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The Anger of Telemachus in *Odyssey* II

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In this paper, focusing on a passage σκῆπτρον βάλε γαίῃ (*Od.* 2.80. He threw the staff away to the ground), I will discuss the quality of anger of Telemachus by comparing it with the anger of Achilles in "Iliad".

σκῆπτρον has special meanings in various aspects. The actions of Telemachus and Achilles do not only represent excitement, but also create a feeling of tension by performing an act of throwing away σκῆπτρον which shows authority and sacredness, and these actions suggest that the staff is not treated politely by them. It has the effect of giving a vivid impression. In this respect, the two scenes are distinctive.

Although their depiction does not necessarily show a strict correspondence in the process, a certain approximation can be found with regard to the emotions and actions that Telemachus shows from I to II.

It cannot be denied that Telemachus at the beginning of "Odyssey" is depicted as a spiritless and unreliable young man, but we can see he has a sense of responsibility as a substitute for the master of a house, which he will show in the latter half of "Odyssey". And the spirit of trying to behave in such way can be found throughout the first book. Telemachus does not change and grow dramatically through the journeys at Pylos and Sparta, but his growth can have been visible before that.