ENCLAVES of ECONOMIC RENT

For the Year

Being a Compendium of the Legal Documents Involved

TOGETHER WITH
A HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION
BY
CHARLES WHITE HUNTINGTON

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TO THE MAN OF HYMETTUS THE FIRST ENCLAVIAN THIS BOOK

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

Ή μέν οὖν Πεισιστράτου τυραννὶς έξ άρχης τε κατέστη τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον καὶ μεταβολάς έσχεν τοσαύτας. διώκει δ' ο Πεισίστρατος. ὥσπερ είρηται, τὰ περί την πόλιν μετρίως καί μαλλου πολιτικώς ή τυραννικώς έν τε γάρ τοις άλλοις φιλάνθρωπος ήν και πρώος καὶ τοῖς άμαρτάνουσε σεγγγωμονικός, καὶ δὴ καὶ τοῖς ἀπόροις προεδάνειζε γρήματα πρὸς τὰς έργασίας, ώστε διατρέφεσθαι γεωργούντας. τούτο δ' έποίει δυοίν χάριν, ϊνα μήτε έν τῷ ἄστει διατρίβωσιν άλλὰ διεσπαρμένοι κατὰ τὴν χώραν, καὶ ὅπως εὐποροῦντες τῶν μετρίων και πρός ίδιοις δυτες μήτ' επιθυμώσι μήτε σχολάζωσιν επιμελείσθαι τών κοινών. άμα δε συνέβαινεν αὐτῷ καὶ τὰς προσόδους γίγνεσθαι μείζους έξεργαζομένης τῆς χώρας. έπράττετο γάρ άπο των γιγνομένων δεκάτην. διο και τους κατά δήμους κατεσκεύασε δικαστάς, καὶ αὐτὸς ἐξήει πολλάκις εἰς τὴν γώραν ἐπισκοπῶν καὶ διαλύων τους διαφερομένους, όπως μη καταβαίνοντες είς το άστυ παραμελώσι των έργων. τοιαύτης γάρ τινος έξόδου τψ Πεισιστράτω γιγνομένης συμβήναί φασι τὰ περί τὸν έν τῷ 'Υμηττῷ γεωργούντα το κληθέν ύστερον χωρίον άτελές. Ιδών γάρ τινα παντέλω πέτρας σκάπτοντα καὶ εργαζόμενον. δια τὸ θαυμάσαι τον παίδα εκέλευσεν έρεσθαι τι γιγνεται εκ τοῦ χωρίου · ὁ δ · όσα κακά καὶ όδύναι ΄ καὶ τούτων τῶν κακῶν καὶ τῶν δδυνῶν Πεισίστρατον δεῖ λαβεῖν τὴν δεκάτην.' ο μέν οδυ άνθρωπος άπεκρίνατο άγνοῶν, ό δε Πεισίστρατος ήσθεὶς διὰ τὴν παρρησίαν καὶ τὴν φιλεργίαν άτηλη πάντων έποίησεν αυτόν.

ARISTOTLE: Constitution of Athens, chapter 16.

Such was the origin and such the vicissitudes of the tyranny of Pisistratus. His administration was temperate, as has been said before, and more like constitutional government than a tyranny. Not only was he in every respect humane and mild and ready to forgive those who offended, but, in addition, he advanced money to the poorer people to help them in their labours, so that they might make their living by agriculture. In this he had two objects, first that they might not spend their time in the city, but might be scattered over all the face of the country, and secondly that, being moderately well off and occupied with their own business, they might have neither the wish nor the time to attend to public affairs. At the same time his revenues were increased by the thorough cultivation of the country, since he imposed a tax of one-tenth on all the produce. For the same reasons he instituted the local justices, and often made expeditions in person into the country to inspect it and to settle disputes between individuals, that they might not come into the city and neglect their farms. It was in one of these progresses that, as the story goes, Pisistratus had his adventure with the man of Hymettus, who was cultivating the spot afterwards known as "Tax-free Farm." He saw a man digging and working at a very stony piece of ground, and being surprised he sent his attendant to ask what he got out of his plot of land. "Aches and pains," said the man; "and that's what Pisistratus ought to have his tenth of." The man spoke without knowing who his questioner was; but Pisistratus was so pleased with his frank speech and his industry that he granted him exemption from all taxes.

Forster's Translation.

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