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#### THE PLOTINIAN REDUCTION OF ARISTOTLE'S CATEGORIES

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By

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Τ

Plotinus In Ennead VI. 3., proposed a fivefold set of categories which, he thought, can sufficiently account for the sensible world. unlike the tenfold Aristotelian set which he sharply criticized, especially in VI. 1., as ontologically found it necessary to inadequate and logically redundant.<sup>1</sup> He criticize the Aristotelians in this way because, inter alia, "In their classification they are not speaking about the intelligible fundamental (for the pure Platonists) beings."<sup>2</sup> In view of the distinction between the intelligible and the sensible worlds. Plotinus' charge means that Aristotle erred in directing his inquiries towards the latter to the neglect of the former which, nevertheless, comprises "the most important beings."<sup>3</sup> Since Aristotle's categories fail to function as "genera of Being,"<sup>4</sup> in Plotinus' view, they lose to Plato's megista genē as presented in Sophist 254a-256e and elaborated in Ennead VI. 2.5

Had Plotinus written the treatises of VI. 1. and VI. 2., but not VI. 3.,<sup>6</sup> he would have perhaps proven himself a faithful follower of Plato and a capable defender of Platonism.<sup>7</sup> He would have perhaps shown why the Aristotelian (and the Stoic for that matter) set of categories are inapplicable to the intelligible realm of real Being, as the Platonists understood it. But he would left a gap in his philosophical have system by not providing a categorial account for the sensible world, especially because he was not prepared to accept the same set of categories for the realm of real Being and the realm of mere becoming.<sup>8</sup>

By proposing a new set of categories for the sensible world, Plotinus decided to go beyond Plato and challenge Aristotle and the Stoics in their field expertise, this sensible world.9 of With regard to Aristotle's categories, his central claim is that, even when restricted to this field, it is in need of a drastic reduction and Platonic modification, as we will see presently.10 proposed Plotinian set numerically corresponds to Thus themegista genē, Plato's five though in terminology it clearly resembles Aristotle's set of categories, reduced and modified.

Given the significance of Aristotle's doctrine of categories our philosophical tradition and shaping its relevance in in contemporary methodological debates, <sup>11</sup> the arguments of Plotinus in rejecting or replacing certain Aristotelian categories cannot fail to be of interest to us. For the most part, the Plotinian are philosophically challenging, though occasionally arguments complex and difficult to follow.12 There is no doubt, however, that Plotinus was seriously concerned with the problem of determining the number and explaining the nature of the categories of becoming as opposed to the genera of Being.13

In order to be able to follow Plotinus' strategy with some

understanding, it will be helpful to keep in mind the following important distinctions: (1) That in VI. 3., Plotinus facts and searches for a new set of categories of becoming and not for genera of Being which he had discussed and determined in VI. 2.; (2) that for Plotinus the term genos as opposed to the term well as kategoria, as the term ousia as opposed to the term genesis, are reserved for the intelligible realm of real Being as opposed to the sensible realm of mere becoming; 14 (3) that the two realms are related to each other as archetype to its image; 15 and (4) that, as a result of this ontological relation, the danger of homonymy is permanently present in any attempt to think speak logically about the entities and the activities of and to each of these two, ontologically distinct, domains.<sup>16</sup>

In this context, I propose to consider the Plotinian Aristotle's categories. reduction of especially as presented in 3. the problematic VI. 3. The following questions will be the Aristotelian categories did Plotinus discussed: Which of consider dispensable and for what specific reasons? Are there any non-Aristotelian categories in the Plotinian set and, if so, where do they come from and how do they function? By what method, if any, did Plotinus determine the number of his set of categories and why just five? Finally, why is it that Plotinus is the last, in a long series of Platonists, to sharply criticize Aristotle's doctrine of categories? For it is known that his followers and admirers became increasingly interested in (and commented favorably on) Aristotle's categories. With this in mind, we may now turn to the relevant texts for enlightenment.

II

According to Porphyry's division and thematic arrangement of of VI. the Enneads, the treatise 3. comprises twenty-eight which the three are devoted to preliminary chapters of first investigations leading to the specification of the definite categories of becoming, while the remaining chapters number of are proportionally allocated to the discussion of each category their relative merit. Of the introductory in accordance with chapters, the most important for our purposes is the third chapter, that is, VI. 3. 3. It is here that Plotinus attempts to answer certain fundamental aporiai, which were raised in the two and to provide us with some clues about the previous chapters, method by which he arrived at his fivefold categorial list.<sup>17</sup>

Plotinus states that, having completed the For example, kosmos noetos in the treatise VI. 2. and having investigation of ascertained the need for new "genera" or, rather, categories for turn his attention to the realm of kosmos aisthētos, he will genesis which, unlike the realm of ousia, is something syntheton because it is composed of matter and form.<sup>18</sup> But he insists that the search for categories of the sensible realm should leave out formal aspect of this realm as an alien of consideration the element: "Just as if someone wishing to classify the citizens of their property assessments or skills for instance, а city, by

left the resident foreigners out of account" (VI. 3. 1. 26-28).

Next, Plotinus explains that he will use the term <u>ousia</u> to refer to the sensible "so-called substance."<sup>19</sup> For Plotinus any sensible substance is only homonymously called <u>ousia</u> and it would be preferable, he suggests, if we could follow the author of the <u>Timaeus</u> (27Dff) and call it instead <u>genesis</u> (VI. 3. 2. 1-5). Since this sensible so-called substance can be divided into bodies and their incidentals or consequences,<sup>20</sup> Plotinus sees two distinct approaches to the problem of devising an adequate categorial scheme, the analytical and the analogical approach.

According to Plotinus, philosophical analysis shows that sensible objects are composed of matter  $(hyl\bar{e})$  and form (<u>eidos</u>). However, he immediately proceeds to raise the following questions in a clearly Aristotelian manner:

But what is the common factor of matter and form? For what essential differentiation is there belonging to matter? But in what genus is the product of both to be ranked? If the product of both is itself bodily substance, and each of them is not a body, how could they be ranked in one and the same genus with the composite? (VI. 3. 2, 10-14)

As for the analogical approach, Plotinus considers it briefly but he rejects it on the ground that the differences between the intelligible and the sensible realms are much greater than any similarities to warrant reliable results. For instance, it is possible to consider the matter and form of sensible objects as playing here below the roles which <u>ousia</u> and <u>kinēsis</u> respectively and authentically play in the intelligible world. But this analogy would not work to Plotinus' satisfaction:

Now, first of all, matter does not hold or grasp form as its life and activity, but form comes upon it from elsewhere and is not one of matter's possessions. Then, in the intelligible the form is activity and motion, but here below motion is something else and an incident: but form is rather matter's rest and a kind of quietness for it limits matter which is unlimited. (VI. 3. 2, 22-27)<sup>21</sup>

Having thus found both approaches, the analytical and the analogical, unsatisfactory, Plotinus tries a new approach in VI.

