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Présentation de la fiche

Coteb023_f0809

SourceBoite_023-18-chem | Philosophes. Sophistes.

LangueFrançais

TypeFicheLecture

RelationNumérisation d'un manuscrit original consultable à la BnF, département des Manuscrits, cote NAF 28730

Références éditoriales

Éditeuréquipe FFL (projet ANR *Fiches de lecture de Michel Foucault*) ; projet EMAN (Thalim, CNRS-ENS-Sorbonne nouvelle).

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Notice créée par [équipe FFL](#) Notice créée le 19/03/2021 Dernière modification le 23/04/2021

OTHER LITERARY MEN

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a procuratorship.¹ Once more there appears a well-connected literary man ending up in the civil service.

Flavius Arrianus, from a Bithynian family already possessed of the Roman citizenship,² had a senatorial career of distinction. He reached the consulate under Hadrian, waged a campaign against the Alani (about which he later composed a monograph), and governed Cappadocia for a number of years.³ As a historian of Alexander the Great, Arrian has enjoyed respect to this day; he was equally a philosopher, and it may be noted that his Discourses of Epictetus were dedicated to that eminent aristocrat of Corinth, L. Gellius Menander.⁴ The conjunction of philosophy and history recalls the wealthy Pergamene benefactor, A. Claudius Charax, himself a senator and governor of provinces.⁵ Further, the sophist P. Anteius Antiochus of Aegae, of whom Philostratus composed a biography, was also a historian.⁶ Again and again disciplines intertwine, and throughout is the prospect of public advancement.

Opportunities for historians to make their way in the world were all too numerous. Accounts of Parthian Wars might be profitable at the time of the expedition of Lucius Verus. Many evidently attempted that topic,⁷ though achieving considerably less success than Arrian. The cloud of Parthian historians is not very distinct—which may be as well. However, with the Severan age came another major historian, also a senator. That was Cassius Dio, twice consul, governor of Africa, Dalmatia, and Pannonia, companion of Caracalla.⁸ He was probably a descendant of Dio of Prusa,⁹ and if that is fact we have another instance of literary pursuits passing in a family of means, producing before long a senator and consul. Finally, among historians of the sophistic age, there was also Herodian

¹ App. *Prooem.* 15. Against the old view that Appian was *advocatus fisci* at Rome: H.-G. Pflaum, *Les Procureurs équestres sous le Haut-Empire romain* (1950), pp. 204–5.

² The *nomen* puts this beyond doubt.

³ *PIR²*, F 219. Cf. G. W. Bowersock, *GRBS* 8 (1967), 280, n. 7.

⁴ Bowersock, op. cit., 280.

⁵ *Istanbuler Mitteilungen* 9/10 (1959/60) 109 ff.

⁶ *PIR²*, A 730.

⁷ Cf. Lucian, *Quomodo historia conscribenda* 14 ff.

⁸ F. Millar, *A Study of Cassius Dio* (1964), ch. I.

⁹ Ibid., pp. 11–12.

