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FROM

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[edited]

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## THE KNIGHTS

NEW EDITION

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## P R E F A C E.

THE Knights of Aristophanes is a political play, and is directed entirely against Cleon. The causes of the poet's detestation of this man are not far to seek. Aristophanes belonged to the old school of Athenian conservatives; he held fast to the oligarchical party at Athens, and attributed all that displeased him in the modern manners, customs, politics, literature, art, and life, to the progress of democratic ideas. The destinies of his beloved country seemed to him to be thrown more and more into the hands of an ignorant, vulgar, and fickle mob, led by a few blatant unscrupulous parvenu demagogues. Of these, the most prominent at this time was Cleon.

In the old times, thought Aristophanes, the country was guided by patriotic men of noble birth and training. Cleon was a tanner, the son of a tanner, and seemed simply a political adventurer. In the old time, the country's good was the goal of all the schemes and policy of public men. Cleon aimed, he thought, solely at power, and the road to power was sought through flattery and conciliation of the lowest of the people. The politicians of old obtained a hearing by their wisdom, experience, public services, and weight and probity of character. Cleon relied solely on effrontery, vulgarity, and the lowest arts of mob-oratory. Still worse, power thus won had to be retained by yet more discreditable means. Of old, an appeal to their common patriotism, to the instinct of self-sacrifice for the state, was sure of a hearty response. Now, the fickle crowd would withdraw their omnipotent favour, if it were not secured by constant pandering to the separate self-interest of individuals. The

## PREFACE.

public service, once a rivalry of noble devotion, was fast becoming an organized jobbery and corruption.

Further, in addition to all other ills for which the democracy was blamed, the poet charged it with the miseries of the war. The popular party, if not exclusively the cause of the war, were responsible for its continuance. The ambition, which was the real obstacle to peace, was fostered mainly by the demagogues. For seven years the struggle had lasted, causing a distress such as is almost impossible in these days to realise. Agriculture, the main means of subsistence, was at a standstill; for the crops were either never sown, or were reaped or destroyed by the foe. Commerce, with hostile fleets swarming on the sea, was exposed to the greatest risks. And besides all this, the rural population thronged the towns, till want and overcrowding filled every street with dead and dying. Fearful as these miseries were, they might have been endured if inevitable. But though Athens had more than once had offers of peace; though an energetic party in the town (of whom the poet was of course one) used every effort to promote it; the democratic leaders, puffed up with what seemed to the poet an irrational ambition, refused to hear of it, and persuaded the people to reject it.

Lastly, Aristophanes was still further irritated against Cleon by the events of the preceding year. Pylos had been occupied in the spring of 425 by Demosthenes and Nicias; and the Spartan army sent against them had been unable to capture it. But they had succeeded in establishing themselves on Sphacteria, and the Athenians could not dislodge them. Then came the famous Jebate at Athens, when Cleon rashly denounced the generals, exclaiming that if he were general he would take the island at once. Nicias promptly yielded his office to him, and Cleon, though anxious to back out of his hasty words, was forced by the popular clamour

## PREFACE.

to take it. He put the best face on the matter, and swore he would slay all the Spartans in the island or bring them prisoners to Athens within twenty days. His opponents clearly expected him to fail, and it was the bitterest disappointment to them when he returned within the stated time triumphant.

The plot of the play is as follows:—

The stupid, deaf, cross, superstitious Demus (representing the Athenian people) has bought a new Paphlagonian slave (Cleon) who gets the complete mastery over him and bullies the two old servants (Nicias and Demosthenes) till their lives are a burden to them. They resolve to plot against him; and remembering that he has some oracles which he uses with great effect on Demus, they determine to steal them. They find here a prophecy that he is to be supplanted by a still worse blackguard than himself, a sausage-seller. Opportunely at this moment, enter a sausage-seller. They inform him of his great destiny, and promise him the support of the Knights. [These Knights, who form the chorus in this play, represent the richer classes at Athens, sympathizing on the whole with the poet's hatred of Cleon.] In comes Cleon; the Knights enter and assail him. The Rivals appeal to Demus, and after a long contest, in which each strives to win the favour of their patron, the sausage-seller is successful. He proceeds then to renovate Demus by boiling him; and the latter comes out quite changed from the process, promising better things for the future. Cleon becomes a sausage-seller; and Peace crowns all by her timely appearance at the close.

One inconsistency is here apparent. The introduction of the sausage-seller is a hit at the low tastes of the Athenians, bestowing their favour on a succession of vulgar, noisy demagogues, each worse than the last. How is it then right that the triumph of the sausage-seller should pave the way for the renovation of the *Δῆμος*, and a return to better things?

## PREFACE.

The fact is, that the real aim of the plot is the overthrow of Cleon. This once accomplished, by good means or bad, the era of improvement can begin at once. It is Cleon who overshadows Athens, humiliating her, ruining her, robbing her of all her true greatness. The whole attention is therefore directed to the removal of this fatal incubus.

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On the further question, how far Aristophanes misjudged Cleon, a word will suffice. His political feelings were so strong that he was clearly unjust. No man without real capacity could have had such influence on the Athenians for so long as Cleon had. And the accusations of dishonesty do not deserve much attention. For first, no public man in the Athenian democracy escaped them; and, secondly, if true, they are pretty sure to have been brought home to him, from the very publicity in which such men necessarily lived; and of this we have no clear evidence.

## DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

Ἄσμος (the Athenian People).

Οἰκέτης α. } two servants of Demus, intended for Demosthenes  
Οἰκέτης β. } and Nicias respectively.

Ἄλλαντοπώλης, a Sausage-seller, whose name turns out to be  
Agoracritus.

Παφλαγών, a slave, intended for Cleon.

Chorus of Knights.

*The scene is the Pnyx at Athens, and is the same all through the play. In scene 5 there is a transformation tableau, the house of Demus opening and displaying a panorama of 'Athens in the olden time.'*

*The play was acted at the Lenaeon festival of Dionysus, in February, 424, the year after the successes at Pylos.*



## SCENE I.

*The PNYX at Athens. The stage represents a large level open space, surrounded with stone seats, part rock and part masonry. 'n the left corner is the βῆμα, a stone platform with steps up to it. 'n the centre is an ugly and rather dilapidated house, the residence of Δῆμος, who represents the Athenian people. On a pillar in the fore-court of the house hangs a wreath. In the background to the right there is a glimpse (over the market-place) of the sea, and the islands.*

*The scene discloses two slaves, ragged, care-worn, and scowling. They approach each other, and talk low, casting suspicious glances round from time to time.*

Δίκ. α. [*groaning and shaking his head in despair*]

Ἰατταταιὰξ τῶν κακῶν, ἰατταταί.

κακῶς Παφλαγόνα, τὸν νεώνητον, κακόν

αὐταῖσι βουλαῖς ἀπολέσειαν οἱ θεοί.

ἔξ οὗ γὰρ εἰσήρρησεν εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν,

πληγὰς αἰεὶ προστρίβεται τοῖς οἰκέταις.

5

Δίκ. β. [*gloomily*]

κάκιστα δῆθ' οὗτός γε πρῶτος Παφλαγόνων,

αὐταῖς διαβολαῖς.

Δίκ. α. ὦ κακόδαιμον, πῶς ἔχεις ;

Δίκ. β. κακῶς, καθάπερ σύ.

Δίκ. α. δευρό νυν πρόσελθ', ἵνα

[*with an imitation-tragic air*]

ξυναυλίαν κλαύσωμεν, Οὐλύμπου νόμον.

THE KNIGHTS OF

Ἄμφώ. [*both together, with a dismal hideous whine through their noses*]

μὺ μὺ, μὺ μὺ, μὺ μὺ, μὺ μὺ, μὺ μὺ, μὺ μὺ. 10

Οἰκ. ἀ. τί κινυρόμεθ' ἄλλως; οὐκ ἔχρην ζητεῖν τινα σωτηρίαν νῶν, ἀλλὰ μὴ κλάειν ἔτι;

Οἰκ. β. τίς οὖν γένοιτ' ἄν; λέγε σύ.

Οἰκ. ἀ. σὺ μὲν οὖν μοι λέγε,  
ἵνα μὴ μάχωμαι.

Οἰκ. β. μὰ τὸν Ἀπόλλω ἡγὼ μὲν οὐ'  
ἀλλ' εἶπὲ θαρρῶν, εἶτα κἀγὼ σοι φράσω. 15

Οἰκ. ἀ. [*tragically*]  
πῶς ἂν σύ μοι λέξεις, ἀμὲ χρὴ λέγειν;

Οἰκ. β. ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔνι μοι τὸ θρέπτε. πῶς ἂν οὖν ποτε εἴποιμ' ἂν αὐτὸ δῆτα κομφευρικῶς;

Οἰκ. ἀ. [*with comical terror, hurriedly entreating*]  
μὴ μοί γε, μὴ μοι, μὴ διασκανδικίσης'  
ἀλλ' εὐρέ τιν' ἀπόκινου ἀπὸ τοῦ δεσπότου. 20

Οἰκ. β. λέγε δὴ ΜΟΛΩΜΕΝ ξυνεχῆς ὡδὶ ξυλλαβῶν.

Οἰκ. ἀ. καὶ δὴ λέγω· μόλωμεν.

Οἰκ. β. ἐξόπισθε νῦν  
ΑΥΤΟ φάθι τοῦ μόλωμεν.

Οἰκ. ἀ. αὐτό.

Οἰκ. β. πᾶνυ καλῶς.

λέγε νῦν ΜΟΛΩΜΕΝ εἶτα δ' ΑΥΤΟ πολλάκις·

Οἰκ. ἀ. [*quickly*] μόλωμεν αὐτὸ μόλωμεν αὐτομολῶμεν.

Οἰκ. β. [*rubbing his hands in delight*] ἦν, 25  
οὐχ ἡδύ;

Οἰκ. ἀ. [*brightening*] νῆ Δία.



ARISTOPHANES.

- Οίκ. β. νῦν δ' ἄριστόν ἐστι νῶν,  
θεῶν ἴοντε προσπεσεῖν ποι πρὸς βρέτας.
- Οίκ. ἀ. [*contemptuous*]  
ποιὸν βρέτας θεῶν ; ἔτεδὸν ἠγεῖ γὰρ θεούς ;
- Οίκ. β. ἔγωγε.
- Οίκ. ἀ. ποίῳ χρώμενος τεκμηρίῳ ;
- Οίκ. β. ὅτι ἢ θεοῖσιν ἐχθρός εἰμ'. οὐκ εἰκότως ; 30
- Οίκ. ἀ. [*gravely, as if convinced*] εὖ προσβιβάζεις μ'.
- Οίκ. β. ἀλλ' ἐτέρα ποι σκεπτέον.
- Οίκ. ἀ. βούλει τὸ πρᾶγμα τοῖς θεαταῖσιν φράσω ;
- Οίκ. β. οὐ χεῖρον· ἐν δ' αὐτοὺς παραιτησώμεθα,  
ἐπίδηλον ἡμῖν τοῖς προσώποισιν ποιεῖν,  
ἣν τοῖς ἔπεσι χαίρωσι καὶ τοῖς πράγμασι. 35
- Οίκ. ἀ. [*turning round to the audience*]  
λέγοιμ' ἂν ἤδη. νῶν γάρ ἐστι δεσπότης  
ἄγροικος ὀργῆν, κυανοτρώξ, ἀκράχολος,  
Δῆμος Πυκνίτης, δύσκολον γερόντιον,  
ὑπόκωφον. οὗτος τῇ προτέρα νομηνία  
ἐπρίατο δοῦλον, βυρσοδέψην Παφλαγόνα, 40  
πανουργότατον καὶ διαβολώτατόν τινα.  
οὗτος καταγνοὺς τοῦ γέροντος τοὺς τρόπους,  
ὁ βυρσοπαφλαγών, ὑποπεσὼν τὸν δεσπότην  
ἤκαλλ', ἐθώπευ', ἐκολάκευ', ἐξηπάτα  
κοσκυλματίοις ἄκροισι, τοιαυτὶ λέγων· 45  
[*in a soft, oily, fawning voice*]  
'ὦ Δῆμε, λούσαι πρῶτον ἐκδικάσας μίαν,  
'ἐνθου, ρόφησον, ἔντραγ', ἔχε τριώβολον·  
'βούλει παραθῶ σοι δόρπον ;'—εἴτ' ἀναρπάσας

THE KNIGHTS OF

ὅ τι ἂν τις ἡμῶν σκευάσῃ, τῷ δεσπότη 49  
 Παφλαγῶν κεχάρισται τοῦτο. καὶ πρώην γ'  
 [ἐμοῦ

μάζαν μεμαχότος ἐν Πύλῳ Λακωνικὴν,  
 πανουργότατά πως περιδραμῶν ὑφαρπάσας,  
 αὐτὸς παρέθηκε τὴν ὑπ' ἐμοῦ μεμαγμένην  
 ἡμᾶς δ' ἀπελαύνει, κοῦκ ἐᾷ τὸν δεσπότην  
 ἄλλον θεραπεύειν, ἀλλὰ βυρσίνην ἔχων 55  
 δειπνοῦντος ἐστῶς ἀποσοβεῖ τοὺς ῥήτορας.

ἄδει δὲ χρησμούς· ὁ δὲ γέρων σιβυλλιᾶ.  
 ὁ δ' αὐτὸν ὡς ὀρᾶ μεμακκοηκότα,  
 τέχνην πεποίηται. τοὺς γὰρ ἔνδον ἄντικρυς  
 ψευδῆ διαβάλλει· κᾶτα μαστιγούμεθα 60  
 ἡμεῖς· Παφλαγῶν δὲ περιθέων τοὺς οἰκέτας  
 αἰτεῖ, ταράττει, δωροδοκεῖ, λέγων ταδί·

[in a bullying, blustering, threatening tone]

‘ Ὅρατε τὸν Ὑλαν δι’ ἐμὲ μαστιγούμενον ;  
 ‘ εἰ μὴ μ’ ἀναπέισετ’, ἀποθανεῖσθε τήμερον.’——  
 νῦν οὖν ἀνύσαντε φροντίσωμεν, ὦ ἄγαθέ, 65  
 ποῖαν ὁδὸν νῶ τρεπτέον, καὶ πρὸς τίνα.

