

ODES

BOOK I

T

Maecenas atavis edite regibus, o et praesidium et dulce decus meum : sunt quos curriculo pulverem Olympicum collegisse iuvat metaque fervidis evitata rotis palmaque nobilis terrarum dominos evehit ad deos : hunc, si mobilium turba Quiritium

In these notes (p) = preposited, (s) = separated, (ps) = preposited and separated, (pp) = postposited, (pps) = postposited and separated, (P.) = Prolegomena.

I. 1. regibus equals regiis (s); it is emphatic and predicative i.e. 'sprung from forbears that were royal.' Compare Odes 4. 5. 1 Divis orte bonis and Cic. De Off. 1. 32. 116 (ad fin.) obscuris orti maioribus. It should be observed that regibus edite would scan equally well. Horace, of course, may have desired to avoid three final s's in succession. See too P. 24.

For the intervening vocative see on Odes 1. 5. 3.

- 2. dulce decus meum: decus stands between the two epithets. See P. 34.
 - 4, 5. metaque fervidis | evitata rotis: for the grouping see P. 14.
- 6. terrarum (p): lords of this world, they feel that they are equals of the heavenly beings (ad deos last). The order seems to support the view that terrarum dominos belongs to quos and not to deos. The stress on terrarum is not appropriate to the gods; they are rather 'lords of heaven' as Catullus calls them 68. 36. (76) caelestes pacificasset eros, or 'lords of the universe' as in Ovid Ex Ponto 2. 2. 12 in rerum dominos movimus arma deos (for the frequent position of rerum see P. 42). In Ex Ponto 2. 8. 26 terrarum dominum quem sua cura facit Augustus is fittingly called 'lord of this world, while ib. 1. 9. 35, 36 nam tua non alio coluit penetralia ritu | terrarum dominos quam colis ipse deos does not prove that terrarum dominos refers to deos, since the lines may mean 'Celsus honoured you no less than you honour these earthly lords (especially the emperor) as if they were gods' (note particularly 1. 49 quem tu pro numine vivus habebas).

For evehit ad deos compare Odes 4. 2. 17, and Juvenal 1. 38.

7. hunc: note the contrasted persons placed early—illum l. 9, gaudentem l. 11, multos l. 23.

N. H. I



2 HORACE

certat tergeminis tollere honoribus;
illum, si proprio condidit horreo
quicquid de Libycis verritur areis.
gaudentem patrios findere sarculo
agros Attalicis condicionibus
numquam demoveas, ut trabe Cypria
Myrtoum pavidus nauta secet mare;
luctantem Icariis fluctibus Africum
mercator metuens otium et oppidi
laudat rura sui: mox reficit rates
quassas, indocilis pauperiem pati.

- 7, 8. mobilium (ps) equals 'though fickle, they yet give him all three offices,' tergeminis (ps). But the order mobilium turba Quiritium is frequent (see P. 19 and 20a); and so is the grouping tergeminis tollere honoribus (see P. 21).
- 9. proprio (ps) i.e. all his own, not shared in partnership nor owned by the government. Compare privatis Odes 2. 15. 15, meis Odes 3. 16. 27, Epod. 1. 26, and suis Epod. 2. 3. But see too P. 21.
- 10. Libycis (ps): the corn comes, not from his own estate, but from Africa; also see P. 21.
- 11. patrios (ps): this man delights in his ancestral farm, however small. Contrast Libycis...areis of l. 10, and see on proprio l. 9 above.
- 12. Attalicis (p): the generic adjective is often, as one would expect, prepositive. See P. 37.
- 14. Myrtoum: perhaps the worst sea in the Mediterranean (cp. Odes 4. 5. 9, 10), off Cape Malia, enough to frighten an experienced sailor, much more a novice. One need not be a confirmed believer in Porphyrion's speciem progenere ponit. See on Odes 1. 35. 7.

For the two adjectives *Myrtoum pavidus* followed by the two nouns in chiastic order see P. 10, and for the collocation of the adjectives see *Odes* 1. 5. 0.

mare: single word after the verb, as so often in Livy.

