

## ILIAD 21. 342 — 360

“Ως ἔφαθ “Ηφαιστος δὲ τιτύσκετο θεσπιδαές πῦρ.  
πρῶτα μὲν ἐν πεδίῳ πῦρ δαίστο, καὶ δὲ νεκροὺς  
πολλοὺς, οἵ τις κατ’ αὐτὸν ἀλις ἔσαν, οὓς κτάν’ Ἀχιλλεύς.  
πᾶν δ’ ἔξηράνθη πεδίον, σχέτο δ’ ἀγλαὸν ὕδωρ. 345  
ώς δ’ ὅτ’ ὀπωρινὸς Βορέης νεοαρδέας ἀλιωὴν  
αἴψις ἀγξηράνη. χαίρει δέ μιν ὃς τις ἐθείρη.  
ώς ἔξηράνθη πεδίον πᾶν, καὶ δ’ ἄκρα νεκροὺς  
κήνεν· δ’ ἐξ ποταμὸν τρέψε φλόγα παμφανόωσαν.  
καίοντο πτελέα τε καὶ ἵτεαι ἡδὲ μυρίκαι, 350  
καίετο δὲ λωτός τε ἵδε θρύνον ἡδὲ κύπειρον,  
τὰ περὶ καλὰ ῥέεθρα ἀλις ποταμοῖο πεφύκει.  
τείροντ’ ἐγχέλυες τε καὶ ἵχθυες οἵ τις κατὰ δίνας,  
οἵ τις κατὰ καλὰ ῥέεθρα κυβίστων ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα  
πνοιῇ τειρόμενοι πολυμήτιος Ἡφαιστοιο. 355  
καίετο δ’ ἵς ποταμοῖο ἔπος τ’ ἔφατ’ ἐκ τ’ ὀνόμαζεν.  
““Ηφαιστος”, οὐ τις σοί γε θεῶν δύναται ἀντιφερίζειν,  
οὐδὲ ἀντί ἔγω σοί γ’ ἀντί πυρὶ φλεγέθοντι μαχοίμην.  
λῆγγος ἔριδος, Τρῶας δὲ καὶ αὐτίκα δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς  
άστεος ἔξελάσειε τί μοι ἔριδος καὶ ἀρωγῆς;” 360

The passage is to be translated roughly as follows: „Thus she spoke, and Hephaistos made ready his portentous fire. First it flared up in the plain and began to burn the many corpses which were in heaps throughout it, which Achilles had killed. And the whole plain dried up and the gleaming water was stayed. And as when in Fall Boreas quickly dries up a newly-watered garden, and whoever tills it rejoices, so the whole plain was dried, and it burned up the corpses. And he turned the bright-shining flame towards the river. The elms and willows and tamarisks began to burn, and the lotus and rush and galingale began to burn which had grown up in plenty around the fair streams of the river. The eels and the fish which were in its eddies suffered greatly, which dived here and there through its fair streams, troubled by the blast of Hephaistos of many counsels. And the river itself caught fire and spoke out and called him by name: ‘Hephaistos, no one of the gods can match himself with you, nor would I fight with you thus blazing up with fire. Cease from strife, and straightway glorious Achilles might drive the Trojans out of the city. What have I to do with strife and protection?’”.

The passage describes Hephaistos' fight with the river Xanthos, and is remarkable in a number of ways. Thematically it is remarkable in that here we have both a foreshadowing of the upcoming battle of the gods, and also, perhaps more importantly, a personification of the symbols fire and water — a symbolism which Cedric Whitman has done much to clarify. As Whitman says, (*Homer and the Heroic Tradition* 139—140 [Cambridge, 1958]), „All naturalism is here left far behind, and the basic imagery of the *aristeia* of Achilles has completely run away with the action. It is, in fact, an inversion of nature for fire to lick up water”.

