

But I—to Pæan I would call,
 Lest for the Danaans she create
 Fell storms, to keep the fleet in tedious thrall,
 Hastening another deed—a deed all law disclaiming,
 A feast which none may eat—source of domestic hate,
 By husband's rights unawed: for there is flaming
 Vengeance for offspring slain, a warder stern
 Guarding with treasured guile the house for *his* return.
 Such ills and such blessings the seer as he stood
 From the birds on the way to the monarchs portended:
 And in unison blended
 Sing sorrow! sing sorrow! but triumph the good!

Zeus, whoe'er he is, if such the name
 Suits his royal pleasure well,
 Thus would I his style proclaim—
 Else in sooth I cannot tell,
 Weighing every power I know,
 Save Zeus alone, if I indeed may throw
 From my breast this causeless woe.—
 He who ruled the subject world before
 Blossoming in strength's array,
 Speechless lies, a thing of yore:

understood, 'any other name than that of Zeus.'

164. οὐδὲ λέξεται, the conjecture of Ahrens, preserves the pure trochaic metre better than any of the alterations which have been proposed for the corrupt readings of the MSS. οὐδὲν τι λέξαι, οὐδὲν λέξαι. Perhaps however οὐδὲν ἄξεται, which will only involve a supposed confusion of ΑΞΕΑΙ and ΑΞΕΤΑΙ, may be better, in the sense of *nihili pendetur*, οὐδὲν being equivalent to οὐδένης, παρ' οὐδὲν, or ἐν οὐδεμίᾳ μοίρᾳ, the phrase used by Hdt. I. 134, etc., like οὐδὲν ἄξια, Choeph. 439. The omission of -ται, and its subsequent

insertion in a wrong place, may account for the reading οὐδὲν τι λέξαι. (This gives us a better derivation for ἄξιος than that proposed by Liddell and Scott from ἄγω in the sense of *weighing* (ἄξιος, *drawing down* so much weight, or weighing so much), according to which it would be difficult to account for its taking a genitive, whereas now we see the genitive to be one of those which are commonly called genitives of price, but which are really only forms of the genitive of relation. Thus ἄξιος will exactly mean *estimable*.) Meantime I have followed the reading λέξαι in my translation.