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# Two Newly Discovered Poems by Garcilaso de la Vega\*

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The Latin poetry of Garcilaso de la Vega was praised effusively by his contemporaries. However, until now, only three of his Latin lyric odes have been extant, and these are often disparaged by modern critics. In this study, I present, together with translation and commentary, the text of two newly discovered poems by Garcilaso: the ode addressed to Bembo which the latter refers to in his correspondence; and an ode addressed to the poet laureate Johann Alexander Brassicanus. I also present new critical editions of the three extant poems ('Ad Antonium Thylesium', 'Ad Genesium Sepulvedam' and 'Sedes ad Cyprias') in the light of new witnesses from the same source. I argue that the poems constitute sophisticated meditations on the purpose of encomiastic literature and the nature of lyric poetry. In this way I aim to provide a better understanding of Garcilaso's Latin odes and restore his reputation as a consummate Latin poet.

Garcilaso's contemporaries held his Latin poetry in high regard. Boscán praises the poet for his 'verso latino y castellano'.<sup>1</sup> According to Paolo Giovio, he was 'horatiana suavitate odas scribere solitus' ('accustomed to writing odes

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This article has been republished with minor changes. These changes do not impact the academic content of the article.

1 Fernando de Herrera, *Obras de Garcilasso de la Vega con anotaciones de Fernando de Herrera* (Sevilla: Alonso de Barrera, 1580), 21.

with Horatian sweetness').<sup>2</sup> Perhaps the most famous example of contemporary praise of Garcilaso's Latin odes can be found in a letter written by Pietro Bembo to Honorato Fascitelli in August 1535 where, commenting on some of Garcilaso's Latin odes sent to him by Girolamo Seripando, Bembo writes that the Spaniard is 'un bello et gentil poeta; et queste cose sue tutte mi sonno sommamente piacite: et meritano singular commendatione et laude' ('a fine and gentle poet and that all his pieces have given me unbounded pleasure and deserve unusual praise and commendation').<sup>3</sup> He is particularly pleased with an ode Garcilaso dedicated to him: 'Ma io sopra tutto ho con lui questo vantaggio: che a me pare, che l'Oda, che egli a me scrive, sia etiandio piu vaga e piu elegante et monda et sonora et dolce, che le altre tutte non sono, che in que'fogli sono' ('But above all I hold in esteem the ode which he addresses to me; it appears to me lighter and more elegant, purer in style, sweeter and more harmonious than all the others that are in these folios').<sup>4</sup> Bembo repeats his praise in a letter directly to Garcilaso written later that same month:

[...] illud perfecisti, ut non solum Hispanos tuos omneis qui se Apollini Musisque dediderunt, longe numeris superes et praecurras tuis, sed Italis etiam hominibus stimulum addas, quo magis magisque se excitent, si modo volent in hoc abs te certamine atque his in studiis ipsi quoque non praeteriri

([...] you have accomplished this, that not only do you far surpass and outdo in your verses all your Spaniards who have given themselves over to Apollo and the Muses, but you even spur on Italians, so that they may be incited more and more, if they do not want to be outdone by you in this competition and these studies)<sup>5</sup>

However, until now, only three of Garcilaso's Latin poems have been extant: 'Ad Antonium Thylesium', 'Ad Genesium Sepulvedam' and 'Sedes ad Cyprias' (also known as Ode I, Ode II and Ode III respectively). They are

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2 Paolo Giovio, *Pauli Iovii Elogia virorum literis illustrium* (Basel, 1575), 146; quoted in Eugenio Mele, 'Las poesías latinas de Garcilaso de la Vega y su permanencia en Italia', *Bulletin Hispanique*, 25:2 (1923), 108–48 (p. 118; my translation).

3 Audrey Lumsden, 'Garcilaso de la Vega As a Latin Poet', *Modern Language Review*, 42:3 (1947), 337–41 (p. 337; translation by Lumsden).

4 *Il primo volume delle lettere di M. Pietro Bembo* (Venice: Girolamo Scotto, 1562), 207<sup>v</sup>; cited by Lumsden, 'Garcilaso de la Vega As a Latin Poet', 337; translation by Lumsden.

5 *Cartas, documentos y escrituras de Garcilaso de la Vega y de sus familiares*, ed. Krzysztof Sliwa (Alcalá de Henares: Centro de Estudios Cervantinos, 2006), 132; my translation. For more on this letter, see Eugenia Fosalba, *Pulchra Parthenope: hacia la faceta napolitana de la poesía de Garcilaso*, eBook (Madrid: Iberoamericana/Frankfurt am Main: Vervuert, 2020), 211–23; and María Luisa López Griguera, 'Notas sobre las amistades italianas de Garcilaso: un nuevo manuscrito de Pietro Bembo', in *Homenaje a Eugenio Asensio*, ed. Luisa López Grigera & Augustin Redondo (Madrid: Gredos, 1988), 219–310.

also plagued with textual problems (for example, line 53 is missing in the text of ‘Sedes ad Cyprias’ as we have known it until now). What is more, modern critics are scathing in their assessments of the literary qualities of these odes. For example, Audrey Lumsden writes of the ode ‘Ad Antonium Thylesium’: ‘it is difficult to find any technical felicity in these rough-hewn verses. [...] The construction is incoherent and the stanzas lack that powerful unity so typical of Horace’. She concludes of all three then-extant odes: ‘The three Latin poems here discussed obviously do not provide a sufficient basis for a discussion of Garcilaso’s merit as a Latin poet. [...] They reveal him as a rather inadequate imitator of Horace’.<sup>6</sup>

In recent years, attempts have been made to defend Garcilaso’s literary skill in his Latin poems. This has involved in particular a recognition of Garcilaso’s eclectic style of imitation from various poets and to various ends. For instance, Andrew F. Gray argues that, in Garcilaso’s ode ‘Ad Genesium Sepulvedam’, the poet undercuts the ostensible praise of glory in war through his use of allusions to Horace and Virgil.<sup>7</sup> He concludes that ‘Garcilaso’s poetics in the odes is so eclectic and transformative that uncertainties surround most attempts at identifying sources, and in several cases source materials are adopted only to produce ironic, even puzzling, reversals of their meanings in the source texts’.<sup>8</sup> In my own earlier study, I presented the main source for Garcilaso’s ‘Sedes ad Cyprias’: Erasmus’ translation of one of Lucian’s *Dialogues of the Gods*. However, I argued that allusions to various other authors such as Catullus, Lucretius and Horace served to increase the comic effect of the poem.<sup>9</sup> This pattern can also be seen in the new poems; while both contain substantial allusions to Horace, they also draw on a number of other Classical authors. Indeed, as we shall see, the first problematizes the difficulty of being a Horatian poet, while the second also uses allusion and a Horatian poetic voice to reject the praise of war.

## A New Manuscript

I now hope to advance the study of Garcilaso’s Latin poetry further by presenting two new poems by Garcilaso, as well as a new witness for all three poems known previously. The poems appear handwritten in the back

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6 Lumsden, ‘Garcilaso de la Vega As a Latin poet’, 339 & 341.

7 Andrew F. Gray, ‘Garcilaso at Home in Naples: On the Neo-Latin Muse of the Príncipe de los poetas castellanos’, *Calíope. Journal for the Society for Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry*, 21:1 (2016), 5–33 (pp. 18–23).

8 Gray, ‘Garcilaso at Home in Naples’, 24.

9 Maria Czepiel, ‘Garcilaso’s “Sedes ad Cyprias”: A New Source and a Re-appraisal’, *BSS*, XCVI:5 (2019), 737–54. For more on Garcilaso’s imitation of Catullus in his Latin odes, see Rosa Helena Chinchilla, ‘Garcilaso de la Vega, Catullus, and the Academy in Naples’, *Calíope. Journal for the Society for Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry*, 16:2 (2010), 65–81 (pp. 69–70).

of a printed book, a copy of *Doctissimorum nostra aetate Itolorum epigrammata* (Paris: Nicolas le Riche, 1547). This book, edited by Jean de Gagny, is a verse anthology of Italian poets born in the late fifteenth century including Flaminio, Molsa, Navagero, Cotta, Lampridius and Sadoletto. The copy in question was part of the library of the counts Kinsky (the so-called Kinskyana), and is now in the National Library of the Czech Republic (shelf mark: E IX 000001).<sup>10</sup>

In the final leaves of the book, a hand which is likely a sixteenth-century Spanish one has written out a further selection of poems by Sadoletto, Garcilaso, André de Resende, Jaime Juan Falcó, Diego Hurtado de Mendoza, Pietro Gravina, Juan Ramírez, Honorato Juan and Johannes Secundus.<sup>11</sup> The manuscript certainly bears further study. For example, it confirms the authorship of Resende's poem 'Rursum tumultu Gallia turbido', until now known from only one other witness.<sup>12</sup> I include an index of titles and first lines of the transcribed poems (Appendix I) for the use of other scholars.

Of the manuscript poems, only two are by Italian poets of the same generation as those in the printed book: Sadoletto (whose work also appears in the printed text) and Pietro Gravina. The last poem copied is by Johannes Secundus, often called Hagiensis ('from the Hague'), although the copyist has rendered this as 'Hegius', and used the poet's father's name (Nicolaus). The others are all Iberian poets, which suggests that the hand is Spanish. Furthermore, the Spaniards whose work is copied tend to be later than the poets printed in the anthology; note for example the dates of Honorato Juan (1507–1566) and Jaime Juan Falcó (1522–1594). There is also evidence to suggest the copyist or at least his source came from the university circles of Alcalá. For example, the handwritten note at the back of the book, apparently in the same hand as the poetic anthology it follows, gives an account of how Andreas Navagero stayed in Alcalá de Henares with Doctor Ramírez (that is, Juan Ramírez, professor of rhetoric at the university). While there, Navagero recited a few lines of a poem which he had begun when leaving Naples but had been unable to finish off:<sup>13</sup>

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10 See *Doctissimorum nostra aetate Itolorum epigrammata* (Paris: Nicolas le Riche, 1547), National Library of the Czech Republic, E IX 000001; available at <[https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=gwXg9zb3vwcC&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs\\_ge\\_summary\\_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=gwXg9zb3vwcC&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false)> (accessed 12 January 2022).

11 The date '1573' and the initials 'RL' (or LR) are found before the title page, but this appears to be in a different hand to the poems copied out in the final leaves.

12 See Virgínia Soares Pereira & Arlindo Correia, 'Um poema inédito atribuído a André de Resende', *Ágora. Estudos Clássicos em Debate*, 15 (2013), 331–42.

