

# On the Text of ps.-Oppian, *Cynegetica*

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**I**N the following pages I shall explain certain passages of the *Cynegetica* which so far have not been understood. For the sake of brevity I expect the reader to have read Schmitt's monograph<sup>1</sup> before proceeding to this discussion.

I 26f.      *Λείβομεν, ὡς κελέαι τὰ καὶ βάζειν, νύκτερα θύσθλα·  
δηθάκις ἀμφεχόρευσα Θυωναίῳ Διονύῳ.*

The reading *τὰ καὶ βάζειν* is the opposite of 'unverständlich', as the commentators so far have believed.<sup>2</sup> The sense is: "I shall leave Bacchus' nocturnal rites (*λείβομεν νύκτερα θύσθλα*) because you are ordering me to sing (*ὡς κελέαι βάζειν*) things which are of concern to you (*τὰ καὶ*)." For *λείβομεν*= 'omit to sing' cf. e.g. *Cyn* 2.586, 605; for *βάζειν* as used here cf. Kaibel, *Epigrammata Graeca* 587.5, already quoted by Boudreaux in his apparatus; *κέλομαι* governs here an infinitive (*βάζειν*) as usual in Homer;<sup>3</sup> the phrase *τὰ καὶ βάζειν* corresponds to *τὰ δ' ἐν φρεσὶ κῆρι μνοιναῖς . . . λέξομεν* in lines 22f: both phrases refer to the order given by the goddess in lines 20f.

I 29              *μηδὲ μόθους μερόπων, μή μοι Βροτολοιγὸν αἰείδης*

The reading *μή αἰείδης* commands acceptance for two reasons. First of all, the employment of prohibitive *μή* with the second person singular of the present subjunctive is a Homeric rarity;<sup>4</sup> the reproduction of Homeric rarities was cultivated by late epic poets<sup>5</sup> no less sedulously than by their Hellenistic colleagues. Secondly, the construction under discussion, blamed by grammarians ancient and modern as a

<sup>1</sup> W. Schmitt, *Kommentar zum ersten Buch von Pseudo-Oppians Kynegetika* (diss. Münster 1969), hereafter cited as SCHMITT (cf. my review, CR n.s. 22 [1972]).

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Schmitt *ad loc.*

<sup>3</sup> Cf. C. Capelle, *Vollständiges Wörterbuch . . . des Homeros*<sup>9</sup> (Leipzig 1889) s.v. *κέλομαι* "mit blosser Infinitiv," and cf. e.g. *Cyn*. 1.134.

<sup>4</sup> Cf. H. Ebeling, *Lexicon Homericum* I (Leipzig 1885) s.v. *μή* vii.2 (c), p.1088, quoting *Od.* 18.10, a rarity ignored by D. B. Monro, *Grammar of the Homeric Dialect*<sup>3</sup> (Oxford 1891) 255.

<sup>5</sup> Cf. e.g. W. Weinberger, *Quaestiones de Orphei quae feruntur Argonauticis* (Vienna 1891) 259; F. Vian, *Recherches sur les Posthomerica de Quintus de Smyrne* (Paris 1959) 201 ("raretés homériques").

'solecism', is in fact well attested in late poetry (e.g. Eratosth. 35.8f Powell, *Anth.Pal.* 12.16.1: cf. Steph. *TGL*<sup>3</sup> ed. Hase-Dindorf s.v. *μη*, V.953D). Since ps.-Oppian is known to have indulged in syntactical solecisms (cf. R. Keydell, *RE* 18 [1939] 707.1–10 s.v. *OPPIANOS* 2), there is no reason why we should eliminate *μη ἀείδης* here, seeing that the solecism in question, far from being 'unsicher' (so Schmitt *ad loc.*), is shared by him with other late poets. It could in fact well be that both the reasons indicated by me are not mutually exclusive, in the sense that ps.-Oppian deliberately used the construction under discussion as a 'solecism' which was justified in Epic upon Homer's authority.<sup>6</sup>

