

{vertical:} → (- Skeat / took in / good part / i.e. / found? /
 Nudus agris etc un-/objec/tionable? / (cognate grace) (p 87)
 prep. phrase (66) Notes collected b. Tu 9/6/77 (Artemisia)
 used as adverb = f. f Sat 9/10/77
 french Century Dict. (stellar <(adj)> re A. stellariana) stellary adj = stellar
 a gre / but cf 80 Flowers #5 Lavender Cotton 2/22 - 3/10/75.
 took a-gree greater-celandine (poppy family, but artemesia
 Romaunt tho compositae resembles it) Dioscorides (discords) to keep
 of the Rose / moths from clothes Larousse ✓pro-/nounce
 4349 ↑ Gray <1519-24> Artemisia L. Wormwood. Armoise (Que) moi-ze
 8c. med. Larousse: <composite {composées} comprenant> A. commune ou l'herbe de la
 music Sainte-Jean, A. des champs, A. absinthe
neume cf Kamm Old Time Herbs History: Bible, 'bitter as
 pneuma wormwood'; native Ural Mts; taken to Egypt ea.
 breath / (Ebers Papyrus); Gk Apsinthos = Wormwood, *
 via Greek = the Centaur Chiron used worts for medicine (leech);
 nod (notation: Hippocrates, b. Cos d. Larissa, Thessaly 460-377 BC
intone → pitch (father of medicine); Dioscorides <(discords)> prob. b Cilicia
 → phrase 1-2c AD treatise materia medica; Roman
 <Taylor plate 30 Kamm absinthium plate 31>
A pontica pleasanter odor than southernwood (v.i.) uses,
 burning incense from branches decorating altars,
 anthelmintic, stomach tonic, <headaches> seasickness, spice
 (sauces, with wines etc) Middle Ages Horace (65-8 BC
 (Sam Johnson quoting Edmund Smith "~~never~~ never
 yet saw translated" Mea sum pauper in aere
 (L.Z. me awesome pauper in aerie
 (To Florus) Horace "Nudus agris, nudus <nummis paternis> (Congreve's epigraph for Love for Love
 (*) ||| (L.Z. nude his acres ? . . num mulles? parents)
 Horace - Epistles II i habrotonum <habrotonum> aegro | non audet
 nisi qui didicit dare; quod medicorum est
~~promittunt~~ promittunt medici (no one dares
 || to give southernwood to the sick unless he has learnt its / use
 {vertical:} Middle ages: A. abrotanum (known to him {Charlemagne}
 Roman / 812 A.D. also A. dracunculus, Tarragon -
 Palladius / vinegary taste of sweet basil, chervil, licorice -
 4-5c / as draganeta (now propagated by cuttings
 de Rustica + divisions; Avicena (980-1037) medicinal
 uses. Saxons: suthe-wort; later middle ages
 sithen wode, sothren wode to relieve spitting
 blood, insect bites jail fever, contagious disease
 of poor prisoners, judges especially wary of it;
 also as powder, insects + book lice
 pencil draft b Wed Sept 7/77 Art to me's here stellary | honor
 18c Linnaeus bitters for gout liver, scurvy <15-17c see over>

(66) (*) translation 1420 (Artemisia) (p 88)
p 2 of Palladius 4-5c de Rustica (*)

History (15c romances ? on which Charles Reade's Cloister + Hearth was based
 {vertical:} A. <(L)> abrotanum "lad's love" "old man"
 Eng 1538 v.s. Horace Epistle II i <line 112 to line 116> (notes p 14)
 Elyot Holinshed Chronicle 1577, wine; French absinthe
 Tragonia used as cake flavor; 16-17c A. Stelleriana <dusty miller> <Kamm plate 31>
 has a "Old woman" illust <(smith? of the / god / grow> W.S. Lear III vii 61
 taste / stelled fires ? = fixed stars or stellate, starry
 like (*) "Old Woman" illust 31 Kamm, hardy, (*)
 gungyr prostrate shrub, felt-like almost white
 gungye foliage (unlike most wormwoods) with a
 (ginger) flower stalk 1-ft. H of hard buttons of
 a dull muddy gold [L.Z. cf lavender cotton]
 cult. nurserymen via Asia → European
 Gardens → America grows wild Atlantic
 seabeaches . . beach wormwood(*) (cf Evelyn 1673
 17c: <"bitter wormwood"> Fletcher, Faithful Shepherdess II 2; W.S.
 LLL V ii 857 To weed this wormwood from
 your fruitful brain (Rosaline to Biron)
 Hamlet III ii 191 (players scene) Wormwood, w— !;
 Drayton Polyolbion (1613-22) The belly
 hurt by birth by mugwort (A. vulgaris)
 {vertical:} to make sound; Evelyn 1673 {1693} (for salads etc)
 beach Also used as subs. for quinine; ulcers, under
 wormwood horse's saddle to spur him on; seasickness
 in USA 18c (beg 17c)
 ↳ → Mugwort = A. vulgaris: common
 wormwood broader in all parts than ~~prefer~~ <cultiva->
 ted ~~species~~ <species>, with sharp-pointed tips of
 leaf divisions, lvs green + smooth above
cottony-white beneath, heads like those
 of the whole genus

