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Keil's Edition of the *De Agricultura M. Porci Catonis de agri cultura liber: M. Terenti Varronis rerum rusticarum libri tres: ex recensione H. Keilii*. Vol. ii. Fasc. i. Commentarius in Catonis de agri cultura librum. Leipzig: B. G. Teubner. 8vo. Pp. 194. 6 M.

A. S. Wilkins

The Classical Review / Volume 8 / Issue 07 / July 1894, pp 308 - 309

DOI: 10.1017/S0009840X00196489, Published online: 27 October 2009

Link to this article: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0009840X00196489

How to cite this article:

A. S. Wilkins (1894). The Classical Review, 8, pp 308-309 doi:10.1017/S0009840X00196489

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But the effect of varying them with lines composed of dactyls and trochees is somewhat irritating, and similar to that produced upon a rider when his horse changes its leg in cantering, as in the line which precedes the above—

‘Fair shall Ageanax’ convoy to Mitylene
be.’

Compare also these consecutive lines—

‘To a herdsman’s love thou didst yield, to
the voice of Anchises’ wooing ;

Oak woods are yonder—here is nought
but galingale.’

or

‘And how to my home I won I know not,
but fever sore

Wasted me on my couch for many a night
and day.’

This inconsistency mars what otherwise would be the prettiest piece in the book, Id. xii. That Idyll, and xiv. xv. xxi. xxiv. are the best. The least successful are iii. x. xviii. xxviii.

Mr. Hallard has stated and carried out his opinion that ‘the only chance for a translator of Theocritus is to vary his measures as much as possible.’ This may well be disputed ; and I cannot but think that he would have done better in many instances if he had adhered more constantly to the blank verse, which admits of infinite variety, and to such easy and musical anapaests as the two first lines of Id. xii.—

‘Thou art come, dear youth, art come :
three nights and days thou hast tarried.
(Alas ! for the sad love-longing that makes
men old in a day !)’

He tells us also that his work has been a labour of love ; and one can readily trace throughout the thorough appreciation which he feels for these delightful poems, which he has so sympathetically translated. Those who are familiar with the originals must gratefully recall them line by line to memory, as they read his translations : and let us hope that by reading the latter many more may be induced to court familiarity with the former.
H. KYNASTON.

KEIL’S EDITION OF THE *DE AGRICULTURA*.

M. Porci Catonis de agri cultura liber: M. Terenti Varronis rerum rusticarum libri tres: ex recensione H. KEILII. Vol. ii. Fasc. i. Commentarius in Catonis de agri cultura librum. Leipzig: B. G. Teubner. 8vo. Pp. 194. 6 M.

TEN years ago Dr. Keil published a critical edition of Cato’s *De Agricultura*, the purpose of which was to restore, so far as possible, the text of the MS. used by Politian and Vettori. This was followed by a similar edition of Varro’s work. In 1889 a text of Varro was published in Teubner’s series on the basis of this, but with a freer use of conjectural emendation : and in 1891 Keil gave us the second part of the critical commentary, containing a discussion of these emendations proposed by himself or by others on Varro. Now we have the first part of the commentary, treating in a similar way the text of Cato. Before long the Teubner text-edition of Cato is to be published : and finally the critical edition is to be completed by the issue of an index-volume to Cato and Varro, prepared by Krumbiegel and

Rollfus. There are obvious inconveniences in this fashion of publication, and especially in the further delay in issuing a convenient and emended text of Cato ; but when the work is done, it will be done thoroughly so far as it goes. It is to be regretted that the veteran scholar, whose earliest published work on the *Rerum Rusticarum Scriptores* dates from forty-five years back, should still renounce the task of explaining the matter of his authors—at times not a little obscure : so that Schneider’s edition is still indispensable. But the text and the language (including the orthography) are treated with a completeness which leaves little to be desired.

