New Inscriptions from old books. Inscriptions of Aigion, Delphi and Lesbos copied by Nicholas Biddle and Stavros Táxis

CHANIOTIS A. University of Heidelberg

http://dx.doi.org/10.12681/tekmeria.117

To cite this article:

The significance of reports of early travellers and geographers for classical studies has been widely recognized by classicists, especially epigraphers and archaeologists.

* I would like to express my warm thanks to Professor Peter Funke (Münster) for providing information on the data banks mentioned in note 2, to Oliver Hoover, MA (New York) for proof-reading this manuscript, and to Charalambos Kritzas (Epigraphical Museum, Athens) for valuable bibliographical assistance.


In this article I present several inscriptions, which were seen in the 19th century by the American traveller Nicholas Biddle and the Lesbian scholar and priest Stavros Taxis, but, in the most part, have remained hitherto unrecorded in epigraphical corpora.

Nicholas Biddle, an important American financier and politician, visited Greece in the spring and summer of 1806\(^3\). The letters he sent to his brother and friends and the journals he kept on his three month journey to the Ionian Islands, the Peloponnese, Delphi, Thermopylai, Thebes, and Athens were published recently by R. A. McNeal\(^4\) and are of great interest for periegetic studies. Among other monuments, Biddle copied a dedicatory inscription at Aigion (no. 1) and an honorific inscription at Delphi (no. 2); the latter inscription had also been seen by other travellers. On the basis of their reports August Boeckh reproduced the text in his *Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum* (vol. 1, no. 1716); however, Biddle’s text differs in a few points from the text edited by Boeckh.

Stavros Taxis composed a short history of Lesbos (Συνοπτική ιστορία τῆς Λέσβου καὶ τοπογραφία αὐτῆς) in the late 19th century. Its first edition (Cairo 1874) contained a detailed geographical description of the island and an analysis of its contemporary state. The second edition (Cairo 1909) was substantially enlarged to include descriptions of ancient monuments and inscriptions seen by the author at various sites (pp. 55-142, here nos 3-12). Only two Greek archaeologists took notice of Taxis’ work. Serapheim Charitonides, who prepared a supplement to the inscriptions of Lesbos/Attica, gathered a list of relevant works: another data bank ("HiLaG"), compiled under the direction of the same scholars, collects references to ancient sites and monuments in the works of ca. 200 travellers of the 18th and 19th century. For these projects see M. Fell, *HILANG*. Datenbank zur "Historischen Landeskunde des antiken Griechenland", in: M. Fell - Chr. Schäfer - L. Wierschowsk (eds), *Datenbanken in der Alten Geschichte*, St. Katharinen 1994, pp. 134-145; M. Fell, *Hellas*. Bibliographische Datenbank der nachantiken Reiseberichte über Griechenland bis zur Mitte des 20. Jahrhunderts, in: Fell-Schäfer-Wierschowski, o.c., 146-152.


New Inscriptions from Old Books

(published posthumously), refers occasionally to Táxis’ research⁵, however, without including in the volume those texts which are known only from Táxis’ reports (here, nos 4, 5, 7, and 11). I. D. Kontis⁶ made extensive use only of the geographical and demographical information contained in Táxis’ work. Neither Friedrich Hiller von Gaertringen, who edited a supplement to the Lesbian inscriptions in 1939 (IG XII Suppl.), nor R. Hodot, who commented on the inscriptions of the island⁷, had access to Táxis’ book. The recent reprinting of the second edition of Táxis’ book⁸ provides an opportunity to discuss the texts which escaped the notice of earlier epigraphers.

Six of the inscriptions mentioned by Táxis (1909) had already been published earlier: Five texts had been included by William R. Paton in the corpus of inscriptions of Lesbos published in 1899 (IG XII 2, 271, 272, 446, 485, 516; here, nos 6, 8-10, 12); another text, published in 1909, had been erroneously attributed to Peparethos/Skopelos (IG XII 8, 643; here, no. 3). The independent tradition of some of the texts enables us to check the reliability of Táxis’ reports. Táxis’ copies of the texts are occasionally inaccurate (see nos 6 and 12; cf. no. 4), but he usually gives the exact location of the stones (see nos 3, 6, 9, 10, and 12); in one case he probably saw more letters on a stone than other scholars (no. 6; cf. no. 11).