13 'Andreas Navagero cuius in hoc libello extant carmina elegantissima missus olim legatus a sena[tu] Veneto ad Carolum Imp. cum Matr[i]tum pete[n]s ubi tum Caesar agebat Compluto iter faceret, ibique diem apud Doctorem Ramirum commoratus hospitioque exceptus fuisset, suaveisque quos composuerat versus retulisse gravissime quaerebat, quod nobilissimum epigramma quod venetiis discedens inchoaverat, digne absolvere nequi[s] |set, recitavitque hos versus' ('Andreas Navagero, whose most elegant poems are found in this

Aurae quae suavibus percurritis aethera pennis  
 Et strepitus blando per nemora alta sono  
 Rusticus Euptolemus paleas dum iactat inanes  
 Ventilat et medio grandia farra die.

(You breezes which hasten through the aether on soft wings  
 And you murmurings through the high groves with charming noise,  
 While rustic Euptolemus makes the empty chaff fly  
 And tosses the large grains at midday.) (final leaf)

The hand then notes that Navagero subsequently changed and finished the epigram, and tells the reader that it can be found on fol. 40:<sup>14</sup>

Aurae quae levibus percurritis aera pennis  
 Et strepitus blando per nemora alta sono.  
 Serta dat haec vobis, vobis haec rusticus Idmon  
 Spargit odorato plena canistra croco.  
 Vos lenite aestum, et paleas seiungite inanes:  
 Dum medio fruges ventilat ille die.

(You breezes which hasten through the aether on light wings  
 And you murmurings through the high groves with charming noise,  
 Rustic Idmon gives you these wreaths, and scatters  
 Baskets full of fragrant saffron.  
 Meanwhile you assuage the heat, and separate out the empty chaff;  
 While he tosses the grain at midday.) (40<sup>v</sup>)

We know Navagero arrived at Alcalá on 6 June 1524, and we even have his description of the city.<sup>15</sup> The writer's familiarity with his visit and reference to an oral recitation suggests that the account is second- or even first-hand (not impossible given the *terminus post quem* of 1547, the date the book was printed). The account also confirms that the writer or his source was familiar with a European circle of intellectuals through which poems by Garcilaso could have circulated (keeping in mind that Garcilaso's Latin poetry was

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book, was sent once as ambassador from the Venetian senate to the Emperor Charles; when he was journeying from Alcalá on his way to Madrid, where the king was, and had stayed there for a day with Doctor Ramirez and had been received by his hospitality, he wanted very much to recall the sweet verses which he had composed, because he had been unable to finish off properly the very noble epigram which he had begun when leaving Venice, and he recited these verses') (*Doctissimorum nostra aetate Italarum epigrammata*, final leaf). Henceforth, the extracts of Garcilaso's Odes I to V are taken from this volume; all translations from the original Latin of this source are mine.

14 'Quos tamen postea et immutavit, et felicissime denique totum absolvit epigramma, quos reperies fol 40' ('Which, however, he later changed, and finished off the whole epigram very nicely, and you will find them on fol. 40') (final leaf).

15 Andrés Navagero, *Viaje por España (1524-1526)*, trad. & anotado por Antonio María Fabie, prólogo de Ángel González (Madrid: Turner, 1983), 23-24.

written after his exile from Spain in 1532). One other piece of evidence which suggests a link to Alcalá is the inclusion of a manuscript poem by the aforementioned Juan Ramírez, 'De morte Socratis'. The fact that, unusually, the hand has not specified his first name in the attribution suggests familiarity.

There are five poems which are listed as being by Garcilaso (the first is attributed to 'Garsilassi', and the following poems marked 'Eiusdem'). The new poems are undoubtedly by Garcilaso. Firstly, they are bookended by the previously known odes: Ode II is copied first (here entitled 'Garsilassi ode Ad Genesium Sepulvedam Doctorem theologum et regium Historiographum'), followed by the two new poems, and then by Ode I ('Eiusdem ad Tylesium') and finally Ode III ('Venus ad cupidinem'). The first new poem (which I propose to refer to as Ode IV) is addressed to Pietro Bembo, meaning for the first time we can read the ode which Bembo praised so highly. The second new poem (henceforth Ode V) is addressed to Johann Alexander Brassicanus ('Brasicanum Germanum'), and Garcilaso includes his own name in the body of the poem. Below I offer the texts of the two poems, together with my translation and some comments.

The copies of the poems already known to us are also useful. Thus far, manuscript copies of the three odes have been known in four sources: *Mx* (Odes I and III), *V* (Odes I and III); *Mt* (Ode III) and *Mo* (Ode II).<sup>16</sup> The texts of Odes I and III all seem to derive from *Mx*, which is therefore the only one I cite in the *apparatus criticus* for these odes.<sup>17</sup> However, as I shall argue in my comments, some more reliable readings in the newly discovered witnesses in my source (which I call *D*) show that they are not derived from *Mx* like the existing copies of 'Ad Antonium Thylesium' and 'Sedes ad Cyprias'. In particular, the new witness allows us to recover line 53 of 'Sedes ad Cyprias', missing until now (unfortunately disproving my own earlier conjecture of what the line could have contained). Nevertheless, the inclusion of readings which need emendation and are common to *Mx* suggests that both have a common source. I will therefore also present new critical texts of the three poems in light of these new readings, with particular notes on some extra lines to be found in 'Sedes ad Cyprias'.

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16 *Mx*: Biblioteca Nazionale Vittorio Emanuele III, XIII A. A. 63, 62<sup>r</sup>–63<sup>r</sup> (Ode I), 58<sup>r</sup>–60<sup>r</sup> (Ode III); *V*: Cod. Vaticano latino 2836, 260<sup>v</sup>–261<sup>v</sup> (Ode I), 259<sup>r</sup>–260<sup>r</sup> (Ode III); *Mt*: Biblioteca Nazionale V. E. 53, *Clarissimorum Aevi Caroli Caesaris V poetarum carmina, ex schedis Seripandi Card. in Bibliotheca S. J. ad Carbonariam quae nunc in Regiam Bibliothecam deductae sunt* (Ode III); *Mo*: Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional 5785, 272<sup>r</sup> (Ode II). I use Luque Moreno's abbreviations (Jesús Luque Moreno, 'Las poesías latinas de Garcilaso de la Vega: notas sobre métrica y crítica textual', in *Estudios sobre la literatura y arte: dedicados al profesor Emilio Orozco Díaz*, ed. Nicolás Marín *et al.* [Granada: Secretario de Publicaciones de la Univ. de Granada, 1979], 297–310). I have been able to consult all sources except *Mt*.

17 See Eugenio Mele, 'Las poesías latinas de Garcilaso de la Vega y su permanencia en Italia', *Bulletin Hispanique*, 26:1 (1924), 35–51 (pp. 43 & 46).

## I

## The New Poems

**[IV] Eiusdem ad Petrum Bembum**

Intentos humilis Bembe sonus lyrae  
 Sensus forte tuos si auocat arduis  
 Ingratum a studiis parce precor libens[.]  
 Non sum, qualis erat, modis

Qui nunc dulcisonis flectere pectora  
 Idem nunc aliter dicere flumine  
 Verborum rapido facta volubilis  
 Heroum valuit chely

Nec qualis Latio qui numeros prior  
 Ostendit fidicen non sine gloria  
 Graios queis renuens ardua dicere  
 Se furtim volucer supra

Insurgit<sup>18</sup> solito grandior, et modum  
 Hinc pennis statuens dexter ad Aufidi  
 Ripas se recipit floricomum solum  
 Demulcens vario sonof[.]

Non inquam numero nobilium deus  
 Cui cordi Cythara est, carmina cui placent  
 Vatum me inseruit nec dedit ultimum  
 Alis aëra scindere.

O si forte det[ur] tunc ego laudibus  
 Pennatis agilis tollere me tuis  
 Ex imo haud dubitem tangere et ardua  
 Claro vertice sydera[;]

Pauper non cumulo divitias tuo  
 Addam qui diviti, sed mihi comparem ut

**By the same author to Pietro Bembo**

Bembo, if perchance the sound of the  
 humble lyre  
 Diverts your straining senses to your  
 displeasure  
 4 From your lofty studies, forgive me gladly,  
 I pray.  
 I am not like the man

Who had the power at times to move  
 hearts with his sweet-sounding modes,  
 And at other times, changing, with a rapid  
 8 river of words  
 Tell of the deeds of heroes on his lyre;

Nor like that lyricist who first showed  
 The metres of Greece to Latium  
 Not without distinction, in which, refusing  
 12 to speak of lofty matters,  
 He rose above himself in flight unawares,

Grandier than usual, and then placing a  
 limit  
 To his wings, took himself with good omen  
 16 to the banks of the Aufidus  
 Soothing the flowery ground  
 With varied sound.

The god, I say, who has the cithara close  
 to his heart, to whom poems give  
 pleasure,  
 20 Did not insert me in the group of the  
 famous bards,  
 Nor did he allow me  
 To rend the furthest air with my wings

Oh if only it were permitted, then I should  
 not hesitate  
 To lift myself nimbly with your winged  
 24 praises  
 From the bottom and touch  
 The high stars with my illustrious head;

Not so that I may add riches to your rich  
 pile, since I am poor,

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18 r *supra* add. D.

Nomen te celebrans, quem resonat biceps Collis assiduo sono	28	But so that I may make a name for myself by celebrating you, Whom the two-headed hill re-echoes With continuous sound,
Et cui virginea Melpomene manu Ornatum capitis texere frondibus Assuevit[,] Lalagen carmine seu canis Liber sive sacram pede	32	And for whose head Melpomene with her virginal hand Is accustomed to weave an ornament with leaves, Whether you sing of Lalage in poetry Or whether free from the foot <sup>19</sup>
Fundamenta vago quae iacit humida Ponto, perpetuis historiae notis Urbem concelebras, quare genam invidens Fletu tingit Iberia	36	You celebrate the holy city which casts its wet foundations In the wandering sea, in a continuous record of history, Wherefore envious Iberia Wets her cheek with tears,
Cuius si calamus clara tuus novis Ornasset varius facta coloribus Iret tuta suo lumine temporis Obscurum per iter nitens[.]	40	For if your varied reed-pen had adorned Her illustrious deeds with new colours She would go safely by her own light Shining through the dark journey of time.
Magnus sic Macedo flevit Achillei Assistens tumulo non meritis minor Nec virtutis egens, ast avidus legi Seris usque nepotibus.	44	Thus the great Macedonian wept Standing at the tomb of Achilles, not lesser in merit, Nor lacking virtue, but keen to be read about Continually by his future grandsons.
Qui dum Maeonio Thessalicum ducem Fultum per Stygias ire humero videt Undas, invidiae dentibus acriter Scissus cum lachrymis ferunt	48	Who when he saw the Thessalian leader Go through the Stygian waves supported on the Maeonian shoulder, Bitterly torn apart by the teeth of Envy, They say he said tearfully:
Dixisse: 'o iuvenis cuncta potentibus Mutare ad libitum vecta rotis dea Cui <sup>20</sup> risit placido vultu et amabili Et vitae et cineri favens	52	'Oh young man, on whom the goddess Who rides on wheels that have the power to change all things to her liking Has smiled with placid and friendly face, And favouring your life and ashes,
Felix quandoquidem sorte tibi obtigit Terrarum sonitu cuncta replens tuba Quae umbrarum nebulas spargit inertium Flatu oblivia dissipans.'	56	Happy since you were given by lot The trumpet which fills all corners of the earth with its sound, And scatters the mists of the inert shades Dissipating forgetfulness with its blast.'

