Of the Gods, three books.
Geometrical Researches, four books.
Epitomes of Aristotle's work on Animals, six books.
Two books of Refutative Arguments.
Theses, three books.
Of Kingship, two books.
Of Causes, one book.
Περὶ Δημοκρίτου α’.
[Περὶ διαβολῆς α’.]
Περὶ γενέσεως α’.
Περὶ ζώων φυσικῶν καὶ θυσίων α’.
Περὶ κυνήγεως α’ β’.
Περὶ δύσεως α’ β’ γ’ δ’.
Πρὸς δρούς α’ β’.
Περὶ τοῦ δέοντος α’.
Περὶ μάζων καὶ ἐλάττονος α’.
Περὶ τῶν μοντικῶν α’.
Περὶ τῆς θείας ἐπιδαιμονίας α’.
Πρὸς τοὺς ἐγ’ Ἀκαδημείας α’.
Προτρεπτικὸς α’.
Πώς ἀν ἄριστα πόλεις οἰκοιντὸ α’.
Τὰ ὑπομνήματα α’.
Περὶ οἰκείων τοῦ ἐν Σικέλια α’.
Περὶ τῶν ἀριστογείμενων α’.
[Περὶ τῶν προβλημάτων φυσικῶν α’.
Τίνες οἱ τρόποι τοῦ ἐπίστασθαι α’.
Περὶ τοῦ ψευδόμενου α’ β’ γ’.

50 Πᾶ τὰ πρὸ τῶν τόπων α’.
Πρὸς Αἰσχύλου α’.
'Αστρολογικὴς ἱστορίας α’ β’ γ’ δ’ ε’ ε’.
'Ἀριθμητικῶν ἱστορίων περὶ αἰγίζεως α’.
'Ακίνητος α’.
Περὶ δικαιικῶν λόγων α’.
[Περὶ διαβολῆς α’.]
'Επιστολαὶ αἱ ἐπὶ τῷ Ἀστυπλέουτῳ, Φινία, Νικάνορι.
Περὶ εὐθείας α’.
Εὐίδος α’.
Περὶ καλών α’ β’.
Περὶ οἰκείων λόγων α’.

V. 49–50. THEOPHRASTUS

On Democritus, one book.
[Of Calumny, one book.]
Of Becoming, one book.
Of the Intelligence and Character of Animals, one book.
On Motion, two books.
On Vision, four books.
Relating to Definitions, two books.
On Data, one book.
On Greater and Less, one book.
On the Musicians, one book.
Of the Happiness of the Gods, one book.
A Reply to the Academics, one book.
Exhortation to Philosophy, one book.
How States can best be governed, one book.
Lecture-Notes, one book.
On the Eruption in Sicily, one book.
On Things generally admitted, one book.
[On Problems in Physics, one book.]
What are the methods of attaining Knowledge, one book.
On the Fallacy known as the Liar, three books.
Prolegomena to Topics, one book.
Relating to Aeschylus, one book.
Astronomical Research, six books.
Arithmetical Researches on Growth, one book.
Acicharus, one book.
On Forensic Speeches, one book.
[Of Calumny, one book.]
Correspondence with Astyreon, Phianias and Nicanor.
Of Piety, one book.
Evias, one book.
On Times of Crisis, two books.
On Relevant Arguments, one book.
V. 50-51. THEOPHRASTUS

On the Education of Children, one book.
Another treatise with the same title, one book.
Of Education or of the Virtues or of Temperance, one book.
[An Exhortation to Philosophy, one book.]
On Numbers, one book.
Definitions concerning the Diction of Syllogisms, one book.
Of the Heavens, one book.
Concerning Politics, two books.
On Nature.
On Fruits.
On Animals.

In all 232,808 lines. So much for his writings.
I have also come across his will, couched in the following terms:
"All will be well; but in case anything should happen, I make these dispositions. I give and bequeath all my property at home to Melantes and Pancreon, the sons of Leon. It is my wish that out of the trust funds at the disposal of Hipparchus the following appropriations should be made. First, they should be applied to finish the rebuilding of the Museum with the statues of the goddesses, and to add any improvements which seem practicable to beautify them. Secondly, to replace in the temple the bust of Aristotle with the rest of the dedicated offerings which formerly were in the temple. Next, to rebuild the small cloister adjoining the Museum

Demetrius Poliorcetes, 296-294 B.C. Plut. Demetr. 33, 34; Paus. i. 25. 8. There was, however, a serious disturbance when Athens revolted from Macedon, 299-287, for which see Plut. Demetr. 46, and Paus. i. 25. 2; 26. 1f. This latter event is nearer to the death of Theophrastus in Ol. 123.
at least as handsomely as before, and to replace in
the lower cloister the tablets containing maps of the
countries traversed by explorers. Further, to repair
the altar so that it may be perfect and elegant. It
is also my wish that the statue of Nicomachus should
be completed of life size. The price agreed upon
for the making of the statue itself has been paid to
Praxiteles, but the rest of the cost should be defrayed
from the source above mentioned. The statue should
be set up in whatever place seems desirable to the
executors entrusted with carrying out my other
testamentary dispositions. Let all that concerns the
temple and the offerings set up be arranged in this
manner. The estate at Stagira belonging to me I
give and bequeath to Callinus. The whole of my
library I give to Neleus. The garden and the walk
and the houses adjoining the garden, all and sundry,
I give and bequeath to such of my friends herein-
after named as may wish to study literature and
philosophy there in common; since it is not possible
for all men to be always in residence, on condition
that no one alienates the property or devotes it to
his private use, but so that they hold it like a temple
in joint possession and live, as is right and proper,
on terms of familiarity and friendship. Let the
community consist of Hipparchus, Neleus, Strato,
Callinus, Demotimus, Demaratus, Callisthenes,
Melantes, Pancreon, Nicippus. Aristotle, the son
of Metrodorus and Pythias, shall also have the right
to study and associate with them if he so desire.
And the eldest of them shall pay every attention to
him, in order to ensure for him the utmost pro-