In one case Táxis refers to an inscription without giving the text. Among the antiquities of Eresos he saw (p. 55) two well preserved blocks (“λίθοι ὀρθογώνιοι δύο”) which according to him contained a decree of Alexander the Great about exiles from Eresos (“δεικνύουσι ψήφισμα τοῦ Μ. Ἀλεξάνδρου, ἄφορον τοὺς διὰ πολιτικοὺς λόγους ἀπὸ τῆς Ἑρέσσου ἐξορισθέντας πόλιτας”).

5. S. Charitonides, Αἱ ἐπιγραφαὶ τῆς Λέσβου. Συμπλήρωμα, Athens 1968, p. 75 (here no. 8), pp. 77 f. no. 115 (here no. 3).
This seems to be an inaccurate reference to the dossier of texts concerning the tyranny at Eresos during the first years of Alexander’s campaign and the later punishment of the tyrants and their relatives; this dossier (decrees of Eresos and letters of Philippos Arrhidaios and Antigonos) is, indeed, written on two blocks. The possibility that Taxis saw an otherwise unknown inscription should be ruled out, given the size of the stones and the importance of the text. Eresos had been visited by such travellers as Charles Newton (1852) and Alexander Conze (1858), who looked very carefully and passionately for inscriptions there (see below). The misunderstanding may be explained in view of the repeated mention of Alexander and his diagraphe in these texts (A 6, 14, 34-39; C 24; D 2, 10, 18, 25), the reference to φυγάδες (C 22-27), and possibly the existence of a decree of Mytilene about the return of exiles (324 BC?)

At Eresos, again, villagers informed Taxis (p. 55) that another inscription had been removed at the beginning of the 19th century (“έτερος δὲ τοιούτος παρὰ τὴν θάλασσαν αὐτῶθι, οὗ ἡ ἁξία ποῦ ἐνέκειτο ήμῖν μὲν ἄγνωστον, τοῖς δὲ ξένοις γνωστόν, ἀφηρέθηνυκτός ἐκεῖθεν περὶ τὰς ἀρχὰς τοῦ παρελθόντος αἰώνος, ὡς ἐκ παραδόσεως τῶν κατοίκων ἀναφέρεται”). The villagers had reported a similar (or the same) incident to Charles Newton in 1852: “I arrived at Eresos full of hope, expecting, from the remote situation of this place, to find some remains of the ancient city. But I was told that about fifteen years ago there had been many sculptures, some of which had been carried away by a French traveller, and that the monks of a neighbouring monastery had taken the inscriptions and ground their colours with the inscribed surface till there was nothing left”.

Taxis heard of a lost inscription also at Brisa, site of an important sanctuary of Dionysos. According to information given to him (p. 119) the name Βρϊσα was read until a few years before his visit on a stone at that site

10. *IG XII* 2, 6; *OGIS* 2; Heisserer, o.c., pp. 118-139.
New Inscriptions from Old Books

(“κατά τινας μάλιστα ύπήρχε αὐτόθι μέχρι πρὸ τοῦν ἐτῶν πλάξ φέρουσα τὴν λέξιν Βρίσα ώς ὄνομα τῆς πόλεως”). This place name, from which the epithet of Dionysos Brisaios derives, is directly attested only in the work of Stephanos of Byzantion (see below note 26).

I have transcribed the majuscule texts given by Biddle and Táxis and provided some commentary. The form of the letters and, in several cases, the form of the monuments and the division of lines are not known; as indicated above, Táxis’ readings are not very reliable. Unpublished texts are marked with an asterisk (nos 1, 4, 5, 7, and 11).

Aigion

*1. Dedication of Eurylon (Euryleon?).

