

**TRANSACTIONS
AND PROCEEDINGS,
VOL. XXXIX**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649082254

Transactions and proceedings, Vol. XXXIX by American Philological Association

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AMERICAN PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

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AND PROCEEDINGS,
VOL. XXXIX**

TRANSACTIONS
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OF THE
AMERICAN
PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

1908

VOLUME XXXIX

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PUBLISHED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY
GINN & COMPANY,
29 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

EUROPEAN AGENTS:

ENGLAND: EDWARD ARNOLD, 37 BEDFORD STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
GERMANY: OTTO HARRASSOWITZ, LEIPZIG
FRANCE: H. WELTER, 39 RUE BONAPARTE, PARIS

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Norwood Press:
J. S. Cushing & Co.—Berwick & Smith Co.
Norwood, Mass., U.S.A.

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TRANSACTIONS
OF THE
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I—*On the Use of the Dactyl after an Initial Trochee in
Greek Lyric Verse*

BY PROF. EDWARD H. SPIEKER
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

IN the well-known passage of the *Frogs*, 1309 ff., in which Aristophanes makes Aeschylus present a sample of Euripides' style in the composition of lyrics, there occurs a line which at first sight seems to be an ordinary logaoedic line, and which, except for the fact that it may be regarded as having either four feet or five feet, is not likely to attract attention. The line in question is 1313, and it reads as follows:—

αἱ θ' ἰπωρόφιοι κατὰ γωνίας — ◡ | — ◡ | — ◡ | — ◡ |.

An examination of the following passage, which holds up to ridicule Euripides' treatment of monodies, reveals the fact that we have similar metrical conditions, with the addition of anacrusis, in line 1361:—

σὺ δ', ὦ Διός, διπύρους ἀνέχουσα ◡ : — ◡ | — ◡ | — ◡ | — ◡ |.

Did Aristophanes, in writing these lines, have in mind only a general parody of Euripides' style, or was he thinking of the metre as well? In an effort to get a satisfactory answer to this question I was led to make a full examination of the use of the dactyl after an initial trochee, and the results of this study are offered in the following paper.