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Richard Porson
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Adversaria

Edited from Porson's notebooks by two of his Cambridge colleagues, *Adversaria* was published posthumously in 1812. It includes Porson's prelection (delivered when he was a candidate for the Regius Professorship of Greek) and notes and emendations to his monumental edition of Euripides as well as to editions of other Greek writings. Among his contributions to nineteenth-century classical scholarship was the discovery of a rule relating to the position of words in Greek trimeters which is still known as Porson's law. His scholarly style, which focused on meter and language rather than interpretation, set the standard for classical textual criticism at Cambridge for several decades. One of Porson's legacies was the design of a Greek typeface based on his handwriting, commissioned from Richard Austin by Cambridge University Press. 'Porson Greek' was widely used in British publications for well over a century.

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Adversaria

*Notae et Emendationes in Poetas Græcos
quas ex Schedis Manuscriptis Porsoni*

RICHARD PORSON
EDITED BY JAMES HENRY MONK
AND CHARLES JAMES BLOMFIELD



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RICARDUS PORSON.

*Engraved from a Bust, taken immediately after his Death:
by James Fuller, A. R. A.*

Published by J. M. Warren, 39, Ludgate Street, Aug. 17, 1812.

**RICARDI PORSONI
ADVERSARIA**

—◆—
NOTÆ ET EMENDATIONES

IN

POETAS GRÆCOS

QUAS

EX SCHEDIS MANUSCRIPTIS PORSONI

APUD COLLEGIUM SS. TRINITATIS CANTABRIGIÆ

REPOSITIS

DEPROMPSERUNT ET ORDINARUNT

NEC NON INDICIBUS INSTRUXERUNT

JACOBUS HENRICUS MONK A. M.

CAROLUS JACOBUS BLOMFIELD A. M.

—◆—
CANTABRIGIÆ

SUMPTIBUS COLLEGII SS. TRINITATIS

EXCUDIT JOANNES SMITH ACADEMIAE TYPOGRAPHUS

VENEUNT LONDINI APUD J. MAWMAN

—◆—
M DCCC XII.

Continentur hoc Volumine,

	Pag.
PRÆFATIO EDITORUM	ix
I. Prælectio in Euripidem, recitata in Scholis Publicis Cantabrigiæ 1792. Græcarum Literarum Profes- sionis adeundæ causa	3
II. Observationes Variæ	33
III. Notæ et Emendationes in Athenæum	43
IV. Notæ et Emendationes in Æschylum	
In Promethea Vinctum	149
In Septem contra Thebas	153
In Persas	156
In Agamemnonem	157
In Choephoros	159
In Eumenidas	160
In Supplices	161
V. Notæ et Emendationes in Sophoclem	
In Œdipum Tyrannum	162
In Œdipum Coloneum	166
In Antigonam	169
In Trachinias	174
In Ajacem	181
In Philoctetem	199
In Electram	207
In Fragmenta	215

	Pag.
VI. Notæ et Emendationes in Euripidem	
In Hippolytum	217
In Alcestin	222
In Andromacham	223
In Supplices	226
In Iphigeniam in Aulide	248
In Iphigeniam in Tauris	258
In Troadas	263
In Bacchas	264
In Cyclopem	268
In Heraclidas	268
In Helenam	269
In Ionem	269
In Herculem Furentem	271
In Electram	272
In Danaen	273
In Fragmenta	274
VII. In Incertos Tragicos	278
VIII. In Aristophanis Fragmenta	279
IX. In ceteros Comicos	
X. Emendationes in Stobæum	302
XI. Emendationes in diversos Poetas	
In Apollonium Rhodium	306
In Aristonem	307
In Asclepiadem	307
In Babrium	307
In Callimachum	308
In Chærilum	309
In Crinagoram	309
In Gregorium Nazianzenum	310
In Hymnum Homericum in Cererem	310
In Meleagrum	311
In Mimnermum	311

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-108-01560-8 - Adversaria
 Richard Porson
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

vii

	Pag.
In Nonnum	311
In Paulum Silentiarium	311
In Philodemum	312
In Pindarum	312
In Simonidem	313
In Theognidem	313
In Tryphiodorum	314
In Sententias Singulares	314
Index Auctorum, qui emendantur, defenduntur, illus- trantur	319
Index Rerum et Verborum	325

PRÆFATIO EDITORUM.



ÆQUO ATQUE ERUDITO
LECTORI.

