

NOTE ON THE TEXT OF THE DECREE OF THEMISTOKLES

A revised text of the decree of Themistokles has now been presented (above, pp. 311-312) by Michael Jameson. In a paper read at the Epigraphical Congress in Vienna this past September he has also given some of his observations on the mobilization of the fleet, and he will discuss the historical implications further in an article soon to appear in *Historia*.

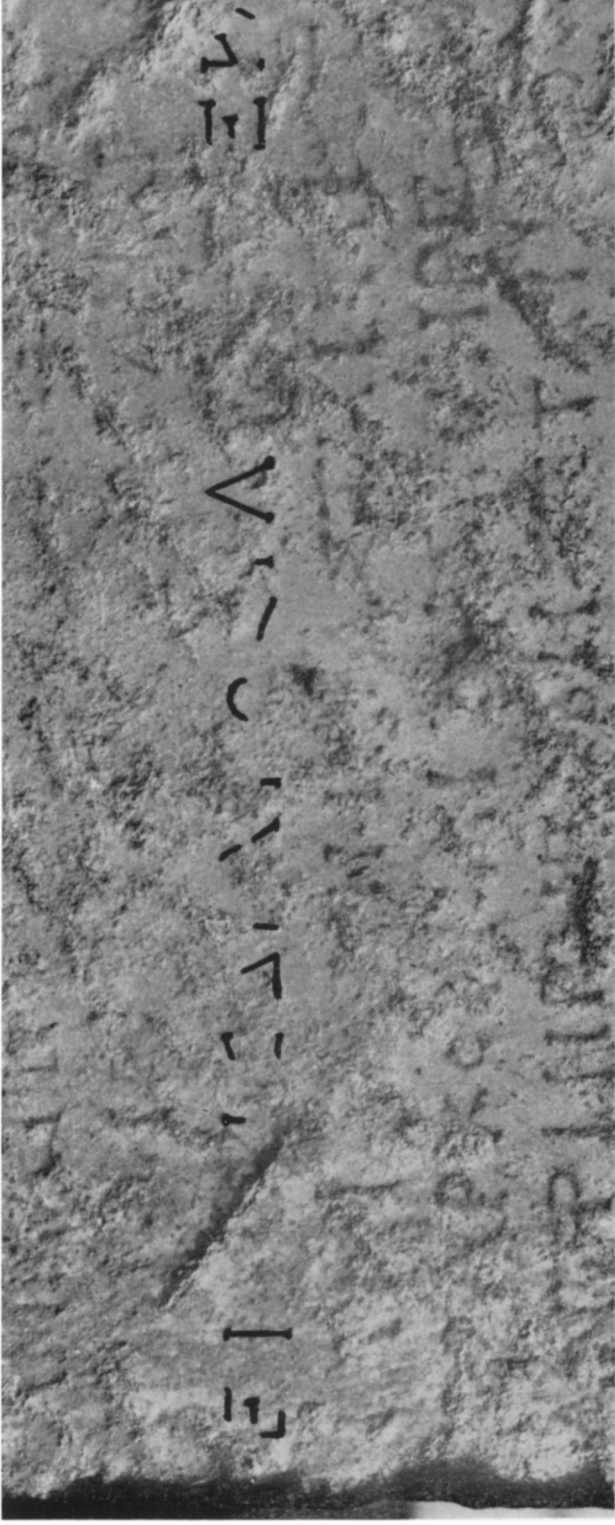
Some doubts have been expressed by a number of scholars about the text of the crucial lines 31-32, which Jameson reads ἀναγράφειν δὲ νέμοντας κατὰ τάξ|εις [εἰς διακοσί]α[s] ἀ[ν]ὰ ἑκατὸν ἀριθμὸν — — —. The reference is to the division and registration of the personnel for the fleet into groups up to 200 at 100 each in number. But there need be no doubt about some part, at least, of this passage. Last May I distributed privately a provisional text which read ἀναγράφειν δὲ νέμοντας κατὰ τάξεις [ε]ἰ[s] δι[α]κοσ[ί]α[s] ἀ[ν]ὰ ἑκατὸν ἀριθμὸν — — —.¹ I had once read ἀ[ν]ὰ ἑκατόν ας δώδεκα τόν (cf. *S.E.G.*, XVIII, p. 246), and even now I think there is no clue from the stone itself to show whether the alternative letters were ἀνα or δωδ. My belief is that no strokes are surely preserved, but the weathering justifies the assertion that the alphas were either alphas or deltas or lambdas. What I once took for the doubtful omega seems to me now too small and too low for omega; the possibility of nu cannot be excluded, but it should be restored as Jameson has it (not read) if the word was ἀ[ν]ά.

About the διακοσίας there can be no doubt. This word can be taken from the area of debate, for parts of every letter except the final sigma are still visible as strokes upon the stone. Before it the preposition [ε]ἰς is equally clear. I show here in Figure 1 an enlargement of Alison Frantz's photograph of the area in question (untouched) and the same enlargement with the chisel-strokes of the letters marked. The reader can follow the letters for himself and control the reading, which should be ἀναγράφειν δὲ νέμοντας κατὰ τάξει[s ε]ἰς διακοσία[s] ἀ[ν]ὰ ἑκατὸν ἀριθμὸν — — —. I have deliberately placed no dots under the partial letters: they give the impression (as they are intended to do when properly used) that there is some doubt about the letters. Whatever the epigraphical convention may be under normal circumstances, it is important here to emphasize the fact that this particular reading of the words [ε]ἰς διακοσία[s] is sure. Initial epsilon and final sigma are restored, but what comes between is subject to no possible doubt whatever.

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¹ This text has been made public by Al. N. Oikonomides, *Athene*, XXIII, Chicago, 1962, p. 16.



The Themistokles Decree: Area with Beginning of Line 32 (marked).

