

ὅταν δ' αἰεῖδεν ἢ μινύρεσθαι δοκῶ,
 ὕπνου τόδ' ἀντίμολπον ἐντέμνων ἄκος,
 κλαίω τότ' οἴκου τοῦδε συμφορὰν στένων,
 οὐχ ὡς τὰ πρόσθ' ἄριστα διαπονουμένου.—
 νῦν δ' εὐτυχῆς γένοιτ' ἀπαλλαγῆ πόνων
 εὐαγγέλου φανέντος ὀρφναίου πυρός. 20

ὦ χαῖρε λαμπτήρ, νυκτὸς ἡμερήσιον
 φάος πιφαύσκων καὶ χορῶν κατάστασιν
 πολλῶν ἐν Ἄργει, τῆσδε συμφορᾶς χάριν.
 ἰοῦ ἰοῦ. 25

Ἄγαμέμνονος γυναικὶ σημαίνω τορῶς,
 εὐνῆς ἐπαντείλασαν ὡς τάχος δόμοις
 ὀλολυγμὸν εὐφημοῦντα τῆδε λαμπάδι
 ἐπορθριάζειν, εἵπερ Ἰλίου πόλις
 ἐάλωκεν, ὡς ὁ φρυκτὸς ἀγγέλλων πρέπει· 30

30. ἀγγέλων.

is then worse than superfluous, and the weakest word in it (*ὑπνω*) has the place of emphasis. Moreover the supposed syntax is faulty: *παραστατεῖ* cannot govern such a consecutive clause, as if it were *εἶργει* or *κωλύει*: and if the clause depends on *φόβος*, it cannot be consecutive.

17. 'thus making of song one remedy against sleep', using song among (*ἐν*) other things to keep myself awake. *τέμνειν* was the technical term for shredding the roots, herbs etc. compounded in drugs (Blomfield, and see L. and Sc. s. v.).

19. ...put to work not so good altogether as in old times. The passive *πονείσθαι* (*πόνον*) signifies *to be worked at*, *πόνος* being technical for any exercise or task-work. So the deponent *διαπονείσθαι* is the regular word for a professional practice.—There is a double meaning in this cautious phrase, depending on the ambiguity of *οἶκος* between *household* and *house*. Under the mere grumble of the servant lies the same suggestion as in

v. 37.—The rendering 'managed, administered' (L. and Sc. s. v. *διαπονείσθαι*) is incorrect.

21. *ὀρφναίου πυρός* 'fire of the darkness', *i.e.* which the darkness keeps and will not disclose.

25. He calls as to awaken the slumbering house. Hence *σημαίνω* in v. 26.—*σημανῶ* recc.

27. *δόμοις* 'for the house', *i.e.* on behalf of the household.

28. *λαμπάδι*, dependent on *ἐπ-ορθριάζειν*, 'upon' *i.e.* 'in honour of' its appearance.

29. *ἐπορθριάζειν* 'to sing as a morning song' (*ὄρθριος*), pursuing the train of metaphor suggested by *ἡμερήσιον φάος*, *ἐπαντείλασαν* etc.—*ἐπορθριάζειν* recc. I cannot but think the modern editors wrong in generally adopting this injurious change, probably a mere error. The associations of *ὄρθριος*, *shrill*, *high*, and of the *ὄρθριος νόμος*, are as foreign to the passage as *ὄρθριος* is appropriate.

30. ὁ 'the (expected) beacon': cf. τὸ σύμβολον in v. 8.