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THE ABLATIVE CASE IN VERGIL.

IN the course of a note on *Aen.* VIII. 86 sq. by Dr. J. W. Mackail (*Class. Rev.* XXXII. 1918, p. 103), the Servian interpretation of line 96 ('secant placido aequore siluas': *ostendit adeo perspicuam fuisse naturam fluminis ut in eo apparerent imagines nemorum, quas Troianae naues secabant*) is supported with the observation that 'note should be taken of Virgil's distinctive use of the ablative. "Placido aequore siluas" in his language is practically equivalent to "placidas aequoreas siluas" just as "pictas abiete puppes" is to "pictas abiegnas puppes" or "uasta uoragine gurgēs" to "uastus uoraginosus gurgēs."'

An investigation of Vergil's works, which I undertook at the suggestion and under the guidance of Professor Conway, to meet Dr. Mackail's desire for the collection and analysis of the evidence, has brought together examples of the adjectival or descriptive use of the ablative in more than one phase, which seem worth recording and distinguishing.

(1) In the first place we find phrases like

duris Aequeicula glaebis (Aen. VII. 747)

or

uiam celerans per mille coloribus arcum (Aen. V. 609),

where a noun and adjective in the ablative are together equivalent to a compound adjective such as is frequently used in Greek poetry (e.g. *ῥοδοδάκτυλος, χρύσαοπς*).

(2) There are also a number of instances where a noun in the ablative unaccompanied by an epithet has to some extent an adjectival force. Of these we may note first (a) the use of the ablative of verbal nouns with the suffix *-tu* as in *Aen.* I. 157,

Cum fatalis equus *saltu* super ardua uenit
Pergama,

and similar phrases, where it is equivalent to an active participle.¹

Secondly, we find occasionally (b) an ablative which may be regarded as expressing manner in conjunction with a verb, but at the same time seems intended to some extent to qualify a noun :

Aen. VII. 814.

Vt regius *ostro*

uelet honos leues umeros, ut fibula crinem
auro internectat.

Aen. XII. 672.

Flammis inter tabulata uolutus

ad caelum undabat uertex.

Aen. II. 208.

Pars cetera pontum

pone legit sinuatque inmensa uolumine terga.

Aen. V. 821.

Sternitur aequor *aqu*.

Aen. I. 105.

Insequitur *cumulo* praeruptus aquae mons.

Aen. I. 107.

Furit aestus *arenis*.

¹ With this type of ablative in Latin may be compared the so-called gerund or indeclinable participle in Sanskrit, which has the suffix *-tvā*,

and is an old instrumental singular of a stem in *-tu-*, e.g. *śru-tvā*, 'having heard' (originally 'with hearing').

- Aen.* VI. 300. Stant lumina *flamma*.
Aen. XII. 407. Iam *pulvere* caelum
 stare uident.
Buc. V. 3. Ipsi *laetitia* uoces ad sidera iactant
 intonsi montes.
Aen. V. 53. Annua uota tamen sollemnesque *ordine* pompas
 exsequer.

Then, again, (c) in some cases a noun in the ablative is attached partly to an adjective and partly to the noun qualified by that adjective. In its relation to the noun, the ablative is practically equivalent to a second adjective, and may often be so translated. In order to show clearly the construction in these instances it will be necessary to quote somewhat fully the sentence in which the ablative stands:

- Aen.* VI. 462. Per loca senta *situ* cogunt.
Geo. II. 276. Sin (metabere) *tumulis* adcliue solum collisque supinos
 indulge ordinibus.
Aen. VII. 561. Illa autem attollit stridentes *anguibus* alas.
Geo. III. 450. Spumas miscent argenti uiuaque sulpura
 . . . et pinguis *unguine* ceras.
Geo. IV. 18. At liquidi fontes et stagna uirentia *musco*
 adsint.
Aen. I. 393. Aspice bis senos laetantis *agmine* cynnos,
Aen. VIII. 266. Nequeunt explere tuendo
 terribiles oculos, uoltum uillosaque *saetis*
 pectora semiferi.

(d) In the following instances, when taken with the noun, the ablative is equivalent to a genitive of material or definition:

- Aen.* I. 655. (Ferre iubet) duplicem *gemmis auroque* coronam.
Aen. V. 662. Furit inmissis Volcanus habenis
 transtra per et remos et pictas *abiete* puppes.
Aen. II. 764. Mensaeque deorum,
 crateresque *auro* solidi, captiuaque uestis.
Buc. I. 67. En unquam . . . tuguri congestum *caespite* culmen
 . . . mirabor?
Geo. IV. 374. Postquam est in thalami pendentia *pumice* tecta
 peruentum.
Aen. XII. 522. Velut inmissi diuersis partibus ignes
 arentem in siluam et uirgulta sonantia *lauro*.
Aen. I. 102. Talia iactanti stridens *Aquilone* procella
 uelum aduersa ferit.
Aen. V. 696. Ruit aequare toto
 turbidus imber *aqua* densisque nigerrimus austris.

(3) In a few instances a local ablative qualifies to some extent the noun near which it is placed:

- Aen.* XII. 914. Tum *pectore* sensus
 uertuntur uarii.
Aen. I. 227. Talis iactantem *pectore* curas.
Aen. VII. 196. Auditique aduertitis *aequare* cursum.
Aen. XII. 69. Tales uirgo dabat *ore* colores.

Geo. I. 480. *Maestum inlacrimat templis ebur.*

Aen. VI. 675. *Si fert ita corde uoluntas.*

Aen. VII. 269. *Non plurima caelo*
monstra sinunt.

(4) There are also several instances where the temporal ablative *nocte* may be taken closely with a noun and regarded as equivalent to a genitive :

Aen. XII. 908. *Oculos ubi languida pressit*
nocte quies.

Geo. II. 202. *Exigua tantum gelidus ros nocte reponit.*

Aen. VII. 414. *Iam mediam nigra carpebat nocte quietem.*

Aen. II. 420. *Si quos obscura nocte per umbram*
fudimus insidiis.

(5) The last examples to be mentioned are those where a local ablative (*a*) is attached to a noun as a qualifying phrase :

Aen. I. 109. *Saxa uocant Itali mediis quae in fluctibus Aras*
dorsum inmane *mari summo.*

Aen. VII. 91. *Imis Acheronta adfatur Auernis.*

Aen. VII. 225. *Si quem tellus extrema refuso*
submouet *Oceano.*

In the following instances the local ablative (*b*) is practically equivalent to a genitive :

Geo. II. 469. *At latis otia fundis,*
speluncae, uiuique lacus . . . non absunt.

Aen. VI. 106. *Hic inferni ianua regis*
dicitur et tenebrosa palus *Acheronte refuso.*

Aen. I. 108. *Aeneas scopulum conscendit et omnem*
prospectum late *pelago* petit.

Aen. IV. 691. *Alto*
quaesiuit *caelo* lucem.

Aen. VIII. 96. *Viridesque secant placido aequore siluas.*

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