Cf. iv. § 70.
DIOGENES LAERΤΙUS

εἰναι τοῦ κήπου, μηδὲν περίεργον μήτε περί τὴν 54 ταφὴν μήτε περί τὸ μνημείον ποιοῦντας. ὅπως
δὲ συνείρηται, μετὰ τὰ περὶ ἡμᾶς συμβάντα, τὰ
περὶ τὸ ἱερὸν καὶ τὸ μνημείον καὶ τὸν κήπου καὶ
tὸν περίπατον θεραπεύομενα συμπεριλεῖθαί καὶ
Πομπύλων τούτων ἐποικοῦντα ἀυτὸν καὶ τὴν τῶν
ἄλλων ἐπιμελείαν ποιοῦμεν ἣν καὶ πρῶτον
τής δὲ λυστείας ἐπιμελεῖθαί αὐτοὺς τοὺς
ἐχουσα τά τα καὶ Πομπύλω δὲ καὶ Θρέπτην σύλλα
ἐλευθέρους ὡς καὶ ἡμῖν πολλὴν χρείαν παρασχε-
μένοις, εἰ τι πρῶτον ἔχουσα παρ ἠμῶν καὶ εἰ τι
αὐτῷ ἐκτραπεῖ καὶ ἡ νῦν παρ’ Ἰππάρχου ἀντὶς
συνήταχα, δισκυλίας δραχμάς, ἀσφαλῶς οἴμαι βεῖν
αὐτοῖς υπάρχεια ταῦτα, καθάπερ καὶ αὐτὸς ἔμε
ἐλέεχθη Μαέλαντι καὶ Παγκρέουτι πλεονάκις καὶ
πάντα μοι συγκατέθεντο. διδῷμι δ’ αὐτοῖς καὶ
55 Σωματάλην τὴν παιδίκην. τῶν δὲ παιδών Μό-
λωνα μὲν καὶ Τίμονα καὶ Παρμένοντα ἤδη ἐλευθέ-
ροὺς ἀφίημι. Μανὴ δὲ καὶ Καλλίαν παραμένωνας
ἐτή τέτερα ἐν τῷ κήπῳ καὶ συνεργαζόμενος καὶ
ἀναμαρτήτους γενομένους ἀφίημι ἐλευθέρους. τῶν
δὲ οἰκετηρίων σκέφθως ἀποδοθῶντος Πομπύλῳ δός
ἄν δοκῇ τοῖς ἐπιμεληταις καλῶς ἔχειν, τὰ λοιπά
ἐξαργυρίσας. διδῷμι δὲ καὶ Καρίωνα Δημο-
τίμῳ, Δύνακα δὲ Νηλεί. Εὐθύον δ’ ἀποδόθαι
δότω δ’ Ἰππάρχου Καλλίων πρωιχίλας δραχμᾶς.
Μαέλαντι δὲ καὶ Παγκρέουτι εἰ μὲν μὴ ἐωράμεν
Ἰππάρχον καὶ ἡμῖν πρῶτον χρείαν παρασχεθαμένον
καὶ νῦν ἐν τοῖς ἑνὸς μία μὲλαναναχήκοτα, προσετά-
ξαμεν ἄν μετὰ Μαέλαντο καὶ Παγκρέουτος ἐξάγων
καὶ αὐτὰ. ἐπειδὴ δὲ οὔτ’ ἑκείνους ἐφέρων ράδιον ἄντα
1 αὐτοῖς codd.: corr. Reiske.

V. 53-56. THEOPHRASTUS

without unnecessary outlay upon my funeral or
upon my monument. And according to previous
agreement let the charge of attending, after my
decase, to the temple and the monument and the
garden and the walk be shared by Pompysus in
person, living close by as he does, and exercising the
same supervision over all other matters as before;
and those who hold the property shall watch over
his interests. Pompysus and Threpta have long been
emanicipated and have done me much service; and
I think that 2000 drachmas certainly ought to belong
to them from previous payments made to them by
me, from their own earnings, and my present bequest
to them to be paid by Hipparchus, as I stated many
times in conversation with Melantes and Pancrœon
themselves, who agreed with me. I give and be-
queath to them the maidservant Somatale. And of
my slaves I at once emancipate Molon and Timon
and Parmeno; to Manes and Callias I give their
freedom on condition that they stay four years in the
garden and work there together and that their con-
duct is free from blame. Of my household furniture
let so much as the executors think right be given to
Pompysus and let the rest be sold. I also devise
Carion to Demotimus, and Donax to Neleus. But
Euboeus must be sold. Let Hipparchus pay to
Callinus 3000 drachmas. And if I had not seen that
Hipparchus had done great service to Melantes and
Pancrœon and formerly to me, and that now in his
private affairs he has made shipwreck, I would have
appointed him jointly with Melantes and Pancrœon
to carry out my wishes. But, since I saw that it
V. 56-58. THEOPHRASTUS—STRATO

was not easy for them to share the management with him, and I thought it more advantageous for them to receive a fixed sum from Hipparchus, let Hipparchus pay Melantes and Pancreon one talent each and let Hipparchus provide funds for the executors to defray the expenses set down in the will, as each disbursement falls due. And when Hipparchus shall have carried out all these injunctions, he shall be released in full from his liabilities to me. And any advance that he has made in Chalce in my name belongs to him alone. Let Hipparchus, Neleus, Strato, Callinus, Demotimus, Callisthenes and Ctesarchus be executors to carry out the terms of the will. One copy of the will, sealed with the signet-ring of Theophrastus, is deposited with Hesegias, the son of Hipparchus, the witnesses being Callippus of Pellenae, Philomelus of Euonymaen, Lysander of Hyma, and Philo of Alopee. Olympiodorus has another copy, the witnesses being the same. The third copy was received by Adeimantas, the bearer being Androstenes junior; and the witnesses are Arimnestus the son of Cleobulus, Lysistratus the son of Theon of Thasos, Strato the son of Arcesilaus of Lampscus, Thessipus the son of Theopillus of Cerameis, and Dioscurides the son of Dionysius of Epicephisia.”

Such is the tenor of his will.

There are some who say that Erasistratus the physician was also a pupil of his, and it is not improbable.

Chapter 3. STRATO

(Head of the School 286–268 B.C.)

His successor in the school was Strato, the son of
Arcesilaus, a native of Lampscus, whom he mentioned in his will; a distinguished man who is generally known as “the physicist,” because more than anyone else he devoted himself to the most careful study of nature. Moreover, he taught Ptolemy Philadelphus and received, it is said, 80 talents from him. According to Apollodorus in his *Chronology* he became head of the school in the 123rd Olympiad, and continued to preside over it for eighteen years.