Οἰκ. β. κράτιστ’ ἐκείνην, τὴν ΜΟΛΩΜΕΝ, ὦ ἄγαθέ.

Οἰκ. ἀ. ἀλλ’ οὐχ οἶόν τε τὸν Παφλαγόν’ οὐδὲν λαθεῖν  
 ἐφορᾶ γὰρ αὐτὸς πάντ’· ἔχει γὰρ τὸ σκέλος  
 τὸ μὲν ἐν Πύλῳ, τὸ δ’ ἕτερον ἐν τῇ κκλησίᾳ. 70

Οἰκ. β. [with gloomy resignation]

κράτιστον οὖν νῶν ἀποθανεῖν. ἀλλὰ σκόπει,  
 ὅπως ἂν ἀποθάνοιμεν ἀνδρικότατα.

Οἰκ. ἀ. [reflecting]

ARISTOPHANES.

πῶς δῆτα ; πῶς γένοιτ' ἂν ἀνδρικότατα ;

Οἰκ. β. βέλτιστον ἡμῖν αἶμα ταύρειον πιεῖν  
ὁ Θεμιστοκλέους γὰρ θάνατος αἰρετώτερος. 75

Οἰκ. ἀ. μὰ Δί' ἄλλ' ἄκρατον οἶνον Ἀγαθοῦ Δαίμονος·  
ἴσως γὰρ ἂν χρηστόν τι βουλευσαίμεθα.

Οἰκ. β. πῶς δ' ἂν μεθύων χρηστόν τι βουλεύσαιτ' ἀνὴρ ;

Οἰκ. ἀ. ἄληθες, οὗτος ; κρουνοχυτρολήραιος εἶ.  
οἶνον σὺ τολμᾶς εἰς ἐπίνοϊαν λοιδορεῖν ; 80

οἶνου γὰρ εὐροις ἂν τι πρακτικώτερον ;

ὀρᾶς ; ὅταν πίνωσιν ἄνθρωποι, τότε  
πλουτοῦσι, διαπράττουσι, νικῶσιν δίκας,

εὐδαιμονοῦσιν, ὠφελοῦσι τοὺς φίλους.

ἄλλ' ἐξένεγκέ μοι ταχέως οἴνου χόα,  
τὸν νοῦν ἴν' ἄρδω, καὶ λέγω τι δεξιόν. 85

Οἰκ. β. οἴμοι, τί ποθ' ἡμᾶς ἐργάσει τῷ σῷ ποτῷ ;

Οἰκ. ἀ. ἀγάθ'· ἄλλ' ἔνεγκ'· ἐγὼ δὲ κατακλιθήσομαι.

[Exit 2nd slave into the house. 1st slave lies down and makes  
himself comfortable.]

ἦν γὰρ μεθυσθῶ, πάντα ταυτὶ καταπάσω  
βουλευματίων, καὶ γνωμιδίων, καὶ νοϊδίων. 90

[Re-enter 2nd slave with a wine cup, and an enormous half-gallon  
jar full of wine. He comes out of the house on tip-toe, with an ex-  
pression of relief, and hands the cup to 1st slave.]

Οἰκ. β. ὡς εὐτυχῶς, ὅτι οὐκ ἐλήφθην ἔνδοθεν  
κλέπτων τὸν οἶνον.

Οἰκ. ἀ. εἴπ' ἐμοί, Παφλαγὼν τί δρᾶ ;

Οἰκ. β. ἐπίπαστα λείξας δημιόπραθ' ὁ βάσκανος  
ρέγκει μεθύων ἐν ταῖσι βύρσαις ὑπτίος.

Οἰκ. α. [*holding out the cup*]

ἴθι νυν, ἄκρατον ἐγκάναξόν μοι πολύν,  
σπονδήν.

Οἰκ. β. [*pouring him out a cup full*]

λαβὲ δὴ, καὶ σπεῖσον, Ἀγαθοῦ Δαίμονος· 96

[*1st slave makes a libation*]

ἔλχ', ἔλκε τὴν τοῦ Δαίμονος τοῦ Πραμνίου.

[*1st slave takes a long pull at the cup, and then sinks back in an attitude of reflection. After a pause he starts up, strikes his forehead, and, with a cry of joy and gratitude, says*]

Οἰκ. α. ὦ Δαῖμον Ἀγαθέ, σὸν τὸ βούλευμ', οὐκ ἐμόν.

Οἰκ. β. [*anxiously*] εἶπ' ἀντιβολῶ, τί ἔστι ;

Οἰκ. α. τοὺς χρησμοὺς ταχὺ  
κλέψας ἔνεγκε τοῦ Παφλαγόνος ἔνδοθεν, 100  
ἕως καθεύδει.

Οἰκ. β. [*slapping his thigh*] ταῦτ' [*pausing, as if with a slight*  
*misgiving*] ἀτὰρ τοῦ δαίμονος  
δέδοιχ' ὅπως μὴ τεύξομαι κακοδαίμονος.

[*he makes up his mind, and goes strollingly off into the house, leaving the jar on the ground.*]

Οἰκ. α. φέρε νυν ἐγὼ ἄμαυτῶ προσαγάγω τὸν χόα·

[*draws the jar towards him, and fills another cup full ; settles himself again, and drinks. Presently re-enter 2nd slave on tip-toe, with a roll of parchment in his hand, in subdued excitement.*]

Οἰκ. β. τὸν Παφλάγον' ἔλαθον τὸν ἱερὸν χρησμόν  
[λαβών,

ὄνπερ μάλιστ' ἐφύλαττεν.

Οἰκ. α. ὦ σοφώτατε, 105

[*holding out his hand*] φέρ' αὐτόν, ἵν' ἀναγνῶ.

ARISTOPHANES.

[2nd slave gives him the roll] σὺ δ' ἔρχεον πιεῖν  
ἀνύσας τι. [2nd slave fills the cup again]

φέρ' ἴδω, τί ἄρ' ἔνεστιν αὐτόθι.

[unrolling the parchment]

[excitedly] ὦ λόγια. [holding out his hand for the cup]

δὸς σύ μοι τὸ ποτήριον ταχύ.

Οἶκ. β. ἰδού. [giving the cup, which the other drains at a gulp]  
τί φησ' ὁ χρησμός ;

Οἶκ. ἀ. [holding out the cup to be filled while reading all the time]  
έτέραν ἔρχεον.

Οἶκ. β. [puzzled]

ἐν τοῖς λογιόις ἔνεστιν 'έτέραν ἔρχεον' ; 110

Οἶκ. ἀ. ὦ Βάκι.

Οἶκ. β. τί ἔστι ;

Οἶκ. α. [impatient] δὸς τὸ ποτήριον ταχύ.

Οἶκ. β. πολλῶ γ' ὁ Βάκις ἐχρήτο τῶ ποτηρίῳ.

Οἶκ. ἀ. [shaking his fist without looking off the parchment]

ὦ μιὰρὲ Παφλαγών, ταῦτ' ἄρ' ἐφυλάττου πάλαι,  
τὸν περὶ σεαυτοῦ χρησμὸν ὀρρώδων ;

Οἶκ. β. τή ;

Οἶκ. ἀ. [looking up from the roll]

ἐνταῦθ' ἔνεστιν, αὐτὸς ὡς ἀπόλλυται. 115

Οἶκ. β. καὶ πῶς ;

Οἶκ. ἀ. ὅπως ; ὁ χρησμός ἀντικρυς λέγει,  
ὡς πρῶτα μὲν στυππειοπώλης γίγνεται,  
ὃς πρῶτος ἔξει τῆς πόλεως τὰ πράγματα.

Οἶκ. β. εἰς οὔτεσὶ πώλης. τί τοῦντεῦθεν ; λέγε.

Οἶκ. ἀ. μετὰ τοῦτον αὐθις προβατοπώλης δεύτερος. 120

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Οἰκ. β. δύο τώδε πώλα. καὶ τί τοῦτον χρὴ παθεῖν ;

Οἰκ. ἀ. κρατεῖν, ἕως ἕτερος ἀνὴρ βδελυρωτερος  
αὐτοῦ γένοιτο· μετὰ δὲ ταῦτ' ἀπόλλυται.  
ἐπιγίγνεται γὰρ βυρσοπώλης ὁ Παφλαγών,  
ἄρπαξ, κεκράκτης, Κυκλοβόρου φωνὴν ἔχων.

Οἰκ. β. τὸν προβατοπώλην ἦν ἄρ' ἀπολέσθαι χρεῶν  
ὑπὸ βυρσοπώλου ;

Οἰκ. ἀ. νῆ Δί'.

Οἰκ. β. οἴμοι δείλαιος. 127

πόθεν οὖν ἂν ἔτι γένοιτο πώλης εἰς μόνος ;

Οἰκ. ἀ. ἔτ' ἐστὶν εἰς, ὑπερφυᾶ τέχνην ἔχων.

Οἰκ. β. [*eagerly*] εἶπ', ἀντιβολῶ, τίς ἐστίν ;

Οἰκ. ἀ. εἶπω ;

Οἰκ. β. νῆ Δία. 130

Οἰκ. ἀ. ἀλλαντοπώλης ἔσθ' ὁ τοῦτον ἐξελῶν.

Οἰκ. β. ἀλλαντοπώλης ; ὦ Πόσειδον, τῆς τέχνης.  
φέρε, ποῦ τὸν ἄνδρα τοῦτον ἐξευρήσομεν ;

[*The Sausage-seller is seen crossing the lower stage in the back-ground, coming up from the town. He carries a dresser, a knife, a ladle and some sausage-meat.*]

Οἰκ. ἀ. ζητῶμεν αὐτόν.

Οἰκ. β. [*turns round and sees the Sausage-seller approaching ; he points to him, saying*] ἀλλ' ὁδὶ προσέρχεται,  
ὡσπερ κατὰ θεῖον, εἰς ἀγοράν.

Οἰκ. ἀ. [*getting up, to Sausage-seller*] ὦ μακάριε 135

ἀλλαντοπῶλα, δεῦρο, δεῦρ', ὦ φίλτατε,  
ἀνάβαινε σωτῆρ τῇ πόλει καὶ νῶν φανείς.

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[Enter Sausage-seller, having reached the top; stops amazed when he is called]

Αλ. τί ἔστι; τί με καλεῖτε;

Οἰκ. ἀ. δεῦρ' ἔλθ', ἵνα πύθῃ  
ὡς εὐτυχῆς εἶ, καὶ μεγάλως εὐδαιμονεῖς.

Οἰκ. β. ἴθι δὴ, κάθειλ' αὐτοῦ τοῦλεόν, καὶ τοῦ θεοῦ 140  
τὸν χρησμὸν ἀναδίδαξον αὐτὸν ὡς ἔχει·  
ἐγὼ δ' ἰὼν προσκέψομαι τὸν Παφλαγόνα.  
[retires, and watches at the door of DEMUS' house]

Οἰκ. ἀ. ἄγε δὴ σὺ κατάθου πρῶτα τὰ σκεύη χαμαί·  
ἔπειτα τὴν γῆν πρόσκυσον, καὶ τοὺς θεοὺς.

Ἄλ. [putting down his things] ἰδοῦ· τί ἔστιν;

Οἰκ. ἀ. [clapping him on the back] ὦ μακάρι', ὦ πλούσιε· 145  
: [striking a tragic attitude]

ὦ νῦν μὲν οὐδεῖς, αὔριον δ' ὑπέρμεγας·  
ὦ τῶν Ἀθηνῶν ταγὲ τῶν εὐδαιμόνων.

Ἄλ. [mystified and sulky]

τί μ', ὦ ἰγάθ', οὐ πλύνειν ἐῖς τὰς κοιλίας,  
πωλεῖν τε τοὺς ἀλλᾶντας, ἀλλὰ καταγελαῖς;

Οἰκ. ἀ. ὦ μῶρέ, ποίας κοιλίας; δευρὶ βλέπε. 150  
[taking him by the arm, leading him to the front of the stage, and pointing to the spectators]

τὰς στίχας ὀρᾶς γε τῶνδε τῶν λαῶν;

Ἄλ. ὀρῶ.

Οἰκ. ἀ. τούτων ἀπάντων αὐτὸς ἀρχέλας ἔσει,  
καὶ τῆς ἀγορᾶς, καὶ τῶν λιμένων, καὶ τῆς Πυκνός.  
Βουλὴν πατήσεις, καὶ στρατηγούς κλαστιάσεις.

Ἄλ. ἐγὼ; [scratching his head, more amazed than ever]

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Οἰκ. ά. σὺ μέντοι· κούδέπω γε πάνθ' ὄρᾳς. 155

[laying the dresser on the top of the βῆμα, and dragging up the Sausage-seller, and making him mount the dresser]

ἀλλ' ἐπανάβηθι κάπῃ τούλεόν τοδὶ  
καὶ κάτιδε τὰς νήσους ἀπάσας ἐν κύκλῳ.

Ἄλ. καθορῶ.

Οἰκ. ά. τί δαί; τὰμπόρια, καὶ τὰς ὀλκάδας.

Ἄλ. ἔγωγε.

Οἰκ. ά. πῶς οὖν οὐ μεγάλως εὐδαιμονεῖς;  
ἔτι νῦν τὸν ὀφθαλμὸν παράβαλλ' ἐς Καρίαν 160  
τὸν δεξιόν, τὸν δ' ἕτερον ἐς Καρχηδόνα.

Ἄλ. εὐδαιμονήσω γ', εἰ διαστραφήσομαι;

Οἰκ. ά. οὐκ' ἀλλὰ διὰ σοῦ ταῦτα πάντα—πέρναται.  
γίγναι γάρ, ὡς ὁ χρησμὸς οὐτοσὶ λέγει,  
ἀνὴρ μέγιστος.

[they descend on the stage again]

Ἄλ. εἴπ' ἐμοί, καὶ πῶς ἐγώ, 165  
ἀλλαντοπώλης ὢν, ἀνὴρ γενήσομαι;

Οἰκ. ά. δι' αὐτὸ γάρ τοι τοῦτο καὶ γίγναι μέγας,  
ὅτινῃ πονηρός, κᾶξ ἀγορᾶς εἶ, καὶ θρασύς.

