

**A CATALOGUE OF IRREGULAR  
GREEK VERBS; WITH ALL THE  
TENSES EXTANT, THEIR  
FORMATION, MEANING, AND  
USAGE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9781760573881

A Catalogue of Irregular Greek Verbs; With All the Tenses Extant, Their Formation, Meaning, and Usage by Philipp Buttmann & J. R. Fishlake

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Cover @ 2017

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**PHILIPP BUTTMANN & J. R. FISHLAKE**

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IRREGULAR GREEK VERBS,

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FORMATION, MEANING, AND USAGE.

By PHILIP BUTTMANN, LL.D.,  
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ROYAL LIBRARY.

TRANSLATED AND EDITED,  
WITH EXPLANATORY NOTES AND A VERY COPIOUS INDEX,

By THE REV. J. R. FISHLAKE,  
Late Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford; Translator of "Buttmann's Lexilogus."

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LONDON:  
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

1837.

## INTRODUCTION.

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THE Irregular Greek Verb, though all acknowledge its importance and difficulties, has been hitherto confessedly neglected. On this point both our Lexicons and Grammars are particularly defective and unsatisfactory. In their excuse however it may be fairly alleged, that no work can do justice to so extensive a subject, unless it be confined to the examination of that subject only. I have been frequently struck with the truth and the force of these considerations when consulting the second volume of Buttmann's large Greek Grammar (*Ausführliche Sprachlehre*), which is dedicated to the examination of the Irregular Verbs, and contains a very extensive catalogue of them. In that catalogue I found all the prominent irregularities of the Greek Verb so fully and fundamentally investigated, that I was convinced a translation of it would prove a most valuable assistant to every lover and student of Greek literature, whether he should be satisfied with a mere superficial knowledge of this part of the language, or might wish to see it traced and explained with the deepest and soundest criticism: and as the catalogue constitutes a distinct part of the original Grammar, there was little difficulty in forming it into a separate work.

In this Catalogue Buttmann professes to have two objects in view: first, to enumerate all the *primitive verbs*,

whether regular or irregular, which are in general use, particularly in prose, specifying in each the actual usage of the best writers: secondly, to give a list of all verbs, and all forms of verbs, which are anomalous or irregular. On the former of these points little need be said: in some respects its importance is not at all inferior to the latter, particularly for the composition of Greek prose; but in extent it is comparatively inconsiderable. The regular verbs occurring in this Catalogue are so few, (almost every Greek verb having an irregularity in some part of its formation,) that their occasional appearance does not alter the general character of the work; and I have therefore given it a title corresponding with its great leading object, which is, to examine and explain those verbs (with their tenses and persons,) which are properly irregular. If it be asked what verbs Buttmann considers to be properly irregular, I answer in his own words, those which do not follow some general analogy. In accordance with this idea, he has omitted in his Catalogue one numerous class of verbs ending in  $-\acute{\alpha}\zeta\omega$ ,  $-\acute{\iota}\zeta\omega$ ,  $-\acute{\alpha}\iota\nu\omega$ ,  $-\acute{\upsilon}\nu\omega$ ,  $-\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$ ,  $-\acute{\omicron}\omega$ ,  $-\acute{\alpha}\omega$  and  $-\acute{\epsilon}\omega$ , because they are derived from other words (not verbs) according to a fixed analogy, because they are all formed in the same simple way, have all a perfect active in  $-\kappa\alpha$ , and are invariably defective in the aor. 2. active and passive. For the same reason he has excluded those also which are formed in  $-\omega$  with the preceding syllable of the radical word strengthened; consequently those ending in  $-\acute{\alpha}\acute{\iota}\rho\omega$ ,  $-\lambda\lambda\omega$ ,  $-\pi\tau\omega$ ,  $-\tau\tau\omega$ , and  $-\sigma\sigma\omega$ \*. Where, however, we find a verb with either of the above terminations not derived from a noun or other word, but only a lengthened form of some simple stem or root, it is manifestly a deviation from ge-

\* Of these  $\acute{\alpha}\lambda\lambda\acute{\alpha}\sigma\sigma\omega$  only has an aor. 2., consequently is placed in the following Catalogue as an exception to a general analogy.



neral analogy; and as an aor. 2. may be formed from the original root,—e. g. in ἀλιταίνω, aor. 2. ἤλιτον; in κτυπέω, aor. 2. (from ΚΤΥΠΩ) ἔκτυπον,—such verbs have a place in the following Catalogue; as have also all those ending in -ῶνω, that termination being invariably of the same kind. Within these and the like restrictions almost every irregular verbal form occurring in any known writer will be found, either expressly mentioned or sufficiently referred to in the present work.