One or two examples will show the method which has been adopted. In c. lxxiv. the critical edition reads, without any note, ‘farinam in mortarium indito, aquae paulatim addito.’ Now we have the comment ‘aut nota mensurae post aquae excidit...aut, quoniam ne farinae quidem certum pondus indicatum est, *aquae paululum* scribendum est,’ with the quotation of several parallels for each construction.

Schneider left the difficulty untouched. In c. lxxix., where he had printed 'in aenum caldum unguen indito,' he now points out that the true reading must be 'in ahenum caldum in unguen indito,' for the meaning must be 'put into the brazen cauldron into the fat which is heated therein.' In c. xxxvii., where we had 'frumenta †facebis sarias' with the conjecture 'frumenta fac uti sarias,' we now have Vettori's 'frumenta face bis sarias' defended by evidence of two annual hoeings, and of the use elsewhere of *face*. In c. xiii. *incertum* is shown to be meaningless after *centumpodium*, and is rightly rejected. These instances will

suffice to show that the present commentary is an indispensable supplement to the critical edition, and that we may look with confidence to the issue of a much-needed legible text. One of the most valuable portions of this instalment consists in the full discussions of various questions of orthography and of syntax. Attention may be especially called to those on *felix* or *filix*, *spongia* or *spongea*, *stercorare* or *stercerare*; on *i* in the ablative, *im* in the accusative, *is* in the accusative plural; on the indicative in indirect questions, and on the indefinite third person singular.

A. S. WILKINS.

THE THIRD VOLUME OF KOBERT'S HISTORICAL STUDIES.

Historische Studien aus dem Pharmakologischen Institute der K. Universität Dorpat. Vol. iii. Herausgegeben v. Dr. RUDOLF KOBERT. Halle: 1893. Pp. 481. 18 M.

THIS volume is the third of the series of Historical Studies issued by Prof. Kobert, but is complete within itself. The first volume, among other articles of interest, contained an essay by Dr. v. Grot on the pharmacological knowledge of the Hippocratic writings with comments by the essayist, and an article by Dr. Demitsch on Russian folk-remedies from the vegetable kingdom. The second volume contained articles of a more special pharmacological interest.

The present and third volume consists of two parts which are quite different in character. The first part contains a catalogue of the dissertations and other works published by members of the medical faculty of Dorpat since its foundation ninety years ago. This catalogue seems to have been drawn up in a very workmanlike manner by Dr. Grünfeld, who is naturally proud thus to testify that his own university has not shown itself to be behindhand in the search after knowledge during the nineteenth century. The works of lecturers and professors are described more fully in an appendix. To students of the history of pharmacology this catalogue will be very useful. The vast stream of scientific discovery must be surveyed to its sources, and all its tributaries likewise, if we who are sailing on the current

are to have a chart for our guidance in the future.

The second portion of the volume before us contains a work of far greater immediate interest. This is a translation into German by Dr. Achundow of Baku (a Persian physician educated in Europe) of the '*Liber fundamentorum pharmacologiae*' of Abû Mansûr Muwaffak bin Ali Harawi. This translation from the original text is the first which has been made and is edited with full critical and scientific notes by the translator, Dr. Paul Horn of Strassburg, and Prof. Jolly of Würzburg.

Ignorant as I am not only of the Persian language but also of the very letters in which it is written, it is not for me, even if the original were before me, to express any opinion concerning the translation beyond this—that it reads well and seems to supply all needful explanations, such for example as the Latin names of the drugs and the equivalents of the doses in grammes. The annotations give brief references to other ancient authors and supply a bibliography of the works which are desirable in order to put the student in a proper position for the understanding of Abû Mansûr Muwaffak. I hope the student will not be discouraged when he hears that the list contains the titles of fifty treatises.

Abû Mansûr's work, which begins and ends with a prayer to Almighty God and his Prophet Muhammed, was 'written (so says the colophon) by the bard ('Dichter') Alî Ibn Ahmed Asadî of Tûs in the month Schawwal 447 (December 1055) of the flight