This inversion of nature, or in any event the striking nature of the passage, is marked rhetorically as well. Anaphora in the *Iliad* is not rare, though it is far from the rule. One can instance passages like 1.436—439:

ἐκ δ' εὐνὰς ἔβαλον, κατὰ δὲ πρυμνήσι' ἔδησαν  
ἐκ δὲ καὶ αὐτοὶ βαῖνον ἐπὶ ῥηγμῖνι θαλάσσης,  
ἐκ δ' ἐκατόμβην βῆσαν ἐκηβόλῳ Ἀπόλλωνι  
ἐκ δὲ χρυσῆς νηὸς βῆ ποντοπόροιο,

where *ἐκ* begins four lines, creating an effect, to be sure, but an effect that is not particularly compelling or necessary. Or again we find anaphora in Agamemnon's advice in 2. 382—384:

εῦ μέν τις δόρυ θηξάσθω, εῦ δ' ἀσπίδα θέσθω,  
εῦ δέ τις ἵπποισιν δεῖπνον δότω ὡκυπόδεσσιν,  
εῦ δέ τις ἀρματος ἀμφὶς ἰδὼν πολέμοιο μεδέσθω,  
ὅς κε πανημέριοι στυγερῷ κρινώμεθ' Ἀρηĩ,

a passage which underlines the importance and significance of an action soon to be postponed by a catalogue of ships. But rarely, if indeed ever, do we find the prolonged repetition of a verb at the beginning of a line such as that found in the four-fold repetition of forms of *καίω* in our passage.<sup>1</sup>

Rhetorical singularity is matched by linguistic strangeness, *δπωρινός* with long *-i-* does occur elsewhere in the poems, but rarely, even though it is the normal, indeed only, form of the word in Homer<sup>2</sup>. The long *-a-* of *ἀνξηράνη* in 347 instead of *η* is singular, and has provoked Chantraine (*Grammaire homérique* 1.17) to think of an Atticism of our vulgate. *ἔθειρη* at the end of the same line is a word of unknown meaning explicated only by the phrase *χρυσέαις φολίδεσσιν*

<sup>1</sup> I have collected the most striking cases of anaphora to be found in the poems in Appendix II.

<sup>2</sup> On this word and its history and its position in the epic tradition, cf. W. Schulze, *Quaestiones epicae* 473—475 (Gütersloh, 1892), H. Frisk, *Griechisches etymologisches Wörterbuch* 2.408 (Heidelberg, 1960—70), G. P. Shipp, *Studies in the Language of Homer* 77 (Transactions of the Cambridge Philological Society 8, Cambridge, 1953). Schulze is probably right in assuming an original *\*δπωρινός*, contracted later to *δπωρινός*. Cf. *Ωμοίων* > *Ωρίων*.

ἔθειρεται of Orph. *Arg.* 932 which, as Leaf says, explains nothing. δ' in 349 marks a change of action or direction on the part of the subject rather than a change of subject, and this, too, is striking, though it has been defended by Leaf<sup>3</sup> by means of some inexact parallels. But perhaps the most striking line of all these unusual lines is 352

τὰ περὶ καλὰ ῥέεθρα ἄλις ποταμοῦ πεφύκει.

This line combines the unusual, in fact unique, scansion of τὰ as a long (?) syllable in the first foot of the line with the awkward word order ῥέεθρα ἄλις ποταμοῦ πεφύκει, with ἄλις separating ῥέεθρα from ποταμοῦ. Furthermore ποταμοῦ is flat and otiose, since it is clear from 349 above that we are dealing with a river. And yet in spite of all these linguistic difficulties there are no textual problems recorded from antiquity. The scholiasts were concerned only with whether to read πνοιῆ or ῥιπῆ in 355 (cf. 21. 12), and with the absorbing question of how it was possible for the plain to be burned together with its corpses while Achilles, who was also in the plain, escaped conflagration. Modern scholars have commented on a number of matters, but have called into question only line 344 which is, according to Leaf: „probably a mere interpolation from 236 where ὡτόν has its proper reference” I accept Leaf's athetesis: ὡτὸν is very harsh here.

