

## INSCRIPTIONS FROM BEROEA

It was my good fortune to visit Beroea with Mr. C. F. Edson in the autumn of 1936 at a time when a group of ancient marbles had recently come to light in the course of excavations made during tree-planting. These remains, consisting of marble grave monuments,<sup>1</sup> architectural blocks, and pieces of tufa columns, still bearing traces of Roman plaster, were collected in an open space, the property of *Ἀντώνιος Σαρκηκωστής*, in the *ὁδὸς Περιφεριακός* (Fig. 1), whither they had been brought from their



Fig. 1. Inscriptions at Verria



Fig. 2. Circuit Wall of Beroea

original site, opposite the place where the Naoussa road branches from the road leading to the railway station of Verria, lying on the right, *i. e.* S. E. as one goes to the station. When we visited the site,<sup>2</sup> it became clear that the workmen had by a fortunate accident uncovered part of the circuit wall of Beroea (Fig. 2), built, in all probability, in the third century after Christ, like the Valerian Wall in Athens, to

<sup>1</sup> The Ephor, Mr. Kotzias, kindly gave us permission to publish these finds; it may be that some of them have subsequently appeared in a Greek or German journal, to which I have had no access. I am indebted to Mr. M. N. Tod for some helpful suggestions in preparing this paper.

<sup>2</sup> It is hoped that further investigation may be possible in happier times. If Beroea, second only to Thessalonica in wealth of surface remains, were to be excavated, the epigraphic harvest would be rich.

ward off the attacks of the barbarians; this date is supported by the lettering of the inscriptions. The unfinished state of the stones is ample proof of the urgency with which the wall was built. All are of snow-white marble, preserved in all its pristine freshness, straight from the cutter's yard. One (Fig. 3) has its relief, showing a boy with a goose (?), just blocked out; another (Fig. 4) figures a charming Cupid with a little dog holding out its paw; neither of these has any inscription. Even the inscribed stones were probably never used for the purpose for which they were originally intended, as they show no signs of weathering.

The following inscribed monuments were found.



Fig. 3. Stone from Wall of Beroea,  
Boy with Goose (?)



Fig. 4. Stone from Wall of Beroea,  
Cupid with Dog

1. "Macedonian" grave monument, of white marble, slightly damaged on right and left edges by workmen's tools; moulding at top, surmounted by incised gable with acroteria, and at bottom. Height, 1.17 m.; width, 0.535 m. (at top); 0.56 m. (at bottom); maximum thickness, 0.495 m. Letters: 0.014-0.017 m.;  $\phi$ ,  $\psi$ , 0.04 m.; inter-spaces, 0.012 m. (Fig. 5).

*Κλαυδιανὸς θρέψας καὶ Κάστωρ  
σύγγαμος ἀνὴρ Ϝ τύμβον ἔ-  
τευξαν ἐμοί, μνημόσυνον φι-  
λῆς Ϝ Εἰμί δὲ μειμὰς ἐγὼ*

- 5 Κύριλλα, ἡ πρὶν ποτε δόξης ὄ-  
 ἀραμένα πλείστους ἐν θυμέ-  
 λαις στεφάνους ὄ Νῦν δέ με  
 Μοιράων μίτος ἤρπασε, κ<ο>ῦ-  
 κέτ' αἰίδω ὄ κείμαι δ' ἐν ζα-  
 10 θέη μητροπόλει Βεροία.

Line 1. *Θρέψας*. The relationship of *θρεπτοί* to their foster-parents is the subject of a detailed study by A. Cameron in *Anatolian Studies Presented to W. H. Buckler* (Manchester, 1939), pp. 27-62.