There are extant of his works:

- Of Kingship, three books.
- Of Justice, three books.
- Of the Good, three books.
- Of the Gods, three books.
- On First Principles, three books.
- On Various Modes of Life.
- Of Happiness.
- On the Philosopher-King.
- Of Courage.
- On the Void.
- On the Heaven.
- On the Wind.
- Of Human Nature.
- On the Breeding of Animals.
- Of Mixture.
- Of Sleep.
- Of Dreams.
- Of Vision.
- Of Sensation.
- Of Pleasure.
- Of Colours.
- Of Diseases.
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

Περὶ κράσεως.
Περὶ δυνάμεως.
Περὶ τῶν μεταλλικῶν μηχανημάτων.
Περὶ λιμοῦ¹ καὶ σκοτώσεως.
Περὶ κούφου καὶ βαρέως.
Περὶ ἐνθονισμοῦ.
Περὶ χρόνου.
Περὶ τροφῆς καὶ αἰτήσεως.
Περὶ τῶν ἀπορομαίνων ἔσων.
Περὶ τῶν μυθολογομένων ἔσων.
Περὶ αἰτήσεως ἀπορομαίνων.
Τόπων προοίμια.
Περὶ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος.
Περὶ τοῦ δρόου.
Περὶ τοῦ μᾶλλον καὶ ἤττον.
Περὶ ἀδικίας.
Περὶ τοῦ πρῶτου καὶ ἐστὶν ἄρτι.
Περὶ τοῦ πρῶτου γένους.
Περὶ τοῦ ἰδίου.
Περὶ τοῦ μέλλοντος.
Εὐθυμίων ἔλεγχοι δύο.
"Ὑπομνήματα, ἡ διστάζεται.
Ἐπιστολαὶ δὲν ἡ ἀρχή. "Στράτων Ἀρσινόη ἔδωκεν "πράττειν."

Τούτων φασὶν οὖτως γενέσθαι λεπτῶν ὡς ἀνασθῆσαι τελευτησαι. καὶ ἔστων ἡμῶν εἰς αὐτὸν οὕτως ἔχων.

λεπτὸς ἀνὴρ δέμας ἴν, εἰ μοι προσέχεις, ἀπὸ χριστιῶν.

Στράτωνα τούτων φημὶ σοι

Of the Crises in Diseases.
On Faculties.
On Mining Machinery.
Of Starvation and Dizziness.
On the Attributes Light and Heavy.
Of Enthusiasm or Ecstasy.
On Time.
On Growth and Nutrition.
On Animals the existence of which is questioned.
On Animals in Folk-lore or Fable.
Of Causes.
Solutions of Difficulties.
Introduction to Topics.
Of Accident.
Of Definition.
On difference of Degree.
Of Injustice.
Of the logically Prior and Posterior.
Of the Genus of the Prior.
Of the Property or Essential Attribute.
Of the Future.
Examinations of Discoveries, in two books.
Lecture-notes, the genuineness of which is doubted.
Letters beginning "Strato to Arsinoë greeting."

Strato is said to have grown so thin that he felt nothing when his end came. And I have written some lines upon him as follows a:

A thin, spare man in body, take my word for it, owing to his use of unguelts, b was this Strato, I at least affirm, to

a Anth. Pal. vii. 111.
b Or "if you attend to me, I am content," according to the alternative reading.
Λάμψακος ὃν ποτ' ἐφύεσαν· ἄει δὲ νόσοις παλαιῶν ὀνείρεσκι λαθών, οὖδ' ἦγαθο.

61 Γεγόνας δὲ Στράτωνες ὁκτώ· πρῶτος Ἰσοκράτους ἀκροατής· δεύτερος αὐτὸς οὗτος· τρίτος ιατρός· μαθητὴς Ἐρασιστράτου, ὡς δὲ τινες, τρόφιμοι· τέταρτος ἱστορικὸς· Φιλίππου καὶ Περσῶς τῶν Ῥωμαίων πολεμησάντων γεγραφός πράξεως· • • • ἐκτὸς ποιητὴς ἐπιγραμμάτων· ἐβδομος ιατρός ἀρχαῖος, ὡς Ἀριστοτέλης φησίν· ὄγδοος περιπατητικός· μεθοδικός ἐν Ἀλεξανδρείᾳ.

Τούτ' δ' οὖν φυσικόν φέρονται καὶ διαθήκη τοῦτον ἔχουσι τὸν τρόπον·

“Τάδε διεισθημεῖ, ἐάν τι πάσχω: τὰ μὲν οὐκοὶ καταλείπω πάντα Λαμπτυρίων καὶ Ἀρκεσίλα. ἀπὸ δὲ τοῦ Ἀθήναν ὑπάρχοντος μοι ἄργυρον πρῶτον μὲν οἱ ἐπιμελείται τὰ περὶ τὴν ἐκφοράν ἐπιμεληθήτωσαν καὶ ὅσα νομίζεται μετὰ τὴν ἐκφοράν, μηδὲν μὴ περεύρων ποιότερον μῆτ' ἀνελθεῖν. ἐπιμελεῖται δὲ ἔστωσαν τῶν κατὰ τὴν διαθήκην οἶδε· Ὀλυμπιάδος, Ἀριστείδης, Μην- σιγένης, Ἰπποκράτης, Ἐπικράτης, Γοργύλως, Διο- κλῆς, Λύκων, Ἄθανας. καταλείπω δὲ τὴν μὲν διατριβὴν Ἀθήνας, ἐπειδὴ τῶν ἄλλων οἱ μὲν εἰσὶ πρεσβυτεροὶ, οἱ δ' ἀγωνολος. καλὸς δ' ἂν ποιοῖς καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ συγκατασκευάζοντες τούτων. κατα- λείπω δ' αὐτῷ καὶ τὰ βιβλία πάντα, πλὴν ἃν οὗτοι γεγράφαμεν, καὶ τὰ σκείπτων πάντα κατὰ τὸ συνώστιον καὶ τὰ στρώματα καὶ τὰ ποτήρια. δότωσον δὲ οἱ ἐπιμελείται Ἐπικράτει πεντακόσια δραχμάς καὶ τῶν παίδων ἐνα δὲ ἂν δοκῇ Ἀρκεσίλα. καὶ πρῶτον μὲν Λαμπτυρίων καὶ Ἀρκεσίλας ἄρασθω—

514

V. 60–63. STRATO

whom Lampsacus gave birth. For ever wrestling with
diseases, he died unawares or ever he felt the hand of death.

There have been eight men who bore the name of
Strato: (1) a pupil of Isocrates; (2) our subject;
(3) a physician, a disciple, or, as some say, a foster-
child, of Erasistratus; (4) a historian, who treated
of the struggle of Philip and Perseus against the
Romans; (5) • • ; (6) a poet who wrote epigrams;
(7) a physician who lived in ancient times, mentioned
by Aristotle; (8) a Peripatetic philosopher who lived in
Alexandria.

