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Auteur : Foucault, Michel

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And the following happened to me on the same night, to recollect 13
it in summary fashion. *I dreamed that I was at the ancestral hearth.*
On the wall where the statues of the Gods are, was the following
inscription: "Such and such, saved from death, offer thanks to all
the Gods." And there appeared to be the traces of sacrifices. And this
vision inaugurated for me a series of sacrifices, for I not only con-
sidered the dream, but at the same time I was receiving such great
things from the Gods and was also so inclined. Therefore we left
Lebedus in high spirits when it seemed best to the God, and I enjoyed
a comfort worthy of description.

late January As to what I said⁴² about the consumption, the 14
148 A.D. God confirmed it later by signs to the temple
warden, as Asclepiacus himself recounted to me,
having heard before nothing from me. For he said that he heard the
God say that he had got rid of my consumption and catarrh, and
cured my stomach.

February He also revealed, approximately at the same 15
148 A.D. time, very wonderful things in the person of
Neritus, one of my foster fathers. For I believe that
he dreamed that the God, together with Telesphorus, said to him,
in regard to me, that it was necessary to remove my bones and put in
nerves, for the existing ones had failed. Then he was in great fear and
anguish, when he heard these things about me, but the God said,
in consolation and instruction, not directly to knock out the bones
and cut out the existing nerves, but that there needed to be, as it
were, a certain change of those existing, and thus there was need of
a great and strange correction. And he gave a cure to Neritus, to tell
me⁴³: unsalted olive oil three times a day. And I did as the God
instructed, and when I tried it, it proved helpful.

⁴² III 14 I accept εἶπον mss. Keil emended εἶπε.

⁴³ III 15 Keil placed a lacuna after ἐχοντι. But probably χρῆσθαι is to be under-
stood.

c. February These other things happened to me at the an- 16
148 A.D. cestral hearth, in the height of winter and my
disease. I was reclining at lunch, and strong and
terrible pains occurred in my head, and there was a pressure in my
face, and my lips were locked together, and I was in great difficulty.
Doubled up, as I was, I rushed into my bedroom, and lay down in
some fashion, and a great and strong fever arose. I was unable to
breathe, and my mother and nurse and the other servants started to
wail, and Zosimus was also upset. And somehow I nodded to the
majority to leave, and made ready for what would happen. And after 17
this, when the sun set, or even still later, a convulsion was added to
the fever, neither describable nor such as one might conceive. But
my body was drawn in every direction. My knees were born upwards
to my head, and dashed against it. It was impossible to control my
hands, but they beat against my neck and face. My chest was thrust
forward, and my back drawn backward, as a sail billowed in the
wind. No part of my body was still, nor did it change a little from its
natural condition, but mostly there were convulsions and the unspeak-
able state of pain, which did not let me be silent, and ever more ended
in screams. These things continued up to midnight or later, and abated 18
not a bit. Then it lost some of its force, however it did not wholly
stop. I was laid upon and wrapt all about in warm wool, and every
kind of fomentation was used, and with difficulty thus I survived.
And before it was daytime, someone ran to summon the doctor. He
came, either on the following day or even a day later. And at noon, 19
I think, I again had an attack, and not much later black bile spread
downward. And while I was sitting on a chair, there came over me a
terrible feebleness and perspiring and faintness. And the doctor was
disturbed and decided that I should be fed. But this was not the
trouble. Night arose, as in a pitching, rolling sea, and I slept only 20
enough to dream. *I received a command to go to the hearth of my*
foster fathers and make obeisance to the statue of Zeus, by which I
was brought up. And there were certain utterances, I think, and the
kind of supplication was defined. There was not a little snow, and
everything was thoroughly impassable. And the small house was more
than a stade from the main house. I mounted a horse, went, and
made obeisance, and even before I returned, everything settled
down.



