

# Epicurus, On Nature, Book 34, P.Herc. 1431, col. 16

Post by “Don” of May 31, 2024 at 6:59 AM

Here's what we appear to be dealing with:

[DCLP/Trismegistos 59761 = LDAB 865](#)

column 23

P.Herc. 1431 col. 16

Engraved 1861-1864 by Salvatore Ventrella

ἀ[να]γκαῖον αὐταῖς  
ὑπάρχειν κατὰ τὰς  
πρὸ[ς] ἀλλήλας κρού-  
σεις, ὡς ἐν τῇι πρώ-  
τηι γραφῇι εἴρη-  
ται, οὐθὲν ἦττον  
παρὰ τὰς [έξ] ἡμῶ[ν]  
τ[ις] σ[υμ]μετρ[ία] αὐ-  
τ[αῖς] γίγνε[σθαι]  
[.....]μ[.....]  
[....]ν[....]νε[...]

While the engraving like like this ...

ΛΙΝΔΓ ΚΑΙ ΟΤΙΑΥΤΑΙΣ  
ΥΠΑΡΧΕΙΝ ΚΑΤΑΤΑ  
ΠΡΟ ΑΛΛΗΝΑΣ ΚΡΟΥ  
ΣΕΙΩΣΕΝ ΤΗ ΠΡΩ  
ΤΗ ΓΡΑΦΜΗ ΕΙΡΗ  
ΤΑ ΟΥΘΕΝ ΗΤ ΤΟ  
ΥΡΑΤΑΣ

Τ ΙΟΤ  
Ι Γ Ν Ε  
Μ

There's a lot of interpolation and additions in that transcription. I would be hard pressed to accept any meaningful translation from that fragment other than a few words here and there. The fact that the preposition [εξ] itself in the transliteration is surmised gives me pause. Why not [εν]?

There's an intriguing bibliography for PHerc1431 on this site, but only a few entries are accessible online:

[Chartes - Dettaglio Papiro](#)