

The Classical Review

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EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

FROM the Clarendon Press come two new-old books which gladden the heart: '*Aristotelis De Republica Libri VIII. ex recensione Immanuelis Bekkeri. Oxonii, e Typographeo Academico. Editio Prima 1837. Editionem alteram phototypice excudebat SOCIETAS MUSTONIANA. In margine additi sunt paginarum numeri ex editione maiore Berolinensi. Impressum Londini Anglorum per Lowe et Brydone apud Park Street, Camden Town, N.W. 1.*' Aristotle in Camden Town, with honest proto-Victorian looks. Quid plura? The other book is the first of ten parts of the new *Liddell and Scott*. There will be more to say of this great work.

To the first volume of *BYZANTION*, dedicated to Kondakoff and edited—in Brussels, its fitting birthplace, for it is the child of the Congress of 1923—by Graindor and Grégoire, we offer a hearty welcome. As the Editors point out, the new Review will not only serve the needs of Byzantine scholars as such, but will provide a rallying-point for the newly stimulated intellectual life of South-Eastern Europe. An enterprise so closely associated with Brussels is sure of sympathy in Britain, and those who think of translating sympathy into subscriptions will receive a very substantial *quid pro quo*. We hope to call attention elsewhere to the rich variety of this first volume.

'The death of Sir Clifford Allbutt is as severe a loss to the humanities as it is to the study of medicine. Although no friend to what he perhaps wrongly styled "pedantry," he was always ready both by word and by deed to help the cause of classical studies. Combining long experience with a perpetual youthfulness of outlook, he could appreciate the importance of the new learning without disparaging the old. Once a classical scholar of Caius, he illustrated in his own person the truth of the statement that a classical training is one of the best

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preparations for a medical career, and his whole life was a protest against narrowness of outlook in his profession. Readers of the *C.R.* will be familiar with his articles on subjects relating to ancient medicine; but his greatest contribution to classical research is *Greek Medicine in Rome*, published in 1921. The section called "Mystery of Motion" is one of the best accounts of Ionian philosophy ever published. But his contribution to classical studies must not be measured by his published work, important as that is. He was always helping classical scholars by encouragement, advice, and criticism. Those who came into contact with him were charmed by his generosity, by his buoyancy of spirits, and by his genuine kindness and enthusiasm. To know him was an inspiration, and to many his memory will be a stimulus to fresh efforts for the advancement of true learning.'

W. H. S. J.

'Arthur Platt (1860-1925), growing up in an age when Greek scholarship in England was generally under the influence of Hermann, himself continued the line of his countrymen Dawes, Porson, and Elmsley, with whose turn of mind he probably had more in common than any Englishman of the last hundred years, not excepting Badham or Headlam. He united great critical refinement with an instinct which went straight to the point. That he did not write much was directly owing to the extraordinary width of his range and capacity. His chief love was not for Greek, but for great literature: in that air he dwelt, whether the tongue were Greek, Latin, English, French, Italian, Spanish, German, or Persian; and in Platt's company one felt that one was not an educated man. His work was most esteemed by the few who could best appraise it, but he was so gay and unpretentious that vulgar judgments underrated him; and academic honours tend rather to those whose levity lies nearer the centre. We have lost as genuine and straightforward a mind and character as can ever have been born into the world, and a delightful creature whom it is a precious treasure to have known.'

A. E. H.

'Professor Louis Havet died in his seventy-seventh year on January 26. Alas! the two French *lumina Latinitatis* are now quenched—first Lejay, then Havet. France's loss is like England's loss when first Munro then Ellis were taken away. The devotion of Havet's old students to their teacher was something wonderful. He had, as few teachers have, the gift

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of lucid exposition, and could lend interest or even charm to a dull subject. The dry stick blossomed at his touch. And how gracious, how kindly his manner with pupils—what a fatherly affection he had for all! The lecture-room without Havet in the chair—what a difference there will be! In the earlier years of his professoriate he seemed to follow the German track, particularly in his treatment of Plautine metre. Later a peculiarly French subtlety of mind gained predominance, and produced these editions of the *Amphitruo* and of *Phaedrus*, with their original, stimulating,

but not always convincing, emendation of the traditional text. The *Revue de Philologie* in his editorship was filled with these brilliant suggestions. The last stage of his life was mainly given up to the minutiae of textual emendation. His *Manuel de Critique Verbale*—a monument of ingenuity and wide reading—tried to reduce to rule and formula what (alas!) is always eluding rule and formula. With Traube's writings on "Ueberlieferungsgeschichte" it ushers in a new era, when reckless "dogmatic divination" will be sent to limbo.'

W. M. L.

IN MNEMOSYNNEN QUINQUAGENARIAM.¹

Ἄλλ' ἔτι τέκνα θεοὶ δοῖεν πολλοὺς τε Κοβήτους
 πευτηκοντάτεκνε Μνημοσύνη σε τρέφειν.

¹ Vide P. H. Damstaei 'Mnemosynen Quinquagenariam' in *Mnemosynen Bibliothecae Philologicae Batavae* volumine LIII. (1925).

THE KERKIDAS PAPYRUS.

II.

WE now know that the second (?) poem on love was at my col. 8¹ followed by a third poem differing from the normal metre established by Maas, namely:

{ - υ υ - υ υ - + { υ - υ υ - υ υ - υ
 { or - υ - υ - υ - + { or υ - υ - υ

The general subject of the poem is not obscure. It contrasts the poetic and spiritual character of the writer with the grossness of sensualists. The difficulty is that of metre.

Quite clearly we get in two places—

- υ υ - υ υ - - υ υ - υ υ
 Πιερίδων θ' ἀλιεντὰς ἔπλεο, θυμέ, καὶ
 - - - υ - υ
 ἰχνευτὰς ἄριστος
 δερκομένα βιοτὰς εὐρὺν ποτὶ τέρματος
 οὐδόν· τὰμος ἐσλάς

to which we may in all probability add—
 γαστρί τε μυριά]κις δμαθεις βροτὸς οὔτι
 ἐκὼν ἔκλαξε καθῶς
 τῦν δ' ὄκκα μὲν' ἐκφανέες λευκαὶ κορυφῆ
 περιαιωρεύντ' ἔθ' οἶαι

and perhaps—

..... πάντα τεοῖσι δ' ὑπὸ σπλάγχ-
 νοισ<ιν> ἔσκ<εν>.

With this metre, which is well known, I will deal later. But there is also apparently another long verse consisting of three portions:

- υ υ - υ υ - - - υ υ - -
 τὴν δ' ἀμάλακτον ἔσω στέρνων καὶ ἀνίκα-
 - υ υ - υ
 τον κέαρ ἔσκειν
 λάχνα κνακὸν δὲ γένειον καὶ
 τι ματένει
 πιμελοσαρκοφάγων πάσας μελεδώνας·
 †τοι τῶ† διέφευγεν

(where the ν of the Papyrus is very unlikely to be an error), and perhaps—

κράγνον ἀλικίας χροῶν †τ' ἐπάξ† ἶον
 κολακεύει

which is not sense, but will be metrical, with the insertion of one syllable, if we allow a doubtful quantity at the places marked. It is clear that the first long verse is of the form A+A'+B, both A and B being forms already noted, and A' being a variant of A ensuring continuity of rhythm.

The second metre, however, is A+C+C', C' being only one syllable longer than C. The verse of this form, which I have placed second, begins, I fancy, τε σκιάσαι <δὲ> λάχνα (or λάχνα), while the fourth may be most easily corrected by inserting ἐπ' before

¹ With one verse on col. 7; e.g. ἀδοναῖς
 γαστρί τε.