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Archaeology

R. H. Forster

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OBITUARY

THOMAS DAY SEYMOUR.

PROFESSOR SEYMOUR, who died on Dec. 31, was born in Hudson, Ohio, April 1, 1848, of Puritan ancestry on both sides. He received the degree of B.A. at Western Reserve University, where he was Professor of Greek from 1872 to 1880, when he became Professor of Greek at Yale University; he held this position until his death. He studied classical philology in Berlin and Leipsic in 1870-72, and made many visits to Greece and other Greek lands.

His powerful influence on American scholarship was exerted in many ways: by his teaching, by his activity as editor and reviewer, and by his own writings: by his shining example as a profound, unwearied, accurate and fruitful scholar, impatient ever of inadequate work: by the close friendships he established with the scholars of his own and of the younger generation, and not least by his activity as administrator of large enterprises. His writings were miscellaneous in character, Pindar, Plato, but above all Homer being his favourite authors. His earliest book was his *Selected Odes of Pindar* (1882); he wrote many notes on Plato: while he attested his lifelong devotion to Homer by his *Introduction to the Language and Verse of Homer* (1885), *Homer's Iliad*, I-VI (1887-90), *Homeric Vocabulary* (1889), *School Iliad*, (1891), *Introduction and Vocabulary to School Odyssey*, eight books (1901)—most of all, however, by his *Life in the Homeric Age*, published only three months before his death. Besides original articles in the *Transactions* of the American Philological Association and *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*, and in more popular periodical literature

(*Scribner's Magazine*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *The Chautauquan*, etc.), he wrote a vast number of shorter notes and book reviews, signed and unsigned, in the *Nation* (New York), *American Journal of Philology*, *Classical Philology*, and this Review. Since 1889 he had been one of the Associate Editors of this Review for America.

He was for twelve years chairman of the Managing Committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. At the time of his death, he had been President of the Archaeological Institute of America for five years. The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by Western Reserve University in 1894, by Glasgow in 1901, and by Harvard in 1906. He had countless friends, here and abroad, some of whom were attached to him by the warmest ties of affection: among these, to name only the dead, were F. D. Allen, Blass, Jebb, and Lord Kelvin.

All who knew him loved him for the purity and loftiness of his character, and for his high disinterestedness; they admired him for the swiftness and sureness of his mind in action, for his marvellous powers of work, for the range of his intellectual interests, and for his broad outlook on life, where sensitiveness to new ideas was united with a wise conservatism. To many of us, in his going forth,

δύσετό τ' ἥελιος σκιάωντό τε πᾶσαι ἀγναι.

JOHN H. WRIGHT.

[We regret to add that before this notice reached us, the author himself died.

EDITOR C.R.]

ARCHAEOLOGY

CORSTOPITUM.

THE excavations on the site of Corstopitum were resumed in July last, and continued till early in October, the area examined

lying on the north side of the broad street discovered in 1907. The buildings fronting on this street proved to have been of con-

siderable importance, and included two large granaries, nearly a hundred feet in length from north to south, and more than twenty feet in width. Each has been heavily buttressed on the east, north, and west sides, and the flagged floors have been supported on parallel dwarf walls, the space below being ventilated by means of apertures in the main walls between each pair of buttresses on the east and west sides: in the case of the western building these apertures have been divided by stone bars or mullions, one of which was found in place. The west granary is probably of earlier date than the other: its foundations lie at a lower level, and its floor has been renewed and raised. In front of this building a large altar, broken in two pieces, was found: the upper part of the inscription is obliterated, but the lower half seems to indicate that the dedicator was an officer in charge of the granary at the time of a successful campaign in Britain. The east granary produced several fragments of sculpture, of which the most remarkable was a stone panel bearing a radiated head with a circular *nimbus*; a scourge projects from behind the left shoulder, and probably the deity represented is the sun god.

To the east of the granaries the 'fountain,' first discovered in 1907, was again cleared, but practically no fresh light was thrown on its character or purpose. A broad street, running north and south, comes up to the back of it and overlaps it on the east side: this street, like most of those so far discovered, shows traces of two reconstructions above the original level.

To the east of the street just mentioned were the remains of a structure of great extent and evident importance, only part of which lay within the reserved area. Much of it had been destroyed down to the foundation course, but on the west side, which measures over two hundred and twenty feet, a good section of the outer wall was found standing four courses high,—a plain foundation course, a second course with a moulded plinth on the outside, the inner face being of rustic work, and two courses with rustic work on both faces. The stones are very massive and closely jointed, each extending the full thickness of the wall,—viz. two feet six

inches. From the inner face cross walls project eastwards at intervals of about eighteen feet, forming a series of small courts, which appear to have opened upon a large central court. On the south side of the building, so far as it could be examined, traces were found of a range of courts or chambers, which possibly opened upon the street, but there was no indication of a main entrance, which possibly lies just to the east of the part explored: this may indicate that the building was approximately a square. The foundations of a part of the north wall were traced, and a range of courts seems to have existed on this side also; but of this part very little remained, and it appears to have been destroyed and abandoned before the end of the Roman occupation.