I 89

τοῦνεκά μοι δέμας ᾧδε κερασσάμενοι φοιτώντων

The variant *φοιτώντων* is genuine, whereas *φορέοιεν*, which Schmitt, Mair and others prefer, has not a leg to stand on. It is easy to explain *φορέοιεν* as a syntactical trivialization prompted by the desire to assimilate to the contiguous optatives (*ῥοιεν*, *ἐπικραδάοιεν*, etc.) the imperative *φοιτώντων* (used by the ps.-Oppian in variation with the optatives in question, just as he used the imperative *ἔστων* in line 81),<sup>7</sup> whereas it would be difficult to explain why anyone should have replaced *φορέοιεν* by an imperative, if *φορέοιεν* were what the poet had originally written. *φοιτώντων* is not only supported by the *usus auctoris* as I have illustrated, but also stylistically *difficilior*, therefore *potior*. *φοιτώντων* is used here by the poet "of young men strutting about to show their persons" (cf. Eur. fr.282.11, quoted in LSJ s.v. *φοιτάω* I.1), and *δέμας* is internal accusative<sup>8</sup> governed by *κερασσάμενοι*, whereas the construction *δέμας φορέοιεν* is in itself common and here, therefore, a banalization. Once and for all I wish to point out that trivialization is known to have often affected ps.-Oppian's text (cf. e.g. Schmitt p.54); as for the line under discussion, the diaskeuast utilized *Cyn.* 1.200 or 2.107 for his trivialization *φορέοιεν*.

I 104

ἡχὴ τριβομένων στιβαροῖς ὑπὸ ποσσὶ πεδίλων

The variant *λιπαροῖς*, preferred by Schmitt and Mair, is an evident

<sup>6</sup> For such cases in late epic, cf. E. Oldenburger, *De oraculorum Sibyllinorum elocutione* (Rostock 1903) 16f.

<sup>7</sup> Cf. also *Cyn.* 1.393–401: *μελέσθω . . . ἐπιμίγγω . . . κεράσειας . . . τεκμήραντο . . . πελέσθω*. The *usus auctoris* shows that ps.-Oppian liked to mix imperatives with optatives.

<sup>8</sup> This type of accusative was *usitatissimus* by the Oppiani: cf. O. Schmidt, *De elocutione Oppiani Arameensis* (Jena 1866) 47, and e.g. *Cyn.* 1.295, 3.185, 4.26.

trivialization. Schmitt defends *λιπαροῖς* on the ground that *ποσσὶ δ' ὑπὸ λιπαροῖσιν . . . πέδιλα* (*Il.* 2.44, 10.22, 10.132, 14.186, *Od.* 2.4, etc.) is a 'gelaüfig' Homeric phrase: but the point is precisely that ps.-Oppian, in adherence to the epic canon of *imitatio cum variatione*, in alluding to this Homeric phrase (the allusion is 'deutlich', to put it with Schmitt) changed<sup>9</sup> Homer's *λιπαροῖσιν* into *στιβαροῖς*. The presence of *στιβαροῖς* in ps.-Oppian's line is therefore easy to explain in so far as it is perfectly in keeping with the epic canon in question, and conversely the intrusion of *λιπαροῖς* as a trivialization aimed at restoring to ps.-Oppian's line the orthodox Homeric form is equally understandable. Apart from the canon just mentioned, another factor, *i.e.* the context, proves that *στιβαροῖς* is genuine: 'stout' (*στιβαροῖς*) is the suitable epithet for feet which, on account of their *weight*, cause the sandals to make a noise by grating on the soil, whereas 'sleek' or 'smooth' (*λιπαροῖς*) is contextually incongruous.<sup>10</sup> The epithet *λιπαροῖς* was introduced because a diaskeuast not only wanted to substitute the orthodox Homeric epithet for the one used by ps.-Oppian but also thought that *στιβαροῖς* was contradicted by *ποσσὶν ἐλαφρίζοντα* in line 85. There is in reality no contradiction: ps.-Oppian says that the hunter must be neither too fat (81 *μάλα πίνονες*, 86 *πιαλέοι*) nor overlight (*λεπταλέοι* 87); he must be of the correct stoutness which renders him strong, *θθεναρός* (90). *στιβαροῖς ποσσὶ* ('stout, strong<sup>11</sup> feet') is paralleled by *θθεναρῶν ὤμων* ('strong shoulders') in line 100. *ἐλαφρίζω* does not mean 'be light' as a *permanent* quality, but 'use one's limbs in a light, swift manner, when circumstances require' (*cf. e.g.* Callim. *Del.* 115, Opp. *Hal.* 3.300): ps.-Oppian says in line 85 that the hunter must be able to use his feet lightly often (*δηθάκις* 84) when pursuing wild beasts, not that the hunter must have feet permanently light (and weak) by nature.<sup>12</sup>

