

**THE SATIRES OF PERSIUS.
WITH ENGLISH NOTES BASED
ON THOSE OF MACLEANE
AND CONINGTON**

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Samuel Hart

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SATIRES OF PERSIUS.

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BASED ON THOSE OF MACLEANE AND CONINGTON,

BY THE

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PREFACE.

THE text of the present edition of the Satires of Persius will be found, I think, to agree in most places with that of JAHN. Basing my notes on those of Mr. MACLEANE and of Professor CONINGTON, I have frequently borrowed the ideas or the words of these editors; in doing this, I have, of necessity, often dissented from one of them. In other cases, I am under obligations to CASAUBON (whose commentary, almost "divine" as Scaliger called it, has indeed furnished material for all who have come after him) or to some more recent editor. While, therefore, I feel responsible for the form of the notes and for the decisions which I have been obliged to make in many cases, very few of the annotations are strictly original. I have especially attempted to give in the arguments a suggestive outline of the poet's thoughts in each Satire, and also to point out as clearly as possible in the notes the connection of one idea or one part of the poem with another. If

I have succeeded in this, I can hope that I have done something to help students to understand and appreciate the writings of Persius. I have added, where they seemed to be desirable, a few references to grammars.

I may be allowed to add, that the copy of the notes was all in the hands of the printer before I saw or heard of the excellent edition of these Satires which has been prepared by Professor Gildersleeve of the University of Virginia. S. II.

TRINITY COLLEGE, May, 1875.

A. PERSII FLACCI
SATIRAE.

PROLOGUS.

NEC fonte labra prolui caballino,
Nec in bicipiti somniasse Parnasso
Memini, ut repente sic poeta prodirem;
Heliconidasque pallidamque Pirenen
Illis remitto quorum imagines lambunt 8
Hederæ sequentes; ipse semipaganus
Ad sacra vatum carmen affero nostrum.
Quis expedivit paittaco suum *χαίτη*,
Picasque docuit verba nostra conari?
Magister artis ingenique largitor 10
Venter, negatas artifex sequi voces.
Quod si dolosi spes refulserit nummi,
Corvos poetas et poetridas picas
Cantare credas Pegaseium nectar.

SATIRA I.

'O CURAS hominum! o quantum est in rebus inane!
 "Quis leget hæc?" Min' tu istud ais? Nemo
 hercule, nemo;
 Vel duo vel nemo. "Turpe et miserabile!" Quare?
 Ne mihi Polydamas et Troiades Labeonem
 Praetulerint? nugae. Non, si quid turbida Roma 5
 Elevet, accedas, examenve improbum in illa
 Castiges trutina, nec te quæsieris extra.
 Nam Romæ quis non — at si fas dicere — sed fas
 Tunc cum ad canitiem et nostrum istud vivere triste
 Aspexi, ac nucibus facimus quæcunque relictis, 10
 Cum sapimus patros; tunc, tunc ignoscite. "Nolo."
 Quid faciam? Sed sum petulanti splene cachiuno.
 Scribimus inclusi, numeros ille, hic pede liber,
 Grande aliquid quod pulmo animæ praelargus anhelet.
 Scilicet hæc populo, pexusque togaque recenti 15
 Et natalitia tandem cum sardonioque albus,
 Sede leget celsa, liquido cum plasmate guttur
 Mobile colluerit, patranti fractus ocello.
 Hic neque more probo videas nec voce serena
 Ingentes trepidare Titos, cum carmina lumbum 20
 Intran et tremulo scalpuntur ut intima versa.
 Tun', vetule, auriculis alienis colligis escas?
 Auriculis quibus et dicas cute perditus, ohe!

"Quo didicisse, nisi hoc fermentum et quae semel intus
 Innata est rupto jecore exierit caprificus?" 25
 En pallor seniumque! O mores! usque adeone
 Scire tuum nihil est nisi te scire hoc sciat alter?
 "At pulerum digito monstrari et dicier, 'Hic est!'
 Ten' cirratorum centum dictata fuisse
 Pro nihilo pendas?" Ecce inter pocula quaerunt 30
 Romulidae saturi quid dia poemata narrent.
 Hic aliquis cui circum humeros hyacinthina laena est,
 Rancidulum quiddam balba de nare locutus,
 Phyllidas, Hysipylos, vatum et plorabile si quid,
 Eliquat ac tenero supplantat verba palato. 35
 Assensere viri; nunc non cinis ille poetae
 Felix? non levior cippus nunc imprimit ossa?
 Laudant convivae; nunc non e manibus illis,
 Nunc non e tumultu fortunataque favilla
 Nascentur violae? "Rides," ait, "et nituis uncis 40
 Naribus indulges; an erit qui velle recuset
 Os populi meruisse, et cedro digna locutus
 Linquere nec soombros metuentia carmina nec tus?"
 Quisquis es, o modo quem ex adverso dicere feci,
 Non ego cum scribo si forte quid aptius exit, 45
 Quamquam haec rara avis est, si quid tamen aptius exit,
 Laudari metuum; neque enim mihi cornea fibra est;
 Sed recti finemque extremumque esse recuso
 'Euge' tuum et 'Belle.' Nam belle hoc excute totum;
 Quid non intus habet? Non hic est Ilias Acci 50
 Ebria veratro? non si qua elegidia crudi
 Dictarunt proceres? non quicquid denique lectis
 Scribitur in vitreis? Calidum scis ponere sumen,
 Scis comitem horridulum trita donare lacerna,
 Et 'Verum,' inquis, 'amo; verum mihi dicite de me.' 55

Qui pote? Vis dicam? nugaris, cum tibi, calve,
 Pinguis aqualiculus protenso sesquipedo extet.
 O Jane, a tergo quem nulla ciconia pinsit,
 Nec manus auriculas imitari molilis albas,
 Nec linguae quantum sitiât canis Apula tantum! 60
 Vos, o patricius sanguis, quos vivere fas est
 Occipiti caeco, posticae occurrite sannae!
 "Quis populi sermo est?" Quis enim, nisi carmina molli
 Nunc demum numero fluere, ut per leve severos
 Effundat junctura unguis? scit tendere versum 65
 Non secus ac si oculo rubricam dirigat uno.
 Sive opus in mores, in luxum et prandia regum
 Dicere, res grandes nostro dat Musa poetae,
 Ecce modo heroas sensus afferre videmus
 Nugari solitos Graece, nec ponere lucum 70
 Artifices, nec ras saturum laudare, ubi corbes
 Et focus et porci et fumosa Palilia foeno;
 Unde Remus, sulcoque terens dentalia, Quinti,
 Cum trepida ante boves dictatorem induit uxor,
 Et tua aratra domam lietor tulit — Euge, poeta! 75
 Est nunc Brisei quem venosus liber Acci,
 Sunt quos Pacuviusque et verrucosa moretur
 Antiopa, 'nerumnis cor luctificabile falta.'
 Hos pueris monitus patres infundere lippos
 Cum videns, quaerisne unde haec sartago loquendi 80
 Venerit in linguas; unde istud dedecus, in quo
 Trossulus exsultat tibi per subsellia levis?
 Nilne pudet capiti non posse pericula cano
 Pellere, quin tepidum hos optes audire 'Decentor'??
 'Fur es,' ait Pedio. Pedius quid? orimina rasis 85
 Librat in antithetis; doctas posuisse figuras
 Laudatur: 'Bellum hoc!' Hoc bellum? an, Romule, ceves?