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19 i.e., in prose.

20 cuit *post corr. D.*

It has been noted that the three odes known until now are varied in metre, although all of them are written in Horatian metres: ‘Ad Antonium Thylesium’ is written in Alcaics, ‘Ad Genesium Sepulvedam’ in the Third Asclepiad, and ‘Sedes ad Cyprias’ in the Fourth Asclepiad.<sup>21</sup> This ode exhibits a new metre again, the Second Asclepiad (also an Horatian metre). It is addressed to Pietro Bembo, the Italian humanist, poet and future cardinal famous for his exposition of the theory of Neoplatonic love in *Gli asolani* (1497–1504), and for arguing that Tuscan should be the literary language of Italy in his *Prose della volgar lingua* (1525). In this poem, Garcilaso displays a great appreciation for the work of the older Italian, although we know from a letter from Bembo to Garcilaso that they had not met.<sup>22</sup>

The poem begins with a *captatio benevolentiae*, wherein Garcilaso begs forgiveness for taking Bembo’s attention away from his studies (ll. 1–3), and then asserts that he is not among the famous lyric bards (ll. 4–20). The first of the poets he refers to is Pindar, since the reference to the changes of subject matter and tone, as well as the comparison to a river (‘flumine’ [l. 6]), is reminiscent of Horace’s description of the Greek poet. In Horace, *Carmina*, IV. 2, Horace refers to the various themes to be found in Pindar’s poetry: ‘seu deos regesque canit [...] sive [...] pugilemve equomve / dicit [...] flebili sponsae iuvenemve raptum / plorat’ (‘or as he sings of gods or kings [...] or as he tells of boxer or charioteer [...] or as he tells of a young man torn / from his weeping bride’ [IV. 2. 13–22]). He also compares Pindar to ‘a rain-fed river running down / from the mountains and bursting its banks’ (‘monte decurrens velut amnis, imbres / quem super noteas aluere ripas’ [IV. 2. 5–6]).<sup>23</sup>

In the third and fourth stanzas, Garcilaso goes on to compare himself unfavourably to Horace; this is signalled firstly by the reference to being ‘Nor like that lyricist who first showed the metres of Greece to Latium’ (‘Nec qualis Latio qui numeros prior / Ostendit fidicen’ [l. 9–10]), which recalls Horace’s own assertion in *Carmina*, III. 30 that he was ‘the first to bring Aeolian song to Italian measures’ (‘princeps Aeolium carmen ad Italos / deduxisse modos’ [III. 30. 13–14]). In his poem, Horace makes reference to his origins by the Aufidus (III. 30. 10), as does Garcilaso (l. 14). Garcilaso’s reference to the poet being winged (‘volucer’ [l. 12]; ‘pennis’ [l. 14]) also recalls Horace’s image of himself turning into a bird to express his poetic

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21 Lumsden classifies the metre of ‘Sedes ad Cyprias’ as the Third Asclepiadean (‘Garcilaso de la Vega As a Latin Poet’, 340.) I follow the classification of Robin Nisbet and Margaret Hubbard, in *A Commentary on Horace: Odes, Book I*, ed. Robin G. M. Nisbet & Margaret Hubbard (Oxford: Oxford U. P., 1970), xxxviii–xxxix.

22 Fosalba, *Pulchra Parthenope*, 214.

23 The translation I am using is taken from *Horace: The Complete Odes and Epodes*, trans., with an intro. & notes, by David West (New York/Oxford: Oxford U. P., 2008). The text I am using is from *Q. Horati Flacci: Opera*, ed. H. W. Garrod (Oxford: Oxford U. P., 1901).

fame and immortality (II. 20). Finally, Garcilaso states that he has not been inserted into the number of poets by Apollo, god of the lyre (ll. 17–20).

In the following stanzas, Garcilaso asserts that if he *could* write lyric poetry, he would write in praise of Bembo (ll. 21–24), not because the latter needs Garcilaso's meagre skills, but because in that way Garcilaso could be associated with him as his panegyrist (ll. 25–28). Garcilaso then seamlessly does exactly what he professes not to be able to do, that is, praise his addressee: Bembo is acclaimed on Parnassus ('biceps / Collis', 'the two-peaked hill' [ll. 27–28]); compare 'Parnasosque biceps' (Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, II.221).<sup>24</sup> and by the muse Melpomene (ll. 29–31), both for his poetry (l. 31) and for his prose history of Venice (ll. 32–35). Indeed, Iberia is jealous that Venice has someone like him to immortalize it (ll. 35–40); thus Alexander the Great wept at the tomb of Achilles, and called the young man lucky to have had Homer to immortalize him (ll. 41–56).

The poem is a sophisticated meditation on the ability of poetry and panegyric to immortalize its object. This appears on several levels: Garcilaso will celebrate Bembo, but Bembo in turn celebrates Venice. Furthermore, by celebrating Bembo, Garcilaso will secure fame for himself; significantly, although he professes not to be like the winged and immortal Horace, he states that if he had the skill to praise Bembo, then he would be lifted up on winged praises ('laudibus / Pennatis' [ll. 21–22]). We have already seen how Garcilaso draws on Horace's claims of poetic immortality in II.20; likewise, the references to Horace's *Carmina*, III. 30 are also significant, since in this poem Horace famously asserts that thanks to his poetry he will not fully die ('non omnis moriar' [III. 30. 6]). The anecdote about Alexander the Great is attested in Cicero's *Pro Archia*, a speech in defence of the poet Archias (see below), but also an apology for the utility of poetry to the Roman imperial project thanks to its ability to immortalize the great deeds of the Romans.

Another major theme of the poem is the anxiety of imitation. Most notably, in his assertion not to be able to compete with the Classical lyricists, Garcilaso alludes to poems where Horace himself wrestles with his relationship to his predecessors. For example, Ode IV. 2, from which Garcilaso borrows his description of Pindar, opens with a warning about competing with Pindar, comparing it to Icarus' ill-fated flight: 'Pindarum quisquis studet aemulari, / Iulle, certatis ope Daedalea / nititur' ('All those, Iullus, who aim to rival Pindar, / are struggling on feathers waxed by the art / of Daedalus' [IV. 2. 1–3]). A few lines later, Garcilaso also alludes to Horace's first ode (I. 1). In this programmatic poem, Horace asserts by way of a priamel that though there are many vocations, his is that of lyric poet. He concludes by addressing his patron Maecenas, the poem's interlocutor, with a statement of his desire to be counted among the famous lyric poets: 'quod si me lyricis **vatibus inseres**, / sublimi feriam **sidera vertice**' ('But

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24 The edition I am using is *P. Ovidi Nasonis Metamorphoses*, ed. R. J. Tarrant (Oxford: Oxford U. P., 2004). Further references are to this edition.

if you enrol me among the lyric bards, my soaring head will touch the stars' [l. 1. 35–36]). Garcilaso uses similar phrasing when he claims that Apollo did not insert him in the number of bards ('Non [...] numero nobilium [...] **Vatum me inseruit**' [ll. 17–19]). He also refers to these lines when he writes that, if he were able to praise Bembo, he would 'touch / The high stars with my illustrious head' ('tangere et ardua / Claro **vertice sydera**' [ll. 23–24]). As well as expressing his inability to compete with his ancient lyric predecessors, Garcilaso suggests an anxiety about competing with contemporary ones. The reference to Bembo singing of Lalage (l. 31), an object of amorous attention in Horace's poetry (*Carmina*, I. 22, II. 5. 16), suggests that he is also a lyric poet with whom Garcilaso cannot compete. This reference may have been used loosely in reference to Bembo's love lyrics, since there are no extant poems where he writes of a 'Lalage'.

However, Garcilaso's poetic skill is ostentatiously on display at the end of the poem. Garcilaso is likely to have known of the story about Alexander from Cicero's account:

Quam multos scriptores rerum suarum magnus ille Alexander secum habuisse dicitur! Atque is tamen, cum in Sigeo ad Achillis tumulum astitisset: 'o fortunate,' inquit, 'adulescens, qui tuae virtutis Homerum praeconem inveneris!' et vere. Nam, nisi Ilias illa exstitisset, idem tumulus qui corpus eius contexerat nomen etiam obruisset.

(How many writers Alexander the Great is said to have kept with him to record his deeds! And yet, when standing before the tomb of Achilles at Sigeum, he said: 'Lucky young man, to have had Homer to proclaim your valour!' And rightly—because, had it not been for the *Iliad*, the tomb which covered Achilles' body would also have buried his memory.)

(*Pro Archia*, 24)<sup>25</sup>

However, the source account is a prose speech, and Garcilaso adapts it for a new poetic context. For example, his 'iuvenis' (l. 49) is more poetic than Cicero's 'adulescens'. Like Cicero, Garcilaso writes that Alexander visited Achilles's tomb (ll. 41–42) and that he was keen for his exploits to be recorded in writing (ll. 42–44). He later goes on to relate Alexander's speech (ll. 49–56). However, before this, he adds that Alexander saw Homer (metaphorically) carrying Achilles through the Underworld on his shoulders (ll. 45–47). This is expressed in a poetic lexicon, such as the phrase 'Stygias [...] undas' (found, for example, in Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, 2. 101, 3. 272; *Tristia*, 1. 65; *Epistulae ex Ponto*, 2. 43; Virgil, *Aeneid*, 7. 773; Propertius, 3. 18. 9). Garcilaso's description of how Homer's *tuba*

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25 Latin text: *Oxford Classical Texts: M. Tulli Ciceronis: Orationes. Vol. 6: Pro Tullo; Pro Fonteio; Pro Sulla; Pro Archia; Pro Plancio; Pro Scauro*, ed. Albert Curtis Clark (Oxford: Oxford U. P., 1911), 97; English translation: Cicero, *Defence Speeches*, trans., with an intro. & notes, by D. H. Berry (Oxford: Oxford U. P., 2017), 118.

scatters the mists of oblivion is also poetic: compare ‘Quae **umbrarum nebulas** spargit **inertium**’ (55) to ‘Styx **nebulas** exhalat **iners, umbraeque** recentes’ (Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, 4. 434). Garcilaso seems to be demonstrating the fact that, by praising Bembo, he has indeed been given poetic wings.

