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## **Edition of the Homeric Fragment P.Oxy. 4 758 descr. (E 583–596)**

Andrea Bernini

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Yale University, P.CtYBR inv. 69  
☞ **TM 60740**

11.5 (w) × 9.5 (h) cm

ca. 200  
Oxyrhynchus

- §1 This fragment of a papyrus roll preserves an upper margin of 1.5 cm, and is broken off on the other three sides; a blank space of ca. 0.8 cm can be seen to the left of ll. 1–4, which belongs to the intercolumnar space. The papyrus is of medium brown colour. The text is written with the fibres, and the verso is blank. It consists of fourteen lines in a fair state of preservation; its condition deteriorates towards the bottom of the fragment, where fewer letters per line survive. The papyrus was found during the excavations carried out between 1897 and 1903 in Oxyrhynchus.<sup>1</sup> It was described as P.Oxy. 4 758 and P.Yale 1 7; it has been assigned no. 72 in West’s catalogue.<sup>2</sup>
- §2 The script belongs to the so-called ‘severe’ (or ‘formal mixed’) style, which is characterised on the whole by angular letterforms and by a contrast between narrow and wide letters. This style is used in many papyri beginning with the second century.<sup>3</sup> Grenfell and Hunt assigned a date to the “[l]ate second or third century” in the editio princeps, while “[c]a. A.D. 200” was preferred in the Yale volume.<sup>4</sup> The closest parallel is ☞ **P.Oxy. 7 1012**, which is dated to the beginning of the third century: similarities emerge in the narrow ε and σ, in the υ that exceeds the notional baseline, and in the square ω.<sup>5</sup> Therefore, a date around the year 200 can be confirmed as the most probable for P.Oxy. 4 758 descr.
- §3 The text was augmented by lectional aids, which are likely to have been drawn by the same scribe, as suggested by the uniformity of ink and thickness. Acute accents are used with α in ll. 2 and 5, and with ο in l. 3. Apostrophes consistently mark elision after γ (l. 3) and ρ (ll. 2, 5 and 6), but are absent when other letters are involved. Rough breathings occur above ὄ, ι of ἴμασ’, the first α of ἄμα (ll. 3, 7 and 9), and possibly above the υ of [το]ύς (l. 7). Punctuation is rendered through ano stigmata that mark strong stops in ll. 5, 8 and 9 (after εἰστήκει, στίχας and [κε]κληγώς), while milder stops are marked in ll. 4 and 13 (after κωνήσις and Ἐκτορος). Iota adscript can be seen in ll. 4 and 12.
- §4 The papyrus contains part of the fifth book of the Iliad, where Antilochos and Hector are engaged in the battle. Other papyri partially overlap with this text, namely: ☞ **P.Bodmer 1** col. XX, 1–13 (= West no. 400; 3rd–4th c.), ☞ **P.Oxy. 4 757** descr. (= West no. 184; 1st c. BC–1st c. AD) and four papyri preserved in the Sackler Library (= West nos. 1016; 1025, 3rd c.; 1028, 3rd c.; 1029, Byz.).<sup>6</sup> The text differs occasionally from the transmitted one.<sup>7</sup> The mistake ἐλέφ[αν]τα instead of ἐλέφαντι in l. 1 (E 583) seems to have a parallel in another Iliadic passage (see **comm.**). In ἵππων for ἵππω (l. 6; E 588), the ν was wrongly added to the case ending of the dual. Another mistake is πέσον instead of βάλων in l. 6, where the scribe is likely to have reflexively reported the same formula as in l. 1, χαμὰί πέσον ἐν

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1 So P.Oxy. 4: V.

2 ☞ **West 2001**: 91. See also ☞ **West 1998**: XL.

3 ☞ **Cavallo 2009**: 131–133.

4 See P.Oxy. 4: 249 and P.Yale 1: 27, respectively.

5 For the date of ☞ **P.Oxy. 7 1012**, see ☞ **Del Corso 2006**: 95–97.

6 ☞ **West 2001**: 95, 102 and 120. ☞ **P.Bodmer 1** col. XX, 4 and no. 1028 in West’s catalogue contain the form εἰστήκει in E 587 (see ☞ **West 1998**: 164). ☞ **P.Bodmer 1** col. XX omits E 584 and features the correct ἵππω in l. 5 (E 588).

