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#### Abstract

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## Plato

 AXIOCHUS
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Axiochus.

## A moft excellent Dialogue,

 written in Greeke by Plato the Phylofopher: : concerning the fhortneffe and vncercainty of this life, with the contrary ends of the good and wicked.```
Tranflated out of Greeke by
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    Edw. Spenfer.
    Heereto is annexed a sweet peech or Oration, Jpoken at the Tryumphe at White-ball before ber Maiertic, by the Page to the righe noble Earle of Oxenforde.


AT LONDON,
Printed for Cuthbert Burbie, and are to be fold at the middle fhop in the Poultry, vnder S. Mildreds Church.

Anmo. 1 S92.

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LA

# To the Right Worfipfall Maitter Benedic Barnam, Efquire, Alderman and Sheriffe of this honorable Citty of London: healch and happineffe. ( $\because$.) 

 Orfhipfull Sir, I am bold (by way of dedication:) to giue yee this excellent Dialogue of Plato the Phylofopher, for two reafons. The firft, that fo fegrguler a worke, doone by a Heathen man, might as welflorifh in our vulgare fpeech, as of long time it hath doone both in Greeke and Latine.
r. The fectunde, that your countenaunce might fhaddowe it from reprochefull flaunders, which common cenfures too lightly bolt out againft the beft endeuours. But con$\mathbb{T}_{3}$ cerning

## The Efistle.

cerning the fpeciall matter, to wit,my prefumption, without firf acquainting yee heere-with : thus I protect my felie.My familiarity with yee in your younger yeeres, when fometimes wee were Schollers together, and my prefent ioy, to fee ye fo happie a fucceeder both in your Fathers vertues, place, and Office: imboldened mee to fhew a remembrance of the one, yet reuerently, and gladnes of the other as well becommeth me. If in thys fmallgift, ye make acceptance both of the one and other, yee fhall declare no leffe then each one welldifcernes in yegand ioy him that euery way is at your cormaund.


## To the Reader.

THis Dialogue of Axiochus, gentle Reader, was trangated out of Greeke, by tbat wortby Scholler and Poet, Maister Edward Spenfer, mobofeftudies bauc of doe carry no mean commendation, becauje tbeir deferts are of fo great esteeme.

If beerein thou find not the delightfull pleafures bis verfes jeeldetb, yet sbalt thou receive matter of as bigh contentment:to woit, comfort in the verie lateSt extremitie. For bis fake then be kind in acceptance beereof, and doe him the right be verywell deferueth.


# Axiochus of 

Plato, or a Dialogue of Death, being both ffort and very Elegant.

Socrates. Clinias. Axiochus.


S I went one day to my common fchoole Lynofargus, and being in the waye by Elizens, I might heare the voice of one calling aloude to me, Socrates. And turning me about to fee whence it came, I faw Clinias Axiochus his fonne, together with Damon the Mufitian \& Cbarmides, the fonne of Glanco running haftely toward Callirrboe, whereof the one was a Maifter and profeffor of the Arte of Muficke, \& the other by means of great familiarity \& acquaintance, did both loue him, and alfo was of himbeloued; whereupon I thoughe good, leauing my ready way, to go meet them, that I might the fooner vinderitand his meaning. Then Clinias burfting out in teares, $\mathbf{O}$ A

Socrates

## Axiochus.

Socrates (quod he) now is the time when thom naift fhew forthithy long foltered and famous. wifedome, for my father is enen nowe tiken with a grieuous difeale, and drawing neere (as it feemetit) to his end, is therwithailg tieuoufly troubled, and greatly difquieted. Howbeit, hecretofore hee was io fared from the fare of death , as that he was wont pleafantly to fooffe and forme at thofe which vied to portraict/the Image of death, painting him with $/$ dreadfull countenanceandagrielly face. V Vherefore I befeech thee O Socrates, to go and comfort my father as you were wont to doo; for fo the rarher being flengthened with your good counfaile, he fhall beeable without any grudginglor fainting to pafle through the way of all fech, and I with the eftof his friends and kinfimen :will maintaine the yearely memory of thathis goodend.

## Socrates.

O Clinime I will not denie thy fo reafonable a requelt, fpecially concerning fuch a matter, as to deny it weregreat vnkindues and difcourtefie: to grant it/perteyneth both to godimeffe and charitie. Let vs therefore fpeede vs to him: for if thy fither be in fo fore taking, there needeth fpeediaes and great haft.

## Clinias.

## Axiochus.

## Clinias.

O Socrates, I am fure that my father affoone as hee but beholdeth you, will be much better at eafe: for his fitte and panges of his fickneffe vfe oftentimes to furceafe and be aff waged.

## Socrates.

But that we might the fooner come to him, $\rceil$ we tooke the way, which lieth befide the town wall by the Gaidens ) for his dwelling was hard by the gates which lyeth toward the e 1 mazons piller: whither wee comming, found Axiocbus (which by this time was come to himfelfagaine) being indeed fomewhat ftrong an his body, but very weake and feeble in his $\checkmark \vee$ minde/, and refling a'together comfortleffe; oftentofsing him, and tumbling vp and downe/ in his bed, fetching deepe and dolefull fighes, withaboundant ftreames of trickling teares, and wailefull wringing of his handes: whome beholding, O Axiochus quoth 1 , what mea-neth this? where bee now/thofe haughtie and couragious words, wher with thou waft wont to fcorne and delpife death? where bee thofe thy dayly and continuall praves of vertue and goodnelle vanified? whereallo is now that thy valpeakeable floutnefle, wherew ih thou waft $A=$ woont

## Axiochus.

woont to confirme thy feife and firengthen others : for like as a cowardly champion, which at the firft comming furth as to the skirmith, with ftately fteps and a vaunting vifage, dooth foone after caft away his Target, and taketh him to flight: cuen fo feemeft thou now, when there is need moft of al to flinch. Haft thou no more regarde of thy divine and excellent nasure, that fometime waft a man of fo good life and calling, fo obedient toreafons rule ? and if there were nothing els, yet ihou'd it be fufficient to mooue thee, that thou art an Athenian bornc:jand laftly flould mooue thee that common faying/which is worncinall mens mouths; That this our lite is a Pilgrimage, which when we haue ended with perfect meafure and ftedfaft tranell: it behoueth vs with like conftancy of minde, and ioy fulnes offpuit, and as it were finging a merry Pxan, to enter into the purpofed place of reift. But thus to languifh in difpaire and tenderharted out-cries, behauing thy feifelike a froward $B$ abe, in thee is neither regard of thy wifedome, nor relpect of thy age.

## Axiochus.

True indeed $O$ Socrates, and that which thou fayeft, me feemeth right: But it commeth topaffe I knowe not how that when I drawe neere vinto prefent duunger, than thofe great

## Axiochus.

and fout-hearted wordes which I was wont to caft at death, doo clofely filt away and downe are trodden/vider foote. And then that Tormentorfeare, the meffenger of dreaded daungers, dooth fundrye wayes wound and gall my grieued minde, whispering continually un mine eare that it I bee once depriued of this world y light, and bereft of goods: I fhall like a ro:ten blocke lye in the darkefome deapth, neither feene nor heard of any, beeing refolued into duft and wormes.

## Socrates.

O Axiochus thy talke is very foolif, for reafoning thus without reafon, and feeking to make forme fence of fenceles wordes, thou both doft and fayelt cleane contrary to thy felfe, not marking, how at one time thou doft both complane for the lacke of fence which thou thalt haue : and alfo art greatly vexed for the rotting of thy carrion Carcafle, and defpoyling of thy formerdelights: as if by this death thou ihouldeft not pafle into another life, or f?ouldeft be fo defpoyled of all fence and feeling, as thou wert before thou waft firft brought into this world/. Foreuen as in thofe yeares when Drace and Callifthenes gouerned the common wealth of eAt hens, thou then waft vexed with no euil, for in the beginuing thou waft no fuch as to

$$
\text { A } 3 \text { whome }
$$

## Axiochus.

whome euill might chance : follkewife when thou haft ended this flate of mortalitye thou fhalt now more be afficted, for thou thalt not be m fuch cale as thatany cuil can touch thee. $V$ Vherefore fhakeoff and caft away all thefe trifles and worldiy baggage, thus waying in thy mule, that when the frame of this earthly buildng is dillolued, and the foule being fingled, is reltored to his naturall place: this bodye which is then lefi an earthly maffe and an vnreafonable fubftance, is then no more a man. For we are a foule, that is to fay , an immortall creature, beeing fhut vp and incloted in an earthly dungeon, $V$ V herewthall nature hath c'othed $\mathbf{v}$, and charged vs with many mileries, fo that enen thofe thangs which feeme pleafant to vs and royfull, are indeed but vaine and fhadowed, beeing mingled and wrapped in many tioufand forrowes, and thofe allo which vfe to breede vs forrowe/and heavines, are both fodaine, and therefore more hardely auoyded, and allo perdurable, and therefore the more paincfull and wearifome. Such be difeafes and inflammation of the fences:/Such bee inward griefes and fickeneffes/ through which it cannot choofe but that thefould mult bee alfodifeafed, fince that beeing feattered and fpread through the powres and paffages of the body, it coueteth the vie of that open and kinde heanen out of which it was denued, fand thirfteth
fur

## Axiochus.

$\checkmark$ for the wonted company/k furpaffing/delights of that xernall fellowitup/ whereby it is cuident, that the paflage from ife, is a change froms mucheuill to grear good.

Axiochis.
Since therefure O Socrates thou deemeft this hife fotedious and rroublefome, why dooft thou ftillabide in the fame ? beeing as thou arta man /ot fo great witedomand experience, / whofe knowledge reacheth farre aboue our commonfence/and beyond the vfuall reafon of moftmen.

## Socrates.

Thou Axiochus dooft not report rightly of me: for thou iudgeft as the common people of Athens, that becaule you fee 1 am gruan to feeke and fearch out many things, therefore I know fomewhat. But to fay the truth, I would hartely wifh, and would the fame account in great parte of happinefle, if I knew but thefe commonand cultomable matters : fo farre am I from the knowledge of thofe highand excellent things. For thele things which I nowe declare, arethe fayinges of Prodicus the wife man : fome of them beeing bought for a pentye: fome furtwo groats, and ocher tome fos foure

## Axiochus.

foure : For that fame notable man vfed to teach none without wages, hauing alwaiesin his mouth that faying of Epicharmus, One hand rubbeth another: giue fomewhat, and fomewhat take. And it is not long fithence, that he making a difcourfe of Philofophye in the houle of Callias the fonne of Hipponicus, fuch and fo many things he fpake againft the flate of life:that 1 alfo account life in the number of thofe thinges which be of leffe waight. Andeuer fince that time O Axiochus, my foule gafpethafier death,daily longing to die.

## Axiochus.

## V Vhat then was faid of Prodicus ?

## Socrates.

Marrie I will tell you, as they come tomy minde. For what parcell (quod he ) of our life is not full of wretchednes? dooth not the babie cuen taken frō the mothers wombe, powre out plenty of teares, beginning the firft ttep of lite with griefe? neither afterward hath it once any breathing or refting time from forrow, being either diftreffed with pouertie, or pinched with colde, or fcortched with heate, or payned with Itripes: and what foeuer it fuffereth, vtter once it cannot, but onely with cryiig dooth fhow
$\square$

