

Confidence in Katastematic Pleasure

Post by “Don” of February 11, 2023 at 11:02 PM

Another excerpt of interest from Epicurus, On Nature, book 14, column 24 (using Les Epicuriens, Google Translate on the French, and the papyrus transcription):

...we must count ourselves fortunate in this, too - that all who are engaged in such trivialities may have some sort of remedy by which it is possible, simply to attain at times calmness (καταστάσεις katastaseis) in the contemplation of nature, to get rid of their inborn ([σ]υμφύτου; French: connaturel) [trouble; παραχ]ῆς], which even later [missing 1 column].

[ἀ-]

γαπητ[ὸν] καὶ τοῦτ[ο], τὸ

δὴ πάντα τὸν συνε[χό]με-

νον [ταῖς] τοιαύταις περι-

εργ[ε]ῖαις ἔχειν οἰονὶ φάρ-

μακον δι' οὗ καταστάσεις

ἀπλ[ᾶς ἔστι]ν ἐν τῇ περὶ φύ-

σε[ως θεωρί]αι ἀπαλλαγῆ-

σε[σθαι τῆς σ]υμφύτου ἑαυ-

τα[ῖς παραχ]ῆς ἢ καὶ ὕστε-

10ρον [..]..... ηπο.. σιτ..

γε [..]..... ὥστε... υ.

[...]...... τοιού[τοι]ς..

[.....]...... ον [..]....

[□-ca.?- □]

Compare to Fragment 116. I summon you to sustained enjoyment and not to empty and trifling virtues, which destroy your confidence in the fruits of what you have.

ἐγὼ δ' ἐφ' ἡδονὰς συνεχεῖς παρακαλῶ καὶ οὐκ ἐπ' ἀρετὰς κενὰς καὶ ματαίας καὶ παραχώδεις ἐχούσας τῶν καρπῶν ἐλπίδας.