

Foster: Sharecropping at Sea Handout
foster@fordham.edu

1) Demosthenes 21.155 (*Against Medias*)

λειτουργεῖν ἤρχετο, τηνιχαῦτα δὲ τοῦ πράγματος ἤπται, ὅτε πρῶτον μὲν διακοσίους καὶ χιλίους πεποιήκατε συντελεῖς ὑμεῖς, παρ' ὧν εἰσπραττόμενοι τάλαντον ταλάντου μισθοῦσι τὰς τριηραρχίας οὔτοι, εἶτα πληρώματα ἢ πόλις παρέχει καὶ σκευὴ δίδωσιν, ὥστ' αὐτῶν ἐνίοις τῇ ἀληθείᾳ τὸ μηδὲν ἀναλῶσαι καὶ δοκεῖν λελειτουρηθέναι καὶ τῶν ἄλλων λειτουργιῶν ἀτελεῖς γεγενῆσθαι περίεστιν.

He has only begun to serve as a [naval] liturgist at a time when you have made 1200 men contributors, from whom these men collect a talent and then hire out their trierarchy at a talent, and on top of it the City supplies the crews and provides the equipment so that some of them actually spend nothing while seeming to have done their duty and so they also become exempt from other liturgies.

2) Isaios 7.38

Ὁ μὲν γὰρ πατήρ αὐτοῦ τὰς τε ἄλλας ἀπάσας λητουργίας λελητούργηκε καὶ τριηραρχῶν τὸν πάντα χρόνον διετέλεσεν, οὐκ ἐκ συμμορίας τὴν ναῦν παρασκευαζόμενος ὥσπερ οἱ νῦν, ἀλλ' ἐκ τῶν αὐτοῦ δαπανῶν, οὐδὲ δεύτερος αὐτὸς ὧν, ἀλλὰ κατὰ μόνας, οὐδὲ δύο ἔτη διαλιπών, ἀλλὰ συνεχῶς, οὐδ' ἀφοσιούμενος, ἀλλ' ὡς οἶόν τ' ἄριστα [παρασκευαζόμενος].

For his (sc. Apollodoros) father performed each other liturgy while he continuously served as trierarch, *not outfitting the ship from the contributions of a symmory like they do now*, but from his own resources. He did not even rely upon a second but served alone --and continuously-- as he did not take the two year hiatus and he did not skimp, but outfitted the ship as well as possible (Is. 7.38)

3) Demosthenes, 8.26 (*On Chersonese*)

πόθεν γὰρ οἴεσθ' ἄλλοθεν τὸν μήτε λαβόντα παρ' ὑμῶν μηδὲν μήτ' αὐτὸν ἔχονθ' ὀπόθεν μισθοδοτήσῃ, στρατιώτας τρέφειν; ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ; οὐκ ἔστι ταῦτα, ἀλλ' ἀφ' ὧν ἀγείρει καὶ προσαιτεῖ καὶ δανείζεται, ἀπὸ τούτων διάγει.

From where you think he (a general) looks to supply the expedition when he has gotten nothing from you (the people) nor has any private resources from which he can make payroll? From the sky? That's a non-starter; he begs, borrows and steals from wherever he can, that's how he keeps his expedition operational. . .

4)[Demosthenes] 50.34-5 (*Against Polykles*)

‘ἢ σὺ τοσοῦτον’ ἔφη ‘ὑπερπέπαικας πλούτῳ τοὺς ἄλλους, ὥστε καὶ σκευὴ ἴδια ἔχειν καὶ κόσμον χρυσόπαστον μόνος τῶν τριηράρχων; τίς ἂν οὖν δύναιτ’ ἔφη ‘τὴν σὴν μανίαν καὶ πολυτέλειαν ὑπομεῖναι;

He (Polykles) said, “Are you so much richer than the others that you have your own equipment and alone of trierarchs gild the decor? Who could tolerate your insane extravagance?”

5) Andocides *de Mysteriis* 133

Ἀγύρριος γὰρ οὐτοσί, ὁ καλὸς καὶ γαθός, ἀρχώνης ἐγένετο τῆς πεντηκοστῆς τρίτον ἔτος, καὶ ἐπρίατο τριάκοντα ταλάντων, μετέσχον δ’ αὐτῷ οὗτοι πάντες οἱ παρασυλλεγέντες ὑπὸ τὴν λεύκη [τὸ πός]οὺς ὑμεῖς ἴστε οἷοί εἰσιν·

For this fine and noble Agyrhios became the overseer of the *pentakoste* for three years, he purchased it for thirty talents, and all these men who gather beneath the white poplar had a share with him, you know what kind of men they are

6) [Demosthenes] 51.13-14 (*On the Trierarchic Crown*)

ἐπειδὴν γὰρ τις μισθωδόμενος τριηραρχίαν ἐκπλεύσῃ, πάντας ἀνθρώπους ἄγει καὶ φέρει, καὶ τὰς μὲν ὠφελίας ἰδίᾳ καρποῦται, τὰς δὲ δίκας τούτων ὁ τυχὼν δίδωσιν ὑμῶν, καὶ μόνους ὑμῖν οὐδαμόσε ἔστιν ἄνευ κηρυκείου βαδίσαι διὰ τὰς ὑπὸ τούτων ἀνδροληψίας καὶ σύλας κατεσκευασμένους· ὥστε τῇ γ’ ἀληθείᾳ σκοπῶν ἂν τις εὔροι τὰς τοιαύτας τριήρεις οὐχ ὑπὲρ ὑμῶν, ἀλλὰ καθ’ ὑμῶν ἐκπεπλευκυίας.

Whenever someone contracts a trierarchy and sails out, he shakes down everyone one

and anyone and makes money for himself, but someone or another of you arbitrarily pays the price; it's impossible for you alone to travel unless under a herald's protection because of their hostage taking and the reprisals their acts engender so that someone looking at the truth of the matter would discover that such trieremes have not sailed out for you but against you.