

NOTES AND NEWS

PROF. POSTGATE has attacked the *idola fori* in one of their chiefest shrines. His inaugural lecture as Professor at Liverpool University is an examination of Dead Language and Dead Languages (Murray, 1s.). He draws a distinction between dead languages and languages of the dead, and aptly compares the increasing value of a Rembrandt or a Gainsborough. Latin in particular is capable of expressing any thought that we may wish to express, apart from technicalities or modern inventions. As regards the last, he makes a palpable hit by reminding an objector that the very motor takes its name from Latin, and telephone from Greek. He is able to find good reasons why practical men should learn Latin. He then carries the war into the enemy's country, and points out that much of English is dead. A few spirited translations from Latin authors show how modern and ancient life touch together.

Many thoughts are suggested by this lecture. Prof. Postgate can do without our old friend Mental Gymnastic; he has his uses, but man does not live by gymnastics alone. The lecture should be reassuring for those who (like the author of certain pages in the pamphlet on German

Reform - Gymnasien) shrink from the idea of using Latin to express the thoughts and experiences of daily life. We may remember that Greek is also a living language, which has shown itself able to name even modern inventions without going outside its own vocabulary. An uneducated peasant who sees a camera for the first time understands without telling what you mean by *φωτογραφία*: if he does not know how the light inscribes, neither do you.

Just in this nick of time comes a Latin newspaper to the Review. The *Scriptor Latinus* (Lüstenöder, Frankfurt a. M.) appears to be in its ninth year; it contains a Westminster prologue and epilogue, an essay *De Docendi Hilaritate*, an *Oratiuncula*, an Alcaic Ode on *Zeppelin* (whose author does not quite see eye to eye with Horace in the varieties of metre), *Lacrima Matris* in hexameters, merry dialogues on games, correspondence, and news. Commencing Latinists may find a market here for their wares, at the rate of 36 M. per sheet. We have already mentioned in these pages the Italian *Vox Urbis* (*C.R.* xxiii. 28); and reference may also be made to *C.R.* xii. 430. We venture to suggest that MCMX is not the way to print 1910 in Latin notation.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of THE CLASSICAL REVIEW.

SIR,—May I ask you to allow me to disclaim an opinion ascribed to me in the CLASSICAL REVIEW of May, 1910? Mr. Richards in his review of Mr. Bywater's *Poetics* says: 'I am glad that Mr. Bywater does not believe in Aristotle's meaning to say or to imply in chap. i. that poetry can be written in prose, as Mr. Butcher rather strangely thinks.' In my remarks on that difficult passage (*Ed.* 1907, pp. 142-7) I observe: 'The obvious suggestion is that the meaning of the word "poet" should be widened so as to include any writer, either in prose or verse, whose work is an "imitation" within the aesthetic meaning of the term. . . . But as regards the *Art* of Poetry his reasoning does not lead us to conclude that he would have reckoned the authors of prose dialogues or romances among poets strictly so called. As Mr. Courthope truly says, "he does not attempt to prove that metre is not a necessary accompani-

ment of the higher conceptions of poetry," and he "therefore cannot be ranged with those who support that extreme opinion." I then proceed: 'Still there would appear to be some want of firmness in the position he takes up as the place and importance of metre'; and I give reasons for thinking that Aristotle underrated the power of musical sound as a factor in poetry.

S. H. BUTCHER.

'DUPLICATION' IN CLASSICAL
REVIEWS.

To the Editor of THE CLASSICAL REVIEW.

SIR,—In the Report (just published) of the Annual Meeting of the Classical Association on January 10 (at which I was unable to be present), Dr. Sandys is reported to have said in the discussion on *The Classical Quarterly* and *The Classical Review* (p. 32): 'The fact of having two journals

means duplicating a certain amount of work. Some persons take in both journals, so they will get the reviews of a certain book in one journal, and some months later a review of the same book in the other journal.' These words, which were understood by subsequent speakers (pp. 33, 35) to refer to actual cases of 'overlapping' in these two journals, and formed part of an argument for a return to the undivided *Classical Review*, will now have been before some fourteen hundred of those most keenly interested in classical studies in this country. And I must therefore ask Dr. Sandys to complete his statement by giving instances of this 'duplication' from the three years preceding his speech (1907-1909), during which the *Classical Quarterly* and *Classical Review* had had a separate existence.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. POSTGATE
(Editor *Classical Quarterly*).

