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Mahaffy's Greek World Under Roman Sway *The Greek World under Roman Sway, from Polybius to Plutarch*. By J. P. Mahaffy, Fellow, &c, of Trinity College, Dublin; Hon. Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford; &c. London and New York: Macmillan and Co. 1890. Pp. xvi. 418. Crown 8vo. 10s. 6d.

Cecil Torr

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numerous questions of which the study of ancient life is so prolific; narratives from Herodotus; extracts from the author's own *Rambles and Studies*, and from M. Henri Belle's attractive *Voyage en Grèce*; and scenes in modern life. No period of history is neglected. A chapter is devoted to Christian Athens; and the Frankish invaders of the thirteenth century, whose castles form conspicuous objects in many parts of Greece, but especially in the Peloponnese, receive their fair share of attention. In connexion with Pylos, the reader is reminded of the realm of the Homeric Nestor, of the events connected with Sphacteria at the time of the Peloponnesian war, and of the battle of Navarino.

What has been said of the letterpress applies with equal force to the illustrations, which have been carefully selected and include a great variety of subjects. Some of these represent restorations of ancient buildings, such as the interior of the Parthenon and that of the temple of Zeus at Olympia; and reconstructions of ancient towns, such as the Piræus and Sparta. In others works of art are delineated—pre-

historic gold objects from Mycenæ, busts of famous men, groups of statuary, and figurines from the Tanagra finds, which are useful in illustrating points in ancient costume. Besides these, we find mediæval buildings, such as the church of St. Theodore at Athens and the monastery of Daphne to the west of that city; places of modern interest, like the castles of Suli, the town of Yanina, and the monasteries of Meteora; and representations of festivals and other incidents in the life of the present inhabitants of the country. Some of the full-page landscapes are admirable as works of art; we would select for especial praise the view of the beautiful Langada pass over Mount Taygetus and that of the town of Karytena in north-western Arcadia. Altogether, the book conveys a faithful and agreeable impression of this land of innumerable inlets, and groups of mountains, and varied forms of beauty; or, to use Professor Mahaffy's words, 'this southern Norway, this marine Switzerland, this fairest and most fascinating of all the countries in Europe.'

H. F. TOZER.

MAHAFFY'S GREEK WORLD UNDER ROMAN SWAY.

The Greek World under Roman Sway, from Polybius to Plutarch. By J. P. MAHAFFY, Fellow, &c., of Trinity College, Dublin; Hon. Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford; &c. London and New York: Macmillan and Co. 1890. Pp. xvi. 418. Crown 8vo. 10s. 6d.

THIS forms the third volume of Mr. Mahaffy's history of the Greeks, and covers the period between the Roman conquest of Greece and the accession of Hadrian. A fourth volume is now promised. In structure and style the present volume resembles its predecessors, *Social Life in Greece and Greek Life and Thought*. The author attempts no complete or systematic treatment of his subject; but takes isolated points of interest, and presents them in their most attractive aspects. And thus he writes a lively and entertaining book, that will be read with delight by everybody except the 'pedants' at whom he has so many hits. The pedants will probably find his inaccuracies rather irritating. Half a dozen extracts will show the value of the work.

'There were important free cities [in the Crimea] and there were despots (Strabo, vii. 4. 4) ruling over the inner country. One of these despots, Leucon, is mentioned by Demosthenes (in Leptinem, § 30—40) as having obtained for himself and his heirs the freedom of the city of Athens, in requital for the gifts of corn he had bestowed on the Athenians in a time of scarcity. The tombs of these despots, which were still unrifled in our time, have yielded treasures to the Museum of Kertch (sacked in the Crimean war by the French and English) and to that of St. Petersburg, which have been reproduced in splendid coloured plates by the Russian Government.'—Pp. 87, 88.

Strabo says nothing about the inner country. He says that a line of despots ruled in Panticapaion and the neighbouring colonies (αἱ πλησιόχωροι κατοικίαι) on either side of the Bosphorus. There had once been free cities of importance, but now they were under these despots. Demosthenes says that the Athenians made Leucon ἀρελῆς and πολίτης: the modern phrase 'freedom of the city' is altogether misleading. Leucon had not bestowed gifts of corn: he had simply allowed ships bound for Athens a priority in loading corn, and waived his claim to export duty. The tombs of these despots have not been identified among those un-

earthed near Kertch. The allusion to the sack of the museum at Kertch is irrelevant, for none of the treasures were there at the time. As for the reproductions, there is only a reference to the *Antiquités du Bosphore Cimmérien*, issued in 1854, and none to the celebrated *Comptes Rendus* of later date.