I shall in what follows be concerned primarily with line 352, and in fact particularly with its first word, τὰ. The irregular scansion of this form has been explained in a number of ways. Whatmough<sup>4</sup> treated it as a linguistic archaism, comparing it with Vedic Sanskrit *tā*, a form of identical function but containing a long vowel. He holds that Indo-European \**tā* passed to Greek *tā* in all forms of Greek save for this one passage. But all a priori considerations of the likelihood of such a development aside<sup>5</sup>, Whatmough's explanation is of course impossible since all cases of inherited (a:) passed to (ε:) (*eta*) in Attic and Ionic: his explanation demands \*τῆ, and since we in fact have τὰ, his explanation cannot be correct. Chantraine (*Grammaire homérique* 1.103) assumes that *tā* is metrically lengthened to *τā* here, though he fails to provide any reason why the poet should have chosen to create a line which necessitated so great a departure from ordinary linguistic usage. If one is to assume metrical lengthening, he also now—thanks to Parry and Lord — owes it to his readers to explain what caused

<sup>3</sup> W. Leaf and M. Bayfield, *The Iliad of Homer* xlvi (London, 1924). The question is, of course, what is the subject in these lines. If the subject of κῆνε in 349 is Hephaistos, then the δ' is strange, for clearly the subject of τρέψει must be Hephaistos. If the subject of κῆνε is 'fire', the syntax is saved, but we encounter a rough transition.

<sup>4</sup> J. Whatmough, *Poetic, Scientific and Other Forms of Discourse* 91 (Sather Classical Lectures 29, Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1956).

<sup>5</sup> The Skt. ntr. plur. is always *tā(ni)*, even in the Veda. In order to posit \**tā* in Greek, we should require the variant \**tā* in Sanskrit, thus showing that both existed in Indo-European. Otherwise we must assume that Sanskrit always and only had *tā*, and that Greek had always and only τὰ.

the poet to place a form in a position which required metrical lengthening<sup>6</sup>. W. Schulze (*Quaestiones epicae* 375) followed in this by Leaf (*Iliad* 1.595) avoided the difficulties inherent in both the explanations just recorded. He assumed that the poets had the option of beginning a line with a short syllable whenever the spirit moved them. In so doing he converted a descriptive label of the ancient writers on metrics into a poetic license allowed the poets. That this is a questionable inference no one will doubt, and without going further into the question here, I shall assume that Schulze's explanation is impossible, and that the poets did not have the option of placing a short syllable in the first arsis<sup>7</sup>.

No one of the explanations given in the past for the occurrence of τὸ is really convincing, and furthermore at best all only approach the question of its phonetic realization: was it [ta:], or was it [ta], or was it perhaps [tapp]? But this really is a rather insignificant question, and the important question is: how did line 352 come to have τὸ, however realized phonetically, placed in the first arsis in an open syllable? My answer to this question is that the poet, led on by rhetorical considerations, has simply made a mistake: how he covered it up in his performance I do not know, though I assume that he made up the full quantity of the syllable either by lengthening the vowel or by doubling the *p-* of the following word<sup>8</sup>. It is my belief that line 351 is an intruder into the text, a Homeric intruder to be sure, but one that did not appear in earlier recitations of this scene; and that the insertion of line 351 caused the metrically correct αὐ of original 352 to be changed to the metrically anomalous τὸ<sup>9</sup>.

The relative pronoun is not rare in the first foot of the line, but elsewhere it is either long by nature — e. g., to take examples only from this same book — οὐς 21.135, οὐ 21.206, ή 21.277; or long by virtue of appearing in a closed syllable: δέ τέκε 21.159, δέ θ' 21.253, δύ ρά 21.283: τὸ is of course excluded from the arsis of the foot save when followed by a word beginning with two consonants. Relative plus περί is not rare either, occurring as it does at the beginning of the line six times in the *Iliad* (e. g., οὐ περὶ 1.258, 2.751, 757, οὐ πέρι 10.244) and within the line after pause seven times (e. g. δέ περὶ 2.831, δύ περὶ 5.325). The question then of course arises: how was the poet

<sup>6</sup> The major weakness of theories operating with metrical lengthening has been that no account has been taken of the poets' choice of a word. Scholars have simply noted that a word needs a syllable lengthened if it is to enter the verse, but they have not concerned themselves with explaining how the poets could choose a word of impossible metrical shape. On this cf. my *Metrical Lengthening in Homer* 29—34 (Incunabula Graeca 35, Rome, 1969).

