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Demosthenes as a School Author *The Olynthiac Speeches of Demosthenes*. Edited by J. M. Macgregor. Pp. lli + 101. Cambridge University Press. 2s. 6d. net.

W. E. P. Pantin

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DEMOSTHENES AS A SCHOOL AUTHOR.

The Olynthiac Speeches of Demosthenes.
 Edited by J. M. MACGREGOR. Pp.
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THIS is an excellent school edition. 'I have aimed,' says the editor, 'at showing these speeches in their due relation to Demosthenes' whole career, and at providing the student with the means for an effective understanding of them.' He gives accordingly the story of Demosthenes (thirty-six pages), with, at the foot of the page, abundant quotations from the original authorities; an Analysis of the Speeches; a carefully prepared and well-printed text, based on that of Blass, but adhering more closely to the MSS.; fifty-eight pages of Notes; Appendices on the Order of the Olynthiac Speeches, and on the Theoric Fund; and Indices. He is really interested in Demosthenes and his time, and makes him interesting to his readers. The Notes are careful and clear. They are evidently intended for those who have not read much Greek, and they pass over nothing which is likely to puzzle such a student. It seems to us that they err just a little in the other direction: the same note is too often repeated; attention is drawn to points which anyone who has sufficient knowledge of Greek and energy of mind to read Demosthenes should notice for himself: e.g. I. 8 ἡμεῖς ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν αὐτῶν. 'Observe the emphasis of the repeated pronoun "on behalf of ourselves."' II. 15 δόξης ἐπιθυμεῖ. 'Verbs signifying desire (with the exception of ποθεῖν) are followed [? preceded] by the genitive case.' But these are not very important points. It is worth mentioning that anything notable in the language is illustrated as far as possible by quotation from the *Olynthiacs*.

As one reads these speeches one cannot but feel that they are peculiarly suitable for study in our schools just now. 'Turn to a later page,' says Professor Conway in his lecture 'Education and Freedom'—'turn to a later page of the story of Athens, her struggle with

Philip of Macedon; that is, against a military monarchy, competent, centralised, half-barbarian, aiming at a domination over civilised communities. In this struggle Athens fell, no longer the Athens of the fifth century; too civilised, too fond of pleasures, though pleasures of a not ignoble type, to set freedom above comfort. But the decay of the old spirit was not universal—one man, at least, was still in love with freedom, and he held back the coming humiliation for thirty years. Let us note two brief passages from the appeals of Demosthenes to his countrymen, and consider if any part of them seems out of date to-day.' And he quotes *Ol.* I. 4-5, and part of the First Philippic.

In Germany a different view of Demosthenes, an opinion of him which is partly new, has been put forward by Professor E. Drerup, who has a special knowledge of that period of Greek history. In the advertisement in which his book *Aus einer alten Advokatenrepublik (Demosthenes und seine Zeit)* is partly summarised it is maintained that the speeches of Demosthenes should be banished from the Gymnasium. The traditional view of the orator as the champion of freedom, as the patriot whose words inspire love of country, the view of Spengel, for instance, can no longer be held. The battle of Sedan and the policy of Bismarck have changed all that. It is worth while to quote the following passage:

Doch erst der gewaltige Krieg, in den die halbe Welt durch die Ränke und Lügen von Pariser und Londoner Advokatenpolitikern hineingehetzt worden ist, hat vollends die Maske von dem Gesichte jenes chauvinistischen Demagogen herabgerissen, der nun als ein würdiger Vorgänger und Gesinnungsgenosse der Asquith und Lloyd George, Poincaré und Briand, Veniselos und Jonescu sich zeigt, von dem klassischen Lande des Treubruchs ganz zu schweigen.