In an entry in the ‘First Greek Journal’ written at Χρυσό (ancient Krisa) on May 15th, 1806 Biddle describes briefly the antiquities of Βοστίτσα, which he identified correctly with Aigion (p. 93): “There is however nothing antique except I think some masses of stone on the sea shore which have the appearance of ruins... The only antiquity is an inscription on a stone making part of a wall. It is thus: ΕΥΡΥΛΩΝ / ΑΝΕΘΗΚΕΝ” (p. 94).

Εὐρυλόν

ἀνέθηκεν.

1 Possibly Εὐρυλέων.

The name of the dedicant, Eurylon, is not attested in this form. The name Εὐρυλέων is, however, widely attested12, and in Aigion itself13. We cannot exclude the possibility that Biddle’s copy is inaccurate. The recipient of the dedication and the date are not known.


13. IG IX 12 29. 1. 27; Syll3 585 1. 29, 3rd cent. BC.
Delphi


In a letter sent from Delphi to his brother on May 16th, 1806 Biddle describes in some detail the ruins he saw at Καστρί (Delphi). A priest guided him to a field, where he copied the following inscription:

ΛΜΑΡΙΟΝΝΕΠΩΤΑΑΙΠΑΛΕΙΝΟΝΤΕ
2 ΤΕΙΜΗΜΕΝΟΝΑΠΟΤΗΣΚΟΡΙΝΘΩΝ
ΒΟΥΛΗΣΤΕΙΜΑΣΒΟΥΛΕΥΤΙΚΑΣΚΑΙ
4 ΑΓΟΡΑΝΟΜΙΚΑΙΣΑΜΑΡΙΟΣΝΕΠΩΣ
ΠΑΤΗΡΚΟΡΙΝΘΙΟΙΣΚΑΠΟΥΛΙΑΙΠΑΛΗ
6 ΔΕΛΦΗΤΟΕΑΥΤΩΝΙΑΠΟΛΛΩΝΙ
ΠΥΘΙΩI

The inscription was also seen by other travellers\textsuperscript{14} and published by A. Boeckh (CIG 1716) in the following form:

A. folium Μάριον Νέπωτα Αίγιαλεινόν, τε-
2 τειμημένον ἀπὸ τῆς Κορινθίων
βουλής τειμαίς βουλευτικάι καὶ
4 ἀγορανομικαίς, Α. Μάριος Νέπως
πατήρ Κορίνθιος καὶ Ἰουλία Αίγιάλη
6 Δελφή τὸν ἑαυτόν υἱὸν Ἀπόλλωνι
Πυθίωι.

Both Biddle and Köhler, whose notes were used by Boeckh (cf. CIG, vol. I, p. xi), read the first letter as a Λ, i.e. Λ(ούκιος); however, they gave different readings of the abbreviated praenomen on line 4: Biddle read an Α (Αύλος), Köhler a Λ Λ(ούκιος). Boeckh assumed that father and son shared the same praenomen, which he restored as Aulus. This is, however, not certain, since

\textsuperscript{14} Cf. McNeal, o.c., 98 note 140. The inscription is obviously complete, and not a fragment as McNeal writes. McNeal also corrects the initial Λ into an Α (for Aulus).
both Biddle and Köhler read the first letter as a Λ. In addition to that, all the Marii attested in Korinth have the praenomen Lucius.\textsuperscript{15}

The Korinthian Lucius (?) Marius Nepos and his wife Iulia Aigiale dedicated a statue of their son to Apollon Pythios, in Aigiale’s native city, Delphi. Their son, Lucius (?) Marius Nepos received as a second cognomen a named deriving from his mothers cognomen (Aigiale> Aigialeinos). An important Korinthian family of Marii is known from an early 2nd cent. AD honorific inscription for C. Iulius Severus, proconsul of Achaia in AD 135 (PIR, vol IV2, pp. 277f. no. 573). This inscription was set up by L. Marius Piso, quaestor and praetor at Rome, and his sons L. Marius Florus Stlaccianus and L. Marius Piso Resianus.\textsuperscript{16}

