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SIMONIDES, *PMG* 541

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A re-examination of the papyrus (P. Oxy. 2432) in the Ashmolean Library has made possible a number of improvements to Lobel's readings: these are set out below, together with some new supplements. For a bibliography, see D. E. Gerber, *Lustrum* 36 (1994), 138f. I am grateful to Dr M. L. West for his comments.

τό τ]ε καλὸν κρίνει τό τ' αἰσχρόν· εἰ δέ
 μεγ]αλαγορεῖ τις ἄθυρον στόμα
 περι]φέρ[ω]ν, ὁ μὲν καπνὸς ἀτελής, ὁ δέ[
 χρυ]σὸς οὐ μιαίνειτ[α]ι,
 5 ἀ δ'] ἀλάθεια παγκρατής.
 ἀλλ'] ὀλίγοις ἀρετὰν ἔδωκεν ἔ[μπεδον
 ἐς τ]έλος· οὐ γὰρ ἔλαφρον ἐσθλ[ὸν ἔμμεναι·
 ἦ γ]ὰρ ἀέκοντά νιν βιάται
 κέρ]δος ἀμάχητον ἢ δολοπλ[όκου
 10 με]γαθενῆς οἶτρος Ἄφροδίτ[ρα
 ἀρ]τίθαλοί τε φιλονικίαι·
 ὥς]τε μὴ δι' αἰῶνος ὀσίαν
]θειν κέλευθον·
]ος ἐς τὸ δυνατὸν [·
 15]αγκυλαν[
]δίκαιος [·
 ε]ὔθους ἀπο[
]θέοντι· το[
]ντρο[
 20]α [·
]ο [·

2, 12 suppl. Henry, 6 fin. West (*ZPE* 37 (1980), 143), 11 Treu (*RhM* 103 (1960), 323), cetera e. p. (Lobel)

2. '], the base of a circle followed by the lower end of a curved stroke descending from left; not prima facie to be combined as μ' (Lobel). Of the combinations represented in the fragment, the traces are compatible only, so far as I can see, with αλ (as written in l. 11). λλ (no examples preserved) will also be possible; ακ (κ]α]καγορεῖ M. Treu, *RhM* 103 (1960), 321f.) cannot be read. μεγ]αλαγορεῖ, the only available attested¹ word, suits the space and appears to give appropriate sense: note ll. 2f. ἄθυρον στόμα | περι]φέρ[ω]ν. Pi. fr. 75 M., a fragment belonging to the same metrical category as Sim. 541, contains four instances of the colarion ~~~~ (7, 15f.); cf. also Sim. 542 str. 4, 6, Anacr. 434.1 (M. L. West, *ZPE* 37 (1980), 145f. with n. 19). The braggart's chatter² is ineffective, and the man of genuine

¹ The verb not hitherto before Xenophon; μεγαλήγορος already at A. *ScT* 565.

² For this use of καπνός, see W. G. Arnott, *ZPE* 117 (1997), 28 (i). It is I think to be recognized also at Pi. *N.* 1.24f. λέλογχε δὲ μεμφομένοις ἐκλοῦς ὕδωρ καπνώϊ φέρειν | ἀντίον, where I take ὕδωρ to stand for Chromios' merits, in particular his hospitality, just mentioned, with which he can extinguish the chatter of those who find fault with the noble. Lobel quotes in support of the interpretation of smoke in our passage as symbolizing envy Plut. fr. 154 Sandb. τὸν φθόνον ἔνιοι τῶι καπνώϊ εἰκάζουσι. πολλὸς γὰρ ἐν τοῖς ἀρχομένοις ὢν, ὅταν ἐκλάμψωσιν, ἀφανίζεται (perhaps from *An seni* 7, 787c (Patzig); cf. also *Praec. ger. reip.* 10, 804d, where the comparison is attributed to Ariston (Ar. of Chios, *SVF* 1.402 =

worth retains his pre-eminence (3f.), for truth is all-powerful (5): a similar thought at Pi. *O.* 2.86–8
 μαθόντες δὲ λάβροι | παγγλωσσίαι κόρακες ὡς ἄκραντα γαρύετον | Διὸς πρὸς ὄρνιχα θεῖον.

στομα: of ϵ , the tip of the cap.

3. δε[: of ϵ , besides ‘the left-hand arc of a circle’ (Lobel), the tip of the cross-stroke.

5. ἀλαθῆαια: of ι , a few dots.

6. ‘Besides the presumed \wedge [relating to the last vowel of ἀρετὰν] there is what looks like a rather flat \prime to their right’ (Lobel). I have failed to see it.

9. κᾶ]δος (U. Hölscher, *Hermes* 109 (1981), 410–15) is too short.

Between ἀμάχητον and η , a vestige of a high stop on a single fibre.

12.]τ, or]γ, the tip of the cross-stroke.

14.] , part of a stroke descending from left at mid-letter level with a further trace lower down belonging to the same stroke. Lobel conjectures that the sense may have been ‘if he is as good as he can be’; ἐθ]λόος is among the possibilities.

20. [, a trace of an upright at mid-letter level above ‘the bottom left-hand arc of a circle’ reported by Lobel, which will represent its decorated foot.

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Ar. of Ceos, fr. 25 Wehrli)). I doubt whether this is relevant: apart from other arguments, ‘das tertium comparationis ist ... nur das Sich-Entwickeln und Vorhandensein und nichts weiter’ (E. Milobenski, *Der Neid in der griechischen Philosophie* (1964), 96 n. 99).