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Contracted Forms of the Perfect in Quintilian

Emory B. Lease

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Perhaps πολλοὺς ὁ καιρὸς, οὐχ ὁ νοῦς, ποιεῖ φίλους, circumstances (or interest), not real feeling. Transposition of the words is easy enough, but emendation gives a much more pointed sense.

523. Ὑπνος δεινὸν ἀνθρώποις κακόν.

Ὑπόνοια has been suggested, but I fancy the original line was ὕπνος περιττὸς δεινὸν ἀνθρώποις κακόν. Cf. 88 γέλως ἀκαιρὸς ἐν βροτοῖς δεινὸν κακόν. Cf. Plato, *Lysis* 808 B: Diog. L. 3. 39 against too much sleep. (I find from Kock in *R.M.* that Meineke in his *editio minor* proposed ὕπνος δ' ἀκαιρὸς). So Webster in the *Duchess of Malfi*, 1. 1.

If too immoderate sleep be truly said
To be an inward rust unto the soul.

590. Φίλος φίλου δεόμενος οὐκ ἔστιν φίλος.

Unmeaning. The author wished perhaps for a candid friend and wrote φίλος φίλου φειδόμενος οὐκ ἔστιν φίλος. Cf. *Syrus Sent.* 10, *amici vitia si feras, facias tua.*

606. Ἰσχυε σοφία κἀρετῇ, χρόνῳ δὲ μῇ.

For χρόνῳ we might read λόγῳ (χρόνος et λόγος ob similitudinem compendiorum quibus scribuntur, χ _o (*frequentior est nota inversa* χ _o) et λ _o, *passim confunduntur* Bast in Schäfer's *Greg. Cor.* 1. 33, note), meaning 'mere power of words.'

636. Ψυχῆς ἀρχαίας οὐδὲν ἔστι γλυκύτερον.

Ἀκεραίας Meineke: ἰαράς Schmidt. Perhaps δικάας. The three letters α ρ χ are known to get confused respectively with δ ι κ. But are just people always the pleasantest?

644. Ἀνάπαυσις ἐστὶ τῶν κακῶν ἀπραξία.

This might be taken to mean that a man can escape troubles by doing nothing at all, and some one may compare *Syrus Sent.* 377, *nil agere semper infelicist optimum*. That, however, means rather that a man had better not try his luck, if it is habitually bad: and here ἀνάπαυσις must mean *cessation*, not *avoidance*. When in trouble, a man cannot get out of it by mere ἀπραξία. Was the real word ἀταραξία, meaning that your troubles cease to exist if you cease to concern yourself with them? Not to feel them is not to have them.

653. Βραβεῖον ἀρετῆς ἐστὶν εὐπαιδευσία.

Excellence does not, however, bestow a good education. It is good education that bestows excellence. Perhaps therefore we should read something like βραβεῖον ἀρετῆς 'στὶν εὐπαιδευσίας.

682. λεπτῶς γέ τοι ζῆν κρείσσον ἢ λαμπρῶς κακῶς.

For λεπτῶς γέ τοι Blaydes writes λιτῶς καλῶς, Schmidt λεπτῶς γὰρ εὖ. Λαμπρῶς κακῶς also seems to me doubtful, and I suggest λιτοὺς γὰρ εὖ ζῆν κρείττον ἢ λαμπροὺς κακῶς, the adjectives going closely with the verb.

711. Ῥέγχει παρούσης τῆς τύχης τὰ πράγματα.

Is Ῥέγχει anything but a blunder for τρέχει 'things go on swimmingly'? Cf. *Pind Pyth.* 8. 32, τὸ δ' ἐν ποσὶ μοι τράχον ἴτω, where, however, τράχον is not always taken with ἴτω.

HERBERT RICHARDS.

CONTRACTED FORMS OF THE PERFECT IN QUINTILIAN.