Ἄλ. οὐκ ἀξιῶ γὼ ἄμαυτὸν ἰσχύειν μέγα.

Οἰκ. ά. οἴμοι, τί ποτ' ἔσθ', ὅτι σαυτὸν οὐ φῆς ἄξιον;  
ξυνειδέναί τί μοι δοκεῖς σαυτῷ καλόν. 171  
μῶν ἐκ καλῶν εἶ καγαθῶν;

Ἄλ. [emphatically] μὰ τοὺς θεοὺς,  
εἰ μὴ 'κ πονηρῶν γ'.

Οἰκ. ά. ὦ μακάριε τῆς τύχης,  
οἶον πέπονθας ἀγαθὸν εἰς τὰ πράγματα.



- 'Αλ. ἄλλ', ὦ γάθ', οὐδὲ μουσικὴν ἐπίσταμι, 175  
πλὴν γραμμάτων, καὶ ταῦτα μέντοι κακὰ κακῶς.
- Οἰκ. ἀ. τουτί σε μόνον ἔβλαψεν, ὅτι καὶ κακὰ κακῶς.  
ἢ δημαγωγία γὰρ οὐ πρὸς μουσικοῦ  
ἔτ' ἐστὶν ἀνδρός, οὐδὲ χρηστοῦ τοὺς τρόπους,  
ἄλλ' εἰς ἀμαθίη καὶ βδελυρόν. ἀλλὰ μὴ παρήσ  
ἅ σοι διδώσ' ἐν τοῖς λογίοισιν οἱ θεοί. 181
- 'Αλ. πῶς δῆτά φησ' ὁ χρησμός ;
- Οἰκ. ἀ. εὖ, νῆ τοὺς θεούς,  
καὶ ποικίλως πως, καὶ σοφῶς ἡνιγμένος.  
[takes up the roll again, and reads from it in a grand melodramatic  
voice]
- ' Ἀλλ' ὅποταν μάρψῃ βυρσαίετος ἀγκυλοχήλης  
' γαμφηλήσι δράκοντα κούλεμον, αἵματοπώτην,  
' δὴ τότε Παφλαγόνων μὲν ἀπόλλυται ἢ σκορο-  
δάλμη· 186
- ' κοιλιοπώλησιν δὲ θεὸς μέγα κῦδος ὀπάζει,  
' αἶ κεν μὴ πωλεῖν ἀλλᾶντας μᾶλλον ἔλονται.'
- 'Αλ. [scratching his head]  
πῶς οὖν πρὸς ἐμὲ ταῦτ' ἐστίν ; ἀναδίδασκέ με.
- Οἰκ. ἀ. βυρσαίετος μὲν, ὁ Παφλαγὼν ἔσθ' οὔτοσί. 190
- 'Αλ. τί δ' ἀγκυλοχήλης ἐστίν ;
- Οἰκ. ἀ. αὐτό που λέγει,  
ὅτι ἀγύλαις ταῖς χερσὶν ἀρπάζων φέρει.
- 'Αλ. ὁ δράκων δὲ πρὸς τί ;
- Οἰκ. ἀ. τοῦτο περιφανέστατον.  
ὁ δράκων γάρ ἐστι μακρόν, ὅ τ' ἀλλᾶς αὖ μακρόν  
εἶθ' αἵματοπώτης ἐστὶν ὅ τ' ἀλλᾶς, χῶ δράκων.

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- τὸν οὖν δράκοντά φησι τὸν βυρσαίετον 196  
 ἤδη κρατήσειν, αἴκε μὴ θαλφθῆ λόγοις.
- Ἄλ. τὰ μὲν λόγι' αἰκάλλει με· θαυμάζω δ', ὅπως  
 τὸν δῆμον οἶός τ' εἴμ' ἐπιτροπεύειν ἐγώ.
- Οἰκ. α. φαυλότατον ἔργον· ταῦθ', ἅπερ ποιεῖς, ποιεῖ  
 τάραπτε, καὶ χόρδευ' ὁμοῦ τὰ πράγματα 201  
 ὑπογλυκαίνων ῥηματίοις μαγειρικοῖς.  
 τὰ δ' ἄλλα σοι πρόσεστι δημαγωγικά,  
 φωνὴ μιარά, γέγονας κακός, ἀγοραῖος εἶ·  
 ἔχεις ἅπαντα πρὸς πολιτείαν ἃ δεῖ 205  
 χρησμοί τε συμβαίνουσι, καὶ τὸ Πυθικόν.  
 ἀλλὰ στεφανοῦ, καὶ σπένδε τῷ Κοαλέμῳ·  
 χῶπως ἀμυνεῖ τὸν ἄνδρα.
- Ἄλ. καὶ τίς ξύμμαχος  
 γενήσεται μοι; καὶ γὰρ οἱ τε πλούσιοι  
 δεδίασιν αὐτόν, ὃ τε πένης φεύγει λεώς. 210
- Οἰκ. α. ἀλλ' εἰσὶν Ἴππῆς ἄνδρες ἀγαθοὶ χίλιοι,  
 μισοῦντες αὐτόν, οἱ βοηθήσουσί σοι,  
 καὶ τῶν πολιτῶν οἱ καλοὶ τε κάγαθοί,  
 καὶ τῶν θεατῶν ὅστις ἐστὶ δεξιός,  
 καὶ γὰρ μετ' αὐτῶν, χῶ θεὸς ξυλλήψεται. 215  
 καὶ μὴ δέδιθ'· οὐ γὰρ ἐστὶν ἐξηκασμένος.  
 ὑπὸ τοῦ δέους γὰρ αὐτόν οὐδεὶς ἤθελε  
 τῶν σκευοποιῶν εἰκάσαι. πάντως γε μὴν  
 γνωσθήσεται· τὸ γὰρ θέατρον δεξιόν.
- Οἰκ. β. [*rushing forwards to the front, in a great hurry and fright*]  
 οἶμοι κακοδαίμων, ὁ Παφλαγὼν ἐξέρχεται. 220  
 [*he rushes off in the opposite direction*]

ARISTOPHANES.

[Enter the PAPHLAGONIAN (Cleon) with a chaplet on his head and ring on his finger, scowling and blustering. The Sausage-seller starts back terrified.]

Πα. οὐ τοι, μὰ τοὺς δώδεκα θεούς, χαίρήσεται,  
 ὅτι ἡ' πὶ τῷ δήμῳ ξυνόμνυτον πάλαι.  
 [goes and picks up the cup and examines it]  
 τουτὶ τί δρᾷ τὸ Χαλκιδικὸν ποτήριον;  
 οὐκ ἔσθ' ὅπως οὐ Χαλκιδέας ἀφίστατον.  
 ἀπολείσθον, ἀποθανεῖσθον, ὦ μιαρωτάτω. 225  
 [Sausage-seller picks up his traps and is making off]

Οἰκ. ἀ. [calling after him]  
 οὗτος, τί φεύγεις; οὐ μενεῖς; ὦ γεννάδα  
 ἀλλαντοπῶλα, μὴ προδῶς τὰ πράγματα.  
 [calling to the CHORUS of KNIGHTS]  
 ἄνδρες Ἴππῆς, παραγένεσθε· νῦν ὁ καιρός. ὦ  
 Σίμων,  
 ὦ Παναίτι', οὐκ ἔλατε πρὸς τὸ δεξιὸν κέρας;  
 [he sees them coming; turns and shouts after Sausage-seller]  
 ἄνδρες ἐγγύς· ἀλλ' ἀμύνου, κἀπαναστρέφου  
 πάλιν. 230

ὁ κοιιορτὸς δῆλος αὐτῶν, ὡς ὁμοῦ προσκειμένων.  
 ἀλλ' ἀμύνου, καὶ δίωκε, καὶ τροπὴν αὐτοῦ ποιοῦ.  
 [Sausage-seller stops. Enter CHORUS of KNIGHTS, eager and angry, and rush at the PAPHLAGONIAN, calling and encouraging the Sausage-seller]

Χο. παῖε, παῖε τὸν πανοῦργον, καὶ ταραξιππόστ-  
 ρατον,  
 καὶ τελώνην, καὶ φάραγγα, καὶ Χίρυβδιν ἱρ-  
 παγῆς,

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καὶ πανούργον, καὶ πανούργον. πολλάκις γὰρ  
αὐτ' ἐρῶ, 235

καὶ γὰρ οὗτος ἦν πανούργος πολλάκις τῆς ἡμέρας.  
ἀλλὰ παῖε καὶ δίωκε, καὶ τάραττε, καὶ κύκα,  
καὶ βδελύττου, καὶ γὰρ ἡμεῖς, κἀπικείμενος βόα.  
εὐλαβοῦ δέ, μὴ ἔκφυγη σε· καὶ γὰρ οἶδε τὰς  
ὁδοὺς, 239

ἄσπερ Εὐκράτης ἔφευγεν εὐθὺ τῶν κυρηβίων.

[C IORUS and Sausage-seller close round the PAPHLAGONIAN, and  
belabour him soundly, shouting and cheering.]

ARISTOPHANES.

SCENE II.

*The Sausage-seller alone. As the scene opens, he catches sight of the PAPHLAGONIAN coming, and starts up crying:—*

'Αλ. καὶ μὴν ὁ Παφλαγῶν οὕτοσὶ προσέρχεται,  
ὠθῶν κολόκυμα, καὶ ταραττων, καὶ κυκῶν,  
ὡς δὴ καταπιόμενός με. μορμῶ τοῦ θράσους.  
[contemptuously]

*[Enter the PAPHLAGONIAN, bawling and swaggering as before.]*

Πα. εἰ μὴ σ' ἀπολέσαιμ', εἴ τι τῶν αὐτῶν ἐμοὶ  
ψευδῶν ἐνείη, διαπέσοιμι πανταχῆ. 245

'Αλ. [*jumping about defiantly, and snapping his fingers at the other*]

ἦσθην ἀπειλαῖς, ἐγέλασα ψολοκομπίαις.

Πα. οὐ τοι, μὰ τὴν Δήμητρά γ', ἦν μὴ σ' ἐκφάγω  
ἐκ τῆσδε τῆς γῆς, οὐδέποτε βιώσομαι.

'Αλ. ἦν μὴ 'κφάγῃς; ἐγὼ δέ γ', ἦν μὴ σ' ἐκπίω,  
κάπεκροφήσας αὐτὸς ἐπιδιάρραγῶ. 250

Πα. ἀπολῶ σε, νῆ τὴν προεδρίαν τὴν ἐκ Πύλου.

'Αλ. [*contemptuously*]

ἰδουὶ προεδρίαν· οἶον ὄψομαί σ' ἐγὼ  
ἐκ τῆς προεδρίας ἔσχατον θεώμενον.

Πα. ἐν τῷ ξύλῳ δήσω σε, νῆ τὸν οὐρανόν.

Αλ. ὡς ὀξύθυμος. φέρε, τί σοι δῶ καταφαγεῖν; 255  
[*dangling an old leather purse before him*]

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ἐπὶ τῷ φάγοις ἡδιστ' ἄν; ἐπὶ βαλαντίῳ;

Πα. [*in a rage*] ἔξαρπάσομαί σου τοῖς ὄνυξι τάντερα.

Ἄλ. [*loud*] ἀπονυχῶ σου τὰν Πρυτανείῳ σιτία.

Πα. [*louder*] ἔλξω σε πρὸς τὸν Δῆμον, ἵνα δῶς μοι δίκην.

Ἄλ. [*louder*] καγὼ δέ σ' ἔλξω, καὶ διαβαλῶ πλείονα.

Πα. [*with lordly pity*]

ἀλλ', ὦ πονηρέ, σοὶ μὲν οὐδὲν πείθεται 261

ἐγὼ δ' ἐκείνου καταγελῶ γ', ὅσον θέλω.

Ἄλ. ὡς σφόδρα σὺ τὸν Δῆμον σεαυτοῦ νενόμικας.

Πα. ἐπίσταμαι γὰρ αὐτὸν οἷς ψωμίζεται.

Ἄλ. καῖθ', ὥσπερ αἱ τίτθαι γε, σιτίζεις κακῶς. 265

μασώμενος γάρ, τῷ μὲν ὀλίγον ἐντίθης·

αὐτὸς δ' ἐκείνου τριπλάσιον κατέσπακας.

Πα. ἴωμεν εἰς τὸν Δῆμον.

Ἄλ. οὐδὲν κωλύει.

ἰδοῦ, βάδιζε, μηδὲν ἡμᾶς ἰσχέτω.

Πα. [*running to the house-door and calling*]

ὦ Δῆμε, δεῦρ' ἔξελθε, νῆ Δί', ὦ πάτερ. 270

Ἄλ. [*following him, and calling likewise*]

ἔξελθε δῆτα, Δημίδιον ὦ φίλτατον.

Δη. [*DEMUS pokes his head out of the door*]

τίνες οἱ βοῶντες; οὐκ ἄπιτ' ἀπὸ τῆς θύρας;

τὴν εἰρεσιώνην μου κατεσπαράξατε.

Πα. ἔξελθ', ἵν' εἰδῆς οἰά πέρ γ' ὑβρίζομαι.

[*Enter DEMUS rather cross; he picks up the wreath which the others have pushed off the gate post, and restores it to its place*]

Δη. τίς, ὦ Παφλαγών, ἀδικεῖ σε;

Πα. διὰ σὲ τύπτομαι 275

ὑπὸ τουτουί, καὶ τῶν νεανίσκων.

Δη. τιή;

Πα. ὅτιη φιλω σ', ὦ Δῆμ', ἐραστής τ' εἰμι σός.