3. 3, as follows:

But let us explain how we should divide: this is the way to begin with; it is one thing to be matter, another to be form, another to be the composite of both, and another to be the peripheral characteristics:<sup>22</sup> and of these peripheral characteristics, some are only predicated, some are also incidental: and of the incidentals some are in those three, [matter, form, and composite], but in other cases these three are in the incidentals; others are their activities. others their passive affections, and others consequences. And matter is common and in all the substances, but is certainly not a genus. because it has no essential differences, unless one understood the differences as one part having a fiery shape and one the shape of air. But if one was satisfied with what is common, that there is matter existing things, or that it is like a whole in in all relation to parts, it would be a genus in another sense: and this would be one element, and an element can be a genus. "about matter" or "in with the addition But the form, matter," separates from the other forms, but does not include all substantial form. But if we mean by form that which makes substance, and by rational formative principle that which is substantial according to the form, we have not yet said how substance is to be understood. But as for that composed of both [matter and form] if this alone is substance, matter and form are not substances: but if they are also this, we must investigate what they have in common.<sup>23</sup> But the characteristics which are only predicated would come under relation, being a cause or being an element for instance. And the incidental characteristics in the three would be quantitative or qualitative, in so far as in them; as for the cases where the three are in they are the incidentals, this would be like place and time;<sup>24</sup> their activities and passive affections would be like movements; their consequences like place and time, the place a consequence of the composites, the time of the movement. But the three will go into one, if we can find something common, the ambiguous substance here below: then the others will follow in order, relation, quantity, quality, in place, in time, movement, place, time. Or, if one leaves out place and time, "in place" and "in time" are superfluous, so that there are five, <sup>25</sup> on the assumption that the first three are one: but if the first three do not go into one, there will be matter, form, composite, relation, quantity, quality, Or these last also could go into relation: for it movement. is more inclusive. (VI. 3. 3. 1-31)<sup>26</sup>

Regarding the correct interpretation of this admittedly difficult passage, two general observations would seem to be in order before we come to consider specific points of interest. First, it is evident that Plotinus had to take the sensible socalled substance as the starting point for his theorizing about the categories of becoming, in spite of all the reservations which he had expressed in the previous chapters. Second, his analysis of the sensible so-called substance is twofold: (1) In terms of matter, form, and the composite; (2) in terms of its "peripheral characteristics," as Armstrong periphrastically renders the cryptic expression of the text, peri tauta.<sup>27</sup>

It should be noted here that the <u>peri tauta</u> are first identified by Plotinus in general (and not always Aristotelian)

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terms such as <u>kategoroumena</u> (predicables), <u>symbebëkota</u> (accidents or accidentals), <u>energemata</u> (activities), <u>parakolouthëmata</u> (consequences), <u>pathë</u> (passions or affections); then, they are assigned more specific names which are taken from Aristotle's categorial nomenclature, as the attached Tables A and B indicate.

#### III

A comparative examination of the tentative Plotinian lists fivefold list which was finally of categories, especially the with the traditional Aristotelian tenfold list yields adopted. some very interesting results. To begin with, perhaps the most striking difference between the two lists is their respective The Aristotelian list has twice as many members as the lengths. Plotinian list. Clearly Plotinus thought of half of Aristotle's categories as unnecessary, redundant and reducible. What his reasons for such a drastic reduction were is a question which carefully considered must be but it cannot be answered satisfactorily before we have (1) identified those Aristotelian categories which were left out of the Plotinian list and (2) have seen how they functioned within the Aristotelian categorial will these points presently, but first We consider scheme. something should be said about Plotinus' preference for five as the correct number of categories for the realm of becoming.

In this connection, it may be well to recall that at the beginning of the treatise, which is characteristically entitled Plotinus had briefly discussed the On the Genera of Being, various rival theories of his predecessors regarding the number of the kinds of onta, that is, one being or many beings either infinite or finite in number.<sup>28</sup> Without much argument Plotinus rejected both extreme positions, the Parmenidean absolute unity of being and the Democritian infinite multiplicity of beings.<sup>29</sup> Showing awareness of later developments in Hellenic philosophy regarding the correct solution to this problem, Plotinus asserted that the Stoics, the Peripatetics, and the Platonists all agreed "well defined genera."30 on a finite number of But they disagreed on the specific number of these "genera" or categories. since they had proposed four, ten, and five, respectively.<sup>31</sup> In this light, Plotinus appears as if he sought to uphold a Platonic tradition by opting for a fivefold scheme of categories of becoming in correspondence to the five genera of Being. 32 the next section, he had other and However, as we will see in more philosophical reasons for drastically reducing the number of Aristotle's categories.<sup>33</sup>

A second characteristic of Plotinus' categorial analysis is that he devotes much space to the discussion of matter and form becoming distinct from prospective categories of the as In three of his tentative lists, matter and composite. form are listed separately as if they were different from the category of the so-called substance. The reason for this uncertainty about the components of sensible substance is that the term ousia had been used by Aristotle to apply to the composite as well as to

matter and form. Yet it is not clear to Plotinus what all these entities have in common to render such application ontologically legitimate.<sup>34</sup> He asks poignantly:

What is it, then, which is the same in the three, and what will it be which makes them substance, the substance in things here below? Is it a kind of base for everything else? But matter is thought to be a base and "seat" for form, so that form will not be included in substance. And the composite is a base and seat for other things, so that the form with the matter will be a base for the composites, or at least for all that come after the composites, quantity, quality, movement for instance. (VI. 3. 4. 1-7)

Plotinus' questioning pinpoints the dilemma which any analysis of the sensible substance along Aristotelian lines must face. For if matter and form, as components of sensible substance, were themselves substances, it would appear that the composite itself becomes a collection of substances. So it would not be one substance but many. On the other hand, if matter and form were not themselves substances, it would follow that sensible substances derive their substantiality from that which lacked it. In either case one is led to logical absurdities.<sup>35</sup> In an effort to overcome such difficulties, Plotinus toyed with the idea of positing form and matter as distinct categories.<sup>36</sup>

A third characteristic of the Plotinian categorial scheme is that it comprises other Aristotelian categories, besides <u>ousia</u>. These are the three cardinal categories of <u>poson</u> (quantity), <u>poion</u> (quality), and <u>pros ti</u> (relation, relatives).<sup>37</sup> To be sure the names are the same but the functions of these categories are not always Aristotelian. For one thing, they seem to have been strongly colored by Stoic influence, especially in the case of quality.<sup>38</sup> Then, as a matter of fact, Plotinus does have numerous objections to Aristotle's divisions and stipulative characteristics of each of these categories.<sup>39</sup> Furthermore, Plotinus tends to cross over the boundaries of each category as defined by Aristotle in the <u>Categories</u>.