<sup>7</sup> On the nature and shortcomings of the doctrine of the *stichos akephalos* cf. *Metrical Lengthening in Homer* 210—222.

<sup>8</sup> There are analogies both for lengthening (e. g. ἀμφηρεφέα τε *Il.* 1.45) and for doubling of the consonant (the frequent ἐπεῑ in the first foot must have been pronounced [epeip̄] — cf. *Metrical Lengthening in Homer* 220).

<sup>9</sup> There are other metrical mistakes in the first arsis. Cf. τὸν ἔτερον (*Od.* 5.266 — *Metrical Lengthening in Homer* 217—218) and λαυθῆ (*Od.* 22.59 — *Metrical Lengthening in Homer* 215).

led to make the mistake of introducing τὰ into a position from which it was metrically excluded? The answer lies in the poet's desire to achieve still greater dramatic and rhetorical effect in a scene already dramatically and rhetorically effective, and also in his desire to complete a description which probably seemed to him deficient: trees growing on a river bank without shrubs and other vegetation would be most strange. Hence he inserted rushes, etc. In order to make more impressive and authentic his description of the fire's progress towards the river, and in order also to create another case of anaphora, he inserted a new line which destroyed the previous grammatical concord and occasioned the metrical error<sup>10</sup>. This new line was line 351, and caused the correct earlier version with feminine concord:

καίντο πτελέαι καὶ ἵτεαι ἡδὲ μυρίκαι,  
αἱ περὶ καλὰ ρέεθρα

to be changed to the neuter τὰ. αἱ cannot pick up both feminines and neuters - only the neuter can do that - and as a result αἱ had to be changed to τὰ in 352.

Restoring αἱ to the earlier version is not enough, for πεφύκει cannot easily be changed to allow plural concord. We must, in order to support the position just adopted, endeavor to restore (or perhaps better to recreate) the original ending of the line. We have already observed that the end of the line as it stands in the text — with ἄλις splitting ρέεθρα from ποταμόν and in turn being separated from πεφύκει by ποταμόν is queer. Though the following inference from this fact is not logically inevitable, it may well be that the present ending is not the original ending. What the original ending of the line may have been is ultimately anybody's guess, but I should like to offer a guess of my own.

Line 344 is unnecessary and seems out of place, repeated as it is from 21.236. It can be omitted without any loss in sense or of force in this passage. And if we suppose that 344 was in fact absent from earlier versions of the description of Hephaistos' fight with the river, we may adopt ἄλις ἔσαν from this line and thus extend the original 351 to: αἱ περὶ καλὰ ρέεθρα ἄλις ἔσαν. In so doing we shall presumably have to suppose that it was the original 351 with its ἄλις ἔσαν which suggested to the poet including 344 in this passage as well as in 236<sup>11</sup>. Rather

<sup>10</sup> That trees alone and not bushes were originally involved is indicated, though certainly not proved, by 21.337—338:

οὐ δέ Εάνθοι παρ' ὄχθας  
δένδρεα καὶ, ἐν δ' αὐτὸν ἵει πυρὶ

<sup>11</sup> That ἄλις πεφύκει and the text as it stands in our *Iliad* is that of Homer and not some later interpolator is strongly indicated by Homer's use elsewhere of ἄλις in pastoral scenes with reduplicating forms of the perfect. Cf.

II. 2.90 αἱ μέν τ' ἔνθα ἄλις πεποτήσαται, αἱ δέ τε ἔνθα

II. 17.54 χώρῳ ἐν οἰοπόλῳ, όθ' ἄλις ἀναβέβροχεν ὕδωρ

In all these passages we have to do with trees and flowers, and in the latter two, at least, with water.

better, though, is to assume πεφύκεσαν here, for Homer elsewhere seems to like this verb with trees (*Il.* 4.483—484, 14.288, *Od.* 9.141)<sup>12</sup>.

