

PH. Thou hollow of the caverned rock, now hot, now icy^{1st} cold,—so, then, it was my hapless destiny never to leave thee!^{strophe.} No, thou art to witness my death also. Woe, woe is me! Ah, thou sad dwelling, so long haunted by the pain of my presence, what shall be my daily portion henceforth? Where and whence, wretched that I am, shall I find a hope of sustenance? Above my head, the timorous doves will go on their way through the shrill breeze; for I can arrest their flight no more.

CH. 'Tis thou, 'tis thou thyself, ill-fated man, that hast so

into πῦρ] [ἔλωσί μ' οὐ γὰρ ἔτ' ἰσχύω. The only variant in the MSS. is B's ἐλωσί μ' for ἔλωσί μ'. For the conjectures, see comment. and Appendix. 1095 ff. L. has σύ τοι σύ τοι κατηξίω|σᾶσ' ὦ βαρύποτμε|οὐκ ἄλλοθεν ἔχει [ηι superscr.] τύχαι|ταῖδ' [made from τᾶδ'] ἀπο (sic) μείζονος. On ἔχει there is a marg. gl., συνέχη.

the phrase is not really parallel with ἀστυνόμοι ὄργαι (*Ant.* 355), 'dispositions which regulate cities.' It is more like αὐδὰ τρυσάνωρ in 208 (n.).—τοῦ...πόθεν: for the double question, cp. 243, and n. on 220.

1092 ff. A discussion of this passage, and a notice of conjectures, will be found in the Appendix. Here I briefly give the results.

πέλειαι δ' ἄνω is my emendation of the corrupt †εἶθ' αἰθέρος† ἄνω. The word εἶθ' would be possible only if, in 1094, we read μ' ἔλοιεν for the MS. ἔλωσί μ'. But the general sense of the passage forbids this. ἐλώσιν (conjectured by Erfurdt and others, and found in one MS.) is a certain correction of ἔλωσί μ': as ἰσχω (Heath) is of ἰσχύω. He is not here praying to be caught up by winds, or slain by birds, but saying—in continuation of τοῦ ποτε τεύξομαι | σιτονόμου πόθεν ἐλπίδος—that now the birds will fly unharmed over his head. That αἰθέρος, no less than εἶθ', is spurious, is made almost certain by two distinct considerations. (1) The antistrophic v., 1113, ἵ:δοῖ μᾶν δ᾿ | νῦν, is a dochmiac. αἰθέρος resolves the second long syll. of the bacchius (=the final syll. of ἰδοίμαν); not an unexampled licence, but still a most rare one. (2) πτωκάδες is sound, but could not be used, without art. or subst., to denote 'timid birds.' αἰθέρος has probably supplanted that subst.

But if so, the corruption has been a deep one; i.e., εἶθ' αἰθέρος was an attempt to supply, from the context, words which had been wholly or partly lost. Now suppose that the words ΠΕΛΕΙΑΙ Δ' ΑΝΩ

had been partly obliterated, so as to leave only ΕΙΑΙ ΑΝΩ. The words ἄνω and ὄξυτόνου πνεύματος would readily suggest that ΑΙ was a vestige of αἰθέρος. And the very fact that the schol. accepts εἶθε ἔλωσί με as possible shows how, in post-classical times, ἔλωσι might have elicited εἶθ' from the letters ΕΙ. The birds which will now fly harmless over his head are such as those which his bow used to slay,—τὰς ὑποπτέρουσ' | βάλλον πελείας (288).

ὄξυτόνου...πνεύματος, shrill-sounding breeze: cp. *Il.* 14. 17 λιγέων ἀνέμων αἰψήρᾳ κέλευθα. The epithet is perh. intended to suggest also the πτερῶν ῥοῖβδος (*Ant.* 1004).

οὐκέτ' ἰσχω, I do not restrain them, i.e., do not arrest their career (ἐλώσιν) by my arrows. Cp. 1153 ff. For this sense of ἰσχω cp. *El.* 242 ἐκτίμους ἰσχουσα πτέρυγας | ὄξυτόνων γόνων,—where L has ἰσχύουσα, by the same error as here. The MS. οὐ γὰρ ἔτ' ἰσχύω raises the question whether we should read ἐλώσ'· ἔτ' οὐ γὰρ ἰσχω. For ἔτ' οὐ, cp. 1217: *Tr.* 161 ὡς ἔτ' οὐκ ὦν. But the MS. ἔλωσί μ' would have arisen from ἐλώσιν more easily than from ἐλώσ' ἔτ'. It is more probable that γὰρ was an interpolation here, as it is in L's text of *O. C.* 1766 and *Ai.* 706.

1095 ff. σύ τοι...ἀπὸ μείζονος. In this passage I adhere to the MS. text, merely writing, with Wecklein, κούκ for οὐκ. The words ἄλλοθεν ἔχει τύχα τᾶδ' cannot be metrically reconciled with the corresponding words in the antistrophe (1118 f.), ἔσχ' ὑπὸ χειρὸς ἐμάς. Dindorf assumes that the latter words are