The expression τετειμημένον ἀπὸ τῆς Κορινθίων βουλής τειμαϊς βουλευτικάς καὶ ἀγορανομικάς is the translation of the Latin decurionalibus et aediliciis ornamentis decreto decurionum honorato.\textsuperscript{17} Nepos Aigialeinos received the ornamenta of the offices of a decurio and an aedilis in the Roman colony of Korinth\textsuperscript{18} probably on the basis of his family’s benefactions.\textsuperscript{19} These services were rather modest, since they did not entitle him to the ornamenta of the higher municipal magistracies (ornamenta duumviralia, agonotheticia, quinquennalia).\textsuperscript{20} This inscription should be dated in the late 2nd or early 3rd cent. AD.

Lesbos

Mytilene and territory of Mytilene

3. Dedication to Dionysos, Hiera, imperial times (IG XII 8, 643).

The following dedication to Dionysos and his cult association had been

---

\textsuperscript{15} A. B. West, \textit{Corinth VIII.II. Latin Inscriptions 1896-1926}, Cambridge, Ma. 1931, nos 56 and 146.

\textsuperscript{16} West, o.c., pp. 38-40 no 56.

\textsuperscript{17} Cf. West, o.c., no. 107: \textit{decurionalibus et aediliciis ornament(is) d(ecreto) d(ecurionum) honorato}.

\textsuperscript{18} For other \textit{aediles} in Korinth see West, o.c., nos. 80, 81, 93, 104 b, 132; for other \textit{decuriones} see ibid., nos 103, 108, 115, 125.

\textsuperscript{19} Cf. West, o.c., nos 4. 105-107, 220 and p. 88.

\textsuperscript{20} Cf. West, o.c., no. 105.
previously attributed to Skopelos (IG XII 8, 643). We owe the correct attribution to S. Charitonides, who found the stone built in the wall of the church of Παναγία τού Ψύρρα at Gera (Hiera, territory of Mytilene; preserved height 61 cm; width 61 cm). 21 Táxis (p. 57) had already given the correct location (site Κουρκούτα) and an accurate copy of the text (in majuscules):

Γάιος Κοίλιος Πάνκαρπος
2 θεό Διονύσω καί τοίς ἐν
tῷ τόπῳ μύσταις ἀνέθ-
4 ηκε τὸ ἱερὸν καί τὸν πρὸ αὐ-
tοῦ τόπον.

The cult of Dionysos is well attested on Lesbos. 22 Charitonides provides two other examples of dedications addressed to Dionysos and his mystai, from Abdera and Thasos.

The word τόπος has a broad semantic field in Greek inscriptions: ‘area’ (often ‘sacred area’), ‘building’ (often ‘sacred building’), and ‘space’, particularly space reserved for associations, artisans, or tradesmen. 23

*4. Dedication to Dionysos, Brisa.

An inscribed marble block (“ἐπιγραφή ἐπί μαρμάρου”) was seen by Táxis (p. 119) at the site Βρισιά, Βρησά or Βρήσα (ancient Βρισα, territory of Pyrrha, later territory of Mytilene), near the Cap of Agios Phokas. Táxis read the text

21. Charitonides, pp. 77-78 no. 115 (with reference to Táxis).
22. E. L. Shields, *The Cults of Lesbos*, Wisconsin 1917, pp. 56 f.; Charitonides, o.c., p. 78; Kontis, o.c., pp. 409-415; G. Casadio, *Storia del culto di Dioniso in Argolide*, Rome 1994, pp. 29-36. See also below no. 4. Cf. the evidence provided by theophoric names: Bakchios (11 attestation in various cities), Bakchos (2 attestations in Eresos and Mytilene), Bakchon (2 attestations in Methymna and Mytilene), Dionysios (23 attestations in various cities on Lesbos), Dionysodoros (5 attestations in Methymna and Mytilene), Dionysia, Dionysikles, Dionysiphaes, Dionysiphanes, and Dionysophanes (isolated attestations in Mytilene): see LGPN, vol. 1, s.vv.
23. Charitonides, o.c., p. 78 (*SEG* XVII 320; *IG* XII Suppl. 397). Analogous dedications are addressed to other gods and the associations of their worshippers. See, e.g., *SEG* XLIII 472 (Vergina): Μητρί θεών καί συντελέσα; *MAMA* X 304 (Kotiaion): Διί καί τοίς Βεννείταις.
as follows: ΔΙΟΝΝΗΣΙΩι ΤΩι ΒΑΚΧΩι. His reading is not accurate. The text can be restored as a dedication to Dionysos Bakchos.  

