

nor aught else can destroy me; for never had I been snatched from death, but in reserve for some strange doom.

Nay, let *my* fate go whither it will: but as touching my children,—I pray thee, Creon, take no care on thee for my sons; they are men, so that, be they where they may, they can never lack the means to live. But my two girls, poor hapless ones,—who never knew my table spread apart, or lacked their father's presence, but ever in all things shared my daily bread,—I pray thee, care for *them*; and—if thou canst—suffer me to touch them with my

scribere oporteret: cf. Chandleri librum de accentibus, § 820 edit. alterius. In Herod. 6. 109 codices προσθῆ praebent. Coniecit Elmsleius προθῆ, receperunt Wunder., Blaydes.: et inveni quidem πρόθη (sic) in cod. V: praestat tamen vulgata l. 1466 αἰν] ταῖν, quod vidi in cod. V², Blaydesius esse memorat etiam in uno codd. Parisinorum (2820), ascripto τούτων. Iam Heathius ταῖν coniecerat (quo quidem pro ταύταιν accepto tollitur anacoluthon), receperunt Brunck., Erfurdt., Hartung., Kennedy.

at which I ate οὔποτε χωρὶς ἐστάθη was never placed apart, ἄνευ τοῦδ' ἀνδρός (so that they should be) without me. Instead of ἄνευ αὐταῖν, we have ἄνευ τοῦδ' ἀνδρός, because (αἰν being dat. of persons affected) αἰν οὔποτε ἢ ἐμὴ τράπεζα χωρὶς ἐστάθη ἄνευ τοῦδ' ἀνδρός is equivalent to αἰ οὔποτε τὴν ἐμὴν τράπεζαν χωρὶς σταθείσαν εἶδον, (ὥστε εἶναι) ἄνευ τοῦδ' ἀνδρός. This is simpler than to construe: 'for whom the dinner-table, which was (always) mine, was never placed apart, or without me': when ἡμῆ would be a compressed substitute for ἡ ἐμὴ αἰεὶ οὔσα in the sense of ἀλλὰ ἡ ἐμὴ αἰεὶ ἦν. We cannot take ἡμῆ βορᾶς τράπεζα as merely = 'the table which I provided': the emphasis on ἡμῆ would alone exclude this. Prof. Kennedy understands: 'apart from whom (αἰν χωρὶς) my dinner-table ne'er was set without my bidding,' i.e. never except on special occasions, when I had so directed. ἄνευ could certainly mean this (O. C. 926 etc.). But can we understand Oedipus as saying, in effect,—'who always dined with me—except, indeed, when I had directed that they should not'? The attributive gen. βορᾶς is equivalent to an adj. of quality like πρόφimos, as Eur. Phoen. 1491 στολὶς τρυφᾶς = στολὶς τρυφερά: not like ἄμαξαι σίτου (Xen. Cyr. 2. 4. 18) 'waggon-loads of grain.' ἐστάθη, because a light table is brought in for the meal, and removed after it (cp. Il. 24. 476, Od. 10. 354 etc.). ἄνευ τοῦδ' ἀνδρός, explaining χωρὶς, as in Ph. 31 κενὴν οἴκησιν is explained by ἀνθρώπων δίχα, Ai. 464 γυμνὸν φανέντα by τῶν ἀριστείων ἄτερ. ἄνευ as in Tr. 336 μάθης ἄνευ τῶνδ', hear apart from these. 1466 μέλειται,