

Book XI.  
Title LXXVIII. (LXXVII)

Forbidding the cutting or selling of cypress trees from the grove of Daphne or those of Perseus in Egypt.  
(De cupressis ex luco Daphnensi vel Perseis per Aegyptum non excidendis vel vendendis.)

11.78.1. Emperors Arcadius and Honorius to Silvanus, Count of the Crown Domain.

If any one buys any tree from the grove of Daphne in Syria or trees of Perseus in Egypt, he will be fined five pounds of gold; and the same fine will be imposed on the person who dares to sell trees, which it is not lawful for buyers to buy.

Note.

Otto, Schilling and Sentennis identify the tree of Perseus with the plane-tree. The grove of Daphne was a sacred grove.

11.78.2. Emperors Theodosius and Valentinian to Eudoxius, Count of the Imperial Exchequer.

Judges of every rank must know that hereafter authority is denied to cut, without permission of Your Magnitude, any tree from the grove of Daphne of the City of Antioch, or of hauling away trees which have fallen. Nor shall an alytarch<sup>1</sup> deem himself permitted to cut a single cypress, by planting others. And that he may not be entirely deprived of an emolument anciently granted him, he shall receive from our private treasury one pound of gold for being denied the right to cut the cypress. The violator hereof shall be punished by a fine of 50 pounds of gold.  
See C. Th. 10.1.12.

Note.

The alytarch was a person supervising the games.

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<sup>1</sup> [Blume] a magistrate supervising religious services.