New Fragments of Scholia on Sophocles' *Ajax*

Morton Smith

The monastery of Mar Saba, a few miles southeast of Jerusalem, has a number of late Greek manuscripts, fragments of older manuscripts, and printed books containing considerable manuscript material. A catalogue of seventy-six of these items, by the present author, has been submitted for publication to Nea Sion, the periodical of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem. Among the items catalogued is one (No. 21) which may be of interest to classical scholars. This is a copy of the book Εὐχαλ τοῦ λυχνικοῦ καὶ τοῦ ὅρθρου, ed. Venice, 1746, in which are pasted to the inside of the front and back covers two pages from a fifteenth century paper manuscript of the *Ajax* of Sophocles, 188 x 123 mm., with marginal scholia and interlinear glosses (see Plates 3 and 4).

The text and scholia are in dark brown ink in a good book hand, rather square, the hand of a practiced writer writing carefully but rapidly. Many ligatures and abbreviations are used in the scholia and even more in the interlinear glosses, which are in a pale yellow ink, as are the headings indicating the speakers. In the glosses the hand is slightly hastier, not so square, more fluent than in the text and scholia. In the text, a few letters omitted in first writing have been added above the lines, the places for the addition being indicated by sublinear carets. These corrections were made by the original hand before the writing of the glosses, which avoid them.

At present only the verso of the first page and the recto of the second can be read, though enough can be seen where the paper is loose to prove that text, glosses, and scholia continued on the sides now pasted down. *Folio 1 verso* (Plate 3) contains lines 32 through 44; *2 recto* (plate 4), lines 45 through 56. In line 32 the text reads...
εὕρως δὲ τὸν θεόν, καὶ προσεύχομαιν.

παρασκευήσας ἐκείνης τῆς ὁμολογίας, μὴ κατανύστερην ἡμέραν ἡμῶν, προσεύχομαι.

πάντως, πρὸς ὁποῖαν ἄλλην ἡμέραν, μὴ κατανύστερην ἡμέραν, προσεύχομαι.

Τὸ ἀποκάλυμμα τοῦ ὁμολογίας, μὴ κατανύστερην ἡμέραν, προσεύχομαι.

μὴ κατανύστερην ἡμέραν, προσεύχομαι.

οὖν ἀπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ ἡμᾶς ἐπέτειλεν βασιλικόν ἡμῖν

ἡ μητέριοις μετὰ τῆς καθήμενης ἐν 

Σωτήριοι ἡμῶν καὶ τοῖς ἁγίοις ἡμῶν ἐν 

συνεκολληθεῖς τοῖς ἐκ τῆς κατάθεσις ἡμῶν

διὸ ἐπεκαύθη τὸ λαός ἡμῶν τῷ θεῷ καὶ τῷ κυρίῳ

οὐκ ἦτο ἡμῶν κατανύστερην ἡμέραν, προσεύχομαι.
δίσσω for ἄσσω; in 33, ὃτων with L; in 45, ἔκπραξεν with A against L, its only significant variation from the text of Jebb. The last word of line 52 has been obliterated and there are a few minor mistakes, mostly iotaisms and omissions of final nu. Iota subscript is written only once (in ἔξε, line 40). The interlinear glosses add explanatory words, or give more familiar (but mostly classical) equivalents for the words in the text.

The scholia are written beside lines 32, 37, 39, 41, 50, 52, and 55. Those beside 50 and 52 are introduced by capital epsilon (in that beside 50 this letter serves as the first letter of the scholion, in that beside 52 it does not). The beginnings of the lines of the other scholia have been lost. Since some of the scholia are among those printed in the edition of Brunck (Scholia graeca in Sophoclem, ed. altera, Oxford, 1810), mostly among the Byzantine scholia which he prints as footnotes to his pages, it can be seen that about six letters have been lost from the beginnings of the lines of the scholia on 1 verso, and a like number from the ends of the lines of 2 recto. The scholia read as follows:

Beside line 32 = Brunck, page 4, footnote on 33, from τῶν αἰτιατικῶν to end, + Brunck, page 5, footnote on 40, πρὸς ποιῶν σκοπῶν ἀφορῶν. The MS has replaced the -ικῶν of αἰτιατικῶν by what seems to be λε, reads οὗ δὲ for the first οὔτε, and Ἀττικῶς for Ἀττικοῖς. Between the two passages paralleled from Brunck it has the words καὶ πρ. . . .

Beside line 37 = Brunck, page 5, footnote on 40, from δὴλονότι πρὸς ποιῶν σκοπῶν to end. The MS adds καὶ after δὴλονότι, has an iota (or a blot?) between πρὸς and ποιῶν, omits ἀντὶ before ἐπιφρήματος, and probably again before τοῦ, and omits ἧλθεν after ταχὺς.

Beside line 39: ]᾽νω ἐβαρν
 ] ἡ γὰρ σκότω-
 ] κάρον ὦς ὅ

Beside line 41: Lines 1–6 = Brunck, page 5, footnote on 42, from βᾶσιν ἐπονήσατο to end. The MS reads κατὰ for the first καὶ, θέλω for θέλων, ἐμπίπτειν for ἐμπίπτει, φόνων for φόνον,
and for κυκλοῦντα βάσιν has...λούντευβα... Hereupon follows: ] ἔνεκεν ἐρχόμενος
] τῆς ποιμνίας
] εἰ γὰρ φαμεν τὸ
] ἐμπίπτει ό ἄνθρωπος
] μίοις τὸ δὲ ἐ
] ὁ ἄνθρωπος βάσιν.

This fragment seems to be related to the scholion of ‘Demetrius Triclinius’ on line 42, printed in Brunck, page 334, but the parallelism is not close. In the MS it is followed immediately by the last lines of the scholion already written above, beside line 37, from ἥξεν to the end. This time the MS varies from Brunck by reading η instead of καὶ before εἰκώνευν, omitting οὖν χεῖρα, omitting δὲ after ἔστι and ἀντὶ τοῦ after ἐπιρρήματος, adding καὶ after ἐπιρρήματος, and omitting τοῦ before ταχέως.

Beside line 50 = Brunck, page 5, footnote on 50, from ἐπέχω to end. No variants from Brunck.

Beside line 52 = Brunck, page 6, footnote on 51, from εὔφορον to end. The MS reads δύσφορον instead of δύσκολον δὲ and omits τοῦ after ἀντὶ.

Beside line 55: ῥαχίζεω τὸ με[  
rantὰ μαρπὸδ [  
kλεὼς ῥαχίωσι[  

Here follows Brunck, page 6, on 55, from διὰ τὸ τὴν πρῶτην to end. The MS adds τὴν before ῥάχω and reads δὲ instead of καὶ after μεταφορᾶς. This is the only one of the scholia in the MS to appear also in the editions of P. Elmsley (Scholia in Sophoclis tragoedias septem, Oxford, 1825, page 205, on line 56) and P. Papageorgius (Scholia in Sophoclis tragoedias vetera, Leipzig, 1888, page 7, on line 56). Papageorgius agrees with our MS by adding τὴν before ῥάχω, but he adds it in pointed brackets. Both he and Elmsley read καὶ with Brunck, against this MS, and both read μεγάλα instead of μεγάλως, against both Brunck and the manuscript.

Columbia University

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