But to return to Strato the physicist. His will is
also extant and it runs as follows:

“In case anything should happen to me I make
these dispositions. All the goods in my house I
give and bequeath to Lampyro and Arcesilaus.
From the money belonging to me in Athens, in the
first place my executors shall provide for my funeral
and for all that custom requires to be done after the
funeral, without extravagance on the one hand or
meanness on the other. The executors of this my
will shall be Olympichus, Aristides, Mnesigenes,
Hippocrates, Epicrates, Gorgylus, Diocles, Lyco,
Athanes. I leave the school to Lyco, since of the
rest some are too old and others too busy. But it
would be well if the others would co-operate with him.
I also give and bequeath to him all my books, except
those of which I am the author, and all the furniture
in the dining-hall, the cushions and the drinking-cups.
The trustees shall give Epicrates 500 drachmas and
one of the servants whom Arcesilaus shall approve.
And in the first place Lampyro and Arcesilaus shall
cancel the agreement which Daippus made on behalf of Iraeus. And he shall not owe anything either to Lampyrion or to Lampyrio’s heirs, but shall have a full discharge from the whole transaction. Next, the executors shall give him 500 drachmas in money and the other servants whom Arcesilaus shall approve, so that, in return for all the toil he has shared with me and all the services he has rendered me, he may have the means to maintain himself respectfully. Further, I emancipate Diophantus, Diocles and Abus; and Simias I make over to Arcesilaus. I also emancipate Dromo. As soon as Arcesilaus has arrived, Iraeus shall, with Olympichus, Epiphraces, and the other executors, prepare an account of the money expended upon the funeral and the other customary charges. Whatever money remains over, Arcesilaus shall take over from Olympichus, without however pressing him as to times and seasons. Arcesilaus shall also cancel the agreement made by Strato with Olympichus and Ameinias and deposited with Philocrates the son of Tisamenus. With regard to my monument they shall make it as Arcesilaus, Olympichus and Lyco shall approve."

Such are the terms of his extant will, according to the Collection of Ariston of Ceos. Strato himself, however, was, as stated above, a man entitled to full approbation, since he excelled in every branch of learning, and most of all in that which is styled
dended with Theophrastus, whose successors were often held to be vastly inferior, and unworthy to rank beside him; see Cicero, De Fin. v. §§ 12, 13; Strabo xii. 609. The latter alleges as the reason for this decline the well-known story that the school was deprived of Aristotle’s library, which had been carried away to Scepsis.
V. 64–66. STRATO—LYCO

"physics," a branch of philosophy more ancient and important than the others.

Chapter 4. LYCO (299–225 B.C.)

Strato's successor was Lyco, the son of Astyanax of Troas, a master of expression and of the foremost rank in the education of boys. For he used to say that modesty and love of honour were as necessary an equipment for boys as spur and bridle for horses. His eloquence and sonorosity of diction appear from the following fact; he speaks of a penniless maiden as follows: "A grievous burden to a father is a girl, when for lack of a dowry she runs past the flower of her age." Hence the remark which Antigonos is said to have made about him, that it was not possible to transfer elsewhere the fragrance and charm of the apple, but each separate expression must be contemplated in the speaker himself as every single apple is on the tree. This was because Lyco's voice was exceedingly sweet, so that some persons altered his name to Glyco, by prefixing a G. But in writing he fell off sadly. For instance, those who regretted their neglect to learn when they had the opportunity and wished they had done so he would hit off neatly as follows, remarking that "they were their own accusers, betraying, by vain regret, repentance for an incorrigible laziness." Those who deliberated wrongly he used to say were out in their calculations, as if they had used a crooked rule to test something straight, or looked at the reflection of a face in troubled water or a distorting mirror. Again, "Many go in search of the garland of the market-place; few or none seek
the crown at Olympia.” He often gave the Athenians advice on various subjects and thus conferred on them the greatest benefits.

In his dress he was most immaculate, so that the clothes he wore were unsurpassed for the softness of the material, according to Hermippus. Furthermore, he was well practised in gymnastics and kept himself in condition, displaying all an athlete’s habit of body, with battered ears and skin begrimed with oil, so we are told by Antigonus of Carystus. Hence it is said that he not only wrestled but played the game of ball common in his birthplace of Ilium. He was esteemed beyond all other philosophers by Eumenes and Attalus, who also did him very great service. Antiochus too tried to get hold of him, but without success. He was so hostile to Hieronymus the Peripatetic that he alone declined to meet him on the anniversary which we have mentioned in the Life of Arcesilaus.

He presided over the school forty-four years after Strato had bequeathed it to him by his will in the 127th Olympiad. Not but what he also attended the lectures of the logician Panthodos. He died at the age of seventy-four after severe sufferings from gout. This is my epitaph upon him:

Nør, I swear! will I pass over Lyco either, for all that he died of the gout. But this it is which amazes me the most, if he who formerly could walk only with the feet of others, did in a single night traverse the long, long road to Hades.

Other men have borne the name of Lyco: (1) a Pythagorean, (2) our present subject, (3) an epic poet, (4) a poet who wrote epigrams.

520
DIÓGENES LAÉRTIUS

Τοῦ δὲ φιλοσόφου καὶ διαθήκαις περιεύχομεν ταῖς διέχειι

‘Τάξις διάτημα περὶ τῶν κατ᾽ ἑμαυτόν, ἀδὲν

μὴ δυνηθῷ τὴν ἀρρωτίαν ταῦταν ὑπενεγκεῖν: τὰ

μὲν ἐν οἷς πάντα διδόμεν τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς Ἀστυ-

ἀνακτή τοῖς Δύκωνοι. καὶ ῥάμαι δεῖν ἀποδοθήται

ἀπὸ τοῦτων ὧν κατακέχομαι Ἀθήναις παρὰ τοὺς

ἐξών ἡ ἐκπεπραξόν. καὶ ἀν ἐίς τὴν ἐκφορὰν

70 ἀναλώθη καὶ εἰς τάλλα τὰ νομιζόμενα. τὰ δὲ ἐν

ἀττις καὶ ἐν Ἀττινὶ διδόμεν Δύκωνοι διὰ τὸ καὶ

τοῦτον κείμεν ἡμῶν καὶ συνιστερεφέναι πλέον

χρόνον ἄρεστός πάνω, καθάπερ δικαιόν ἡ τὸν

νῦν τάξιν ἐσχηκότα. τὸν δὲ πασχάνδον καταλείπον

τῶν γνωρίμων τοὺς βουλομένους, Βοῦλοι, Κάλλινος,

Ἀριστοτέλης, Ἀμφίσταν, Δύκωνοι, Πύθων, Ἀριστο-

μάχος, Ἡρακλείως, Δυκομῆδες, Δύκωνοι τὸ ἀδελ-

φόδο. προστηρεσθοῦσα δ’ αὐτῶν διὸ ἐν ὑπολαμ-

βάνωι διαμενεῖ ἐπὶ τὸ πράγματος καὶ συναίζειν

μάλιστα δυνηθεῖποι. συγκατασκευαζόμενοι δὲ καὶ

ὁ λοιπὸν γεγορώμαι κάμοι καὶ τοῦ τόπου χάριν.