Wer im Lichte des Weltkriegs die Reden des Demosthenes, unbeirrt durch ihre pathetische Geste, als zeitgeschichtliche Dokumente prüft und den Demosthenes selbst als Politiker und Führer der Advokatenpartei nicht nach seinen eigenen selbstgefälligen Urteilen, sondern nach den harten Tatsachen der geschichtlichen Entwicklung wertet, wird in ihm gar bald den Meister der klingenden Phrase erkennen, der durch seine ausserordentliche

¹ Published in the *Contemporary Review*, June, 1916.

rednerische Kunst—einem Asquith ähnlich—den Mangel fruchtbarer politischer Ideen und die Skrupellosigkeit seiner politischen Methoden zu verdecken versteht. Gar häufig auch wird er überrascht sein durch die auffallenden Parallelen, die der Kampf der radikalen Advokatenrepublik Athen gegen König Philipp von Makedonien, das Balkan-Preußen jener Zeit, mit den weltgeschichtlichen Ereignissen unserer

Tage bietet. Wer würde es z. B. vermuten, daß die phrasenhafte Begründung der Kriegserklärung Italiens an Österreich durch Demosthenes und seinen Parteifreund Hegesipp fast wörtlich vorweggenommen ist? Nicht minder interessant ist der Vergleich, den die Rolle des gewaltigen Perserreichs in jener, des russischen Kolosses in unserer Zeit hervorruft.

W. E. P. PANTIN.

THE PARAVIA CORPUS SCRIPTORUM LATINORUM.

I.

Vergilii Bucolicon liber; accedunt Moretum, Copa. Recensuit CAROLUS PASCAL. Torino: I. B. Paravia. Lire 1.25.

Plauti Stichus. C. O. ZURETTI. Ditto. Lire 1.50.

Plauti Captivi. C. PASCAL. Ditto. Lire 1.50.

[*Vergilii*] *Catalepton, Maecenas, Priapeum* 'Quid hoc novi est.' REMIGIUS SABBADINI. Ditto. Lire 1.25.

THANKS to the enterprise of an Italian publisher, Italy has begun a series of clearly printed, cheap texts of the Latin classics, each provided with a very brief apparatus criticus and preface on the MSS. and the bibliography, not to mention occasional notes and (in the case of the last of the above quartette) an Index of Words. A series like this is welcome, for it proves that Latin has not lost its hold of readers; and it has an educative influence on the younger editors as well. There is of course a danger. A young scholar may fancy a new reading, a decidedly poor thing but his own; his mention of it to a friend may, through friendship or ignorance, meet with no rebuff. Possibly he may gather a number of friends round the festive board and broach it, with the wine, to this 'copia narium emunctarum.' No great harm is done. But once let him become an editor, and then—

Professor C. Pascal is editor-in-chief and will guard the Paravia series from this danger. A glance at his edition of the *Eclogues* shows that he has not moved Camarina. And that is something to be thankful for in these days, when the never-ending stream of emendation (the unmethodical or 'feet-on-the-hob' variety of emendation) in our classical reviews and quarterlies and

journals carries too often a line of Virgil with it. Do these 'emenders' of Virgil really believe that his text is as precarious as the text of the *Appendix Vergiliana*? Or do they avow with the editor of Juvenal 'for a warning to editors' that they have 'no inkling of Ueberlieferungsgeschichte'? (*Quid pote simplicius*?)

The text of the plays of T. Maccius Plautus is up to date, and rightly discards the Scene-divisions (at least does not number them) and those accent-marks which suggest that ictus and accent-stress are the same thing. If one must find a fault, one may say that Dr. Zuretti's zeal for Leo has outrun discretion in the scansion (with Leo) of *fac quod tibi* (*Stich.* 21) as a proceleusmatic. *Fac* a short syllable when followed by *quod*! *Quod* a short syllable when followed by *tibi*! If the line is to be made an Anapaestic Dimeter *tuus* must be dropped.

The best thing about a series like this is that it may attract some scholar who has made a special study of an author and has treasures to reveal. Do not we think with complacency of the Oxford text of Cicero, of Plato, of Homer? Professor Pascal has been lucky enough to get Sabbadini (with a name so far-famed the title may be dropped) to edit Virgil's youthful 'vers d'occasion,' the *Catalepta*. Now the discovery of the Corsini MS. showed us the true reading of *Culex* 366 ('cui cessit Lydi timefacta potentia regis'), where our MSS. have this: 'legitime cessit cui facta potentia regis.' And the Gyraldus fragment showed us the true reading of *Aetna* 191 ('mille sub exiguum venient tibi pignora tempus'), where our MSS. have this: 'mille sub exiguo ponent tibi tempore vera.' It is clear that much of the *Appendix Vergiliana* text is in a parlous state, past