## Axiochus.

Thow his minde, hauing no voice but that alone to bewray his griefe: and hauing through many woes waded to feauen yeares of age, he is yet afflicted with greater griefes, being fubiect to the tyranny of the Schoolemaifter and Tutor. And as his yeares encreafed, fo is the number of his guides and gouernours encreafed, being afterwards in the handes of Cenfors, Philoiophers and Capitaines. Soone after being waxen a ftripling he is hemmed in with greater feare, i:amely of Lyceum, of the A cademie, of the Schoole of games, of Rulers, of Roddes: and to thut $v p$ al inone worde, of infinite miferies. Andall the time of his youth is fpent vnder ouer-feers which are fet ouer him by the eAreopagits from which labours young men beeing once freed, are yet ouer-layde with greater cares and more weightic thoughts, touching theordering of hus fate and trade of life: which alfo if ihey be compared with thofethat followe, all thele former troubles may/feeme but childifh and indeed babifh triffes. For herevpon dooth a troope of cuis accrew, as be the exploites of warfare, the bitterneffe of wounds, the conmuall labour, skirmifhes:and then clofely creepeth ono'de Age, in which are heapedall the hammes that pertaine to mankinde, whether of weakenelle as naturall, or of paine is being externall/,And butif one betimes reftore his life/as a dew debt to death:

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\text { B } \quad \text { Nature }
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## Axiochus.

Natare enter waiting ac: a greedy vfurer, taketh paynes aforeland, tlatecling and pulling from this man his fight//from that his hicaring, from fom both two Ienifes. And ifany fortune loger then commonly is' Teene in this life to linger, Nature weakening hir powres, dooth looif, lame, and bow downe all partes of his body, but they whofe bodies in old age long flourTheth/in minde, asthe faying is, become twife children. A nd therfore the gods, knowing what ismoft expedient for men, thofe whome they moft deerely loue, do fooneft take out of this 6 vale of wretcthednes. And for this caurce Agsmeders and Trophoniss, when they had buit a
$\checkmark$ Temple to Pythiws Apollo, defiring of the god therefore to grant/them the beft rewarde that might be giuen, foone after when they layde them downe to reft, neuect rofe againe.
Likewife Clecobis \& Biton, the flonnes of the Argiue Nunne, whẽ their mother had made hir praier to Iuno s that toher fonnes fortheir great godines/ might be giuen fome finguler gitt for that they when her yoake of Oxen were not readily to bee found at the time of facrifice, themélues being yoaked in the charriot, drew their mother to the Temple) vpon this their mothers sequef, the two fonnes the next morning were found dicad. It were too long in this place torelierfe the teftimonies of Poets which intheir duune poefies do divincly bewaile and lameac

## Axiochus.

tament the mileries of mans life, I will nowe onely in place of many, recite the witneffe of one, being moft worthice of memoric, which thus faith,
How wretcheda tbred of life hawe the gods $\beta$ pom, Tomortall men that in this race of life do rmn. Andagaine:
Of all that in the earth are ordained by matwre, Than man, is not to bee found a more nuresched creature.
But of Amphiaraw what faith the Poet? Him lowed higheff lupiter and A pollo deare, yet conld be not reache to bis eldefiyeare.
What thinkeft thon of bim
that taught the childe to crie:
When firft the Sumne bright day,
be foeth with tender efe.
But I will let them paffe, leaft contraryeto promife, I feeme to difcourfe at large, and that in the alleadging of forraine wituelles. What trade of life 1 pray you is there, or what occupation, of which you fhall not find many that complaine andgreatly miflike of their prefent affaires. Let vs ouerrunne the companies of Artificers \& cratt(men, which continually labour from mghtto night, and yet hardly able to find them neceflaries to liue, by bewayling theyr bare eftate,\&filling their nightwatchings with B 2 forrow

## Axiochus.

forrow andteares. Let vs els furuew the life of Marrmersand Seafaringmen, which make a hole through fo many dangers, \& whichas Bras fald pre netther in the number of the luing hor yet of the dead, forman being borne to abide vpon the earth, dooth asit were a creature of a double kinde, thruft himeife into the maine fea/and wholy put his life mot the hands/offortune. But the hife of husbandinen will fome fay is pleafart, and for in deed it is : but haue they nota contumull rancking gall, euer breeding new caufe of greete and duc ${ }^{2}$ uiet ${ }_{2}$ fometime by reafon ofdrought, fometiune becaufe of raine, otherwhule fur fortching, of through blafting, which parcheth the vntume'y eare oftentines, becaule ofimportunate heate or vomeafurable colde, miferably weepung and complaining. But aboue all, that honourable ftate/of gouernement and principallitie (for Ilet paffe miany other things \& wrap them vp in filence) through how many dangers is it toffed and turmoiled, for ifat any time it haue any caufe of iove, it is like vito a blowne blifter orfa f welling fore, foone vp , and fooner downe: oftentime fuffering a fule repulfe, which feemeth a thoufand times worfe then deathit felfe. For whoat any time can be bleffed, that hangeth vpon the wauering will of the witleffe many? And albeit the Magiffrate delerue fauour and praife, yet is he but a mocking ftocke and fcoffe of the com-