(*) See Taylor 72 re- resemblance to (*)
 Artemisia (species) illust Taylor {Kamm} plate 25
 parallels Gray 1519-24 lavender cotton esp disk
 dimensions in. |ft flower heads, observed ||
 W. Aug 17 dried brown ||
 disks above "evergreen"
 poppleaf gray bloom <white> of Xmas-like sub-shrub ||
 prettiest tree fit for interior holiday spirit

p.89

(66) (Artemisia)

p.3) (notes cont.)

Chaucer: House of Fame II 586: where Joves
* wol me stellifye; III (the eagle to Chaucer 990ff
who's "to old": Wilt thou lere of sterres aught?

Chaucer: Nay . . . right naught; (Eagle) yis . . .
wostow why? | For whan thou redest poetrye, |
How goddes gonne stellifye | Brid, fish, beste, or
him or here, | As the Raven, or either Bere | . .
Castor Or Ariones harpe fyn | Castor, Pollux or
Deliphyn . . . (Chaucer) I lew leve as well . .
As knew his <tho> As though I knew hir pla places
here; . . they shynen here so brighte |
Hit shulde shenden al my sighte | To loke
on hem.

Milton. P.L. IV 671 soft fires stellar (Century
adj. aþ also stellary) virtues on all kinds
that grow (cf A-14: millions of spiritual
creatures walk the earth)

suthern wude <earliest> A<nglo> S<axon> pronounce

line 3 / ~~sound~~ aef rhyme erie with / here | as mod. Eng soothe earn would

Pencil draft b. Sept 7/77 - f Sept 14/77

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

{pencil draft}

(ἀβρότονov
(ἀβρότονovς
1) aromatic
plant
2) southern-
wood

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

{ink draft}

ΑΒΡΌΣ
= pretty,
dainty
luxurious
ΑΒΡΌΤΟΣ
denoting
privation =
mortal / man
(not god)

Ink draft Sept 14/77

* * *

Sources

Taylor, *Taylor's Encyclopedia of Gardening*, **Artemisia**, ***Chelidonium**

Gray, *Gray's Manual of Botany*, **Compositae** (Composite Family) > **Artemisia** (1519-1524)

Kamm, *Old-Time Herbs for Northern Gardens*, **Southernwood** (216-220), **Wormwood** (213-216),
Plates 25, 28-31

Century Dictionary (CD), **abrotanum**, **agree**, **neume**, **pneuma**, **stellar**, **stelled**, **stellify**, **wormwood**

Skeat, *A Concise Etymological Dictionary of the English Language*, **Agree**

Liddell & Scott, *A Greek Lexicon*, **ἀβρός**, **ἄβροτος**

Larousse Nouveau Petit, **armoise**

Century Cyclopedia of Names, **Dioscorides**, **Hippocrates**, **Palladius**

Horace, *Epistles* II. i. 112-116; II. ii. 12

Satires II. iii. 184

Chaucer, *House of Fame* II. 586-587, 993-1017

The Romaunt of the Rose, line 4349

Shakespeare, *Love's Labour's Lost* V. ii. 857

Hamlet II. ii. 191

Samuel Johnson, *Lives of English Poets*, "Edmund Smith"

William Congreve, *Love for Love* (Horace epigraph)

LZ, "A"-14 (321 {worked from *Paradise Lost*})

Textual note

line 4: 6 words

line 1: **Art to me's hear stellary**
 line 2: **honor never translated my sum**
 line 3: **pauper in aerie white dusty-miller**
 line 4: **feltsmooth lad's love disc-buttons dull gold**
 line 5: **neume nod grace discord concord**
 line 6: **a breath beach-wormwood suthern wude**
 line 7: **brush cottony sightwort booklice blur**
 line 8: **old eyes-iris evergreen retainers sun**

Sept 7-14/77
 2nd day Rosh Hashanah
 5738

line 1: **Art to me's hear stellary**

Taylor, **Artemisia** (ar-te-miz'i-a). The wormwoods comprise a very large genus of bitter or aromatic herbs and low shrubs, family Compositae, found in most countries, and cult. since ancient times for their aromatic qualities, for ornament, or as seasoning (see Tarragon). They have alternate, mostly divided or dissected leaves. Flowers in small heads, wholly made up of disk flowers (see Compositae), not showy except in a few species, prevailingly greenish-yellow. (*Artemisia* is the Latin name of the mugwort.)

