

AEG. Have they in truth reported him dead?

EL. Nay, not reported only; they have shown him.

AEG. Can I, then, see the corpse with mine own eyes?

EL. Thou canst, indeed; and 'tis no enviable sight.

AEG. Indeed, thou hast given me a joyful greeting, beyond thy wont.

EL. Joy be thine, if in these things thou findest joy.

AEG. Silence, I say, and throw wide the gates, for all Mycenaean and Argives to behold; that, if any of them were once buoyed on empty hopes from this man, now, seeing him dead, they may receive my curb, instead of waiting till my chastisement make them wise perforce!

EL. No loyalty is lacking on my part; time hath taught me the prudence of concord with the stronger.

[A shrouded corpse is disclosed. ORESTES and PYLADES stand near it.]

inferior MSS. of Suidas (*s. v.* χαρτά): in the better MSS. of Suidas this *v.* is wanting.

1458 σιγᾶν] Wecklein writes οἴγειν: and so, independently, as it seems, Paley (ed. 1880).—κἀναδεικνύναι] Hartung writes κάμπετανύναι: Herwerden conj. κἀναπιτνάναι: Fröhlich, καὶ διοιγνύναι.—πύλας] πύλαις Monacensis: as Döderlein and Dobree wished to read. Reiske conj. πέλας: Fröhlich δέμας (as Blaydes reads): Purgold, τύχας: Tournier, στέγας. **1459** Μυκηναίοισιν] Wiesler conj. Μυκηναίους νιν.—Nauck, with Herwerden, rejects this *v.* **1460** αὐτῶν] ἀστῶν Nauck, with Benedict and Herwerden. **1465** κρείσσοσιν L: κρείττοσιν γ, and Ald.

however *Ai.* 112 χαίρειν, 'Αθᾶνα, τᾶλλ' ἐγὼ σ' ἐφίεμαι, *i.e.*, 'be happy in all else.'

1457 While τυγχάνοι has the support of L, the more prevalent reading τυγχάνει is the better here. She means, 'Rejoice, if this is matter for joy,' rather than, 'You might (or would) rejoice, if it were' such. Cp. 891 σὺ δ' οὖν λέγ', εἴ σοι τῷ λόγῳ τις ἡδονή.

1458 κἀναδεικνύναι πύλας, if right, is a pregnant phrase, 'open the gates and show the interior.' Ar. *Nub.* 302 ἵνα | μυστοδόκος δόμος | ἐν τελέταις ἀγίαις ἀναδείκνυται. Bold as it is, I incline to believe that it is sound. No probable emendation has yet been made: see Appendix.

1459 Μυκηναίοισιν, the townsfolk: Ἀργείοις, the people of the neighbouring district: see 4 n., and cp. 160 ἂ κλεινὰ | γὰρ.. Μυκηναίων.—πᾶσιν: cp. *O. T.* 1287 βοᾶ διοίγειν κληῖθρα καὶ δηλοῦν τινα | τοῖς πᾶσι Καδμείοισι τὸν πατροκτόνον. *Ant.* 1183 ὦ πάντες ἀστοί (n.).—I do not think that the verse is spurious: see Appendix on 1458.

1460 f. ἐλπίζω..ἀνδρός: for the gen., cp. 857 n.

1462 f. στόμα, poet. plur.; so Aesch. *Ag.* 237 χαλιῶν. Cp. Plut. *Compar. Pericl. et Fabii* 1 σπαργῶντι τῷ δήμῳ χαλιῶν ἐμβαλεῖν ὑβρεως.—φύση φρένας: *O. C.* 804 οὐδὲ τῷ χρόνῳ φύσας φανεί | φρένας ποτ' (n.).

1464 f. καὶ δὴ κ.τ.λ.: lit., 'already my part is being performed.' For τὰπ' ἐμοῦ cp. *O. C.* 1628 τὰπὸ σοῦ βραδύνεται. She refers ostensibly to what he has just said: 'I, at least, am already resolved to be loyal and docile.' Her secret meaning is, 'My part in the plan of vengeance is being accomplished.' She is luring him to his fate: cp. 1438 τὰνθάδ' ἂν μέλοιτ' ἐμοί.—τελείται is pres. There is no certain instance in Attic of τελοῦμαι as fut. pass. (*Ph.* 1381 n.).—τῷ...χρόνῳ: for the art., cp. 1013.—συμφέρειν τοῖς κρείσσοσιν, to agree with them, to live in concord with them. Cp. Eur. *Med.* 13 αὐτὴ τε πάντα συμφέρουσ' Ἰάσονι. Ar. *Lys.* 166 ἀνὴρ, εἰ μὴ τῇ γυναικὶ συμφέρῃ. This sense comes from that of 'sharing a burden' (946), so that it resembles our phrase, 'pull together.' Here it suits her inner meaning,—that she is working with those who now are the stronger (*i.e.*, the avengers).