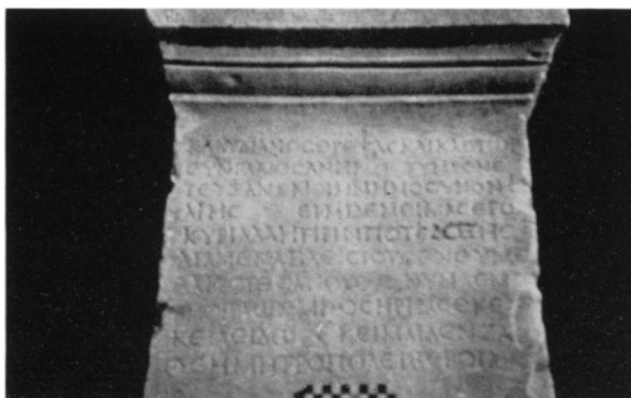


Fig. 5. Grave Monument (No. 1) from Beroea

Line 4. *Μειμάς*. This elegiac epigram, a welcome addition to our all too scanty knowledge of the theatrical profession in Imperial times,<sup>3</sup> is the first epigraphic evidence, so far as I know, for the presentation of mimes in Macedonia. It is fitting that it should come from Beroea, the seat of the Imperial *Κοινὸν Μακεδόνων*, the *ἀγωνοθέται* of which presided at the Games of the Koinon and bore the expenses of staging them. The kind of games at which Cyrilla may have won her “many glorious crowns” is well described in the well-known inscription in honour of Q. Popillius Python,<sup>4</sup> lines 12-17:

<sup>3</sup> For this subject see, among others, E. Wüst (who does not, however, make full use of the epigraphic evidence), Pauly-Wissowa, *R.E.*, s. v., *Mimos*, 1727-1764, especially 1755-7; L. Robert, *ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΟΣ* in *R.E.G.*, XLIX, 1936, pp. 235-54, where he remarks (pp. 238-9) on the comparatively limited information which we may expect from inscriptions: Les inscriptions . . . peuvent nous faire connaître des acteurs de mimes, les villes où ils donnaient leurs représentations, les honneurs dont ils étaient gratifiés. *Idem*, “Pantomimen im griechischen Orient,” *Hermes*, LXV, 1930, pp. 106-122. We must, as Robert reminds us, *R.E.G.*, loc. cit., p. 238, note 2, “distinguer soigneusement les mimes, comédiens ou chanteurs ou bouffons, des pantomimes, danseurs.” From lines 8-9 it appears that Cyrilla was a singer.

<sup>4</sup> A full bibliography of this inscription is given in *J.R.S.*, XXX, 1940, p. 51, note 3.

καὶ καταγγείλαντα καὶ ἀγαγόντα  
 εἰσακτίους ἀγῶνας ταλαντιαίους  
 θυμελικούς καὶ γυμνικούς, δόν-  
 τα θηριομαχίας διὰ παντοίων ζῶων  
 ἐντοπίων καὶ ξενικῶν καὶ μονομαχί-  
 ας κτλ.

Our inscription recalls the charming epigram from the theatre of Aquileia,<sup>5</sup> in which a colleague pays graceful tribute to the *μιμᾶς* Bassilla:

τὴν πολλοῖς δῆμοισι πάρος, πολλαῖς δὲ πόλεσσι  
 δόξαν φωνάεσσαν ἐνὶ σκηναῖσι λαβοῦσαν  
 παντοίης ἀρετῆς ἐν μείμοις, εἶτα χοροῖσι,  
 πολλακίς ἐν θυμέλαις, ἀλλ' οὐχ οὕτω δὲ θανούσῃ,  
 5 τῇ δεκάτῃ Μούσῃ, τὸ λαλεῖν σοφὸς Ἑρακλείδης  
 μειμάδι Βασσίλλῃ στήλῃν θέτο βιολόγος φῶς.  
 ἦδη καὶ νέκυς οὔσα ἴσῃν βίου ἔλαχε τειμῆν,  
 μουσικὸν εἰς δάπεδον σῶμ' ἀναπανσαμένη.  
 Ταῦτα.  
 10 Οἱ σύσκηροί σου λέγουσιν·  
 εὐψύχει, Βάσιλλα· οὐδεὶς ἀθάνατος.

Line 8. *Μοιράων μίτος*. This is a common cliché in funerary epigrams, appearing, in one form or another, at least a dozen times in Kaibel. The penultimate letter in this line appears to show the cross-bar of an epsilon, and it is unlikely that this is due to a chip by a workman's tool.

Line 10. *Μητροπόλει*. On the basis of a false restoration in a Beroean inscription in honour of Nerva,<sup>6</sup> scholars have assumed that it was Nerva who bestowed the title of Metropolis on Beroea. The corrected reading, given in *J.R.S.*, XXX, 1940, pp. 50-52, proves that Nerva merely confirmed an honour already granted.

2. "Macedonian" grave monument, rather smaller than the usual type; moulding at top, surmounted by incised gable with acroteria, and at bottom; circle in centre

<sup>5</sup> *C.I.G.*, 6750; Kaibel, *Ep. Gr.*, 609; *I.G.*, XIV, 2342 and *Add.*, p. 704; O. Crusius, *Herondas Mimiambi*<sup>5</sup>, p. 149.

