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A Bodleian MS. of Macrobius

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spondit: tertium huic non dissimile 'cum quis dixisset aliquid uel fecisset.' etiam in ipsorum factis esse *chriarum* putant ut 'Crates, cum indoctum puerum uidisset, paedagogum eius percussit,' et aliud paene par ei, quod tamen eodem nomine appellare non audent, sed dicunt χρεῖδες, ut 'Milo, quem vitulum adsueverat ferre, taurum ferebat,' in his omnibus et declinatio per eosdem ducitur casus, et tam factorum quam dictorum ratio est. Cf. ii. 4. 26. A minute and very lucid account of *chriarum* is given by Diomedes p. 310 in vol. i. of Keil's *Grammatici Latini*. I may cite from this chapter of Diomedes two specimens, both from Vergil 'Publius Vergilius Maro dixit "Auri sacra fames,"' 'Publius Vergilius Maro dixit "Degeneres animos timor arguit."' In this chapter the word appears in the MSS. in the forms *curiarum*, *churiae*. Diomedes again speaks of *Chriarum*, p. 482, under the heading *De specie poematis exegetici uel enarratiui*. His words are *Exegetici uel enarratiui species sunt tres, angelitice, historice, didascalice. angelitice est qua sententiae scribuntur ut est Theognidis liber, item chriarum*.

In this latter passage of Diomedes *Chriarum* is spelt in the MSS. *diriae*.

The fact that a book of *Chriarum* is here compared with Theognis sets the meaning of the word in a tolerably clear light. Any collection of ethical maxims, rules of conduct, principles of morality, would fall under the word, particularly if prefaced with the name of the author, who, at first, would usually be a poet.

The *liber Theognidis* is in Elegiac metre. Statius in particularizing the *lyre* (*Arcadia testudine*) would allude to *chriarum*, collected from the Greek lyric poets, who of course abound in such *sententiae*, as any page of Bergk's P.L.G. proves.

I would write then :

Et quibus Arcadia carmen testudine mensis.
Chria liber nomenque fuit.

and explain of collections of versified gnomes or sentences excerpted from Greek lyric poets, prefaced with their names, and formed into a book (*liber*). To the lyrists whose gnomes were thus collected, the collection would be 'a book and a name.'

ROBINSON ELLIS.

A BODLEIAN MS. OF MACROBIUS.

EYSENHARDT in his edition of Macrobius has used for the *Saturnalia* only two MSS., the ninth century Bamberg MS. (containing Books I.-III. xix. 5) and the eleventh century Paris MS. (containing the whole). Prof. Goetz in his *Commentatiuncula Macrobianae* (Jena, 1890) points out the inadequacy of this material and calls the attention of future editors to a ninth century codex in the Regina collection at the Vatican, with shelf-mark Reg. lat. 1650. This codex, he shews, is closely related to the Bambergensis, and serves to correct its errors.

I should like to direct attention to a Bodleian MS. (Auct. T. II. 27). which is similarly related to the Parisinus. It is a MS. from Metz and passed from the famous Meerman collection into the Bodleian Library. In Mr. Madan's *Summary Catalogue* it is numbered 20637 and is thus described: 'Saturnalia of Macrobius, written in the 10th. century. Ends in III. iv. *propria dici theus megalous oous chris*, no more having been written... Was written by three scribes

concurrently... A facsimile of fol. 94^r is in R. Ellis' *XX Facsimiles from Latin MSS.* (Oxf. 1891).'

Its connexion with the Parisinus (*P*) may be seen from the following passages: I. vii. 28 both MSS. leave a blank space for the Greek quotation. III. init. both MSS. omit *violatum... multa*. I. iv. 7 *hostilius hosti filius P*; *hostilius hosti filium* Bodl. I. x. 13 *scortoque nobilissimum scortum intra aedem inclusisse P*; *scortoque nobilissimum id temporis scortum intra aedem inclusisse* Bodl. I. xvii. 24 *Libystinus—promuntorium Apollo* om. *P* Bodl. I. xviii. 6 *καβατος P* Bodl. 12 *αμεοιο P* Bodl; 22 l. 1 *ταυτα ιε... ιτερα P* Bodl; 1. 7 *τεπολιο P* Bodl. I. xxi. 17 *vertere P* Bodl. I. xxiii. 22 *ελκαυτα P* Bodl.

It is free from a good many errors of *P*, e. g. such omissions as I. tit. *conviviorum*. I. i. 2 *omnis*. I. ii. 3 *visum*. I. iv. 24 *unicum*. I. xviii. 19 *nam... Ιαω*; such transpositions as: I. ii. 17 *aut his aut nobis*. I. iv. 4 *nobilitate quam doctrina*. I. v. 4 *inquit*

affuistis (*adfuistis* inquit Bodl.); and wrong readings like: I. iv. 13 *vocata*; 18 *quoque*. I. v. 1 *utebantur*. I. ix. 14 *lumen*.