QUADRIENNIIUM prope effluxit, ex quo gravi et vix reparabili literarum damno PORSONUS nobis ereptus est, cujus similem Criticum nostra ætas certe haud vidit, postera ut videat, optandum magis quam expectandum est. Is vero moriens schedas quasdam reliquit, quæ cum magnas inter doctos spes excitarunt, tum inprimis inter familiares ejus et amicos, quibus Vir egregius haud obscure indicare solitus est, se magnam rerum varietatem, non modo memoriæ, qua maxime pollebat, in custodiam dedisse, sed in chartulas et librorum oras accurate diligenterque conjecisse. Quidquid legisset mente repositum servare, et in loco meditare ac lucide proferre, Porsoni fere proprium fuit. Idem tamen, siquid ei inter legendum ad rem criticam spectans occurrerat, id

omne in futuros usus recondendum putabat, literisque fidelibus committebat. Postquam igitur repentinae mortis acerbitate expectationes, quas de inceptis ejus homines susceperant, evanuerunt, de chartis istis, librisque manu ejus ornatis, statim quæri cœpit. Hæc omnia, paucis post mensibus ab hæredibus τοῦ μακαρίτου pretio haud exiguo redempta, inter κειμήλια sua reposuit SS. Trinitatis Collegium, cujus ipse, dum vita suppetebat, decus fuit atque ornamentum. Viri igitur doctissimi, penes quos fuit rei istius arbitrium ac potestas, nos dignos judicarunt quibus id officii concrederetur, ut, commentariis istis diligenter excussis, delectuque adhibito, istinc depromeremus quidquid cum republica literaria communicandum videretur. Nos autem, aliis rebus, quarum uterque nostrum satagebat, posthabitis, omni studio enisi sumus, ut expectatione Collegii nostri et doctorum omnium expleta, Porsoni simul famæ consuleremus.

Si quis vero miretur hunc librum tam sero prodire, cum ante biennium nos isti labori destinati simus, is intelligat opus susceptum supra quam credi potest plenum difficultatis fuisse. Quippe pleraque, minutissima scriptura exarata, sine certo ordine literis mandarat Vir eximius, modo in adversaria et commentariolos, modo in librorum impressorum margines, modo in plagulas quasdam et chartas singulares conjectis, quæ-

PRÆFATIO EDITORUM. xi

cunque ei inter legendum visa erant notatu digniora. Quo factum est, ut non sine magno temporis et oculorum dispendio, observationes, hinc inde corrasas, suis quasque locis digerere potuerimus, et, quasi folia Sibyllina, in ordinem revocare. Hoc autem ut efficeretur, singula quæque manu nostra diligenter et exacte describenda erant. Quod monemus, non quasi de temporis aut laboris jactura quereremur, satis enim magnam operæ mercedem ducimus, bonis literis quantulumcunque prodesse, sed ne quis moram nobis cautamve cunctationem criminis loco objiciat.

Et hactenus quidem de ratione istius, quam in nosmet suscepimus, provinciæ. Jam pauca de ipsa libelli materie præmonenda sunt. Satis magnam partem observationum, quas hodie in lucem emittimus, earum præsertim quæ ad Tragicos spectant, adversariis suis Porsonus juvenis illeverat, ut abunde manus ejus testatur. Ex his autem existimare licet, qualis fuerit ejus a teneris, ut aiunt, unguiculis diligentia, qui ineunte ætate eo pervenerit, quo senes iisdem studiis innutriti rarissime enituntur. Nempe illud in Porsonum cecidit, quod de paucissimis affirmari potest, ‘Non ætate, verum ingenio adipiscitur sapientia.’

Fieri autem possit in tanta tamque diversa rerum copia, nos nonnulla in vulgus edidisse, quæ auctor ipse, si in hominum cœtu versaretur,

xii PRÆFATIO EDITORUM.

mutata aut indicta vellet. Quod si pauca quædam hujusmodi (nam certe paucissima sunt) doctiores hic illic offenderint, idque nobis vitio vertatur, meminerint accusatores, nos veritos esse, ne, acerbiore delectu instituto, nimis arroganter egisse videremur.

Voluminis nostri primum locum tenet Oratio Inauguralis de Euripide, a Porsono apud Cantabrigienses suos habita, cum Græcarum Literarum prælegendarum munus Professorium auspicaretur. Constat eum hanc disputationem, suavitate, elegantia, et iudicii subtilitate admirabilem, intra perbreve tempus, unius atque alterius diei spatium, absolvisse. Nemini vero, uti speramus, displicebit, nos pene extemporale opus in lucem emisisse. Nempe visum est neque injucundum fore neque inutile, inter tot summæ diligentia ac laboris monimenta, uno exemplo ostendere, quid Vir, accurata doctrina instructissimus, festinans efficere potuerit.

Prælectionem excipiunt *Observationes Variæ*, ad scriptores Atticos spectantes, quas in adversaria sua conjecerat Porsonus, quæque speciminis loco esse possint Operis Miscellanei Critici, quod ipse olim meditatus erat. Istud consilium quanta cum literarum jactura deposuerit, vel ex his fragmentis intelligi potest.

