TWO EPIGRAMS ON HIPPONAX

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A.P. 7, 408:

'Αφαίρεσα ταύ τοιμου παρακείμενε μή τοι αν άποισιν
πιθανόν χειρίσθη σάθηι ναυτομείνου.
άρτι γαρ ἤπωνάκτος άνηκοι και τοκεύου βαβύζεας
άρτι κεκαμίτης θημος εν ἡμνησίῃ.
οἶτ' απακμήσεσθε, τα γαρ πεπερασόμενοι κείμενο
μόστα πηγαίνειν σοι καὶ εἶν' Λείδη.


"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 τοκεύου βαβύζεας. This alteration was also accepted by GOW-Page and Degani. I would like to point out, however, that Headlam's alteration is not
necessary since the correct text has been preserved for us by Planudes. Hipponax is said to have “snarled even at his own parent” (τοικαίοις τοῦ βοιξαίος). Leonidas has employed the singular τοικαίοις instead of the plural. For the use of the singular, cf. Callim., fr. 41, 2 γαϊνε (τοικαίος). It should be noted, moreover, that βοιξαίος is a disyllabic form: cf. Passow, Handwörterbuch der Griechischen Sprache, s.v. βοιξαίος, and DGE, s.v.

II

A.P. 7, 405:

"Ω ξέινε, θείγε τοῦ γαϊνετή τούτον τοῦ θρηκτού Πιπινακτού, οὐδὲ θά τεροχ λαμβάνεις. Βουσαλλαίον ες στόχον, μη ποιείς εξεύχης σφόδρα τοιν χορωωδείν, ὡς ουδὲν δεδεκόμενεν γόλον, σκαίξων τινί μετρος ορθα τοξέως έπτη.

Line 3 ες στόχος CPI: ες τέχνης 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 hatred 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.
5 Cf. A.P. 7, 264. 3 ες τόλμαν ("his own daring"). Cf. also Nennius, Dion. 7, 351 ες νικήτην.
6 Cf. Horace, Epodes 6, 14 where Hipponax is said to be an enemy of Bupalus.
noted that the preposition ἐκ has been used here to denote purpose. Thus the ashes of Hipponax are said to compose iambics in order to arouse Bupalus’ hatred (Βουσπάλαν εἰς στυγέοις). 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.  