THE fact that Quintilian himself in two different passages has expressed his own views in regard to the use of the longer or shorter form of the perfect, lends an additional interest to the observation of his own practice in this direction. In ix. 4, 59 he sets 'ratio' in the form *vitavisse* over against 'consuetudo' in the form *vitasse*, leaving the final choice to be determined in each case by 'compositio.' In i. 6, 17-21, in a more extended discussion of these and

similar forms, he has expressed himself somewhat more strongly. Here he makes the remark, that it is only those 'with a most unpleasantly perverse attachment to exactness' who would use *audivisse* and *scivisse*, and concludes the passage by saying, 'let the extremely learned man say *conservavisse* rather than what we say' (*conservasse*). This gives no uncertain hint as to his own preference. For the usage of the time of Cicero we have that writer's own words, to

be found in Orat. § 157, to the effect that in his time the contracted forms were usual, but that the fuller form 'recte dici et imminentum usitate.' For this period we have also a statement of Varro, *L. L.* iii. fr. p. 148 (W.), that *amasti, nosti, abiit* are the favourite forms of the time. For the usage of a still earlier period, cf. Lindsay, *Lat. Lang.*, p. 507, chapt. viii., § 48, who says that Terence usually adopts the contracted forms in *-evi, -ivi* and of *novi*, though the forms in *avi* are usually contracted only at the end of the line; and that in Plautus the uncontracted form, though used in the middle of the line, is not used at the end. 'Eo,' he says, 'and its compounds have even in Plautus usually the form *ii* in perfect forms, except *ivi, exivi, ambivi*, etc.' For the further usage of poets cf. Luc. Mueller, *Re Metr.*² p. 507 and 508, and for Claudian, Birt, *Archiv. f. lat. Lexicogr.* iv., p. 589; Reisig, *Vorles. Neub. von Hagen* i., p. 376, Note 271 says: 'Über Quint., S. Bonnell lexic. Quint. prolegg. p. xxvii.; bei ihm ist besonders die contraction nach *a* häufig, namentlich in conj. perf.; von *e* und *o* führt Bonnell nichts an; jedoch ist wenigstens *nosse* nicht selten, andere Formen aber mochten sich selten finden.' Neue-Wagener, *Formenlehre*,³ p. 430 fol. gives an exhaustive list of the contracted perfect forms, but his list for Quintilian is far from complete. On p. 476 he cites four occurrences of *obisse*, which should be *perisse*; on p. 488 he cites *noritis* 1, 1, 25 for *norint*.

The object of the present investigation is to give a complete list, classified, of all contracted perfect forms in Quintilian, and to determine more exactly the usage of this writer.

I. *Infinitive Forms*.—Quintilian never uses the fuller form of the infinitive. The verbs most frequently contracted are those of the first conjugation. Of these forty different verbs occur.

(a) *First conjugation*: *adnotasse* 8, 6, 2; *cogitasse* 9, 2, 30; *commendasse* 5, 13, 30; *concitasse* 11, 3, 8; *cubasse* 7, 2, 20; *curasse* 1, 1, 34; *damnasse* 9, 3, 90; *demonstrasse* 2, 6, 2; *donasse* 5, 10, 112; *dubitasse* 9, 2, 20; *emendasse* 11, 3, 130; *errasse* 3, 4, 4; 8, 6, 2; *exanimasse* 12, 10, 4; *exarasse* 9, 4, 90; *exclamasse* 1, 6, 45; *expectasse* 9, 2, 39; *factitasse* 7, 2, 26; 10, 5, 2; 12, 3, 4; *habitasse* 8, 6, 71; *ignorasse* 9, 1, 18; *inclinasse* 10, 1, 80; *inlustrasse* 3, 7, 10; *iudicasse* 5, 9, 13; 11, 3, 6; *lacerasse* 8, 2, 20; *narrasse* 4, 2, 10; 10, 3, 12; *nominasse* 4, 1, 1; *numerasse* 5, 7, 5; *obscurasse* 5, 13,

41; *occupasse* 2, 21, 13; *peccasse* 7, 4, 31; *pererrasse* 5, 11, 13; *perseverasse* 11, 1, 80; *postulasse* 11, 1, 58; *salutasse* 8, 4, 2; *servasse* 3, 8, 51; *signasse* 5, 11, 32; *separasse* 12, 1, 2; *superasse* 10, 2, 28; *terminasse* 8, 4, 40; *tractasse* 3, 1, 12; 5, 13; 5, 10, 37; and *vitasse* 3, 3, 5 (forty verbs).