For instance, Plotinus treats quantity and quality as the only <u>symbebekota</u> which are said to be "in" the sensible socalled substance<sup>40</sup> which, consequently, he defines as <u>symphorësis</u> <u>hylës and poioteton</u>, that is, "a coming together of matter and qualities."<sup>41</sup> It is clear that in this definition the category of <u>poion</u> has absorbed that of <u>poson</u>. Besides, quality seems to have taken the place of the sensible form or <u>eidos</u> itself so that the composite is considered not as a <u>tode ti</u> (a this) in the Aristotelian nomenclature, but as a <u>poion ti</u> (a qualified something).<sup>42</sup> In other words, he seems to question seriously the substantiality of Aristotle's primary substances. Consider:

And the rational form [logos] of man is the being of 'something' but its product in the nature of body, being an image of the form, is rather a sort of 'something like.'<sup>43</sup>

It is as if, the visible Socrates being a man, his painted picture, being colours and painter's stuff, was called therefore, Socrates: in the same way, since there is a form according which is, rational to Socrates the perceptible Socrates should not rightly be said to be Socrates, but colours and shapes which are representations in the form: and this rational form in relation to of those the truest form of man is affected in the same way. And so much for that. (VI. 3. 15. 29-38)

The modern reader would prefer that Plotinus had said much more in clarifying the point which he tries to make in this difficult passage. Apparently he wants to distinguish between the logos of man and the logos of an individual human being, e.g. But what the meaning of logos is, in the latter case, Socrates. is not clear. If logos be interpreted as having the same meaning in both cases, it would seem to follow that Plotinus thought of individual substances as being definable, which is contrary to Aristotle's position.44 Such an interpretation may lead to the suggestion Plotinus postulated "Forms" further that of individuals, as has been argued by some scholars.<sup>45</sup>

It is possible, however, that <u>logos</u> in the case of Socrates does not stand for definition but for description.46 In this logos of man will give the ti esti (the-what-is-it) of case, the the definiendum, while the logos of Socrates will qualify the ti addition of a collection of poiotetes in such a way that by the the whole product will become a poion ti. If this is a correct interpretation, then the meaning of the above-quoted passage can be captured by an analogy and rendered thus: As the picture of Socrates stands to living Socrates so the <u>logos</u> (description) of Socrates stands to logos (definition) of man. The implication is that for Plotinus, unlike Aristotle, ontological priority must be given to the generic as opposed to the particular. On this. then, Plotinus is certainly closer to Plato than Aristotle was, at least when he wrote the Categories.47

Be this as it may, the important point for our purposes is that the categories of quantity and quality, which are prominent in Aristotle's list, have been reduced to relation in at least So is every other category one of Plotinus' tentative lists. except for ousia. Although Plotinus did not in the end adopt this twofold division, it is significant that he even suggested his tendency it because it serves as an indication of to raise the category of relation to its old Platonic status.<sup>49</sup> Given its expansion and elevation to the second place, after ousia, in all the tentative lists of Plotinus, it comes as a surprise that this category is not discussed at any length in VI. 3.49 There is no need for us here to follow the details of Plotinus' different treatment of the Aristotelian category of pros ti. since our to consider which of Aristotle's categories Plotinus purpose is deemed reducible and for what reasons.<sup>50</sup> To this question our attention should be turned next.

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From Table B it is evident that six Aristotelian categories are missing from the fivefold list which Plotinus adopted. Thev are: pou, pote, poiein, paschein, echein, and keisthai.<sup>51</sup> Their omission is justified on the grounds that they are unnecessary because they are reducible to other more fundamental either categories or because they are replacible by other newly issued It should be noted here, that even Aristotle had categories. treated these categories only summarily in the Categories where lengthy discussions were devoted to the cardinal categories of In the very short chapter nine ousia, poson, poion, and pros ti. of the Categories, Aristotle (1) asserts that the categories of poiein and paschein admit of contraries and degrees; (2) states that the category of <u>keisthai</u> relates to that of <u>pros ti</u> by means of paronymy only; and (3) concludes his discussion by saying that the meanings of the remaining categories of pote, pou, and echein are so apparent that "I need say no more than I said at the very beginning." Then he repeats the examples which he had used earlier to illustrate the meaning of each of these categories.<sup>52</sup>

Leaving aside the question of why Aristotle treated these categories in such a summary way, we will concentrate on the reasons for which Plotinus excluded them from his proposed set. If we take them by pairs and start with the weakest of them all, will consider first the pair of <u>keisthai</u> and <u>echein</u>. then we It . categories are absent is the case that these two from all enumerations of categories to be found dispersed throughout the Aristotelian corpus with the notable exceptions of Categories 1b 25-28 and Topics 103b 20-24.

Our first observation is that Plotinus does not refer to this fact in his criticism of these two categories. Nor does he pay any attention to the fact that Aristotle did not elaborate on these categories even when he mentioned them and even where such a discussion would be appropriate, in the <u>Categories</u>. Treating them as legitimate Aristotelian categories, he argues rigorously against their categorial status (VI. 1. 23. 1-24).

Evidently having in mind the polysemy of echein as discussed by Aristotle in Categories 15b 18-25, Plotinus first asks to paraphrase him: Why is it that having shoes or arms on should make up a separate category, while having color, magnitude, a does not? Then, anticipating the probable wife, a son, etc. Peripatetic response that "the mode of having" is different in each of these cases, Plotinus is prepared to make a concession only in order to strike back by asking (not without irony): If "the mode of having," in having shoes on, is sufficient reason for accepting a separate category, what about taking them off or burning them? Should we postulate another category to account for cases like these?

