

The Classical Review

<http://journals.cambridge.org/CAR>

Additional services for *The Classical Review*:

Email alerts: [Click here](#)

Subscriptions: [Click here](#)

Commercial reprints: [Click here](#)

Terms of use : [Click here](#)



Notes upon Latin Hybrids

Frank F. Abbott

The Classical Review / Volume 5 / Issue 1-2 / February 1891, pp 18 - 18

DOI: 10.1017/S0009840X00993053, Published online: 27 October 2009

Link to this article: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0009840X00993053

How to cite this article:

Frank F. Abbott (1891). Notes upon Latin Hybrids. The Classical Review, 5, pp 18-18
doi:10.1017/S0009840X00993053

Request Permissions : [Click here](#)

NOTES UPON LATIN HYBRIDS.

IN 'Ein Beitrag zum Vulgärlatein' (*Philol.* xlvii. p. 45) O. Weise has called attention to the fact that hybrid compounds and derivatives played an important part in the *sermo vulgaris*.

The list which he offers, from all periods of literature, of hybrid words taken from those writings in which so much has already been found that belongs to the language of conversation, can leave little doubt as to the correctness of his position.

The most prolific author in this line is naturally Plautus and the series which Weise gives including such words as *ferritribax*, *pultiphagus* and *hamiota* is representative and exhaustive enough for its purpose, but when he states that only two such formations are to be found in Cicero, viz. *facteon* (*ad Att.* i. 16, 13) formed after the analogy of *φιλοσοφνέον*, which occurs in the same sentence, and *Pseudocato* (*ad Att.* i. 14, 6), he has failed to notice *decemscalmis* (*ad Att.* xvi. 3, 6) made up of *decem* and *σκαλμός*, and *tocullio* (*ad Att.* ii. 1, 12) which the writer believes can be shown to be a hybrid formed from *τόκος* in the same way in which *libellio* (*Varr. Sat. Men.* 256: *Stat. Silv.* 4, 9, 21) is derived from *libellus*. (Comp. also *tripecchio* *C.I.L.* vi. 17857.)

The word *tocullio* is doubly interesting in this connection, in that it seems to have two points of contact with the *sermo cotidianus*, being at the same time a hybrid and a diminutive, for as Wölflin and Lorenz among others have pointed out, the use of diminutives was one of the most striking characteristics of vulgar Latin.

And in connection with all these words it is worthy of notice not simply that they are found in the letters of Cicero rather than in

his orations or philosophical works, but that they occur in his letters to Atticus, in which Cicero allows himself the greatest freedom of expression; while in the letters *ad Familiares*, in which it is almost always possible to notice a certain care or even anxiety in the choice of words, no such hybrid is to be found so far as the writer is aware.

As additions to the list of hybrids from later writers, which Weise gives upon pages 49-52, the following may be mentioned; *meliofolia* (*Plin.* 15, 14; 15, 52) made up of *μήλον* and *folium*, *monoculus* (*Firm. Mat.* 8, 19; 8, 22) from *μόνος* and *oculus*, with which may be compared *monoloris* (*Vop. Aur.* 46, 6), *diloris* and *penteloris* from the same author.

The following compounds of *quattuor* and *septem* with the Greek substantives *γάμος*, *σῆμα*, *σῶμα* and *δρόμος* may be added: *quadrigamus* (*Hier. adv. Jovin.* 1, 8), *quadrisemus* (*Mart. Cap.* 9, 981), *quadrisomus* (*Inscr. Rein.* col. 2, 437) and *septidromus* (*Th. Prisc.* 4, 3). There are further found the Graeco-Latin compounds *semipodius* (*Mar. Victorin. de Metr.* 4, 3, 41, p. 166, 28 K), *semisphaerium* (*Boet. Inst. Mus.* 4, 18), and the Latino-Hebraic *semicorus*¹ (*Ambros. ep.* 44, 7 and 8) and *semigomor*¹ (*Ambros. ep.* 9, 76), and finally *protosedere* (*Tert. de Cor. Mil.* 15) and *paraveredus* (*Cod. Just.* 12, 51, 2 and elsewhere) made up of *παπα* and *veredus*, upon which Diez i. p. 232 under *palafreno* may be compared.

FRANK F. ABBOTT.

¹ The Hebraic elements in *semicorus* and *semigomor* doubtless came through the medium of the Septuagint in which both occur.

WESTCOTT'S EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS.

The Epistle to the Hebrews. The Greek Text, with Notes and Essays. By BROOKE FOSS WESTCOTT, D.D., D.C.L. London: Macmillan and Co., and New York. 1889.

THE appearance of this volume is significant in its bearing upon Biblical exposition. At a time when the demand for commentaries giving in the briefest form the accepted re-

sults of exegesis, in order to exempt the reader from any effort beyond that of remembering what is told him, is enforcing compliance even from leading German scholars, we are presented with a work containing discussions of an exceptionally wide, varied, and at times recondite character, and presuming on the reader's part a willingness to give it patient and studious attention. Almost every topic of moment which the