I 129 χείματι δ' ἐν μεσάτῳ μέσον ἦματος ἀγρώσσοιο

<sup>9</sup> On *imitatio cum variatione* practised *de industria* by ps.-Oppian *cf.* K. Lehrs, *Quaestiones epicae* (Regimontii Prussorum 1837) 308.

<sup>10</sup> In sum, the diaskeuast, in importing into ps.-Oppian's line the epithet *λιπαροῖς* from Homer's phrase quoted above, did not realize that the epithet, whereas appropriate in Homer's phrase, is inapposite in ps.-Oppian's sentence. For an analogous example of inapposite intervention by a diaskeuast *cf.* my discussion of *Cyn.* 1.149.

<sup>11</sup> *στιβαρός* means at the same time 'ponderosus' (*i.e.* 'stout') and 'robustus': *cf.* Steph. *TGL*<sup>3</sup> s.v.

<sup>12</sup> Stoutness is synonymous with strength, and leanness denotes weakness, in the *Cynetica*: *cf.* *Cyn.* 3.350 (*καρτερόν, εὐσαρκόν*), 2.106 (*λιπόσαρκοι κτλ.*).

The reading *μέσον ἡματος*, also supported by metrical reasons (cf. Schmitt p.93) is sound. Phrases like *μέσον ἡμέρας*, *μέσον ἡματος* have already been studied by Lobeck, *Phrynichus* p.54. In such phrases, *μέσον* is not prepositional (as in the cases studied in Blass-Debrunner § 215.3 and quoted by Schmitt *ad loc.*): it is a substantivized neuter (= ‘the middle’), as demonstrated by the context (cf. Plut. *Cleom.* 37.5 *μέσον ἡμέρας ἦν*, a phrase frequent in Xenophon, cf. F. W. Sturz, *Lex. Xenophonteum* (Leipzig 1803) s.v. *μέσος* 1 [d]). In the line under discussion the substantivized neuter *μέσον* is an accusative denoting a point of time (literally ‘at the middle of the day’). Such accusatives are common in Hellenistic Epic,<sup>13</sup> and it is known that ps.-Oppian employed this Hellenistic peculiarity.<sup>14</sup>

I 149ff      ἔντεα τ’ εὐθήροιο μέγα πνείοντα φόνοιο,  
                  ἄρκυα εὐσταλέας τε λίνους ταναόν τε πάναγρον  
                  δίκτυά τε σχαλίδας τε βρόχων τε πολύστονα δεσμά