Let us turn now to consider the second new poem, Ode V.

<b>[V] Ejusdem ad Brasicanum Germanum</b>	<b>By the same author to Brassicanus the German</b>
Brasicane meis iure sodalibus In primis habite[,] indissociabili <sup>26</sup> Lasso lege revincte Vitae tempora ad ultima[,]	Brassicanus, whom I rightly consider Among the first of my companions, and bonded 4 To Lassus by undissolvable law To the end of my life,
Plectro bella canas tu licet aureo Heroumque genus, fontem et originem Traddas posteritati Claro carmine nobilem	Although you may sing of wars with your golden plectrum And the race of heroes, and hand down to posterity 8 The fount and origin made famous in renowned song,
Demissae tenuem fronte sonum lyrae Et Lassi numeros accipe candida Quando ferre recusant Pondus nostri humeri grave	Accept with kind expression the slender sound of my modest lyre, And the poetry of Lassus 12 Since my shoulders refuse to bear Their heavy burden:
Ad ripas fluvii castra binominis Tam late posita ut prospicientibus Tot tentoria, visi Sint montes nive candidi[,]	The camps on the banks of the two-named river, Set up so far and wide that, to those who look, 16 So many tents Seemed like mountains white with snow.
Cantabis numero Maeonio et pede Istri dum nitidam canto ego Doridem Remis sollicitantem Adverso vada vortice	You will sing in Maeonian metre and foot While I sing of shining Doris of the Danube As she stirs up the waters 20 With a current running against oars;
Vel cum se rapidis obsequio viri Piscatoris aquis credit, ut adiuvet Munus candidiore Sublucens tunica nive	Or when she entrusts herself to the rapid waters In the service of the fisherman, 24 So that she may assist his task, Shining in a tunic whiter than snow,
Udam <sup>27</sup> quae tenuis non aliter tegit Quam celare rosas vas vitreum solet Pura aut unda lapillos Splendentis nitido solo[,]	A thin tunic which covers the watery nymph not otherwise Than a glass vessel is accustomed to hide roses 28 Or a transparent wave hides pebbles Shining on the radiant streambed.

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26 et dissociabili *D.*

27 Udam, *D.*

This poem is written in the Third Asclepiadean metre (the same as the ode ‘Ad Genesium Sepulvedam’). The poem is addressed to ‘Brasicanus Germanus’; although there were two Brassicanus brothers, the mention of poetry (‘carmine’ [l. 8]; ‘Maeonio [...] pede’ [l. 17]) suggests that the addressee is Johann Alexander Brassicanus, whom Maximilian I crowned poet laureate in 1518.<sup>28</sup>

The content of this poem suggests that Garcilaso and Brassicanus met during Garcilaso’s time in Germany in 1532. In February of that year, the Spanish poet accompanied Fernando de Toledo, Duke of Alba, on his way to defend Vienna against the Ottoman army.<sup>29</sup> The references in the poem to camps (‘castra’ [l. 13]) and tents (‘tentoria’ [l. 15]) are likely to refer to this expedition. The mention (l. 13) of the ‘two-named river’ must refer to the Danube, called both the *Danuvius* and the *Hister* or *Ister* in Latin. The reference to oars (‘remis’ [l. 19]) is also telling. In his second eclogue, Garcilaso recalls how Fernando travelled down the Danube to meet Charles V at Regensburg: ‘En fin al gran Danubio s’encomienda; [...] El remo que deciede en fuerza suma / mueve la blanca espuma como argento’ (*Obra poética*, 1494–99). Later, the Danube helps Charles V and Fernando row down to Vienna:

El río, sin tardanza, parecía  
que'l agua disponía al gran viaje;  
allanaba el pasaje y la corriente  
para que fácilmente aquella armada,  
[...]  
en el remar liviano y dulce viese  
cuánto el Danubio fuese favorable. (*Obra poética*, 1602–08)

Whether the latter account was first-hand is the subject of debate. Garcilaso had been condemned to exile for his involvement the previous year in the wedding of his nephew, which had not been sanctioned by the king. On arriving at Regensburg, the punishment was imposed, and he began his exile on a nearby island on the Danube.<sup>30</sup> He was then permitted to continue his exile in Naples in the service of Pedro de Toledo. However, Herrera asserts that Garcilaso was present in the emperor’s expedition against the Turks in Vienna, perhaps based on the account in the second eclogue; this would suggest that he was allowed to take part in the campaign before leaving for Naples.<sup>31</sup> On the other hand, Navarrete states

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28 On Johann Alexander Brassicanus, see John Flood, *Poets Laureate in the Holy Roman Empire: A Bio-Bibliographical Handbook*, eBook (Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter, 2011), 230–31.

29 See Garcilaso de la Vega, *Obra poética y textos en prosa*, ed., notas & estudio de Bienvenido Morros (Barcelona: Crítica, 2007), 288. Subsequent references are to this edition.

30 Hayward Keniston, *Garcilaso de la Vega: A Critical Study of His Life and Works* (New York: Hispanic Society of America, 1922), 111–12.

31 Fernando de Herrera, *Obras de Garcilasso de la Vega*, 15.

that Garcilaso accompanied Pedro de Toledo when the latter was in Rome in August and then entered Naples on 4 September.<sup>32</sup> Hayward Keniston complicates the picture by suggesting that a certain ‘Don Gratia di Vega’, who is in the company of the Duke of Alba in October of that year, is Garcilaso.<sup>33</sup> In any case, Garcilaso’s time in exile on the Danube began in March and ended around the middle of the year, suggesting a window of a few months when he could have met Brassicanus.<sup>34</sup>

Garcilaso seems to have started writing his Neo-Latin poetry in Naples.<sup>35</sup> However, the reference to his time in Germany in this poem suggests that the poem was written not long after his arrival in Naples, which would date it to 1532–1533. This is not surprising; Eugenia Fosalba notes that the ‘Ode ad Antonium Thylesium’ was also written surprisingly soon after Garcilaso’s arrival.<sup>36</sup> In that poem, Garcilaso also refers to his exile in terms that imply it was very recent.<sup>37</sup>

The descriptions of Garcilaso’s exile in Germany which have been known to us until now have been mostly negative. In the ‘Ode ad Antonium Thylesium’, he writes that he has been forced to abandon his wife, children, brothers and land, to experience cold places and the arrogant customs of barbarians, and alleviate his woes on the banks of the Danube (*Obra poética*, 1–8). Likewise, in Canción III he laments that he is ‘preso y forzado y solo en tierra ajena’ (*Obra poética*, 16). However, ‘Ad Brassicanum germanum’ gives us a more positive view of the exile by focusing on the friendship that he gained there; Brassicanus is ‘Among the first of my companions, bonded / To Lassus by undissolvable law / To the end of my life’ (‘sodalibus / In primis habite, indissociabili / Lasso lege revincte / Vitae tempora ad ultima’ [ll. 1–4]).<sup>38</sup> Indeed, a similar idea is found in the ‘Ode ad Antonium Thylesium’, where the poet goes on to say that the difficulties of exile have been alleviated by the friendships he has cultivated in Naples with Antonio Telesio, Mario Galeota, and Placido di Sangro, and he concludes that he would not exchange them for the Tagus after all (*Obra poética*, 69–72).

Once again, one of the concerns of the poems is poetry itself. Garcilaso contrasts his vocation of lyric poet to that of Brassicanus, who will write in

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32 Eustaquio Fernández de Navarrete, *Vida del célebre Garcilaso de la Vega* (Madrid: Imprenta de la Viuda de Calero, 1850), 235.

33 Keniston, *Garcilaso de la Vega*, 115–16.

34 Garcilaso de la Vega, *Obra poética y textos en prosa*, ed. Morros, 146.

35 Lumsden, ‘Garcilaso de la Vega As a Latin Poet’, 339; Eugenia Fosalba, ‘Sobre la relación de Garcilaso con Antonio Tiesio y el círculo de los hermanos Seripando’, *Cuadernos de Filología Italiana*, 19 (2012), 131–44 (p. 139).

36 Fosalba, ‘Sobre la relación de Garcilaso con Antonio Tiesio’, 133.

37 Fosalba, ‘Sobre la relación de Garcilaso con Antonio Tiesio’, 134.

38 The MS reads ‘et dissociabili’, which would in fact mean the opposite (‘dissolvable’). I am grateful to an anonymous reviewer of the *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* for pointing this out. I have therefore amended to ‘indissociabili’.

'Maeonio [...] pede' (l. 17), that is, Homeric epic metre. Strictly, this refers to poems in dactylic hexameter such as Brassicanus' 'In divum Carolum Rhomanorum Regem Invictissimum Idillium', but it may also refer more loosely to many of his poems in praise of the Holy Roman Emperor and various public figures written in other metres.<sup>39</sup> Garcilaso asserts that his shoulders cannot bear the burden of singing of the military camps (ll. 11–13). Instead, he will sing of the nymph of the river Danube ('Istri [...] Doridem' [l. 18]). This is in keeping with Horace's *recusationes*, where the poet claims he will not write epic poetry. For example, in *Carmina*, I. 6, he proposes Varius as a better candidate to write of Agrippa's military exploits, claiming to be too slight for those great topics ('*tenues grandia*'); rather, he will sing of banquets and lovers' quarrels (I. 6. 17–19). This move also occurs in *Carmina*, IV. 2 where, as we have seen, Horace discusses the danger of attempting to imitate Pindar. He goes on to compare his small poetic activity to a bee sipping on thyme (IV. 2. 27–32); by contrast, his addressee Antonius will sing with a 'greater plectrum' ('*maiore [...] plectro*' [IV. 2. 33]). Garcilaso perhaps has this in mind when he refers to Brassicanus' 'Plectro' (l. 5).<sup>40</sup> Garcilaso's use of the future tense verb 'you will sing' ('*Cantabis*' [l. 17]) also recalls this poem (compare Horace's '*concines*' [*Carmina*, IV. 2. 33]). The adoption of a poetic persona which claims not to sing of such elevated themes is consistent with Gray's argument that Garcilaso's allusions in his Latin poetry suggest discomfort with the glorification of war and imperialism, something which Isabel Torres argues can also be seen in his Second Eclogue.<sup>41</sup>

Garcilaso's imitation of Horace's lyric persona appears throughout the poem. His assertion of friendship is very Horatian; it is reminiscent, for example, of Horace's *Carmina*, II. 7, where Horace calls Pompey '*meorum prime sodalium*' ('first of my companions' [II. 7. 5]). Garcilaso's reference to Brassicanus being his friend to the end of his life may also recall Horace's assertion that he and Maecenas are so close that they will die on the same day (II. 17. 1–9). In the fourth stanza, Garcilaso seems to perform his Horatian aversion to writing about military themes; he compares the tents of the camp to 'mountains white with snow' ('*montes nive candidi*' [l. 16]), slipping into the opening of Horace's famous description of mount Soracte: '*Vides ut alta stet nive candidum / Soracte*' (I. 9. 1–2).

