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## [The Sacred Tales - suite]

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### Présentation de la fiche

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### Références éditoriales

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possible to obtain sleep. But this was rare, due to the tempests of my body. Therefore, in view of this, I decided to submit truly to the God, as to a doctor and to do in silence whatever he wishes.

4

174

January 4 to  
February 15  
166 A.D.

But now I wish to indicate to you the condition of my abdomen. I shall reckon each matter day by day. It was the month of Poseideon, and what a winter it was! During those nights my stomach was upset and I had extraordinary insomnia, so that I could not digest the smallest morsel. Not the least cause was the continuous succession of stormy weather, which it was said even the tiling did not sustain. But I perspired all this time, except when I bathed.

5

January 4,  
5 & 6

On the twelfth of the month, the God instructed me not to bathe, and the same on the next day, and the day after that. I passed these three days in a row, both night and day, wholly without perspiring, so that I did not even need to wear an undershirt<sup>2</sup>, and never before did I perceive myself to be more comfortable. I passed the time in walking about the house and in games, as these were holidays. For the Vigil of the God followed upon the preceding holiday in honor of Poseidon.

6

January 7  
Night & Day

And after this, there was a dream which contained a notion of bathing, although this was far from certain. *I dreamed that I had been in some way befouled.* Nevertheless I decided that I would bathe and that if I had actually experienced this befouling, there was need of water. And immediately thereafter I was somewhat uncomfortable in the bath and when I came out, everything seemed to be full and my breath was like that of a man gasping for air, so that right at the beginning I stopped taking nourishment. After this at night, stomach trouble, which reached such a pitch, that it scarcely stopped a little before noon. But there was a dream vision somewhat as follows: *I was in the warm bath, and bending forward I saw that my lower intestinal tract was in a rather strange state. I determined to persist in not bathing. But someone said that the trouble which had appeared was not in the*

7

8

<sup>2</sup> I 6 χιτωνίσκου--μεταλαβεῖν A; χιτωνίσκον STD. But a correction to μεταβαλεῖν is not likely; cf. II 78.