Διοννυσιω τω Βακχω.

The inscription was found near the ruins of an ancient temple ("είστιν άρχαιον ναον"), certainly the important shrine of Dionysos Brisaios.

5. Dedication to Artemis Thermia, Therme.

The ruines of Therme (territory of Mytilene), the site of an important sanctuary of Artemis, are described briefly by Táxis (p. 93): "κατά τον χωρίον τῆς Θερμής πρός τὸ μέρος τῆς θαλάσσης, εὑρίσκονται τα θεομαί ιαματικά ύδατα τῆς Θερμής, τὰ καὶ Σάρ-Λίτζα καλούμενα, ἐν χρόνοις ὄντα καὶ παρ' ἄρχαιοις, ὡς τοῦτο ἐν τῶν αὐτῶν άρχαιών οἰκοδομῶν καὶ ἐπιγραφῶν καταδεικνύεται"); he also gives (in majuscules) the text of the following dedication, written on a stone ("ἐπὶ λίθῳ τινός ἐκείσε"):

Αρτέμιδι τῇ Θερμήι.

Artemis Thermia (Thermia Euakoos, Megala Thea) was widely worshipped on Lesbos, not only at Therme, the site of her sanctuary, but also at Methymna.


Between Gera (Hiera) and Plomari (territory of Mytilene), at the site Μέτιο, in the ruins of a fortress (φρούριο), Táxis (p. 101) saw on a broken marble
block ("μαρμάρινη τεθραυσμένη πλάξ") an inscription published by H. G. Lolling in 1886. Lolling saw the stone, broken into three pieces, in a church ("einen aus 3 Fragmenten bestehenden Block in der Kapellenruine auf der Höhe des Kastro"). The text was subsequently published as IG XII 2, 485 (height 39 cm; width 1.20 m), together with a facsimile made by Ioannis Kalesperis:

`Αγαθή Τύχη.
ΑΓΑΘΗΤΥΧΗ Lolling; ΤΥΧΗΙΑΓΑΘΗΙ Taxis.

After Τύχη Αγαθή (which should be corrected to `Αγαθή Τύχη) Taxis saw other letters (καί ἄλλα τινά), not recorded by Lolling and Kalesperis. In Mytilene, this invocation serves very often as the heading of honorific inscriptions. The large size of the letters (12 cm) and the form of the stone, which looks like the upper part of a statue base, suggest that the rest of the text - now lost - may have been an honorific inscription (rather than a dedication), probably of the imperial period.

*7. Grave inscription of Stratonike, Brisa.

In a private house at Brisa (cf. no. 3) Taxis (p. 119) saw an inscribed marble block ("λίθος ορθογώνιος μαρμάρινος"), obviously a grave stele, with the following inscription:

Στρατονίκη χρηστή χαίρε.

Grave inscriptions consisting in the name of the deceased followed by the adjective χρηστός/χρηστή and χαίρε are very common in Mytilene. The name Stratonike is attested in Mytilene. Cf. IG XII 2, 2, 421-436; Charitonides, o.c., p. 64, n. 94, p. 66 no. 98, p. 67 no. 101 (=SEG XXVI 932), p. 68 no. 104 (=SEG XXVI 933), pp. 71 f. nos 108-109, p. 80 no. 119 (=SEG XXVI 936), p. 83 no. 121.

See LGPN, vol. I, s.v. (unpublished, Stratonike, daughter of Soterichos); cf. the name Stratonikos, also attested in Mytilene (LGPN, vol. I, s.v.).