<sup>6</sup> Delacoulonche, *Archives des missions scientifiques et littéraires*, viii (1859), pp. 221-4 and p. 252, no. 44; Demitsas, *ἡ Μακεδονία* (Athens, 1896), p. 66, no. 55. The title of Metropolis occurs in the following inscriptions from Beroea: the Popillius Python inscription cited in footnote 4; Rostovtzeff, *Bull. de l'Inst. russe à Constantinople* (in Russian), IV, 3, 1899, pp. 175-6, no. 3 (republished as new by Woodward, *B.S.A.*, XVIII, 1911-12, pp. 148-9); A. E. Contoléon, *Νέα Σμύρνη*, 9th Sept., 1889, no. 3937 and *R.E.G.*, XV, 1902, pp. 141-2 (republished as new by Rostovtzeff, *loc. cit.*, pp. 176-7, no. 4 and Woodward, *loc. cit.*, p. 148, no. 6); Orlandos, *Ἀρχ. Δελτ.*, II, 1916, pp. 156-7, no. 14, and p. 157, no. 15; L. Robert, *Rev. Phil.*, XIII, 1939, pp. 128-132, nos. 1 and 2.

of pediment; traces of Roman cement on right side. Height, 0.92 m.; maximum width, 0.455 m.; maximum thickness, 0.445 m. Letters: 0.035 m.;  $\phi$ , 0.07 m.; interspaces 0.015 m. (Fig. 6). It will be noticed that two forms of omicron and omega occur on the stone. The inscription is in the form of an elegiac couplet:



Fig. 6. Grave Monument (No. 2) from Beroea

Ἀντιγόνῳ  
 Λεύκη τύν-  
 βον τεύξα-  
 σα συνένῳ Ϝ  
 5 θήκατο σωφρο-  
 σύνης σύνθε-  
 μα καὶ φιλίας Ϝ

Line 2. Λεύκη. Bechtel, *Hist. Personennamen*, p. 278, quotes the masculine Λεύκος from *I.G.*, XII (3), 795. Demitsas, *op. cit.*, p. 472, no. 429, gives Τυλλία Λευκή, showing by his accentuation that he derives the name from λευκή, *white*, not from λεύκη, *white poplar*.

Lines 6-7. For σύνθεμα (= σύνθημα, *token, pledge*) see Liddell and Scott *s. v.*, and cf. ἐπίθεμα & ἐπίθημα; ἀνάθεμα & ἀνάθημα; ἔνθεμα & ἔνθημα, etc.

3. Upper portion of a "Macedonian" grave monument; moulding, surmounted by incised gable, with acroteria; circle in centre of pediment; design repeated on right and left sides of stone; traces of Roman cement. Maximum extant height, 1.25 m.; maximum width, 0.66 m.; maximum thickness, 0.465 m. Letters (Imperial, of poor quality,  $\epsilon$ ,  $\omicron$ ,  $\varsigma$ ,  $\omega$ ): line 1, 0.035-0.04 m.; rest of inscription, 0.03 m.;  $\phi$ , 0.07 m.; interspaces, lines 1-5, 0.015 m.; lines 5-6, 0.02-0.025 m.

Ἰούλιον Περικλέα  
 Ἡρακλεώτην Πομπο-  
 νία Μαρκία τὸν γλυκύ-  
 τατον ἄνδρα καὶ φι-  
 5 λοθηρότατον καὶ πάν-  
 τα ἄριστον εἰς αὐτὴν  
 γενόμενον ἥρωα.

Line 2. Iulius Pericles is perhaps a native of Heracleia Lyncestis, rather than of Heracleia Sintice.

Lines 4-5. Φιλοθηρότατος is a rather surprising epithet in a catalogue of marital virtues.

4. Grave monument; moulding at top, surmounted by incised gable with acroteria, and at bottom; in centre of pediment, a wheel with four spokes; same decoration on right and left sides, but these have a simple triangle. Though the lettering is good, the workmanship of the stone in general is inferior; it seems to have experienced more weathering than the rest before being built into the wall, if indeed it ever was; there are no traces of cement. Height, 1.20 m.; width, 0.505 m. (at top), 0.49 m. (at bottom); maximum thickness, 0.425 m. Letters, 0.035 m.; interspaces, 0.015-0.02 m. There are no ligatures; letter-forms: Ε, Ο, Σ, Ω.

