

## NOTES AND DISCUSSIONS

### AN ATHENIAN REMAINDER SALE

καὶ δὴ καὶ . . . ταῦτα παρ' ἐμοῦ μανθάνουσιν, ἃ  
ἔξεοτιν ἐνίοτε, εἰ πάνυ πολλοῦ, δραχμῆς ἐκ τῆς  
ὀρχήστρας πριαμένοις Σωκράτους καταγελᾶν  
[Plat. *Apol.* 26D].

The view put forward by Böckh in *Staatshaus-  
haltung der Athener* (Berlin, 1886), I, 61, that  
books were sold in the orchestra of the theater  
of Dionysus is inherently improbable. The  
view of Cron (*ad loc.*) and some others that  
the reference is to seeing plays of Euripides and  
others in which the choral odes presented the  
views of Anaxagoras is refuted by the simple  
fact that a theater ticket cost two obols not a  
drachma. The third view, put forward first,  
I think, by Schöne in *Fleck. Jahrb.*, CI (1870),  
802–3, that the orchestra in question was the  
round terrace near the agora is clearly right  
(Timaeus *Lex. Plat.*, s.v. ὀρχήστρα), and we  
must deduce a book market there or near there.

The price, as has often been observed, seems  
low, especially in view of a passage in the  
Erechtheum accounts of 407 B.C. (*CIA*, I, 324):  
ἀναλώματα· ἀνήματα· χάρται ἐωνήθησαν δύο  
ἐς ἃ τὰ ἀντίγραφα ἐνεγράψαμεν 𐀅𐀆𐀇𐀈. If two  
sheets of paper for keeping accounts cost two  
drachmas four obols, the normal price of a  
book must be more than one drachma.

It follows that this is not the normal price.  
The key words are εἰ πάνυ πολλοῦ, “at most.”  
The whole point of the passage is Anaxagoras  
is *vieux jeu*. In fact the book was first issued  
more than forty years before (see my article in  
*Symb. Osl.*, XL [1965], 21). I submit that what  
we have here is an early example of a second-  
hand bookshop or remainder sale.

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### A NOTE ON CATULLUS' HENDECASYLLABICS

There are 552 lines in hendecasyllables in  
Catullus' poetry, if we include 55 and 58*b*  
where some lines are decasyllabic with a  
spondee in the second foot. Catullus uses  
elision on the average about once every two  
lines: 268 elisions in 552 lines. In these figures  
no account is taken of 6. 12 or 55. 11 (though  
the lines are included in the total number),  
where the true reading is quite uncertain. 55.  
13, a decasyllable, is treated here statistically  
as if there were a dactyl in the second foot.  
Over all, the commonest elision is of the third  
syllable, the next commonest the sixth; the  
eighth and second are appreciably commoner  
than the remainder. The total figures are:

1st syllable elided	4
2nd .. ..	34
3rd .. ..	65
4th .. ..	16
5th .. ..	9
6th .. ..	48
7th .. ..	8

8th syllable elided	42
9th .. ..	19
10th .. ..	13
11th .. ..	10

The elision of the eleventh syllable is invariably  
before *est*. A number of lines have three  
elisions, e.g., 9.6 “visam te incolumem audiam-  
que Hiberum”; 36. 12 “quae sanctum Idalium  
Vriosque apertos” (an interesting example  
since there has been only one elision in the first  
eleven lines); 45. 3 “ni te perditte amo atque  
amare porro” (where the elisions are in con-  
secutive syllables); 57. 7 “uno in lexiculo erudi-  
tuli ambo.” Monosyllables are elided in 1. 5 *cum  
ausus*; 2. 2 *quem in sinu*; 3. 14 *quae omnia*; 6.  
16 *te ac*; 9. 6 *te incolumem*; 10. 7 *se haberet*;  
13. 6 *si, inquam*; 13. 11 *nam unguentum*; 13.13  
*cum olfacies*; 14. 8 *si, ut*; 14. 20 *te his*; 15. 1  
*me ac*; 15. 7 *qui in*; 15. 18 *quem attractis*; 16. 3  
*me ex*; 21. 7 *nam insidias*; 28. 4 *cum isto*; 28. 9  
*me ac*; 45. 4 *sum assidue*; 49. 7 *tu optimus*; 55. 4