

- Εἰς <γὰρ σ>εαυτὸν εἶπας ἐκ θεῶν δαίμονας
 Λαλεῖν ἅπαντα ὅσσα ἔκτισας μόνος
 Λόγοισι θείοις, ἀγγέλους ἡμῶν αἰεί.
 <Ἰσω>ς δὲ κἀγὼ εἰμι συμπαθὴς ταύτου
 Νόμοισιν αὐτοῦ καὶ νόσοις καὶ ἰλαρίαις.
 Ω Μοῖρα σεπτὴ κτλ.
- 15 1 ψυχὴ post κάμνε codd.: traieci. 2 μόνην codd.: correxi. 5 νόμοισι τούτοις codd.: correxi. 7 θεῶν seclisi. 11, 14 supplevi.

I note only my own emendations; others (not affecting the acrostics) I have taken from R. Ganszyniec, *Byz.-neugr. Jahrb.* 2 (1921), 445 ff., or D. Kaimakis, *Die Kyraniden* (Meisenheim, 1976).

The Magnus who composed these poems, if not identical with the Alexandrian Harpocraton from whom the compiler of the *Cyranides* took them, might possibly be the fourth-century physician from Nisibis (*PLRE* i, Magnus 7) who practised in Alexandria. We know from Libanius that he was in Egypt in 364 and 388. Palladas' epitaph on him (*A.P.* 11. 281) bears the heading εἰς Μάγνον ἰατροσοφιστήν in the manuscripts, and Eunapius (*vit. Soph.* 20) represents him as more notable for eloquence than for effectiveness as a healer. The emphasis on the power of wealth to counteract sickness in the third poem (3 f.) would suit a professional doctor, though he is clearly not one whose methods are rigorously scientific. Against the identification with Magnus of Nisibis is the fact that the latter is presumably the author of the epigram about Galen in *A.P.* 16. 270, which suggests a more accomplished versifier than the author of the acrostics.

Without a firm identification for Magnus it is hardly profitable to speculate about the identity of Marcellinus. It may, however, be worth pointing out that the historian Ammianus Marcellinus, besides being a contemporary of Magnus of Nisibis, himself served at Nisibis in 354 (and passed through it again a few years later); and that both men appear as recipients of letters from Libanius.¹

Bedford College, London

M. L. WEST

¹ Amm. 14. 9. 1, 18. 6. 8; Lib. *ep.* 843, 1063.

ERRATUM

C.Q. n.s. 31 (1981), 468 line 12 should read 'the surviving portion covering his own lifetime, in the lost books he was subject to'; line 16 should have 'Confidence'.