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## BRIEF MENTION.

PROFESSOR MERRIAM'S work is always careful, thoughtful, suggestive, and his edition of *Herodotos* (*Books VI and VII*, Harpers), though not elaborated with so much love as his *Phaeacians* (see A. J. P. I, p. 468), is worthy of special note as a real contribution to the study of his author. The grammatical observations are especially valuable, and show minute knowledge of the whole field. Much is due to his personal research; how much does not always appear, as his plan has precluded his giving credit to others, but as he has made exceptions here and there, it would have been as well if he had referred the statement in regard to the articular infinitive in Herodotos to Dr. Allinson, who was at the pains of making the count (*Trans. Am. Phil. Assoc.* 1878, p. 14). The exact statistic is not at hand, but one of my students made an examination as to the use of the third attributive position in Lucian, which led me to modify my statement in Justin Martyr, *Apol.* I, c. 6, 7. Professor Merriam's note (VI 22, 3), coincides with my original impression. This is not the place to discuss the troublesome question of 'coincident action' in the participle, to which Professor Merriam comes back, and it must suffice to remark simply that in practice it would be better to keep those sentences in which the actions coincide, as with *φθάνω*, *τυγχάνω*, and the like apart from those in which the participle represents the object of sensation, as after *ἀκούω*, *ὀρῶ*. The failure to do this has obscured the results of his acute observation (comp. VI 29, 11 and 129, 21). Cobet accuses Herodotos of a lax use of the imperfect, a point that it would have been well to meet more fully than Professor Merriam has done; but each man maps out his grammatical work in his own way, and Professor Merriam has given us so much that is valuable that one is not disposed to quarrel about minor matters. Of especial interest are the rhetorical notes, in which good use has been made of the Greek rhetoricians, who have until lately been too much neglected. Perhaps, however, it would have been well to warn young students by putting pseudo- before Longinus. The judicious use of epigraphic evidence is also to be noticed as a good feature. Of translation Professor Merriam has been somewhat too chary, considering the stage at which Herodotos is taken up, and the commentary is so good that we wish there were more of it. The proof-reading seems to be even better than in the White and Seymour series; at least a fairly careful reading of the notes has only revealed trifles that correct themselves. Here and there the references are not fortunate, but on the whole a better edition within the limits is seldom found, and those limits are not made, as is so often the case, to exclude all that is original, penetrating, suggestive.

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This number was nearly made up before the reception of PROFESSOR HÜBNER'S monumental work (*Exempla Scripturae Epigraphicae Latinae a Caesaris Dictatoris Morte ad aetatem Iustiniani. Consilio et auctoritate Acade-*

*miae Litterarum Regiae Borussicae. Edidit AEMILIUS HUEBNER. Corporis Inscriptionum Latinarum Auctarium. Berolini: apud Georgium Reimerum MDCCCLXXXV*), and a fuller notice must be reserved. In the *Prolegomena* (pp. i-lxxxiv) the story of the book is told and its plan unfolded. It is a record of wonderful energy and zeal, and a masterly exhibit of unique attainments in the forms of Latin epigraphy. The vast material had never been handled before in this way. The rude woodcuts of the earlier time, the seductive but inaccurate copperplates of a subsequent period, only gave sporadic specimens, and it was not until Ritschl called emphatic attention to the importance of epigraphic palaeography that the study had its new birth. Those who were students at Bonn in 1852-3 will remember the lively interest excited by the epigraphic programmes published at that time, especially by the paper on the noted inscription of the Duellian Columna Rostrata, with its admirable lithographic illustration. It was from Ritschl that Professor Hübner caught his enthusiasm for epigraphic studies, and this volume, beginning as it does with Caesar's death, is the sequel of the *Priscae Latinitatis Monumenta Epigraphica*. In the prolegomena we read of the museums that were ransacked, of the technical difficulties that had to be overcome, the weather-worn stones that resisted the seductions of the squeeze, the high-perched monuments that could not be reached by ladders. The editor has an army of obliging friends—and no man deserves them better—without whose active assistance the work could not have been accomplished. But to so thorough an expert the denial of personal vision at any point must have been painful. The questions of detail to be solved were numberless. What was to be renounced in conformity with any reasonable economy? What was to be secured at all hazards? To all such questions Professor Hübner makes us parties, and thus gives a personal interest to his work and enlists our sympathies while adding to our knowledge. The drawings were made in outline after squeezes, and when squeezes failed, after photographs, and then reproduced by phototypography. The scale of the drawing is carefully indicated in every instance, and though it has been found necessary in long inscriptions to give only specimen lines, the whole inscription is transliterated in full below, for the pedantry which would make the use of such a book difficult for the beginner is foreign to a man of Professor Hübner's wide sympathies. Besides, even the most experienced epigrapher would like to be spared the trouble of hunting up the full text through the long series of the CIL. The chapters on the various branches of epigraphy, the artisan and his tools, the blunders of the cutters and the blending of styles, are followed by what is technically of the very highest importance—an exhaustive treatment of the forms of the letters, in the discernment of which Professor Hübner's skill and experience give him conclusive authority. But only an epigrapher can justly measure the work of an epigrapher, and it would be a mistake to anticipate the detailed review. It is becoming more and more evident year by year that American scholars are not content to leave this field entirely to their European colleagues, and though nothing can be a substitute for immediateness of vision, still what can be done should be done, and