Even if we extend 'original' 353 by πεφύκεσαν, we still need a tag to complete the line, a tag which will extend from the bucolic diaeresis to the end of the line. Clearly any number of possibilities are conceivable here, including even a complete change of subject and topic with a complete stop after πεφύκεσαν. Whatever we suggest is bound to be hypothetical, but it is possible that by mining still deeper in the passage at hand, we can in fact find a suitable conclusion to the line. Line 354:

οἱ κατὰ καλὰ ῥέεθρα κυβίστων ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα

aside from introducing a flat repetition of καλὰ ῥέεθρα, is syntactically difficult and otiose after the οἱ κατὰ δίνας of 353. If, as Leaf suggests, we are to understand ἦσαν after δίνας, we have a complete sentence, and then the next line, 154, becomes strange because of its lack of connective. 11.535:

αἴματι δ' ἀξων  
νέρθεν ἄπας πεπάλακτο καὶ ἀντυγες αἵ περ δίφρον  
δς ἄρ' ἀρ' ἵππείων δπλέων ῥαθάμιγγες ἔβαλλον  
αἱ τ' ἀπ' ἐπισσώτρων

„and the axle under

the chariot was all splashed with blood and the rails which encircled the chariot, struck by flying drops from the feet of the horses, from the running rims of the wheels" (Lattimore's translation), which Leaf cites as parallel is not really parallel because particles are there present, and Monro's discussion (*Homeric Grammar* § 271) to which Leaf refers merely substantiates the omission of 'to be' in relative clauses, and does not support the possibility of a second relative clause without connective when the relative pronouns are in the same case. Rather it leaves 354 almost totally unsupported, and hence suspect. It may indeed be that an earlier recitation (performance) of this passage did not include 354. And if so, we are free to use the tag of this line to complete our hypothetical original 352 which will now have read:<sup>13</sup>

<sup>12</sup> On the assumption of πεφύκεσαν, of course, we may welcome line 344 back to the text. It still seems awkward, however.

<sup>13</sup> There is a semantic difficulty here in that, though ἔνθα can easily mean 'there' (*Il.* 14.216) or 'where' (*Il.* 1.610), it tends, with verbs of motion to mean 'thither' (*Il.* 13.23), and seems always to be so used in the phrase ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα (so *LSJ* s. v.). With verbs of state or rest, though, it must always have meant 'here and there' and only later have become restricted to the meaning 'hither and thither' because so frequently used with verbs of motion. By way of support for ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα in this line (and to a lesser extent in this meaning) I would again cite 2.90 (quoted above n. 11). ῥέεθρα and ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα appear together also in *Il.* 2.459 — 462:

Τῶν δ', ὃς τ' δρνίθων πετεηνῶν ἔθνεα πολλά,  
γῆνῶν ἢ γεράνων ἢ κύκνων δουλιχοδείρων,  
Ἄστρῳ ἐν λειμῶνι, καύστροισι δμφὶ ῥέεθρα,  
ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα ποτῶνται ἀγαλλόμενα πτερύγεσσι

And ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα meaning 'here and there' and appearing at the end of a line is

αῖ περὶ καλὰ ρέεθρα πεφύκεσαν ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα.

And the entire passage in its „more original” form will be:

342 ὃς ἔφαθ', "Ηφαιστος δὲ τιτύσκετο θεσπιδαές πῦρ.  
 343 πρῶτα μὲν ἐν πεδίῳ πῦρ δαίετο, καὶ δὲ νεκρούς.  
 345 πᾶν δ' ἔξηράνθη πεδίον, σχέτο δ' ἀγλαὸν ὕδωρ.  
 ὃς δ' ὅτ' ὄπωρινὸς Βορέης νεοαρδέας ἀλωὴν  
 αἴψ' ἀνέηράνθη· χαίρει δέ μιν ὅς τις ἔθειρη·  
 ὃς ἔξηράνθη πεδίον πᾶν, καὶ δ' ἄρα νεκρούς  
 κῆγεν ὁ δ' ἐξ ποταμὸν τρέψε φλόγα παμφανόωσαν.  
 350 καίοντο πτελέαι καὶ ιτέαι ἡδὲ μυρῖκαι,  
 352 αῖ περὶ καλὰ ρέεθρα πεφύκεσαν ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα.  
 353 τείρονθ' ἐγχέλυνές τε καὶ ιχθύες οἱ κατὰ δίνας,  
 355 πνοιῇ τειρόμενοι πολυμήτιος Ἡφαίστοιο.  
 καίετο δ' ίς ποταμοῖο, ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἐκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν.

