

# Epicurus' Birthday 2023 - (The Most Comprehensive Picture Yet!)

Post by "Don" of November 30, 2022 at 12:07 AM

You've been busy, @Nate . Let me try and give my responses (if warranted) chronologically from your posts. And I agree that Lewis's short work is obscure and wrapped in the jargon of Academia. I'm working my way through it, but I do find the 7th month idea intriguing to say the least....

## Quote

Long's apparatus gives: ἑβδόμη [hebdómē] Bpc: ἑβδομη [hebdómēs] FP: om. Bac. (But see Usener's apparatus on B, Epicurea, 366.)"

Honestly, I got hung up on "apparatus" right away, on top of the abbreviated citations, etc. I had to look it up, and it appears, according to the Oxford English Dictionary: "Materials for the critical study of a document. In full *critical apparatus*: = *apparatus criticus* n." So, it's just shorthand for a researcher's materials they've cobbled together taken as a whole. B, F, and P are all Diogenes Laertius manuscripts:

"B 1. The oldest representative of the first class is B, the Codex Borbonicus gr. iii. B. 29 (formerly 253), a parchment codex of the twelfth century, in the public library at Naples: it was corrected by a hand of the fourteenth century whose readings not infrequently agree with those of Co." (Bailey: *Epicurus: The Extant Remains*) The superscripts of B appear to be different copies of the original B manuscript.

Here is the pertinent section of what I \*think\* is codex Parisinus gr. 1759 (14th c.) known as P. The 4th line is where the Gamelion line is which looks to me line .... μηνος γαμηλιωνος \*βδομ\*... I'm not sure what the superscripts before and after \*βδομ\* are.

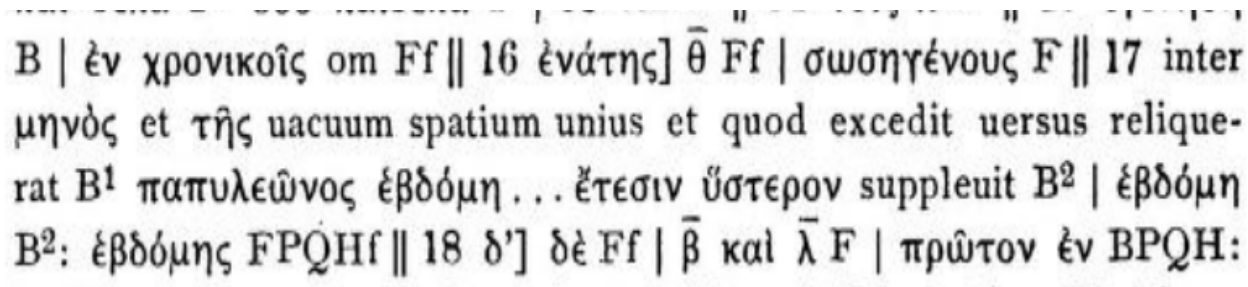
[cdkYij66QKN0q4CsmR7uFhGqAxWt\\_S8hqivG4NIQpj1DbKzG8xXw1M21FnjNzfcxX9fc-ve6UrsL7V22N3squBHze](#)

Here is end of the section in manuscript codex Laurentianus LXIX. 35 (14th c.) known as H. This is the top of the folio with the ending of Gamelionos from the previous page: [γαμηλι]ωνος εβδομ\*\*. Again, I'm not sure what to make of the superscripts but it looks to me like -Hς so ἑβδομη which appears to be modifying Gameliōnos. But why would ebdomēs be feminine and the name be masculine? Is it attached to the earlier της? Is it something like "the month of Gamelion, the seventh one" which is not an uncommon construction (e.g., the ball, the red one):

[AxQeOIBjymEiNB52xaSR1yH0IsgUjsbswQ-gDk232MpOIk5UOXAFnvFBOX-nWSJpRsOWYkLTK-jWsXpk-rVBBtn](#)

Unfortunately, I couldn't get to the other manuscripts or they aren't available digitized.

Usener's apparatus on B on p.366 of *Epicurea* reads:



B | ἐν χρονικοῖς om Ff || 16 ἐνάτης]  $\bar{\theta}$  Ff | σωσηγένους F || 17 inter  
μηνὸς et τῆς uacuum spatium unius et quod excedit uersus relique-  
rat B<sup>1</sup> παπυλεῶνος ἐβδόμη . . . ἔτεσιν ὕστερον suppleuit B<sup>2</sup> | ἐβδόμη  
B<sup>2</sup>: ἐβδόμης FPQHf || 18 δ'] δὲ Ff |  $\bar{\beta}$  καὶ  $\bar{\lambda}$  F | πρῶτον ἐν BPQH:

The note on line 17 is the one that is pertinent to the Gamelion 7 issue. Which, using my rudimentary Latin (and Google Translate) reads something like:

"|| 17 between μηνὸς and τῆς there is one empty space, and what is left in verse B1 παπυλεῶνος ἐβδόμη. ... ἔτεσιν ὕστερον he supplied B2 | ἐβδόμη B2: ἐβδόμης FPQHf"

So, Usener seems to be saying that manuscript B2 had εβδομη while manuscripts F, P, Q, Hf had εβδομης. I have no idea what παπυλεωνος refers to, and Gamelionos makes more sense in context. I'm also now sure how "he" is when Usener refers to "he supplied." Usener seems to think the εβδομης, the genitive singular feminine form of ἐβδομος, is supported by 4 manuscripts while the other is supported by a version of B. Is he saying that "he" supplied εβδομη(ς) in the "one empty space" between μηνὸς and τῆς which would imply something like "the seventh month of Gamelion"?

I realize I'm not even a couple lines into replying to your posts, but there's a lot here so I'm going to his Reply here and open a new post.