Furthermore, restricting his consideration to the expression of "having on," Plotinus is able to argue along these lines: If it is the "on" which makes necessary the postulation of another category to account for such facts as "having shoes on," then

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certainly more categories will be needed to cover cases like "having a table-cloth on" or "having a bed-spread over," since the mode of having differs depending on whether we talk about men, tables or beds. On the other hand, if the emphasis is not on the "on" but on "having," then why not, Plotinus wonders, place these cases of having where Aristotle had placed all <u>hexeis</u>?<sup>53</sup>

Finally, and more importantly for Plotinus' critique, in considering the category of echein and, as we will see, the category of keisthai, Aristotle gives the impression that he has forgotten what he had stated at the beginning of his treatise, that is, that the categories were supposed to be about hapla aneu symplokes legomena (uncombined expressions) (simple) and such as "man," "horse," "runs," "wins" and the like.54 But how is it possible, Plotinus argues, to consider as a simple entity, falling under the heading of one category, something as complex as "that-man-over-there-has-shoes-on?" In instances like this. Plotinus correctly sees two separate beings, a man and his shoes, related in a certain way. But, since the cardinal categories of ousia and pros ti had already been established by Aristotle, the introduction of <u>echein</u> as a new and separate category was a puzzle to Plotinus as it has been to many modern philosophers.<sup>55</sup> It might have puzzled Aristotle too, which would explain why he gradually dropped from his categorial set echein and keisthai.

Regarding the category of <u>keisthai</u>, Plotinus has numerous objections which are similar to those which he advanced against 1-12). First, he observes that the examples echein (VI. 1. 24. "sitting," "reclining" and the like, are not cases of keisthai simpliciter but of being positioned "in a certain way" (pos). For they indicate respectively that "something occupies a certain place in a certain way" and that "something is situated in such and such a way" (keitai en toiode schemati). Now, since for Aristotle (1) schēmata (figures) are considered as one kind of quality (Categories 9b 11-24); (2) topos (place) is considered as one kind of quantity (<u>Categories</u> 4b 20-33); and (3) the categories of quantity and quality have been well-established, Plotinus sees no real need for the category of keisthai which could be reduced to them.

Secondly, Plotinus argues that, if expressions like "is seated" or "sits" (<u>kathetai</u>) indicate activity or passivity, <sup>56</sup> in either case they can be accounted for by the categories of <u>poiein</u> and <u>paschein</u>, both of which are related and, in his view, ultimately reducible to <u>kinēsis</u>, as we will see. If so, there is no need for the Aristotelian category of <u>keisthai</u>, since <u>ousia</u>, <u>pros ti</u>, <u>poiein</u> and <u>paschein</u> can very well perform the task which this strange category was supposed to fulfill. The same holds true for the next pair of categories, <u>pote</u> and <u>pou</u> which, in Plotinus' view, can be reduced to <u>chronos</u> and <u>topos</u> respectively both of which Aristotle had classified as continuous quantities.

With regard to <u>pote</u> (time in which, when), under which fall such expressions as "yesterday," "last year," "tomorrow" and the like, Plotinus makes the following observations. If these expressions denote "parts of time," then they obviously belong to the same category as time and, therefore, they should be placed under quantity where Aristotle himself had placed chronos (Categories 4b 23-26).57 In the case that these expressions do not indicate just time but "time-when," Plotinus is prepared to argue that, in so far as "time-when" relates to time, we must account for it categorially in terms of time. However, in so far as "time-when" is considered as being a combination of two distinct entities, that is, time and that which is an activity in time or a durational event, then clearly we have not one but two categories which means that Aristotle's criterion of categorial Even if pote is construed as meaning simplicity is violated. "being-in-time," Aristotle would seem to run into all sorts of difficulties involved or implied by the multivocity of this "in":

Why will not what is in a pot make another category, and why is not what is in matter something else, and what is in a substance something else, and the part in the whole, and the whole in the parts, and the genus in the species, and the species in the genus? And we shall have more categories. (VI. 1. 14. 20-24)

The last criticism evidently applies equally to the category of <u>pou</u> (place-in-which, somewhere). Since Plotinus' questioning of <u>pou</u> parallels that of <u>pote</u>, we can afford to be brief here. His arguments are to the effect that expressions such as "in the Lyceum," "in Athens," "above," "below," and the like seem (1) to involve more than one category; (2) to be reducible to <u>topos</u> and ultimately to the Aristotelian category of quantity; and (3) to indicate a certain relation (<u>schesis</u>) "of this in that," and so they can be accounted for by the Plotinian category of <u>pros ti</u>. In any case, there is no real need for a new category of pou.

Turning next to the last pair of questionable Aristotelian categories, poiein (action, acting) and paschein (being acted upon, passion), we may note that they are treated somewhat differently than the other two pairs. In Plotinus' view these two categories are related to kinesis (motion, movement).58 The that Plotinus devoted many chapters to the discussion of fact this category is indicative of the importance of kinesis as a set. 59 category of becoming in his The same fact makes it difficult us to provide a detailed exposition here of for Plotinus' many arguments in support of this non-Aristotelian category which he thought was needed. It will suffice to point out only some of the arguments which Plotinus adduced to justify the replacement of the Aristotelian categories of poiein and paschein by the Platonic genus of kinesis. To better understand the disagreement of Plotinus and Aristotle on this important point it will be necessary to briefly recall how the Stagirite conceived of kinesis and why he excluded it from his categories.

The third Book of <u>Physics</u> is perhaps the best place in the Aristotelian corpus to look for enlightenment on this matter. There <u>physis</u> is defined as "the principle of movement and change"

 $(200b \ 12-13)$ . One kind of pros ti is identified as "that which is active and that which is acted on, and generally • • . that which moves (or changes) something as the agent and that which is moved (or changed) by it as the patient" (200b 30--34). It is also asserted that "motion and change cannot exist in themselves apart from what moves and changes" (200b 32). Furthermore, "the indefinite and elusive character of motion" is recognized and explained by reference to the fact that kinesis is located (potentiality, potency) and <u>energeia</u> (activity, between dynamis actuality) (201b 25-28). Subsequently, kinesis is defined as "the actualization of the movable <u>qua</u> movable" (202a 8-9).60 With all this Plotinus has no quarrel. Although he uses a variety of related terms such as odos, agoge, and proodos, all of which carry the meaning of process and passage from one state to another, his conception of kinesis is basically the same as that which Aristotle's definition reveals (VI. 3. 22. 1-44).

Regarding the kinds of kinesis, Aristotle does not always For instance, in Physics 201a 8-9 he give the same account. states that there are as many kinds of kinesis as there are of being by which he presumably means the ten categories. In the Categories the enumeration of the kinds of kinesis includes only (1) generation and destruction, (2) increase and the following: decrease, (3) alteration and (4) locomotion (15a 13-14). These correspond respectively to the four categories of ousia, poson, poion, and pou. But in Physics 225a 37-38, Aristotle claims strictly speaking, genesis and phthora are not kinds of that, kinesis which are thus restricted to quantitative, qualitative and local motions. Plotinus seems to be in favor of the sixfold division as presented in the Categories. To this list he added poiein and paschein as distinct kinds of kinesis which is, thus, elevated by him to the status of a category of becoming.

On this last point the two philosophers certainly disagree. Aristotle never refers to <u>kinësis</u> as a category. For him it is an intercategorial concept. Like <u>to on</u> (being) and <u>to hen</u> (one), <u>kinësis</u> cuts across many (if not all) categories. It operates between contraries (<u>ta enantia</u>), presupposes a substratum (<u>hypokeimenon</u>, or <u>hylë</u>), and tends towards an end (<u>telos</u>).<sup>61</sup>

Aristotle also maintains that poiein and paschein are since "acting" and "being acted upon" are distinct categories, different in definition (to  $\log \sigma$ ), even when one and the same activity is involved as in the case of cutting. The road from Athens to Thebes may be one and the same but the going to and the coming from Thebes is different. "In these cases we are For dealing with one and same thing which may be regarded or defined from two different approaches. So too with the mover and the moved" (202a 20-22). Contrary to this, Plotinus claims that kinesis deserves to be treated as a category, and more so than such Aristotelian categories as poiein and paschein which can be considered as its kinds. This point needs elaboration so that the difference between the two philosophers will become clear.

According to Plotinus, any candidate for a categorial position should meet three specified criteria: irreducibility to

any other well-established category, predicability of the highest degree, and capability of yielding species and subspecies by application of the appropriate differentiae. Since kinesis passes this test, Plotinus thinks that it should be accepted as a to so-called categorial companion substance together with quality, quantity, and relation (VI. 3. 21. 1 - 15). But, if kinésis is accepted as a categorial genus, then both poiein and paschein, will have to be considered as its species and, therefore, they will lose their status as separate categories.

The possibility of viewing <u>kinesis</u> as a kind of <u>pros ti</u> and, thus. reducible to relation on the ground that any motion is motion of the movable (tinos kinēsis), cannot be seriously considered, according to Plotinus, because by the same token everything else would be reduced to relation. This would make set twofold, substance and relation, but such a the categorial wholesale reduction would, inter alia, run contrary to the Aristotelian definition of pros ti which Plotinus had accepted with certain reservations.62

However, the possibility of considering metabole (change) and energeia (act, actuality) as rivals to kinësis for the categorial title is more serious. We may recall here that Aristotle had characterized kinēsis as atelēs energeia had considered genesis (uncompleted actuality) and not as <u>kinēsis</u> but as a <u>metabolē</u> (201b 31-32). Could they not, then, be placed higher than kinesis and render null its claim to the well of this serious categorial status? Plotinus is aware it head challenge and prepared to meet on. In a long and involved passage (VI. 3. 21. 25-47), he argues to the effect that either metabolē is synonymous to kinēsis or, if their meanings differ, "change would be rather a species of movement being a movement which takes a thing out of itself" (46-47).63

In Plotinus' view, Aristotle's characterization of kinesis as ateles energeia clearly indicates that energeia is the generic concept and ateles the specific difference which determines the nature of kinesis. But what the epithet ateles mean in this connection, is not clear to Plotinus. In what sense, he asks, is <u>kinésis</u> "uncompleted" or "incomplete"? Consider, for instance, walking which is a kind of locomotion. In the walking process every step qua motion is as actual as any other, first, middle or To talk of incomplete motion can only mean that we tend to last. associate walking with the distance to be traversed. Thus, in terms of actuality both energeia and kinesis stand on the same level, Plotinus suggests, and the same holds for their relation to time. For he rejects the claim that kinesis is in time (en chrono), while energeia is not (achronos). In a sense, he insists, neither is "in time" (VI. 1. 16. 14-17).

In the light of the above considerations, it seems clear that Plotinus' arguments are intended to establish the following theses: (1) that <u>poiein</u> and <u>paschein</u> can be considered as two distinct kinds of <u>kinesis</u>; (2) that a <u>kinesis</u> can be either absolute (<u>apolytos</u>) or directed towards something else, e.g. walking or singing as opposed to cutting or burning; (3) that in the latter case there is one and the same motion, though to cut and to be cut, for instance, are not the same as indicated by the <u>algos</u> (pain) felt; and (4) that as a result of this difference there is a tendency to consider other-directed motions as contrary, that is, as active and passive.

Now that this is not the case can be shown by considering such activities as (a) writing, for it would be absurd to say that the paper is suffering the impact of the pen; (b) hitting, for it is possible that the agent may suffer as much as the other fellow if it happen to be the delicate hand of a lady which struck the blow; and (c) learning through instruction, for the student (the patient) must be as active as the teacher (the agent) if the process is to succeed. However, in clear-cut cases involving action and passion such as healing or burning, Plotinus thinks that "it is the same motion, but looked at on one side it will be action, but on the other passive affection" (VI. 1. 22. If so, poiein and paschein can be subsumed under the new 11 - 13). category of kinësis which came to rival ousia in terms of categorial import in the Plotinian scheme.64

V

To recapitulate, it is evident that Plotinus undertook the task of providing a new set of categories for the sensible realm by drastically reducing the Aristotelian tenfold set and by modifying it in such a way that it became more Platonic. The need for such reconstruction was perhaps provided by the fact that Aristotle had not treated all of his categories with equal care, while Plato had emphasized the importance of <u>kinēsis</u> as a generic concept necessary for any reasoned account of the sensible and the intelligible realms of being.

Plotinus was able to reduce Aristotle's categories by half by arguing that of the omitted six categories (a) pou and pote are unnecessary as reducible to the category of quantity or even to the category of relation; (b) echein and keisthai do not qualify to be considered as categories because they fail to meet the criterion of generic simplicity, since they involve items different categories, that is, substance and under which fall relation; and (c) poiein and paschein, considered as the two one and the same coin, can be subsumed under the of sides Platonic genus of kinesis with any loss.

last Platonist to criticize Aristotle's Plotinus was the doctrine of categories before it became a part of the Neoplatonic project of reconstructing the Aristotelian synthesis.<sup>65</sup> His by reduction and replacement was daring but categorial scheme unsuccessful in that it was not accepted even by his close For Porphyry, Iamblichus, and Dexippus, associates and admirers. did not follow Plotinus' lead on this matter. They initiated a policy of non-confrontation and possible reconciliation of new Plato and Aristotle. As a result of this policy the categories were accepted and defended in toto, that is, without any Platonic modification or Plotinian reduction.66

#### FOOTNOTES

1. In "The Ontological Basis of Plotinus' Criticism of Aristotle's Categories," in <u>The Structure of Being: A Neoplatonic</u> <u>Approach</u>, R.B. Harris, ed., (Albany, New York: SUNY Press, 1982), pp. 73-83, I have provided an account of what I consider to be the basic reasons for which Plotinus could not accept Aristotle's categories.