I feel that the passage as newly constituted (or reconstituted) is equally as Homeric as that of our vulgate.

I might also in passing again call attention to the strange forms in the simile in lines 346—348, especially to the singular ἀνέηράνη. We might be encouraged by what has preceded to feel that this simile is also a late entry into our passage, and hence be tempted to remove it as well. If we do so, of course, we shall have to change the καὶ δὲ νεκρούς of 343 to καὶ δ' ἄρα νεκρούς, a rather minor change; and omit 345, a line which we should perhaps rather prefer to keep:

342 ὃς ἔφαθ', "Ηφαιστος δὲ τιτύσκετο θεσπιδαές πῦρ.  
 343 πρῶτα μὲν ἐν πεδίῳ πῦρ δαίετο, καὶ δ' ἄρα νεκρούς.  
 349 κῆγεν ὁ δ' ἐξ ποταμὸν τρέψε φλόγα παμφανόωσαν.  
 350 καίοντο πτελέαι καὶ ιτέαι ἡδὲ μυρῖκαι,  
 352 αῖ περὶ καλὰ ρέεθρα πεφύκεσαν ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα.  
 353 τείροντ' ἐγχέλυνές τε καὶ ιχθύες οἱ κατὰ δίνας,  
 355 πνοιῇ τειρόμενοι πολυμήτιος Ἡφαίστοιο.  
 καίετο δ' ίς ποταμοῖο, ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἐκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν.

These changes are probably not to be made, for excising the simile introduces an abruptness to the passage, an excessive sparseness, which to me at least renders this endeavor hazardous in the extreme.

Rather we should stop short of this point and leave the passage as I have given it in its first version, already shorn of its lotus and rush and its diving and tumbling fish. But even stopping here — assuming that my reconstruction of the history of the passage is correct — we have made a few gains, and can draw three rather important conclu-

exampled in the remarkable II. 10. 263—265:

ἔκτοσθε δὲ λευκοὶ ὀδόντες  
 ἀργιόδοντος ὑός θαμέες ἔχον ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα  
 εῦ καὶ ἐπισταμένως· μέσσῃ δ' ἐν πῖλος ἀρήρει.

sions. 1) The poets could make metrical mistakes; 2) through these metrical mistakes we can at least in this instance catch a glimpse of earlier recitations: we are free also to imagine that other mistakes — of whatever nature — may likewise point in some cases to variations of earlier performances; 3) possibly most important, the text as newly constituted with its metrical error was not changed by later singers or scribes. What this means or implies for the history of epic recitation and textual history I leave to others better equipped than I to decide.

## APPENDIX I

We have probably done enough in excising 344, 351, 354, but problems yet remain in the text. We still have ὄπωρινός (346), ἀνξηράνη (347), and the troublesome δ' of 349. ὄπωρινός, though, is the regular Homeric word, and we can take no exception to it as such, but the line in which it occurs is formulaic (cf. *Od.* 5, 328):

ώς δ' ὅτ' ὄπωρινός Βορέης φορέησιν ἀκάνθας

and can have been inserted here at any time out of the poet's stock of formulas. ἀγξηράνη is a more serious problem. That it is the correct reading and not merely an Atticizing mistake of the tradition seems proved by Herodotus 2.99.2: τὸ μὲν ἀρχαῖον ῥέεθρον ἀποξηρᾶναι (all mss.: ἀποξηρῆναι Hude) which seems possibly reminiscent of this passage<sup>14</sup>. I have no good explanation for this form<sup>15</sup>, but feel that the major reason for its being here is the ἔξηράνθη of 345: ἔξηράνθη was there first, ἀγξηράνη is secondary to it. We may from this fact infer that there existed (earlier) recitations of this passage which did not include the simile, and we can support this conclusion by the following observations: μιν (347) referring to an inanimate object is unusual, though not unexampled (*Shipp Studies* 35); 348 with its καδ δ' δρα νεκρούς contains a flat repetition of the κατε δὲ νεκρούς of 343 and seems dependent on it. The δ' of 349 still causes trouble. But the resulting

<sup>14</sup> See the appendix for further speculation as to earlier versions of the passage.

