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RENAISSANCE
HUMANISM

Classical Works
Humanistic Texts
Anthologies
Encyclopaedias
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Dictionaries

1. Michael Maroullos-Tarchaniotes. *Epigrammaton Michaelis Marulli Constantinopolitani...*, Rome, Eucharius Silber, c. 1486-1490.

BL: H 10887 • BH 1/3 (90) • BMC IV, 123 • Census, H 341 • PAP I, 3786 • Charta I, 206/7 ♣ PR: Libri Rari Fiammetta Soave, Roma.

4o (20 cm), iv, [28].

First edition, of the four incunabular poetic essays by Michael Maroullos-Tarchaniotes (circa 1453-1500): epigrams, hymns, elegies. The *Epigrammata*, contained in two books (64 and 49 respectively) represent poetic compositions addressed to his close friends and members of the aristocracy such as Manilios Kavakes Ralles, Antonio Petrucci, Francesco Sforza, Lorenzo dei Medici et al. Through these verses Maroullos expresses his dolour at the loss of his homeland (which he never knew) and for the enigmatic Neaera.

2. Homerus. [*Tὰ σωζόμενα*], [Published by Bernardus Nerlius and D. Chalkokondyles], Florence [Demetrios Damilas], not before 31 January 1488/89.

BL: HCR 8772 • BH 1/1 (5) • BMC VI, 678 • Census, H 300 • Rhodes, H 3 • PAP I, 2741 • Charta I, 150-152 ♣ PR: Maggs Bros Ltd.

Folio (33 cm), leaf MM II-III 44 (2 columns).

First edition of Homer's works and the first dated Greek book to be printed in Florence. All 35 incunable editions with works attributed to Homer (principally the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*) were printed in the Latin translation by Lorenzo Valla and Nicolaus de Valle: this number of incunables comprises pseudo-Homeric works such as the *Batrachomyomachia*, *Epitome tou Troikou Polemonou* (*De bello Troiano epitome*), et al.

The book was printed at the printing-house of the famed Bartholomeo di Libri by the Greek printer Demetrios Damilas, with a family of characters similar to the one he had designed for the edition of K. Laskaris's *Grammar* (Milan, 1476). The edition of the epic poems was prepared by Demetrios Chalkokondyles, funded by his pupil Bernardo Nerli.



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3. Isocrates. [*Λόγοι*...], [Edited by D. Chalkokondyles], Milan, Eric the German [Ulric Scinzenzeler], 24 January 1493.

BL: HC 9312 • BH 1/1 (7) • BMC VI, 767 • Census, I 210 • Rhodes, I 2 • PAP I, 2932 • Charta I, 225/6 ♣ PM: Kristeller, 35 (98) • Stalikos, 3 (1) ♣ PR: The Beriah Botfield's Library.

Folio (29 cm), iv, [200] (the pp. [1], [16], [34] blank) • p. [2] initial letter coloured • on the verso page of the beginning *Coll: perf: H. Drury. Harrow. Editio princeps. c. 282.2* • reading Notes.

First and unique archetypal edition of the 21 *Λόγοι* (*Orationes*) by Isocrates. Diverse *Speeches* of his however circulated in Latin translations by famous Hellenists such as Francesco Buzacarino in ten complete editions, mainly in Italy, from about 1480. The book was edited by D. Chalkokondyles (1423-1511), then teaching in Milan, who had the financial support of three member of the Chancellery of the Duke of Lombardy Ludovico il Moro: Bartholomeo Squasso, Vincenzo Aliprandi and Bartholomeo Rozono. The *Λόγοι* circulated from the print-

