Kilian Fleischer

THE ORIGINAL VERSES OF APOLLODORUS’ ›CHRONICA‹

Edition, Translation and Commentary on the First Iambic Didactic Poem in the Light of New Evidence

The Chronica by the grammarian Apollodorus of Athens (2nd century BC) was an exemplary chronographical reference work. It was composed in trimeters and represents the first iambic didactic poem ever. So far, the surviving original verses have hardly been appreciated and analyzed in their own terms. Therefore a comprehensive collection of these verses is provided, including an introduction, edition, translation and commentary. Most verses stem from Philodemus’ Index Academicorum, a Herculanean papyrus. Through the use of new imaging techniques and cutting-edge editing methods, enormous textual progress has been made. Many verses have been newly restored or significantly improved. They often reveal new hard facts about Academic philosophers and also bear some relevance for the dating of the Chronica and for Apollodorus’ biography. In short, this collection guarantees easy access to the genuine verses of the Chronica, as originally drafted by Apollodorus, and thereby facilitates a contextualization or comparison with other (iambic) didactic poems on a dramatically changed textual basis. The scope of the book fulfills various scholarly desiderata from a historical, philosophical, philological and literary-critical standpoint.

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