

Hera and Io

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offence Hera¹ sent upon them the delusion that they were cows: they dashed off into the woods and even bellowed aloud², till Melampous cured them and married one of them, receiving along with her part of king Proitos' domains³.

Here, then, is a further trace of the attendants or priestesses of the Argive Hera being called 'cows.' In 1894 I ventured on the general statement that within the bounds of Hellenic mythology animal-metamorphosis commonly points to a preceding animal-cult⁴. I am now disposed to add the surmise that in some cases at least, those of Io and the Proitides among them, animal-metamorphosis implies an animal-priesthood, in which the priest or priestess is supposed to be the animal specially connected with his or her divinity⁵.

viii. Hera and Io.

It is usually assumed without any attempt at proof that Io was a hypostasis or by-form of Hera⁶. This somewhat vague and shadowy conception may pass muster, if by it we mean that the priestess of Hera was originally regarded as Hera incarnate. Io *Kallithyessa*, to give her the full title recorded by Hesychios⁷, of which sundry variants are extant elsewhere⁸, is consistently

¹ Lact. Plac. in Stat. *Theb.* 2. 220 says: furore immisso a *Venere*.

² Cp. Bakchyl. 10. 56 *σμερδαλέαν φωνὰν ἰέσαι*.

³ Serv. in Verg. *ecl.* 6. 48, Lact. Plac. in Stat. *Theb.* 2. 220, 3. 453, Myth. Vat. 1. 85, 2. 68. Lact. Plac. in Stat. *Theb.* 3. 453 speaks of actual metamorphosis: Iuno in iuvenas vertit puellas.

⁴ *Journ. Hell. Stud.* 1894 xiv. 160.

⁵ P. Friedländer *Argolica* Berlin 1905 p. 36 has already conjectured that Tiryinthian girls were the *βέες* of Hera just as Athenian girls were the *ἄρκτοι* of Artemis.

⁶ So Miss J. E. Harrison in the *Class. Rev.* 1893 vii. 76, Farnell *Cults of Gr. States* i. 182, 200, K. Wernicke in Pauly—Wissowa *Real-Enc.* ii. 797, E. E. Sikes on Aisch. *P.v.* 561, Gruppe *Gr. Myth. Rel.* pp. 183, 460, 466, 469, 505 n. 2, 1127, 1325 n. 4.

⁷ Hesych. *s.v.* Ἰὼ *καλλιθύεσσα*: *καλλιθύεσσα ἐκαλείτο ἡ πρώτη ἱέρεια τῆς Ἀθηναίας*. J. Scaliger's correction of the last word to Ἥρας (ἐν Ἀργεῖ Ἥρας Knaack) has won universal acceptance, cp. Aisch. *suppl.* 291 f., Apollod. 2. 1. 3, anon. *de incredib.* 15 p. 324 Westermann.

⁸ *Καλλιθόη* (*Phoronis frag.* 4 Kinkel *ap.* Clem. Al. *strom.* 1. 164. 2 p. 102, 23 ff. Stählin *Καλλιθόη κλειδοῦχος Ὀλυμπιάδος βασιλείης*, | Ἥρας Ἀργείης, ἡ στέμμασι καὶ θυσάνοις | πρώτη ἐκόσμησε <v> *περὶ κίονα μακρὸν ἀνάσσης*, cp. Hyg. *fab.* 145 *Callirhoe* for which Knaack *cj.* *Callithoe*), *Καλλιθία* (Plout. *ap.* Eus. *praef. ev.* 3. 8. 1 *λέγεται δὲ Πείρας ὁ πρῶτος Ἀργολίδος Ἥρας ἱερὸν εἰσάμενος τὴν ἑαυτοῦ θυγατέρα Καλλιθίαν ἱέρειαν καταστήσας, ἐκ τῶν περὶ Τίρυνθα δένδρων ὄγχην τεμὼν εὐκτέανον* (so the MSS.: *εὐκτέανον* *cj.* Kaibel) Ἥρας ἄγαλμα μορφῶσαι κ.τ.λ., with which cp. Paus. 2. 17. 5 *παρὰ δὲ αὐτὴν ἔστων ἐπὶ κίονος ἄγαλμα Ἥρας ἀρχαῖον. τὸ δὲ ἀρχαιότατον πεποίηται μὲν ἐξ ἀχράδος, ἀνετέθη δὲ ἐς Τίρυνθα ὑπὸ Πειράσου τοῦ Ἀργίου, Τίρυνθα δὲ ἀνελόντες Ἀργεῖοι κομίζουσιν ἐς τὸ Ἡραῖον*.