ἀρταλίσκειν κακά διμητρίοι φύται.
αὐτόρισκε δέ μητροι καὶ πρεπεῖνορίδιαδή
Καὶ οἱ σπλανχνοὶ δύνασθε μητρὸν τοιην
οἵνων γῆτολος. οὐδὲ διέτητο χαῖρι δίβυνο.
Καὶ μηφύροις ἵσται πτερόπτερα πτονόντα.
ἢ φλετίς γέροντοι μητροῖς κτητάταιριοισιν.
Ἄδην μάλιστροφέσκαι καρπίσεαγοράντε
φας Κατάτηφροδα μαρμαροφόρην κατίκατικα.
Ἴστεμοι αὐτοῖς τοῦ γράντοις τοῦ πόρτα
ξίνειρου τόγιοιδε καὶ ἀθέρατοι θεοῖς ήσοι
πάκινηράγγηθανοι θιώντοι ποδοῖς Καλίθεα.
Τοῦ φράγματον εἰσῆντα συβόντες ἔρχεταισάρδινος
ἄγριος Στικεύρος ἄπροπλανοιριστίλιον
ἀγριῶντα ποτεινῶντακάτικα σιλοφόρη
ἀνθέμιος κομιδῆς κακηρυμοίροισθρίσαλπτα.
Ταῦδερτὸν διδιλονούσιακα μηθοαλτα.
ἴε δικάλητεν πάκινοις θάνατοις ικέται
ιεροῖς οἰδιπορεψιν δέσποτοις θεοῖς.
ἢ δέ διέμετροφίλοις καὶ ἕκαπτα μεταλλα.
Καὶ οἱ θρηματιράθλαρηρά τοῦ δάκρυνα τίπτει
ἡ βρισιτιγματοστούσα τόσις θεοῖσινθάλατα.
Ἐπάκικάλουγραντοςταρτικήρωο
ἔπτει τοι λατρεύτηχιτηματιίκατα δοιο
τοῦ δέ διέμηχοντικανταχίστοισι
ρίροφοτοστιφίρινδε. Τυχεῖ διλλοισιν.
Ἐπειργητόραφορίχεντοσιαδέστοι
Κέρτωντατρούντα μεταφύσιμηα τολλα
ἢ σέμερεράπατανθλατιφίλοισι δικάλιστοιο
τασσοῖς μετοδιμαλίποτητραχατοινιστρέποντο
κατιστοῦδελαρκτακικάσματα διστόσιστα.
ενδιέκαιηταρέσκαι μητροσῶτεικακοι
εἶκεν. οὐδὲ προτεργόμηντακαὶ μητρόφοροιτοι.
ενδιητούτοτολοφόδιφροματέχρυμηρέστρ
ερβαλμοσιγθιάτοισι, μηγιταρίδηγαν
μητρέμδηντοσεσμητακακομημοιο
πορμηγήφειδητηλάδηνταριορτομάλαζη
άδισιμα. τούτοισιμηφίλοις καὶ μηδεποθυμέ.
Ἄγαμηηθορχαλισκαὶ προσφίντορτα.
Τορδιάτητοροσίτηταλητλαεδιοεδινοδε.

MM III



ing-house of Ulrich Scinzenzeler with a new family of printing characters, which were however engraved on the basis of the fonts used by D. Damilas for the editions schedule of Buono Accorsi (1479-1481) that appear to have ended in the possession of Antonio de Honate after Damilas had moved to Florence.

4. [Α]νθολογία διαφόρων ἐπιγραμμάτων, ἀρχαίοις συντεθειμένων σοφοῖς, ἐπὶ διαφόρους ὑποδέσεσιν... [Published by Ianos Laskaris], Florence, Lauren-tius Franciscus de Alopa Venetus, 11 August 1494.

BL: HC 1145 • BH I/1 (13) • CW 2048 • BMC VI, 666 • Census, A 765 • Rhodes, A 9 • PAP I, 361
• Charta I, 266 ♦ PR: Maggs Bros Ltd.

8o (21 cm), lv. [283] • reading Notes.



Ianos Laskaris, woodcut from the edition: *Paulus Grecio, "Elogia Virorum literis illustrium"*, Basel, 1577.

