



## METRICAL ANALYSIS.

THE scansion of the lyrics is given here as by Dr J. H. Heinrich Schmidt in his *Compositionslehre*\*, pp. lxx—cvii. For the greater convenience of readers, I print the metrical scheme over the Greek words, and, under each line of a strophe, the corresponding line of the anti-strophe, in smaller type.

If a reader desires only to know what kind of lyric metre is used in each case, and how each verse is scanned, then he need not trouble himself with the diagrams subjoined to the scanned verses. Their meaning, which is simple, will be explained presently.

Ancient Greek metre is the arrangement of syllables according to *Metre*. 'quantity', *i.e.*, according as they are 'short' or 'long'. A 'short' syllable, as opposed to a 'long', is that on which the voice dwells for a shorter time. In Greek verse the short syllable,  $\cup$ , is the unit of measure. Its musical equivalent is the quaver, ,  $\frac{1}{8}$ th of  $\square$ . The long syllable,  $-$ , has twice the value of  $\cup$ , being musically equal to .

Besides  $\cup$  and  $-$ , the only signs used for the lyrics of this play are the following:—

(1)  $\perp$  for  $-$ , when the value of  $-$  is increased by *one half*, so that it is equal to  $\cup\cup\cup$ ,  $-\cup$ , or  $\cup-$ . And  $\sqcup$  for  $-$ , when the value of  $-$  is *doubled*, so that it is equal to  $-\cup\cup$ ,  $\cup\cup-$ , or  $--$ .

(2)  $>$ , to mark an 'irrational syllable', *i.e.* one bearing a metrical value to which its proper time-value does not entitle it; viz.  $\cup$  for  $-$ , or  $-$  for  $\cup$ . Thus  $\epsilon\rho\gamma\overset{>}{\omega}\nu$  means that the word serves as a choree,  $-\cup$ , not as a spondee,  $--$ .

(3)  $\sim\cup$ , instead of  $-\cup\cup$ , when a dactyl (then called 'cyclic') serves for a choree,  $-\cup$ .

(4)  $\omega$ , written over two short syllables (as  $\pi\alpha\rho\acute{\alpha}$ ), when they have the value only of one short.

\* The second volume of his work, 'Die Kunstformen der Griechischen Poesie und ihre Bedeutung', of which the 'Griechische Metrik' forms the fourth volume.