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TWO EPIGRAMS ON HIPPONAX

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I

A.P. 7, 408:

Ἄτρεμα τὸν τύμβον παραμείβετε μὴ τὸν ἐν ὕπνῳ
πικρὸν ἐγείρητε σφῆκ' ἀναπαυόμενον,
ἄρτι γὰρ Ἴππώνακτος ὁ καὶ τοκεῶνε βαύξας
ἄρτι κεκοίμηται θυμὸς ἐν ἡσυχίῃ.
ἀλλὰ προμηθήσασθε, τὰ γὰρ πεπυρωμένα κείνου
ῥήματα πημαίνειν οἶδε καὶ εἶν' Αἴδη.

Line 3 τοκεῶνε β. Headlam : τοκέων εἶα P : τ. ἔο β. Pl

Translation by W.R. Paton (*The Greek Anthology*, Loeb edition, London, 1970, vol. 2, p. 221):

"Go quietly by the tomb, lest ye awake the malignant wasp that lies asleep; for only just has it been laid to rest, the spite of Hipponax that snarled even at his parents. Have a care then; for his verses, red from the fire, have power to hurt even in Hades".

The reader will note that in line 3 Paton printed Headlam's alteration τοκεῶνε βαύξας. This alteration was also accepted by Gow-Page¹ and Degani². I would like to point out, however, that Headlam's alteration is not

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¹ Cf. *Hellenistic Epigrams*, Cambridge, 1965, vol. I, p. 126.

² E. Degani, "Note sulla fortuna di Archiloco e di Ipponatte in epoca ellenistica", *QUCC* 16, 1973, p. 92.

necessary since the correct text has been preserved for us by Planudes³. Hipponax is said to have "snarled even at his own parent" (τοκεῶν⁴ ἔο⁵ βαύξας). Leonidas has employed the singular τοκεῶν(α) instead of the plural. For the use of the singular, cf. Callim., *fr.* 41, 2 γονῆα (τοκῆα). It should be noted, moreover, that βαύξας is a disyllabic form: cf. Passow, *Handwörterbuch der Griechischen Sprache*, s.v. βαῦζω, and *DGE*, s.v.

II

A.P. 7, 405:

᾿Ω ξεῖνε, φεῦγε τὸν χαλαζεπῆ τάφον
τὸν φρικτὸν Ἰππῶνακτος, οὔτε χά τέφρα
ἱαμβιάζει Βουπάλειον ἐς στύγος,
μή πως ἐγείρης σφήκα τὸν κοιμῶμενον,
ὃς οὐδ' ἐν ἄδη νῦν κεκοιμικεν χόλον,
σκάζουσι μέτροις ὀρθά τοξεύσας ἔπη.

Line 3 ἐς στύγος CPI : ἐς τέγος Sternbach

Translation by Paton:

*"Avoid, O stranger, this terrible tomb of Hipponax,
which hails forth verses, Hipponax whose very ashes cry in
iambics his hatred of Bupalus, lest thou wake the sleeping
wasp, who not even in Hades has lulled his spite to rest, but in
a halting measure launcheth straight shafts of song".*

The text of line 3 has also puzzled the critics: cf. Degani, *art. cit.*, p. 94. Once again, though, textual alteration is not necessary. The poet stresses the hatred⁶ that existed between Hipponax and Bupalus. Furthermore, it should be

³ For other cases where Planudes has preserved the correct text, cf. my *New Essays in Hellenistic Poetry*, Amsterdam, 1985, p. 29, note 27.

⁴ For the elision of -α, cf. Kühner-Blass, *Ausführliche Grammatik der Griechischen Sprache*, vol. I, p. 233.

⁵ Cf. A.P. 7, 264. 3 ἔο τόλμαν ("his own daring"). Cf. also Nonnus, *Dion.* 7, 351 ἔο νόμφην.

⁶ Cf. Horace, *Epodes* 6, 14 where Hipponax is said to be an enemy of Bupalus.

noted that the preposition ἐς has been used here to denote purpose⁷. Thus the ashes of Hipponax are said to compose iambics in order to arouse Bupalus' hatred (Βουπάλειον ἐς στύγος). Note that the correct text has been preserved for us by both *PI* and *C*. For another case where the correct text is provided by *C*, cf. G. Giangrande, *QUCC* 15, 1973, p. 11 f.

⁷ Cf. LSJ s.v. εἰς A, V, 2, quoting *Iliad* 15, 310 ἐς φόβον ἀνδρῶν ("to cause fear to men"). Cf. also Gow-Page, *The Garland of Philip*, Cambridge, 1968, vol. II, p. 351, who have correctly understood the meaning of line 3.