'This officer [the proconsul of Asia] expresses it as his principle to adhere to the decisions made by his predecessor, but when old documents bearing on the question and properly attested are produced, he settles (in the first person) a very knotty point, and reserves an exceptional privilege for the Christians by reversing the previous decree. We cannot imagine Pliny doing such a thing.'—P. 391.

This inscription, *C. I. G.* 2222, does not refer to the Christians at all: it refers throughout to the Chians. A startling discovery certainly, a *νόμος* of the Christians in 65 A.D. somewhere in the province of Asia. The point was not necessarily knotty; and the proconsul did not settle it, in the first person or otherwise. He found that the Chians themselves had the jurisdiction in the matter. This right of jurisdiction was the 'exceptional privilege,' and the 'old documents' were the grants of this right by senate and emperor. The proconsul did not reserve the privilege for the Chians, nor could he. Apparently the previous decree was issued in ignorance of this right of jurisdiction; and was now annulled, not reversed.

'The celebrated arsenal of Philo, of which the remains have lately been excavated and the plan recovered, was burnt down by Sylla. Its site has been recently excavated, and the whole plan restored with admirable sagacity by W. Dörpfeld, with plans and drawings.'—P. 99.

The site has not been excavated, or even ascertained. Dr. Dörpfeld's restoration is based entirely on statements in an inscription, *C. I. A.* ii. 1054. There is always a risk in guessing the contents of an essay from a glance at the illustrations.

'Nero's folly and ostentation prompted him to undertake the cutting of the Isthmus [of Corinth]—a project well nigh accomplished a few years ago, and suspended, like Nero's work, from want of funds. The project is now, or ought to be, antiquated. Steamers can double Cape Malea without danger or delay, and the railway from Patras to Athens has forestalled any possible passenger traffic.'—P. 271.

The cutting of the isthmus had been undertaken several times before, notably by Julius Caesar: and there certainly was no folly or ostentation in endeavouring to complete a work of such utility. Steamers may double Cape Malea; but in heavy weather the pas-

sage may not be worth the cost in coal and the risk of strains. The railway would not affect the traffic through the canal, for few ships would go out of their way to call at the Peiræus or at Patras. The real question is whether a remunerative dividend could be earned with rates low enough to tempt traffic through: and Mr. Mahaffy throws no light on that, or indeed on any of the modern questions that he drags into ancient history.

'Strabo [speaking of Gades] relates with wonder how a little barren island, with no territory (till the Roman conqueror Balbus ceded to it a strip of coast), not only covered the trading lines of the Mediterranean with ships, but maintained in them a population inferior to no city but Rome.'—Pp. 193, 194.

The 'Roman conqueror Balbus' was Lucius Cornelius Balbus of Gades, who made some conquests in Africa for the Romans in 19 B.C. He enlarged his native city, but gave it no territory. The city, however, had some territory: and Strabo mentions the fact, iii. 5. 3. In saying that Gades was inferior to no city but Rome in population, Strabo limits his statement to the number of very rich men. How does an island maintain a population in ships? When is a population inferior to a city?

'But when he [Strabo] says that on the drive from Aswan to Philæ he saw pieces of diorite lying about, he is hardly to be believed, for he makes the wonderful statement that the third pyramid—that of Menkara, which we still see covered with slabs of red granite from Syene, was made of black diorite!'—P. 241.

Strabo says nothing of diorite in either passage, xvii. 1. 33, 50. He simply speaks of 'dark, hard stone'—a sufficiently accurate description of the red granite from Syene. He mentions monuments of this material between Syene (Aswan) and Philæ, or natural rocks in the form of monuments; but nothing else. He observes carefully that the lower half of the third pyramid was built of this material, not the whole pyramid. The building being then intact, he could not possibly know that the core was not of the same material as the casing. The upper half was cased with yellow limestone; so 'we' could not still see the pyramid covered with slabs of red granite, even if the casing was generally preserved and really consisted of slabs. The pyramid was built by Menkaura; not by Menkara, who reigned long afterwards. Mr. Mahaffy mentions in the preface that his friend Mr. Sayce has corrected the sheets and made many important suggestions.

All this wretched blundering spoils the book. The best defence would be that the

book is readable, while dull and pompous books are often just as slovenly. But Mr. Mahaffy adroitly takes much higher ground.

'He [Longinus] rightly holds fast to the great Greek principle that nothing perfect can be produced without study, that spontaneity may suggest but will never work out what is really beautiful or majestic. But at the same time he agrees perfectly with modern criticism in recognizing that irregularities may be only a flaw in genius of the highest order, perhaps even a characteristic of such genius,

seeing that unvarying correctness is seldom, if ever, the attribute of the highest work.'—P. 386.

