

Facetiae

SMOKING PROHIBITED

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A verse assigned to Jocasta in Seneca's tragedy *Phoenissae* affords convincing proof that an anti-smoking campaign had been successfully conducted in ancient Lydia. As the queen is suggesting future homes for her son Polynices, a reasonable person might assume that the young man supported the no-smoking lobby. This supposition has profound implications for the further exploration of the Theban cycle. Because of the importance of this interpretation the senarius in question is printed in upper case—HINC NO- TA-BACCO TMOLVS ATTOLLIT IVGA (602) [nota Baccho codices pauci deteriores]. *Tabacco* (compare Spanish *tabaco*, French *tabac*) is an obsolete spelling. The unfortunate textual corruption is easily explained by (a) erroneous word-division (James Willis in *Latin Textual Criticism*, p. 87, cites *venerata Deum* for *venerat ad eum*) and (b) intrusion of a gratuitous aspirate (cf. *posthumus* for *postumus*).



THOUGHTS ON THEOI

DOROTHY BELLE POLLACK

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DAPHNE

By troubles and woes I am tossed,
As I flee from Apollo's accost.
For I wish to stay single,
And DON'T wish to mingle
With gods. How I wish he'd get lost!

THERSITES

The ILIAD gives all his data,
Though NO one knows who is his mater.
He's nasty, sans tact,
And ugly. In fact,
He is simply "Persona non grata."

CALLISTO

I once showed to Zeus my devotion;
This stirred up such awful commotion
That Hera said, "Go!
Have eternal B.O.,"
And forbade me to bathe in the ocean!

CARMEN DE MALIS

WALTER J. NIEBRZYDOWSKI

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Mala mala mala
malo malo malo
decuti,
haud autem malis
consumi.

Literal translation:

I prefer that the
bad apples be knocked
down from the bad
apple tree with a
pole, but not to be
consumed with my jaws.

PONDUS OPESQUE PARA

P. MURGATROYD

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Get place and wealth; if possible, with grace;
If not, by any means get wealth and place.

POPE

Pondus opesque para, si fas est, arte venusta;
artibus aut ullis pondus opesque para.



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