- 15. Icariis (p): again the sea is the dangerous Aegean. See too P. 10.
- 16, 17. otium et oppidi: a Roman reads this as 'retirement and town'; for though *oppidi* is genitive, he feels it to be object of *laudat* until *rura* is reached; see P. 38, and P. 20 a.
- sui (s): the word probably has emphasis; it is an emphatic afterthought (see P. 53)—'this is his own, his native land.' So he thinks on the stormy waters, but soon....
- 18. quassas standing alone at the commencement of the line has stress (see on *Odes* 4. 9. 26). The participle is concessive—'although the storm, now forgotten, had shattered them.'



ODES 1, 1

3

est qui nec veteris pocula Massici
nec partem solido demere de die
spernit, nunc viridi membra sub arbuto
stratus, nunc ad aquae lene caput sacrae.
multos castra iuvant et lituo tubae
permixtus sonitus bellaque matribus
detestata. manet sub Iove frigido
venator tenerae coniugis immemor,
seu visa est catulis cerva fidelibus,
seu rupit teretis Marsus aper plagas.
me doctarum hederae praemia frontium

19. veteris (ps): Massic wine is good, but old Massic better. See also P. 20 β .

20. partem solido i.e. 'part from whole' (solidus δλος); hence the order of artificial antithesis e.g. unus omnia etc. For solido demere de die see P. 21.

21. spernit: the verb should have stress; see on Odes 4. 9. 26.

viridi (ps) i.e. 'under the greenery (of the arbutus)'; see P. 27, and on Odes 4. 8. 33.

22. stratus: stretched idly; an important part of the picture; hence the stress. See on *Odes* 4. 9. 26.

ad aquae lene caput sacrae: for the order see P. 18. It is only a slight extension of the frequent type aquae caput sacrae (see on P. 20 a); but a Roman would read the words as they come—'near water gently springing (caput) at the shrine,' for springs were sacred and had their shrine and altar.

- 23. multos castra: see P. 51 and on l. 7 above.
- 23, 24. lituo tubae | permixtus sonitus: the normal prose order would be permixtus lituo sonitus tubae (see P. 48), or permixtus lituo tubae sonitus. Horace wishes us to hear both instruments early, as if we had lituus tubaque, with permixtus sonitus in apposition. Compare Odes 4. 1. 22. For permixtus (p), the confusion (of sound) see P. 26, and for tubae permixtus sonitus see P. 49.
 - 25. manet: comes first with stress—he stays on and on.
- 26. tenerae (p): because she is delicate he ought to have remembered her. Compare Odes 1. 21. 1.

coniugis: the word lies between *venator* and *immemor* according to rule (see on *Odes* 1. 7. 29); but, in any case, objective genitives tend to be prepositive (see P. 39).

- 27. fidelibus (s): because they have faithfully remained, they have seen the quarry.
- 28. teretis Marsus aper plagas: for the grouping see on P. 10. The adjective *teretis* goes closely with *rupit* and may mean either 'because slender,' or 'though strong.'
 - 29. me: for its position see P. 51, and compare l. 30 me...nemus (secernit).

I — 2



4 HORACE

dis miscent superis, me gelidum nemus Nympharumque leves cum Satyris chori secernunt populo, si neque tibias Euterpe cohibet nec Polyhymnia Lesboum refugit tendere barbiton. quodsi me lyricis vatibus inseres, sublimi feriam sidera vertice.

H.

Iam satis terris nivis atque dirae grandinis misit pater et rubente dextera sacras iaculatus arces terruit urbem.

me doctarum: the collocation makes a Roman read thus—'I am among the poets, I, as poet, have the ivy, a poet's reward.'

doctarum hederae praemia frontium: a pretty chiastic grouping; compare Odes 3. 9. 14 Thurini Calais filius Ornyti. If we look upon the appositional praemia as equivalent to an adjective we have the grouping of P. 15.

30. superis (s): perhaps=the gods of heaven above, i.e. the realm of poetic fancy; not the materialistic *deos* of 1. 6, anthropomorphic, endowed with human passions—pride and love of power. But see P. 21.

gelidum (p): the coolness (of the glade); see P. 27. The characteristic feature of the *nemus* is coolness, for *nemus* properly means the small open space in which the altar stood, surrounded by trees (*lucus*).