<sup>15</sup> Herod. 7. 109.2 also contains a form of this verb: ταύτην τὰ ὑποζύγια μοῦνα ἀρδόμενα ἀνεξήργη, and here the manuscript tradition is nearly unanimous in reading -η-. It thus seems that, save while imitating Homer, Herodotus used -η- in the aorist of this verb.

<sup>16</sup> I do, though, feel that it is genuine Ionic and not an Attic intrusion, an Attic intrusion which we would find considerable difficulty in explaining. The verb ξηραίνω from ξηρός must be a relatively late development in Greek (cf. A. Debrunner, *Griechische Wortbildungsllehre* 109—112 [Heidelberg, 1917]), and cannot therefore have had an aorist \*κσέρανσα at a time when \*(ns) was being simplified to \*/nn/ (>/n:/.). Hence the aorist had to be formed by analogy with other verbs. If the analogy chosen was σημαίνω as it usually was, then the aorist was ἔξηρανσα; but if the analogy was μένω ἔμενω then the aorist might well be ἔξηρᾶνσα for the relation of short vowel (plus /i/) in the present to long vowel in the aorist allowed /a:/ at any time after the passage in Attic-Ionic of \*/a:/ to /ε:/. The relation [e] : [ε:] (μένω ἔμενω) suggested [a] : [a:] (ξηραίνω ἔξηρᾶνσα).

passage as printed in the text is itself flat because of the excision of 345. Hence we can take another tack and retain 345, even though doing so causes difficulties with 349 which now needs an opening trochee. This can be supplied in a number of ways, and rather than attempt originality, I shall supply the lack by writing αὐτὰρ ὁ γ', without making any claim that it is correct here. I also omit the descriptive relative clauses and phrases on the grounds that they can be inserted or omitted ad lib., and arrive at:

342 "Ως ἔφαθ", "Ηφαίστος δὲ τιτύσκετο θεσπιδαές πῦρ.  
 343 πρῶτα μὲν ἐν πεδίῳ πῦρ δαίστο, καὶ δὲ νεκροὺς.  
 345 πᾶν δ' ἔξηράνθη πεδίον, σχέτο δ' ἀγλαὸν ὕδωρ.  
 349 αὐτὰρ ὁ γ' ἐς ποταμὸν τρέψε φλόγα παμφανόωσαν.  
 350 καίσοντο πτελέαι καὶ ἵτεαι ἡδὲ μυρῖκαι.  
 353 τείροντ' ἐγχέλυνές τε καὶ ἵχθυες οἱ κατὰ δίνας.  
 356 καίστο δ' ἵς ποταμοῖο ἔπος ἔφατ' ἐκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν.

The question then is: now that we have arrived at this passage, where are we? No one will doubt that the Greek is grammatical and that it is at least vaguely Homeric, but similar exercises can be performed on almost any other passage in the poems. The only difference here -- a slight one, perhaps -- is that we have some linguistic evidence for a lack of final polish on this passage, and have inferred from this that it is (as we have it) of relatively recent origin. It may be that we have by our excisions recovered the „original“ 342—360, but I doubt it, for I do not feel that an original ever existed: there were versions of this passage, to be sure, but no original save for the situation of the fight of Hephaistos with the river. What we have in our shortest version, then, is not an „original“ version that was ever sung -- though it could conceivably have been -- but rather the bare bones of that particular casting of the scene which Homer chose on this one occasion. He could have sung this sparest version, though this was probably his least favorite choice; or he could have sung it with the descriptive lines:

352 αἱ περὶ καλὰ ῥέεθρα πεφύκεσσαν ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα  
 355 πνοιῇ τειρόμενοι πολυμῆτιος Ἡφαίστοιο

alone added; or he could have sung it without only 344, 351, 354; or he could have sung it the way it appears in our texts, complete with simile and metrical mistake.