In the prosecution of Buttmann's first object, all verbs, whether regular or irregular, which are common in the best prose writers, are distinguished in this Catalogue by a larger type, so that the pure Attic usage of each verb is seen at one view. But any point requiring a more minute disquisition, anything which seldom occurs in prose, which belongs to the language of poetry or to the dialects, is added in a smaller character and in a separate paragraph. Those verbs also whose whole usage brings them under this second class are inserted in the same smaller type.

All themes and forms not actually occurring in any known writer, but which must be supposed in order to class with precision different verbs according to their respective families, are distinguished by *capital letters*, that the eye may not become accustomed to such unusual forms by seeing them printed in the common character. And, to spare the ear as much as possible the formation of these verbal stems into a present in -ω, they are generally distinguished merely thus, 'ΑΔ-, ΛΗΒ-, &c. If a theme however occurs but once in any genuine remains of antiquity, it appears in the Catalogue in the common character. At the same time it must be understood, that such an appearance does not necessarily prove the actual occurrence of the first person singular of the present. If there be

found in actual usage any person of the present, or even of the imperfect (at least in most cases), it is considered quite sufficient to warrant this grammatical use of the whole or any part of the present tense.

The object of this Catalogue requires, strictly speaking, that the usage of every verb inserted in it should be given, wherever it does not follow of itself, at full length. As yet however this has been done very imperfectly; and it must therefore be premised, that wherever in the present work no future, aorist or perfect is expressly mentioned, the common fut. active, the aor. 1. or the perf. 1. (as the regular formation of the verb), is presumed to be in use, at least there is nothing to prove that it is not so. But as soon as, instead of either of the above, an aor. 2., or a perf. 2., or a fut. middle occurs, such tense is added by name. The word "MIDD." standing alone, means that the middle voice of that verb is in use. The expression "Att. redupl." shows that the perfect has the Attic reduplication. Where it is said that "the pass. takes  $\sigma$ ," it is to be understood as referring to the perf. and aor. 1. passive; this expression is however used only where that circumstance does not follow of itself. The frequent references to Buttmann's *Lexilogus* are to the English translation published in 1836.

The deponents are generally noticed as such, although properly speaking that point comes within the province of the Lexicon. When however they take in the aorist the middle form, they belong to this Catalogue, and the anomaly is marked by "Depon. midd.;" whilst "Depon. pass." added wherever the meaning appears to require the remark, shows that the verb still adheres to the passive formation.

Single forms occurring in any writer are generally referred back to the first person singular of the indicative of

the particular tense. Occasionally however a person of the plural, a conjunctive or a participle, is quoted alone; and this is done in many of the Epic and rarer forms for the sake of greater accuracy and certainty; because it does not necessarily follow from the occurrence of any certain form, that the first person singular of the indicative of that tense must have been in use. And in general it is much more advantageous to the student, who has made a little progress in the language, that some forms actually occurring should be laid before him, which he understands grammatically, and which he may remember to have met with in the course of his reading, than that he should find one indicative grammatically framed, without being able to see to what forms of known and actual occurrence it is intended to lead him.

Whatever meaning—active, passive or middle, transitive or intransitive—is given to the present, the same is supposed to belong to every succeeding tense not expressly marked with a different meaning. If, for instance, under *βούλομαι* we find the fut. *βουλήσομαι* from the middle, and the aor. *ἐβουλήθην* from the passive, this shows that these are the only two forms which occur in the sense of the present *βούλομαι*, and consequently that there is no instance of an aorist *ἐβουλησάμην*, or of a future *βουληθήσομαι*.

The insertion, in their alphabetical places, of supposed verbal stems or roots is intended less for the accommodation of the student, than to complete the plan of the work: and this may be said not only of those which must necessarily be supposed in every methodical treatise of this kind, as *ΛΗΒ-* for *λήψομαι*, *ἐλαβον*, but of many which are merely apparent, i. e. where a change, for which there is no foundation in the regular inflexion, but which has been effected by the operation of syncope or metathesis,