2. <u>Enneads</u> VI. 1. 2. 29-30. The translation is that of Professor Armstrong who was kind enough to let me use his completed but unpublished typescript of the sixth Ennead. Unless stated otherwise, I will follow his translation throughout.

3. This is my rendering of the expression "<u>ta malista onta</u>" which Armstrong translates as "those which are most authentically beings." For Plotinus' detailed criticism of the Aristotelian and the Stoic sets of categories, see VI. 1., chapters 2-24 and 25-30 respectively.

4. The common title of the three treatises, VI.1., VI. 2., and VI. 3., is <u>Peri ton genon tou ontos</u> which clearly indicates Plotinus' ontological approach to the categorial problem.

5. Plotinus also refers to Plato's genera in II. 4.5., III. 7. 3., and V. 1. 4. For a concise account of his interpretation of this doctrine, see E. Bréhier's introduction to <u>Ennead VI. 2.</u> (Paris: Les Belles Lettres, 1924-1938), pp. 34ff.

6. The division of this treatise and some others (e.g. III. 2. and III. 3., IV. 2., IV. 3. and IV. 5., and VI. 4. and VI. 5.) was the result of Porphyry's editorial effort to reach the desired number 54 (6 x 9) which gave the title to the <u>Enneads</u>.

7. As another example of Plotinus' rigorous defense of Platonism, see II. 9., and my "Plotinus' Anti-gnostic Polemic" in <u>Neoplatonism and Gnosticism</u>, J. Bregman, ed., (forthcoming).

8. "For it is absurd to put being under one genus with nonbeing, as if one were to put Socrates and his portrait under one genus" (VI. 2. 1. 23-24). For a recent appraisal of the function of image in Plotinus' philosophy, see J.H. Fielder, "Chorismos and Emanation in the Philosophy of Plotinus," in <u>The Significance</u> <u>of Neoplatonism</u>, R.B. Harris, ed., (Albany, N.Y.: SUNY Press, 1976), pp. 101-121.

9. This certainly sets Plotinus apart from such Middle Platonists as Albinus, Plutarch, and the anonymous commentator who had found the alleged Platonic categories in <u>Timaeus</u> 35Bff, in <u>Parmenides</u> 137Cff, and in <u>Theaetetus</u> 152Dff respectively. On this see J. Dillon, <u>The Middle Platonists</u> (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1977), especially pp. 226 and 279ff.

10. The most important modification, in my view, is the replacement of the Aristotelian categories of <u>poiein</u> and <u>paschein</u> by the category of <u>kinésis</u> which should be considered as Platonic, since it corresponds to one of Plato's <u>megista gené</u>.

11. For the relevant bibliography, I refer to W.K.C. Guthrie, <u>A History of Greek Philosophy</u>, vol. VI, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983); and J. Barnes <u>et al</u>., eds., <u>Articles in Aristotle</u>, vol. 1, (New York: St. Martin's Press,

For recent discussions, see C. Kahn, 1975). "Questions and Categories," in <u>Questions</u>, H. Hiz, ed., (Holland, Boston: D. Reidel, 1979), pp. 227-278; Α. Edel, Aristotle (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1982), pp. 97-101; J. Moravcsik, "Aristotle's Theory of Categories," in Aristotle: A Collection of Critical Essays (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday and Co., 1967), pp. 125-145; J. Catan, ed., <u>Aristotle: The Collected</u> Papers of Joseph Owens (Albany, N.Y.: SUNY Press, 1981), especially Chapters One and Two; and my paper "Alternative Ancient Interpretations of Aristotle's Theory of Categories," in Language and Reality in Ancient Greek Philosophy, K. Boudouris, ed., (Athens, Greece: Achtida, 1985), pp. 163-173.

One of the most serious students of Plotinus, W.R. 12. Igne, has stated that the treatise under consideration is one of "the most obscure and least interesting." The Philosophy of Plotinus (New York: Longmans, 1948), p. 194. Although this statement is partially correct, it may account for the paucity of works devoted to this part of the Enneads. In English there are J.P. Anton's "Plotinus' Approach to Categorical Theory," in <u>The</u> <u>Significance of Neoplatonism</u> (Albany, N.Y.: SUNY Press, 1976), 83-99; and J.M. Rist's Plotinus: The Road to Reality pp. Cambridge University Press, 1967), especially pp. (Cambridge: Rist concludes that "Plotinus's view [of the sensible 103-112. object] is basically the original Platonic position" (p. 111); whereas Anton insists that "with Plotinus we have the appearance of a radically different ontology of the sensible object. If anything, it is non-Hellenic in character" (p. 97). As for the Europeans, two important and recently published books should be mentioned: K. Wurm, Substanz und Qualität (Berlin: Greyter, 1973); and C. Rutten, Les catégories du monde sensible dans les Enneádes de Plotin (Paris: Universitaire de Liege, 1961). Neither of these scholars discuss in any detail the passage under consideration. Wurm's main thesis is the contrast between "Der platonische kategoriale Gegensatz von ousia und poion und die nicht-platonische Form seiner Vermittlung in Plotin" (p. 257); whereas Rutten attempts to show that in Plotinus "la connaissance n'a point d'object" by arguing as follows: "C'est donc a défaut de pouvoir identifier la substance à la <u>fonction de genre</u> remplie par son concept que Plotin réduit l'ousia à sa fonction de subjet logique. Un idealisme contrarié se change ainsi en nominalisme" (p. 70, repeated on pages 82, 92, 103, 112-115, etc.).

13. About one-tenth of the <u>Enneads</u> is devoted to this topic. Regarding the correctness of Plotinus' interpretation of Plato's genera and the Platonism of Plotinus in general, Anton, op. cit., has expressed reservations, contrary to J.N. Findlay, "The Platonism of Plotinus," in the same volume, pp. 23-41. One of the oddities of interpreting Plato's <u>megista gené</u> as "genera of Being" is that "being" (to on) becomes a "genus of Being!" Hence Plotinus' tendency to substitute <u>ousia</u> for to on in the Platonic list.

14. For a detailed discussion of the term "genus" and "category," see Rutten, op. cit., pp. 42-55. It is significant

that Plotinus ends his criticism of each Aristotelian category with the invariable comment that they cannot function as genera, let alone the "genera of Being." On this, see note No. 1 above.