A. stelleriana. One of the plants called dusty miller; called, also, beach wormwood and old woman. A densely white-wooly, perennial herb seldom over 24 in. high. Leaves cut, but not dissected, the segments oblong, toothed or sometimes without teeth. Flower heads ¼ in. wide, yellow, crowded in dense racemes. A splendid beach plant.

Art to me's hear stellary / **honor** < *Artemisia stelleriana*

Larousse Nouveau Petit, **armoise** (moi-ze) n. f. *Bot.* Genre de plantes aromatiques, de la famille des composées, comprenant l'*armoise commune* ou *herbe de la Saint-Jean*, l'*armoise des champs*, l'*armoise absinthe* {See Gray line 4}.

CD, **stellar**, a. {...} Of or pertaining to stars; astral: as, *stellar* worlds; *stellar* space; *stellar* regions.

These soft fires
 Not only enlighten, but . . . shed down
 Their *stellar* virtue on all kinds that grow.
Milton, P. L., iv. 671.

CD, **stelled**†, p. a. {...} Fixed.

The sea, with such a storm as his bare head
 In hell-black night endured, would have buoy'd up
 And quench'd the *stelled* fires. *Shak.*, Lear, iii. 7. 61.
 [Some commentators define the word as 'stellated,' 'starry.']

CD, **stellify**†, v. t. {...} To turn into or cause to resemble a star; convert into a constellation; make glorious; glorify.

No wonder is Jove her *stellifye*.
Chaucer, Good Women, l. 525.

Chaucer, *The House of Fame* II. 586-587:

Wher Joves wol me stellifye
Or what thing may this signifye?

II. 993-1017:

‘Wilt thou lere of sterres aught?’
‘Nay, certainly,’ quod I, ‘right naught;
And why? for I am now to old.’
‘Elles I wolde thee have told,’
Quod he, ‘the sterres names, lo,
And al the hevenes signes to,
And which they been.’ ‘No fors,’ quod I.
‘Yis, pardee,’ quod he; ‘wostow why?
For whan thou redest poetrye,
How goddes gonne stellifye
Brid, fish, beste, or him or here,
As the Raven, or either Bere,
Or Ariones harpe fyn,
Castor, Pollux, or Delphyn,
Or Atlantes doughtres sevene,
How alle these arn set in hevene;
For though thou have hem ofte on honde,
Yet nostow not wher that they stonde.’
‘No fors,’ quod I, ‘hit is no nede:
I leve as wel, so god me spede,
Hem that wryte of this matere,
As though I knew hir places here;
And eek they shynen here so brighte,
Hit shulde shenden al my sighte,
To loke on hem.’

line 2: **honor never translated my sum**

See Taylor, **A. stelleriana** line 1.

Samuel Johnson, *Lives of Poets*, “Edmund Smith”:

He could say, as Horace did of himself, what I never yet saw translated:
Meo sum pauper in aerie.

{NBk. As LZ notes above, the Latin is from Horace, *Epistle* II. ii. 12.}

my sum / pauper in aerie < Meo sum pauper in aerie

line 3: **pauper in aerie white dusty-miller**

See Samuel Johnson > Horace line 2.

See Taylor, **A. stelleriana** line 1.

line 4: **feltsmooth lad’s love disc-buttons dull gold**

Kamm, *Old Time Herbs*, **Southernwood**, *Artemisa abrotanum* L. {...} Southernwood, lad’s love, old man, is an old garden plant well known of the invigorating odor of its skeletonized silvery foliage (216-217).

“Old woman,” *Artemisia stelleriana* Bess. (see Picture 31 at end of book), is frequently used in rock-gardens for its thick, feltlike, almost white foliage, which is broad and blunt, quite unlike many of the wormwoods. It is a prostrate little shrub, entirely hardy, with a flower stalk a foot high consisting of relatively large hard buttons of a dull muddy-gold color. {...} It comes to us from Asia by way of European gardens and was introduced very early and has gone wild, even on Atlantic seas beaches whence comes one common name, beach wormwood (218).