7 ☞ **West 1998** is the reference edition.

κον[ίησιν]. There are also the phonological variants δε for τε in l. 4 (E 586) and εἰστήκει for ἐστήκει in l. 5 (E 587).

 Figure 1: P. CtYBR inv. 69 recto

 Figure 2: P. CtYBR inv. 69 verso

- ἦν[ί]α λεύκ' ἐλέφ[αν]τα χαμαὶ πέσον ἐν κον[ίησιν.]  
 Ἀντίλοχος δ' ἄρ' ἐπαΐξας ξίφει ἤλασε κόρση[ν·]  
 αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ἀσθμαίνων εὐεργέος ἔκπεσε δίφρου  
 κύμβαχος ἐν κονίησιν ἐπὶ βρεχμόν δε καὶ ὤμ[ους.]
- 5 [δη]θὰ μάλ' εἰστήκει, τύχε γάρ ῥ' ἀμάθοιο βαθεΐη[ς,]  
 [ὄφ]ρ' ἵππων πλήξαντε χαμαὶ πέσον ἐν κονί[ησιν.]  
 [το]ύς ἴμασ' Ἀντίλοχος, μετὰ δὲ στρατὸν ἤλ[ασ' Ἀχαιῶν.]  
 [το]ύς δ' Ἔκτωρ ἐνόησε κατὰ στίχας, ὦρτο δ' ἐπ' α[ὐτούς]  
 [κε]κληγώς· ἅμα δὲ Τρώων εἶποντο φάλαγ[γες]
- 10 [καρ]τερα[ί·] ἦρχε δ' ἄρά σφιν Ἄρης καὶ πότνι' Ἐνυ[ώ,]  
 [ἦ μὲ]ν ἔχ[ουσα] κυδοιμὸν ἀναιδέα δηϊο[τήτος,]  
 [Ἄρης δ' ἐν παλ]άμησι πελώριον ἔγχος ἐν[ώμα,]  
 [φοίτα δ' ἄλλοτε] μὲν πρόσθ' Ἔκτορος, ἄλλο[τ' ὀπισθεν.]  
 [τὸν δὲ ἰδὼν ρίγη]σε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομ[ήδης:]
- 

1 an ἐλεφ[αν]τά? ἐλέφαντι mss 2 ἄρ' papyrus 3 ὃ γ' papyrus 4 κονησινί papyrus / τε 5 εἰστηκεῖ papyrus γάρ ῥ' papyrus 6 [οφ]ρ' papyrus βάλλον mss 7 [το]ύς papyrus ἴμασ papyrus ἀντιλοχός papyrus 8 στιχάς papyrus 9 [κε]κληγώς papyrus ἅμα papyrus 13 ἐκτορός papyrus

- §5 1 ἐλέφ[αν]τα: in the apparatus of the critical edition, West (1998: 164) tentatively compares Δ 141, where the reading ἐλέφαντα was sometimes interpreted as ἐλεφαντά standing for ἔρια λευκά (ibid.: 119). This interpretation is rejected in Ariston. II. ad loc., while Eust. 1, 720, 22–23 writes that some consider ἐλεφαντά as a synonym of ἐλεφάντινα. A similar case could be assumed for this passage.
- §6 3 ὃ γ': both the rough breathing on ο and the apostrophe of γ extended to the right: as a consequence, the acute accent on ο was written above the apostrophe. Although the acute accent is placed above the following α, it cannot belong to it.
- §7 5 εἰστήκει: the augment εἰ- instead of ἐ- in the pluperfect of ἴστημι is more frequently attested in the manuscript tradition; the second one was considered more genuine already by Aristarchus, see West 1998: XXVII.
- §8 7 [το]ύς: above υ two traces recalling a rough breathing can be seen, which has an unclear meaning in this position. Therefore, one may assume the scribe to have initially written the rough breathing above υ instead of the ι of the following word.

§9 ἴμασ': above ι, only two traces remain, which point to a trema. Since the previous letter is a σ, its presence is unexpected (unless it is due to an 'inorganic' use; see ↗ Turner 1987, 10–11). It is thus preferable to assume that the lectional aid is a rough breathing, the ink of which has partially disappeared (see also P.Yale 1: 27).