Sequitur amplissima emendationum series in Athenæi Deipnosophistas, quem librum per majorem

PRÆFATIO EDITORUM. xiii

vitæ partem Vir egregius ita tractabat, ut vix unquam eum de manibus deponeret. Poetarum, præsertim Comicorum, fragmenta, quæ ibi conservata sunt, tanti æstimabat, lepores veneresque eorum tam impenso amore prosequeretur, ut ad hæc sananda restituendaque omnes eruditionis copias, ingenii vires, ac judicii acumen afferre solitus esset. Huc accesserunt exquisita quædam sermonis Attici perceptio, et singularis rei metricæ peritia, ab arte simul atque auribus profecta. Unde omnes Criticos, qui in hoc campo decurrerunt, longe longeque superavit: quin et illud vere affirmari potest, non tot ex Athenæo corruptelas ab universa virorum doctorum gente sublatas esse, quot ab unius Porsoni manu felici. Has vero emendationes, prope infinitis librorum et chartularum locis, et longis temporum intervallis exaratas, nos undique decerpimus, et in unam seriem, juxta Casauboni editionem, anni 1657. qua ipse uti solitus est, disposuimus. Quod opus pene immensi erat laboris, cum eadem loca in schedis diversis, in marginibus editionum Aldinæ, Casaubonianæ, Schweighæuserianæ, prout fors tulit, sæpenumero tractasset.

Ubique ipsissima Porsoni verba edidimus, et siquid nobis explicandum erat, brevitati quam maxime consulimus. Illud vero monendus est lector, quidquid ab Editoribus dictum est, cursiva typorum forma excusum esse,

xiv PRÆFATIO EDITORUM.

Harum emendationum pleræque ante editum a Schweighæusero Athenæum scriptæ sunt: paucas igitur ab isto editore præceptas, ut Porsoni auctoritate firmarentur, nobis edendas esse iudicavimus. Idem dictum puta de quibusdam etiam Tragicorum locis, ab aliis Criticis, prout Porsonus correxerat, postea vulgatis. Cum nonnullas emendationum in Athenæum ipse in Appendice ad Toupium, et in notis ad Euripidem, publici juris fecisset, nobis visum est verba, quibus ibi usus erat, iterum lectoribus apponere.

Cum maxime optandum videretur, ut omnia, quæ in Athenæum scripserat Porsonus, quatenus id fieri potuit, colligerentur, huc relatæ sunt duæ præstantes emendationum series, in binis exemplaribus editionum Casauboni penes Viros doctissimos, Ricardum Heber et Henricum Drury, ipsius manu exaratæ. Quæ priore libro continentur, omnia exscripsit et ad nos transmisit Vir, tum eruditionis ubertate, tum amicitia Porsoni notus, J. C. Banks. Alterum exemplar humanissime nobis accommodavit possessor. Quæ autem ex his libris dedimus, literis *R. H.* et *H. D.* designantur.

Unam Athenæi paginam, scilicet 339. a summo Critico integritati restitutam, nobiscum communicavit Vir, doctis omnibus bonisque desideratissimus, et idem Porsono amicissimus, Matthæus Raine S.T.P. qui tamen non ob id solum beneficii nobis nominandus est: quippe hujus consilio atque opera

PRÆFATIO EDITORUM.

xv

factum est, quod hæc Porsoniani ingenii monumenta non disjecta sint et dissipata, sed in Collegii sui manus conjunctim delata.

Notulæ vero in Tragicos, quas maximam partem ex oris variarum editionum deprompsimus, pleræque non tam emendationes dicendæ sunt, quam emendandi materies, et critica supellex. De Sophocle imprimis notari potest, permulta Tragicæ istius loca emendasse Porsonum, quorum haud pauca, qua semper erat benignitate, amicis doctioribus indicavit, nonnulla in scriptis a se editis persanavit, ceterorum vero correctiones, nunquam chartis commissas, invidit nobis repentinus iste casus, qui Græcas literas vindice suo et statore orbavit.

Docti quidem omnes nobiscum impense optabunt, ut conjecturæ istæ, quas amicis suis impertiverat, unde unde corræsæ, et ab aliquo in singularem libellum conjectæ, olim in lucem proveniant. Nostrum vero non erat hujusmodi lacinias conquirere, quibus id tantum negoti datum est, ut schedas Porsoni apud nos adservatas publici juris faceremus.

