

SHORTER NOTES

A MISPRINT IN THE OXFORD CLASSICAL TEXT OF PLATO'S
*PHAEDO*¹

ABSTRACT

This article reports a notable misprint in J.C.G. Strachan's Oxford Classical Text of Plato's Phaedo (1995).

Keywords: Plato; *Phaedo*; misprint; Strachan; Oxford Classical Texts

A passage in the latest edition of Plato's *Phaedo*² is slightly but significantly different from what we read in other modern editions.³ At 113b–c we read ὁ τέταρτος [*sc.* ποταμὸς] ἐκπίπτει εἰς τόπον πρῶτον δεινόν τε καὶ ἄγριον, ὡς λέγεται, χρώμα δ' ἔχοντα ὅλον οἶον ὁ κυανός, ὃ δὴ ἐπονομάζουσι Στύγιον. But the relative ὃ is undoubtedly wrong, since Plato must be referring the adjective Στύγιον, which never denotes a specific colour, not to the neuter noun χρώμα but to the masculine noun τόπον. Hence the pronoun needed is the masculine ὅν.

Since ὅ is neither attested in the manuscripts nor explained in the apparatus criticus, I contacted the editor, who kindly confirmed that the reading is a misprint. And while not every misprint in an edition deserves an article, the prominence of this passage in *Phaedo* and the wide circulation of the OCT perhaps make pointing this one out worthwhile.

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DIVINE CONFIRMATION: PLATO, *TIMAEUS* 55C7–D6*

ABSTRACT

Burnet's text at Pl. Ti. 55c7–d6 is at least questionable, and opting for a different reading at 55d5 (θεός instead of θεόν) would shed light on an intriguing argumentative aspect of

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² E.A. Duke, W.F. Hicken, W.S.M. Nicoll, D.B. Robinson and J.C.G. Strachan (edd.), *Platonis Opera. Tomus I* (Oxford, 1995).

³ E.g. J. Burnet (ed.), *Plato's Phaedo* (Oxford, 1911); P. Vicaire (ed.), *Platon: Phaedon* (Paris, 1983).

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