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Notes on the *Naturales Quaestiones* of Seneca

H. W. Garrod

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NOTES ON THE *NATVRALES QVAESTIONES* OF SENECA.

(Continued.)

77, 3 (manubia) uastat in quae includit.

E has *incidit* for *includit*—another example, eagerly welcomed by Gercke, of free interpolation in this MS. Perhaps *incutitur*.

77, 7 sqq. quid enim tam imperitum est quam credere fulmina e nubibus Iouem mittere, columnas, arbores, nonnumquam statuas suas petere, uti, impunitis sacrilegis percussoribus incendiariis, pecudes innoxias feriat, et ad suum consilium *aduocare* deos quasi in ipso parum consilii sit? illa laeta esse et placata fulmina quae solus excutiat, perniciose quibus mittendis maior turba numinum *intersit*? si a me quaeris quid sentiam, non existimo tam hebetes fuisse ut crederent Iouem iniquae uoluntatis aut certe *animi* minus paratum.

c

aduocare scripsi: a Ioue the best MSS. (consilii sit, *aduocari* Δ). *auo* = (*a(d)uocare*) was misunderstood and changed to a Ioue?

I have further altered *interfuit* of the MSS. to *intersit*—a necessary correction (just above we have *fuit* for *sit*, 77, 5); and I have added *animi* before *minus* to complete the sense.

78, 13-14 *aduocent*, considerent multorum sententias, *nocituri* temperent.

nocituri scripsi: *nociturum codd.* (from a misunderstanding of *temperent* = *sibi temperent*).

83, 11 sqq. reuertor ad ea fulmina quae significant aliquid sed quod ad nos non pertineat: tamquam iterum eodem anno idem hominum futurum fulmen quod factum est.

Gercke omits *hominum*, with Δ; but I do not see that we are much better off even so. (*h*)*ominum* is perhaps a corruption of *ominans*—a thunderbolt a second time in one year portending (as about to happen) what has already taken place.

93, 11-12 *crescit animus quotiens sibi coepti magnitudinem ostendit. . . .*

sibi (= *si*') *addidi*. What follows shows that this is the sense required.

99, 14-16 per multiplices terrarum anfractus uerberatum amaritudinem ponit et prauitatem in tanta soli uarietate saporem exuit et in sinceram aquam transit.

For *saporem* Δ *E* have *saporis*: *saporum* Skutsch and Gercke. Neither of these corrections can be right, since the order of words would compel us to

render 'a badness of flavour which it has acquired in passing through so many different soils'—the opposite sense to that required. Fickert wishes to excise *saporem*. Far rather we should excise *prauitatem*. *saporem* is easily understood as = *prauum saporem*, especially with *amaritudinem* preceding.

100, 6-7 quomodo ergo imber suggerere potest omnibus uires qui summam tantum humum tinguit ?

tantum *addidi*.

104, 4-5 deinde succisae arbores plus umoris desiderant.

deinde < *sucidae non* > *succisae* Gercke. But it merely needs to alter *succisae* to *succosae*, in order to achieve this sense—which, however, is obviously a false one. In fact here, as so often, Gercke is so intent on juggling with the *ductus litterarum*, that he has omitted to attend to the argument. The true reading is perhaps *accisae*—trees that have been clipped require more moisture (non enim tantum id quo uiuant sed quo crescant trahunt, Seneca continues): but, if cutting trees creates more water (the position Seneca is combating), then clipped trees would not be said to 'desiderate' more moisture—they would have it, and we should not need to supply it to them artificially by watering them.

105, 8-10 terram fortiorem marem uocant, saxa cautesque, feminae nomen assignant huic tractabili et cultae.

Perhaps *uocant*, ut *saxa* etc.

105, 17-18 satis et nimium illi uirium dedi cum dixi 'elementum est' nimium *scripsi*: multum *codd.*

110, 6 sqq. sunt abrupti in infinitum hiatus, qui saepe illapsas urbes receperunt et ingentem ruinam in alto condiderunt—haec spiritu plena sunt, nihil enim usquam inane est—et stagna obsessa tenebris et locis amplis.

Perhaps *et stagnis obsessae tenebrae et lacis amplis*.

That Seneca employed *lacus* as a second-declension noun may be seen from 129, 4, where all the MSS., save the utterly interpolated *Z* and *L*², agree upon *laci* (which Gercke rightly retains), from 121, 21, where all the best MSS. have *in lacus*, *Z* etc. have *lacu*, which editors print, but where I have no doubt that the true reading is *lacis*; from 177, 23, where for *locisque* or *locis aquisque* of MSS. read *lacisque*, and from 183, 10 *lacusque* and *lucosque codd.*

111, 15 sqq. quantum ad sollertiam luxuriae pereunt his accedit tantoque subtilius cottidie et elegantius aliquid excogitat furor usitata contemnens.

pereunt e. q. s. has been endlessly emended, but by no one even plausibly. I fancy that only one letter of it is corrupt, and that we should change to *per eum* (i.e. *per eum* = *per aeuum*). We shall then accept Fortunatus' *tanto* for *tantoque*.

115, 15-17 inde est quod res abiectae in eundem lacum lapideae subinde extrahuntur.

For *eundem* Gercke suggests *eiusmodi* absurdly, and *Tyaneum* ingeniously. I would prefer *Euryminaeum*; see Pliny, *N.H.* 31, 29.

116, 16 sqq. in quosdam specus qui despexere moriuntur: tam uelox malum est ut transuolantes aues deiciat: talis est aer, talis locus ex quo letalis aqua distillat.

That which is below can hardly be said *deicere* that which is above. For *deiciat*, therefore, read *decutiat*—the confusion is a common one, and *decutere* is often so used. In what follows I would suggest *talis est aer qualis locus*.

117. 13, sqq. quaedam, ut uidetur post illum ex posterioribus, caelestes.

Is not *post illum* a mere corruption of *post iiium* (i.e. *post tertium librum*)? and is not this no more than a gloss upon *ex posterioribus*?

Gercke's *praestitum* scarcely suits with *ex posterioribus*, though it would suit well enough with the *ex superioribus* which *ET* have interpolated.

119, 9-11 (aqua) protinus hausta duratur nec aliter quam gypsum sub umore constringitur et alligat uiscera.

Can Seneca be believed to have said that *water* hardens as gypsum does in *water*? For *umore* write *pulmone*.

121, 9-10 sunt enim multi pumicosi et leues, ex quibus quae constant insulae in Lydia natant: Theophrastus est auctor.

Should we not for the last four words write *natare Theophrastus est auctor*?

121, 22 itaque etiam si qua in illa saxa sunt inuenies exesa et fistulosa.

For *exesa* the first hand of our best MS., *H*, has *aguosa* (and so other MSS.). Are not both readings to be explained from an original *cariosa*? (*cauosa* is perhaps nearer, and just possible: an adjective *cauosus* seems to be implied by the noun *cauositas*; cf. 155, 1, and note thereon on p. 287).

125, 7 sqq. circa Messenen et Mylas fimum quidem (quiddam *FH*) simile turbulent(a)e auis mare profert feruetque et aestuat (exaestuatur *H*, *alii*) non sine colore foedo.

Many corrections have been suggested, to little purpose. The corruption began, I think, with the failure to perceive that Seneca had here used *fimus* as a feminine noun. *fimum* I take to represent an original *fimi*. *auis mare* is a misreading of *allisum mare*. *feruetque* might stand, but the sentence would be much improved if we changed to *quae feruet*. The whole will then read: circa Messenen et Mylas fimi quiddam simile turbulentae allisum mare profert quae feruet et exaestuatur non sine colore foedo.

quiddam and *exaestuatur* have the authority of *H*. I have changed here, I fancy, far fewer letters than any editor, and have, at the same time, unless I am mistaken, produced a much clearer sense.

A few lines below, for *inobseruatum sed incertum est*, I would write *ut obseruatum sic incertum est*.

126, 4-5 crebri sine intermissione imbres et elisa aestate hiems pertinax.

For *elisa* read <ex>clusa.

126, 19-20 momento fit cinis, diu silua.

The structure of the neighbouring clauses seems to demand *diu fit silua, momento cinis*.

127, 6-7 labant ac madent tecta.

Anyone who observes the pains which Seneca takes to avoid opening his sentences with an iambic word will perhaps be disposed to consider *labuntur* (or *laxantur*) for *labant*.

130, 15 sqq. faciet pluua segetes malas, fructum grando decutiet, intumescent riuus flumina sed resident.

Malim *sed* ut *resident*.

131, 9-10 admoto malo comminus procurrit aestus ex imo recessu maris.

imo ought surely to be *intimo*; and *malo*, which I do not understand, I would alter to *cumulo*: cf. 132, 5-6 *sed a media, ubi ille cumulus est, defluit*.

133, 4 sqq. illic solstitium, hic bruma conficitur: magnae potentiae signa, quando in ipsa mutatione anni momenta sunt.

Seneca is expressing the views of Berosus, which, until this clause, have been thrown naturally into *oratio obliqua*. There is nothing to justify the sudden shifting to the *recta*. I suspect that Seneca wrote *illic solstitium, hic brumam confici: igitur magnae potentiae signa, quando in ipsa mutatione anni momenta sint*.

134, 8 sqq. tunc exsiliunt sub montibus flumina ipsosque impetu quatent: inde aura tacta manabunt.

'tacta: fort. tacti sc. montes, nisi omnia subaudire mavis' Gercke. Reading the text I had taken *aura* to be a mere misprint for *arua*: but it seems I must take the credit of having made here an emendation.

135, 25-26 aliqua causa penetrare altius cogit.

Has *terras* (*trās*) been lost after *penetrare*?

137, 14-15 nec est mirum paucis istud contingere imperio si nobis ipsi molesti sumus, si modo amore nostri, modo taedio, laboramus.

imperio si nobis has been variously emended. *imperium sui: nobis* seems as simple a correction as any other.

138, 8-10 par illis etiam si bene caueris non eris: sed mihi crede, proditioni si patueris ipse te trades.

patueris scripsi: capieris codd: 'if you expose yourself to their flatteries you will be voluntarily delivering yourself into their hands.'

138, 16 sqq. sic ergo formare ut scias non posse te consequi ut sis impenetrabilis: cum omnia caueris per ornamenta fiet.

The last three words are meaningless. Perhaps *per rimam menda fiet*: 'some small gap in your defences will betray you into error.'

140, 10 sqq. *frugalitatem laudare coepisti quae sic a nobis resiliuit ut illos nec habere nec damnare uideatur.*

Pudet coniecturas enumerare. Do *nobis* and *illos* stand for *Noviis* and *Tillios*, for whom see Horace, *Sat.* i. 6? We should then further have to alter *habere. ambire?* The sense will then be 'his *frugalitas* is a thing wholly different from the behaviour of a Novius: and yet at the same time it does not pursue the opposite extreme seen in a Tillius (though he would not ostentatiously condemn your Tillius).'

145, 11 sqq. *proinde aut sterilis annus aut fertilis est prout ille magnus influxit aut parrior—'nemo aratorum respicit caelum.' quare non cum poeta meo iocor et illi Ouidium suum impingo, qui ait 'nec Pluuio supplicat herba Ioui?'*

E has *aspicit* for *respicit*, which Gercke would read, adding in 'uersus causa.' He apparently thinks also that the poet whom Seneca quotes (clearly Lucilius Iunior) wrote *non nemo* (the *non* being omitted by Seneca 'propter iocum!'). Whether this insertion also is suggested 'uersus causa' I do not know. But I would suggest that Seneca did not write *non*, for the reason that it would yield nonsense. After *respicit* I take it that some such word as *altum* has disappeared. Lucilius' line ran something like this:

*nemo <ibi> aratorum <pro frugibus> aspicit <altum>
caelum.*

Seneca *per iocum* tacks on to *caelum* a citation from Tibullus and gives us a pentameter: *caelum, nec pluio supplicat herba Ioui.*

That Seneca's memory misled him into writing *Ouidium* for *Tibullum* (*Tib.* i. 7, 26) is, of course, quite possible (as elsewhere he cites Lucan as Virgil). But the sentence would be more effective if, removing this inaccuracy, we altered to *et illi suum impingo.*

145, 17-146, 3 *nunc uero magnas solitudines peruagatus et in paludes diffusus gentibus sparsus circa Philas primum ex uago et errante colligitur.*

Once again conjectures are many and violent and unconvincing. A very small change would be to write *diffisas* for *diffusus*. *diffisas gentibus* 'not safe for human habitation.' I cannot find authority for the passive participle of *diffido* so used, but it does not seem to me impossible in a writer so bold as Seneca often is.

148, 19 sqq. *itaque quicquid non adiuuit sterile ac squalidum iacet: si creuit super debitum nocuit. mira itaque natura fluminis quod, cum ceteri amnes abluant terras et euiscerent, Nilus, tanto ceteris maior, adeo nihil exedit nec abradit ut contra adiciat uires nimiumque in eo sit quod solum temperat.*

For *adiuuit* Gercke reads, with Leo and Skutsch, *adiuit*. *adluit* seems more probable. Gercke, Leo, and Skutsch all wish to emend *nimumque in eo*

sit (minimumque *FHL*). But the text is quite sound and the meaning, moreover, entirely obvious. The Nile not only does not abrade the soil it washes, but it has a superabundance (*nimum*) in itself with which it enriches the land: the superabundance is, as Seneca goes on to say, the *limus* with which the stream 'harenas saturat ac iungit.'

152, 7 sqq. Phasis quoque perinde (proinde, perendie, per idem *vv. ll.*) tempus et Borysthenes crescerent ut niues flumina possent contra aetatem magna producere.

The corruption here seems to lie in the word *tempus* (*E* has interpolated *tempore*). Perhaps (*et*) *Tanais*. The variants offered for *perinde* seem all to be due to bad interpolation (e.g. *per idem L²Z*). *ut* (in *ut niues*, etc.) Gercke explains as = *uel si*. No; *ut* goes with *perinde*—'exactly so far as it is true that . . .'

153, 2 sqq. ita reuerberatus in se recurrit nec crescit sed exitu prohibitus resistit et quacunq̄ mox potuit inconcestus erumpit.

So the best MSS.—the variants are not worth considering. For *inconcestus* Diels has suggested *in concessa*. As a slight improvement on this I would offer *in concessa aestus*—which accounts for the last syllable of *inconcestus*. *quacunq̄ strix patuit vi congestus*, Gercke!

154, 8-9 age quod testimonium eius testium turba coarguitur.

All editors give *adde* for *age*, without either troubling to say where it comes from or to remark that elsewhere Seneca always has *adice* (never *adde*) *quod*, which we should, therefore, write here—it is, indeed, nearer to the MSS. (*adice* was accidentally written *ace*). For *adice quod* cf. 58, 18; 64, 11; 66, 14; 100, 16; 135, 26.

154, 12 nemo narrat minui uim Nili aut mare saporis alterius.

minui uim *scripsi*: nuntium *codd.* (initium *L²TZ*, *Haupt*, inappositely).

155, 1 (ait) ideo et specus cauosos esse et tepidiorem puteis aquam.

For *cauosos*, *L²TZ* have *calidos*—so obviously an interpolation that Gercke places it in the text. Read *cariosos*, used of things wet upon the surface and dry below (see the lexicons s.v.).

155, 7 sqq. (ait) deinde calorem hieme sub terris esse maiorem, aquare-specus (at quare specus *L²Z*) et putei tepent quia aera frigentem extrinsecus non recipiunt, ita non calorem habent sed frigus excludunt.

For *aquarespecus*, etc., read: At aqua carent specus, et putei tepent, quia. . . .

155, 14 sqq. sol umorem ad se rapit: hunc exsiccata tellus ex mari ducit cum ex ceteris aquis. fieri autem non potest ut (a)uia (*uel* alia) sicca (*uel* suta) sit (*uel* sic) tellus, alia abundet: sunt enim perforata omnia et inuicem peruia, et sicca ab umidis sumunt. aliquando nisi aliquid terra

acciperet, exaruisset. Ergo undique sol trahit sed ex his quae premunt maxime.

In the last sentence but one, when I first saw the word *aliquando* I supposed it to be a misprint for *eliquando*, 'by a process of filtering': but here again I seem to have made an emendation when I thought I was correcting a printer's blunder.¹

In the first sentence *ceteris* should be, I think, *aethereis*; and for *mari ducit cum ex* I would write *mari ducit*, *mari datum ex*. The second sentence should perhaps run something like this: *fieri autem non potest ut alia sicca sint telluris, alia abundant*.

In the last sentence *premunt* is 'corrected' by *Z* to *premit*. A truer correction would, I believe, be *praeminent*.

160, 19-20 Poseidonius tibi auctoritatem promittit tam in illo quod praeterit quam in hoc quod secuturum est.

praeterit *H*, and Gercke: praeteriit *most codd*. Gercke compares 3, 17 circumit *H*, circuit *most codd*. But his reference to Lachmann's note on Lucr. 3, 1,042 is not in point, since (a) Lachmann is speaking only of the poets; (b) what Lachmann says has been long since shown to conflict with the facts. We should read *circuiit* at 3, 17; and here, I fancy, neither *praeterit* nor *praeteriit* but *praeiit*. Could *praeterit* mean anywhere what editors wish it to mean here—'has preceded'? would it not necessarily mean, at any rate in this context ' (which Poseidonius) has omitted '?

169, 22 remediis se incitat uitium.

se *addidi*—a simpler remedy than any other of a grammar which causes no uneasiness to Gercke.

170, 1-3 deinde numquam intermissa intemperantia quicquid animi decoxerat efferauit.

Gercke makes nonsense of the whole passage by printing the conjecture of E. Pernice, *animi decorum erat*. Seneca is concerned here not with the soul of man but with his stomach. I feel sure that the true correction is *alui decoxerat*. For this use of *aluus* (the contents of the stomach) see the lexicons.

170, 5-7 stomachus ille solutus et aestu suo languidus quaerit aliquid quo erigatur.

Anyone who reads the passage with attention will perceive quickly that *erigatur* is quite inappropriate. It would only be appropriate if Seneca were speaking here, as he most obviously is not, of foods intended to tempt the appetite. The word required is *stringatur*. (a)*stricta* and *soluta aluus* are constantly opposed to one another; and it is with this opposition that Seneca is concerned at the moment.

¹ Seneca uses *eliquare* at 125, 1. At Petronius 70 *aliquantum* and *liquatum* are confused.

175, 2-4 bene nobiscum agitur cum quod semper concoquit: alioquin immundius aliquid timeremus.

A word, or words, seems to have been lost in the first clause: read, perhaps, *cum quod mutat semper, concoquit*.

178, 4-6 ob hoc diutius corpuscula emanare solita et efflari terra ex se atque humorem mittit.

Read *terra exsiccat (quae umorem remittunt)*, excising the last three words.

179, 13-14 sol mutato cursu in nostram rectior tendit et alteram partem aeris attrahit alteram vero impellit.

in austrum retro tendit *Madvig*. I would suggest *in nos rectior tendit* (*nos* was glossed by *tram* = *terram*, and the gloss has crept into the text, yielding *nostram*).

181, 11-12 calor quem modo sol facit modo ipsa arietatio magnorum inter se corporum attritus (et attritus *some codd.*).

Read *inaequorum* for *magnorum*: cf. 180, 11 inaequalitas ac dissimilitudo corporum. *attritus* is probably to be excised as a gloss on *arietatio*.

183, 4-6 nam ne haec quidem supra terras quae uidentur quia uidentur sunt, sed quia sunt uidentur.

quae uidentur *addidi*; cf. 19, 22, quomodo uideamus quodcunque uidemus.

183, 13 sqq. et ex illis ergo subterraneis nubibus sciemus nutriri inter obscura flatus, cum tantum uirium fecerint, quanto aut terrae obstantiam auferant aut aliquod apertum ad hos efflatus iter occupent et per hanc cauer-nam in nostras sedes efferantur.

The simplest remedy for the disorder of this sentence will, I think, be to write *flatus*, qui *cum* in the first part of it, and in the last part *occupent*, *per hanc* (excising *et*).