Δη. [turning to the Sausage-seller]

σὺ δ' εἶ τίς ἐτεόν;

Αλ. [vehemently] ἀντεραστής τουτουί,  
ἐρῶν πάλαι σου, βουλόμενός τέ σ' εὖ ποιεῖν,  
ἄλλοι τε πολλοί, καὶ καλοὶ τε κάγαθοί. 280

ἀλλ' οὐχ οἰοί τ' ἐσμὲν διὰ τουτουί. σὺ γὰρ  
τοὺς μὲν καλοὺς τε κάγαθοὺς οὐ προσδέχει,  
σαυτὸν δὲ λυχνοπώλαισι, καὶ νευρορῥάφοις,  
καὶ σκυτοτόμοις, καὶ βυρσοπώλαισιν δίδως.  
[looking contemptuously at the PAPHLAGONIAN]

Πα. εὖ γὰρ ποιῶ τὸν Δῆμον.

Ἄλ. [scornfully] εἶπέ νυν, τί δρῶν; 285

Πα. ὅτι τῶν στρατηγῶν ὑποδραμόντων ἐκ Πύλου,  
πλεύσας ἐκεῖσε, τοὺς Λάκωνας ἤγαγον.

Ἄλ. ἐγὼ δὲ περιπατῶν γ' ἀπ' ἐργαστηρίου,  
ἔψοντος ἐτέρου, τὴν χύτραν ὑφειλόμην.

Πα. καὶ μὴν ποιήσας αὐτίκα μάλ' ἐκκλησίαν, 290  
ὦ Δῆμ', ἴν' εἰδῆς, ὁπότερος νῦν ἐστὶ σοι  
εὐνούστερος, διάκρινον, ἴν' ἐκείνον φιλήῃς.

Ἄλ. ναὶ ναὶ διάκρινον δῆτα, πλὴν μὴ 'ν τῇ Πυκνί.

Δη. οὐκ ἂν καθιζοίμην ἐν ἄλλῳ χωρίῳ. [295  
ἀλλ', ὡς τὸ πρόσθε, χρή παρῆν' ἐς τὴν Πύκνα.

[goes to the βῆμα and mounts it, followed by the PAPHLAGONIAN]

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Ἄλ.

[*aside to the audience*]

οἶμοι κακοδαίμων, ὡς ἀπόλωλ'. ὁ γὰρ γέρων  
οἶκοι μὲν ἀνδρῶν ἐστὶ δεξιώτατος·  
ὅταν δ' ἐπὶ ταυτησὶ κάθηται τῆς πέτρας,  
κέχηνεν, ὥσπερ ἐμποδίζων ἰσχάδας.

[*follows reluctantly to the βῆμα*]



## SCENE III.

DEMUS on the βῆμα as before, PAPHLAGON and the Sausage-seller on either side.

Δη. [*pointing to Sausage-seller*]  
δοκεῖ μὲν εἶναί γ' οὐτοσί μοι καταφανῶς 300  
ἀγαθὸς πολίτης, οἷος οὐδεὶς πω χρόνου  
ἀνὴρ γεγένηται τοῖσι πολλοῖς τοῦ βολοῦ.

[*turning to the PAPHLAGONIAN*]

σὺ δ', ὦ Παφλαγών, φάσκων φιλεῖν μ',  
ἔσκορόδισας.  
καὶ νῦν ἀπόδος τὸν δακτύλιον, ὡς οὐκ ἔτι  
ἐμοὶ ταμιεύσεις.

Πα. [*giving him the ring*] ἔχε· τοσοῦτον δ' ἴσθ', ὅτι, 305  
εἰ μὴ μ' ἑάσεις ἐπιτροπεύειν, ἕτερος αὖ  
ἐμοῦ πανουργότερός τις ἀναφανήσεται.

Δη. [*examining the ring attentively*]  
οὐκ ἔσθ' ὅπως ὁ δακτύλιος ἔσθ' οὐτοσί  
οὐμός· τὸ γοῦν σημεῖον ἕτερον φαίνεται,  
ἀλλ' ἢ οὐ καθορῶ.

Ἄλ. [*taking the ring and examining it*]  
φέρ' ἴδω, τί σοι σημεῖον ἦν; 310

Δη. δημοῦ βοείου θρίων ἐξωπτημένον.

Ἄλ. οὐ τοῦτό γ' ἔστιν.

Δη. - οὐ τὸ θρίον; ἀλλὰ τί;

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- 'Αλ. λάρος κεχηνῶς ἐπὶ πέτρας δημηγορῶν.  
 Δη. αἰβοῖ τάλας.  
 'Αλ. τί ἔστιν ;  
 Δη. [*in disgust*] ἀπόφερ' ἐκποδῶν.  
 [*giving him another ring*]  
 παρ' ἐμοῦ δὲ τουτονὶ λαβῶν, ταμίευέ μοι. 315  
 Πα. [*interrupting, hastily*]  
 μὴ δῆτά πῶ γ', ὦ δέσποτ', ἀντιβολῶ σ' ἐγώ,  
 πρὶν ἄν γε τῶν χρησμῶν ἀκούσης τῶν ἐμῶν.  
 'Αλ. καὶ τῶν ἐμῶν νυν, μηδὲ τῶδ' οὔτω πίθη.  
 Πα. [*to Sausage-seller*]  
 σὺ δ' οὖν ἔνεγκ' αὐτοὺς ἰών, ἴν' οὔτοσὶ  
 αὐτῶν ἀκούση.  
 'Αλ. πάνυ γε.  
 Δη. [*to the PAPHLAGONIAN*] καὶ σὺ δὴ φέρε. 320  
 Πα. ἰδοῦ. [*runs off to get his oracles*]  
 'Αλ. ἰδοῦ, νῆ τὸν Δί'· οὐδὲν κωλύει.  
 [*runs off also to fetch his oracles. DEMUS sits still, and the CHORUS sing a song. Presently in come the PAPHLAGONIAN and the Sausage-seller, each staggering under an enormous pile of parchments, which they deposit on the ground in front of them. The PAPHLAGONIAN begins, gasping—*]  
 Πα. ἰδοῦ, θέασαι, κοῦχ ἅπαντας ἐκφέρω.  
 'Αλ. [*gasping*]  
 οἴμ', ὡς στενάζω, κοῦχ ἅπαντας ἐκφέρω.  
 Δη. ταυτὶ τί ἔστι ;  
 Πα. λόγια.  
 Δη. πάντ' ;

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- Πα. ἐθαύμασας ;  
καὶ, νῆ Δί', ἔτι γε μούστι κιβωτὸς πλέα. 325
- Ἄλ. ἐμοὶ δ' ὑπερφῶν, καὶ ξυνοικία δύο.
- Δη. φέρ' ἴδω, τίος γάρ εἰσιν οἱ χρησμοὶ ποτε ;
- Πα. οὐμοὶ μὲν εἰσι Βάκιδος.
- Δη. οἱ δὲ σοί, τίος ;
- Ἄλ. [*with calm confidence*]  
Γλάνιδος, ἀδελφοῦ τοῦ Βάκιδος γεραιτέρου.
- Δη. εἰσὶν δὲ περὶ τοῦ ;
- Πα. [*in an off-hand way*] περὶ Ἀθηνῶν, περὶ Πύλου, 330  
περὶ σοῦ, περὶ ἐμοῦ, περὶ ἀπάντων πραγμάτων.
- Δη. οἱ σοὶ δέ, περὶ τοῦ ; [*to Sausage-seller*]
- Ἄλ. [*mocking the PAPHLAGONIAN'S manner*]  
περὶ Ἀθηνῶν, περὶ φακῆς,  
περὶ Λακεδαιμονίων, περὶ σκόμβρων νέων,  
περὶ τῶν μετρούντων τάλφιτ' ἐν ἀγορᾷ κακῶς,  
περὶ σοῦ, περὶ ἐμοῦ, περὶ ἀπάντων πραγμάτων.
- Δη. ἄγε νυν, ὅπως αὐτοὺς ἀναγνώσεσθέ μοι, 336  
καὶ τὸν περὶ ἐμοῦ ἰκείνον, ᾧπερ ἦδομαι,  
ὥς ἐν νεφέλησιν αἰετὸς γενήσομαι.
- Πα. ἄκουε δὴ νυν, καὶ πρόσεχε τὸν νοῦν ἐμοί.  
[*pickng up an oracle from the hear and reading*]  
Φράζευ, Ἐρεχθεΐδη, λογίων ὁδόν, ἣν σοι  
Ἄπόλλων 340  
ἴαχεν ἐξ ἀδύτοιο διὰ τριπόδων ἐριτίμων.  
σώζεσθαί σ' ἐκέλευσ' ἱερὸν κύνα καρχαρόδοντα,  
ὃς πρόσθεν λάσκων, καὶ ὑπὲρ σέο δεινὰ κεκραγώς,

σοὶ μισθὸν ποριεῖ· κὰν μὴ δρᾶ ταύτ', ἀπολείται.  
πολλοὶ γὰρ μίσει σφε κατακρῶζουσι κολοιοί. 345

Δη. [ruzzled]  
ταυτί, μὰ τὴν Δήμητρ', ἐγὼ οὐκ οἶδ' ὅ τι λέγει.  
τί γὰρ ἔστ' Ἐρεχθεῖ, καὶ κολοιοῖς, καὶ κυνί;

Πα. ἐγὼ μὲν εἰμ' ὁ κύων· πρὸ σοῦ γὰρ ἀπύω  
σοὶ δ' εἶπε σῶζεσθαί μ' ὁ Φοῖβος τὸν κύνα.

Ἄλ. οὐ τοῦτό φησ' ὁ χρησμός· ἀλλ' ὁ κύων ὀδί 350  
ὥσπερ θύρας σου τῶν λογίων παρεσθίει.  
ἐμοὶ γὰρ ἔστ' ὀρθῶς περὶ τούτου τοῦ κυνός.

Δη. [picking up a stone]  
λέγε δῆτ'· ἐγὼ δὲ πρῶτα λήψομαι λίθον,  
ἵνα μὴ μ' ὁ χρησμός ὁ περὶ τοῦ κυνός δάκη.

Ἄλ. [selecting one oracle from his heap]  
Φράζου, Ἐρεχθεΐδη, κύνα Κέρβερον ἀνδρα-  
ποδιστήν, 355

ὃς κέρκω σαίνων σ', ὀπόταν δειπνήης, ἐπιτηρῶν,  
ἐξέδεταί σου τοῦψον, ὅταν σύ που ἄλλοσε  
χάσκης·

ἐσφοιτῶν τ' ἐς τοῦπτάνιον λήσει σε κυνηδὸν  
νύκτωρ τὰς λοπάδας καὶ τὰς νήσους διαλείχων.

Δη. [applauding]  
νὴ τὸν Ποσειδῶ, πολὺ γ' ἄμεινον, ὦ Γλάνι. 360

Πα. [haughtily]  
ὦ τᾶν, ἄκουσον, εἶτα διάκρινον τότε.

[taking up another parchment]

Ἔστι γυνή, τέξει δὲ λέονθ' ἱεραῖς ἐν Ἀθήναις,

ὅς περὶ τοῦ δήμου πολλοῖς κώνωψι μαχεῖται,  
ὥστε περὶ σκύμοισι βεβηκώς· ὃν σὺ φύλασσε,  
τείχος ποιήσας ξύλινον, πύργους τε σιδηροῦς. 365  
ταῦτ' οἶσθ' ὅ τι λέγει ;

Δη. μὰ τὸν Ἀπόλλω, ἴγὼ μὲν οὔ.

Πα. ἔφραζεν ὁ θεός σοι σαφῶς σῶζειν ἐμέ·  
ἐγὼ γὰρ ἀντὶ τοῦ λέοντός εἰμί σοι.

Δη. καὶ πῶς μ' ἐλελήθης Ἀντιλέων γεγενημένος ;

Ἄλ. ἐν οὐκ ἀναδιδάσκει σε τῶν λογίων ἐκών, 370  
ὃ μόνου σιδηροῦν τείχός ἐστι καὶ ξύλον,  
ἐν ᾧ σε σῶζειν τόνδ' ἐκέλευσ' ὁ Λοξίας.

Δη. πῶς δῆτα τοῦτ' ἔφραζεν ὁ θεός ;

Ἄλ. [*pointing to PAPHLAGONIAN*] τουτουὶ  
δῆσαι σ' ἐκέλευε πεντεσυρίγγῳ ξύλῳ.

Δη. ταυτὶ τελεῖσθαι τὰ λόγι' ἤδη μοι δοκεῖ. 375

Πα. [*reciting as before from a parchment*]  
μὴ πείθου· φθονεραὶ γὰρ ἐπικρώζουσι κορώναι.  
ἀλλ' ἰέρακα φίλει, μεμνημένος ἐν φρεσίν, ὅς σοι  
ἤγαγε συνδήσας Λακεδαιμονίων κορακίνους.

Ἄλ. [*reciting still*]

τουτό γε τοι Παφλαγῶν παρεκιδύνευσε  
μεθυσθεῖς.

Κεκροπίδη κακόβουλε, τί τοῦθ' ἠγεί μέγα  
τοῦργον ; 380

[*taking up another parchment*]

ἀλλ' οὔτοσὶ γάρ ἐστι περὶ τοῦ ναυτικοῦ  
ὁ χρησμός, ᾧ σε δεῖ προσέχειν τὸν νοῦν πάνυ.

Δη. προσέχω· σὺ δ' ἀναγίγνωσκε, τοῖς ναύταισί μου

THE KNIGHTS OF

ὅπως ὁ μισθὸς πρῶτον ἀποδοθήσεται.

Ἄλ. [reciting from the oracle]  
 Αἰγείδη, φράσσαι κυναλώπεκα, μή σε δολώση,  
 οἶσθ', ὅ τι ἐστὶν τούτο ; 385

Δη. Φιλόστρατος, ἡ κυναλώπηξ.

Ἄλ. οὐ τοῦτό φησιν· ἀλλὰ ναῦς ἐκάστοτε  
 αἰτεῖ ταχείας ἀργυρολόγους οὕτως·  
 ταύτας ἀπαυδᾷ μὴ διδόναι σ' ὁ Λοξίας.

Δη. πῶς δὴ τριήρης ἐστὶ κυναλώπηξ ;

Ἄλ. ὅπως ; 390

Ιπ. ὅτι ἡ τριήρης ἐστὶ χῶ κύων ταχύ.