---

29. IG XII 2, 11, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 256, 263. Cf. IG XII 2, 100 (altar?), 263 (dedication?); IG XII Suppl. 11 (building regulations).
30. E.g., IG XII 2, 2, 421-436; Charitonides, o.c., p. 64, n. 94, p. 66 no. 98, p. 67 no. 101 (=SEG XXVI 932), p. 68 no. 104 (=SEG XXVI 933), pp. 71 f. nos 108-109, p. 80 no. 119 (=SEG XXVI 936), p. 83 no. 121.
31. See LGPN, vol. I, s.v. (unpublished, Stratonike, daughter of Soterichos); cf. the name Stratonikos, also attested in Mytilene (LGPN, vol. I, s.v.).
8. Christian epitaph of Maria, near Mystegna (IG XII 2, 446)

In a ruined Byzantine church northwest of Mystegna Táxis (p. 94) saw a Christian grave inscription, which was published as IG XII 2, 446 (preserved height 26 cm; width 23 cm):

Cross
Μνήμη
Μαρίας.
1 MNHMH: Táxis.

The location given by Táxis is the village Μπαλζίκι. The stone was found again by S. Charitonides, who specified its exact location as the church Agios Nikolaos in Κάλαμος.32

9. Horos of an association of fullers, Moria, imperial times (IG XII 2, 271)

On the road which leads from Mytilene to Moria the geographers Ch. T. Newton (1852)33 and Heinrich Kiepert34 saw an inscription carved on a rock (height of letters 26 cm), which was published as IG XII 2, 271:

Τ
2 Τών γναφέων
dρ(ος)
2 κναφέων Kiepert; γναφέων Newton, Paton, Táxis.

Táxis (p. 58) read only the second line, but gave its precise location as the site Άχλια, opposite a source of hot water called θερμάκια.35 The palaeography suggests a date in the imperial period. Besides the association of fullers, that

32. Charitonides, o.c., p. 75 with older bibliography and reference to Táxis’ report.
34. H. Kiepert, ap. CIG addenda, 2171 c.
35. Cf. the more detailed description of Newton, o.c., p. 62: “Returning to Mytilene by Moraea, I noticed at the distance of about ten minutes from that village a place by the roadside called Achlea. Here is a warm spring with a bath vaulted over. On the opposite side of the road the face of the rock is scraped, and on it, in very large letters now nearly effaced, may be read the words ΤΩΝ ΓΝΑΦΕΩΝ, “of the fullers”-, which is evidently part of a dedication by a company of fullers who made use of the water of this warm spring.”
of the shoemakers (οἱ τὴν σκυτικὴν τέχνην ἐργαζόμενοι) is attested at Mytilene.36

10. Prohedria for Potamon, Mytilene, 1st cent. BC/AD (IG XII 2, 272).

Τάξις (p. 57) gives the text of a well known inscription (IG XII 2, 272 with further bibliography):

Ποτάμωνος
2 τῶ Λεσβώνακτος
προεδρία.
1 Ποτάμωνος Τάξις; 2 τοῦ Τάξις.

According to Τάξις the stone was excavated in 1736. The stone, originally kept in the courtyard of the cathedral of Ag. Athanasios, has been transported to the Museum of Mytilene (inv. 2475).37 The numerous inscriptions pertaining to the life and the family of Potamon, a prominent statesman of Mytilene (75 BC-AD 15), have been studied most recently by R. W. Parker.38 Another honorific decree for Potamon was found in 1987.39

*11. Building inscription or mason’s graffito (?), aqueduct at Moria.

