



I

RENAISSANCE HUMANISM

OR

Classical Works
Humanistic Texts
Anthologies
Encyclopaedias
Grammars
Dictionaries

1. Michael Maroullis-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: Libreria Flammitta Soave, Roma.

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

First edition, of the four incunabular poetic essays by Michael Maroullis-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 Manilius Kavakes Ralles, Antonio Petrucci, Francesco Sforza, Lorenzo dei Medici et al. Through these verses Maroullis expresses his dolour at the loss of his homeland (which he never knew) and for the enigmatic Neaera.

2. Homerus. [*Τὰ 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 incunabular 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 incunabulars comprises pseudo-Homeric works such as the *Batrachomyomachia*, *Epitome tou Troïkou Polemou* (*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.

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) • Staikos, 3 (1) ♣ PR: The Beriah Botfield's Library.

Folio (29 cm), lv. [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 Buzacarinio 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 members of the Chancellery of the Duke of Lombardy Ludovico il Moro: Bartholomeo Squasso, Vincenzo Aliprandi and Bartholomeo Rozono. The *Λόγοι* circulated from the print-



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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 to Antonio de Honate after Damilas had moved to Florence.

4. [Α]νθολογία διαφόρων ἐπιγραμμάτων, ἀρχαίως συντεθειμένων σοφοῖς, ἐπὶ διαφόροις ὑποθέσεων... [Published by Ianos Laskaris], Florence, Laurentius Franciscus de Alopa Venetus, 11 August 1494.

BL: HC 1145 • BH 1/1 (13) • GW 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 Giccio, "Elogia Virorum literis illustrium", Basel, 1577.

First edition of the *Epigrammata* by Maximus 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 Παλαιὰ Γράμματα» (*To the Old Letters*), depicting Apollo assigning to the Muses («Χαλκοτύποις σελίσι 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

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, *Ἀργοναυτικά*; Euripides, *Τραγωδία*, Lucian, *Dialogi*, Cebeas, *Πίναξ* et al., it is the only one that mentions name of the printing house proprietor Lorenzo de Alopa.

ΕΙΣ ΑΓΑΘΟΥΣ ΑΝΔΡΑΣ. ΕΙΣ ΠΛΑΤΩΝΑ.

ΣΩΦΡΟΥΝΗ ΠΡΟΦΕΡΩΝ ΘΝΗΤΩΝ
 ΗΘΕΙ ΤΕ ΔΙΚΑΙΩΝ
 ΉΘΑΔΕ ΚΗΤΑΙ ΑΝΗΡ ΘΕΙΟΣ
 ΑΡΙΣΤΟΚΛΗΣ.

ΕΙ ΔΕ ΤΙΣ ΕΚ ΡΑΝΤΩΝ ΣΟΦΗΣ ΜΕΓΑΝ ΕΣΧΕΝ ΕΠΑΙΝΩΝ.
 ΟΥΤΟΣ ΕΧΕΙ ΡΟΥΛΩΝ. ΚΑΙ ΦΘΟΝΟΝ ΟΥ ΦΕΡΕΤΑΙ.

ΛΑΕΣΠΟΤΩΝ.

ΔΟΥΛΑΚΙΤΩΝ ΜΕΝ ΑΝΑΚΤΕΣ ΑΚΡΩΝ ΒΙΟΤΟΙΟ ΠΡΟΣ ΟΛΒΟΝ
 ΗΓΑΓΟΝ ΕΣ ΑΡΕΤΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΚΛΕΟΣ ΑΝΘΥΡΑΤΩΝ.

ΩΣ ΔΕ ΦΥΣΙΣ ΜΗΝ ΕΛΥΣΕΝ ΑΠΟ ΧΘΟΝΟΣ, ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΙ ΜΕΝ
 ΑΥΤΩΝ ΕΧΟΥΣΙ ΘΕΟΙ, ΣΩΜΑ ΔΕ ΣΗΚΟΣ ΟΥΔΕ.

ΙΟΥΛΙΑΝΟΥ ΑΙΓΥΠΤΙΟΥ.

ΚΛΕΙΝΟΣ ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ ΘΗΤΟΣ ΛΕΓΕ. ΓΑΜΒΡΟΣ ΑΝΑΣΤΗΣ.
 ΘΗΤΟΣ ΟΜΩΣ ΓΕΝΗΣ ΑΝΘΟΣ ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΟΥ.
 ΘΗΤΟΥ ΚΑ' ΚΕΙΝΟΥ. ΒΙΩΝ ΕΝΑΙΚΟΣ. ΟΥΚΕΤΙ ΤΟΥΤΟ
 ΘΗΤΩΝ ΕΣΗΣ. ΑΡΕΤΑΙ ΚΡΕΙΣΣΟΝΕΣ ΕΙΣΙ ΜΟΡΟΥ.

ΧΡΗΣΤΟΔΩΡΟΥ.

ΟΥΤΟΣ ΙΩΑΝΝΗΝ ΚΡΥΡΤΕΙ ΤΑΦΟΣ. ΟΣ Ρ' ΕΡΓΙΑΔΜΝΟΥ
 ΑΣΤΡΟΝΕΗΝ. ΗΝ ΔΗ ΡΑΙΔΕΣ ΑΡΙΠΡΕΡΕΕΣ
 ΕΚΤΙΣΑΝ ΗΡΑΚΛΗΟΣ, ΟΘΕΝ ΚΑΙ ΜΕΡΜΕΡΟΣ ΗΡΩΣ,
 ΑΙΗ ΤΩΝ ΑΔΙΚΩΝ ΣΚΛΗΡΩΝ ΕΚΟΡΤΕ ΜΕΝΟΣ.
 ΕΙΧΕ Δ' ΑΠΕΥΣΙΒΕΔΩΝ ΠΡΟΓΩΝΩΝ, ΕΡΙΚΥΔΕΑ ΡΑΤΡΗΝ.
 ΛΥΧΝΑΔΩΝ ΗΝ ΦΟΙΝΙΣ ΚΑΔΜΟΣ ΕΔΕΙΜΕ ΠΟΛΙΝ
 ΕΝΘΕΝ ΛΥΧΝΟΣ ΕΗΝ ΕΛΙΚΩΝΙΟΣ ΟΥΝΕΚΑ ΚΑΔΜΟΣ
 ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΩΝ ΔΑΝΑΟΙΣ ΠΡΩΤΟΣ ΕΒΕΙΣ ΤΥΠΩΝ.
 ΕΙΣ ΥΠΑΤΟΥΣ Δ' ΑΝΕΛΑΜΤΕ ΚΑΙ ΙΛΛΥΡΙΟΙΣ ΔΙΚΑΖΩΝ,
 ΜΟΥΣΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΘΑΡΗΝ ΕΣΤΕΒΑΝΩΣΕ ΔΙΚΗΝ.