Δη. πῶς οὖν ἀλώπηξ προσετέθη πρὸς τῷ κυνί ;

Ἄλ. ἀλωπεκίοισι τοὺς στρατιώτας ἤκασεν,  
 ὅτι ἡ βότρυς τρώγουσιν ἐν τοῖς χωρίοις.

Δη. εἶεν. τούτοις ὁ μισθὸς τοῖς ἀλωπεκίοισι ποῦ ; 395

Ἄλ. ἐγὼ ποριῶ καὶ τοῦτον ἡμερῶν τριῶν.

Πα. [speaking in the same solemn voice, but not from a march-  
 ment this time]

ἀλλὰ γὰρ ἔστιν ἐμοὶ χρησμὸς περὶ σοῦ πτερυ-  
 γωτός·

αἰετὸς ὡς γίγναι, καὶ πάσης γῆς βασιλεύσεις.

Ἄλ. [imitating him]  
 καὶ γὰρ ἐμοί, καὶ γῆς, καὶ τῆς Ἐρυθρᾶς γε  
 θαλάσσης,  
 χῶτι γ' ἐν Ἐκβατάνοις δικάσεις, λείχων ἐπί-  
 παστα. 400

Πα. ἀλλ' ἐγὼ εἶδον ὄναρ, καὶ μούδόκει ἡ θεὸς αὐτῇ  
 τοῦ δήμου καταχεῖν ἀρυταίνη πλοιθυγίειαν.

- Αλ. νῆ Δία καὶ γὰρ ἐγώ· καὶ μούδόκει ἡ θεὸς αὐτῇ  
 ἐκ πόλεως ἐλθεῖν, καὶ γλαυξ αὐτῇ ἴπικαθῆσθαι·  
 εἶτα κατασπένδειν κατὰ τῆς κεφαλῆς ἄρυβάλλω  
 ἀμβροσίαν κατὰ σοῦ, κατὰ τούτου δὲ σκορο-  
 δάλμην. 406
- Δη. [*in delight*] ἰού, ἰού·  
 οὐκ ἦν ἄρ' οὐδεὶς τοῦ Γλάνιδος σοφώτερος.  
 [*turning to the Sausage-seller*]  
 καὶ μὴν ἔμαυτὸν ἐπιτρέπω σοι τουτονί  
 γερονταγωγεῖν, κἀναπαιδεύειν πάλιν.
- Πα. [*earnestly entreating*]  
 μήπω γ', ἱκετεύω σ', ἀλλ' ἀνάμεινον, ὡς ἐγὼ  
 κριθὰς ποριῶ σοι καὶ βίον καθ' ἡμέραν. 411
- Δη. [*angrily*]  
 οὐκ ἀνέχομαι κριθῶν ἀκούων· πολλάκις  
 ἐξηπατήθην ὑπὸ τε σοῦ καὶ Θευφάνους.
- Πα. ἀλλ' ἄλφιτ' ἤδη σοι ποριῶ ἴσκειασμένα.
- Ἄλ. ἐγὼ δὲ μαζίσκας γε διαμεμαγμένας, 415  
 καὶ τοῦψον ὀπτόν· μηδὲν ἄλλ', εἰ μὴ ἴσθιε.
- Δη. ἀνύσατέ νυν, ὅ τι περ ποιήσεθ'· ὡς ἐγώ,  
 ὀπότερος ἂν σφῶν εὖ με μᾶλλον ἂν ποιῆ,  
 τούτῳ παραδώσω τῆς Πυκνὸς τὰς ἡνίας.
- Πα. τρέχοιμ' ἂν ἤδη πρότερος. [*runs off into the house*]
- Αλ. οὐ δῆτ', ἀλλ' ἐγώ. 420  
 [*runs after him; DEMUS looks eagerly after them.*]

THE KNIGHTS OF

SCENE IV.

DEMUS walking anxiously and hungrily about. Enter from opposite sides the PAPHLAGONIAN and the Sausage-seller, each with a huge hamper of provisions. The former also carries a chair and the latter a table. They deposit their loads on either side of the stage, and approach each other with no friendly looks.

Πα. "Απαγ' ἐς μακαρίαν ἐκποδών.

'Αλ. σύ γ', ὦ φθόρε.

Πα. [to DEMUS]

ὦ Δῆμ', ἐγὼ μέντοι παρεσκευασμένος  
 τρίπαλαι κάθημαι, βουλόμενός σ' εὐεργετεῖν.

Αλ. ἐγὼ δὲ δεκάπαλαί γε, καὶ δωδεκάπαλαι,  
 καὶ χιλίοπαλαι, καὶ προπαλαιπαλαίπαλαι. 425

Δη. [angrily and impatiently to both of them]

ἐγὼ δὲ προσδοκῶν γε τρισμυριοπαλαι  
 βδελύττομαί σφω, καὶ προπαλαιπαλαίπαλαι.

'Αλ. οἴσθ' οὖν ὃ δρᾶσον;

Δη. εἴ γε μή, φράσεις γε σύ.

'Αλ. ἄφες ἀπὸ βαλβίδων ἐμέ τε καὶ τουτονί,  
 ἵνα σ' εὖ ποιῶμεν ἐξ ἴσου.

Δη. δρᾶν ταῦτα χρή. 430

ἄπιτον. [They both get ready to start]

Πα. ἰδοῦ.

Δη. θέοιτ' ἄν.

[they both rush off to their hampers]



ARISTOPHANES.

- 'Αλ. [as he starts] ὑποθεῖν οὐκ ἐῶ.  
 [They come back, PAPHLAGON with a chair, Sausage-seller with his little table, which they deposit before DEMUS, who sits down and prepares for his feast]
- Πα. ὀρᾶς; ἐγὼ σοι πρότερος ἐκφέρω δίφρον.
- 'Αλ. ἄλλ' οὐ τράπεζαν· ἄλλ' ἐγὼ προτεραίτερος.  
 [they rush back then to their hampers]
- Πα. [returning with a barley-cake]  
 ἰδοὺ φέρω σοι τήνδε μαζίσκην ἐγὼ,  
 ἐκ τῶν ὀλῶν τῶν ἐκ Πύλου μεμαγμένην. 435
- 'Αλ. [returning with huge bread-crusts]  
 ἐγὼ δὲ μυστίλας, μεμυστιλημένας  
 ὑπὸ τῆς θεοῦ, τῇ χειρὶ τῇ ἑλεφαντίνῃ.
- Δη. ὡς μέγαν ἄρ' εἶχες, ᾧ πότνια, τὸν δάκτυλον.
- Πα. [bringing a bason of pea-soup]  
 ἐγὼ δ' ἔτνος γε πίσινον, εὐχρῶν καὶ καλόν·  
 ἐτόρυνε δ' αὐθ' ἡ Παλλάς, ἡ Πυλαιμάχος. 440
- 'Αλ. [bringing a pot of broth]  
 ᾧ Δῆμ', ἐναργῶς ἡ θεός σ' ἐπισκοπεῖ,  
 καὶ νῦν ὑπερέχει σου χύτραν ζωμοῦ πλέαν.
- Δη. οἶει γὰρ οἰκεῖσθ' ἂν ἔτι τήνδε τὴν πόλιν,  
 εἰ μὴ φανερώς ἡμῶν ὑπερεῖχε τὴν χύτραν;
- Πα. [bringing fish cutlets]  
 τουτὶ τέμαχός σοι ἴδωκεν ἡ Φοβεσιστράτη. 445
- Αλ. [bringing a plute with lumps of boiled meat, and slices of tripe and mianch: on each occasion DEMUS seems more pleased with the Sausage-seller's offering]  
 ἡ δ' Ὀβριμοπάτρα γ', ἐφθὸν ἐκ ζωμοῦ κρέας,  
 καὶ χόλικος ἡνύστρου τε καὶ γαστρὸς τόμον.

THE KNIGHTS OF

- Δη. καλῶς γ' ἐποίησε, τοῦ πέπλου μεμνημένη.
- Πα. [*bringing a flat cake*]  
 ἡ Γοργολόφα σ' ἐκέλευε τουτουὶ φαγεῖν  
 ἐλατῆρος, ἵνα τὰς ναῦς ἐλαύνωμεν καλῶς. 450
- Ἄλ. [*bringing a plate of intestines*]  
 λαβὲ καὶ ταδὶ νῦν.
- Δη. καὶ τί τούτοις χρήσουαι  
 τοῖς ἐντέροις ;
- Ἄλ. ἐπίτηδες αὐτ' ἔπεμφέ σοι  
 εἰς τὰς τριήρεις ἐντερουείαν ἡ θεός·  
 ἐπισκοπεῖ γὰρ περιφανῶς τὸ ναυτικόν.  
 [*giving him a cup of wine*]  
 ἔχε καὶ πιεῖν κεκραμένον τρία καὶ δύο. 455
- Δη. [*smacking his lips after a good pull*]  
 ὡς ἡδύς, ὦ Ζεῦ, καὶ τὰ τρία φέρων καλῶς.
- Ἄλ. ἡ Τριτογενὴς γὰρ αὐτὸν ἐνετριτώνισε.
- Πα. [*bringing a slice of cheesecake, looking very rich*]  
 λαβὲ νῦν πλακοῦντος πίονος παρ' ἐμοῦ τόμον.
- Ἄλ. [*bringing from his hamper a whole cheesecake*]  
 παρ' ἐμοῦ δ' ὅλον γε τὸν πλακοῦντα τουτουί.
- Πα. [*fetching some jugged hare; with a triumphant glance at the Sausage-seller*]  
 ἀλλ' οὐ λαγῶ' ἐξεῖς ὀπόθεν δῶς· ἀλλ' ἐγώ. 460
- Αλ. [*scratching his head*]  
 οἴμοι· πόθεν λαγῶά μοι γενήσεται ;  
 ὦ θυμέ, νυνὶ βωμολόχον ἔξευρέ τι.  
 [*throwing himself into an attitude of deep reflection*]

ARISTOPHANES.

- Πα. [*showing Sausage-seller the tray of jugged hare with chuckling exultation*]  
 ὀρᾶς τάδ', ὦ κακόδαιμον ;
- 'Αλ. [*jumping up suddenly, and staring right behind the PAPHLAGONIAN, as if he saw somebody*]  
 ὀλίγον μοι μέλει  
 ἀλλὰ γὰρ ἐκεῖνοί γ' ὡς ἔμ' ἔρχονται.
- Πα. [*looking back quickly*] τίνες ;
- 'Αλ. [*as before*]  
 πρέσβεις, ἔχοντες ἀργυρίου βαλάντια. 465
- Πα. [*looking eagerly about*] ποῦ, ποῦ ;
- 'Αλ. [*suddenly, while his attention is engaged, snatching the jugged hare off the tray, and depositing it before DEMUS*]  
 [to PAPHLAGONIAN]  
 τί δέ σοι τοῦτ' ; οὐκ εἴσεις τοὺς ξένους ;  
 [to DEMUS]  
 ὦ Δημίδιον, ὀρᾶς τὰ λαγῶ', ἃ σοι φέρω ;
- Πα. [*in despair, discovering the trick*]  
 οἴμοι τάλας, ἀδίκως γε τᾶμ' ὑφήρπασας.
- 'Αλ. νῆ· τὸν Ποσειδῶ, καὶ σὺ γὰρ τοὺς ἐκ Πύλου.
- Δη. εἶπ', ἀντιβολῶ, πῶς ἐπενόησας ἀρπάσαι ; 470
- 'Αλ. [*solemnly, in tragic voice*]  
 τὸ μὲν νόημα τῆς θεοῦ, τὸ δὲ κλέμμ' ἐμόν.
- Πα. [*distracted*]  
 ἐγὼ δ' ἐκινδύνευσ', ἐγὼ δ' ὄπτησά γε.
- Δη. [*to the PAPHLAGONIAN*]  
 ἄπιθ'· οὐ γὰρ ἀλλὰ τοῦ παραθέντος ἢ χάρις.
- Πα. οἴμοι κακοδαίμων, ὑπεραναιδευθήσομαι.

THE KNIGHTS OF

- Αλ. τί οὐ διακρίνεις, Δῆμ', ὁπότερός ἐστι νῶν 475  
 ἀνὴρ ἀμείνων περὶ σέ καὶ τὴν γαστέρα ;
- Δη. τῷ δῆτ' ἂν ὑμᾶς χρησάμενος τεκμηρίῳ  
 δόξαιμι κρίνειν τοῖς θεαταῖσιν σοφῶς ;
- Αλ. ἐγὼ φράσω σοι. τὴν ἐμὴν κίστην ἰὼν  
 ξύλλαβε σιωπῇ, καὶ βασάνισον ἄττ' ἔνι, 480  
 καὶ τὴν Παφλαγόνος· κἀμέλει κρινεῖς καλῶς·
- Δη. [*gets up from his table, and goes to Sausage-seller's  
 hamper*]  
 φέρ' ἴδω, τί οὖν ἔνεστιν ;
- [*the Sausage-seller lifts it up, turns it upside down with a tap on  
 the bottom to shew that it is empty*]
- Αλ. ἄλλ' ὀρᾶς κενήν,  
 ὦ παππίδιον· ἅπαντα γάρ σοι παρεφόρουν.
- Δη. αὕτη μὲν ἢ κίστη τὰ τοῦ δήμου φρονεῖ. [485
- Ἀλ. βάδιζε γοῦν καὶ δεῦρο πρὸς τὴν Παφλαγόνος.  
 [*leading DEMUS over to the PAPHLAGONIAN's hamper*]  
 ὀρᾶς νυν ; [*opening it, and displaying it full of all  
 kinds of scraps from the feast*]
- Δη. οἴμοι τῶν ἀγαθῶν, ὅσων πλέα.  
 [*pulling out a large piece of cheese-cake*]  
 ὅσον τὸ χρῆμα τοῦ πλακούντος ἀπέθετο·  
 ἐμοὶ δ' ἔδωκεν ἀποτεμῶν τυννουτονί.  
 [*holding up his finger and thumb, as if they held the tiniest  
 fragment of cheese-cake*]
- Αλ. τοιαῦτα μέντοι καὶ πρότερον εἰργάζετο·  
 σοὶ μὲν προσεδίδου σμικρόν, ὦν ἐλάμβανε, 490  
 αὐτὸς δ' ἑαυτῷ παρετίθει τὰ μείζονα.
- Δη. [*turning angrily to the PAPHLAGONIAN*]

ARISTOPHANES.