- 31. **Nympharum:** the word is logical subject and prepares us by its position for the antithesis Satyrs. A Roman reads the line thus: 'Nymphs lightly with Satyrs dancing.' The Nymphs dance lightly though they have awkward Satyrs for partners. Here there are two complements to *leves... chori*, and one complement (*Nympharum*) is placed outside; see P. 48.
 - 32. populo: last, with some stress. Horace odit profanum volgus.

tibias, preceding the subject, prepares us for the chiastic barbiton. The tibiae accompany choral odes; the barbitos accompanies songs for a private circle.

- 34. Lesboum (ps): the order recalls to mind the names of great lyrists such as Alcaeus and Sappho. The stress is echoed in *lyricis* (p) of l. 35.
- 35. Iyricis (ϕ) : if you rank me as a mere writer of lyrics (contrast an epic), I shall be more than satisfied.
- 36. **sublimi** (ps): contrast *demisso*. Horace means that instead of being bowed down with shame because he cannot emulate the massive power of a Vergil or a Homer, he lifts up his head aloft in pride at being classed among lyrists.
 - II. 1. satis...nivis: for the separation of the partitive genitive compare

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35



ODES I, I-2

5

10

terruit gentis, grave ne rediret saeculum Pyrrhae nova monstra questae, omne cum Proteus pecus egit altos visere montis,

piscium et summa genus haesit ulmo, nota quae sedes fuerat columbis, et superiecto pavidae natarunt aequore dammae.

Odes 1. 3. 37, 1. 35. 35, Epod. 7. 3, 4, 15. 12, and see note on Epod. 1. 21. This separation is almost the rule in Livy e.g. 1. 12. 1, 3. 49. 8, 3. 58. 8, 4. 53. 13, 21. 8. 5, etc. and 34. 2. 1, 6. 3, 12. 3, 14. 5, 29. 6, etc.

1, 2. dirae (ϕ): the terror (of hail); see P. 27 and note on *Odes* 2. 14. 23. But the adjective may be $d\pi \delta$ κοινοῦ, with both *nivis* and *grandinis*; see P. 33.

2. pater goes, by *coniunctio*, with *misit* and *terruit*; hence its position. rubente (ϕ) : i.e. red flash (of hand); see P. 26.

- 3. sacras (ps) equals 'though sacred to himself.' Compare *Odes* 1. 12. 60 fulmina lucis. But see also P. 21.
- 4. urbem placed after the verb, with stress, in contrast to gentis, itself after its verb. The antithesis is Rome and the empire.
- 5. grave (ps): the position of grave makes it quasi-internal with rediret, i.e. 'lest a noxious return should be of Pyrrha's age.' The adjective gravis is frequently used of recurring (note rediret) seasons of unhealthy or noxious kind. The regular phrase for the unwholesome part of the year is grave tempus, with grave prepositive; compare Livy 3. 6. 2 grave tempus, 3. 8. 1 graviore tempore anni iam circumacto and passim. See also note on Odes 2. 14. 23.
- 6. nova i.e. unheard of, horrible; see on *Epod.* 16. 30. This adjective is almost always prepositive as in *novus homo*. Compare *Odes* 1. 14. 1, etc., but contrast *Odes* 1. 7. 29, 1. 26. 10, 3. 4. 12, 3. 25. 3, 4. 4. 16, 4. 12. 19.
 - 7. omne (s): Proteus could not leave even part of his flock below.

altos (ps): not merely 'high mountains,' but, predicative, 'to the top of the mountains'—'es $\tilde{a}\kappa\rho a \tau \hat{a} \delta\rho\eta$ —or 'to the heights (of the mountains)'; see P. 27 and also P. 21.

9. piscium (ps): the order prepares us for the antithesis columbis; but piscium also equals piscarium, and the grouping is then that of ll. 11, 12 below; see P. 7 and 12. Moreover piscium is logical subject; see on P. 38.

ulmo: see on Odes 1. 1. 14 ad fin.

10. **nota** (ps): the tree was so high that it had been a well-known landmark, white with doves.

columbis: last, in antithesis to piscium l. 9 above.

11, 12. superiecto pavidae natarunt | aequore dammae: for this important grouping see P. 7.



6 HORACE

vidimus flavum Tiberim retortis litore Etrusco violenter undis ire deiectum monumenta regis templaque Vestae,

Iliae dum se nimium querenti iactat ultorem, vagus et sinistra labitur ripa Iove non probante uxorius amnis.