## Axiochus.

comminalty, being foone afier, outcaft, hifed at, condemned, and deliuered to a milerable death. For where I praye thee O Axrochos, (thee I aske that art in office in the commonwealth )dyed that mightie cMs/tiades? Where that victornous Themiftocles? where that valiant Ephialtes? where finally thife nob le kings and glorious Emperours, which not long a goe flourithedin the common wealth. As formy feife, I couidneuer be brought to beare office intlie Cittie : for I neuer accounted it as a worthie and lawdable thing to be in authority $\checkmark /$ together with the m. ddeng mu'titude.

But Theramenes and Calixenss of late memorie appointing vonder them ceitane Magifrates, condemned certaine guiltlefle men, not hearing their caufes to vndelerued death. Onelyewithftood them you, and Triptolemus, of thirty thouland men which were gathered in the affemble.

## Axiochus.

It is as thou fayeft Socrates, and fince that time I haue refraned my felfe/from the itage : ne:ther hat hany thingetuer to mee cemed of greater waigh $e^{\prime}$, then the gracraig o the common-wcalih, and thit 1 , we.t kuowne to 'them whichare in the fane ofice. For thou Epeakeft thefe things, as lavilg out of forne B ; high

## Axiochus.

high loft onely ouerlooked the troubles and tempeftsof the common-wealth, but weknow the lanse more affuredly, hauing made proofe therefore in ourfelues, for the common people indeede our freends Socrates is vnthankefull, difdainefull, cruell, enuious, and vnlearned, as that is gathered together of the fcumme and dregs of the rafcall route, and a forte of idle lofels : whome hee that flattereth/and feedeth is much worfe himfelfe than they:

## Socrater.

Since therefore O Axiochus, thou dooft fo greatly difallow that opinion, which of allother, is counted mof honeft and liberall? what Thall we iudge of the other trades of life? fhall wee not thinke that they are likewife to bee thunned: I remember that I once heard Trodicus fay; /that death pertayneth neither to the luing por to the dead.

## Axiochus.

## How meane youthat, Socrates?

## Socrates.

Mary thus ; that death toucheth not them that are, and as for thofe that are departed out/

Google

## Axiochus.

of this life, arenow no more, and therfore death now toucheth them not : for thou art not yet dead, neither if thou deceafe, fhall it concerne thee, for thou fhalt then haue no more. Theretore, moft vaine is that forrow which Axiechus maketh, for the thing which neyther is prefent, norfhall euer touch $A$ xiochus himielfe. And euen as foolifh is it, /as if one fhould complaine and be afraid of $S c y l l s$, or the Centaures, which weremonfters, of Poets broode, which neyther now belong to thee, nor to thy liues end Thall appertaine; for feare is conceyued of fuch things as be ;) but of fuch things as be not, what feare can there be?

## Axiocbus.

Truely Socrates, you haue fetched thefe things, out of the riche and moft aboundant Storehoufe of your woonderfull wifedome: And thereof rifeth that your mildeneffe and lightneffe of fpeech, which you vfe to allure the mindes of yoong men to vertue. But the loffe of thefe worldy commodities, dooth no: a little vexe and difquiet my minde; albeit thefe reafons, which now to my great good liking you have alledged, feeme to mee much moredallowable, than thofe which hate you $\mathbf{v}$ fed; formy minde is not carryed away with errorthroughthe entifement of your words, but percei*

## Axiochus.

 perceiueth them well, neither doe thofe things greatly mooure ny minde, which onely laue a colour and ihadowed fliowe of truth, being fet out with flanting piide, and glory of words, but yee truth haue they none.
## Socrates.