ὦ μιარέ, κλέπτων δὴ με ταῦτ' ἐξηπάτας ;

[*rathetically*] ἐγὼ δέ τυ ἐστεφάνιξα κἀδωρησάμαν.

Πα. ἐγὼ δ' ἔκλεπτον ἐπ' ἀγαθῶ γε τῇ πόλει. [495

Δη. κατάθου ταχέως τὸν στέφανον, ἵν' ἐγὼ τουτοῦ  
αὐτὸν περιθῶ.

Ἄλ. κατάθου ταχέως, μαστιγία.

Πα. [*assuming a tragic attitude and air, which he keeps to the  
end of the scene*]

οὐ δῆτ', ἐπεὶ μοι χρησμός ἐστι Πυθικὸς  
φράζων, ὑφ' οὗ δέησέ μ' ἠττᾶσθαι μόνου.

Ἄλ. τοῦμόν γε φράζων ὄνομα, καὶ λίαν σαφῶς.

Πα. καὶ μὴν σ' ἐλέγξαι βούλομαι τεκμηρίῳ, 500

εἴ τι ξυνοίσεις τοῦ θεοῦ τοῖς θεσφάτοις.

καί σου τοσοῦτο πρῶτον ἐκπειράσομαι  
παῖς ὦν ἐφοίτας ἐς τίνος διδασκάλου ;

Ἄλ. ἐν ταῖσιν εὔστραις κονδύλοις ἡρμοττόμην.

Πα. [*theatrically starting, as at a strange coincidence*]

πῶς εἶπας ; ὡς μου χρησμός ἄπτεται φρενῶν.

εἶεν. [*as if recovering himself by an effort*] 505

ἐν παιδοτριβῶν δὲ τίνα πάλην ἐμάνθανες ;

Ἄλ. κλέπτων ἐπιорκεῖν, καὶ βλέπειν ἐναντίον.

Πα. [*wildly*]

ὦ Φοῖβ' Ἀπολλων Λύκιε, τί ποτ' ἐμ' ἐργάσει ;

τέχνην δὲ τίνα ποτ' εἶχες ἐξανδρούμενος ;

Ἄλ. ἡλλαντοπώλουν, τῷ τε πίνειν ἠδόμην. 510

Πα. [*in despair*]

οἴμοι κακοδαίμων· οὐκέτ' οὐδέν εἰμ' ἐγώ.

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[with a ray of hope]

λεπτὴ τις ἐλπίς ἐστ', ἐφ' ἧς ὀχούμεθα.  
καὶ μοι τοσοῦτον εἶπέ· πότερον ἐν ἀγορᾷ  
ἤλλαντοπώλεις, ἐτεόν, ἢ 'πὶ ταῖς πύλαις ;  
'Αλ. ἐπὶ ταῖς πύλαισιν, οὐ τὸ τάριχος ὦνιον.

515

Πα. [broken down altogether]

οἶμοι· πέπρακται τοῦ θεοῦ τὸ θέσφατον.  
κυλίνδετ' εἴσω τόνδε τὸν δυσδαίμονα.

[dashing the chaplet off his head on the ground]

ὦ στέφανε, χαίρων ἄπιθι, καὶ σ' ἄκων ἐγὼ  
λείπω· σὲ δ' ἄλλος τις λαβὼν κεκτῆσεται, [520  
κλέπτῃς μὲν οὐκ ἂν μᾶλλον, εὐτυχῆς δ' ἴσως.

[falls lifeless back in a frenzy of despair]

'Αλ. Ἑλλάνιε Ζεῦ, σὸν τὸ νικητήριον.

Δη. ἐμοὶ δέ γ', ὅ τι σοι τοῦνομ', εἶπ'.

'Αλ. Ἄγοράκριτος,

ἐν τῇ ἄγορᾷ γὰρ κρινόμενος ἐβοσκόμην.

Δη. Ἄγορακρίτῳ τοίνυν ἐμαυτὸν ἐπιτρέπω.

'Αλ. καὶ μὴν ἐγὼ σ', ὦ Δῆμε, θεραπεύσω καλῶς, 525

ὥσθ' ὁμολογεῖν σε, μηδέν' ἀνθρώπων ἐμοῦ  
ιδεῖν ἀμείνω τῇ Κεχηναίων πόλει.

[go off arm-in-arm]

## SCENE V.

*The Pnyx as before. The PAPHLAGONIAN sitting on the ground speechless, in the most woe-begone attitude and look. The CHORUS enter and sing.*

Χο. Φασὶν ἀλλήλαις ξυνελθεῖν τὰς τριήρεις ἐς  
λόγον,  
καὶ μίαν λέξαι τιν' αὐτῶν, ἥτις ἦν γεραιτέρα·  
Οὐδὲ πυνθάνεσθε ταῦτ', ὦ παρθένοι, τὰν τῆ  
πόλει; 530  
φασὶν αἰτεῖσθαί τιν' ἡμῶν ἑκατὸν εἰς Καρχη-  
δόνα  
ἄνδρα μοχθηρὸν πολίτην, ὀξίνην Ὑπέρβολον.  
ταῖς δὲ δόξαι δεινὸν εἶναι τοῦτο, κούκ ἀνα-  
σχετόν,  
καὶ τιν' εἰπεῖν, 'οὐκ ἐμοῦ γ' ἄρξει ποτ'· ἀλλ'  
ἔάν με χρῆ,  
'ὑπὸ τερηδόνων σαπέϊσ' ἐνταῦθα καταγηρά-  
σομαι· 535  
'εἴπερ ἐκ πεύκης γε κἀγὼ καὶ ξύλων ἐπηγνύμην.  
'ἦν δ' ἀρέσκη ταῦτ' Ἀθηναίοις, καθῆσθαί μοι  
δοκεῖ  
'εἰς τὸ Θησεῖον πλεούσας, ἧ' πλὶ τῶν Σεμνῶν  
(ε)εῶν.

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‘οὐ γὰρ ἡμῶν γε στρατηγῶν ἐγχανεῖται τῇ πόλει·

‘ἀλλὰ πλείτω χωρὶς αὐτὸς ἐς κόρακας, εἰ βούλεται, 540

‘τὰς σκάφας, ἐν αἷς ἐπώλει τοὺς λύχνους, καθελκύσας.’

*Enter AGORACRITUS the Sausage-seller, in a state of the utmost triumph]*

Αγ. Εὐφημεῖν χρὴ καὶ στόμα κλείειν, καὶ μαρτυριῶν ἀπέχεσθαι,  
καὶ τὰ δικαστήρια συγκλείειν, οἷς ἡ πόλις ἦδε γέγηθεν·

ἐπὶ καιναῖσιν δ' εὐτυχίαισιν παιωνίζειν τὸ θέατρον.

Χο. ὦ ταῖς ἱεραῖς φέγγος Ἀθήναις, καὶ ταῖς νήσοις ἐπίκουρε, 545

τίν' ἔχων φήμην ἀγαθὴν ἤκεις, ἐφ' ὅτῳ κνισῶμεν ἀγυιάς ;

Αγ. τὸν Δῆμον ἀφεψήσας ὑμῖν, καλὸν ἐξ αἰσχροῦ πεποίηκα.

Χο. καὶ ποῦ 'στὶν νῦν, ὦ θαυμαστὰς ἐξευρίσκων ἐπινοίας ;

'Αγ. ἐν ταῖσιν ἰοστεφάνοις οἰκεῖ, ταῖς ἀρχαίαισιν Ἀθήναις.

Χο. πῶς ἂν ἴδοιμεν ; ποίαν τιν' ἔχει σκευήν ; ποῖος γεγένηται ; 550

'Αγ. οἷός περ Ἀριστείδη πρότερον καὶ Μιλτιάδη ξυνεσίτει.



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[a noise is heard in DEMUS' house; the folding doors of the vestibule begin to draw back]

ὄψεσθε δέ· καὶ γὰρ ἀνοιγνυμένων ψόφος ἦδη  
τῶν προπυλαίων.

[the doors are at length completely opened, and display a fairy-like view of Athens as it was before the war. The noble buildings here, and there the smiling fields and vineyards unravaged by hostile armies. In the centre is DEMUS, dressed in brilliant holiday costume, his hair perfumed with myrrh, and gathered in a knot in true old Athenian fashion, clasped with a golden cricket. AGORACRITUS goes on triumphantly;—]

ἀλλ' ὀλολύξατε φαινομέναισιw ταῖς ἀρχαίαισιw  
Ἀθήναις,  
καὶ θαυμασταῖς καὶ πολυύμνοις, ἴν' ὁ κλεινὸς  
Δῆμος ἐνοικεῖ.

Χο. ὦ τὰ λιπαραὶ καὶ ἰοστέφανοι καὶ ἀριζήλωτοι  
Ἀθηναί, 555  
δείξατε τὸν τῆς Ἑλλάδος ἡμῖν καὶ τῆς γῆς  
τῆσδε μόναρχον.

Ἄγ. [pointing to DEMUS, who comes slowly forward]  
ὄδ' ἐκεῖνος ὀράν τεττιγοφόρας, ἀρχαίῳ σχή-  
ματι λαμπρός,  
οὐ χοιρινῶν ὄζων, ἀλλὰ σπονδῶν, σμύρνης  
κατάλειπτος.

Χο. χαῖρ', ὦ βασιλεῦ τῶν Ἑλλήνων· καὶ σοὶ  
ξυγχαίρομεν ἡμεῖς.  
τῆς γὰρ πόλεως ἄξια πράττεις, καὶ τοῦ ἴν'  
Μαραθῶνι τροπαίου. 560

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Δη. ὦ φίλτατ' ἀνδρῶν, ἐλθὲ δεῦρ', Ἄγοράκριτε.  
ὅσα με δέδρακας ἀγάθ' ἀφεψήσας.

Ἄγ. ἐγὼ;  
ἀλλ', ὦ μέλ', οὐκ οἶσθ', οἶος ἦσθ' αὐτὸς πάρος,  
οὐδ' οἶ' ἔδρας· ἐμὲ γὰρ νομίζοις ἂν θεόν. [565]

Δη. τί δ' ἔδρων, κάτειπέ μοι, πρὸ τοῦ; ποῖός τις ἦ;

Ἄγ. πρῶτον μὲν, ὁπότ' εἶποι τις ἐν τῇ κκλησίᾳ,  
'ὦ Δῆμ', ἐραστής εἶμι σός, φιλῶ τε σέ,  
'καὶ κήδομαί σου, καὶ προβουλεύω μόνος,'  
τούτοις ὁπότε χρήσαιτό τις προοιμίους,  
ἀνωρτάλιζες, κάκερουτίας.

Δη. ἐγὼ; 570

Ἄγ. εἶτ' ἐξαπατήσας σ' ἀντὶ τούτων, ὄχητο.

Δη. [astounded]

τί φῆς; τοιαυτά μ' ἔδρων, ἐγὼ δ' οὐκ ἠσθόμην;

Ἄγ. τὰ δ' ὦτα γάρ σου, νῆ Δί', ἐξεπετάννυτο,  
ὥσπερ σκιάδειον, καὶ πάλιν ξυνήγετο.

Δη. [with shame and astonishment]

οὕτως ἀνόητος ἐγεγενήμην καὶ γέρων; 575

Ἄγ. καί, νῆ Δί', εἴ γε δύο λεγοίτην ῥήτορε,  
ὁ μὲν, ποιεῖσθαι ναῦς μακράς, ὁ δ' ἕτερος αὐ,  
καταμισθοφορῆσαι· τούτον ὁ τὸν μισθὸν λέγων  
τὸν τὰς τριήρεις παραδραμῶν ἂν ὄχητο.

[DEMUS bows his head in humiliation]

οὗτος, τί κύπτεις; οὐχὶ κατὰ χώραν μενεῖς; 580

Δη. [without looking up]

αἰσχύνομαί τοι ταῖς πρότερον ἀμαρτίαις.

Ἄγ. [encouraging him]

ἀλλ' οὐ σὺ τούτων αἴτιος, μὴ φροντίσης,  
ἀλλ' οἷ σὲ ταῦτ' ἐξηπάτων. νῦν δὴ φράσον·  
εἴαν τις εἶπη βωμολόχος ξυνήγορος·

‘Οὐκ ἔστιν ὑμῖν τοῖς δικασταῖς ἄλφιστα, 585

‘εἰ μὴ καταγνώσεσθε ταύτην τὴν δίκην,’  
τούτου τί δράσεις, εἶπέ, τὸν ξυνήγορον ;

Δη. [*recovering himself*]

ἄρας μετέωρον, ἐς τὸ βάραθρον ἐμβαλῶ,  
ἐκ τοῦ λάρυγγος ἐκκρεμάσας—Ἵπέρβολου.

Αγ. τουτὶ μὲν ὀρθῶς καὶ φρονίμως ἤδη λέγεις· 590

τὰ δ' ἄλλα, φέρ' ἴδω, πῶς πολιτεύσει, φράσον.

Δη. πρῶτον μὲν, ὅπόσοι ναῦς ἐλαύνουσιν μακράς,  
καταγομμένοις τὸν μισθὸν ἀποδώσω ἄντελῃ.

ἔπειθ' ὀπλίτης ἐντεθεὶς ἐν καταλόγῳ

οὐδεὶς κατὰ σπουδὰς μετεγγραφῆσεται· 595

ἀλλ', ὥσπερ ἦν τὸ πρῶτον, ἐγγεγράφεται.

οὐδ' ἀγοράσει γ' ἀγένειος οὐδεὶς ἐν ἀγορᾷ.

ἸΑγ. ποῦ δῆτα Κλεισθένης ἀγοράσει καὶ Στράτων ,

Δη. νῆ τὸν Δί' ἀναγκάσω κυνηγετεῖν ἐγὼ [600

τούτους ἅπαντας, παυσαμένους ψηφισμάτων.

Αγ. [*presenting him with a folding stool*]

ἔχε νυν ἐπὶ τούτοις τουτουὶ τὸν ὀκλαδίαν.