West. The book ends with a lengthy greeting from Laskaris in Latin addressed to Piero dei Medici, wherein extensive mention is made of the origins of the Greek alphabet.

Of all the books assigned to Laskaris and printed in Florence (Apollonius Rhodius, *Argonautica*; Euripides, *Tragediae*; Lucian, *Dialogi*; Cebes, *Pinnax* et al.), it is the only one that mentions name of the printing house proprietor Lorenzo de Alopa.

First edition of the *Epigrammata* by Maximos Planoudes, the second Greek printed book to have circulated from a Florentine printing house and a landmark in the history of Greek typography (see no 2). The edition underwent general editing by Ianos Laskaris (1444/5-1534), a counsellor of the Medici and indefatigable in the organization of their library.

This book, printed at an obscure Florentine printer's, introduced a new series of fonts based on Laskaris's handwriting, exclusively in upper case, the famous combination of two sizes of capital letters, with accents and breathings and a series of initial letters for proper names and the first letter of every new epigram.

The foreword of the edition is by Laskaris himself «Εἰς τὰ Παλαιά Γράμματα» (*To the Old Letters*), depicting Apollo assigning to the Muses («Χαλκοτύποις σελίστη Μουσῶν») to save the glory of the native land, and to disseminate through the book the poetic heritage of the old and divine country of Greece to the

ΕΙΣ ΑΓΑΘΟΥΣ ΑΝΔΡΑΣ. Ειπ Πλάτωνα.

ΣΩΦΟΣ ΝΗΠΙΟΝ ΦΡΟΝΤΩΝ
ΝΗΠΙΩΝ ΤΕ ΔΙΚΑΙΩΝ
ΕΝΘΑΔΕ ΚΕῖΤΑΙ ΑΝΗΡ ΘΕΙΟΣ
ΑΡΙΣΤΟΚΑΘΕΝ.

Εἰς δε τις εκ πάντων σοφίκης μέγαν ἔχεν ἐπαίνον.
Οὗτος ἔχει ρουανήν καὶ φόνον οὐ φέρεται.

Αδέπτον.

Δύλακίτιον μὲν ἀνάκτες ἄκρον βιότοιο πρὸς ὄλβον
ἡγαντος εἰς ἀρετὴν, καὶ κλέος ἀνθυάτων.
ὅς δὲ φύσις μην ἐλύσεν ἀπὸ χρονού, ἀθάνατοι μὲν
ἄγτον ἔχοις θεοῖ, σῶμα δὲ θνήτος οὐδε.

Ιούλιανοῦ ἀιγυπτίου,

Κλεινὸς ιπάννης ονητὸς ἀέρε, γαμβρὸς ἀνάση,
ονητὸς ὅμολος γενέντος ἀνθος ἀναστασίο.
ονητού καὶ κείνου, βίον ἐναίκον, οὐκέτι τούτῳ
ονητὸν ἔσται ἀρεταὶ κρείσονες ἐπι μόρον.

Χρητοαδρόυ.

Οὗτος ιούλιαννην κρύπτει τάφος, οὐ ρέπιαλμνον
ἀστρονέην, οὐ δια παίδες ἀριστερεές
ἐκτίσαν ἡρακάνος, οὐθεν καὶ μέμριος ἡρω,
αἱὲ τὸν ἀλίκον ἐκληρὸν ἐκούτε μένος.
εἴκε δὲ πέντεβένη προτόνων ἐρίκυδαέα πάτην.
λυκναδὸν οὐ θοίνες κάλμος ἐλέιμε πόλιν
ἐνθεν λύχνος οὐν ἐλικόνιος οὐνεκα κάλμος
τοιχείον δαναοίσι πρώτος ἐδεισε τύπον.
εἰς ύπατούς ἀνέλαμτε καὶ ιαλυριοῖσι δικάζον,
μούσας καὶ καθαρὴν ἐστεάνωσε δίκην.