But it is inferior to *P* in such points as these: I. iii. 6 no symbol of a lacuna in Bodl. I. iv. 15 *Liberalium...non om.* Bodl., and so cannot have been the parent MS.

The curious corruption *iudicium* for *risum* in *P* at II. ii. 16 is explained by the reading of Bodl: *omnibus in censorum i. iudiciarium*

(*suprascr.*) *risum remissis*.. In the famous passage in II. vii. 3 where Laberius' prologue is quoted, l. 15.

uno plus vixi mihi quam vivendum fuit is omitted in Bodl., as in *P*: but in Bodl. there is a sign of omission ('h') at the end of the preceding line, so that in the archetype l. 15 must have been added in the margin.

W. M. LINDSAY.

A OR AB IN HORACE. EPOD. 17. 24.

In their edition of 1864 Keller and Holder read in this passage 'nullum ab labore me reclinat otium,' and in the *Epilegomena*, p. 409, Keller says: 'Mavortius (A'g Taurin.), überhaupt die II. Classe nebst M R L r a und Pph.' lesen *a labore*, die III. Classe und γ haben *ab labore*. *Ab* wird richtig sein, *a* falsch trotz B R und trotz Bentleys Vertheidigung. Vgl. *carm.* III 17, 1 und die Bemerkung zu *carm.* IV 10, 6.' On page 593 of the *Epilegomena*, however, Keller changes his mind and writes: 'Es ist doch mit der besseren Ueberlieferung *a labore* festzuhalten, vgl. *Serm.* I 1, 68 *a labris*,' and accordingly the edition of 1899 reads *a labore*.

The question cannot be settled either way by a single quotation. As regards the manuscript evidence, any reliable testimony to *ab* before a consonant is worthy of respectful consideration, especially in a classical poet, and in general the probability of a correction from *ab* to *a* in such a situation is decidedly more probable than one from *a* to *ab*.¹ Moreover, since Keller and Holder's Third Class preserves the original orthography with more fidelity than the other two (see ed. of 1899, p. lxxxii), there is a considerable weight of testimony in favour of *ab*, for the question is after all one of orthography, like that of the assimilation and non-assimilation of prepositions in composition.

As regards Horace's usage, he has *a* before consonants 20 times, and, exclusive of the case under consideration, *ab* 5 times, 'ab Iove,' C. 1. 28. 29; and *Epist.* 1. 12. 3; 'ab se,' C. 3. 5. 43; 'ab dis,' C. 3. 16. 22; 'ab Lamo,' C. 3. 17. 1. That is, he uses *ab*

before *i cons.*, *d*, *l* and *s*. He is consistent in using *ab* only in the case of *i cons.*, and there for a special reason. The formula 'ab Iove' is of very frequent occurrence, even in writers who otherwise use *a* before *i cons.* Ovid has the formula 8 times out of 10 exceptions to the rule of using *a* before consonants; Virgil has it 5 times. On such formular expressions in general see *Archiv für lat. Lex. und Gramm.* x, p. 468 ff. 'Ab dis, ab Lamo,' and perhaps 'ab se,' may also be regarded as formular. Horace has 'a labris,' *Serm.* 1. 1. 68: 'a domo,' C. 4. 5. 12; 'a sole,' *Serm.* 1. 4. 29.

In favour of *a labore* it may be said, that all the other instances of *ab* before consonants in Horace occur in his later writings. Similar changes of usage are seen in Cicero, who gradually discards the use of *ab* before consonants, and in Tacitus, who has 38 cases of *ab* before consonants, of which 33 are in the *Annals*. But on the other hand, 4 of Horace's 5 cases are in his lyric poetry, and the only one in his hexameters is the common formula 'ab Iove.' *Ab labore* occurs in Terence, *And.* 78, and *Hec. pr.* ii 23, *Caes. B. G.* 3. 26. 2. Terence always uses *ab* before *l* and in Caesar the proportion of *ab* to *a* is 20: 8.

While the evidence cannot perhaps be regarded as conclusive, it seems decidedly to favour *ab labore*.. Certainly Keller's published reason for changing his mind does not appear an adequate one. It may be added that 'Bentleys Vertheidigung' consists merely of the remark: 'Sed parvi interest: neque tantillam ob causam editiones convellendae sunt,' a statement not in accordance with modern views on the subject. Keller's 'Bemerkung zu *carm.* IV 10, 6' appears to have no bearing on the question at issue.

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¹ Keller himself (*Epileg.* p. 469, on *minitaris-miniteris*) rightly favours this general principle: 'ceteris paribus müsste das viel seltenere *cum* mit dem Indicativ dem häufigen *cum* mit Conjunctiv vorgezogen werden'; and so *passim*.