In the last few lines, the River Danube, which has so far been the *locus* of military exploits, is now described in the terms of a beautiful nymph: Doris ('Doridem' [l. 18]) was a sea-nymph who appears in the ancient poets

39 For a list of works, see Flood, *Poets Laureate in the Holy Roman Empire*, 231–33.

40 The phrase 'Plectro [...] aureo' (l. 5) also has a more specific Horatian reminiscence at *Carmina*, II. 13. 26–27, '*aureo [...] plectro*'.

41 See Gray, 'Garcilaso at Home in Naples', 5–33; and Isabel Torres, *Love Poetry in the Spanish Golden Age: Eros, Eris and Empire* (Woodbridge: Tamesis, 2013), 45.

(Ovid, *Metamorphoses*. II. 11; Virgil, *Eclogues*, 10. 5; Propertius, I. 17. 25).<sup>42</sup> She is shining ('nitidam' [l. 18]; 'Sublucens' [l. 24]). The image of snow comes back ('candidiore [...] nive' [ll. 23–24]), but this time, it is describing the nymph's garment ('tunica' [l. 24]). The translucent robe covers her like a glass vessel covers roses, or water covers pebbles (ll. 25–28). The final lines are somewhat reminiscent of Propertius' examples of the superiority of unadorned beauty: after listing the natural colours of the earth, the wild ivy and wild strawberry tree, he writes:

Et sciat indocilis currere lympha vias.  
Litora nativis praelucent picta lapillis,  
Et volucres nulla dulcius arte canunt.

(And the stream, untaught, knows how to run its course.  
The shore shines, painted with its own pebbles,  
And birds sing more sweetly without any art.)

(I. 2. 12–14; my translation)<sup>43</sup>

I include the final line quoted above as it may have been the inspiration for Garcilaso's description of the birds in *Égloga II* ('aves sin dueño, / con canto no aprendido' [*Obra poética*, 68–69]), and therefore seems to be a passage the poet had in mind when depicting scenes of natural beauty. Significantly, Propertius' images are also inspired by seeing his girlfriend dressed in a delicate dress ('Coa veste' [I. 2. 2]), although he contrasts the two. The idyllic setting is also suggested by the connection of this description of the nymph with those to be found in Garcilaso's vernacular poetry. For example, in lines 21–22, the nymph 'entrusts herself to the rapid waters' ('se rapidis [...] aquis credit'), just like the nymphs in *Égloga III* who disappear into the river: 'juntas s'arrojan por el agua a nado' (*Obra poética*, 374).

More importantly, the use of an erotic image or vignette to end a poem is an Horatian technique. For instance, *Carmina*, I. 9 ends by describing a night-time rendezvous between two unnamed lovers (I. 9. 19–24), and Horace ends several of his odes by lingering on the beauty of a young boy.<sup>44</sup> The terms Garcilaso uses are also reminiscent of those in Horace's erotic descriptions: for example, 'shining' ('nitidam' [l. 18]) is used of Telephus in *Carmina*, III. 19. 25, and the comparison of the nymph's body to roses ('rosas' [l. 26]) recalls Horace's

<sup>42</sup> While the use of the proper name may seem bold, it is more likely than understanding 'Doridem' to mean 'the Dorian woman', which would be inappropriate for the geographical context of the banks of the Danube, and which is more commonly expressed by the adjectives 'Doria' or 'Dorica'.

<sup>43</sup> The edition I am using is *Sexti Properti Elegos*, ed. S. J. Heyworth (Oxford: Oxford U. P., 2007). Further references are to this edition.

<sup>44</sup> See Stephen Harrison, 'Hidden Voices: Homoerotic Colour in Horace's *Odes*', in *Complex Inferiorities: The Poetics of the Weaker Voice in Latin Literature*, ed. Sebastian Matzner & S. J. Harrison (Oxford: Oxford U. P., 2018), 169–83.



Sirenum amoena iam patria iuvat cultoque pulchra Parthenope solo, iuxtaque manes considerare vel potius cineres Maronis.	
Aegro deorum quis tulerit, rogas, herbis repostis auxilium potens, mentisque consternationem cantibus et fidibus levarit?	25
Idem sonanti cui vaga flumina sistunt, silentes margine vortices ventosque narratur frementes per nemora ardua conquiesse,	30
hic nam revinxit me tibi vinculo gratis Camoenae quod mihi nexibus texere, praelargus quid ultra me miserum potuit iuvare?	35
Imbrem beatis nubibus aureum binaque talum compede candidum nexam puellam coniugemque languidulis oculis querentem	40
carmen canentis sic animum rapit mentemque, ut omnes subiaceant graves curae et labores, evolemque aliger his super elevatus.	
Te, mi Thylesi, te comite obtulit sese parentis quem veneror loco, cui dulce pignus nostri amoris non animum pigeat patere;	45
arcana divum dum reserat, novus huic pectus alte sollicitat furor curare seu mortalium res caelicolas grave sive monstrat	50
natos parentum crimina ob impia vexari, ut auras carpere dum licet, nec luxui ipsi indulgeant, nec poena parentibus ulla desit.	55
Haec aure cuncti praecipue imbibunt alte silentes, et Marius meus, rerumque multarum refertus atque memor Placitus bonarum.	60
Honesta cunctos hinc domus accipit liberque sermo nascitur, haud tamen impune, nam si tortuosis nexibus implicitum quid audes	
suadere, sperans ingeniosius quam verius nos pertrahere ad tuum sensem statim aggressa est cohors te, ut Ciconum irruit in canentem.	65

Num tu fluentem divitiis Tagum,  
 num prata gyris uvida roscidis, 70  
 mutare me insanum putabas  
 dulcibus immemoremque amicis?<sup>46</sup>

The new witness includes readings which need emendation and are common to *Mx*, namely, 'et invia' (l. 5), 'iam prima iuvat' (l. 21), 'animus' (l. 41), and 'avida roscidis' (l. 70). However, there is also evidence to show it does not derive from *Mx*, and that both derive from a common source. Most importantly, it has a better reading at line 37, where it has the reading 'bina [...] compede' ('double fetters'). In this stanza, Garcilaso is referring to Thylesius' tragedy *Imber aureus*, which tells the story of Danäe, a princess whose father King Acrisius locked her in a tower after being informed by an oracle that Danäe's son would kill him. However, Jupiter came to her in the form of a golden shower, and she later gave birth to Perseus. The king found out and cast Danäe and her son into the sea in a wooden chest, but they survived thanks to the gods' intervention. Perseus famously grew up to slay the Gorgon Medusa. On his return, he also rescued the princess Andromeda, who had been chained to a rock to be sacrificed to a sea monster after her mother claimed to be more beautiful than the Nereids. This is clearly the episode Garcilaso is alluding to in lines 38–40: 'binaque talum compede candidum / nexam puellam coniugemque / languidulis oculis querentem' ('and the girl with her white ankles bound by double fetters, complaining of her bridegroom with weary eyes').

Curiously, this episode is not related in Thylesius' *Imber aureus*, which ends with Danäe and her son being cast into the sea; Garcilaso may be simply retelling the rest of the myth, or referring to a lost work by Thylesius on this theme.<sup>47</sup> In any case, *D*'s reading 'bina' ('twin' i.e., one for each foot) fetters is preferable to the strange reading of 'viva' ('living') fetters, transmitted in *Mx*; it is unclear what this would refer to, and as far as I know commentators have offered no explanation. However, *D* is then followed by the erroneous reading 'Tialum', which seems to be interpreted

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46 Please see Appendix III for a list of abbreviations used here and in relation to Odes II and III. [Title] Ode tricolos tetrastrophos / Ad Thylesium *Mx*; Ejusdem ad Tylesium *D*. [l. 5] invia *Savj-Mele*; et invia *Mx* & *D*; invia et *Mele-2*. [l. 9] sollicitudine *Mx*; sollicitudinem *D*. [l. 12] pectora *Mx*; pectore *D*; Thylesi *Mx*; Tylesi *D*. [l. 17] inclytae *D*; inclyte *Mx*. [l. 19] gestit *D*, *Mx* & *Savj-Mele*; gestat *Mx ante corr.* [l. 21] iam patria iuvat *Mele-2*; iam prima iuvat *Mx*. [l. 23] considerare *Mx* & *D*; consedere *Keniston* & *D*. [l. 35] praelargus *D*; prelargus *Mx*. [l. 36] iuvare? *Mx*; iuvare *D*. [l. 41] animum *Savj-Mele*; animus *Mx* & *D*. [l. 38] bina *D*; viva *Mx*; talum *Mx*; Tialum *D*. [l. 45] Thylesi *Mx*; Tylesi *D*. [l. 57] praecipue *Mx*; precipue *D*. [l. 58] Marius *Mx* & *D*; marius *D ante corr.* [l. 60] Placitus *Mx* & *D*; placitus *D. ante corr.* [l. 61] Honestus *D* & *Mx*; Honestus *D ante corr.*; accipit *Mx*; recipit *D*. [l. 63] tortuosus *D* & *Mx*; tortuosus *D ante corr.* [l. 66] pertrahere *Mx*; protrahere *D*. [l. 69] Tagum *Mx* & *D*; tagum *D ante corr.* [l. 70] uvida roscidis *Savj-Mele*; avida roscidis *Mx* & *D*. [l. 72] amicis? *Mx*; amicis *D*.