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13. vidimus: the verb in this emphatic position equals $\epsilon \phi o \rho \hat{a} \nu$ i.e. 'we have lived to see.' Compare Livy *Pref.* § 5, 1. 46. 8, 6. 34. 10, 21. 53. 5, 34. 7. 5.

flavum (p): yellow and therefore flooded. So Odes I. 8. 8 cur timet flavum (p) Tiberim tangere, and 2. 3. 18 villaque flavus quam Tiberis lavit (see note ad loc.). In Vergil Aen. 7. 31, as in Ovid Met. 14. 447, flava seems to refer to the yellow sand stirred up by the swirl and deposited at the mouth of the river. At Aen. 9. 816 flavo is postposited and may be a mere standing epithet: but there is a variant vasto, and Vergil would hardly call Tiber caeruleus (Aen. 8. 64) if flavus were the conventional epithet. At Catal. 13(5), 23 the reading is uncertain, but, if flavum be read, the context suggests muddy water. The colour of the Tiber is said to vary largely with the colour of the sky. In Il Piacere, d'Annunzio, describing a fine May morning in Rome, writes sul ponte apparve il Tevere lucido.

- 14. **violenter** is separated from *retortis* to emphasize the strength and violence of the flood; perhaps, also, it may be felt adjectively with *undis* cp. Livy's *deinceps reges*, etc.
- 17. Iliae dum se: characteristic early grouping of case relations. Compare Cicero T.D. 5. 39. 115 Polyphemum! Homerus...cum ariete colloquentem facit; Livy Pref. § 9 ad illa mihi pro se quisque intendat animum. Note especially Odes 1. 22. 9 me silva lupus, and add 1. 2. 47, 1. 3. 1, 1. 4. 7, 8, 1. 5. 1, 1. 6. 17, 1. 7. 21 (cp. on 1. 8. 2), 1. 10. 9, 1. 10. 13, 1. 13. 1, 1. 15. 11, 1. 15. 29, 1. 17. 14, 1. 17. 22, 23, 1. 23. 1, 1. 23. 9, 1. 25. 7, 1. 25. 9, 1. 26. 9, 1. 27. 14, 1. 28. 9, 1. 29. 5, 1. 33. 3, 4, 1. 35. 5, 1. 35. 9, 1. 35. 21, 1. 35. 36, 1. 37. 6, 7, 2. 3. 6, 2. 4. 17, 2. 6. 21, 2. 7. 13, 2. 8. 21, 2. 16. 33, 2. 17. 13, 2. 17. 22, 2. 19. 21, 2. 20. 17, 3. 2. 6, 3. 3. 13, 3. 3. 33, 3. 3. 41, 3. 4. 9, 3. 5. 18, 3. 5. 21, 3. 6. 5, 3. 6. 41, 3. 7. 18, 3. 9. 9, 3. 11. 42, 3. 21. 14, 3. 21. 21, 3. 29. 25, 4. 2. 27, 4. 4. 4, 4. 5. 9, 4. 9. 30, 4. 12. 22, 4. 15. 1, Epod. 10. 5, 12. 16, 17, 17. 42.

For noun (*Iliae*), pronoun (se), epithet (querenti), epithet (ultorem) see P. 16. nimium seems to go with both querenti and iactat.

18. **ultorem, vagus:** why may we not omit the comma at *ultorem* and take *vagus*, as if *vagando*, with *iactat ultorem* i.e. he avenges Ilia by wandering beyond his limits?

sinistra (ps): flooding on the *left* bank would affect the forum and interrupt business. But see P. 21.

19. The sentence is grammatically complete at *ripa*; what follows is an emphatic addendum (see on P. 53) i.e. 'though Jove forbade, because his *wife*



ODES 1, 2

7

audiet civis acuisse ferrum, quo graves Persae melius perirent, audiet pugnas vitio parentum rara iuventus.

quem vocet divum populus ruentis imperi rebus? prece qua fatigent virgines sanctae minus audientem carmina Vestam?

cui dabit partis scelus expiandi
Iuppiter? tandem venias precamur
nube candentis umeros amictus,
augur Apollo;

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ordered.' Hence uxorius is preposited, as if we had Iove non probante, uxore iubente.