such a work as Professor Hübner's brings antiquity much nearer to every one of us.

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PROFESSOR WILKINS'S edition of the *Epistles of Horace* (Macmillan & Co., 1885) shows familiarity with the 'literature,' which is nowadays an indispensable recommendation, and brings into the student's sphere many much needed corrections of vague or mistaken notions as to orthography, etymology and construction. The more simple phenomena are solved by reference to Roby's Grammar, which enjoys an extraordinary authority in England, and to the P. S. G., which darkens counsel by terminology. In more difficult questions the teacher or advanced scholar is brought into contact with more special works, and is thus led to acquire a larger knowledge of what has been done than is always comfortable to a certain order of minds. The text is conservative, but Dr. Wilkins is by no means superstitious in his conservatism, and adheres to the tradition only because he cannot put faith in the emendations that have been proposed, and the reasons for the unfaith that is in him he knows how to give clearly and cogently. The revision of the current parallels, which he has undertaken, is much needed everywhere; and as the difficulty in commenting on Horace is to omit, no one will complain that the familiar *hederae sequaces* of Pers. Prol. 6 is missing at Ep. 1, 3, 25. If it was useful to mention river gods at Ep. 2, 1, 193, then Verg. Georg. 3, 29, or Ovid, A. A. 1, 223 would have been a little nearer than the passages actually cited. Perhaps the well-worn *dimidium facti qui coepit habet* (1, 2, 40) might have been lighted up a little by Auson. Epigr. 83: *Incipe: dimidium facti est coepisse; superfit | dimidium: rursus hoc incipe et efficies*. There are some indications that the commentary was committed to the printer as it was prepared. So notes are repeated, as 1, 2, 46 and 1, 17, 36, and the same subject is treated with different degrees of fullness, as on 1, 1, 6 and 1, 18, 66, comp. also 1, 1, 13, and 1, 18, 58. The eight-page index does not give even an approximate notion of the value of the commentary.—Dr. Wilkins has naturally much to say about Keller, and every one will welcome the appearance of Keller's convenient text-edition of *Horace* (Q. H. F. opera edd. O. KELLER et I. HÄUSSNER, Leipzig, Freytag, 1885). In the *Praefatio* the critical principles of the famous *Epitome* are insisted on. The type is beautifully clear. The text is preceded by a *conspectus metrorum* which follows the traditional system, and by passages from the Greek poets, which Horace is known or is supposed to have imitated. If we only had more! The retranslation into Greek explains many Horatian problems.—MR. VERRALL'S remarkable *Studies in Horace*, a book which has engaged the attention of all Horatian scholars, will receive examination in an early number of this Journal.

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DR. HOLDEN'S edition of *Plutarch's Gracchi* (Cambridge, University Press, 1885) has all the excellences that mark the work of this unwearied scholar. He has chosen these two lives because of the momentous problems involved, and because Plutarch, as he thinks, is seen here at his best. An

elaborate introduction enables the student to understand the movement of the times, and the commentary and lexical index provide everything that can be reasonably desired for the elucidation of the text and the guidance of the young Grecian through the peculiarities of Plutarch's grammar and vocabulary. Goodwin is the standard of reference, but Hadley-Allen is also cited at times with advantage. The mechanical execution is beautiful, as is to be expected of the Pitt Press, but middle-aged eyes rebel against so much nonpareil Greek, and the proof-reader has evidently himself grown weary at times. So in the Greek of p. 61, which was taken at random as a specimen, there are from ten to a dozen misprints in accentuation and spelling. Further examination shows that the specimen is no specimen, but a 'sport,' and the writer of this note has learned by long and sad experience extreme leniency in such matters.

B. L. G.