47 The edition I am using is Antonius Thylesius, *Antonii Thylesii Cosentini Imber aureus tragoedia* (Venice: Bernardino Vitali, 1529).



suspirant timido pectore, turribus  
 ex altis aciem lata per aequora  
 campi tendere suetae,  
 sponsae nuper amoribus

orbatae: 'Heu, iuvenes, Caesaris,' inquit, 25  
 'vitate imparibus viribus armaque  
 congressusque nefandos.  
 Quando nomina posteris

mater caesa dedit, dum puerum student  
 languentem eruere e visceribus, genus 30  
 hinc est caesareum, hinc est  
 gaudens caede nova: putas

saevum funereo limine qui pedem  
 ad vitam imposuit, non ferat indidem  
 ingentemque furorem 35  
 et caedis calidae sitim?<sup>49</sup>

Once again, *D* has one or two better, or at least clearer, readings than the existing witness *Mo*. I have adopted *D*'s spelling variants of 'praevertit' for 'praevertit' (l. 10) and 'gyro' for 'giro' (l. 18), the latter of which had been corrected by Adolfo Bonilla. 'Massylas leo' (l. 18) was amended to 'Marsylas' by Bonilla, to 'Massylius' by Eugenio Mele and to 'Massylias' by Keniston; Keniston's hypothesis is confirmed here (although the copyist has corrected from 'Massylas'). However, Keniston's note stands that this is unmetrical due to the long *y*, and Garcilaso has possibly confused 'Massylia' with 'Massilia', which would give the correct vowel quantity.<sup>50</sup> Jay Reed argues instead that Garcilaso in fact intended the sense 'of Marseille', since 'it scans correctly and points to a different sphere of Charles' military aspirations (Garcilaso was to receive his mortal wound in Charles' service on the road between Marseilles and Nice)'.<sup>51</sup>

Bonilla reported 'Homadasve' in line 19 of *Mo*; this was subsequently emended to 'Nomadasve' by Mele and 'Numidasve' by Keniston, with reference to Ovid, *Ars amatoria*, 2. 183 ('Obsequium tigrisque domat Numidasque leones').<sup>52</sup> In fact, as pointed out by Reed, *Mo* does seem to have 'Nomadasve', and the same reading appears clearly in *D*. However, an adjective meaning 'Numidian' is required here, and 'Nomadas' elsewhere is always a noun, making Keniston's 'Numidasve' preferable.

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49 [Title] Garsiae Lasi Ode ad Genesium Sepulvedam *Mo*; Garsilassi ode Ad Genesium Sepulvedam / Doctorem theologum, & regium Histo / riographum *D*. [l. 4] inter se *ante corr. D*. [l. 10] praevertit *D*; praevertit *Mo*. [l. 12] letalem *Luque*; laetalem *D & Mo*. [l. 18] gyro, *D & Bonilla*; giro *Mo*; Massylias *D*; i *supra add. D*; Massylas *Mo*; Marsylas *Bonilla*; Massylius *Mele-2*. [l. 19] Numidas *Keniston*; Nómadas *Mo D*. [l. 26] armaque *D & Mo*; r *supra add. D*. [l. 34] ferat *Bonilla*; serat *Mo & D*. [l. 35] ingentemque furorem *Mele-2*; ingeneretque furorem *Mo & D*.

50 Garcilaso, *Works: A Critical Text with a Bibliography*, ed. Keniston, 301–02.

51 Jay Reed, 'Textual Notes on the Latin Odes of Garcilaso de la Vega', *Studia Aurea*, 15 (2021), 475–84 (p. 479).

52 Garcilaso, *Works: A Critical Text with a Bibliography*, ed. Keniston, 302.

None the less, both *Mx* and *D* share some errors. For example, in line 34 both have ‘serat’ (‘sow’). Bonilla transcribed ‘ferat’ (‘bring’) and was followed by later editors. The emendation is a judicious one, since the image of planting is inappropriate to the context: the women claim that the child’s birth by Caesarean section, or descent from someone so born, is the source of his rage (‘furorem’ [l. 35]) and thirst for hot slaughter (‘caedis calidae sitim’ [l. 36]).<sup>53</sup> It is easy to see how the error would have occurred, needing only the omission of a stroke. The reading ‘ingeneretque furorem’ (l. 35) is also problematic, most importantly because it is unmetrical (the second and third short syllables of *ingeneret* should be one long syllable, and resolution is not permitted). The verb ‘ingenero’ can mean ‘implant’ which, as discussed, is inappropriate to the context. Mele posited an error for ‘ingentemque’, which would be possible as correlative *-que ... et* is found in both poetry and prose. Although *ingens* does not seem to be commonly used to qualify *furor*, the reading can be defended by analogy to, say, *ingens ira* (for example at Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, I. 166, ‘ingentes [...] iras’). Given the necessity of emendation, I have adopted Mele’s conjecture.

### [III] Venus ad Cupidinem

Sedes ad Cyprias Venus, cui centum redolent usque calentia thure altaria sacro, sertis vincta comas, nuda agitans choros	
gaudet, cum puer appulit, depromptis iaculis e pharetra aureis, depromptis quoque plumbeis, queis terras violens subdit et aequora, queis caeleste sibi genus.	5
Tum mater, miserans terrigenum simul divorumque vicem, prior demulcens leviter caesariem auream melliti pueri, incipit: ‘Heu, nate, usque adeo flagitiis eris istis insatiabilis,	10
non tantum ut miserum perditum eas genus humanum, excrucians modis indignis homines, verum etiam in deos ausis stringere spicula?	
Impulsu Altitonans saepe tuo induit quam turpem deo imaginem! Nunc taurus nivea conspicuus nota frontem, caetera candidus, imber nunc liquido virgineum aureus fluxu per gremium micat.	20
Lunam per tacitum saepe silentium saxis sub Iove latmiis sopiti rapidis ignibus excitam	25

<sup>53</sup> I am grateful to an anonymous reviewer of the *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* for this explanation.

caeli culmine devocas. Cessare ad Clymenen crinigerum facis Phoebum, qui quasi negligens terrīs officium solvere debitum, auriga est habitus piger. In me si sceleris quid meditabere matrem, ut mos tibi, perfide, est, non aegre aut graviter perpetiar modo figas nequitiae modum. Sed quid, cum dominam figere Dindymi laetaris, tibi vis, puer?	30
Longaeva atque parens paene deum omnium cum sit nec ioco idonea, illam caecus eo perpulit at furor Attyn perdit ut arserit. Cumque ignes penitus viscera permeent, iunctis vecta leonibus Idae per nemorum saxa virentium fertur, quam volitans cohors recta consequitur parsque micantibus palmis tympana verberat ingentique sonat voce nemus virens cunctorumque simul fera insanum rabies pectus agit. Proin affectu tenero, ut decet, mater cuncta timens (omen inane sit!) tristi discrucior metu, ne forte aut Cybele, si resipiscat, aut haec pergat potius suo insanire modo, saeva leonibus te natum tenerum imperet se coram ut lacerent namque erit aut sui vindex aut animi impotens.’ ‘Praesenti esto animo, mater,’ ait puer, ‘nec te sollicitet metus, mitescunt adeo namque mihi feri isti, quos metuis, iuba ut presa ritu equitis non trepide insidens tergis hos agitem vagus; caudis incipiunt, auribus et mihi adblandirier interim, dumque ori digitos dumque manum insero, reddunt innocuam mihi. Postremo quid ego pecco tibi aut aliis Si pulcherrima quae offerunt Natura speciem gratam et amabilem Fingendo optimus artifex Seu vultus animo seu penitus nimis Quae placent oculis, simul <sup>54</sup>	35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 [72] 75

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54 The context suggests this is ‘placent’, ‘please’ (with short a). It is worth noting that Garcilaso very rarely opens glyconics with a long syllable followed by a short syllable (rather than two long syllables); the only other extant case, apart from the corrupt line 35 of Ode II (discussed above), is line 28 of Ode IV, ‘Collis’. I am grateful to an anonymous reviewer of the *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* for this note.

Et menti, rapio, concito, et effero Pulchri pectora amantium. In desiderium[?] fraus mea, mater, est[?] <sup>55</sup>	80
Haec somnis propero citus, Quo leges placidae muneraque advocant Naturae, hoc adeo nimis Incusant homines, flagitium ut meum Vel tu mater abhorreas.	85
Num vis liber uti Mars tuus haud te amet ]	[78]
Posthac nec redames eum?	[79]
Natus sum atque potens; impera et obsequar.’	[80]
‘In re ut non superans, puer	[81]
Es nulla atque odio quam celer affici,	90 [82]
Nostro haud subtrahe te, puer,	[83]
Amplexu; peto nil praeter id amplius.’ <sup>56</sup>	[84]

*D*, like *Mx*, contains unmetrical readings in lines 3 and 5. However, once again, it has some better readings, in particular the inclusion of line 53, missing in *Mx*; ‘etiam in deos’ (l. 18) rather than ‘etiam deos’ in *Mx*, which Mele had corrected; and ‘Lunam’ (l. 26) rather than ‘Luna’, again previously emended by Mele. This suggests once again that it does not derive from *Mx*, but that the two share a common source.

In my earlier study, by comparing ‘Sedes ad Cyprias’ to Erasmus’ translation of Lucian, I postulated that line 53 could have contained a reference to Venus’s description of Cupid as a ‘malum ingens’ (‘great evil’). In fact, the line as it appears in *D* extends the reference to Venus’ motherly fear: ‘affectu tenero, ut decet’ (‘with tender feeling, as is becoming’).<sup>57</sup>

55 Alternatively, this could be punctuated with a question mark at the end of line 72, and another at the end of line 80, making the apodosis of this conditional ‘fraus mea, mater, est?’ rather than ‘quid ego pecco tibi aut aliis?’ I have chosen to punctuate lines 72–80 as one question as this more closely resembles the earlier version, where ‘quid ego pecco tibi aut aliis’ is the apodosis. Once again, I am grateful to an anonymous reviewer of the *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* for the suggestions on punctuation here.

