



Latin Epigraphy by J. E. Sandys

Review by: H. Stuart Jones

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NOTICES OF RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

LATIN EPIGRAPHY : AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LATIN INSCRIPTIONS. By Sir J. E. SANDYS, Litt.D. F.B.A. Fifty Illustrations. Cambridge : University Press, 1919.

This book, as the author explains in the Preface, was written as an expansion of a brief chapter in the Cambridge *Companion to Latin Studies*, in response to a suggestion from a member of the teaching profession : and no doubt Sir John Sandys, who wrote the original chapter owing to the non-fulfilment of his hope that the task might be undertaken by an expert in the practical study of Roman Inscriptions, would not have been sorry to secure the services of such a specialist for the production of this manual. He has, however, been lavish of his pains in collecting and digesting information on the subject ; and in his first chapter he has attempted something new and valuable, viz., a survey of the references to inscriptions in classical authors. We cordially commend this section both to students and teachers. For the rest, the book contains, in a highly compact form, the information which is usually given in such manuals ; and it may safely be said that no other work of the kind gives anything like so much in so short a space. The results, too, of recent research have been utilised : account is taken of Sir W. Ramsay's discovery at Antioch in Pisidia of some fragments of a copy of the *Res gestae divi Augusti*, and there are references to the concluding volume of Dessau's *Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae*. We cannot but feel, however, that had Sir John Sandys been engaged in teaching the subject of which he writes, he would have been led, by the experience thus gained of the wants and difficulties of students, to fill some noticeable gaps, and would have avoided some of the misleading statements to which extreme condensation is apt to lead. The following examples will make this clear.

p. 111. It would appear from the statement at the top of the page as though in the Senatorial *cursus honorum* under the Empire the offices of tribune and aedile were successive and not alternative (Mommsen, *Staatsrecht* i², 555).

p. 136. 'In upper Germany and Gaul, from the time of Caracalla [rather Septimius Severus, cf. *C.I.L.* xiii, 9137] the distances were reckoned in leagues.' This method of measurement was sometimes employed at an earlier date, and was, though general, not universal in the regions named even after A.D. 202 : see *C.I.L.* xiii, part 2, p. 645 (O. Hirschfeld).

p. 184. It is stated that no diplomas have been found in which privileges were granted to an ordinary legionary soldier, with the apparent exception of those serving in *Legio prima adiutrix* and *Legio secunda adiutrix*. This statement is the more surprising since there is a reference on p. 185, note 3, to Dessau 9059, which refers to the *Legio decima Fretensis*. Even if this document be ruled out on the ground that it does not correspond precisely in form or substance with the *diplomata* proper, there remains *Dipl. cii.* (*C.I.L.* iii, supp. p. 2328⁶⁵, where it is shown that the *constitutio* must refer to legionaries, and belongs to circa A.D. 74). Since the appearance of Sir John Sandys' book this matter has been fully discussed by Lesquier, *L'armée romaine d'Égypte*, p. 312 ff.

p. 193. It is scarcely accurate to say that 'any of the other praefects [except the *praefectus praetorio*] or of the highest procurators was *vir perfectissimus*.' The title was not given to praefects below the rank of *praefectus classis*, nor (for example) to the governors of 'procuratorial' provinces.

p. 228 f. Nothing is said of the broad distinction of usage between the titles *IIuiri* and *IIIuiri* ; it seems to be implied that the *aediles* were distinct from the *IIIuiri*, whereas the latter college normally embraced *IIIuiri i(ure) d(icundo)* and *IIIuiri aediles* (or *aedilicia potestate*) : and *quinquennales* are apparently confined to *collegia*, which is a serious mistake.

p. 230 ff. Even at the sacrifice of some other information, it would have been

extremely desirable to tell the student more about the Imperial titles (with a prefatory section about those borne by Julius Caesar).

- (a) Practically nothing is said on the interesting questions connected with the origin and history of the *Praenomen Imperatoris* : it is, indeed, misleading to speak of Tiberius as declining the 'title' Imperator :
- (b) The style of Vitellius is given as *A. Vitellius L.f. Imperator*, omitting the most interesting feature, viz. *cos. perp(etuus)* :
- (c) There is no mention of the fact that the office of *Pontifex maximus* was not shared by any joint rulers earlier than Pupienus and Balbinus (amongst whose titles it is not included by Sir J. Sandys) :
- (d) It is not explained why the *imperatoriae consalutationes* cease to appear in the third century.

p. 280. It is by no means 'generally agreed that Mommsen was right in holding that the *imperium* was conferred by a *senatus consultum* (or by the army, with the subsequent approval of the Senate), and the *tribunicia potestas* by what is nominally a *lex*.' This view has been subjected to much criticism, e.g. by Kromayer and Schulz, and must be regarded as highly controversial.

H. STUART JONES.

LES TRAFIQUANTS ITALIENS DANS L'ORIENT HELLÉNIQUE. Par JEAN HATZFELD. 407 pp. Paris : De Boccard, 1919.

M. Hatzfeld's study of the Italian community resident in Delos, based on an exhaustive examination of the inscriptions, served as a preparation for the present work, which covers a much wider ground and is marked by the same thoroughness. It was completed in 1914, but little fresh material has come to light since that date. The volume of the new *Corpus* of inscriptions dealing with Euboea appeared too late to be of use to the author, but it contains very few items relevant to the subject. We may note, however, that the inscription from Chalcis mentioned on p. 70 is treated by the editor as a list of honorary gymnasiarchs and not as the record of a college of *véoi*. M. Hatzfeld draws some interesting conclusions from the distribution and dating of the inscriptions : he finds, for example, that the great importance of the Roman *negotiatores* in the Levant was confined to the first century B.C., and from this he deduces the corollary that Mommsen's verdict on the destruction of Carthage and Corinth as a measure of 'mercantilism' is at least exaggerated. In some instances it may be questioned whether the *argumentum ex silentio* (which he uses freely) will bear the weight laid upon it. For example, M. Hatzfeld finds no trace of Roman traders in S. Russia, and assumes that they did not venture so far afield. The evidence of tomb-paintings, however, shows that gladiatorial shows were introduced into this region, and this is usually held to be good evidence of the presence and influence of Romans. Again, M. Hatzfeld casts doubt on the prevalence of organised *conventus civium Romanorum* (of which Kornemann and Schulten have made much). Here, again, the *argumentum ex silentio* seems to be a little overworked. 'If,' he says, 'there had been such *conventus* in Asia at the beginning of the first century B.C., they would have had an excellent opportunity of manifesting their existence at the time of the massacres of 88'—but we do not hear that they took any concerted measures of defence. Is this surprising, considering the meagreness of the record? By the way, is M. Hatzfeld right in translating τετράγωνα ἱμάτια 'leur toge carrée' (which those who had recently acquired the *civitas* exchanged for 'la tunique Grecque')? Surely the words of Posidonius—μεταμφιεσάμενοι τετράγωνα ἱμάτια—mean that they put on Greek ἱμάτια in place of the *toga*, which was segmental in outline.

The list of *gentes* to which the *negotiatores* belonged given at the close of the volume is exceedingly useful, and shows that this class was largely recruited from S. Italy. This, no doubt, is the reason why we hear of Ἰταλικοί rather than Ῥωμαῖοι in the earlier inscriptions.