15. In reference to the sensible realm, Plotinus throughout the <u>Enneads</u> employs terms like <u>eikon</u>, <u>eidolon</u>, <u>skia</u>, <u>homoioma</u>, all of which connote the notion of image and indicate the dependence of the sensible on the intelligible <u>kosmos</u>. To use Plotinus' metaphor, it is as if the sensible "hangs upon" the intelligible (<u>anertetai</u>, VI. 5. 9. 36 and elsewhere).

16. For instance, in VI. 1. 2. 1-3, Plotinus states: "And first of all we should consider what is called substance, agreeing that the nature of the sphere of bodies can only be called substance ambiguously [homonymos], or should not properly be called substance at all but coming into being, because it is adapted to the idea of things in flux."

17. That this passage is problematic has escaped the attention of both Rutten and Wurm, op. cit. However, Bréhier, op. cit., p. 46, wondered whether we have here "un texte de Plotin ou à quelque maladroite interpolation." I agree with Bréhier that this chapter is difficult to interpret, but even he does not seem to take seriously the suggestion that it may be interpolated.

18. E.g. in 410a 1, 412a 16, 1023a 31, 1029b 23, 1051b 19, Aristotle uses the term "to syntheton" to refer to the concrete individual substance. But for the same purpose he uses more often "to synolon" which denotes a stronger union between matter and form. Plotinus' adoption of the former term stresses the point that <u>eidos</u> is an alien to the world of <u>hylē</u>.

19. The Plotinian expression "<u>ousia legomenē</u>" is rendered into English variously by different authors: "pseudo-substance" (Anton), "ambiguous substance" (Armstrong), "what passes as substance" (MacKenna). I prefer the rendering "so-called substance" because it captures better the irony of the <u>legomenē</u>.

20. Armstrong's "incidentals" and "consequences" translate respectively <u>symbeběkota</u> and <u>parakolouthémata</u> of which the former is Aristotelian and the latter either Stoic or Epicurean, according to the <u>apparatus criticus</u> of P. Henry and H. Schwyzer. Taking into account Porphyry' testimony, <u>Vita Plotini</u> 14, it would be more probable for this term to be Stoic than Epicurean.

21. For Plotinus' views on hyle and its kinds, see II. 4.

22. The text has <u>peri tauta</u>, literally "those things which are about these entities [matter and form]," that is, the <u>symbebēkota</u> which, according to <u>Topics</u> 102b 5-8, may or may not belong to a given substance.

23. In VI. 3. 8. 1-37, Plotinus critically examines the characteristics of substance, as found in <u>Categories</u> 5.

24. Armstrong here translates <u>topos</u> and <u>chronos</u> which are in all probability <u>neglegenter pro en topô kai en chronô</u>, as Henry and Schwyzer have suggested.

25. See the attached Tables A and B.

26. The last categories which are reducible to relation are: <u>poson</u>, <u>poion</u>, and <u>kinësis</u>, that is, every category in the

Plotinian list except for ousia.

27. About this expression, see note No. 22 above.

28. Of the reasons which Plotinus produces in arguing against an infinite number of beings, the strongest seems to be that which echoes Aristotle's <u>Physics</u> 189a 11-16 and claims that the hypothesis renders <u>epistemē</u> impossible (VI. 1. 1. 8-9).

29. This means that, ontologically speaking, Plotinus is not a monist. There are many different kinds of <u>onta</u>, though limited in number. The One <u>qua hypostasis</u> is a different case. Like the Platonic Good, the Plotinian One is beyond being. See on this <u>The Cambridge History of Later Greek and Early Medieval</u> <u>Philosophy</u>, A.H. Armstrong, ed., (Cambridge: At the University Press, 1970), especially pp. 236-250.

30. As MacKenna renders the expression "gene horismena."

31. But the dispute is not just about numbers. Plotinus claims that there is a fundamental ontological difference between the Platonic genera and the Aristotelian (and Stoic) categories, as we said at the beginning.

32. To what extent this choice determined Plotinus' strategy in reducing Aristotle's categories from ten to five is difficult to tell, since numerical correspondence to the Platonic genera is not among his reasons for accepting the fivefold set.

33. Six out of ten Aristotelian categories are excluded from the list of Plotinus. The accepted categories are: <u>ousia</u> [logomene], poson, poion, and pros ti.

34. In contrast to Plotinus, Porphyry states categorically that the <u>ousia</u> to which Aristotle's categories apply is the composite (<u>synamphoteron</u>), <u>Commentaria in Aristotelem Graeca</u>, A. Busse, ed., (Berlin: Reimer, 1887), vol. IV, part 1, p. 88.

35. Evidently Plotinus attempts to exploit the ambiguities of Aristotle's position regarding <u>ousia</u>, as stated in <u>Categories</u> 2a 11-14 and <u>Metaphysics</u> 1031b 6-8, 1037a 27-30, 1037b 33-35.

36. But we should not forget that "The whole amalgam itself [the sensible so-called substance] is not True Substance; it is merely an imitation of that True Substance which has Being apart from its concomitants" (VI. 3. 8. 32-34).

37. It is more correct to render the technical expression <u>ta pros ti</u> as relatives or correlatives rather than relation. The former emphasizes the <u>onta</u> which are related, while the latter stresses their <u>schesis</u>. This case is parallel to <u>homonyma</u> [i.e. <u>onta</u> or <u>pragmata</u>], with which the <u>Categories</u> opens. On this, see H. Apostle, <u>Aristotle's Categories and Propositions</u> (Grinnell: The Peripatetic Press, 1980), p. 51-52.

38. See <u>Ennead</u> II. 6., <u>On Quality</u>. For a good account of the Stoic categories, I refer to A. Long, <u>Hellenistic Philosophy</u> (London: Duckworth, 1974), pp. 160-163; also J. Rist, <u>Stoic</u> <u>Philosophy</u> (Cambridge: University Press, 1969), pp. 152-172.

39. See, e.g. VI. 1. 2.-24.

40. The point is that quantity and quality are said to be "in" the sensible substance which, in its turn, is "in" place and "in" time. On the question of their individuation, I refer to G.E.L. Owen, "Inherence," <u>Phronesis</u> 10 (1965): 97-105; R.E. Allen, "Individual Properties in Aristotle's Categories," <u>Phronesis</u> 14 (1969): 31-39; and J. Moravcsik, "Aristotle on Predication," <u>Philosophical Review</u> (1967): 80-96.