περὶ δὲ τῆς ἐκφορᾶς καὶ καύσεως ἐπιμεληθήτον

Βοῦλοι καὶ Κάλλινος μετὰ τῶν συνήθων, ὅπως

71 μήτ’ ἀνελεύθερος γένηται μήτε περίεργος. τῶν

δ’ ἐν Ἀττινὶ μοι γεγοράμενοι μορίοι μετὰ τὴν ἐμῆ

ἀπόλυσιν καταγοροσάτω Δύκωνος τοῖς ναενίκοις

εἰς ἐλασιορθίαν, ὅπως κάμοι καὶ τοῦ τιμήσαντος

ἐμὲ μνήμη γένηται διὰ τῆς χρείας αὕτη ἡ προ-

ήκουσα. καὶ ἀνδρίατα ἡμῶν ἀνάβετο τὸν δὲ

τόπον, ὅπως ἀρμόττων ἡ τῆς καταστάσεως, ἐπιβλέπατο

καὶ συμπραγματευτῆτο Διόφαντος καὶ Ἡρακλείδης

Ἀττιν. ἀπὸ δέ τῶν ἐν

ἀττις Δύκων ἀποδότω τάς πάς παρ’ ὅν τι προεὶλήφα

522

V. 69–71. LYCO

I have also come across this philosopher's will. It is this:

"These are my dispositions concerning my property, in case I should be unable to sustain my present ailment. All the goods in my house I give to my brothers Astyanax and Lyco, and from this source should, I think, be paid all the money I have laid out at Athens, whether by borrowing or by purchase, as well as all the cost of my funeral and the other customary charges. But my property in town and at Aegina I give to Lyco because he bears the same name with me, and has resided for a long time with me to my entire satisfaction, as became one whom I treated as my son. I leave the Peripatian to such of my friends as choose to make use of it, to Bulo, Callinus, Ariston, Amphion, Lyco, Pytho, Aristomachus, Heracleus, Lycomedes, and my nephew Lyco. They shall put over it any such person as in their opinion will persevere in the work of the school and will be most capable of extending it. And all my other friends should co-operate for love of me and of the spot. Bulo and Callinus, together with their colleagues, shall provide for my funeral and cremation, so as to avoid meanness on the one hand and extravagance on the other. After my decease Lyco shall make over, for the use of the young men, the oil from the olive-trees belonging to me in Aegina for the due commemoration—so long as they use it—of myself and the benefactor who did me honour. He shall also set up my statue, and shall choose a convenient site where it shall be erected, with the assistance of Diophantus and Heraclides the son of Demetrius. From my property

in town Lyco shall repay all from whom I have

523
DIogeneS LAERTIUS

μετὰ τὴν ἀποθημίαν τὴν ἐκείνου. παρεχέσθωσαν δὲ Βούλων καὶ Κάλλων καὶ δὲ ἄν εἰς τὴν ἐκφοράν ἀναλωθῇ καὶ τάλλα τὰ νομίζομεν. κυμασάσθωσαν δὲ ταῦτα ἀπὸ τῶν ἐν ὅικῳ κοινῇ καταλειπομένων

72 ἀμφότεροι δὲ ἐμοὶ τιμητάσθωσιν ἐκαί καὶ τοῦ ἱερείου Πασιθέμων καὶ Νικήτα, ἀξίως ὅστας καὶ διὰ τὴν ἐπιμέλειαν τὴν περὶ ἐμέ καὶ τὴν τέχνην καὶ μείζονος ἐτεὶ τιμῆς. δίδωμι δὲ τῷ Κάλλωνῳ παῖδι Θηρικλείων ζεύγος, καὶ τῇ γυναικὶ αὐτοῦ Ῥοδιακῶν ζεύγος, ψυλατόποτα, ἀμφίταπαν, περιστρωμα, προσκεφαλαία δύο τὰ βέλτιστα τῶν καταλειπομένων ὅσα ἐν ἐμὶ ὤμοι ἀνήκει πρὸς τιμὴν, καὶ τούτων φανώμεν μὴ ἀμηχανείς ὅντες, περὶ δὲ τῶν θεάπευστων ἐμαυτῶν ὀφθαλμὸς εξαγών. Δημητρίῳ μὲν ἐλευθέρω τόλλα ὅντι αἰθίμα τὰ λύτρα καὶ δίδωμι πέντε μᾶν καὶ ἔματίων καὶ χυτῶν, ὑπὸ τόλλα πεπολυμένας μὲ ἐμὸν βίον εὐσχήμονα ἐχαὶ. Κρίτωνι δὲ Χαλκοδονίῳ, καὶ τούτω τὰ λύτρα αἰθίμα καὶ δίδωμι τέταρας μᾶς, καὶ τῷ Μίκρῳ αἰθίμα ἐλευθέρω καὶ δ' ἐλευθέρων Λύκων αὐτῶν καὶ παίδευσάς ἀπὸ τοῦ

73 νῦν χρόνου εὖ ἐτη. καὶ Χαρίτῃ αἰθίμα ἐλευθέρων καὶ δέννων ἐλευθέρων Λυκῶν αὐτῶν καὶ δύο μᾶς αὐτῶ δίδωμι καὶ τοῖς βιβλίοι τὰ ἀνεγνωσμένα. τά δ' ἀνέκδοτα Καλλών ὅπως ἐπιμέλεις αὐτὰ ἐκδώ. δίδωμι δὲ καὶ Σύρῳ ἐλευθέρῳ ὅντι τέταρας μᾶς καὶ τὴν Μηνοδώρων δίδωμι καὶ εἶ τί μοι ὄρθελι, αἰθίμα αὐτῶ. καὶ Πλάτανεντεύτερα καὶ ἀμφίταπαν καὶ δύο προσκεφαλαίαι καὶ περιστρωμα καὶ κλίνην ἢν ἄν θυσίαν. αἰθίμα δ' ἐλευθέρων καὶ τὴν τοῦ Μίκρου μητέρα καὶ Νοῦν καὶ Δίνα καὶ Θέων καὶ Εὐφρανορ καὶ Ἑρμέε. καὶ Ἀγα-