One of the most impressive monuments of Mytilene is the Roman aqueduct, which is best preserved in the vicinity of the village Moria.40 On one of the three well preserved arches Τάξις (p. 56 note 4) read the word ΔΑΜΟΣ and inferred that this text was referring to the construction of the aqueduct at the expenses of the community of Mytilene (“ἐπὶ μιᾶς τῶν ὑπολογισμῶν [sc. ἄρχων] ἅλεξις ΔΑΜΟΣ, δεικνύουσα τὴν δι᾽ ἐξόδων τοῦ Δήμου τῆς πόλεως ἀνέγερσιν αὐτοῦ”). This is quite possible, although one cannot rule out the possibility of a graffito (the personal name Δάμος, attested

36. SEG XXVI 891 (= IG XII 2, 108 + 109): Dedication to Artemis Thermia and Aphrodite.
37. Charitonides, o. c., p. 50.
in Mytilene). The latter assumption is supported by the report of an earlier visitor of the aqueduct, Ch. T. Newton (1852), who probably saw the same inscription: “On a stone in one of the pillars I noticed the letters DMO, probably a mason’s mark.”

**Methymna**

12. **Honorific inscription for Adobogiona, Methymna, 1st cent. BC? (IG XII 2, 516).**

In the church of Agios Ioannis, one hour east of Mantamados (territory of Arisbe, later Methymna), on a slab used as pavement Táxis (p. 127: “μαμα-ρίνη πλάξ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἐδάφους ἐστρωμένη”) read the following text, without indicating the division of lines:

ΔΑΜΟΣ ΒΟΓΙΩΝΟΣ ΑΝΤΙΝΟΔΩΡΩΙ ΕΥΕΡΓΕΤΗΙ ΚΟΙΝΑ ΑΝΑ ΤΗΝ ΠΟΛΙΝ ΠΟΛΛΑ ΚΑΙ ΜΕΓΑΛΑ ΑΡΕΤΑΣ ΕΝΕΚΑ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΝΟΙΑΣ ΤΑΣ ΕΑΥΤΑΝ.

This is a desperately inaccurate copy of a published inscription (IG XII 2, 516, with full bibliography; cf. SGDI296; OGIS 348; IGR vol. 4, 3):

Ό δαμος Αδοβογιώναν Δη οτάρω εύεργετήκο ισα ν τάν πόλιν πολλά καί μεγάλα, άρετάς εννεκα Καί εύνοιας τας εις έαύταν.

The stone had been seen by St. Anagnostou (ca. 1850) and A. Conze (ca. 1865) in the church of Agios Stephanos, near Mantamados. Táxis must have copied the honorific inscription sometime later, after it had been transported to the church of Agios Ioannis. But the adventures of this pierre...
errante did not end there. Later, the stone was broken into two pieces, one of which - preserving the last 12 letters of ll. 2-3 and the last letter of l. 4 - was seen by W. R. Paton (ca. 1899) in yet another church, that of Taxiarches.⁴⁴ The other piece is probably lost.

G. Hirschfeld recognized that the benefactress honored by the people of Methymna and her father bear Galatian names (Adobogiona, Deiotaros).⁴⁵ He identified Adobogiona with a member of the dynastic family of the Trokmoi (cf. Strab. 13,4,2 C 625: τού τετραρχικοῦ τῶν Γαλατῶν γένους), sister of Brogitaros, the tetrarch of the Trokmoi⁴⁶, wife of the Pergamene Menodotes, and mother of Mithridates, later tetrarch of the Trokmoi (Strab. 13,4,2 C 625). Adobogiona is also known from a list of dedications to Apollon found at Didyma, according to which she and her brother Brogitaros dedicated silver phialae during the stephanephorate of Aristanor.⁴⁷ A. Rehm has suggested a date around 100 BC (certainly before 89 BC) for this dedication.⁴⁸

It should be noted, however, that the honorific inscription of Methymna makes no reference to the relation of Adobogiona to the Galatian tetrarch, as one would expect, and this makes her identification with the sister of Brogitaros uncertain. The names Adobogiona and Deiotaros are not uncommon among members of the various Galatian dynastic families.⁴⁹

The nature of Adobogiona’s benefactions to Methymna is not known. If the identification with the sister of Brogitaros is correct, her contacts to a city