Κλεαγόρα Βότ-  
 ρυῖ τῶ νίῳ ἐκ  
 τῶν ἰδίων μνεί-  
 as χάριν· χαί-  
 5 ρε παροδείτα.

Lines 1-2. Βότρυς occurs in another Macedonian inscription published by A. Struck, *Ath. Mitt.*, XXVII, 1902, p. 308, no. 8. Bechtel lists it in *Hist. Personennamen*, p. 592, under names derived from plants and trees.

5. "Macedonian" grave monument; moulding at top, surmounted by incised gable with acroteria, and at bottom. Height, 1.28 m.; maximum width, 0.53 m.; maximum thickness, 0.455 m. Letters, line 1, 0.04 m.; lines 2-4, 0.035 m.; ϕ, 0.088 m.; interspaces, 0.025 m. Letter-forms: Ε, Ο, Σ, Ω; ligatures: ΜΕ, ΜΕ, ΝΗ.

Φιλουμενή Ἄ-  
 χιλλεῖ τῶ ἰδίῳ  
 ἀνδρὶ μνείας  
 χάριν.

Line 1. Φιλουμενή. This name occurs in an inscription published by A. Orlandos, *Ἀρχ. Δελτ.*, II, 1916, pp. 152-3, no. 6.

6. Large grave monument; moulding at top, surmounted by incised gable with acroteria, and at bottom; circle in pediment; same design on right and left sides; many traces of Roman cement. Height, 1.645 m.; width, 0.685 m. (at top), 0.67 m. (at bottom); maximum thickness, 0.48 m. Letters, 0.04 m.; interspaces, 0.012 m. Letter-forms: Σ, ◊, Σ, ◊.

Ἰλιανὸς Δημήτριος Πο-  
 σιδωνεῖω τῶ συγγε-  
 νί μνείας χάριν.

Line 1. Ἰλιανός may be for Αἰλιανός, which occurs four times in Demitsas.

7. Fragment of Roman grave stele, broken away at top, left, and bottom; the lower right extremity of the relief area is just visible; surface covered with hard Roman cement. Maximum height, 0.45 m.; maximum width, 0.35 m.; thickness, 0.06 m. Letters, 0.03-0.035 m.; interspaces, 0.01-0.015 m.

---]ημα Ϝ  
 ---- τῶ εἰδί-  
 [φ τέ]κνω ἐκ τῶν  
 [εἰ]δίων μνίας  
 5 Ϝ χάριν Ϝ  
 ἐν ἀποδημία  
 τελευτήσαντι.

Line 1. One would expect this to be part of a name, such as Φιλ]ημά[τιον, but the position of the leaf is against a restoration on these lines.

Lines 6-7. This phrase occurs in an inscription published by Orlandos. 'Αρχ. Δελτ., II, 1916, p. 159, no. 22.

8. Fragment of grave stone, broken left and bottom; damaged on right side of face; incised gable at top with acroteria on right and circle in pediment; traces of Roman cement. Maximum height, 0.445 m.; maximum width, 0.27 m.; thickness, 0.09 m. Letters, lines 1-4, 0.04 m.; lines 5-6, 0.045-0.05 m.; ϕ, 0.075 m.; interspaces, lines 1-3, 0.01 m.; lines 3-6, 0.003-0.005 m.

-- ΔΙΑΑ τῶ  
 γλυκ]υτάτ<φ>  
 (?) υἱῶ] Φιλοξέ-  
 (?) νφ --] / ◊ ΝΕ Κ  
 5 μ]νίας  
 χά]ριν.

Line 1. The comparatively rare feminine Ζ]φίλα would fit the traces, but it makes line 1 very much shorter than the following lines. Θεο]φίλα might be suggested, but the remains of the first letter in line 1 cannot belong to a phi of the diamond-shaped type in line 3; this objection is not final, as diamond-shaped omicrons alternate with rounded in inscriptions of this date, and perhaps the same might be the case with phi.

Lines 2-3. The last visible letter of line 2 is Α (corrected <φ>); that of line 3 is Ι with traces of horizontals to right at top and middle, interpreted ε.

9. Small fragment of marble slab. Height, 0.195 m.; width, 0.23 m.; thickness, 0.028 m. Letters, 0.023 m. Lines ruled on face of stone for alinement of letters; inscription probably never completed.

ΝΔΠΙ /

? ἀ]νδρί.