V. 71-73. LYCO

borrowed anything after his departure. Bulo and Callinus shall provide the sums expended upon my funeral and other customary charges. These sums they shall recover from the moneys in the house bequeathed by me to them both in common. They shall also remunerate the physicians Pasithemis and Theodias who for their attention to me and their skill deserve far higher reward. I bequeath to the child of Callinus a pair of Thericlean cups, and to his wife a pair of Rhodian vessels, a smooth carpet, a rug with nap on both sides, a sofa cover and two cushions the best that are left, that, so far as I have the means of recompensing them, I may prove not ungrateful. With regard to the servants who have waited upon me, my wishes are as follows. To Demetrius I remit the purchase-money for the freedom which he has long enjoyed, and bequeath to him five minas and a suit of clothes to ensure him a decent maintenance, in return for all the toil he has borne with me. To Crito of Chalcedon I also remit the purchase-money for his freedom and bequeath to him four minas. And Micrus I emancipate; and Lyco shall keep him and educate him for the next six years. And Shares I emancipate, and Lyco shall maintain him, and I bequeath him two minas and my published writings, while those which have not been given to the world I entrust to Callinus, that he may carefully edit them. To Syrus who has been set free I give four minas and Menodora, and I remit to him any debt he owes me. And to Hilara I give five minas and a double-napped rug, two cushions, a sofa-cover and a bed, whichever she prefers. I also set free the mother of Micrus as well as Noemon, Dion, Theon, Euphranor and Hermias. Agathon should be set

VOL. I

T

525
free after two years, and the litter-bearers Ophelio and Posidonius after four years' further service. To Demetrius, to Crito and to Syrus I give a bed apiece and such bed-furniture out of my estate as Lyco shall think proper. These shall be given them for properly performing their appointed tasks. As regards my burial, let Lyco bury me here if he chooses, or if he prefers to bury me at home let him do so, for I am persuaded that his regard for propriety is not less than my own. When he has managed all these things, he can dispose of the property there, and such disposition shall be binding. Witnesses are Callinus of Hermione, Ariston of Ceos, Euphronius of Paeania."

Thus while his shrewdness is seen in all his actions, in his teaching and in all his studies, in some ways his will is no less remarkable for carefulness and wise management, so that in this respect also he is to be admired.

Chapter 5. DEMETRIUS (perhaps 350–280 B.C.; supreme in Athens 318–307 B.C.)

Demetrius, the son of Phanostratus, was a native of Phalerum. He was a pupil of Theophrastus, but by his speeches in the Athenian assembly he held the chief power in the State for ten years and was decreed 360 bronze statues, most of them representing him either on horseback or else driving a chariot or a pair of horses. And these statues were completed in less than 300 days, so much was he esteemed. He entered politics, says Demetrius of Magnesia in his work on Men of the Same Name,
when Harpalus, fleeing from Alexander, came to Athens. As a statesman he rendered his country many splendid services. For he enriched the city with revenues and buildings, though he was not of noble birth. For he was one of Conon’s household servants, according to Favorinus in the first book of his Memorabilia; yet Lamia, with whom he lived, was a citizen of noble family, as Favorinus also states in his first book. Further, in his second book Favorinus alleges that he suffered violence from Cleon, while Didymus in his Table-talk relates how a certain courtesan nicknamed him Charito-Blepharos (“having the eyelids of the Graces”), and Lampito (“of shining eyes”). He is said to have lost his sight when in Alexandria and to have recovered it by the gift of Sarapis; whereupon he composed the paens which are sung to this day.

For all his popularity with the Athenians he nevertheless suffered eclipse through all-devouring envy. Having been indicted by some persons on a capital charge, he let judgement go by default; and, when his accusers could not get hold of his person, they disgorged their venom on the bronze of his statues. These they tore down from their pedestals; some were sold, some cast into the sea, and others were even, it is said, broken up to make bedroom-utensils.

Only one is preserved in the Acropolis. In his Miscellaneous History Favorinus tells us that the Athenians did this at the bidding of King Demetrius.

separating two clauses which ought to be closely joined: καίπερ οὐκ εὐγένεις ὄν (the last words of § 75) and ἀστὴρ καὶ εὐγένει (in § 76). Hesychius in Suidas emphasizes the beauty of Demetrius. In a modern book the statement that, according to Favorinus, Demetrius was in Conon’s family would find a more suitable place in a footnote.
And in the official list the year in which he was archon was styled "the year of lawlessness," according to this same Favorinus.

Hermippus tells us that upon the death of Casander, being in fear of Antigonus, he fled to Ptolemy Soter. There he spent a considerable time and advised Ptolemy, among other things, to invest with sovereign power his children by Eurydice. To this Ptolemy would not agree, but bestowed the diadem on his son by Berenice, who, after Ptolemy's death, thought fit to detain Demetrius as a prisoner in the country until some decision should be taken concerning him. There he lived in great dejection, and somehow, in his sleep, received an asp-bite on the hand which proved fatal. He is buried in the district of Busiris near Diospolis.

Here are my lines upon him:

A venomous asp was the death of the wise Demetrius, an asp withal of sticky venom, darting, not light from its eyes, but black death.

Heraclides in his epitome of Sotion's Successions of Philosophers says that Ptolemy himself wished to transmit the kingdom to Philadelphus, but that Demetrius tried to dissuade him, saying, "If you give it to another, you will not have it yourself." At the time when he was being continually attacked in Athens, Menander, the Comic poet, as I have also learnt, was very nearly brought to trial for no other cause than that he was a friend of Demetrius. However, Telesphorus, the nephew of Demetrius, begged him off.

In the number of his works and their total length in lines he has surpassed almost all contemporary Peripatetics. For in learning and versatility he has...

* Anth. Pal. vii. 118.
no equal. Some of these works are historical and others political; there are some dealing with poets, others with rhetoric. Then there are public speeches and reports of embassies, besides collections of Aesop’s fables and much else. He wrote:

Of Legislation at Athens, five books.
Of the Constitutions of Athens, two books.
Of Statesmanship, two books.
On Politics, two books.
Of Laws, one book.
On Rhetoric, two books.
On Military Matters, two books.
On the Iliad, two books.
On the Odyssey, four books.

