

# The Classical Review

DECEMBER 1901.

To the twelfth volume of the *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology* a special interest attaches. Its contents consist of contributions, twenty-five in all, from 'former pupils or present colleagues of William Watson Goodwin, Eliot Professor of Greek Literature Emeritus, in commemoration of the happy completion of fifty years since he received his first degree in Arts from Harvard College, and of forty-one years since he became Eliot Professor.' The volume, which runs to 352 pages and has several illustrations, is fitly introduced by a congratulatory epistle in Greek and the following graceful epigram :

χαῖρε, πάτερ μέγ' ἄριστε καὶ εὐμένεως τάδε δέξαι  
καρπὸν σοὶ φέρομεν σῶν ἀπὸ φνταλιῶν.  
ἡμεῖς γὰρ σὲ φίλην νεαρὸν χερσὶ χεῖρα λαβόντες  
Ἑλλάδος εὐανθῆ γαίαν ἀφικόμεθα.

Among the contributors are a number of the best known classical scholars of America, including two of the associate editors of this Journal, Prof. J. H. Wright and Prof. W. G. Hale. The majority of the papers deal, as is natural, with Greek subjects, but some seven with Latin ones. Their contents appeal to very various interests—critical, grammatical, literary and archaeological. Professor Goodwin's many admirers upon both sides of the Atlantic will be glad that a personal tribute to their friend is a gathering of so much learning and scholarship.

We are glad to welcome the beginning of the *St. Andrew's University Publications*.  
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The first number is by Professor Lindsay and on *Nonius Marcellus*, a subject which he has made his own. In it the contents of the *De Compendiosa Doctrina* are dissected, and the method of its composition, a purely mechanical one, revealed. Prof. Lindsay thinks that the order which the compiler followed in quoting from the texts of republican authors should be followed for the future in citing their fragments—a procedure which would at once give us a fixed order in place of the present haphazard arrangements.

Most of our readers will have noticed with curiosity and concern the strife which has been raging in Athens on the question of the translation of the Greek Scriptures into the modern vernacular. With the political and religious factors of the dispute we have here of course nothing to do: but on the linguistic and literary side, it may be observed, the outbreak is significant. Modern Greece is being rudely awakened to the fact that for her too, as for the rest of the world, Ancient Greek is a dead language. We may well sympathise with her in her distraction and in her gallant efforts to keep up the connexion with a glorious past. But none the less does history warn us that the only wholesome influence which the past can exercise upon the present is through thought and not through speech: and the sooner Romaic, which is a language with great potentialities, comes to its rights, the better will it be for literature and scholarship in modern Greece.

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