

## FOR MANTITHEUS.

1. IF I did not know, Boulè, that my accusers wished to injure me in every way, I should have felt grateful to them for bringing this charge. For I think to men slandered unjustly these charges are of great benefit, as they compel them to exhibit their mode of life.

2. I feel so sure of myself that I hope, if any one here entertains feelings of dislike toward me, he will, having heard my speech, think better of it, and be in all after time a good friend to me.

3. I make no claim, Boulè, to do anything more than show you that I am well disposed to the existing constitution, and that I shared the same dangers that you did. If I make plain to you that I have lived well, contrary to all expectation and the assertions of my enemies, I want you to pass me and count them bad. First, I will show that I did not serve in the cavalry, that I was not in Athens at the time of the Thirty, and that I took no part in the government.

4. My father sent me before the disaster on the Hellespont to live at the court of Salyrus, king of Bosphorus, and I was not at home, either while the walls were being taken down or the constitution was undergoing change, but returned five days before the party at Phylè occupied the Piræus.

5. It is not likely that, arriving at such a time, I was desirous of sharing other people's dangers, and they evidently did not have any idea of sharing the management of the

government with those who were away from home and not guilty of disloyalty, but rather outraged those who helped them to abolish the democracy.

6. And in the next place, judging from the register is foolish. For there are many persons on this list who admit that they did not serve in the cavalry, and some are written there who were away from home. This is the strongest proof. For when you returned you voted that the phylarchs should give in a return of those serving in the cavalry that you might recover the allowances.

7. No one can show that my name was handed in by phylarchs, nor given to the revenue commissioners as having received an allowance. I perceive that it is plain to all that it was necessary for the phylarchs, if they did not give in the names of those having received the allowance, to be losers themselves. So you ought to put much more trust in the returns of these men than you do in the register.

8. Yet, Boulè, if I had served in the cavalry I should not have denied it, as if I had been guilty of a terrible crime, but should claim, if I proved I had done no one of the citizens any wrong, that I ought to be passed. I see that, following this plan, you have elected many who served in the cavalry at that time, and many of the generals, and many commanders of cavalry. Believe, then, that I make this defence for no other reason than that they have dared lie about me before the whole world.

9. I don't know that I need say anything further about the charges. I think in cases of another sort it is only necessary to make a defence by refuting accusations, but in trials concerning scrutiny, to offer to give an account of one's entire life. I wish you to listen to me fairly. I will make the account as short as I can.

10. Though I was left little money by my father, both on account of his misfortunes and the calamity that befell the city, yet I married off my two sisters, giving them thirty minæ as a dowry ; and I so divided the property between myself and my brother that he admits that he had more than his share. And in all other relations of my life I have so behaved that no one ever brought an indictment against me.

11. I think the greatest proof of the blamelessness of my public life is that all the young men who habitually spend their time with dice, or in drink, or excesses of this sort, are my enemies ; and it is just they who get up and circulate such stories about me. If I and they had held the same tastes, it is plain that they would have had no such opinion of me.

12. No one can prove that I have had a private suit, a public suit, or was ever impeached before the Boulè. But you see most men often engaged in such cases. Last of all, see how well I served the State in the army and in the expeditions against the enemy.

13. For first, when you made the alliance against the Bœotians, and it was necessary to send assistance to Haliartus, I was put in the list of the cavalry by Orthobulus ; but when I saw that all thought the cavalry was safe but that there was danger to the hoplites, while others not qualified by law were trying to get enrolled on the cavalry, I reported myself to Orthobulus to be struck off the list, thinking it disgraceful to be in security myself while others were in danger. Come and testify for me, Orthobulus.

14. Again, when the members of my deme were assembled for the expedition, as I saw that some were honorable, wealthy and zealous, but that there were others who lacked the means for the journey, I moved that the wealthy provide

the outfit for the poor. And I not only counselled the others to do this, but I myself gave two men thirty drachmæ each; not that I was worth much, but for an example to the rest. Come forward, witnesses.

15. After this, Boulè, during the expedition to Corinth, when all saw that there would be warm work, and others were shirking, I arranged to be stationed in the rank next the enemy. And especially when our tribe was overthrown and most of it perished, I retreated after that fine gentleman of Steiria, who has been reproaching all men with cowardice.

16. And not many days later, in Corinth, by the capture of the forts the enemy was unable to advance, and Agesilaus invaded Bœotia, and the archons voted to detach certain ranks and send them to aid. All were afraid (naturally enough, too, Boulè, for it is hardly probable that men having just escaped would wish to place themselves in danger again), but I, going of my own accord to the commander, told him to send my company.

17. If, then, some of you are angry at those who think to take part in State affairs, and who nevertheless run from danger, you ought to have no such opinion about me. Not only did I do zealously the things commanded me but even exposed myself to great danger, and this I did, not because it was a light matter to fight the Spartans, but that if I ever were unjustly brought to any trial, I might, with a better reputation for valor, get full justice.

18. I did not shirk any of the other expeditions nor the garrison duty, but always marched with the foremost and retreated among the last. You ought to regard those who live well and orderly and not hate them if they show unusual courage. For habits of this sort injure neither the private citizen nor the city at large, but you are all benefited by those who meet the dangers of the enemy.

19. It is not right to either love or hate a man on account of his looks. For many who talk modestly and dress well have been the cause of great evils, and others who pay no attention to these things have effected great good.

20. I see that some, Boulè, are dissatisfied because I, so young a man, have ventured to speak before the people. I was compelled to do so first on account of my case, and then I seem even to myself to be somewhat more ambitiously disposed than I ought to be, both because I remember my ancestors who never stopped working for the city, (21) and because I perceive that you (for I must speak the truth) think that only men of this sort are worth anything. So, seeing you have this opinion, who could not be induced to work and speak in behalf of the city? Why, then, should you be disgusted with men of this sort? For it is you and no other people who judge them.

# END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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