And the following works, each in one book:

Ptolemy.
Concerning Love.
Phaedondas.
Maedon.
Cleon.
Socrates.
Artaxerxes.
Concerning Homer.
Aristides.
Aristochamus.
An Exhortation to Philosophy.
Of the Constitution.
On the ten years of his own Supremacy.
Of the Ionians.
Concerning Embassies.
Of Belief.
Of Favour.
Of Fortune.
Of Magnanimity.
Of Marriage.
Of the Beam in the Sky. a
Of Peace.
On Laws.
On Customs.
Of Opportunity.
Dionysius.
Concerning Chalcis.
A Denunciation of the Athenians.
On Antiphanes.
Historical Introduction.
Letters.
A Sworn Assembly.
Of Old Age.
Rights.
Aesop's Fables.
Anecdotes.

His style is philosophical, with an admixture of rhetorical vigour and force. When he heard that the Athenians had destroyed his statues, "That they may do," said he, "but the merits which caused them to be erected they cannot destroy." He used to say that the eyebrows formed but a small part of the face, and yet they can darken the whole of life by the scorn they express. Again, he said that not only was Plutus blind, but his guide, Fortune, as well; that all that steel could achieve in war was won in politics by eloquence. On seeing a young dandy, "There," quoth he, "is a four-square Hermes for you, with trailing robe, belly, beard and

all.” a When men are haughty and arrogant, he declared we should cut down their tall stature and leave them their spirit unimpaired. Children should honour their parents at home, out-of-doors everyone they meet, and in solitude themselves. In prosperity friends do not leave you unless desired, whereas in adversity they stay away of their own accord. All these sayings seem to be set down to his credit.

There have been twenty noteworthy men called Demetrius: (1) a rhetorician of Chalcedon, older than Thrasymachus; (2) the subject of this notice; (3) a Peripatetic of Byzantium; (4) one called the graphic writer, clear in narrative; he was also a painter; (5) a native of Aspendus, a pupil of Apollonius of Soli; (6) a native of Callatis, who wrote a geography of Asia and Europe in twenty books; (7) a Byzantine, who wrote a history of the migration of the Gauls from Europe into Asia in thirteen books, and another work in eight books dealing with Antiochus and Ptolemy and their settlement of Libya; (8) the sophist who lived at Alexandria, author of handbooks of rhetoric; (9) a grammarian of Adramyttium, surnamed Ixion because he was thought to be unjust to Hera; (10) a grammarian of Cyrene, surnamed Wine-jar, an eminent man; (11) a native of Scepsis, a man of wealth and good birth, ardently devoted to learning; he was also the means of bringing his countryman Metrodorus into prominence; (12) a grammarian of Erythrae enrolled as a citizen of

---

* Since Hermas at Athens show neither drapery nor belly, but archaic hair, this saying would seem either to be incorrectly reported or to need a fresh interpretation. It has been suggested that a long lock pendent over the shoulder may lurk under σώμα (cf. Anth. Pal. v. 12. 2 σώμα μένει

---

537
DIogenes Laertius

φησεὶς εἰς τῇ Μυκ. τρισκαδέκατος Βιθυνὸς Διφίλου τοῦ σταυκοῦ νῦν, μαθητὴς δὲ Παναίτιον τοῦ Ῥόδιον τεσσαροκανδέκατος Ῥήτωρ Σμυρναιός. καὶ οὗτοι μὲν λογικοὶ. σωτηρὶ δὲ πρώτοις ἁρχαίαν κυμαμέναν πεποίηκος: δεύτερος ἐπὶ τῶν σωτηρίων, οὐ μόνον σώζεται πρὸς τοὺς φθόνοις εἰρήμενα τάδε:

ζωὸν ἀτυχήσαντες ἀποφθείμενον ποθέουσι. καὶ πολὺ ὑπὲρ τοῦμβοι καὶ ἀστυνό εἰδώλου ἀστεῖοι νεῖκος ἐπῆλθεν, ἐρωμένος ἔστησά τοι λαός. τρίτος Ταρσικὸς σατυρογράφος, τέταρτος ιάμβος γεγραφῶς, πυκνός ἀνήρ: πέμπτος ἀνδραντοποῖος, οὐ μένοντες Πολύμην ἐκτὸς ὁ Ἐρνθαῖος, ποικιλογράφος ἀνδριατός, ὥς καὶ ἱστορικὸ καὶ βηστικὰ πεποίηκε βιβλία.

Κεφ. 5'. ἩΡΑΚΛΕΙΔΗΣ

'Ἡρακλείδης Εὐθύφρονος Ἡρακλεῖδης τοῦ Πάντοτου, ἀνήρ πλούσιος. Ἀθῆνας δὲ παρέβαλε πρώτον μὲν Σπευδάππης ἀλλὰ καὶ τῶν Πυθαγορείων διήκουσα καὶ τὰ Πλάτωνος ἔγγυλκα καὶ ὅπορον ἦκουσαν Ἀριστοτέλεος ὦς φησί Σωτίων ἐν Διαδοχαῖς, οὕτως ἐσθητὶ τε μαλακῇ ἐχρήτῳ καὶ ὑπερογκος ἐμὲ τὸ σῶμα, ὡς καὶ τῶν Ἁττικῶν μη Ποντικῶν ἀλλὰ Ποιμάκων καλεῖσθαι. πρῶτος τοι ἐμὲ τὸ βλέμμα καὶ ἐμένος. φέρεται δὲ αὐτὸν συγγράμματα καλλιστά τε καὶ ἀριστα. διάλογοι, ὥν ἦθικα μὲν

V. 84–86. DEMETRIUS—HERACLIDES

Mnos; (13) a Bithynian, son of Diphilus the Stoic and pupil of Panaetius of Rhodes; (14) a rhetorician of Smyrna. The foregoing were prose authors. Of poets bearing this name the first belonged to the Old Comedy; the second was an epic poet whose lines to the envious alone survive:

While he lives they scorn the man whom they regret when he is gone; yet, some day, for the honour of his tomb and lifeless image, contention scies civics and the people set up strife;

the third of Tarsus, writer of satires; the fourth, a writer of lampoons, in a bitter style; the fifth, a sculptor mentioned by Polemo; the sixth, of Erythrae, a versatile man, who also wrote historical and rhetorical works.

CHAPTER 6. HERACLIDES (fornit 360 b.c.)