56 [Title] Venus ad Cupidinem. Eiusdem *D*; Garcilassi hispani *Mx*. [l. 3] altaria *D* & *Mx*: altaria ibi *Reed*. [l. 5] gaudet *Luque*; gaudebat *D* & *Mx*. [l. 18] etiam in deos *D* & *Mele-1*; etiam deos *Mx*. [l. 20] induit *Mx*; indidit *D*. [l. 22] nivea *Mx* & *D*; nigra *in marg. D*. [l. 26] Lunam *D* & *Mele-2*; Luna *Mx*. [l. 28] excitam *D*: exscitam *Mx*. [l. 35] *om. D*. [l. 42] perpulit *Mx* & *D*; *D post corr.* [l. 44] permeent *Mx* & *D*; permeant *Mele-1* & *Mele-2*. [l. 53] *om. Mx*. [l. 56] ne forte Cybele, si resipiscat aut *Mx*; Ne forte aut Cybele resipiscat aut *D*. [l. 30] Clym- *Mx*; Clim- *D*. [l. 40] Longaeva *D*; Longeva *Mx*. [l. 44] Cumque *D* & *Mele-1*; Cum *Mx*. [l. 56] ne forte aut Cybele, si resipiscat, aut *Czepiel*; ne forte aut Cybele resipiscat, aut *D*; ne forte Cybele, si resipiscat, aut *Mx*. [l. 69] adblandirier *Mx*; ablandirier *D*. [ll. 73–85] *om. Mx*; cum res sedulus offero / pulchras ante oculos monstroque lucidis / pictas usque coloribus? / Vos iam desinite aut appetere omnia haec / aut sic obicere id mihi *Mx*. [l. 86] liber *D*. [l. [78]] mater, *Mx*. [l. 87] posthac *D*. [l. [80]] posthac? *Mx*. [ll. 89–90] In re ut non superans puer / Es nulla atque odio quam celer affici, *D*; ulla *in margine scripto D*. [ll. 82–85]] Nullae ut non superans, puer, / in re es, quin celeri bile etiam tumes, *Mx*; Nulla *Mele-1*.

57 Czepiel, ‘Garcilaso’s “Sedes ad Cyprias”’, 748.

However, it is also possible that a scribe has tried to supply the missing line.<sup>58</sup>

*D* contains a few errors. For example, it has the reading ‘indidit’ in line 20, where I have retained the *Mx* reading ‘induit’ (cf. Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, 2.850: ‘induitur faciem tauri’). This must be simply a copyist’s error. In line 22, the copyist corrects ‘nivea’ to ‘nigra’ in the margin, but this would be unmetrical. Indeed, the reading ‘nivea’ has also caused confusion among modern critics; I have suggested previously that it is a joke on Garcilaso’s part.<sup>59</sup> Line 35 has been omitted.

The *Mx* reading ‘Si forte Cybele’ in line 56 is unmetrical as a third long syllable is needed. Reed posited that *forte* was an error for *forsan/forsit*, or that an elided monosyllable had been omitted. The latter appears in *D*, where the reading is ‘Ne forte aut Cybele’. However, the copyist has omitted ‘si’ (‘if’), which makes the rest of the line unmetrical and loses the sense of the passage (‘if Cybele should come either come to her senses, or rather continue to be mad’). I have emended the line by adopting both *D*’s ‘aut’ and *Mx*’s ‘si’.

The greatest difference occurs towards the end of the poem, where the *Mx* lines 73–77 are replaced by a longer passage of thirteen lines, and there are also small differences in *D* lines 89–90 (*Mx* ll. 81–82). The small changes of *D* lines 89–90, as well as the fact that the portion occurs in the middle of a sentence, preclude the possibility that a portion of text was simply interpolated. Therefore, it is likely to have been either part of an early draft discarded later, or a later elaboration. One criterion that may help us is its relation to its model. As Table 1 shows, the longer passage does not correspond to the source material in Erasmus:

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58 I am grateful to an anonymous reviewer of the *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* for this suggestion.

59 Czepiel, ‘Garcilaso’s “Sedes ad Cyprias”’, 746. See also Mele, ‘Las poesías latinas de Garcilaso de la Vega’ (1924), 46.

<i>Mx</i>	<i>D</i>	Erasmus <sup>60</sup>
<p><b>Postremo quid ego pecco</b> tibi aut aliis cum <b>res</b> sedulus <b>offero</b>  <b>pulchras</b> ante oculos <b>monstroque</b> lucidis pictas usque coloribus?  <b>Vos</b> iam desinite aut <b>appetere</b> omnia haec aut sic obicere id mihi.  <b>Num vis, mater</b>, uti, <b>Mars</b> tuus haud <b>te amet posthac? nec redames</b> eum?  Natus sum atque potens; impera et obsequar.’  ‘<b>Nulla ut non superans</b>, puer,  <b>in re es</b>, quin celeri bile etiam tumes, nostro haud subtrahe te, puer, amplexu; peto nil praeter id amplius.’</p>	<p><b>Postremo quid ego pecco</b> tibi aut aliis Si <b>pulcherrima</b> quae offerunt  Natura speciem gratam et amabilem  Fingendo optimus artifex  Seu vultus animo seu penitus nimis  Quae placent oculis, simul  Et menti, rapio, concito, et effero  Pulchri pectora amantium  In desiderium[?] fraus mea, mater, est[?]  Haec somnis propero citus,  Quo leges placidae muneraque advocant  Naturae, hoc adeo nimis  Incusant homines, flagitium ut meum  Vel tu mater abhorreas.  <b>Num vis</b> liber uti <b>Mars</b> tuus haud <b>te amet</b>  <b>Posthac nec redames</b> eum?  Natus sum atque potens, impera et obsequar.  <b>In re ut non superans</b> puer  <b>Es nulla</b> atque odio quam celer affici,  Nostro haud subtrahe te puer  Amplexu, peto nil praeter id amplius.</p>	<p><b>Postremo quid ego pecco</b>, quum <b>res pulchras</b> ut sunt, <b>offero ac demonstro?</b>  <b>Vos ne appetite</b> res pulchras: quare his de rebus ne in me crimen conferte.    <b>Num vis</b> ipsa tu <b>mater</b>, uti neque tu <b>posthac Martem ames, neque ille te?</b>  VEN. <b>Ut es</b> pervicax, et <b>nulla in re non superas</b>: attamen horum quae dixi, fac in posterum memineras.*  *<i>The 1506 edition reads the erroneous ‘meminerit’, corrected in later editions to ‘memineras’.</i></p>

60 The editions I am using are *Luciani viri quam disertissimi compluria opuscula longe festiuiissima ab Erasmo Roterodamo et Thoma moro interpretibus optimis in latinorum linguam traducta* (Paris: Ascensius, 1506); *Luciani Erasmo interprete dialogi et alia emuncta* (Paris: Ascensius, 1514); and *Luciani opuscula Erasmo Roterodamo interprete* (Venezia: Aldus & Andrea Torresano, 1516).

This is not unprecedented, since Garcilaso's thirteen-line opening to the poem is also a departure from Erasmus' translation.<sup>61</sup> I would therefore be inclined to think that this is a later amplification in the vein of the proem. Significantly, both sections elaborate on the figure of Cupid; for example, in the proem, Garcilaso refers to Cupid's gold arrows (which inspire love) and his leaden arrows (which inspire hatred) (ll. 6–7). In these lines, the idea of providing beautiful things to love seems to have suggested a digression introducing Neo-Platonic ideas about love:

Si pulcherrima quae offerunt  
 Natura speciem gratam et amabilem  
 Fingendo [...]  
 Seu vultus animo seu penitus nimis  
 Quae placent oculis, simul  
 Et menti, rapio [...]  
 Pulchri pectora amantium  
 In desiderium[?] (ll. 73–80)

(If by creating beautiful things which offer a pleasing and lovable appearance by their nature [...], and faces which please either the spirit or the eyes [...] and the mind with them, I seize [...] the hearts of those who love beauty towards desire?)

Garcilaso is drawing our attention to the bottom rungs of the Platonic ladder of love: beautiful things generally, and more specifically beautiful faces, which please not only on a physical level but on a spiritual or intellectual level. Cupid then goes on to say that he is simply spurring on the work that Nature has already begun in human hearts: 'Haec somnis propero citus, / Quo leges placidae muneraque advocant / Naturae' ('I swiftly hasten these things in dreams in the direction in which the laws and gifts of kindly Nature summon them') (ll. 81–83).

It is also worth noting the changes in *D* lines 89–90 (*Mx* ll. 81–82). The opening clause of *D* is differentiated from that of *Mx* only by a change in word order; compare *D* 'in re ut non superans puer / es nulla' and *Mx* 'nulla ut non superans, puer, / in re es', in both cases meaning 'since in nothing you are not superior, my boy'. (Note that *D*'s reading 'ulla' has been corrected to 'nulla' in the margin, and *Mx*'s reading 'nullae' was emended in Mele's *editio princeps*.) The rest of line 90 in *D* reads 'atque odio quam celer affici' ('and moved by hatred as quickly as anything'), whereas *Mx* has 'quin celeri bile etiam tumes' ('indeed, even swell up with quick bile'). In fact, on a few counts, the *Mx* reading is superior: for example, *Mx*'s elision 're es' is easier than *D*'s 're ut'; the exclamation 'quam' in *D* is awkward with the *ut*

61 Czepiel, 'Garcilaso's "Sedes ad Cyprias"', 745–46.

clause which precedes it; and the *Mx* reading ‘bile [...] tumes’ echoes the Horatian ‘bile tumet’ (*Carmina*, I. 13. 4), an allusion which is lost in *D*. Perhaps the reference to ‘odio’ (‘hatred’) rather than ‘bile’ (‘bile’ or ‘bad temper’) is meant to pick up on the earlier references to the gold and leaden arrows and emphasize the idea of Cupid as a god of both love and hatred.

In *D* line 86 (*Mx* l. 78), the vocative ‘mater’, which is also found in Erasmus’ text, is replaced with the adjective ‘liber’ (‘free’). This is presumably due to avoid the repetition of the vocative ‘mater’ in line 85. The implication is that Mars would be free from the captivity of his love for Venus, which embellishes Cupid’s threat to withdraw his powers in Venus’ case if she continues to chide him.

In short, in the longer version of the poem in *D*, Garcilaso gives Cupid a longer defence incorporating some philosophical ideas, before ending on the same comic note as the shorter version, with Venus capitulating to Cupid.<sup>62</sup>

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62 By contrast, Lucian ends his dialogue with Venus threatening her unruly son; see Czepiel, ‘Garcilaso’s “Sedes ad Cyprias”’, 749.

