

ὅστις δ' ὑπερβὰς ἢ νόμους βιάζεται,
 ἢ τοῦπιτάσσειν τοῖς κρατύνουσιν νοεῖ,
 οὐκ ἔστ' ἐπαίνου τοῦτον ἐξ ἑμοῦ τυχεῖν. 665
 ἀλλ' ὄν πόλις στήσειε, τοῦδε χρῆ κλύειν
 καὶ σμικρὰ καὶ δίκαια καὶ τάναντία.
 καὶ τοῦτον ἂν τὸν ἄνδρα θαρσοίην ἐγὼ
 καλῶς μὲν ἄρχειν, εὖ δ' ἂν ἄρχεσθαι θέλειν,
 δορός τ' ἂν ἐν χειμῶνι προστεταγμένον 670
 μένειν δίκαιον κάγαθὸν παραστάτην.
 ἀναρχίας δὲ μείζον οὐκ ἔστιν κακόν.
 αὕτη πόλεις τ' ὄλλυσιν, ἢδ' ἀναστάτους
 οἴκους τίθησιν, ἢδε σὺν μάχῃ δορός
 τροπὰς καταρρήγνυσι· τῶν δ' ὀρθουμένων 675

664. κρατύνουσιν νοεῖ] κρατ(ύν)ουσιν νοεῖ L. κρατοῦσιν ἐννοεῖ C⁴AEVat. L².
 Vat b. V⁴. 666. στήσειε] στήσει L. στήσειε C². ἔστησε L². τοῦδε] τοῦ-
 τον Vat. 672. δὲ L. ^{γάρ.} δὲ C²*. γάρ AVVat.V⁴V³. ἔστιν] ἔστι AVat.
 673. πόλεις τ'] πόλις θ' L. πόλις θ' C². πόλις τ' AVV³. πόλεις δ' L². τ' om. V⁴.
 ἢδ'] ^{αὕτη} ἢδ' V. ἢδ' ἀναστάτους in erasure L². 674. σὺν] συμ L. 675. καταρ-
 ρήγνυσι] καταρρήγνυσιν L.

663. 'The transgressor who either violates the laws.' The alternative is thought of after the sentence is begun. νόμους is in two constructions, (1) with ὑπερβὰς, (2) with βιάζεται.

664. τοῦπιτάσσειν] Cp. supr. 485, and note.

τοῖς κρατύνουσιν νοεῖ] The reading of L here is rather more uncommon than the alternative reading, which may notwithstanding be right.

666. For the optative, in a perfectly general supposition, see Essay on L. § 36. p. 61.

κλύειν, 'To obey.'

667. τάναντία] τὰ μεγαλὰ καὶ ἄδικα.

668-71. 'And of this man (the man who obeys the ruler) I would have no fear but that he would rule nobly, and be a good and willing subject, and if posted near me in the storm of battle, would stand firmly as a staunch and trusty comrade.' For the vague reference of the pronoun, see Essay on L. § 22. p. 34. And for δορός .. χειμῶνι, ib.

673. αὕτη .. τίθησιν] The anacoluthon (for which see Essay on L. p. 65) has been avoided in two ways, (1) by

the omission of τε, (2) by reading ἢδ' for ἢδ'. This Homericism is defended by comparing ὡσει τε in l. 653. There is slight MS. authority for both these changes (see v. rr.). But strong reasons are required for the introduction of a particle not used elsewhere by Sophocles, and after the regularly balanced τε .. ἢδέ, the asyndeton in the next line would be too abrupt. If any change were necessary, the omission of τ' would be preferable, but the lines are more expressive as they are.

674. σὺν μάχῃ δορός] Bothe conjectured συμμάχου δορός, 'The rout of the leagued war.' But the reading of the MS. has a more vivid meaning. 'This, aiding the conflict of the spear, breaks down (the vanquished) into shapeless rout:' i. e. 'Disorder helps with battle to make utter rout.' For μάχῃ δορός, see Essay on L. p. 75, and for the accusative τροπὰς, ib. § 17. p. 25, etc.

675. τῶν δ' ὀρθουμένων] 'Of those who are not routed, but are successful.' Opposed to οἱ ἠσώμενοι implied in τροπὰς. Cp. El. 742, ὠρθοῦθ' ὁ τλήμων ὀρθὸς ἐξ ὀρθῶν δίφρων.