- 21-24. audiet...audiet pugnas...iuventus: the inverted sentence and the repetition of *audiet* make the verb emphatic—they will hear of these things, but not imitate them.
- 21. civis...ferrum: the separation of civis from ferrum brings out the point; citizens (i.e. fellow-citizens) should not arm contra civis, but contra Persas.
- 22. graves (p): the interest lies in the adjective—the pest consisting of Persae; see P. 27, and on Odes 2. 14. 23.

If melius had been placed next to quo, the meaning would have been 'in order that the Persae might more easily perish.' In its present position the construction is quo (with which) melius esset (it would have been better) si Persae perirent (if the Persae had been perishing).

- 23. vitio parentum: the phrase, perhaps, goes with both pugnas and rara. The civil wars were due to the crimes of their fathers, and so was the reduced population. If Horace had not wished the words vitio parentum to be heard with both pugnas and rara, he would not have abandoned the normal order rara vitio parentum inventus. See P. 49.
 - 24. rara (p): the *iuventus* of Rome should have been *frequens*.
- 25. quem...divum: if divum be genitive plural, compare l. 1 above for the separation; if accusative, there is slight stress, contrast hominem; but see on prece qua l. 26.

ruentis (p): the *imperium* should *stare*.

26. imperi (p): see P. 38.

prece qua: emphatic for qua prece—the people 'call,' the holy Virgins 'pray,' and are instant in prayer; hence fatigent comes early. Perhaps vocet is brought forward to prepare us for the antithesis. Compare Odes 1. 29. 7.

- 30. Iuppiter has stress (see on Odes 4. 9. 26) i.e. Great Juppiter.
- 31. candentis (p): the word is preposited to bring it next to the antithetical *nube*.



8 HORACE

sive tu mavis, Erycina ridens, quam Iocus circum volat et Cupido; sive neglectum genus et nepotes 35 respicis auctor, heu nimis longo satiate ludo, quem iuvat clamor galeaeque leves, acer et Mauri peditis cruentum vultus in hostem: 40 sive mutata iuvenem figura ales in terris imitaris, almae filius Maiae, patiens vocari Caesaris ultor: serus in caelum redeas diuque 45 laetus intersis populo Quirini, neve te nostris vitiis iniquum ocior aura

- 33. Erycina ridens: see on P. 36.
- 34. volat: note the position by coniunctio; circum volat is practically one word.
- 35. neglectum (p): Mars had abandoned his offspring, Romulus and Remus, at the outset of Rome's history, and he abandons them again, although responsible for their existence (auctor); hence auctor comes last in 1. 36.
- 37. **longo** (s): the position gives additional point to *ludo* when we hear it. Mars is watching 'games' and these—*mirabile dictu*—are 'too long.' But see P. 24.
 - 39. acer et Mauri peditis...vultus: for the grouping see P. 10.

cruentum (ps) has stress. As Bentley says, the Mauri were not fortes; but they can scowl at a bleeding (fallen) foeman. This position of cruentum perhaps makes Marsi a less probable emendation. The word peditis might mean that the Maurian has dismounted.

- 41. mutata iuvenem figura: for the order see on Odes 1. 10. 14. Compare too on Odes 3. 2. 32.
 - 42. ales in terris: an angel, as it were, on earth.

almae (ps): nurturing like a kindly mother, not destroying like Mars. See also P. 20 a.

- 44. Caesaris (p): perhaps equals 'Great Caesar'; compare Odes 1. 37. 16.
- 45. **serus** is predicative.

redeas: for the re- compare ἀπό in ἀποθέωσις.

diu goes with both laetus and intersis.

47. te: for its position see P. 51.

nostris (p): the order brings out the antithesis, and case relations come early; see *Odes* 1. 2. 17.



ODES 1, 2-3

9

50

tollat; hic magnos potius triumphos, hic ames dici pater atque princeps, neu sinas Medos equitare inultos, te duce, Caesar.

III.

Sic te diva potens Cypri,
sic fratres Helenae, lucida sidera,
ventorumque regat pater
obstrictis aliis praeter Iapyga,
navis, quae tibi creditum
debes Vergilium, finibus Atticis
reddas incolumem precor
et serves animae dimidium meae.

