

νῦν οὖν, Ὀρέστα καὶ σὺ, φίλτατε ξένων,  
 Πυλάδῃ, τί χρὴ δρᾶν ἐν τάχει βουλευέτον·  
 ὡς ἡμῖν ἤδη λαμπρὸν ἡλίου σέλας  
 ἔῶα κινεῖ φθέγματ' ὀρνίθων σαφῆ,  
 μέλαινά τ' ἄστρον ἐκλέλοιπεν εὐφρόνη.

Schol. on 686, and the author of the Arg. Agamemnon returned home from Troy after an absence of ten years, upon the murder of whom Ægisthus having reigned at Mycenae seven years (Odys. γ'. 305) was slain in the eighth by Orestes.

πατρὶ τιμωρὸν φόνου] *'The avenger of his father's murder.'* Cf. 399. πατρὶ τιμωρούμενοι. 349. El. 116. τίσασθε πατρὸς φόνον ἡμετέρου. For the genitive cf. Tr. 809. ὧν σε ποίνιμος Δίκη | τίσαιτ'.

16. Πυλάδῃ] πυλάδης (eras. s) L.

βουλευτέον vulg. Read βουλευέτον, which the preceding σὺ alone shows must be the true reading. So ξυνάπτετον (ξυναπτέον E.) 21. The same correction is proposed by Porson Opusc. p. 221.

17. Cf. Virg. Æn. VII. 456. *'Evandrum ex humili tecto lux suscitata alma, | et matutini volucrum sub culmine cantus.'*

ἡμῖν] ἡμῖν Bergk. Cf. 357.

18. κινεῖ — σαφῆ] I. e. ὥστε γίνεσθαι σαφῆ. Cf. 1366. σαφῆ ταῦτα δείξουσιν.

19. μέλαινά τ' ἄστρον ἐκλέλοιπεν εὐφρόνη] Schol: ἐχρῆν οὕτως εἰπεῖν, μελαίνης νυκτὸς τὰ ἄστρα ἐκλέλοιπεν. — ἢ οὕτως, ἐκλέλοιπε τῶν ἄστρον ἢ μέλαινα νύξ, ἔν' ἢ τὸ ἄστρον πρὸς τὸ ἐκλέλοιπεν. The construction of ἄστρον is by no means clear. Seidler (ad Eur. El. 651.) understands ἄστρον εὐφρόνη to mean the same as ἄστρα εὐφρόνης, coll. El. 758. μέγιστον σῶμα δειλαίας σποδοῦ. Tr. 356. πόνων λατρεύματα. Erfurd (ad CEd. R. 1.) considers it equivalent to εὐφρόνη ἀστερόεσσα. Dind: "I. q. ἄστρα εὐφρόνης seu εὐφρόνη ἀστερόεσσα." Schneid. too connects ἄστρον εὐφρόνη *'nox stellata.'* So also Herm. and Wund., who think that μέλαινα ἄστρον εὐφρόνη is put in opposition to λαμπρὸν ἡλίου σέλας. Some one renders ἄστρον εὐφρόνη *'night with its stars.'* V. Br. ad CEd. R. 833. Musgrave, following the second explanation mentioned in the scholia, renders: *'et atra nox excessit e caelo.'* I. e. *'and dark night has left (or fled) the heavens,'* or *'has failed from out of heaven.'* Ἄστρα *'the heavens,'* as in Trach. 1106. ὁ τοῦ κατ' ἄστρα Ζηνὸς αὐδηθεῖς γόνος. Æsch. Sept. 384. φλέγονθ' ὑπ' ἀστροῖς οὐρανόν. 397. νύκτα — ἀστροῖσι μαρμαίρουσαν οὐρανοῦ. Eur. Phœn. ὦ τὴν ἐν ἀστροῖς οὐρανοῦ τέμνων ὁδὸν — Ἥλιε. (Where ἄστρα is explained of the signs of the Zodiac.) 1020. μὰ τὸν μετ' ἄστρον Ζῆν'. Tro. 1001. Hes. Th. 382. ἄστρα τε λαμπετόωντα, τὰ τ' οὐρανοῦ ἐστεφάνονται. 414. ἀστερόεντος ὑπ' οὐρανοῦ. Musgrave cites Virg. Æn. III. 567. *'Ter spumam elisam et rorantia vidimus astra.'* IX. 75. Ovid. Fast. II. 496. *'Rex patriis astra petebat equis.'* Add Virg. Ecl. V. 52. *'Daphnin ad astra feremus.'* For ἐκλέλοιπεν cf. below 1149. νῦν δ' ἐκλέλοιπε ταῦτ' (*'are gone'*). Xen. Cyr. I. p. 147. ἐξέλιπον οἱ ἐνοικοῦντες — εἰς χωρίον ὀχυρόν. The construction ἄστρον ἐκλέλοιπεν may be defended from El. 627. θράσους | τοῦδ' οὐκ ἀλύξεις. Ant. 488. Phil. 1044. τῆς νόσον πεφευγέται. Sophocles is partial to uncommon usages of the genitive. Cf. on CEd. R. 142. Perhaps however, as ἐκ-