Thou art farre wide $A x i o c h a s$, and reafoneff vnski'fully, ioyning the feelang of euill, with the watite of good things, forgetting thy felfe that then thou fhaltpee in the number of the feicce'effedead. For him indeed which is bereft ofall gond things;/dooth the contrary force of eull things greatly vexe. But he which hath no being, cant take nor feele nothing, iu place of thofe things whereof he is delpoiled. Then by what reafon can any griefe bee conceyued of thatt thing, which breedeth no fence nor per [6uerance of any thing which hurteth?. For if in the begining O Axiochus, thou didft not, though madeed in vayne, ioyne fenceland feeLing to death, moft vinwify, thou fhouldeft ncuer had caufe to feare death. But now thou doeft confound thy felfe, and /peakeff contranic to thy felfe, oft fearing that thou finalt, bee dspriucd of foule and fence together, and oft thanking, that with thy fence thou fhat fecle that thing, whereof there is no fence nof feehag. And to this purpofedo all thofe excellent and

## Axiochus.

and notable reafons of the foules immortalitie tend.

For it is not the weake nature of mortall man, to raife himfelfe tothe fulfilling of fuch high and haughtye matters, as to delipife the ramping rage of wilde beafts, to icopard himfelfe in the waftefull fea, to builde Citties, and them with lawes and pollicie to eftablifh:|to looke vp into heauen, and marke the courfe of the Starres; and the wayes of the Sunne and Moone, with their rifings and fetting, to confider their eclipfes, their fosces, their making of the nights and diy es alike their double conuerfions, to behold the order of the windes, the feauen watrie flarres, of winter, of fummer, of ftormes, with the violent rage of whirlewindes, and as it were thefe labours of the world, to deliuer to pofteritie, vnleffe in our mindes there werea certaine diuine fpirit and vnderflandug, which could comprehend and reach vnto the fupernaturall knowledge of fo great matters.

V Vheretore nowe O efxiochm, thou are not in the way to death, but to immortality, neither fhalt thou (as thou didft feeme right now to feare) bee bereft of all good, but thall . hereby enioy true and pertect good: Neither $\checkmark$ Shalt thoul perceine fuch durty pleafures as are thefe , beemg ming'ed with the puddle of this
6 fintull body, but moft pure and perfect delight
C beng

## Axiochus.

 being deuoid of all contagious trouble. For beeing loofed and deliuered out of the darkefome dungeons of this body, thou thalt pafle to that place where is no lacke nor complaint, but allthings full of seft, and deuoid of euill.~ Moreouerthere is calme and quiet liuing withe out all knowicdge of vnrelt, peaceable and fthll occupied in beholding the courfe \& frame of Nature, and ftudying Philofophy, not to pleafe the idic ignor.nt and common fort, but with $\mathbf{v p r i g h t}$ and vndeceiuable truth,

## eAxioctive.

O Socrates with this thy gladfome fpeech thou halt now brought mee into a cleane contrary minde, for fo farre am I nowe from dread of death, that I am euen fet on fire and burne ! weth defire thereof. And that I may fay my feife in the fteppes of them whichare counted wo: kemafters of fpeech, I will fay thus much more excellenty, Now I beginta beho'd thofe high matters, and doo ouerlooke that xternall and heauenly courfe of things, hauing now rayfed vp my felfe out of my weakenes, and beng as it were renued and refiefhed of my former maluct.