Liverpool, June 25, 1910.

To the Editor of THE CLASSICAL REVIEW.

SIR,—In reply to many reviewers, I should like to state in THE CLASSICAL REVIEW that I do not hold that malaria caused the decline of Greece or of Rome. But it seems certain that—

- (1) Endemic malaria does serious harm.
- (2) Malaria was not a *static* factor in ancient history; we *know* that the amount of malaria in e.g. Latium was on the increase in classical times, and that many places, malarious afterwards, were not malarious in the first century B.C.

Further, experienced investigators have written to me from South Italy, asserting that an examination of malarious sites there convinces them that Sybaris, Metapontum, and the other towns of this region could not have been founded except under healthier conditions than those existing now.

The fair-haired Northerners who invaded Greece in pre-Homeric times would suffer more (through non-acclimatisation) than the original inhabitants of the Mediterranean basin. Hippocrates, indeed, says that dwellers in very malarious places were dark-haired, *i.e.*, malaria killed off the fair-haired portion of the population.

I believe that further research on the lines suggested here would bring out some interesting results, and I should be glad to give such help as I can to anyone who cares to undertake the work.

W. H. S. JONES.

St. Catharine's College, Cambridge.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Publishers and Authors forwarding Books for review are asked to send at the same time a note of the price.

* * * *Excerpts and Extracts from Periodicals and Collections are not included in these Lists unless stated to be separately published.*

Annaeana Nova Velleiana ad Scriptores Hist. Ang., ad Panegyricus Latinis. Scripsit C. Brakman, J.F. Lugduni Batavorum: Brill. 1910. 9" × 6½". Pp. 36.

Aristophanes. Die metrische und rhythmische Komposition der Komödien. 1 Teil, Ἀχαρνῆς. 2, Ὀρνίθες. 3, Λυσιστράτη. 4, Θεσμοφορέζουσαι. Wissenschaftliche Beilage zum Jahresbericht des Königl. Friedrich-Wilhelms-Gymnasiums zu Greifenberg P. Vom Direktor Prof. Dr. Carl Conradt, Leipzig: Gustav Fock. 1910. 10¼" × 7¾". Pp. 58.

Aristophanes' Knights. Text and translation into corresponding metres, with Introduction and Commentary. By B. B. Rogers. London: G. Bell and Sons. 1910. 8½" × 7". Pp. 1 + 247. 10s. 6d.

Bassi (D.) La Sticometria nei Papiri Ercolanessi. Pp. 78.—Catalogo Descrittivo dei Papiri Ercolanessi. *Saggis.* (From the Rivista di Filologia.) 6" × 8¾". Pp. 477-502.

Classical Association (Proceedings of). Vol. VII. London: John Murray. 1910. 8½" × 5½". Pp. 219. 2s. 6d. net.

Commentationes Aenipontanae quas edunt E. Kalinka et A. Zingerle. V. Imperfectum audibam ad

futur audibo von L. Siegel. Die Berichte des Photios über die fünf ältern Attischen Redner, analysiert von A. Vonach. Ad Aeni Pontem in aedibus Wagnerianis. 1910. 9¼" × 6½". Pp. 76.

Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum. Editum consilio et impensis Academiae Litterarum Caesareae Vindobonensis. Vol. LIV. S. Eusebii Hieronymi Opera (Sect. 1, Pars. 1). Epistularum Pars. 1. Epistulae I—LXX. Recensuit Isidorus Hilberg. Leipzig: G. Freytag. 1910. 9" × 6". Pp. 97-708. M. 22.50.

Demosthenes. Ausgewählte Reden, für den Schulgebrauch Erklärt von F. Blass. Zweiter Teil; Die Rede vom Kranze. Zweite Auflage besorgt von K. Fuhr. Leipzig: B. G. Teubner. 1910. 9" × 5½". Pp. x + 212. M. 2.40.

Ebersolt (Jean) Sainte-Sophie de Constantinople, Étude de Topographie d'après les Cérémonies (avec un plan). Pp. 40. Le grand Palais de Constantinople et le Livre des Cérémonies, avec un Avant-Propos de M. Charles Diehl et un Plan de M. Adolphe Thiers. 10" × 6½". Pp. xvi + 240.

Ellis (R.) Lecture on Professor Birt's Edition of the Vergilian Catalepton. London: Henry Frowde. 1910. 8½" × 5½". Pp. 17. 1s. net.