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Rockwood's Edition of Velleius Paterculus *Velleius Paterculus*, Book II., Chapters xli.—cxxx. By Frank Ernest Rockwood. The Students' Series of Latin Classics. Leach, Shewell, and Sanborn. \\$.1.25.

John C. Rolfe

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historical Vergil receded ever further from view; we find instead the conception of the learned man natural to ages which held learning for something rare and uncanny. The result is that stage of the literary tradition which is shown in the *Dolopathos*, and by way of contrast serves as measure of Dante's elevation above his fellows. Consequently the Neapolitan idea of the wonder-worker, once disseminated through Europe, fell on favourable soil: grave writers like Vincent de Beauvais joined with poets and street-singers in propagating the legends, which penetrated even to the Slavonic peoples.

Throughout the book we find numerous anecdotes of true medieval grotesqueness, but for the general reader the interest probably reaches its climax in the chapters

which treat of Dante and Vergil, of Vergil's significance in the scheme of the *Divine Comedy* and of the meaning of the famous lines:—

Tu se' solo colui da cu' io tolsi
Lo bello stile che m' ha fatto onore.

The translation has been made from the proof-sheets of the Second Edition, which is shortly to appear; and therefore has the advantage of the Author's latest revision. The reviewer cannot judge of the excellence of the work as a translation, but it is clear that Mr. Benecke was master of his own language. The book is but one more proof of the loss suffered by classical learning through his premature death in last July.

C. M. MULVANY.

ROCKWOOD'S EDITION OF VELLEIUS PATERCULUS.

Velleius Paterculus, Book II., Chapters xli.—cxxx. By FRANK ERNEST ROCKWOOD. The Students' Series of Latin Classics. Leach, Shewell, and Sanborn. \$1.25.

THE editors of the 'Students' Series' have done well to include Velleius in their list of editions, for his *History* is interesting not only for its subject-matter, but because it belongs to an epoch in the history of Roman literature of which there are few representatives, and to which little attention is ordinarily given.

Professor Rockwood has selected that part of the work which deals with the Civil War and the reigns of Augustus and Tiberius, and has made a convenient and attractive text-book which may well have the result for which he hopes, of 'securing for Velleius the recognition to which he is fairly entitled by his merits as a writer.'

The Introduction gives a brief account of the life of Velleius, with a summary of the special characteristics of his language and style. The Text is in the main that of Halm, the deviations from whom are noted and commented on in a Critical Appendix. The Notes are full, and as a rule judicious, although sometimes they appear somewhat too elementary for the class of students for which the book is designed.

In 41, 2, *qui—uteretur*, it would be better to omit the words 'in which *qui* = *is* or *talis ut*.' In 45, 5, the statement that *longe* for *multo* is poetic and post-Augustan is not

strictly accurate, since Hirtius and Sallust use *longe* in the same way. *Biennium* (48, 2) is surely not accusative 'after *ante*,' but is an accusative of extent, as in similar expressions with *abhinc*. To speak of the 'omission' of *ut* with *veniret* (49, 4) and *excederet* (80, 2) is misleading. In 52, 2, the note on *fuit* does not seem to be well put. In such cases the indicative is used for vividness, rather than to 'emphasize the fact.' A fuller note might well be given on *dum—expectat* (57, 1), since the difference in meaning between the present and the imperfect or perfect is not clearly stated in two of the grammars to which reference is made. *Dum erat sobrius* (63, 1) might be cited for comparison, where no comment is made on the tense, although it is as interesting as that of *expectat*. In the note on *difficile* (63, 3) it would be safer to insert the word 'probably' in the statement that 'this use of *difficile* dates from the time of Velleius.' The note on *pridie quam* (83, 3) is hardly complete enough, especially in view of the meagre and unsatisfactory treatment of *priusquam* which is given in most of our school grammars. In 103, 5, *potuerit*, the explanation that the perfect subjunctive 'emphasizes the result' is vague and unsatisfactory. The difference between the imperfect and perfect in such cases is surely not one of emphasis.

A full Index adds to the convenience of the book.

JOHN C. ROLFE.