Socrates

## Axiochus.

## Socrates.

If you demaunde of mee another reafon, and figne of the foules immortality, 1 will tell you what the wife man Gobriad flewed me: He faide that at what time Xerxes conuayed his huge Army into Greece, his Grandfather which was of the fame name, was fent iuto Delos to defende that Iland in which were two Gods borne. In the fame Iland that his Grandfa her learned out of certaine brafen Tables which Opis and Hecuergus had brought out of the Northerne Counties, That the foule after time it is diflolued from the body paffeth into a certaine darkefome place, a Coaft that lyeth vnder the earth wherein is Plutoes Pallace no leffe than Iupters kingdome:For the earth being equally ballanced in the middeft of the world, and the compaffe thereof beeing round as a ball, that the one halfe Sphere thereof is allotted to the higher Gods, and the other halfe to the infernall powres; betwixt whom there is fuch kindred and allyance, that fome bee brothers, and other fome brothers children. But the entry of the way which leadeth to P/utoes king dome is fenced with iron gates, and faftened with brafen bolts: which when a man hath opened, he is entertained of the Riuer $A$ eberon; next whichis Cocytue : which flouds beng ouerpaffed, hee muft come beforee Mimos and R badamanthus, the merciles Iudges:

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## Axiochus.

wbich place is called the p'ain of Truth where the ludges fit examining euery one that commeth thuther how he hath liued, and with what trade or mannerot lite hee hath inhabited his mortall body, with whom there isho place for lies; nor refuge for excufes. Then they which in ther life time were infpired and led with a good Angell, are receiuedinto the hourhold of the blelled, whereall feafons flowe with abundance of all fruits, where from the filuer frings doo calmely run)the Chriftall ftreames, where the flourishing medowes are cloathed with shaungeable Mantles of glorious colours, whereare famous Schooles of renowmed Philofophers, goodiy companies of druine Poets, trim forts of Dauncers, heauenly Muficke. great banquets furmulhed with coftly cates, T ables abounding with all bounty, delights without all care, and pleafures without all paine:For the Inhabitants thereof are neither touched with force of cold, nor payned with exceffe of heate, but the moderate Aire breatheth on thenumi'dly and calmely, being, lightned with the gentle Sunnebeames.

In this place, and in the Ely fian fields, they which haue taken holy orders are highly aduanced and reucrenced, dayly miniftrug the vnfearcheable rytes of Religion. VVhere* fore then fhouldeft thou doubt but to be made partaker of the famehonor, being one of the feeds

## Axiochus.

reede of that heauenly race: It is ano'd fring and rigitly reporied ; that Hercules and Bacchus gong d swae to hell, they were inftutued inholly orders, and that they were emboidned to goe thither of the Goddefic Elenfina. But they which being wrappedin wickednes haue ledan vngodly lite, arelinatched vp by the Furies, and by them carned through the loweft hell into deepe dirkenes and viter confufion, where the place and abode of the wirked is, and where the three fore diught ers of Danaus dwell, whofe puni hment is contmually to fill a fort of bottomlefle velfels, where alfo is to bee fecne the vuquencheable thinft of Tantalus, the guawenFintralies of Titrus, and the endles ftone of Sijpbus, whofe end beginneth a newe labour. There bee they rent of wide beafts, continually foorchedwati, burning Lamps.p ined withali kind of torments, and aflicted with endielle pennance. Thefe thanges I remember that I haue heard Gobrias teil; but you e Axioshus may indge of them las you lift. (Only this I knowand alluredly ho'd fift that euery mans minde is mmortall and paffing out of thislife feeleth no griefe nor forrone. V Vheict re O Axiochus whet her thou be carryedinto thofe higheft Pall'aces or lower Vawresneedes muft it bee that thou fhalt bee blefled becanfe thou haft liued weil and god C .
eAxiachus

## Axiochus.

Axiochus,

Minding to haue faid formething vnto thee (O Socrates) I am impeached /with bafhfull ihame : For fo farre am I now from the horror and dread of death, that I con inually couet the time thereof: So hath thy heaucily and comfortable fpeeches pierced and re'ieued my foint heart. And nowe loath I this life, and fcome the delights the eof, as that fhall from henceforth paffeimtioa better abode. And now by my felfe alone will I recount thefe thy notable fayings, but I pray thee (O Socrates) afternoone refort to me againe.

## Socrates.

I will doo as you fay, and now will I returne to walk in ry fchool Lynofarges from whence I was hilher called.

## FINIS.



## PA4281.25A9S7 c. 1 <br> Axiochus a most excellent dialogue w <br>  <br> 084990627 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