Gray, **FAM. 168 COMPÓSITAE** (Composite Family) > **75. Artemisia** L. WORMWOOD. ARMOISE (Que.). Heads discoïd {> Glossary: Resembling a disk}, few-many-flowered; flowers all tubular, some or all hermaphrodite and in some sections fertile, in others sterile (1519).

line 5: **neume nod grace discord concord**

CD, **neume** (núm), *n.* [< ME. *neume*, *newme*, *neme*, < OF. *neume*, “a sound, song, or close of song after an anthem” (Cotgrave), < ML. *pneuma*, also *neupma*, *neuma*, a song, a sign in music, < Gr. *πνεῦμα*, breath, breathing: see *pneuma*. In the sense of ‘sign,’ some compare Gr. *νεῦμα*, a nod.] 1†. Modulation of the voice in singing. **2.** In *music*: (a) A sign or character used in early medieval music to indicate a tone or a phrase. A large number of these characters were used, more or less complicated in form and meaning. They were first written alone over the text to be sung, but soon one and then two or more horizontal lines were added to indicate some fixed pitch, as F or C. Neumes were in use as early as the eighth century; their origin is obscure. They were the first important step toward a graphic musical notation in which relative pitch should be indicated by relative position on a page. They passed over gradually into the more definite ligatures and the staff-notion of later times. The earlier examples cannot be deciphered with entire certainty. (b) A melodic phrase or division, sung to a single syllable, especially at the end of a clause of sentence; a sequence. [In this sense also *pneuma*.]

CD, **Pneuma** (nū'mä), *n.* [NL., < Gr. *πνεῦμα*, breath, < *πνείν*, blow, breathe. Cf. *neume*, *neuma*.] **1.** Breath; spirit; soul.—**2.** A breathing. In *early church music*: (a) A form of ligature at the end of certain plain-chant melodies, resembling the perielesis, but differing from it in being sung to an unmeaning syllable having no connection with the text. Its use can be traced with certainty to the fourth century, and it is still employed in the services of the Roman Catholic church, especially at high mass. (b) Same as *neume*, 2.

CD, **agree**†, *prep. phr. as adv.* [< ME. *agree*, *agre* (also in forms *in gree*, *at gree*, *to gree*), < OF. *a gre* (F. *à gré*), favorably, according to one’s will, at pleasure: *a* (<L. *ad*), to, at; *gre*, earlier *gred*, *gret*, that which pleases, < ML. *gratum*, will, pleasure, neut. of L. *gratus*, pleasing: see *grateful*. Cf. *agree*, *v.*] In good part; kindly; in a friendly manner.

But toke *agree* alle hool my play.

Rom. of the Rose, line 4349.

Chaucer, *The Romaunt of the Rose*, line 4349: But took a-gree al hool my play. > Glossary: **A-gree**, *adv.* in good part.

Skeat, **Agree**, to accord. (F.–L.) O. F. *agreer*, to receive favourably. – O. F. *a gre*, favourably. – O. F. *a* (=L. *ad*), according to; *gre*, *gret*, pleasure, from L. *gratum*, neut. of *gratus*, dear, pleasing. Cf. **Grace**. **Der.** *dis-agree*.

Kamm, **Wormwood**, *Artemisia absinthium* L. The Greeks used the bitter plant for many diseases and Dioscorides says also to keep moths from clothing—perhaps the first record of such a use (214).

discord < Dioscorides

line 6: **a breath beach-wormwood suthern wude**

See CD, **neume** and **pnema** line 5.

See Taylor, **A. stellerana** line 1.

See Kamm, **Southernwood** {see line 4} Charlemagne grew it in France (812 A.D.) under the name *abrotanum*, the Saxons knew it as “suthe-wurt,” and the physicians of Middle Ages called it, among the other versions of the name, “sithen wode” and “sothren wode,” from which is derived our common name for the plant (217).

CD, **southernwood** (suFH'èrn-wúd), *n.* [southern wode, *sowthern woode*, *sotherwode*, *sutherwude*, < AS. *sūtherene wudu*, sūtherne wude, southernwood, *Artemisia Abrotanum*; see *southern* and *wood*¹.]

line 7: **brush cottony sightwort booklice blur**

Kamm, **Southernwood** {see line 4} > Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris* L.) is a homely weed with foliage similar to that of wormwood but broader in all parts and sharp-pointed at the tips of leaf divisions. The foliage is green and smooth above and cottony-white beneath (219).

*Taylor, **Chelidonium**. A single, perennial, somewhat weedy, Eurasian herb of the poppy family, commonly called celandine, killwort, or sightwort. This plant **C. majus**, is of secondary hort. importance, but frequently escapes from old gardens.

See Kamm, **Wormwood** {see line 5} It was also used as powder sprinkled in books and manuscripts to keep out book lice, sometimes mixed with powdered cedarwood and valerian (215).

line 8: **old eyes-iris evergreen retainers sun**

See Taylor line 1 and Kamm line 4, **A. stelleriana** = old woman; and Kamm line 4, **A. abortanum** = old man.

evergreen {LZ's notes above indicate he is thinking here of Lavender Cotton because of the similarity in appearance of the flowers with artemisia; the illustration in Taylor (Plate 8) depicts them as yellow balls – suggesting eyes like suns? As LZ notes, Kamm has black and white photos of many of the plants mentioned in this poem. #5 Lavender Cotton mentions “evergreen” in line 1 and “sightwort” in line 6.}