- 48. ocior (p) i.e. 'all too swift': comparatives are naturally prepositive; see P. 28.
 - 49. tollat has stress; contrast *hic*. See on *Odes* 4. 9. 26. potius is emphasized by separation from *hic*. See P. 50 f.
 - 51, 52. inultos | ... Caesar: for these emphatic addenda see P. 53.
- 52. te duce: Horace writes an ablative absolute as if ne Medi equitent had preceded.
 - III. 1. te diva: see on Odes 1. 2. 17.

potens Cypri: Cypri may stand outside diva potens because we still wait for an object; see P. 47. On the other hand objective genitives more often precede (see P. 39), and it is hard to see why Horace should not have written diva Cypri potens. See too P. 44.

- 2. lucida (p): perhaps equals 'not obscured by storm.' Wickham, Gow, and others, in view of Pliny N.H. 2. 101 (ch. XXXVII) and Statius Silv. 3. 2. 8, see a reference to St Elmo's fire; but the stars Castor and Pollux may be meant. These rise in front of the Lion, and are brilliant objects in the evening sky from January to April i.e. during most of the stormy months. To pray that they may be bright is to pray for fine weather at such a time. See on Odes 1. 12. 27, 3. 29. 64, and 4. 8. 31. Had Vergil been travelling in the summer, Horace would scarcely have been so anxious. Compare too Odes 4. 14. 21.
- 3. ventorum (ps) equals 'and as for winds may their father...'; see P. 40. The word ventorum is brought close to sidera in artificial antithesis.
- 5, 6. quae tibi creditum | debes: the sentence may be felt as complete at debes, for creditum can be quasi-substantival $(\tau \dot{\eta} \nu \pi \alpha \rho \alpha \kappa \alpha \tau \alpha \theta \dot{\eta} \kappa \eta \nu)$; this gives Vergilium some emphasis—'even Vergil.' But see also P. 21.
 - 7. incolumem: predicative.
 - 8. animae dimidium meae: for the grouping see P. 19 and 20 a.



10

HORACE

illi robur et aes triplex circa pectus erat, qui fragilem truci 10 commisit pelago ratem primus, nec timuit praecipitem Africum decertantem Aquilonibus, nec tristis Hyadas, nec rabiem Noti, quo non arbiter Hadriae 15 maior, tollere seu ponere vult freta. quem mortis timuit gradum, qui siccis oculis monstra natantia, qui vidit mare turbidum et infamis scopulos Acroceraunia? 20 nequicquam deus abscidit prudens Oceano dissociabili terras, si tamen impiae non tangenda rates transiliunt vada.

- 10, 11. fragilem truci | commisit pelago ratem: for the grouping see P. 8. Note the happy juxtaposition of weakness (fragilem) and violence (truci), of open sea (pelago) and a tiny boat (ratem).
- 12. primus: emphatic because it comes late; its normal position would

be immediately after qui. See too on Odes 4. 9. 26.

praecipitem (p): as if we had praecipitationem Africi, like rabiem Noti of l. 14 below. So in l. 14 tristis Hyadas equals tristitiam Hyadum. See on P. 27.

- 13. decertantem Aquilonibus: these words are emphatic addenda— 'engaged in a death struggle with the North wind.' See on P. 53.
 - 14. tristis (p): see l. 12 above, and also on *Odes* 2. 14. 23.
 - 16. maior: for stress see on Odes 4. 9. 26.

freta: see on Odes 1. 1. 14 ad fin. Especially common is an iambus or pyrrhic in this position.

17. mortis (ps): see on P. 38. But there is great stress on mortis—even Death had no terrors for him.

gradum: see on freta l. 16 above.

- 18. siccis (p): Greek would express the emphasis by ξηροίς καὶ οὐ νοτεροίς ὄμμασιν.
 - 19. turbidum et: for the position of et compare on Odes 1. 35. 39.
 - 20. **infamis** (p): see on *Odes* 2. 14. 23.
 - 21. nequicquam is emphatic by separation from the verb.
 - 22. **prudens** is predicative sc. $\omega \nu$ —'in his providence.'
- 23. terras has stress; see on Odes 4. 9. 26. Contrast Oceano 1. 22 and vada 1. 24.
 - 23, 24. impiae | non tangenda rates transiliunt vada: for the grouping