

APPENDIX.

Verse 80 εἰ χρῆ σε μίμνειν ἢ πορεύεσθαι πάλιν.—The passages of Aesch. quoted for an Attic use of the Homeric ἢ...ἢ in indirect question are the following. (1) *Cho.* 755 οὐ γάρ τι φωνεῖ παῖς ἔτ' ὧν ἐν σπαργάνοις, | ἢ λιμός, ἢ δίψη τις, ἢ λιψουρία | ἔχει· νέα δὲ νηδὺς αὐτάρκης τέκνων. Stanley changed the first ἢ to εἰ. This correction, received by Dindorf and others, is clearly right. (2) *Cho.* 889 δοίη τις ἀνδροκμήτα πέλεκυν ὡς τάχος· | εἰδῶμεν ἢ νικῶμεν ἢ νικώμεθα. Turnebus changed the first ἢ to εἰ (so Dindorf and others). There, too, this simple remedy appears the true one. In the first passage we might, indeed, point after σπαργάνοις, and in the second after εἰδῶμεν, taking the first ἢ in each case as beginning a new sentence ('either'): but this is much less probable. (3) *P. V.* 780 δίδωμ'· ἐλοῦ γάρ· ἢ πόνων τὰ λοιπά σοι | φράσω σαφηνῶς, ἢ τὸν ἐκλύσοντ' ἐμέ. With this punctuation, which is surely the best, the first ἢ begins a new sentence: 'I give thee the choice;—choose, I say;—I will clearly tell thee either the toils yet in store for thee, or the name of my destined deliverer.' It is only if ἐλοῦ γάρ were followed by a comma, or by no point at all, that the first ἢ would necessarily mean 'whether.' In that case, I should read εἰ, as in the two former passages: but no change seems necessary. It should always be remembered that, on such a matter as ἢ *versus* εἰ, the authority of L and our other MSS., which abound in small errors of a like kind, cannot safely be set against an otherwise constant Attic usage.

170 θύγατερ, ποῖ τις φροντίδος ἔλθῃ;—In the commentary on this passage I have expressed my agreement with Mr A. Sidgwick as to the main point for which he contends in an appendix to his excellent edition of the *Choephoroë* (Clarendon Press, 1884). The point may be stated thus:—In several passages of Attic Greek, all directly or indirectly interrogative, where it has been usual to say that *ἄν* is *omitted*, the optative is not really conditional, but dubitative. It is to be compared with the interrogative (or 'deliberative') subjunctive. But it differs from this subjunctive by expressing something more remote from the sphere of the practicable. Thus: πῶς ἔλθῃ τις Ἀθήναζε; (a practical question;) but πῶς πέτοιτό τις εἰς οὐρανόν; Here, I should like to add that (in my opinion) the alleged Attic examples of this optative require to be very carefully sifted, with reference both to the text and to the context. As the question is of Attic usage, it is better, for simplicity and clearness,