From this point of view Mr. Mahaffy's work will hardly pass as perfect, or really beautiful or majestic; but modern criticism may consistently rank it with the highest work of genius of the highest order. The pedant may doubt the value of modern criticism, and pray for twenty years of resolute reviewing.

CECIL TORR.

C. Iulii Caesaris commentarii de bello Gallico erklärt von FR. KRANER; fünfzehnte verbesserte Auflage von W. DITTENBERGER (Weidmann). 2 M. 25 Pf.

C. Iulii Caesaris commentarii de bello civili erklärt von FR. KRANER; zehnte vielfach ungarbeitete Auflage von FR. HOFFMANN (Weidmann). 2 M. 25 Pf.

THE excellence of Kraner's editions of Caesar is well known both in and outside of Germany: his edition of the *Bellum Gallicum* has even been translated into English, though the translation was unfortunately a miserable failure. We now have before us revised editions of Kraner's commentaries on both wars. The revisions, so far as I have compared them with the editions immediately preceding them—the 14th and 9th respectively—do not shew signs of any drastic alterations, and therefore call for no very special remark. But the work has been well done and a number of minor improvements introduced, particularly in the edition of the *Bellum civile*, for which the editor has consulted Stoffel's *Guerre civile*. The recent researches into the lexicography of Caesar, more particularly those of Meusel, have naturally been laid under contribution in both books. There are, of course, a few details which individual scholars might like to see altered. An English reader, for instance, will perhaps demur to one or two of the notes dealing with Britain. It is hardly fair to say that Caesar is *thatsächlich unrichtig* when he describes the waves in the Channel as *minus magnos* (v. 1, 2). The German editors explain that the waves of enclosed seas like the Baltic or Mediterranean are shorter and more dangerous than those of the Ocean. This is very likely true, but surely one is not wrong in talking of the 'short choppy seas' of the Straits of Dover, and in assigning the cause which Caesar unconsciously does, the peculiar meeting of the tides from north and south. Again (v. 12, 4) it is probable that the native silver and copper coinage is not entirely later than Caesar's visit, and it is certain that no Phœnician trader ever anchored in Cornish creek in search for tin. But these side issues hardly affect the general excellence of the books, which fully deserve the praise always hitherto bestowed on Kraner's *Caesar*.

Here a reflection naturally occurs to an Englishman. The great German publishers, Teubner or Weidmann frequently produce revisions of standard *Schulausgaben*, and these revisions are often very extensive. No doubt it is found profitable to do this: the demand is enormous. But the competition is also severe, and the demand itself is probably stimulated by the frequency of revision and the lowness of price. Why do English publishers never give us such revised editions?

F. H.

Bilder-Atlas zu Caesars Büchern de bello Gallico, von Dr. R. OEHLER. Leipzig: Schmidt und Günther. Large 8vo. 2 Mk. 85.

THIS book is intended to provide schools with a number of illustrations and maps to accompany their Caesar lessons up to books. It contains about one-hundred woodcuts, seven maps, and some eighty pages of introductory letterpress. The woodcuts are mostly well known, the publishers having obtained the use of the blocks used for the works of Duruy, Baumeister and others, but this was inevitable, if the book was to be sold at a reasonable price with (as I presume) a reasonable profit. The choice of illustrations seems good. The first in the series (tombstone of a legionary at Wiesbaden) happens not to be very accurate, but this can be said of very few. The book is not likely to be much use in English schools, but English schoolmasters who have to read Caesar with their boys might find it a convenient collection of illustrations. Why do not Messrs Macmillan issue a volume, similar in design but smaller in size, to accompany their 'Elementary Classics' editions of Caesar?

F. HAVERFIELD.

Tacitus: The Annals, Books I.—VI. Edited with Introduction, Notes, and Indexes, by WILLIAM FRANCIS ALLEN, Professor of History in the University of Wisconsin. Boston and London: Ginn and Company. 1890. Pp. xl. 444. 7s. 6d.

THERE are circumstances under which one might well hesitate to review the work of an editor who had not lived to see his book through the press. In the case of the volume before us, however, such hesitation is quite removed, not only by the knowledge of the generous way in which Prof. Allen would have accepted honest criticism, but also by the admirable and uniform excellence of this his most important legacy to classical students.

The notes are an excellent example of all that school-notes should be, calling sufficient attention to the historical facts which are passed in review, explaining the unusual constructions and the rhetorical phraseology, with which the reader will soon become familiar, but which cannot but trouble him at the first, and tracing out the full meaning of the historian's words. Above all they help the student to enter upon the *Annals* as upon a valuable history of a very important period in the world's history. A few places might be mentioned where notes seem to be still needed: in i. 62, 1, *sextum post cladis annum* calls for explanation, and perhaps in iii. 20, 2, *flagitii*; but it would be hard to find many such instances. There are passages also in which all