Heraclides, son of Euthyphro, born at Heraclea in the Pontus, was a wealthy man. At Athens he first attached himself to Speusippus. He also attended the lectures of the Pythagoreans and admired the writings of Plato. Last of all he became a pupil of Aristotle, as Sotion says in his Successions of Philosophers. He wore fine soft clothes, and he was extremely corpulent, which made the Athenians call him Pompicus rather than Ponticus. He was mild and dignified of aspect. Works by him survive of great beauty and excellence. There are ethical dialogues:

Speusippus: Index Acad. p. 38 Mekler. However, not only does Diogenes Laertius make him, on Sotion's authority, a pupil of Aristotle, but Aetius also seems, iii. 2. 5, to associate him with the Peripatetics (καθάρε ἀμέλει πάντες of Περιπατητικοί).
Of Justice, three books.
Of Temperance, one book.
Of Piety, five books.
Of Courage, one book.
Of Virtue in general, one book.
A second with the same title.
Of Happiness, one book.
Of Government, one book.
On Laws, one book, and on subjects kindred to these.
Of Names, one book.
Agreements, one book.
On the Involuntary, one book.
Concerning Love, and Clinias, one book.
Others are physical treatises:
Of Reason.
Of the Soul, and a separate treatise with the same title.
Of Nature.
Of Images.
Against Democritus.
Of Celestial Phenomena, one book.
Of Things in the Under-world.
On Various Ways of Life, two books.
The Causes of Diseases, one book.
Of the Good, one book.
Against Zeno’s Doctrines, one book.
A Reply to Metron’s Doctrines, one book.
To grammar and criticism belong:
Of the Age of Homer and Hesiod, two books
Of Archilochus and Homer, two books.
Of a literary nature are:
A work on passages in Euripides and Sophocles, three books.
On Music, two books.
Solutions of Homeric Problems, two books.
Of Theorems, one book.
On the Three Tragic Poets, one book.
Characters, one book.
Of Poetry and Poets, one book.
Of Conjecture, one book.
Concerning Prevision, one book.
Expositions of Heraclitus, four books.
Expositions in Reply to Democritus, one book.
Solutions of Eristic Problems, two books.
Logical Proposition, one book.
Of Species, one book.
Solutions, one book.
Admonitions, one book.
A Reply to Dionysius, one book.

To rhetoric belongs:
Of Public Speaking, or Protagoras.

To history:
On the Pythagoreans.
Of Discoveries.

Some of these works are in the style of comedy, for instance the tracts On Pleasure and On Temperance; others in the style of tragedy, as the books entitled Of those in Hades, Of Piety, and Of Authority. Again, he has a sort of intermediate style of conversation which he employs when philosophers, generals and statesmen converse with each other. Furthermore, he wrote geometrical and dialectical works, and is, besides, everywhere versatile and lofty in diction, and a great adept at charming the reader’s mind.
V. 89-91. HERACLIDES

It seems that he delivered his native city from oppressions by assassinating its ruler, as is stated in his work on *Men of the Same Name* by Demetrius of Magnesia, who also tells the following story about him: "As a boy, and when he grew up, he kept a pet snake, and, being at the point of death, he ordered a trusted attendant to conceal the corpse but to place the snake on his bier, that he might seem to have departed to the gods. All this was done. But while the citizens were in the very midst of the procession and were loud in his praise, the snake, hearing the uproar, popped up out of the shroud, creating widespread confusion. Subsequently, however, all was revealed, and they saw Heraclides, not as he appeared, but as he really was."

I have written of him as follows:

You wished, Heraclides, to leave to all mankind a reputation that after death you lived as a snake. But you were deceived, you sophist, for the snake was really a brute beast, and you were detected as more of a beast than a sage.

Hippobatus too has this tale.

Hermippus relates that, when their territory was visited by famine, the people of Heraclea besought the Pythian priestess for relief, but Heraclides bribed the sacred envos as well as the aforesaid priestess to reply that they would be rid of the calamity if Heraclides, the son of Euthyphro, were crowned with a crown of gold in his lifetime and after his death received heroic honours. The pretended oracle was brought home, but its forgers got nothing by it. For directly Heraclides was crowned in the theatre,

1 ἄπαρτος ἄπαρτος Reiske.

544

545

*Anth. Pal. vii. 104.*

* Or, reading ἄπαρτος for ἄπαρτο, "wished to leave a report behind you that immediately after death you became a living snake."
V. 91–94. HERACLIDES

he was seized with apoplexy, whereupon the envoys to the oracle were stoned to death. Moreover, at the very same time the Pythian priestess, after she had gone down to the shrine and taken her seat, was bitten by one of the snakes and died instantly. Such are the tales told about his death.

Aristoxenus the musician asserts that Heraclides also composed tragedies, inscribing upon them the name of Thespis. Chamaeleon complains that Heraclides' treatise on the works of Homer and Hesiod was plagiarized from his own. Furthermore, Autodorus the Epicurean criticizes him in a polemic against his tract Of Justice. Again, Dionysius the Renegade, or, as some people call him, the "Spark," when he wrote the Parthenopaeus, entitled it a play of Sophocles; and Heraclides, such was his credulity, in one of his own works drew upon this forged play as Sophoclean evidence. Dionysius, on perceiving this, confessed what he had done; and, when the other denied the fact and would not believe him, called his attention to the acrostic which gave the name of Pancalus, of whom Dionysius was very fond. Heraclides was still unconvinced. Such a thing, he said, might very well happen by chance. To this Dionysius, "You will also find these lines:

A. An old monkey is not caught by a trap. a
B. Oh yes, he's caught at last, but it takes time."

And this besides: "Heraclides is ignorant of letters and not ashamed of his ignorance." b

Fourteen persons have borne the name of Heraclides: (1) the subject of this notice; (2) a fellow-citizen of his, author of Pyrrhic verses and tales; the story, viz. "And this besides: 'Heraclides is ignorant of letters.' This made Heraclides blush."
DIOGENES LAERTIUS

(3) a native of Cyme, who wrote of Persia in five books; (4) another native of Cyme, who wrote rhetorical textbooks; (5) of Callatis or Alexandria, author of the *Succession of Philosophers* in six books and a work entitled *Lembeuticus*, from which he got the surname of Lembus (a fast boat or scout); (6) an Alexandrian who wrote on the Persian national character; (7) a dialectician of Bargylis, who wrote against Epicurus; (8) a physician of the school of Hicesius; (9) another physician of Tarentum, an empiric; (10) a poet who was the author of admonitions; (11) a sculptor of Phocaea; (12) a Ligurian poet, author of epigrams; (13) Heraclides of Magnesia, who wrote a history of Mithradates; (14) the compiler of an Astronomy.