41. For a detailed analysis of Plotinus' conception of sensible substance, see Wurm, op. cit., especially p. 250ff.

42. But for Aristotle the opposite of this is true. For he notes, in reference to species and genera, that by "man" and "animal" not a "this" but "a qualified something is meant" (<u>Categories</u> 3b 15-17, translation mine). See also <u>Sophistical</u> <u>Refutations</u> 178b 38-40, and contrast it to <u>De Anima</u> 412a 6-10.

43. Armstrong's translation here is awkward but it seems to reflect the original text. An alternative and more liberal formulation would run as follows: "And the <u>logos</u> of man is its essential being, but the bodily existent is rather a qualified something than a something, since it is an image of <u>logos</u>."

44. For Aristotle the individual receives the name and the definition of its species (Categories 2b 21-27).

45. See the debate between J. Rist, "Forms of Individuals in Plotinus," <u>Classical Quarterly</u>, n.s. 13 (1963): 23-31; J. Blumenthal, "Did Plotinus Believe in Ideas of Individuals?" <u>Phronesis</u>, XI No. 1 (1966): 61-81; and A.H. Armstrong, "Form, Individual and Person in Plotinus," <u>Dionysus</u>, 1 (1972): 49-68.

46. The Greek word is <u>hypographe</u>. It is used frequently by Porphyry and other commentators on the <u>Categories</u> with reference to a description of individuals or of the highest genera which cannot be defined by genus and differentia. It is also found in Aristotle, e.g. <u>On Plants</u> 819b 16, and <u>De Interpretatione</u> 22a 22.

47. If the general consensus which considers the <u>Categories</u> as an early treatise is correct, then this point acquires some import, in view of Jaeger's position about Aristotle's progressive estrangement from Platonism.

48. In the <u>Sophist</u> 255c, Plotinus had found the important distinction of <u>onta</u> between the <u>kath auto</u> and the <u>pros alla</u>.

49. To the category of <u>pros ti</u> Plotinus devoted four whole chapters in VI. 1., chapters 6-9.

50. In VI. 3. capters 1-20, Plotinus states the conditions under which the Aristotelian categories of <u>ousia</u>, <u>poson</u>, and <u>poion</u> could be accepted as "genera" of the realm of becoming.

51. Aristotle's categories are variously rendered into Engish by different authors. See Table **B** for the most common renderings. I have preferred the Greek terms in tranliteration.

52. <u>Categories</u> 2a 1-5, in Cooke's translation, the illustrative examples are respectively "in the the market-place" and "in the Lyceum", "yesterday" and "last year," "is shod" and "is armed."

53. In <u>Categories</u> 8b 27-29, Aristotle classified <u>hexeis</u> as a kind of <u>poion</u>, while he considered them as a case of <u>pros ti</u> in 10b 20-46. A. Edel, op. cit., p. 100, states: "If habits or states (<u>hexeis</u>) are akin to the category of state (<u>echein</u>; the terms are linguistically related), the whole field of virtues and vices in ethics would be brought within its scope." But by the same token two cardinal categories, quality and relation, would be reducible to the dubious category of <u>echein</u>. Such a reduction would be more drastic than that of Plotinus.

54. In <u>Categories</u> 1b 25, the categories are introduced as <u>aneu symplokes legomena</u>.

55. These two categories have been aptly characterized by Kahn, op. cit., as "anthropocentric," since they seem to function only when the subject of discourse is a man, e.g. Socrates.

56. VI. 1. 23. 4-6. This Plotinian either/or is a false dilemma, because in Greek grammar between the active and passive voices there is the middle voice, to which Aristotle's examples refer with regard to the category of <u>keisthai</u> (which, by the way, examplifies this middle voice).

57. On this point, Aristotle would disagree with Plotinus. As an Aristotelian category <u>pote</u> does not stand for measurable time in general, but for determined time during which something occurs. Simplicius, <u>Commentaria in Aristotelem Graeca</u>, vol. VIII, (Berlin: Reimer, 1907), pp. 301ff.

58. <u>Kinēsis</u> is the only Plotinian category which exactly corresponds to the homonymous Platonic genus. For recent debates of this concept, see J. Ackrill, "Aristotle's Distinction Between <u>Energeia</u> and <u>Kinēsis</u>," in <u>New Essays on Plato and Aristotle</u>, R. Bambrough, ed., (New York: Humanities Press, 1965), pp. 121-141; R. Polansky, "<u>Energeia</u> in Aristotle's <u>Metaphysics</u> IX." <u>Ancient Philosophy</u>, III, No. 2 (1983): 160-171; P.S. Mano, "<u>Energeia</u> and <u>Kinēsis</u> in <u>Metaphysics</u> Theta 6," <u>Apeiron</u> 4 (1970): 24-34; and L.A. Kosman, "Aristotle's Definition of Motion," <u>Phronesis</u> 14 (1969): 58-9.

59. VI. 1. 3. 21-27.

60. The translation of the quotations from the <u>Physics</u> is that of P.H. Wicksteed and F.M. Cornford (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1970).

61. See, e.g. <u>Metaphysics</u> 1046a-1048b, <u>Nicomachean Ethics</u> 1174a-1175b, and <u>De Anima</u> 431a-b.

62. In my translation, Aristotle's definition of <u>pros ti</u> reads as follows: "Relatives are called those things which, in order to be what they are, are said to be of something else or somehow related to something else." In Ackrill's rendering of the same passage we read: "We call relatives all such that are said to be just what they are, of or than other things, or in some way <u>in relation</u> to something else."

63. The term, which Aristotle uses in 222b 16 with reference to change and which is echoed here, is <u>ekstatike</u>.

64. According to Simplicius, op. cit., p. 306-308, Plotinus has been influenced by the Stoics here. Perhaps Aristotle wanted to keep <u>poiein</u> and <u>paschein</u> as separate categories because some activities do not imply passivity (i.e. <u>noein</u>) or reciprocity (i.e. <u>to kinoun akiniton</u> which he mentions in 201a 24).

65. For a complete list of commentators and critics of the <u>Categories</u>, see Simplicius, op. cit., pp 1-2.

66. I discuss this problem thoroughly in my forthcoming book, <u>Aristotle's Categories and Porphyry</u>, which has been accepted for publication in the series <u>Philosophia Antiqua</u>. TABLES

### Table A.

## Table B.

Plotinus				Aristotle
Elevenfold	Sevenfold	Fivefold	Twofold	Tenfold
matter form				
composite relation quantity	composite relation quantity	composite relation quantity	composite relation 	substance relatives quantity
quality in-place	quality	quality		quality where
in-time place time	place time			when
motion	motion	motion		
				acting passion having
				situation

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