

with her little dogs, pass through the house, hither and thither. And thou, daughter of Zeus, upholding in thy hands a double torch of brightest flame,—thou, O Hecate, light me along to Glyce's that I may enter in and make a search."

The points usually noticed in the criticism.

According to the commentators,¹ the following points are to be noticed in the parodies: (1) The general confusion of the scenes; (2) the paltry, trivial objects and circumstances, which are not in keeping with the apparent loftiness of tone; (3) the misuse of rhetorical figures; (4) the unnecessary repetitions; (5) the arbitrary character of the metres; (6) the musical innovations.

Additional points to be observed.

Let me call attention, however, to these additional features: (1) The prominence given to the sights and sounds of external nature; vines and grapes;² the sea, rivers and dewy water;³ the halcyons' chattering, the spiders' spinning, and the dolphin⁴ at his gambols;

(2) The invocation and the characterizations of night,⁵ ὦ Νυκτὸς κελαίνοφαγς ὄρνα, l. 1331; μελαίνας Νυκτὸς παῖδα, l. 1335, and μελανοκεκνέιμονα, l. 1337;

(3) κνεφαῖος, l. 1350,⁶ a hit at Euripides' fondness for various expressions for darkness and light,⁷

(4) The use of δρόσος for water, a very favorite expression with Euripides.⁸ Compare βανίσσι χροά δροσιζόμεναι, l. 1312;

(5) τὰς κυνίσκας, l. 1360; a hit at Euripides' abundant and varied references to animals and animal life;⁹

(6) πρῶραις κυανμβόλοις, l. 1318,¹² a hit at Euripides' fondness for color;¹³

(7) οἰνάνθας γάνος ἀμπέλου, l. 1320.¹⁴ This periphrasis is used by Aeschylus of wine, (Pers. 615), but similar expressions are more common in Euripides.

¹ See especially Kock's and Merry's notes on ll. 1309 and 1330.

² ll. 1320-1, see pp. 45-48 above. ³ ll. 1309, 1311-2, 1339, 1341. See pp. 42-45 above. ⁴ l. 1309. See pp. 48-9 above. ⁵ l. 1313.

⁶ l. 1317. ⁷ See above p. 68. ⁸ Cf. Alc. 593. This particular word does not occur in Sophocles, but is found once in Aesch. Pr. 1029.

⁹ See above pp. 38-9. Besides κνεφαῖος, σκοτεινός (used by Aesch. and Soph.), ὄρναιος (used by Aesch.), Euripides has also employed ζυγαῖος, γυφώδης, ἀμβλώπης αἰγῶν (Rhes. 737) ἀμβλωπός, ζοφερός and ἀπολογὸν νύκτα (Fr. 104), expressions which are not found in Aeschylus or Sophocles. ¹⁰ Cf. Iph. Taur. 255, 1192; Hipp. 127, 77; Iph. Aul. 182; Androm. 167; Ion 97. δρόσος occurs only once in Soph. and then in proper sense of dew, Ai. 1208; in Aesch. it is applied to water once, Eum. 904, but it occurs five times in all. ¹¹ See above pp. 48-9.

¹² See El. 438 ff. ¹³ See pp. 38-41 above. ¹⁴ See p. 50 above.