To the west of this northern part was a small building of late date and rough construction, which produced the most important find of the year. At the back of what appeared to be the remains of a small furnace or oven was found a hoard of forty-eight gold coins and a large gold ring, wrapped in a piece of sheet lead. The coins, which are in splendid condition, were minted under the following Emperors:

Valentinian I.	-	-	-	4
Valens	-	-	-	2
Gratian	-	-	-	16
Valentinian II.	-	-	-	8
Theodosius	-	-	-	5
Magnus Maximus	-	-	-	13

It is probable that they were deposited about A.D. 385. The find is of great importance as proving that the occupation of Corstopitum continued at least until the later years of the fourth century.

Apart from this hoard, the series of coins unearthed was very large, the total number being above a thousand. Two hoards of small bronze coins (third brass and *minimi*) of the latter part of the Constantinian period were found, and their burnt condition seems to afford evidence, confirming that found last year, of an extensive fire about A.D. 340. The excavations produced large quantities of pottery, including *terra sigillata*, Caster, and other wares, and the list of potters' names found at Corstopitum has been considerably

increased; but beyond one small fragment, nothing could be definitely assigned to an earlier period than the second century. Small bronze objects were fairly plentiful, but as a rule in a poor state of preservation, while iron implements, mostly of an industrial character, were more numerous and in better condition than those found in 1907.

Thanks to the generosity of the owner of the site, Captain J. H. Cuthbert, D.S.O., the principal buildings unearthed during the past season have been left uncovered. They will be open for inspection when the excavations are resumed in July 1909.

R. H. FORSTER.

NEWS AND COMMENTS

THE 'Hellenic Revival' (the phrase is not ours) goes on merrily in America. Besides lively debates on reform of various kinds, dramatic performances make it clear that the revival is not a thing of books and pedants. At Wabash College Commencement the *Oedipus Tyrannus* was acted in English (Campbell's translation), with choral odes chanted to music 'composed by Paine.' Great care was taken with dress and staging. The Johns Hopkins Classical Club acted as a 'parlor performance' Lucian's tenth Dialogue of the Dead.

These details are taken from the December *Classical Journal*, which describes another innovation likely to make the English schoolmaster envious. At Oak Park, Ill., a new high school building is being built, which contains a special classical room, to be a home and center for their interests. It has a frieze of Flaxman drawings and a floor of marble mosaic, and is intended to appeal to the sense of beauty. This school publishes each month a Latin paper, *Latine*.

Perhaps some of our readers may be glad to know of another Latin paper, *Vox Urbis*, published monthly in Rome by Aristides Leonori, Piazza del Gesù, 48: subscription 7s. a year. Current events are discussed, and there is verse and dramatic dialogue. We regret to add that the editor's ideas of Latin verse are not those of Terence.

THOSE interested in classical education would be interested to read a paper on *Dead Bones* in the December number of *Blackwood's Magazine*. The author, who is anonymous, attacks the current system of instruction; and, unlike many critics, suggests a

remedy. Our old friend mental gymnastic reappears, together with the formation of character and organized games. On all these the writer has something new to say, or says old things in a new manner. He is the first, we think, to question the claim of a public school to form character: 'the public schools develop characteristics, and suppress character.' Will some one take up the cudgels in their defence?

MR. E. R. GARNSEY (B.A., Syd.), the author of two recent books on Horace, has read a paper before the Oxford Philological Society entitled 'The Fall of Maecenas, in its bearing on the interpretation of Horace.' The author points out that Maecenas, the brains of the new imperialism, lost Augustus's confidence, and was shelved in favour of Sallustius Crispus. This came about partly through the plot of Murena, his brother-in-law. Mr. Garnsey sees allusions in Horace to this episode, which he believes to have been a great blow to Maecenas, an ambitious man. Other allusions to the inner political situation of B.C. 23-19 are also pointed out in the paper.

PROF. POSTGATE read a paper before the British Academy on 'Flaws in Modern Classical Research.' He traces the effects of modern ways of thought and modern prejudices, morals, and taste; not least those of modern vanity, which rejects the direct statements of the ancients in favour of preconceived ideas as to what ought to be true.

THE first *Classical Quarterly* for 1909 is an unusually varied number. The longest