As a variant to *εὐσταλέας τε λίνους* there exists *εὐστρεφέας τε λύγους*. *λίνους* is regarded by most scholars as genuine, because the poet is talking about nets, not about twigs: *λίνους* evidently denotes a type of net (cf. *λίνος*= τὸ δίκτυον, quoted by ancient lexicographers, Steph. *TGL*<sup>3</sup> s.v. *λίνος*, V.310D). Besides, the reading *λίνους* is supported by paraphrasis (cf. Boudreaux’s apparatus *ad loc.*), and it is evident—although nobody seems to have noticed this—that the poet’s *λίνους ταναόν τε πάναγρον* is aimed at producing a ‘Klangwirkung’ with Hom. *Il.* 5.487 *λίνου ἀλόντε πανάγρου*. What has hitherto caused difficulties is the epithet *εὐσταλέας*. I shall demonstrate that the epithet is felicitous: nets had to be made of *light* thread (cf. Xen. *Cyn.* 2.4 ἄρκυα . . . λεπτοῦ λίνου . . . δίκτυα), and *εὐσταλέας* (= ‘light’) is therefore perfectly appropriate. Note the neat metaphor: the tools of the hunter are being compared by the poet to war equipment, and τὸ εὐσταλὲς πρὸς πόλεμον (Hdn. 3.8.5) denotes precisely light military equipment. The reading *εὐστρεφέας λύγους* is a typically diaskeuastic (*i.e.* learned) ‘correction’: the diaskeuast could not understand the sense of the epithet *εὐσταλέας* in the context any more than modern critics did, and was misled by line 151 (*δίκτυά τε σχαλίδας*) into thinking that line 150 required not *λίνους* but, by parallelism with *σχαλίδας* (cf. Schmitt *ad*

<sup>13</sup> Cf. e.g. Mooney *ad Ap.Rhod.* 1.278 (also *ad Ap.Rhod.* 2.1251, where ἔσπερον= ‘at even’); V. J. Loebe, *De elocutione Arati Solensis poetae* (Halle 1864) 41.

<sup>14</sup> Schmidt, *op.cit.* (*supra* n.8) 48.

loc.), something denoting wooden props; so he borrowed *εὐστρεφέας* *λύγους* from Homer (*Od.* 9.427), forgetting that net-props must be the opposite of 'easily twisted' (*εὐστρεφέας*) for they must be *stiff* and stand upright (cf. *Xen. Cyn.* 2.7ff). In sum, the epithet *εὐστρεφέας*, which the diaskeuast borrowed from Homer, is as contextually inappropriate at *Cyn.* 1.150 as the epithet *λιπαροῖς*, which the diaskeuast borrowed from Homer at *Cyn.* 1.104.

I 166f            *ἵππων δ' αἰόλα φῦλα ὄς' ἔθνεα μυρία φωτῶν,*  
                   *ὄσσα βροτοῖσι γένεθλα δεδμημένα κῆτον ἔδουσι.*<sup>15</sup>

Once more, a trivialization (*δεδασμένα*) has been preferred by critics. The reading *δεδμημένα*, neglected by most editors, is obviously correct: it means 'tamed', 'not wild', i.e. 'civilized', and pointedly refers to the fact that civilized peoples eat *κῆτος*, in opposition to savage tribes who eat flesh only (cf. *LSJ s.v. κῆτος* 2). Ancient diaskeuasts were just as much puzzled by ps.-Oppian's pointed *δεδμημένα* as modern scholars, and replaced it by the contextually incongruous *δεδασμένα* ('scattered': the fact that human races are 'scattered' is extraneous to their eating *κῆτος*). The verb *δαμάω*, when denoting domestication, refers as a rule to wild animals. Its employment by the poet with reference to humans is a typical example of the basic conception underlying the philosophy of the Oppiani: animals and humans are zoologically not different, and the terminology used by the poets with reference to men and beasts is therefore often the same.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Sicherl (*ap. Schmitt ad loc.*) has rightly stressed that the reading *ὄς'* in line 166 is the correct one. A few points may be added here. The phrases *ὄς' ἔθνεα μυρία φωτῶν* and *ὄσσα βροτοῖσι γένεθλα . . . κῆτον ἔδουσι* are an obvious case of *epiphora* (cf. F. Lapp, *De Callimachi Cyrenaei tropis et figuris* [diss. Bonn 1965] 59f): *φωτῶν* is synonymous with *βροτοῖσι* (cf. *LSJ s.v. φῶς* III = 'mortal', i.e. *βροτός*). The alternation between the genitive *φωτῶν* and the dative *βροτοῖσι* is neatly paralleled by *Cyn.* 3.393 (on such 'commixtae constructions' cf. Schmidt, *op.cit.* [supra n.8] 47). The variant *τός'* came into being in order to eliminate the hiatus, which copyists notoriously abhor and try to obliterate: *ὄς'* was changed into *τός'* under the influence of *τόσσοι . . . ὄσσοι* in lines 168f.