Δη. [*beaming*]

μακάριος ἐς τὰρχαῖα δὴ καθίσταμαι.

ἸΑγ. φήσεις δ', ἐπειδὴν τὰς τριακοντούτιδας

σπουδὰς παραδῶ σοι·

[*calling behind the scenes*] δεῦρ' ἴθ' αἱ Σπονδαὶ ταχύ.

[*enter some beautiful girls ; DEMUS is all admiration*]

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Δη. ὦ Ζεῦ πολυτίμηθ', ὡς καλάι' πρὸς τῶν θεῶν, 605  
πῶς ἔλαβες αὐτὰς ἑτέον ;

Ἄγ. οὐ γὰρ ὁ Παφλαγῶν  
ἀπέκρυπτε ταύτας ἔνδον, ἵνα σὺ μὴ λάβοις ;  
νῦν οὖν ἐγὼ σοι παραδίδωμ' εἰς τοὺς ἀγροὺς  
αὐτὰς ἵεναι λαβόντα.

Δη. τὸν δὲ Παφλαγόνα,  
ὃς ταῦτ' ἔδρασεν, εἴφ' ὅ τι ποιήσεις κακόν. 610

Ἄγ. οὐδὲν μέγ' ἄλλ' ἢ τὴν ἐμὴν ἔξει τέχνην  
ἐπὶ ταῖς πύλαις ἀλλαντοπωλήσει μόνος,  
τὰ κύνεια μίγνυς τοῖς ὄνειοις πράγμασι,  
κακ τῶν βαλανείων αὐτὸ λουτρὸν πίεται.

Δη. εἶ γ' ἐπενόησας, οὐπὲρ ἔστιν ἄξιος, 615  
κλέπταισι καὶ βαλανεῦσι διακεκραγένοι.  
καί σ' ἀντὶ τούτων ἐς τὸ Πρυτανεῖον καλῶ,  
ἐς τὴν ἔδραν θ', ἵν' ἐκείνος ἦν ὁ φαρμακός.

[*fetching a green coat and handing it to DEMUS*]  
ἔπου δὲ ταυτηνὶ λαβὼν τὴν βατραχίδα· 620  
κάκεινον ἐκφερέτω τις ὡς ἐπὶ τὴν τέχνην,  
[*pointing contemptuously to the PAPHLAGONIAN*]  
ἵν' ἴδωσιν αὐτόν, οὓς ἔλωβᾶθ', οἱ ξένοι.

*He went to the Prytaneum; Cleon the PAPHLAGONIAN is carried  
out by some attendants.]*

## NOTES.



## SCENE 1.

1. *ιατταταιάξ*, an exclamation, 'Oh dear, oh dear!'
2. *Παφλαγόνα*. Cleon is brought in as a Paphlagonian slave, probably on account of the pun, *παφλάζω* meaning 'to bluster.' *κακὸν κακῶς* are taken together.
3. *αὐταῖσι βουλαῖς*, 'schemes and all,' a common use of *αὐτός*, v. 7. The dat. would naturally have *σύν*, but the prep. is omitted with *αὐτός*.
4. *εἰσέρρω*, 'to come in.'
9. *ξυναυλίαν*, 'a duet' of harp and flute, or two flutes. The accusative is a sort of cognate. 'That we may weep in concert a piece of Olympus,' a noted Phrygian musician. Their discordant whinper was a comic imitation of an instrumental concert. The line is perh. a quotation, as the Ionic form *οὐλύμπου*, allowable in tragedy (cf. *μοῦνος*), is not permissible in comedy.
11. *κινύρομαι*, 'whine.' *ἄλλως*, 'in vain.'
13. *μὲν οὖν*, corrective. 'No, you tell me.' *μὲν οὖν* seems to have been originally elliptical. The present passage will show its meaning well. *Οἶκ. β.* says *λέγε σύ*, 'you tell me.' *Οἶκ. ἀ* replies *σὺ μὲν οὖν λέγε [ἐγὼ δὲ μή]* 'Do you then tell me,' [but not I you]. The antithesis to the *μὲν* is easily understood, and it is this which gives the corrective force.
14. *μάχωμαι*, *i.e.*, 'quarrel with you.'
16. A line from *Hippolytus* of Euripides (at whom Aristophanes is always laughing). *Phaedia* wishes the nurse to guess

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her wicked love, rather than have the shame of telling it. Note the comic incongruity of putting this line, with its passionate and tragic associations, in the mouth of a cowering slave. *πῶς ἄν*, lit., 'how could you tell?' *i.e.*, 'I wish you would.'

17. *ἔνι = ἔνεστι*. *θρέττε*, a slang form of *θράσος*.
18. *κομψευριπικῶς* [*κομψός*, *Εὐριπίδης*], 'in a fine Euripidean strain.'
19. *διασκανδικίσης*, 'don't dose us with chervil' (*σκάνδιξ*, 'chervil'), a cut at Euripides, whose mother sold herbs.
20. *ἀπόκινος*, 'escape' [*ἀπὸ κινέω*, 'to move']. The word is said to be used for a kind of dance, probably representing a slave's escape. [We might say, 'find some Perfect Cure.']
21. 'Catching it up quick like this.' The point is that he did not like to say such a fearful word as *αὐτομολῶμεν*, 'let us desert,' all at once, but got at it by slow degrees. *ὠδί*. This is called the deictic *ι*, and is added to several pronouns and adverbs to give a demonstrative force.
22. *καὶ δῆ*, 'there, I say it,' used when a request is complied with.
28. *βρέτας*, 'an image.' *ποῖος*, used in contemptuous repetition of another person's word. 'Image of the gods, indeed!' cf. 150.
31. *προςβιβάζειν*, 'to bring a person to' [a conclusion], 'to convince.'
32. *βούλει φράσω*. The interrogative *φράσω*; 'Am I to tell?' is called the deliberative subjunctive. Here it is made dependent on another verb, *βούλει*, 'Do you wish me to . . .?'
33. *παραιτησώμεθα*, hortative, 'let us beg.'
36. *λέγοιμ' ἄν*, 'I will tell them.' The conditional used as a mild future.
37. *κναμοτρῶξ* [*κύαμος*, *τρώγω*, 'eat'], 'a bean-eater,' with an

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- allusion to the use of the bean in voting. ἀκράχολος, 'passionate' [ἄκρος, 'extreme,' χόλος, 'anger'].
38. Δῆμος Πυκνίτης. The regular way of describing an Athenian was to give the name of the man and the name of his district. So here the representative Δῆμος is called Πυκνίτης, because the Pnyx was the place where the Athenians held their public meetings.
39. ὑπόκωφον, 'rather deaf.'
40. The 'Paphlagonian tanner' is of course Cleon. The play is full of hits at his trade.
43. βυρσοπαφλάγων, cf. line 40.
44. αἰκάλλω, 'fawn on.' θωπεύω, 'wheedle.'
45. κοσκυλμάτιοις, 'leather parings,' an unexpected word, referring to Cleon's trade. This sudden introduction of unexpected touches is common in Aristophanes, and is called παρά προσδοκίαν ['contrary to expectation'].
46. μίαν [δίκην], another unexpected phrase. His exercise before bathing is not gymnastics, but hearing cases! Aristophanes often ridicules the litigiousness of the Athenians.
47. ῥοφεῖν and ἐντράγειν, 'to gobble' and 'munch.' τριώβολον, or three obols (about 4¼d.), was the daily pay of the dicasts.
50. κεχάρισται, 'has presented.' πρῶην, 'the other day.' He alludes to the capture of Pylos by Cleon (though Demosthenes had prepared everything and deserved the real credit), which was achieved in the preceding summer (425 B.C.)
51. μάσσω, 'to knead.'
55. βυρσίη. It was common for slaves to fan flies away from their masters with a myrtle bough or μυρσίη. Here we have unexpectedly βυρσίη, in allusion again to Cleon's trade. We may say 'bunch of leathers' for 'feathers.'
56. ἀποσοβεῖ, 'scares away' [flies, you expect; but he says 'orators,' another kind of pest].

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57. *σιβυλλιάω* 'to be fond of sibylline prophecies.' The termination *-ιάω* is called 'desiderative,' like *στρατηγιάω*, 'to desire to be a general.'
58. *μακκοάω*, 'to be stupid.'
59. *ἀντικρυς*, 'regular' lies.
62. *ταράττει*, 'worries.' Hylas is one of the slaves, of course.
63. *ἀνύσαντε*, lit. 'hastening,' *i.e.*, 'let us be quick and think.'
64. *ἀναπείθω*, 'to persuade' [by a bribe].
74. A tragic way of poisoning one's self.
75. Thucydides says he died of disease; but popular rumour said he poisoned himself.
76. *ἀγαθοῦ δαίμονος*, '[in honour] of our good genius,' always the first toast.
79. [*λῆρος*, 'nonsense.' *κροῦνος*, 'spring.' *χύτρα*, 'pitcher.'] 'You're a water-bottle-twaddler,' 'a teetotal-tittle-tattle.'
80. *εἰς ἐπίνοιαν*, 'for the wit,' as a sharpener of the wit.
83. *διαπράττω*, 'succeed' [generally active].
85. *χοῦς* = 5 pints. *ἄρδω*, 'wet.'
89. *πάντα ταυτί*, 'all this place.' *καταπάσσω*, 'sprinkle.'
91. *ὡς εὐτυχῶς*. attraction, for *ὡς εὐτυχές*.
93. *ἐπίπαστα*, 'cakes [sprinkled with salt]. *δημιό-πρατα* [*πιπράσκω*], properly, 'sold publicly,' *i.e.*, confiscated property; a relish for the demagogue Cleon. *βύσκανος* [*fascinare*], properly, 'a person with evil eye,' here, 'a slanderer.' *ῥέγκω*, 'snore.'
95. *ἐγκάναξον*, 'gurgle it in.' [*καναχή*, 'a noise.']
97. *ἔλκε*. So we say 'take a *pull*.' 'Pramnian' was a red Thracian or Asiatic wine.
101. *ταῦτα*, 'that's it.'
107. *ἀνύσας*, 63.
111. *Βάκισ* was a well-known soothsayer's name.
113. *ταῦτ' ἄρ'*, 'that was then the reason why.'
114. *ὀρρωδέω* [Lat. *horreo*], 'to dread.'



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116. πῶς ; [Οἶκ. β.] ὅπως ; The second ὅπως is really an elliptical sentence, a verb ἐρωτᾶς being understood. Οἶκ. ἀ. says πῶς ; ‘how so?’ Οἶκ. β. replies, ὅπως ; that is [ἐρωτᾶς με] ὅπως ; ‘(Do you ask me) how?’
117. στυππειπώλης [στυππεῖον, ‘tow’], ‘hempmonger.’ Alludes to Eucrates, a hemseller, who after Pericles’ death had great influence at Athens.
119. -πώλης only used in composition ; here comically by itself. We might say, ‘this is one monger.’
120. προβατοπώλης. Lysicles (who led the people after Eucrates) was a sheep-dealer.
123. γένοιτο is unusual, after the primary tense ; but the utterance of the oracle was past, and so he instinctively says γένοιτο.
125. Κυκλόβορος, a torrent in Attica. ‘with a voice like Niagara.’
131. ἀλλαντοπώλης, ‘a sausage-seller.’ [ἀλλᾶς, ‘sausage-meat.’]
132. τῆς τέχνης, exclamatory gen., ‘what a trade!’
135. κατὰ θεῖον, ‘providentially.’
140. τὸ ἐλεόν, ‘the dresser.’
146. Mock-tragic.
148. πλύνειν τὰς κοιλίας, ‘to wash my pig’s-guts.’
150. ποίας, contemptuously ; ‘guts, you fool! what guts?’ cf. 28.
151. στίχες, ‘ranks,’ ‘rows.’
154. κλαστάζω [κλάω, ‘break’], properly, ‘to prune’ vines ; here, metaphorically, ‘trim,’ ‘dress,’ ‘keep under.’
158. ὀγκάς, [ἔλκω, ‘to pull,’ ‘drag’], ‘a merchant-vessel.’
160. He is to survey the whole Levant, from Caria to Carthage. The matter-of-fact sausage-seller objects that he would get a squint.
163. πέρναται, ‘are jobbed’ unexpectedly for διοικείται (or some such word), ‘are administered.’
173. ‘Unless to be the son of blackguards’ [is to be of good birth.]: and so ‘only from blackguards.’
176. κακὰ κακῶς, ‘only so-so.’

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178. *πρός*, 'belongs to.'
180. *εἰς*, 'falls to.'
183. *ποικίλως*, 'ambiguously.'
184. The grandiloquent-obscure style of the old oracles is splendidly parodied, with an absurd intermixture of comic words:
- 'When with his crooked claws the imperial eagle of cow-hide  
 'Pounces, and snaps in his beak the block-head blood-sucking serpent,  
 'Then it is lost, I ween, that Paphlagonian garlic,  
 'And to the vendors of guts great Zeus gives honour and glory,  
 'If so be that they choose not rather the selling of sausage.'
- χηλή*, 'a talon.' *σκοροδ-άλμη*, literally, 'garlic-brine' [*ἄλς*], a poor man's relish.
188. *αἶ κεν*, epic for *εἰάν*.
197. *θάλπω*, literally 'warm,' hence 'soothe,' 'cajole.'
198. *αἰκάλλω*, cf. 44, here 'please.'
201. *χορδεύω*, [*χορδή*, 'a gut,' 'a sausage'], 'to chop, mince.' All he has to do to become demagogue is just to apply the rules of his own trade to politics; chop and stir matters all up higgledy-piggledy, then sweeten them with a few savoury little speeches.
204. *ἀγοραῖος*, 'you're one of the riff-raff.'
208. *ὅπως ἀμυνεῖ*. This use of *ὅπως* with the future is also elliptical. *ὄρα* (or some such word) is to be supplied. It will then be '[Take care] how you shall keep him off,' *i.e.*, 'Mind you keep him off.'
216. *ἐξηκασμένος*, 'he has not got a mask on' [*ἐξεικάζω*, 'to make a likeness'], and therefore will not look like the real Cleon. The story is that as all feared to undertake the part, Aristophanes himself played Cleon.
219. *δεξιόν*, 'clever.'
224. 'Making the Chalcidians revolt,' an absurd accusation, such as were often bandied about.

