

But the value of this great work as a whole can hardly be touched by these criticisms in detail. Very great pains have been taken to supply former lacunae and the extremely useful indexes have been greatly added to. The masterly introduction has been largely remodelled and rewritten by Dr. Head. A vast mass of new material has been added to the metrological sections, incorporating the work of Lehmann, Haeblerlin, and others. Still—to return to the recurring plaint of this review—it is difficult to understand why the valuable new evidence collected by Prof. Petrie and other explorers regarding Egyptian weight standards, which certainly had a most direct influence on those of early Greece, have been omitted, while so much importance is attached to those of Babylonia, the influence of which on the early Aegean civilization was at most extremely remote and almost wholly indirect.

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Catalogue of the Greek Coins of Phoenicia. By G. F. HILL, M.A. With one Map, a Table of the Phoenician Alphabet, and 45 Plates. Pp. clii + 362. London, 1910. Printed by Order of the Trustees of the British Museum. £2.

Whatever be the truth as regards Dreadnoughts, it must be reluctantly admitted as regards Greek coins that Britain can no longer pretend to keep pace with Germany in the matter of new acquisitions. It is therefore satisfactory to note how well ahead she is in the important duty of making her treasures accessible for study. Indeed, the annals of scholarship in this country record few enterprises that one can contemplate with the same unqualified admiration as the British Museum Catalogue of Greek Coins. London has left Paris, Berlin, and Vienna hopelessly behind. Begun close upon forty years ago, the series has progressed *ohne Hast* but also *ohne Rast*, each volume as it appeared marking a distinct advance in our knowledge of the region dealt with. Mr. Hill's *Phoenicia* maintains the tradition excellently. He had unusually trying difficulties to encounter—the obscurity of many of the Phoenician legends, the complicated systems of dating, the paucity of definite and well-established historical facts, the confusion engendered by the long drawn-out struggle between the Seleucidae and the Ptolemies. But by patient study of his material he has succeeded in throwing fresh light on quite a number of dark places. We may mention specially his discussions of the pre-Alexandrine coinages of Aradus and Sidon, and his examination of the monograms on the later tetradrachms of the first of these two cities. He does full justice, too, to the interesting types that figure on the colonial issues of Tyre. The book is, of course, indispensable to workers in the field which it covers. In point of form, it exhibits the customary tendency to introduce improvements that the use of its predecessors has suggested. The direction of the dies is noted in all cases where it was likely to have any value as evidence. The hints as to the *provenance* of individual specimens have been removed to the foot of the page, thus rendering the body of the text more clear. And the weights of all coins are given, not only in grains Troy, but also in grammes—an innovation that will be warmly appreciated abroad. The supply of plates is on the usual liberal scale, and it includes no fewer than seven reserved for specially rare pieces not represented in the Museum trays—a feature that is particularly welcome, albeit it is by no means new. The indexes are as full and useful as ever. The collotype reproductions are very fair, but not so good that one could not wish them better.

Aes Grave. Das Schwergeld Roms u. Mittelitaliens, etc. By Dr. Jur. E. J. HAEBERLIN. Vol. I. Pp. xxviii + 280, with 1 Plate. Also Atlas of 103 Plates in large folio. Frankfurt a. M. (Jos. Baer and Co.), 1910. £7 10s.

Haeblerlin's long expected *Corpus Numorum Aeris Gravis*, or at least the main body of it, has appeared at last, and it is not too much to say that it more than fulfils the high

hopes with which its advent was awaited. In point of material production it is a truly magnificent work. The 103 colotype plates that go to make up the Atlas are admirably executed, one and all. There is not a single failure among the 2953 separate illustrations they contain. And the volume of text is legibly printed on a large quarto page with a comfortable but not excessive margin. We imagine that there will be general agreement with M. Babelon's brief and comprehensive verdict : *C'est bien le livre le plus beau que la numismatique ait jamais produit*. Nor are the contents less worthy of the respect and gratitude of every student of the subject. They embody the results of many years of conscientious and well-directed labour, carried out by one whose qualifications for the task were unique. He is himself the fortunate possessor of what is by far the finest collection of *Aes grave* in existence, and he has been able to snatch sufficient leisure to visit all the public and private museums of Europe that were of importance for his purpose.

That Haeberlin's researches have led to far-reaching conclusions is already well known among numismatists. His views have been outlined in the pages of the *Zeitschrift für Numismatik* and elsewhere. Even those who cannot see their way to accept them in their entirety are fain to admit that they profoundly modify what have hitherto been the accepted notions regarding the early history of Roman money. We need not, however, discuss them here, for a full statement of them is not available yet ; it is reserved for a second and final volume of the *Corpus*. What we get in this volume is a series of classified lists of the various specimens which the author has seen, or about which he has been able to obtain reliable information. The whereabouts of each is noted, and its weight and condition carefully recorded, while there is a running commentary dealing with all the incidental points that are of any value for the scientific enquirer. The opening section, which the excellent illustrations render extraordinarily interesting, describes the *aes rude* and *aes signatum* of Central Italy. The remainder of the volume is devoted to the *aes grave* proper, the order of treatment being as follows : (1) Latium and Campania, including not only the urban issues of Rome itself, together with the contemporary pieces minted at Capua, but also various groups that must be assigned to privileged cities of Central Italy ; (2) Apulia (Luceria, Asculum, Venusia) ; (3) the Vestini ; (4) Picenum (Hatria, Firmum) ; (5) Umbria (Ariminum, Iguvium, Tudur, etc.) ; (6) Etruria (Velathri, Tarquinii, etc.). The keynote of the whole is thoroughness without undue prolixity. We congratulate Dr. Haeberlin most cordially, and shall look forward with keen anticipation to the conclusion of a work that richly deserves the much-abused epithet 'monumental.'

Die sacrale Bedeutung des Weines im Altertum. By KARL KIRCHER.
Pp. viii + 102. Giessen : A. Töpelmann, 1910. M. 3. 50.

This is a readable little treatise on the use of wine in the sacrificial ceremonies of the ancients (especially the Greeks) and in some of the quasi-religious functions of their daily life. The principal passages from the authors are brought together and the views of the writer's predecessors, e.g. von Fritze's dissertation *De Libatione*, are temperately discussed. The occasions of libation were many : in formal sacrifices, in connexion with hazardous enterprises undertaken or overpassed, in oath-taking and at the symposia. All the gods (except Aristophanic cloud-gods) shared in these offerings. The wine was offered to them diluted, as in the meals of ordinary life, of which, perhaps, they were originally supposed to partake with man. But the Chthonian divinities looked for wineless offerings, a habit probably contracted in the period before viticulture. In the symposia, as is well-known, the Olympic deities, Zeus Soter and the Heroes had their share, as well as the enigmatic Agathodaemon, who was, it is suggested, originally the ancestral founder of the family. To him (as to the dead) was offered un-mixed wine. In an interesting section headed 'Wine and blood' Kircher contends that the wine-libation in some cases took the place