(b) *Third conjugation*: here only *nosse* is used, occurring ten times, 4, 1, 17; 5, 23; 5 proem. 4; 5, 7, 26; 6, 4, 8; 7, 1, 4; 10, 1, 22; 5, 20; 12, 2, 29; 4, 2 (one verb).

(c) *Fourth conjugation* is somewhat more common; *audisse* 3, 1, 17; 12, 8, 8; *coisise* 5, 9, 5; 11, 35; *isse* 7, 1, 30; *perisse* 5, 9, 11; 7, 2, 23; 10, 7, 4; 11, 2, 15; *redisse* 7, 1, 30; *servisse* 7, 2, 26, and *scisse* 7, 4, 14; 12, 11, 24 (seven verbs).

II. Indicative Forms.

(a) *Perfect, 2nd pers.*, rare: *efflagitasti* Praef. 1; *existi* 5, 10, 45; *militasti* 7, 1, 51; *stuprasti* 4, 2, 71; *vulnerasti* 6, 2, 23, and only once in the plur., *damnastis* 5, 10, 79 (six verbs).

(b) *Perfect, 3rd plur.*, more common.

(1) *First conjugation*: *depravarunt* 9, 3, 100; *donarunt* 8, 5, 12; *errarunt* 1, 1, 32; *existimarunt* 10, 15, 10; 3, 11, 20; 5, 12, 21; 6, 67; *impugnarunt* 2, 17, 40; *indicarunt* 4, 2, 72; *intrarunt* 4, 2, 72; *laborarunt* 3, 8, 52; 11, 22; 9, 2, 77; *negarunt* 7, 4, 17; *notarunt* 3, 2, 3; *nominarunt* 9, 2, 23; *pararunt* 8 proem. 29; *pronuntiarunt* 1, 5, 60; *signarunt* 4, 1, 3; *vindicarunt* 2, 17, 40 (fifteen verbs).

(2) *Third conjugation*, only two examples: *desierunt* 5, 10, 101; *norunt* 1, 9, 6.

(3) *Fourth conjugation*, only three examples: *audierunt* 4, 2, 38; *coierunt* 11, 3, 103; *scierunt* 9, 4, 4.

(c) *Pluperfect* only in 3rd pers. sing except *coniurarat* 4, 2, 72.

(1) *First conjugation*, only comparat 10 1, 79.

(2) *Third conjugation*, only norat 12, 10 57 and *petierat* 4, 2, 85; 6, 3, 68.

(3) *Fourth conjugation*, only three examples: *audierat* 12, 6, 7; *exierat* 11, 2, 11; *redierat* 9, 3, 73.

(d) *Future perfect*.

(1) *First conjugation*: in the 2nd pers. sing. only *indicaris* 9, 3, 68; and 1st pers. plur. only *accomodarimus* 6, 2, 26 and *existimarimus* 10, 3, 29; more common in the 3rd sing.: *compararit* 3, 2, 2; *invitarit*, 7, 3, 3; *optarit* 12, 7, 4; *segregarit* 1, 2, 21; *tractarit* 12, 2, 3.

(2) *Fourth conjugation*: *audierit* 10, 5, 20; 11, 2, 34; *exierit* 4, 2, 61; *perierit* 7, 3, 33; *scierit* 5, 13, 52; 8, 6, 16; 9, 2, 4;

transierit 10, 2, 10: 12, 6, 7 (five verbs); in the 1st pers. plur. only scierimus 5, 10, 22 and 10, 7, 5.

III. Subjunctive Forms.

(a) Perfect.

(1) *First conjugation*: all in the 3rd. pers. sing. except existimarint 3, 8, 1; cogitarit 10, 6, 4; degustarit 12, 2, 4; honorarit 5, 10, 118; militarit 7, 4, 4; mutarit 5, 4, 2; notarit 9, 3, 47; recitarit 10, 5, 13 (eight verbs).

(2) *Third conjugation*, only three verbs; concupierint 10, 2, 14; consuerint 11, 2, 88; noris 4, 2, 22; norit 2, 1, 4: 5, 7, 7: 11, 3, 180; norimus 10, 1, 10 and norint 1, 1, 25.

