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num genus in precipitium labitur. Ad sanandas igitur mortalium egritudines /pturbatōnesq; intolerabiles: pleriq; sapientes ac litterati homines /fructuosissima dogmata scripsere: quę vulneramētis lacerate Aesculapio melius sanarēt. Quippe apud grecos primitus instituta fuere gymnasia in quibus salubris profitebatur medicina: quę pturbatis animis fomēta ac nutrimenta iucundissima conferebat. Vnde & Socrates ille maximus sophie cultor primus de moribus disputare cepit, cum enim in rebus naturalibus: certum bonorum ac summe foelicitatis finem ponere nequirit: mentis sue contemplationes sublimes ad mortaliū virtutum studia contulit: & tantum in philosophia emicuit: vt ipse e celo philosophiam euocasse diceretur. Is enim cum mortales ipsos prodiues ac pronos ad uicia conspiceret: hoc remedio confusis moribus occurrere cogitans in publica Atheniensium palestra: ea docuit precepta: quę summi boni fontes limpidos recludunt. Post fatum vero socratis: successit diuinus ille Plato: q; bonā aetatis sue partem in morali sophia consumpsit, nec ab re: quo nam studio melius aut sanctius humano succurrere potuisset generi: scripsit saluberrimas leges: edificauit rem publicā speciosissimā: constituit humanam societatem iucundissimā: imposuit frenum libidini: ignauiam mortalium ad virtutes excitauit. Tēpestate tñ philosophorum etas poetarū fulgidissima interuenit quę ob dicendi fingendiq; iucunditatem: non mediocres locum inter eruditos obtinebat. Quorum quidam heroicū carnē: quo res diuine humaneq; decantari solēt: cultissima scriptione celebrarūt. Quidam de agricultura: alij de planetis & cursu syderū motuq; polorum, nonnulli de amoris imperio: vt elegiaci: Pleriq; de regum ac principum miserabili casu / vt Tragici: poemata elegantissima composuere. Reliqui Commediam (quam Greci archeam vocarunt) cum magna dicendi libertate coluerunt. E quorum numero Aristophanes: Eupolis Atq; Gratinus / Laudatissimi vates clarauerunt: cum enim viderent iuuentutem Atheniensium: ceteraq; Gręcę omnibus libidinim generibus irretiri: occa-

Socrates

Plato.