

**REMARKS ON THE SUPPOSED  
DIONYSIUS LONGINUS; WITH AN  
ATTEMPT TO RESTORE THE  
TREATISE ON SUBLIMITY TO ITS  
ORIGINAL STATE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649690015

Remarks on the Supposed Dionysius Longinus; With an Attempt to Restore the Treatise on  
Sublimity to Its Original State by Dionysius Longinus

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Cover @ 2017

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ORIGINAL STATE**



*J. H. 1826.*

REMARKS

ON THE

SUPPOSED DIONYSIUS LONGINUS;

WITH

AN ATTEMPT TO RESTORE

THE TREATISE ON SUBLIMITY

TO ITS ORIGINAL STATE.



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"— STAT MAGNI NOMINIS UMBRA."  
LUCAN.

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LONDON:

PRINTED FOR MESSRS. PAYNE AND FOSS, PALL MALL.

1826.

*560.*

G. WOODFALL, ANGEL COURT, SKINNER STREET, LONDON.

TO  
**ROBERT SOUTHEY,**

THESE

**REMARKS**

ARE RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

BY

AN OBLIGED FRIEND

AND SINCERE ADMIRER.

*Jerem. Knox.*





REMARKS

ON THE

SUPPOSED DIONYSIUS LONGINUS,

ETC.

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PART I.

ON THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE TREATISE.

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IT is to be wished that when Weiske's edition of Διονυσίου Λογγίνου περί Ὑψους was reprinted, we had been favoured with a fuller enquiry into the authenticity of the treatise, or at least with a corrected title-page. As this has not been done, I shall venture to make the attempt, premising however, that if my remarks should be the means of leading others to more accurate enquiry, my chief purpose will be answered.

Ruhnken <sup>a</sup>, after stating that “Longinus <sup>b</sup> in fronte libri Π. Υ. vocatur *Dionysius Longinus*; a Photio (Lex. MS. v. Σείσφοι) *Cassius Longinus*; a Suida (v. Δογγίνος) *Longinus Cassius*, cognomine præposito gentili nomini”—adds: “Et quoniam de Longini nomine dicere cœpimus, hoc quoque notandum videtur, eum nunquam simpliciter *Dionysii*, semel *Dionysii Longini*, bis terve *Cassii Longini*, plerumque uno *Longini* nomine laudari.” If by “semel” we understand that some author has mentioned the secretary of Zenobia by the name of *Dionysius Longinus*, Ruhnken is flatly contradicted by Amati, who asserts: “Eumapius <sup>c</sup>, Photius, Zosimus, quotquot Palmyreni Sophistæ mentionem faciunt, Longinum tantum appellant; nemo Diony-

<sup>a</sup> *Dissertatio Philologica de vitâ et scriptis Longini*. Though it does not bear Ruhnken's name, I quote it as his on the authority of Weiske's note:—“Constat eam conscriptam esse a DAV. RUHNKENIO, ut Wytttenbach in *Biblioth. Crit. Amst.* (Vol. I. p. 3.) Volborth in *Biblioth. Philologica*, et Editores opusculorum Ruhnkenii in præfatione monuerunt.”

<sup>b</sup> Sec. II.

<sup>c</sup> Notæ ad inscriptionem Codicis Vaticanæ A.

sium Longinum." It seems therefore not unwarrantable to conclude, that by *semel* Ruhnken refers not to any author, but to that single MS. which he considers as the original of the others. "Hic liber vere aureus," he observes in the same treatise\*, ".... conservatus est in uno Codice Parisino, ex quo quicquid Codicum est in aliis Bibliothecis manavit." Inferring therefore that, in the opinion both of Ruhnken and Amati, our only authority for calling Zenobia's secretary *Dionysius* Longinus, is the authority of the MSS; let us consider the state of these MSS, and what authority is due to them. "Antiquissimus<sup>b</sup> et optimæ notæ codex (Bibliothecæ Regiæ Parisiensis, quem codicem A. voco) habet † ΔΙΟΝΥΣΙΟΥ ΔΟΙΤΙΝΟΥ περί ΤΥΟΥΣ: † Continet autem hic codex Aristotelis Problemata et Longinum; et præfigitur sub initium voluminis index eadem manu, qua totus codex, scriptus, in quo 37 problemata Aristotelis recensentur, et subjungitur:

\* Sect. XIV.

<sup>b</sup> Notæ ad inscriptionem, &c.