RENAISSANCE NEWS

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Source Readings in Music History; From Classical Antiquity through the Romantic Era. Selected and Annotated by Oliver Strunk. New York: W. W. Norton, 1950. xxi and 919 p. $8.50.

It has been known for some time that work on this anthology was going forward, and anticipation of its publication has been high. Now that it has appeared it is possible to estimate, in some degree at least, the scholarly discrimination which went into its making and to pay tribute to the thoroughness which characterizes every page. The fundamental virtue of Mr. Strunk's book is that it presents not interpretations of thought, not explanations of technical procedures, but the language itself of the thinker and the theorist, translated, where necessary, into clearly understandable terms. Giovanni de' Bardi, for example, is no longer merely a figure in music history, prominent in the furtherance of a new and progressive movement, but a forceful writer who sets forth his

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