## APPENDIX II

Repetitions at the beginnings of lines tend to involve those words which are both adversative in nature and also usually appear initially in their clause, both in poetry and in prose. Among such I might instance exempli gratia from the *Odyssey*: οἱ (μὲν... δὲ) 1.110—11, 7.104—5, 13.67—8, 110—11 (in various cases); οὐτ(ε) 1.414—5, 2.200—1,

11.17—8; ἡ(ὲ) 2.29—32, 326—8, 3.487—90, 8.605—9; καὶ 2.108—9, 12.295—6; εἰ 3.90—1, 4.831—2, 20.207—8. More interesting cases include; ἔνθα (4x) 3.108—11; πολλὰ 3.273—4; τρίς μάκαρες 6.154—5; the chiastic arrangement of gold-silver-silver-gold (7.86—91); οὕτις 9.366/9; εὐνή 10.334—5; πρίν 10.384—5, 19.585—6; τρίς 11.206—7, 21.125—6; λᾶσαν 11.594/6; ξειν- 14.56—8; κτήματα 15.11/13; μοῦνον 16.118—20; οἶνος 21.293/5; οὕθ' ὅσσοι 21.346—7; τῇ ἐτέρῃ 22.183—4. Of the above the reader will observe that some are thematically important, others not. The only case I have found of a verb repeated was 4.184—5:

κλαῖε μὲν Ἀργείη Ἐλένη, Διὸς ἐκγεγαυῖα,  
κλαῖε δὲ Τηλέμαχος τε καὶ Ἀτρετδῆς Μενέλαος.

The *Iliad* has many of the same banal instances as the *Odyssey*, and there is no need to cite examples here. Only special circumstances, such as οἴτε τε (2.496—539) in the Catalogue of the Ships, and the repetition of ἐν (18.483/5, 587—8/90), the presence of ἐν plus ἄλλον (18.535, 536—7) and τεῦξ- (18.610—11/13) in the description of the Shield of Achilles deserve mention. Too, personal names occur more frequently in the *Iliad*, and hence, because it is easier to repeat a name in the same metrical slot than to move it about in the line, the same name often enough appears in successive lines; Νιρεύς (2.671—3) in the Catalogue; Ἀτρειδ- 9.339/41; Αἴαντε 13.46—7, 16.555—6; Ἀμφίλοχ- 15.568—9, 16.318/20; Πατροκλο- 16.815—6; Ἐκτορ 17.141—2; Αἴνειας 20.160—1; Λγτ- 21.497—8.

Interesting, but not verbal, examples follow: παντ-; 1.288—9; ἔνθα 1.610—1; ἡμεῖς 4.405—6; τρίς 5.436—7, 8.169—70, 11.462—3, 18.228—9, 21.176—7; δεινή 5.739//42 flanking ἐν 5.740—1; πολλοί 6.227/9, 17.430—1, 23.30—2; καὸ δ' 7.57—8, 24.578—80; τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' 7.164—5/7=8.262—3/5; χρυσ- 8.43—4, 11.633/5, 13.22//25—6; πολλ- frequent in book nine (541—599); π- interrogative 10.406—8; 12.416—20 where forms of τεῦχος alternate with οὕτε; ἄλλω 13.730—2; πεντήκοντ- 16.168—9; ἥη- 17.283/5, 461—2; ἄκρον 20.227/9; μήτι 23.315—6/7; ἄν 23.887-8.

The repetition of a verb is also more frequent in the *Iliad*: ῥίγησεν 4.148/50; ἥθελε 10.228—31; βέβληται 11.660/2; τεθνα- 15.496—7; ζωει- 16.14—5; the etymologically interesting play with the verb 'brandish' and the names Πηλεύς and Πήλιον 16.142—4=19.389—91; οὖλον κελάργοντες 17.756//8; λισσομ- 19.304—5; τερπ- 19.312—3; δυ- 19.367—8; ἔλκ- 22.464—5. Of course such a judgment is bound to be subjective, but it seems to me that few, if any, of the above can compete with *Iliad* 21.350—6 for rhetorical effectiveness.