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## Appendix I

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Cum modo ad Hesperiae remearet regna Philippus  
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O Dea, quae molli recubas Erycina sub umbra  
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Non vivam sine te, mi Brute, exterrita dixit  
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De morte Socratis, Ramirio auctore  
Viderat e cyatho sorbere aconita magistrum  
[4 lines]

Versum ex Menandro Honorato Ioannio auctore  
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[18 lines]

Nicolai Hegii Secundi de passere Glyceres puellae

Hostili passer fellis raptat[us] ab ore  
[14 lines]

## Appendix II

### [I] To Thylesius

Having left behind my wife, children, brothers, and land  
As an exile, I, a pupil of the Muses,  
Forced to bear the pride and arrogant customs of barbarians  
In cold places,

I have now learnt to alleviate my laments  
Among the pathless rocks which echo  
My cries and weeping  
Beneath the hoarse murmur of the Danube.

Oh learned Thylesius, born to soothe a mind  
Saddened by worries  
And to support the heart of a friend  
When matters press dreadfully upon him!

Now, now Apollo is propitious and readies for use  
The lyre that was silent before;  
The Nymphs running among the wandering currents of the Sebeto  
Urge me to sing;  
Now my desire for the illustrious city

With its beloved walls, which the river Tagus  
Delights in clasping with its golden embrace,  
Does not distress me beyond the mean in my mad grief.

Now the pleasant homeland of the Sirens pleases me,  
And Parthenope beautiful in her cultivated land,  
And it pleases me to settle by the spirit,  
Or rather the ashes, of Maro.

Which of the gods, you ask,  
Would bring help to the sick man, powerful through stored-up herbs,  
And to alleviate the disturbance of the mind  
With songs and the lyre?

The same man for whom the wandering rivers stop still at his music,  
And for whom it is said the currents were silent at the bank,  
And the roaring winds fell silent  
In the high groves,

For he joined me to you with a cord  
Which the Muses wove for me  
With pleasing bonds. With what else  
Could he so generously help me in my wretchedness?

The song of the man who sings of the golden shower from rich clouds,  
And the girl with her white ankles  
Bound by double fetters,  
Complaining of her bridegroom with weary eyes,

So seizes my spirit and mind,  
That all my burdensome cares and toils fall away,  
And I fly above them  
Lifted up on wings.

In your company, my dear Thylesius, the man encountered me  
Whom I adore in the place of a father,  
To whom I am not ashamed to lay bare my soul  
As a sweet token of my love;

While he unlocks the secrets of the gods,  
A frenzy deeply arouses his heart;  
Whether he shows that the heaven-dwellers  
Care gravely about the affairs of men,

Or that sons are tormented on account of the crimes  
Of their parents, so that while they draw breath  
They do not themselves indulge in luxury,  
And no punishment is lacking to the parents;

All listen to these things  
In particularly reverent silence: both my dear Marius,  
And Placitus, full and mindful  
Of many good things.

Hence this honest house receives all,  
 And free speech is born, but not with impunity,  
 For if you dare to make an argument  
 Tied up in twisted knots,

Hoping to draw us to your opinion  
 Rather by ingenuity than by truth,  
 At once the company falls upon you,  
 Just as the company of Cicones rushed at the singing man, Orpheus.

Did you really think that, insane and forgetful,  
 I would take the Tagus flowing with gold  
 And the meadows moistened by the watery courses  
 In exchange for my sweet friends?

### [II] To *Genesius Sepulveda*

Since so far the Muse has allowed only you, learned *Sepulveda*,  
 To draw the bow of religion and fierce warfare so far back,  
 That their curved ends  
 Do not refuse to meet,

And likewise since it falls to you  
 To speak of Africa trembling  
 Before the undaunted and pious king,

Who, riding a horse distinguished by marks,  
 Rapidly outstrips the winds among the dense throngs,  
 Violently shaking the fatal spear  
 In his hand;

Before whom the crowd makes way  
 Not otherwise than the light straw in a dry grove gives way to flames,  
 Or clouds yield before the roving winds  
 In an open sky.

While, warlike, he drives the trembling in an unbroken circle,  
 Just like the fierce lion  
 Puts in motion peaceful beasts  
 Through *Massylian* or *Numidian* forests,

The wives recently deprived of their beloved  
 Sigh in their fearful breast,  
 Accustomed to gaze over the broad expanses of the plain  
 From high towers, and say:

'Alas, young men,  
 Avoid the arms of and unlucky encounters with *Caesar*,  
 For your strength is unequal;  
 Since the mother who was cut open

Gave the name to her descendants,  
 While they tried to rip the feeble child from her womb,  
 Hence comes Caesar's race,  
 Hence a race which rejoices at fresh slaughter;

Do you think that he who took his fierce step towards life  
 Over a funereal threshold will not bring from the same place  
 Enormous rage  
 And thirst for hot slaughter?'

### [III] Venus to Cupid

Venus, in her Cypriot dwelling,  
 For whom a hundred blazing altars  
 Are continuously fragrant with sacred incense,  
 Her hair bound with wreaths, nude and driving the chorus,  
 Was rejoicing, when her son approached,  
 Having put aside the gold darts from his quiver,  
 And his lead ones too,  
 With which he violently subdues earth and sea,  
 And the heavenly race.  
 Then his mother, taking pity at once on the fate  
 Of men and gods,  
 First gently stroking the golden hair of the honey-sweet boy, said to him:  
 'Alas, my son, how long will you be so insatiable  
 In these shameful deeds,  
 That you do not only attack the wretched and hopeless human race,  
 Torturing men in cruel ways,  
 But you even dare  
 To draw your darts against the gods?  
 At your urging, the Thunderer often put on  
 An image so shameful for a god!  
 At one time he was a bull marked on his forehead with a snowy mark,  
 But white on the rest of his body;  
 At another, he flashes through the virginal lap  
 As a golden shower.  
 You often draw down the Moon through the quiet silence  
 From the peak of sleeping heaven  
 To the Latmian rocks beneath the sky.  
 You make long-haired Phoebus loiter with Clymene,  
 And, almost neglecting to perform the duty he owes to the earth,  
 He is considered a lazy charioteer.  
 If you are considering some wicked deed against me,  
 Your mother, as is your wont, treacherous one,  
 I will not bear it poorly or badly,  
 As long as you put an end to your naughtiness.  
 But what do you want, boy,  
 When you delight in transfixing the mistress of Dindymus?

Even though she is aged and the parent of almost all the gods  
 And not suitable for such play,  
 Blind frenzy has driven her  
 To burn hopelessly for Attis.  
 And since the fires pass deep into her heart,  
 Riding her yoked lions  
 She is carried over the rocks of the green groves of Ida,  
 And a fitting company  
 Follows her directly, and some with rapidly moving palms  
 Strike tambourines,  
 And the green grove resounds with a great noise,  
 And at once a fierce madness drives  
 The raging breast of all.  
 Therefore, with tender affection, as is appropriate,  
 And fearing all things as a mother (let it be an empty apprehension!),  
 I am tortured by sorrowful fear,  
 Lest Cybele, if she should come to her senses,  
 Or rather if she should continue  
 To rage in her way, should fiercely command her lions  
 To tear you, my tender son,  
 Apart before her eyes,  
 For she will either be her own avenger, or powerless over her own spirit.  
 'Be of good heart, mother', said the boy,  
 'And do not let fear trouble you,  
 For these beasts which you fear  
 Become so gentle for me,  
 That taking their mane and sitting on their backs without fear in the  
 manner of a horserider  
 I can drive them wandering about;  
 Meanwhile they begin to fawn on me with their tails and ears,  
 And when I place my fingers and hand in their mouth,  
 They return it to me unharmed.  
 Lastly, how do I offend you or others  
 If by creating, as an excellent craftsman,  
 Beautiful things which offer  
 A pleasing and lovable appearance by their nature  
 And faces which please either the spirit  
 Or the eyes quite profoundly, and the mind with them,  
 I seize, rouse and carry off  
 The hearts of those who love beauty  
 Towards desire? Is that my deception, mother?  
 I swiftly hasten these things in dreams  
 In the direction in which the laws and gifts of kindly Nature summon  
 them;  
 And humans find so much fault with this,  
 That even you, mother,  
 Are averse to my shameful deed.  
 Or perhaps would you prefer that your Mars should be set free and not

love you,  
 And that henceforth you should not love him back?  
 I am your son, and a powerful one; command and I shall obey.'  
 'Since there is no matter in which you are not victorious, child,  
 And moved by hatred as quickly as anything,  
 Do not withdraw, child,  
 From my embrace; I ask nothing more than that.'

### Appendix III

#### List of Abbreviations

- Bonilla* Adolfo Bonilla y San Martín, 'Oda latina de Garcilaso de la Vega', *Revista Crítica de Historia y Literatura Españolas, Portuguesas e Hispanoamericanas*, IV (1899), 362–71.
- Czepiel* Maria Czepiel, 'Garcilaso's "Sedes ad Cyprias": A New Source and a Re-appraisal', *BSS*, XCVI:5 (2019), 737–54
- Keniston* *Garcilaso de la Vega, Works; A Critical Text with a Bibliography*, ed. Hayward Keniston (New York: Hispanic Society of America, 1925)
- Luque* Jesús Luque Moreno, 'Las poesías latinas de Garcilaso de la Vega: notas sobre métrica y crítica textual', in *Estudios sobre la literatura y arte: dedicados al profesor Emilio Orozco Díaz*, ed. Nicolás Marín *et al.* (Granada: Secretario de Publicaciones de la Univ. de Granada, 1979), 297–310.
- Mele-1* Eugenio Mele, 'Una oda latina inédita de Garcilaso de la Vega y tres poesías inéditas a él dedicadas por Cosimo Anisio', *Revista Crítica de Historia y Literatura Españoles, Portuguesas, é Hispano-americanas*, III (1898), 362–68.
- Mele-2* Eugenio Mele, 'Las poesías latinas de Garcilaso de la Vega y su permanencia en Italia' [Part 2], *Bulletin Hispanique*, 26 (1924), 35–51.
- Mo* Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional 5785

- Mt* Biblioteca Nazionale V. E. 53, *Clarissimorum Aevi Caroli Caesaris V poetarum carmina, ex schedis Seripandi Card. in Bibliotheca S. J. ad Carbonariam quae nunc in Regiam Bibliothecam deductae sunt*
- Mx* Biblioteca Nazionale Vittorio Emmanuele III, XIII A. A. 63.
- Reed* Jay Reed, 'Textual Notes on the Latin Odes of Garcilaso de la Vega', *Studia Aurea*, 15 (2021), 475–84.
- Savj-Mele* Paolo Savj-López & Eugenio Mele, 'Una oda latina de Garcilaso de la Vega', *Revista Crítica de Historia y Literatura Españolas, Portuguesas e Hispanoamericanas* (1897), 248–91.
- V* Cod. Vaticano latino 2836