

important idea of twisting, which suggests not only torsion but the final stage in the production of rope: the twisting of the tough flaxen fibres into cord.

Attempts to relate siege-engines to Pylos and Messene are clearly misguided. It has proved more fruitful to pursue the area's connexion with rope, an approach to the line which is signalled in the text.*

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* I should like to thank Professor R. G. M. Nisbet, who encouraged me to write this and provided helpful criticism; also Dr N. M. Horsfall for valuable comments on reading a later draft.

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