184, 23-24 a tergo lucem relinquere quae tanta spes fuit ?

tanta has come from *quae tanta necessitas* following. Write *tanti*.

185, 25-186, 1 'una Eurusque notusque ruunt creberque procellis
Africus.'

et qui locum *una* non habuit Aquilo.

una scripsi: illa *H*, with *JKLMO*: after *illa* the other MSS. have interpolated either *rixa* or *pugna*.

187, 24-25 finiens circulus quinque illos orbes quos modo dixi fieri et efficit decem partes.

For *fieri* read *ferit*.

191, 26 sqq. dedit uentos ut commoda cuiusque regionis fierent communia, non ut legiones equitemque gestarent nec ut pernicio satagentium arma transueherent.

pernicio satagentium *scripsi*: pernicio *gentium codd.*

201, 10-11 plurimum ad inveniendum contulit qui *quid* sperauit posse reperiri.

quid addidi.

201, 14 multum acti erit.

A whole family of MSS. offer *actum*: just as at *Juv.* x. 155 *acti, inquit, nihil est* our best MS. has *actum*, falsely—where see Housman's excellent note, and to the examples cited by him (he does not include this place) add Petronius 76, *tamquam nihil facti*.

208, 6-7 Archelaus antiquitatis diligens ait ita.

antiquitatis has been generally suspected. The best suggested correction is perhaps that of Schultess, *auctor ueritatis*. But it may be that some words have dropped out, e.g. *Archelaus, <auctor, ut est captus> antiquitatis, diligens*.

209, 24-210, 3 qui cum in inferiora peruenit et eo se quantum poterat ingessit, quo densior hoc ualidior est. huic alius superuenit, cui necessario congregatus ille iam et in angustum pressus loco cedit, idem e contrario euenit.

At the beginning of the second sentence *huic* is, I think, a corruption of *Inuiō*=*inuicem* (an almost identical confusion has occurred, unless I am mistaken, also at 257, 21, where see my note). Read, therefore, here: *Inuicem alterius <uis> superuenit* (*alterius*=*alt'ius*; and *uis* was lost by haplography). Gercke's suggestions here seem devoid of any probability.

213, 2 sqq. tunc ille exitu simul redituque praeccluso uolutatur, et quia in rectum non potest tendere—quod illi naturale est—in sublime se intendit.

Gercke is clearly right in regarding *rectum* as corrupt. On the other hand, his *incertum* can hardly bear the sense which he wishes to give to it, and the true correction seems indicated by 88, 20 (to which he refers), *spiritus autem obliquus est flexuosusque*. Read here, therefore, *in flexum*—a phrase which recurs at 242, 3.

231, 23-24 maiora me pericula expectant: fulminibus et terris et magnis naturae partibus petimur.

Perhaps *paratibus* for *partibus*. Less near to the *ductus litterarum* would be *hiatibus*, which was suggested to me by 197, 12, *fulmina et motus terrarum hiatusque formidat*.

232, 27-233, 2 nihil dubitaueris: redderis: non de re sed de tempore est quaestio: facis quod quandoque faciendum est.

For *redderis* inferior MSS. offer variants *reddideris* and *rem reddideris*. Perhaps *deberis*.

236, 11-12 nemo non scire quid sit cupit et oblitus usitatorum de aduenticio quaerit ignarus.

usitatorum *temptauit*: aliorum *codd.*

240, 3 sqq. Aristoteles ait non trabem illam sed cometen fuisse, ceterum ob nimium ardorem non apparuisse sparsum ignem, sed procedente tempore, cum iam minus flagraret, redditam *suetam* cometis faciem.

suetam cometis scripsi : suam cometis *codd.* suam cometae *Fortunatus, edd.*

242, 24-24I, 3 potest enim spiritus per angusta elisus accendere supra se positum aera plenum alimentis idoneis igni, deinde propellere, exin niti donec ex aliqua causa refluat rursus ac remittatur, deinde iterum proximo die ac sequentibus consurgere et eundem locum inflammare.

exin niti donec *scripsi* : ex nitido ne *codd.* ea niti donec iam *Maduig* : for *niti* cf. 242, I *nititur*, 254, 19 *nisus*.

