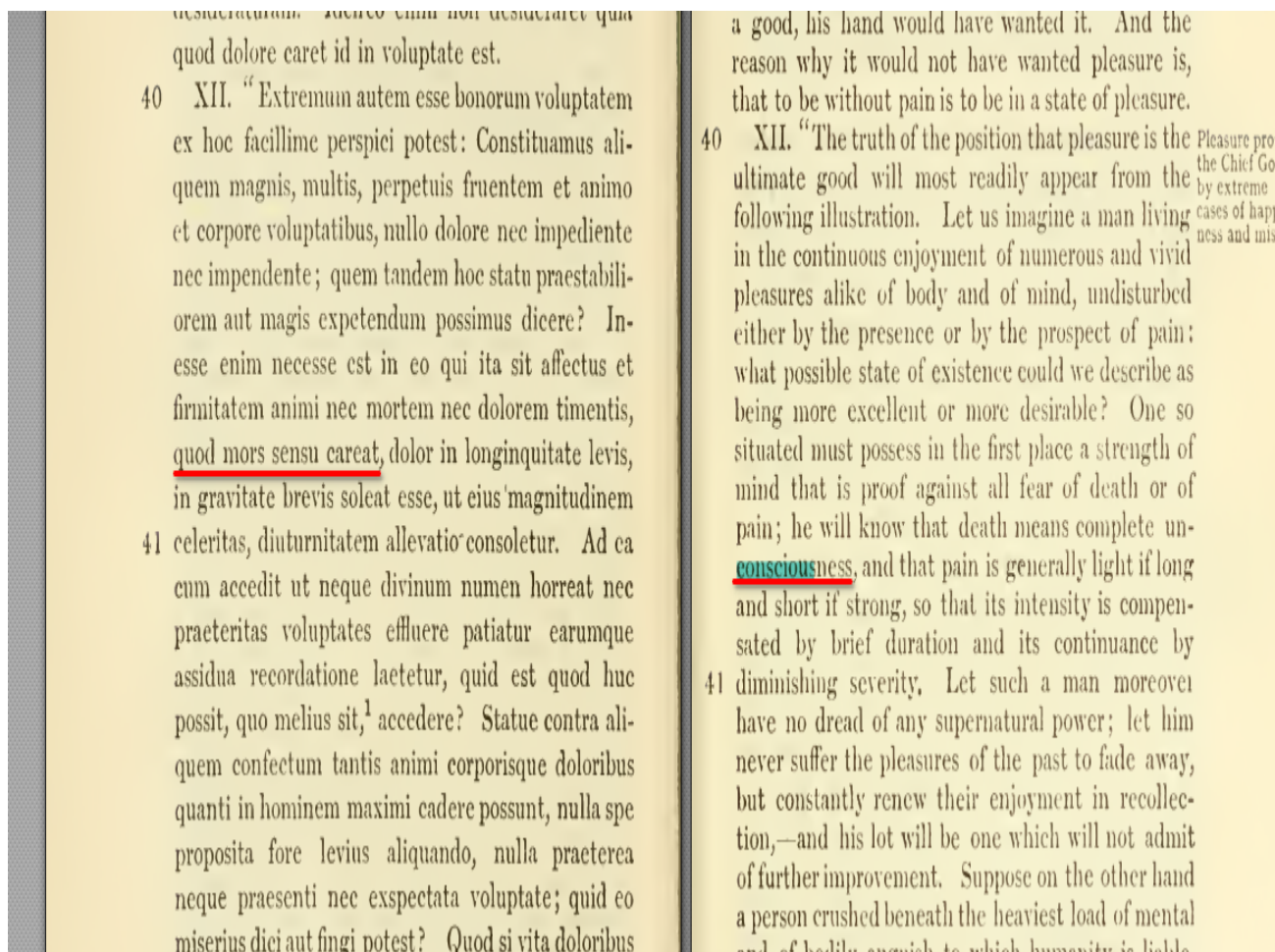


Epicurus And Pleasure As The Awareness Of Smooth Motion

Post by "Cassius" of February 6, 2024 at 8:58 AM

Maybe all these variations of "awareness" or "consciousness" are just coming from "sensation".... which would imply that they were thinking of sensation and awareness as exactly the same thing and would not accept a construction of something like a mind being aware only of itself or its thoughts - and therefore that awareness = sensation in every respect (?), and the word we use as "awareness" means nothing other than "sensation" to them. This issue seems to lurk behind a lot of issues that are regularly discussed, and would be why it is plain to Epicurus that death is total absence of sensation.



animi voluptates esse e corporis societate. Corporis autem voluptas si etiam praeterita delectat, non intellego cur Aristoteles Sardanapalli epigramma tanto opere derideat, in quo ille rex Syriae gloriatur se omnes secum abstulisse libidinum voluptates. Quod enim ne vivus quidem, inquit, diutius sentire poterat quam dum fruebatur, quomodo id mortuo potuit permanere? Fluit igitur voluptas corporis et prima quaeque avolat, saepiusque relinquit causam paenitendi quam recordandi. Itaque beatior Africanus cum patria illo modo loquens:

Desine, Roma, tuos hostes—
reliquaque praeclare:

Nam tibi moenimenta mei nenerere labores.

ceases to be true that mental pleasures arise from the connection of the mind with the body. Yet if bodily pleasure even when past can give delight, I do not see why Aristotle^a should be so contemptuous of the epitaph of Sardanapalus. The famous Syrian monarch boasts that he has taken with him all the sensual pleasures that he has enjoyed. How, asks Aristotle, could a dead man continue to experience a feeling which even while alive he could only be conscious of so long as he was actually enjoying it? So that bodily pleasures are transient; each in turn evaporates, leaving cause for regrets more often than for recollection. Accordingly Africanus must be counted happier than Sardanapalus, when he addresses his country with the words:

Cease, Rome, thy foes—