<sup>16</sup> Cf. A. W. James, *ProcCambrPhilolSoc* 12 (1966) 30; there exist *ἄγρια φῦλα* of humans (*Cyn.* 1.470) as well as of animals (*Cyn.* 4.7), because the species *ἄνθρωπος*, like other animal species, can be either *ἄγριον* or *ἡμέρον* (*Arist. Part.An.* III 643b5). Note the poet's accuracy: in the two parallel sentences (cf. previous footnote) the plain *φωτῶν* without an epithet suffices with *ἔθνεα*, because *ἔθνος* denotes civilized races, whereas the epithet *δεδμημένα* is necessary with *γένεθλα*, which in itself denotes breeds of beings not necessarily civilized (often animals: cf. A. W. James, *Index in Halieutica Oppiani Cilicis et in Cynegetica poetae Arameensis* [Hildesheim 1970] *s.v. γένεθλον* and *γενέθλη*). The employment of synonyms in ps.-Oppian's *epiphora* is therefore impeccable. It will be noted that the poet's *epiphora* is no

I 236f

... τὸ δὲ *πάμπαν ἄπιστον*  
*ἔς φιλότητα μολεῖν, τὴν οὐ θέμις.*

Gesner's conjecture *ἄπυστον*, accepted by all the editors, is ungrounded. The manuscripts' reading *ἄπιστον* is neatly paralleled by *Cyn.* 2.614 *βάξις ἄπιστος κτλ.* In both cases ps.-Oppian is concerned about refuting a rumour which is not attested outside the *Cynegetica*: in the latter passage, the rumour connecting Phineus with the mole has not come down to us in any source other than ps.-Oppian's words (cf. Mair in his Loeb ed. *ad loc.*), and the same is the case with the rumour concerning mares which ps.-Oppian refutes here. Mares were believed to be *λαγνίσταται* (cf. Ael. *NA* 4.11 and Arist. *HA* 572a8): this explains how the tale contradicted by ps.-Oppian arose.

I 272ff

... οἷτε νέμονται  
*καὶ τρικάρηνον ὄρος ὅθι τοι σκέπας Ἐγκελάδοιο*  
*πυρροῖς αἰθερίοισιν ἐρευγομένοιο κεραυνοῦ*  
*Κικελικῆς Αἴτνης ἀνεκάχλασεν ἀέναον πῦρ.*

The passage has been hitherto misunderstood; for the latest discussion cf. Schmitt *ad loc.* The text is perfectly sound. *σκέπας Ἐγκελάδοιο* denotes the sea of fluid lava occupying the crater of Aetna, and *ἀέναον πῦρ* designates the lava being emitted<sup>17</sup> by the erupting volcano. The sense is literally: "they inhabit the three-peaked mountain, where the ever-fluid fire of Aetna bubbles, whilst the thunderbolt belches forth, in beams reaching to the sky, a cover for Enceladus." In other words, the verb *ἀνεκάχλασεν* is intransitive (= 'bubbles': cf. Schmitt *ad loc.*), and is followed by its subject *πῦρ*, just as the subject *πῦρ* follows the verb *ἀμαρύσσει* in *Cyn.* 2.596f; *σκέπας* denotes the sea of lava which is inside the crater and which covers Enceladus; *ἐρευγομένου* is transitive and governs an accusative (*σκέπας*) as in *Hal.* 2.488. *Zeus' κεραυνός* goes on belching lava (hence the present participle *ἐρευγομένου*) because "das Feuer von Gottes Blitz verlischt nicht wieder, sondern brennt

less impeccable from the conceptual point of view: he states that "the swift breeds of horses are as numerous as the civilized peoples" (which latter are known to be a great number; nobody could know the number of uncivilized peoples, i.e. of those peoples not yet reached by, or known to, civilized man).