Porro inter Comicos exiguam tantum hujus voluminis partem vindicat sibi Aristophanes; in quem tamen expoliendum semper incumberat Porsonus, et in hoc omnes nervos intendebat: quin etiam credibile est, si vita suppeditasset, Comicorum principem demum exiturum fuisse, a principe Criti-

xvi PRÆFATIO EDITORUM.

corum innumeris fere locis restitutum, Atticoque suo nitore postliminio donatum. In adversariis igitur exstat magna notarum copia, ad superstites Aristophanis fabulas pertinentium, quæ fors novæ editioni aliquando occasionem dabunt. Quapropter Collegii nostri rectoribus placuit, has in aliud tempus sepositas servari.

Restant adhuc edenda, quæ in prosæ orationis scriptores, in Lexica Græca, et in auctores Latinos conscripserat Porsonus; præclara quidem ingenii ac doctrinæ specimina, inter quæ curæ ejus in Hesychium maxime eminent. Hæc ut quam celerrime publici juris fiant, magnopere cupimus. Quominus a nobis huic libro adjicerentur, obstitere rationes, quas non est hujus loci enarrare. Ibidem etiam adservatur insignis iste Photii Lexici MSti apographus, quem ex codice olim Galeano manu sua emendate descripsit Vir egregius; cujus quidem edendi curam a nemine susceptam esse vere et ex animo dolemus. Ἄλλ' ἦτοι μὲν ταῦτα θεῶν ἐν γούνασι κείται.

Iis profecto, qui posthuma, ut aiunt, scripta digerenda et edenda suscipiunt, utpote rem periculosæ plenam alexæ tractantibus, multa condonanda sunt. Quod si in hoc, qui hodie prodit, libello, nævi quidam diligentiam nostram effugerint, lectorem etiam atque etiam rogamus, ut editoribus potius quam auctori imputentur. Nobis tamen fas sit sperare, hoc opus haud indignum fore

PRÆFATIO EDITORUM. xvii

Collegio, cui olim præfuerunt Viri, in suis seculis eruditorum principes, PEARSONUS, BARROVIUS, BENTLEIUS; quodque his nostris temporibus, inter alios complures magni nominis, summus ille PORSONUS ingenio suo ac doctrina longe præstantissima illustravit.

CORRIGENDA.



- Pag. 12. lin. 9. *pro* præcipue *lege* præcipuæ
 51. 26. *pro* 'Casaubonia' *lege* 'Casauboniana'
 55. antep. *lege* τραγήματά θ'
 62. penult. *lege* εαντόν
 78. 4. *lege* Phrynichus:
 81. 1. *lege* Macho:
 90. 24. *pro* πλησμονή *lege* πλησμονή
 122. 17. *lege* κηρόχυτον *et* l. 20. κηροχίτωνος
 143. penult. *lege* Bato:
 168. 23. *pro* τάρβουσαν *lege* ταρβούσαν
 236. 17. *pro* οισθήθεσθαι *lege* οισθήσεσθαι
 273. 12. *pro* ἴσασι σ' *lege* ἴσασι σ'
 297. 9. *Etymologum similiter emendaverat Hemsterhusius ad Aristoph. Plut. p. 469. Nihil mirum est tales viros in eandem conjecturam incidisse.*

VE NEUNT APUD J. MAWMAN

(39. *Ludgate Street.*)

ΕΥΡΙΠΙΔΟΥ ΙΠΠΟΛΥΤΟΣ ΣΤΕΦΑΝΗΦΟΡΟΣ. EURIPIDIS
 HIPPOLYTUS CORONIFER. Ad fidem Manuscriptorum ac Veterum
 Editionum emendavit, et Annotationibus instruxit JACOBUS HENRICUS
 MONK A. M. Collegii SS. Trinitatis Socius, et Græcarum Literarum
 apud Cantabrigienses Professor Regius.

Cantabrigiæ, Typis ac Sumptibus Academicis excudit J. Smith.
 M DCCC XI.

ΑΙΣΧΥΛΟΥ ΠΡΟΜΗΘΕΥΣ ΔΕΣΜΩΤΗΣ. ÆSCHYLI PRO-
 METHEUS VINCTUS. Ad fidem Manuscriptorum emendavit, Notas
 et Glossarium adjecit CAROLUS JACOBUS BLOMFIELD A. M. Col-
 legii SS. Trinitatis apud Cantabrigienses nuper Socius. *Editio*
Secunda.

Cantabrigiæ, Typis Academicis iterum excudit J. Smith.
 M DCCC XII.

ΑΙΣΧΥΛΟΥ ΕΠΤΑ ΕΠΙ ΘΗΒΑΣ. ÆSCHYLI SEPTEM CON-
 TRA THEBAS. Ad fidem Manuscriptorum emendavit, Notas et
 Glossarium adjecit CAROLUS JACOBUS BLOMFIELD A. M. Collegii
 SS. Trinitatis apud Cantabrigienses nuper Socius.

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