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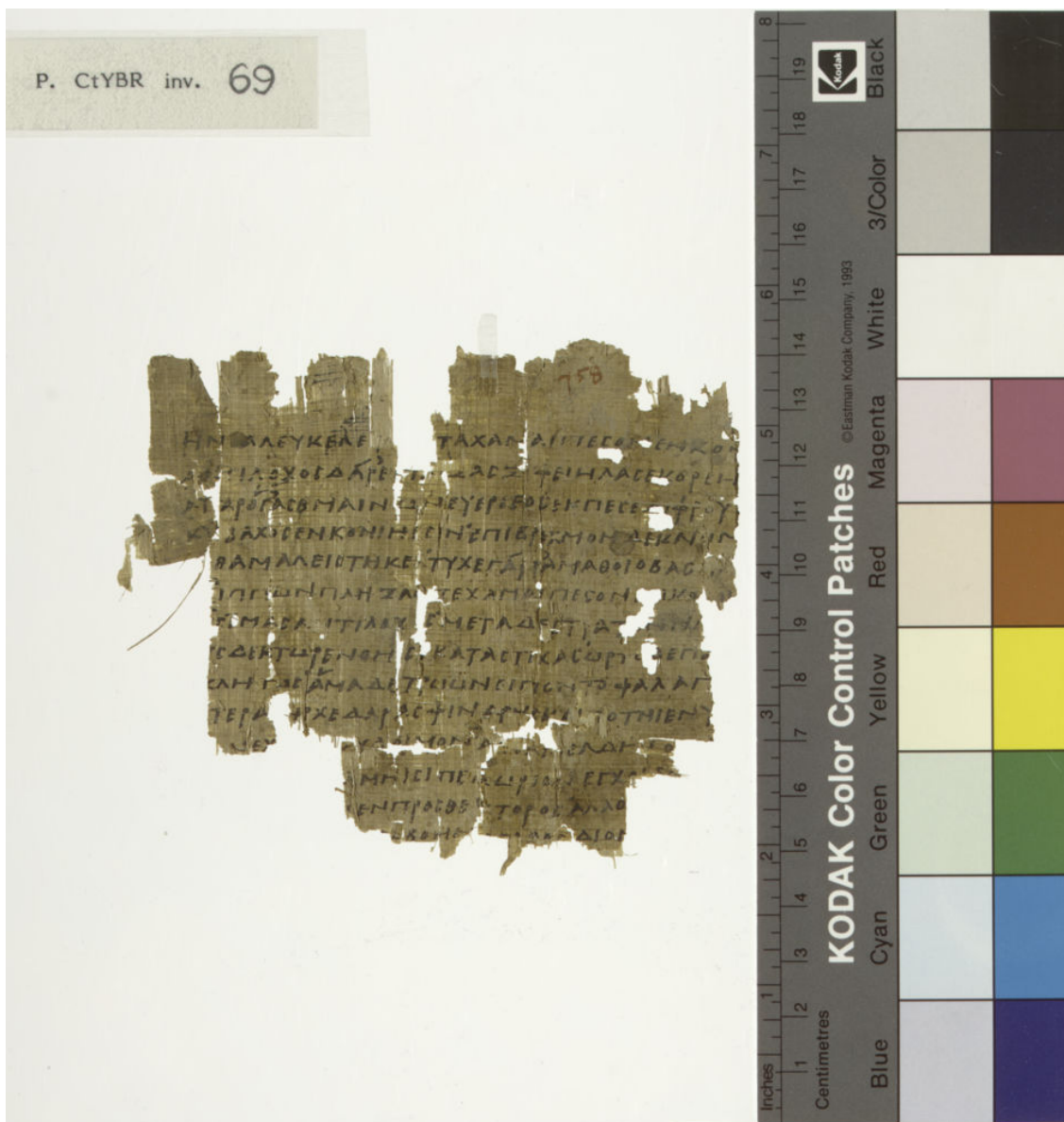


Figure 1: P. CtYBR inv. 69 recto

Show



Figure 2: P. CtYBR inv. 69 verso

Bernini, Andrea

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3041-3530>

Universität Heidelberg

[andrea.bernini@zaw.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:andrea.bernini@zaw.uni-heidelberg.de)