<sup>17</sup> *ἀέναον* means here 'ever flowing', because lava was regarded as liquid fire: it is in fact called *διερὴ φλόξ* in *Anth.Pal.* 7.123.1 (= 'liquid fire': cf. line 3, *ρόον Αἴτνης*) just as it is called *ἀέναον πῦρ* here; cf. Pind. *Pyth.* 1.23 *τὰς ἐρευγονται ἀπλάτου . . . πυρὸς . . . παγαί*, of the lava, and *Pyth.* 1.5f *κεραυνὸν . . . ἀνάου πυρός*.

... fort und fort."<sup>18</sup> ἐρευγομένοιο κεραυνοῦ is a genitive absolute, and πυρροῖς αἰθερίοισιν a modal dative, as already realized by scholars (Mair, Schmitt *et al.*)

I 313 καλὸς ἰδεῖν, ἀταλὸς τε φέρειν ἐϋπειθείῃ δεσμῶ

The text is sound; δεσμῶ means 'rein' (*cf.* Xen. *Eq.* 5.3–5), and ἐϋπειθείῃ, which has puzzled scholars (*cf.* now Schmitt *ad loc.*) is a typical case of adjectival *enallage*, common in the Oppiani (*cf.* *Eranos* 68 [1970] 80f): the rein is said to be 'obedient' in that it is applied to a horse which is itself obedient. There is no need to take ἐϋπειθείῃ δεσμῶ as *dativus modalis* (*cf.* Sicherl *ap.* Schmitt *ad loc.*); the sense is, "beautiful to behold and amenable to transporting on account of its obedient rein (= its being obedient to the rein)."<sup>19</sup>

I 352f εὔτε γὰρ ἐς φιλότητα θοαὶ τρήρωνες ἴωσι,  
μιγνύμεναι στομάτεσσι βαρυφθόγγοις ἀλόχοισι

Neither θοαί nor μιγνύμενοι is necessary, as Desrousseaux and Schmitt believe. The word τρήρωνες here, although of feminine gender, denotes male animals.<sup>20</sup>

I 478f . . . ἐπεὶ καὶ γαῖαν ἰόντων  
ἵχνιον εὐρέμεναι μέγα δὴ σοφός, κτλ.

The phrase καὶ γαῖαν ἰόντων, which has perplexed the critics (*cf.* Schmitt *ad loc.*) is an Ionism; on εἶμι used as here with *acc. loci*, *cf.* Schweighäuser, *Lex. Herod.*, *s.v.* ἰέναι. Morphological and syntactical Ionisms are, as is well known, a traditional ingredient of Hellenistic and late epic.<sup>21</sup> Apollonius borrowed from Ionic authors the transitive use of verbs,<sup>22</sup> and ps.-Oppian, who knows Apollonius well, is evidently following the latter's example.

<sup>18</sup> H. Fränkel, *Noten zu den Argonautika des Apollonius* (München 1968) 313.

<sup>19</sup> In sum, Lehrs' rendering (in his Didot edition) *pulcher aspectu, mollisque ad portandum facili habena* is correct, provided we realize that ἐϋπειθείῃ is used in *enallage* as I have explained. On this type of *enallage* in ps.-Oppian *cf.* Schmitt himself, pp. 187, 197. Lehrs rightly took δεσμῶ to mean 'rein' but could not find any parallels; others (*e.g.* Mair) understood δεσμῶ as 'bit'. The discussion on this point in Schmitt *ad loc.* is now ended by the conclusive evidence which I have brought to light (Xen. *Eq.* 5.3–5).

<sup>20</sup> *Cf.* C. A. Lobeck, *Pathologiae sermonis Graeci prolegomena* (Lipsiae 1843) 24f.

<sup>21</sup> *Cf. e.g.* Oldenburger, *op.cit.* (*supra* n.6) 16ff.

<sup>22</sup> *Cf. e.g.* G. Boesch, *De Apollonii Rhodii elocutione* (Göttingen 1908) 33, 44.

I 484ff ἔρπύζει δὲ πάροιθε παραὶ βατὸν ἀτραπιτοῖο  
 πρῶτα μὲν ἰθείαν, μετέπειτα δὲ δοχμὸν ἐλαύνων,  
 λαιῆ, δεξιτερῆ, σκολιὴν ὁδὸν ἀμφὶς ἐλίccων.

The ghost-word *παραιβαδόν*, created by Rittershusius in 1597 and accepted by most critics, is unwarranted. The poet's words *παραὶ βατὸν ἀτραπιτοῖο* are sound. The preposition *παραί* means that the hunter walks not *on* but *alongside* the beaten track, now to its left, now to its right. For the verb, cf. Soph. fr.85.5f (Nauck) ἔρπειν . . . πρὸς τὰ βατά. *βατός* commonly refers to paths (cf. Steph. TGL<sup>3</sup> s.v. *βατός*: *βατὴ τρίβος, βατὴ ὁδός*). Here, *βατόν* is a substantivized neuter with abstract force, *βατόν ἀτραπιτοῖο* being the equivalent of *βατὴν ἀτραπιτόν* (on the type *ἄβρὰ παρηίδος* = *ἄβρὰν παρηίδα* cf. e.g. Kühner-Gerth I.278). For a neat parallel<sup>23</sup> cf. Cyn. 4.433, where *ἀτραπιτοῖο πολυτιβίην* means *ἀτραπιτόν πολύστιβον*.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> The genitive *ἀτραπιτοῖο* is governed by a non-articled word denoting an abstract notion, i.e. the neuter *βατόν* (lit. 'passability') and *πολυτιβίην* ('frequent treading'). For another parallel cf. Hdn. 3.1.4, where *τὸ δύcβατον τοῦ ὄρους* means, as all the critics agree (cf. e.g. Whittaker, in his Loeb ed.; E. C. Echols, *Herodian* [Berkeley 1961]: 'impassable mountain'), *δύcβατον ὄρος* (for *δύcβατον* "mit dem Artikel" here, cf. Kühner-Gerth, *loc.cit.*; on *flosculi* used by the Oppiani and late prose writers cf. *Eranos* 68 [1970] 84).

<sup>24</sup> Steph. TGL<sup>3</sup> s.v. *πολυτιβίη*, and O. Rebmann, *Die sprachlichen Neuerungen in den Kynegetika Oppians von Aramea* (Basel 1918) 104. The type *βατόν ἀτραπιτοῖο* and *πολυτιβίην ἀτραπιτοῖο* is not Homeric: on *ἄβρὰ παρηίδος* (= *ἄβρὰν παρηίδα*) Eur. *Phoen.* 1486 and *εὐγένεια παίδων* (= *εὐγενεῖς παῖδες*) Eur. *Tro.* 583, cf. G. Bernhardt, *Wissenschaftliche Syntax der gr. Sprache* (Berlin 1829) 52f; Kühner-Gerth I 278–81. As far as late Epic is concerned, a study of such genitival constructions has not been made yet. In Orph. *Lith.* 338 Ab. there is *ἀτραπιτοῖο πολὺ πλέον* (not a Homeric type) and Opp. *Hal.* 1.105 has the periphrastic *ἔργα ὀνίccων* (cf. T. Lohmeyer, *De vocabulis in Oppiani Halienticis* [diss. Berlin 1866] 27f). *ἐλιc* + genit., avoided by Homer and Apollonius Rhodius (cf. O. Linsenbarth, *De Apollonii Rhodii casuum syntaxi comparato usu homerico* [Leipzig 1887] 30), occurs in *Hal.* 3.260.