249, 4-6 fieri enim non potest ut tanta uis ponderis quantam *animo* ille substituit pendeat et leuibus innixa sit.

animo addidi. I know of no example of *substituo* 'suppose' without the addition of some such word as *animo*.

250, 22 sqq. Ephorus uero non est religiosissimae fidei : saepe decipitur, saepe decipit : sicut *huius* cometae, qui omnium mortalium oculis custoditus est quia ingentis rei traxit euentum, cum Helicen et Burin ortu suo merserit, ait filum discessisse in duas stellas.

I have written *huius cometae* and later *filum* for the *hoc* (*hunc* or *hic* some MSS.) *comete(n)* (cometes *L²Z*) . . . *illum* of the MSS.

253, 12 iam ipsa fulmina, etiamsi uelocitate mira simul et praestringunt aciem et relinquunt, ignescunt aeris attritu et impetu inter se maiore collisi.

ignescunt *scripsi* : ignes sunt *codd.* *attritu* is cited from a single MS. The rest have *triti*. Possibly *tritu* may be right.

253, 24-25 quid ergo non aliquando lacuna secedentis retro aeris patuit et uastum in concauo lumen ?

non is usually corrected from the interpolated MSS. to *num*—with an interrogation after *ergo*. It is, I think, more likely that *quid* is a mistake for *quare*. The combination *quare ergo non* recurs at 254, 16 ; 257, 13 ; 258, 5 (the error arose from a confusion of contraction-signs for *quare, quid*).

254, 11-12 ipsa stella sole perfunditur et ideo aspici non potest, cometae autem radios solis effugiunt.

Gronovius rightly altered *cometae* to *comae*. Perhaps *comae tantum*, for *comae autem*, as accounting more fully for the corruption.

255, 19-20 quaecumque aer creat breuia sunt : nascuntur enim in re fugaci et mutabili.

The *in* should be excised—it came from a dittography. 264, 17 *regio idonea in qua creentur* is different.

257, 19-21 uide ne hoc magis deceat magnitudinem mundi, ut in multa itinera diuisus *inuicem* eat nec unam deterat semintam, ceteris partibus torpeat.

inuicem (= *Inuič*) eat scripsi : hinc et *codd.* See on 210, 1.

258, 12 sqq. alius illum dicet spiritum esse, alius concentum quendam, alius uim diuinam et dei partem, alius teuissimam *materiem*, alius incorporalem potentiam.

I have written *materiem* = *maiē* for the *animae* = *aiē* of the best MSS. : a good many have *aerem*.

259, 14-17 non licet stare caelestibus nec auerti, prodeunt omnia, ut semel iussa sunt uadunt.

After *omnia* Gercke inserts *et*. Rather *omnia*, *omnia ut*.

261, 1 sqq. quid est ergo quare in Leone sol semper ardeat et terras aestibus torreat, in Aquario hiemem astringat, flumina gelu claudat.

hiemem looks rather like a blunder for *humum*.

263, 9 sqq. utrumque falsum est. de priore dicam prius : quia quae tardius feruntur grauia sunt.

Read dicam prius : 'grauia quae tardius feruntur'—omitting *grauia sunt*, which came in after *grauia* (*g^auia*) had passed into *quia*. (At 32, 3, somewhat similarly, I suspect *quia* to be a corruption of *grandia*.)

264, 9-11 quanto hoc magis facere debemus cum de sideribus, de stellis, de *meteoron* natura disputamus.

meteoron scripsi : *deorum codd.*, absurdly ; *cometarum Gercke*.

265, 12-15 quam multa animalia hoc primum cognouimus saeculo, quam multa negotia ne hoc quidem.

For *animalia* read *naturalia* (*aīalia* = *nālia*) ; and below *quam multa, nec otiosa, ne . . .* (*otiosa* i.q. *superuacua*).

266, 20 infame armaturae genus.

infame armatur egenus *codd.* The clever correction which Gercke offers as his own was anticipated, it is perhaps worth noting, by Housman in his edition of Juvenal, p. 50 (1905 : Gercke's text appeared in 1907).

H. W. GARROD.

MERTON COLLEGE, OXFORD.