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***Greek Civilisation as a Study for the People.* By W. Rhys Roberts. The Value and the Methods of Mythologic Study. By L. R. Farnell. London: Humphrey Milford. Oxford University Press. University of Wisconsin: *Classical Studies in Honour of Charles Forster Smith.* By his Colleagues. Pp. 190. Madison: 1919. University of Chicago: *Studies in Stichomythia.* By J. L. Hancock Pp. 97. Sycophancy in Athens. By J. O. Lofberg. Pp. 104. Chicago: University Press. 1917.**

Frank Granger

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on these blemishes in a work which otherwise exhibits much patience and care both in the collection of the neces-

sary material and in its detailed interpretation.

G. E. K. BRAUNHOLTZ.

MISCELLANEA.

Proceedings of the British Academy: *Greek Civilisation as a Study for the People*. By W. RHYS ROBERTS. *The Value and the Methods of Mythologic Study*. By L. R. FARNELL. London: Humphrey Milford. Oxford University Press.

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IF the account of this varied collection of studies is to go beyond a mere catalogue, we must keep in view some principle. And the principle we need is given to us by Professor Rhys Roberts. We are not concerned with Greek civilisation, however, in its fullest extent. Perhaps Hellenism would confine our outline within comfortable limits. Now there is some quality in Hellenism which distinguishes it from other subjects of study. On a perusal of the works already enumerated, it appears to be this. The Greeks we have in view were, as compared with other peoples, the possessors of unusually clear consciousness. They were susceptible to a large range of impressions, and they could discriminate between them. Other peoples, indeed, have had the same gifts. But the Greeks went further. Their language was the outcome of clear thinking and, in turn, clear thinking was fostered by their language. They developed on the lips of their best speakers and writers a form of expression almost adequate to all the demands of consciousness. Hence we can trace the Greek mind more clearly than any other, as it worked upon the problems of knowledge, of aesthetics, and of action. The French, of modern peoples, come per-

haps nearest to these Greek excellences. The Romans, in antiquity, were in like manner the best interpreters of the Greek tradition. But Greek literature alone is eternally modern. There is nothing so hopelessly antiquated in Greek literature as last year's newspapers. Clearly apprehended and clearly expressed consciousness is rarely to be found in our English tradition. People nowadays would accord to mathematical studies the functions which are here indicated. But the clarity of mathematics is disappearing, and this process will be quickened when mathematics forgets its Greek origin.

Candidly I suffer myself badly from confused thinking and inability to express myself. An apology is therefore due to the authors now passed under review, if I apply this personal need as a test. Mr. Farnell leads up in his admirable summary to the conclusion that even legend has a historical footing and brings us down to solid earth. With a sigh of relief we can shake ourselves free from the phantasms in which some fashionable mythologists delight. The Classical Studies from Wisconsin, in honour of Charles Forster Smith, are creditable to the recipient. We may be especially grateful to Mr. Fiske, who deals with 'The Plain Style in the Scipionic Circle,' and to Mr. C. N. Smiley for his paper on 'Seneca and the Stoic Theory of Literary Style.' But although the setting is Roman for these subjects, after all we are left sitting at the feet of Greek masters. It is enough to remember that Greek was almost supreme in Rome itself for the five centuries which are bisected at the Christian era. Chicago sends dissertations on 'Sycophancy in Athens,' by Mr. Lofberg, and on 'Stichomythia' by Mr. Hancock. Those who are specially interested in the topics dealt with by these writers will find the materials well displayed and clearly arranged.

At this moment when all the arts of

the sycophant are being brought, with or without intention, to play upon the Demos, and when, more than at any time within living memory, public statements of fact are coloured by entrenched interests or by the propaganda of innovators, the main use of Greek studies is found in the illumination which they shed upon human motives, and in the

clear judgments which the Greeks, above all other nations, passed upon them. The Greek knew when he was lying. To-day the Demos, and his sycophants, are rarely conscious of the truth even when they hit upon it. Professor Rhys Roberts goes far in his suggestion of the remedy.

FRANK GRANGER.

SOME SCHOOL BOOKS.

A Greek Reader for Schools, adapted from Aesop, Theophrastus, Lucian, Herodotus, Thucydides, Xenophon, Plato. Edited by C. E. FREEMAN and W. D. LOWE. Pp. 142. Clarendon Press. 3s.

'THE book is an attempt to make real Greek literature easy enough for those who have a fair knowledge of elementary grammar. For this purpose much of the original text has been omitted, and in some cases it has been necessary to simplify sentences and phrases, but very little that is actually new has been introduced.'

A few years ago Dr. Lowe, in an attempt to make Virgil easy, wrote the following lines:

saepe fugam Danai Troia optavere relictā
et cupiere fatigati componere bellum,

and

turba hortatur ut effigies ducatur in urbem.

Obviously that is not real Virgil, and in the same way one feels sometimes in reading this book, though there is nothing so shocking as in the Virgil, 'That is not real Greek literature.' Take the selection from the *Apology*, for instance, and you will feel that the quality is gone. It may be a little easier than Plato, but it is not capable of stirring the same interest and admiration. A class that is capable of reading these pieces with their large and varied vocabulary could easily be taught to read some real Greek and would enjoy it more. They would, no doubt, need a little more help, especially at first, but they would be more likely to feel that it was worth while to learn Greek. Fewer boys begin Greek nowadays, but they begin at a later age, and are more

alive to the interest of the literature and the language, and more capable of getting over the difficulties.

But the book has good points. The passages are generally well selected, the introduction to each author is very well written, the Greek is printed in a notably large, clear type.

Bell's One Term Latin Classics: (1) *Livy's Veii and the Etruscan Confederacy* (Book V. 1-32, with a few omissions). Edited by S. WINBOLT. Pp. 5+45+14. (2) *Cicero Pro Milone* (much abridged). Edited by C. E. LAURENCE. Pp. 2+33+8. 1s. 3d. each.

The aim of this series is to provide books which shall not be too long to read in a term, and which, though abridged, shall be in a sense complete. They are printed in a good, large type, and are bound in limp cloth. The brief notes are intended only to 'help the student to a quick understanding of the text.' More might be done in the few pages of Introduction to interest the reader in the subject.

Ad Limen. By C. F. WALTERS and R. S. CONWAY. Pp. 129. J. Murray. 2s. 6d.

This is a supplement to *Limen* from Ex. LXXVIII. to the end. It contains reading and exercises similar to those in the original book, and twenty-four graduated test-papers on *Limen*. There are at the end vocabularies of the additional words introduced in this book.

The Cambridge University Press has published two books by Mr. T. C. WEATHERHEAD, each in two parts: