

**A COLLECTION OF
EXAMPLES ILLUSTRATING
THE METRICAL LICENSES
OF VERGIL**

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A Collection of Examples Illustrating the Metrical Licenses of Vergil by H. W. Johnston

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ILLUSTRATING

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BY
H. W. JOHNSTON, PH. D.

PROFESSOR OF LATIN IN THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

THE Metrical Licenses of Vergil are sufficiently explained, perhaps, in the school editions and the school grammars. Teachers, however, frequently feel the need of a more copious collection of examples, drawn from Vergil exclusively, than these books afford, and such a collection with a few helps in the form of notes is all that this pamphlet pretends to furnish.

In the examples Ribbeck's text is followed, strictly, even in orthography and punctuation, except that I have begun each sentence and verse with a capital letter. Teachers should turn to his last edition (Leipzig, 1894) for the explanation of unfamiliar readings. References are made to the school grammars with the usual abbreviations, and also to Müller's Greek and Roman Versification, translated by Platner (Boston, 1892), Gossrau's Aeneid (Leipzig, 1846) and Wagner's Vergil (Leipzig, 1830).

It should be understood that the marks of quantity in both examples and notes refer to syllables, not vowels.

No system has been followed in the arrangement of the several topics, but the indexes will enable the teacher to provide without trouble for the difficulties of each day's lesson.

These examples were collected in the first place for the Teachers' Class in the Summer School of the Indiana University.

H. W. JOHNSTON.

A COLLECTION OF EXAMPLES

ILLUSTRATING

THE METRICAL LICENSES OF VERGIL

I. THE VOWELS I AND U TREATED AS CONSONANTS.

A. 347 *c* (Synaeresis); B. 367 4; G. 723 (Hardening); H. 608 III. N. 2 (Synaeresis); Müller 31 (Synizesis).¹

I.

ābīēs:²

§ 1

Aen. II. 16: Aedificānt sectaque intēxunt ābiete³ costas

V. 663: Transtra per et remos et pictas ābiete puppis

VIII. 599: Includere cavi et nigra nemus ābiete cingunt

IX. 674: Ābietibus iuvenes patriis et montibus aequos

XI. 667: Adversi longa transverberat ābiete pectus

¹The use of the vowels I and U as consonants is included by most authorities (see references above) under the head of Synizesis, or Synaeresis, and these two words are used as synonyms. Synizesis should, however, be used of the slurring of two vowels, as *dēinde* (two syllables), *dēhinc* (one syllable), etc. Synaeresis is properly a contraction of two vowels with change of quantity, as *cōgō* (for *cōgō*), etc. The consonant use of I and U differs from these in affecting the quantity of the preceding syllable. For this reason it is here treated apart from Synizesis (§§ 5-9). Notice that the converse use of V as a vowel does not occur in Vergil.

²For the quantity cf.

Ec. VII. 66: *Populus in fluvii, abies in montibus altis.*

For the last syllable, see also A. 348 9; B. 364 3 a); G. 709 2 1; H. 581 VI. 1.

³The first syllable is long by position (*ābiete*); see foot-notes 1 and 2.

āriēs:⁴

Aen. II. 492: Custodes sufferre valent; labat āriete crebro

VII. 175: Hae sacris sedes epulis, hic āriete caeso

XII. 706: Moenia quique imos pulsabant āriete muros

§ 2 ārlētō:¹Aen. XI. 890: Ārietat in portas et duros obice² postes**cōnūblum**, see § 3, foot-note 5.**flūvīūs:**Geo. I. 482: Flūviorūm³ rex Eridanus, camposque per omnes**Harpylae**, see § 3, foot-note 5.**Lavinia**, see § 3, foot-note 5.**omnia**, see § 3.**pārlēs:**Geo. IV. 297: Pārietibusque⁴ premunt artis et quattuor addunt

Aen. II. 442: Haerent pārietibus scalae, postisque sub ipsos

V. 589: Pārietibus textum caecis iter ancipitemque

⁴For the quantity cf.Ec. III. 95: *Creditur; ipse aries etiam nunc vellera siccet,*

and the references in foot-note 2.

¹The word having three short syllables in succession could not be used in hexameter verse without lengthening the first syllable.²For the long *ō* in *obice*, see A. 347 *d*, N. 2; B. 362 5; G. 703, R. 2 N.; H. 36 4, foot-note 1.³As if *flūvjōrūm* (trisyl.), contrast *flūvjōrūm* (quadrissy.).Aen. XII. 142: *Nympha, decus fluviorum, animo gratissima nostro.*⁴This form and scansion (four syllables) only are found in Vergil.

omnia:¹

§ 3

Geo. IV. 221: Aetherios dixere; deum namque ire per omnia²

Aen. VI. 33: Bis patriae cecidere manus. Quin protinus omnia

Orithya, see foot-note 5.**Paeonius:**Aen. VII. 769: Paeoniis revocatum herbis et amore Dianae³

XII. 401: Paeonium in morem senior succinctus amictu

precantia:Aen. VII. 237: Praeferimus manibus vittas ac verba precantia⁴**stello:**Geo. IV. 243: Stelio et lucifugis congesta cubilia blattis⁵

¹The words in this section differ from those above only in having the *i* preceded by a syllable already long. The consonant force of the *i* cannot, therefore, be detected by its influence upon the preceding syllable.

²The last foot is a trochee (- ∪), not a spondee (- -). The older texts have *omnis*.

³The first syllable is usually short in Vergil as here, but see § 20.

⁴As the next line begins with a vowel, this is sometimes called an hypermeter verse, see § 30, but Vergil has no examples of hypermetrical -a.

⁵To this list some authorities would add the following words:

Conubium. Because in

Aen. IV. 316: *Per conubia nostra, per inceptos hymenaeos*

the second vowel must be long by nature, and the second foot a dactyle (-ia cannot be scanned long, see foot-note 2), it has been supposed that it was long also in Aen. I. 73 *Conubio iungam*, III. 136 *Conubiis arvis* (Ribbeck even spells *conubis* here), VII. 96 *Nepete conubis*, 253 *Quantum in conubio natae*, 333 *Fama loco neu conubiis*. To scan in these places with *u* long it was necessary to get rid of the short *i* (- ∪ -) by giving it consonant force. Comparison with cognate words, however, has convinced most modern scholars that