

NOTES AND DISCUSSIONS

CLAUDIAN, *CARMINA MINORA* 20.13

In Claudian's delightful poem about the old man of Verona, the old man himself is the subject of every verb between v. 6 and v. 16—except, it seems, in v. 13. Verses 11–13 run as follows:

frugibus alternis, non consule, computat annum:
autumnū pomis, ver sibi flore notat.
13 idem condit ager soles idemque reducit,
metiturque suo rusticus orbe diem.

In v. 13 *ager* is very hard to translate, as is shown by Platnauer's version in the Loeb: "From the selfsame fields he watches the sun rise and set." The emendation proposed here is *agens*, in the intransitive sense of "hard at work," much like *agilis* (*OLD* 3). From the instances given in the *OLD*, *ago* (23) I choose:

desidiam puer ille sequi solet, odit agentes (*Ov. Rem.* 149)

and

quae pati non potest animus ad civilia erectus agendique cupidus et natura inquires (*Sen. Dial.* 9.2.9)

The theory is that the *-s* disappeared by haplography before *so-*, and the resulting *agen* was read as *ager*. Alternatively, as suggested by Prof. Nisbet *per litteras*, the mark of abbreviation may have been lost, leaving *ages*, which was read as *ager*. As well as retaining the continuity of the subject, *agens* is supported by the pentameter, which elaborates the same point: viz. that the old countryman was abroad before dawn and returned after dusk when his round of work was complete.

I have not examined the early editions, but this proposal is not recorded in the Teubners of Koch (1893) and Hall (1985) or in Platnauer's Loeb (1922; reprint 1963).

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ANTHOLOGIA LATINA 873^c: RENAISSANCE LATIN FROM STRABO
(*GEOGRAPHY* 14.5.9)

As is well known, A. Riese's *Anthologia Latina* (Leipzig, 1894–1906) contains a series of poems that have turned out to be the work of Renaissance humanists.

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