(3) *Fourth conjugation*. In the 1st pers. only audierim 12, 5, 5; petierim 6 proem. 14; scierim 12, 11, 8; in the 3rd pers. sing. perierit 7, 2, 8; petierit 7, 4, 4: 8, 5, 14; scierit 4, 5, 1: 5, 10, 6: 7, 10, 6; and plur. audierint 2, 4, 15 (seven verbs).

(b) *Pluperfect*, chiefly in the verbs of the first conjugation.

(1) *First conjugation*. In the 1st pers. only adprobassem 3, 6, 63; dubitassem 6, 5, 1; in the 2nd pers. only repudiasses 8, 5, 31; in the 3rd pers. sing. twenty-two verbs: alienasset 5, 10, 17; amasset 10, 1, 130; celebrasset 11, 2, 12; conciliasset 5, 10, 17: 11, 1, 9; desperasset 5, 12, 13: 6, 3, 84; elaborasset 2, 3, 6; errasset 11, 2, 38; exclamasset 6, 3, 81; iactasset 11, 3, 129; indicasset 4, 1, 67: 8, 2, 2: iniquasset, 10, 1, 100; interrogasset 5, 11, 3: 12, 10: 6, 3, 84: 12, 10, 57; intrasset 8, 3, 67; negasset 5, 12, 10: 11, 1, 28; occupasset 8, 4, 5; postulasset 11, 2, 50; probasset 10, 1, 56; spectasset 2, 20, 3: 6, 3, 71; superasset 11, 1, 40; terminasset 12, 2, 23; vacasset 10, 1, 44; vapulasset 9, 2, 12. In the 3rd pers. plur., 5 verbs: durassent 5, 11, 41; evigilassent 9, 4, 12; excitassent 4, 2, 58; pugnassent 5, 7, 27; putassent 10, 2, 4.

(2) *Third Conjugation*, only one example, nosset 12, 10, 57.

(3) *Fourth Conjugation*, 3rd pers. sing. only two examples: sepelisset 8, 5, 16 and scisset 1, 10, 48; 2nd pers. plur. only one: audissetis 11, 3, 7.

It is to be noted that while *norit* is used

in 2, 1, 4: 5, 7, 7 and 11, 3, 180, *noverit* occurs in 4, 2, 20; cf. also *norint* 1, 1, 25 and *noverint* 1, 4, 13; *norimus* 10, 1, 10 and *noverimus* 1, 7, 1 and 12, 9, 19.

Quintilian's usage may be summarized as follows:—

(1) Contracted perfect forms occur in all 185 times, most often in the first conjugation, 123 times, 66 per cent., and next to this 37 times in the fourth and 25 times in the 3rd. Contract forms are not found in the second conjugation.

(2) With regard to *Modes*, contractions occur most often in the subj., 69 times, next in the infin., 66 times, and in the ind. 52 times.

(3) With regard to the *Tenses*, contractions occur most often in the pluperf. (subj.) 43 times, perf. (ind.) 33 times, and perf. (subj.) 26 times, and least often in the fut. perf. 11 times and pluperf. (ind.) 8 times.

(4) With regard to the *Infinitive*, verbs are contracted most often in the first conjugation, 45 times, and in the fourth conjugation only 11 times, and in the third conjugation only in the verb *nosse*, 10 times.

(5) With regard to the number of different verbs, 47 are contracted in the infinitive, 42 in the subj., and 37 in the ind.

Though not belonging to this category, it may be noted in this connection that Quintilian discusses also the forms of the perfect in *-ere* in i. 5, 42 fol., rightly rejecting the explanation of it as a dual, which some grammarians advocated, but incorrectly explaining it as a weakening of *-runt*. Cicero, *Orat.* 47, 157 declares in favour of the form in *-runt*, but the form in *-ere* is common in the poets (cf. e.g. Vergil *Wotke Wien. Stud.* viii.), and in the poetical prose of the Silver Age. So Quint. uses this form 6 times, dixere, 1, 5, 43; fuere 2, 16, 5: 12, 10, 10; indulgere 10, 1, 84; proposuere 1, 8, 12; and successere 3, 1, 13. In the same passage Quint. also gives an incorrect explanation of the forms in *-re* of the 2nd. pers. sing. pass., similarly explaining it as a weakening of *-ris*. He uses the form in *-re* but once, *utare* in 2, 1, 12.

EMORY B. LEASE.