

## ABSTRACTS

RAMÓN BRAVO DÍAZ: *Aer, Aether, Caelum, Sublimis: Estudio del vocabulario técnico utilizado para designar el «cielo» en las Naturales Quaestiones de Séneca y otros escritores científicos.*

In this paper it is studied the scientific vocabulary that makes reference to the «sky» (*aer, aerijs, aether, aetherius, caelum, caelestis y sublimis*) in Seneca's *Naturales Quaestiones* and the results are compared with the ones obtained from the study of Lucretius' *De rerum natura*, Cicero's *De natura deorum* and *De diuinatione*, and Pliny's *Naturalis Historia*. The conclusion is that both Seneca and the other authors studied not only use a vocabulary full of limitations and insufficiencies but also show hardly an interest in an aspect, that from a scientific point of view seems to be very important, the vocabulary precision. However, against the traditional opinion, Seneca's use of technical words not only is not inferior to the one made by the other authors, but, together with the one by Cicero, may be considered relevant in comparison.

JOSÉ LUIS HERRERO: *Leño, pino, abeto... Sinédoques clásicas en los siglos de oro.*

This paper offers a lexical study about some Spanish words (*leño, pino, abeto*) in the Sixteenth Century. Their meaning is not the usual: they are synecdoches related to navigation (also in the latin poets) and learned words of meaning. Gongora collects a lot of them (he doesn't introduce neologisms; he only collects them). We try to prove that the study of these words is very important for the investigation of the Golden Age lexicon.

JOSÉ JAVIER ISO: *Fundus populus.*

This paper deals with the juridic meaning of *fundus*, specially in connexion with *populus* and *fundus*. After a carefully analysis of several passages of Cicero's *Pro Balbo* and Gellius, it demonstrates that *fundus populus* and *fundus fieri* in the late Republic are related, within the relationship between people, in the sphere of private, non public laws. Hence, the condition of *fundus populus* has no relation with the concession of citizenship, as Sherwin-White and Schulten seem to mantain, on the basis of an elliptical reference to the *Lex Iulia* by Cicero.

M<sup>a</sup> JESÚS PÉREZ IBÁÑEZ: *Un problema léxico y terminológico (Sífilis en el siglo XVI).*

In order to refer to a new reality, in this case, a serious illness, sixteenth-century medical authorities writing in Latin would not draw upon tthe one universally accepted

technicism. The absence of such a single technical term allows us to trace back the origin and to follow the spread of the various lexical referents, so as to analyse their typology.

M.<sup>a</sup> A. ANDRÉS SANZ, ETC.: *Una posible tipología de los usos...*

The lexical enrichment of the traditional Latin vocabulary through the creation of new figurative senses has been noted by several scholars as an important feature of the language of the Christian Latin authors. In this paper we make an attempt at classifying the different methods used by these authors to create new metaphoric meanings in the particular field of agricultural Roman vocabulary.

We also try to explain these transformations according to the different changes of contextual or syntactic categories. Although some of these processes can incidentally be found in classical writers, it is under the influence of the new theological or poetical works that the ancient words acquire a figurative sense that often survives even in modern languages.

DAN SLUȘANSCHI

The different use of *fabula* and *fabella* in Phaedrus, when they do not appear in the same context is more a metrical than a semantic one. The analysis of other names given to *fabula* and its composition reveal a tendency towards the use of Greek sources in an attempt to give the genre a greater prestige.

RAMÓN BALTAR VELOSO: *Minucias infelices*.

In the wording of the text which has reached us, a statement ascribed to Cristóbal Colón in the *Diario del Primer Viaje* (namely, that of Friday the 18th of January: «por un pescao que se llama rabiforcado que anduvo alrededor de la caravela y después se fue la vía del Sursueste, creyó el Almirante que avía por allí algunas islas») is not in keeping with the skilled seamanship he is credited with. Neither do fishes make long daily migrations from coast to open sea in the pursuit of food, nor can it be proved that *rabiforcado* is the name of a fish as well as that of a bird. One is therefore bound to venture the possibility of a case of the so-called 'polar error' behind the reading *pescado*, mistakenly written instead of *ave*, just the opposite name required to make good sense.