---

⁴⁴. IG XII 2, p. 109.
⁴⁶. B. Haussouller, Études sur l’histoire de Milet et du Didymeion, Paris 1902, p. 211; cf. OGIS 349.
⁴⁹. See B. Niese, s.v. Deiotaros, in RE IV, col. 2401 f. (4 entries); another Adobogiona was the mother of Deiotarus Philadelphos, a dynast in Paphlagonia (1st cent. BC.): Rosenberg, s.v. Deiotaros, in RE Suppl. 3 (1918), col. 328.
on Lesbos may be explained in view of the friendly relations of Pompey both to Lesbos, where he was honored as σωτήρ καί ευεργέτης καί κτίστης, and to Brogitaros; Pompey gave Brogitaros the fortress Mithradation (Strab. 12,5,2 C 567). The latter married a daughter of the famous Galatian king Deiotaros (ca. 120-40 BC), who supported Pompey in his war against Caesar and probably followed the defeated Roman to Lesbos (49 BC).

50. See e.g., IG XII 2, 140-149, 163-165, 202.
51. Hirschfeld, o.c., p. 475; cf. OGIS 349 notes 2-3.
52. Niese, o.c., s.v. Deiotarus 2, col. 2401 f.
ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ

Νέες επιγραφές σε παλιά βιβλία.

Επιγραφές που άντεγραψαν στο Αίγιο, τους Δελφούς και τη Λέσβο
οι Nicholas Biddle και Σταύρος Τάξης

Στο άρθρο αυτό παρουσιάζονται και σχολιάζονται 12 εν μέρει άγνωστες επιγραφές που άντεγραψαν τον 19ο αιώνα οι N. Biddle και Σταύρος Τάξης. Οι ταξιδιωτικές εντυπώσεις του "Αμερικανού N. Biddle, που επισκέφτηκε την Ελλάδα το 1806, δημοσιεύθηκαν το 1993. Επιλεγμένες μια άγνωστη αναθηματική επιγραφή από το Αίγιο (1) και μια τιμητική επιγραφή στους Δελφούς (2) ή τελευταία είναι δημοσιευμένη (CIG 1716), άλλα τό άντιγραφο του Biddle επιτρέπει την διόρθωση του ονόματος του τιμωμένου προσώπου. Ο Λέσβιος λόγιος και ιερέας Στ. Τάξης δημοσίευσε τη μελέτη Συνοπτική Ιστορία της Λέσβου (2η έκδοση, Κάιρο 1909: ανατύπωση, Μυτιλήνη 1994), ή όποια περιλαμβάνει περιγραφές άρχαιοτήτων, μεταξύ των οποίων και 10 επιγραφές. Έξι από αυτές είναι δημοσιευμένες: ανάθημα στο Διόνυσο (3=IG XII 18, 643, Ίερά), απόσπασμα τιμητικής επιγραφής (6=IG XII 2, 485, Μυτιλήνη), επιτύμβια επιγραφή της Μαρίας (8=IG XII 2, 446, Μυστεγνά), δόρος συντεχνίας γναφέων (9=IG XII 2, 271, Μόρια), προεδρία του Ποτάμωνος (10=IG XII 2, 272, Μυτιλήνη), και τιμητική επιγραφή για τη Γαλάτιδα Αδοβογιώνα (11=IG XII 2, 516, Μήθυμνα). Τα αντίγραφα του Τάξη έχουν άρκετα λάθη, άλλα οι πληροφορίες για τον τόπο εύρεσης των επιγραφών είναι άκριβες. Τέσσερις επιγραφές είναι αδημοσιευμένες: ανάθημα στον Διόνυσο Βάκχο (4, Βρίσα), ανάθημα στήν Αρτέμια Θερμία (5, Θερμία), επιτύμβια επιγραφή της Στρατονίκης (7, Βρίσα) και χάραγμα (;) στο ίδρυμα της Μόριας (11). Ο Τάξης παρέχει επίσης πληροφορίες για τις επιγραφές που είχαν χαθεί πριν από την επίσκεψή του στην Ερεσού και στη Βρίσα.