ARISTOPHANES.

228. Simon and Panaetius, two leaders of the Chorus of Knights.  
 233. *παραξίπóστρατον*, 'the Confounder of the host of Knights.'  
 234. 'A gulf and Charybdis of plunder.'  
 240. 'The road which Eucrates fled straight for his bran-stores.'  
 Eucrates the hempseller (117) had apparently also depôts of hay and bran, which served him for a hiding-place from the anger of the fickle mob.

SCENE 2.

241. *καὶ μῆν*, 290.  
 242. *κολόκυμα*, 'a swelling wave.'  
 243. *μορμώ*, [literally, 'bugbear']. *τοῦ θράσους*, 'Boo-hoo! what bluster!'  
 244. *τῶν αὐτῶν*, 'same as before.' The sense is, 'bad luck to me if I don't be the death of you, provided I'm as good a liar as I used to be.'  
 246. [*ψόλος*, 'smoke,' *κόμπος*, 'brag'] 'your vapouring brag.'  
 251. *προεδρία*, the 'front seat' at public spectacles, was one of Cleon's honours bestowed for his success at Pylos.  
 254. *ξύλον*, 'stocks,' 'pillory.' There was one with five holes, for head, arms, and legs, see 374.  
 256. *ἐπὶ τῷ*; 'with what'? 'what would you like for the staple of your meals?' bread usually formed the staple of a poor man's dinner; and he tried to get fish or meat as a delicacy [*ῥψον*] upon [*ἐπὶ*] it. *βαλαντίον*, 'a purse': significantly.  
 258. *ἀπονυχίζω*, 'to tear away with the nails.' The dining in the Prytaneum [public hall] at the national expense was another of his Pylos honours.  
 264. *ψωμίζω*, 'to feed with sops' [*ψωμός*]. *τίτθη*, 'a nurse.'  
 266. *μασάομαι* [*μάσσω*, *μάζα*], 'to chew' it to the proper consistency.  
 273. *εἰρεσιώνη*, 'a harvest wreath' of olive and wool [*εἶρος*] carried

## THE KNIGHTS OF

- in procession, then hung at the house door. *σπαράσσω*, 'to tear.'
288. *λυχνοπώλης*. The noted demagogue Hyperbolus was a 'lamp-seller.' *νευρορράφος*, 'a sinew-stitcher,' 'cobbler.'
289. 'To steal another man's pot from a work-shop' he thought a fit comparison for Cleon's unearned success at Pylos. *έψω*, 'to boil.'
290. *καὶ μὴν* introduces a new idea or person. Cf. 241.
298. He means, of course, that the Athenians in themselves are a sensible folk enough, but that when collected in ecclesia (on the Pnyx) their sense deserts them.
299. *ὥσπερ ἐμποδίζων ἰσχάδας*. The best of several bad explanations is, 'as if you were fig-bobbing,' alluding to the game of stringing figs, then catching them dangling with the mouth. This would certainly make one *κεχηνώς*.

### SCENE 3.

302. *τοῦβολοῦ*, unexpectedly, (for *δήμου*, 'to most of the people,') he says, 'to those who go many to the obolus,' *i.e.*, who are dirt-cheap, 'to the Great Twopenny Halfpenny.'
303. *σκοροδίζω*, 'to garlic,' *i.e.*, excite, enrage. (Garlic was used for exciting cocks to fight.)
305. *ταμειύω*, 'to be steward.'
310. *ἀλλ' ἢ*, 'or else.'
311. *θρίον*, 'a lump,' *δημός*, 'fat,' play on *δημος*.
313. *λάρος*, 'cormorant,' emblem of Cleon's rapacity.
325. *κιβωτός*, 'chest.' *μοῦστι = μοι ἐστι*.
326. *ὑπερφῶν*, 'a garret.' *συνοικία*, 'a lodging-house.'
329. *Γλάνις*, an imaginary name invented for the occasion.
332. *φακῆ*, 'lentil-soup.'

ARISTOPHANES.

333. σκόμβρος, 'mackerel.'

338. There was an oracle which said—

'O happy citadel of Athens' town,  
'After long trouble and sharp suffering,  
'Thou shalt become an eagle in the sky!'

φράζευ, 'consider,' = φράζου.

341. ἐριτίμων. ἐρι- is an intensive prefix used in epic words.

342. καρχαρόδοντα, 'jagged-toothed.' Cleon describes himself as a savage faithful watchdog.

345. 'Many jackdaws croak him down.' Not an unsuitable simile for the harsh and stupid clamour of a demagogue.

347. 'What has Erechtheus to do with daws and a dog?'

348. ἀπίω, 'give tongue.'

351. 'Gnaws a bit off your oracles, as off a door.'

352. 'I have the true account.'

355. He is a dog, indeed, replies Sausage-seller, a fawning, wheedling cur, who is always watching his chance to pilfer. φράζευ here in its other sense, 'Beware.'

357. ὄψον is the bit of meat or fish eaten with the bread, cf. 256; 'your cutlet.'

358. ὀπτάνιον, 'kitchen.'

359. λοπάδας, 'plates' [λεπ- 'shell,' 'scale']. νήσους, unexpectedly for 'pots.'

364. περί, &c., 'standing up in defence of.'

365. refers to the famous oracle *about wooden walls* in the time of Xerxes, happily interpreted to allude to ships.

369. Antileon is clearly some contemporary knave or fool.

374. [σῦριγξ, 'a hole' (so 'a pipe')]. See 254, where the πεντεσύριγγον ξύλον is explained.

377. ἰέραξ, 'hawk.' κοράκινος, 'young raven.' Allusion to Pylos again.

385. 'A dog-fox.'

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386. Philostratus, a dissolute dandy, had this nickname.
390. cf. 116.
396. ἡμερῶν τριῶν, 'within three days,' cf. χρόνου, 301, limitative gen. of time.
397. ἀλλὰ γάρ, elliptical, 'but [stay] for.'
399. καὶ γὰρ ἐμοί, 'for I have one too.'
402. ἀρύταινα, 'a ladle.'
404. γλαῦξ, for the 'owl' was sacred to Pallas. To bring γλαῦκ' ἐς Ἀθήνας was to bring 'coals to Newcastle.'
405. ἀρυβάλλω, 'with a bucket.'
409. γερονταγωγέω, comic word, parodied from παιδαγωγέω.
411. Corn-largesse was often promised by the orators, and sometimes distributed.
412. Theuphanes was some demagogue.
416. μηδὲν ἄλλο sc. δρᾶ.
418. Observe the double ἄν, very rare in indefinite sentences, though common enough in conditionals.

### SCENE 4.

421. Μακαρίαν, ironically, 'the blest abode.'
423. τρίπαλαι, δεκάπαλαι, are comic compounds of πάλαι, 'for 3, 10 . . . . . ages.'
428. οἶσθ' ὃ δρᾶσον, subordinate imperative, 'do you know what you must do?'
429. βαλβίς, 'the starting post.'
431. ὑποθεῖν, 'false start,' 'unfair running.'
435. ὄλαί, 'barley-meal.' What this cake is we know from v. 50.
436. μυστίλας are bread-crusts, hollowed with the finger into rough spoons for taking soup.
437. Allusion to the colossal statue of Athena in the Parthenon, of which the head, hands, and feet were ivory, and the robe of gold.
439. πίσινος, 'of pea' [πίσος], pea-soup.
440. Πυλαιμάχος. Probably alluding to another colossal statue of

## ARISTOPHANES.

Athena on the Acropolis, of bronze, called Athena *Promachos*. It stood alone, and its spear was visible even at sea. There is no doubt also a pun on Πύλος.

442. χύτραν, unexpectedly for χέρα. There is, doubtless, a comic allusion to the shield which she held out.
446. These are all regular epithets of Athena. ἐφθόν [ἔψω, 'boiled.']
447. χόλιξι, 'tripe.' ἤνυστρον, 'the lower belly' of ruminating animals [said to be from ἀνώ, 'to complete,' finish off the food], a great delicacy.
448. 'In gratitude for the Peplus': this was a fine robe, embroidered with scenes from the national mythology, offered to Athena *Polias* at the Panathenaic feast in August. This was yet a third title of the goddess, as worshipped in the Erechtheum at Athens.
450. ἐλατήρ was a cake rolled flat. The pun is poor enough. 'Take this roll, that we may roll over our foes,' or, 'Take this *poulet* that we may pull well.'
453. ἐντερόνειαν, 'rib-timber,' another pun.
457. Another ghastly pun, τριτογενής and τρίτος. ἐντριτώνισε, 'mixed it 3 to 1.'
458. πλακοῦς, 'cheese-cake' [literally, 'flat' cake, πλάξι].
460. λαγῶα, 'hare's flesh,' 'jugged hare.' [κρέατα, supplied.]
462. βωμο-λόχος [λείχω], literally, 'altar-licking,' expressively applied to dirty gluttons who hung about for sacrifice-scraps. Translate, 'some meat-pilfering trick.' ὦ θυμέ is an imitation of Euripides [Med. 1057].
471. Mock-tragic.
472. The second half of this line is generally given to the sausage-seller, which weakens the force of Paphlagon's absurd lament, and makes Demus' reply unmeaning.

## THE KNIGHTS OF

473. οὐ γὰρ ἀλλά. This is also elliptical. 'Depart,' says Demus ; 'for it is not [the preparer] but the presenter of the meat that does the favour.'
474. ὑπερναιδεύω, 'to surpass in impudence.'
480. ἄττ' = ἄτινα.
481. ἀμέλει, literally imperative, 'never mind,' 'don't be afraid.'
493. τυ=σε. The line is from a Doric poem about Helots : hence the dialect.
494. Everything was excused on this plea ; here, absurdly, even theft is so excused.
497. From here to 520 Paphlagon's lines are charmingly mock-tragic.
503. εὔστραις [εὔω, 'to singe'], the 'hog-singeing pits.' κόνδυλος, 'a cuff,' 'blow.' ἀρμόττω [literally 'to fit'], 'to teach,' 'train.'
506. ἐν παιδοτρίβου [τρίβω, to 'rub,' i.e., 'accustom,' 'train'], 'at your trainer's.'
512. ὀχέισθαι, 'to be carried,' 'buoyed up on,' a regular tragic word.
515. τάριχος, 'stock-fish.' ὄνιον, 'for sale.' It was the better kind of sausage-sellers who dealt in the market-place. The lower riff-raff Ἀλλαντοπώλης turns out to be, the less is Cleon's hope.
- 516-517. Parodied or quoted from Euripides' Bellerophon.
- 518-520. A delicious parody of Alcestis' farewell to her bridal couch—
- σέ δ' ἄλλη τις γυνή κεκτήσεται,  
σώφρων μὲν οὐκ ἂν μάλλον, εὐτυχῆς δ' ἴσως.
523. κρινόμενος, 'having quarrels.'
527. κεχρηναίων, [unexpectedly for Ἀθηναίων], 'gapers.' (les Gobe-mouches.)



## ARISTOPHANES.

### SCENE 5.

528. The point is, even the triremes are represented as resenting the arrogance of the demagogues.
532. *δξίνης*, 'sour-tempered.'
533. *δόξαι* and *εἰπεῖν* depend on *φασίν*.
535. *τερηδών*, 'a wood-worm.'
538. *Σεμναὶ θεαί*, are Eumenides or Furies.
539. *ἐγχαίνω*, 'to laugh [literally gape] at.' *στρατηγῶν* is participle.
541. *σκάφη*, 'a tray,' a hit at Hyperbolus' trade. 'If he wants a fleet, let him launch his own trays.'
546. *κνισᾶν ἀγνιάς*, 'to fill the streets with smoke of sacrifice' [*κνίσα*]. The verb is deliberative subjunctive.
549. *ἰοστέφανοι* and *λιπαραί* were regular laudatory epithets of Athens. cf. the parabasis of the Acharnians.
557. *τεπτιγο-φόρας*. *τέπτιξ* was a 'grasshopper,' made in gold, which the old-fashioned Athenians wore in their hair.
558. *χοιρίναι* were 'sea-shells' used in voting. Sense—'smelling of law, but of peace.'
566. *εἴποι*, indefinite historic optat.
570. *ἀνορταλίζω*, 'to raise the feathers,' 'plume oneself.' *κερουτιάω*, 'to carry your head high.'
574. *σκιάδειον*, 'parasol.'
578. *καταμισθοφορῆσαι*, 'to spend in salaries,' to dicasts, &c.
579. *παραδραμών*, 'outstripping.' *ἂν ᾤχετο*. The past conditional is often so used in Greek (like our 'would,' e.g., 'when a boy I *would* often sit up all night reading') to express a habit.
588. *βάραθρον*, a rocky chasm at Athens where criminals were thrown.
589. And so kill two birds with one stone.
592. *μακρὰ ναῦς* was a ship of war [*longa navis*].

THE KNIGHTS OF

595. *κατὰ σπουδᾶς*, 'by interest.' *μετεγγράφομαι*, 'to get your name transferred to another list,' and so escape service.
596. A good instance of the difference between the aorist fut. and the perfect fut. *μετεγγραφήσεται*, 'shall be transferred,' like aorist, a single act. *ἐγγεγράψεται*, 'shall remain on the books like perfect, a state.
597. *ἀγοράζω*, 'to lounge' in the market-place. Clisthenes and Strato are well-known effeminate idlers.
599. Some wholesome exercise is what such triflers want.
601. *ὀκλαδίας* [*ὀκλάζω*, 'to crouch'], 'a camp-stool.'
608. For in war the fields were almost neglected.
611. *ἀλλ' ἤ*, 'only.'
616. *δια-κράζω*, 'to have a bawling match.' Cf. *δια-θέω*, *δια-πίνω*.
618. *φαρμακός*, 'drug,' 'nuisance.'
619. *βατραχίς*, 'a frog-green coat' worn at public banquets.
620. *ἐπὶ τὴν τέχνην*, 'to his (new) trade.'

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