The Classical Review

<http://journals.cambridge.org/CAR>

Additional services for *The Classical Review*:

Email alerts: [Click here](#)

Subscriptions: [Click here](#)

Commercial reprints: [Click here](#)

Terms of use : [Click here](#)

***Outlines of Roman History.* By H. F. Pelham. Fourth edition, revised. London: Rivingtons, 1905. Pp. xii + 564. Price 6s.**

E. Harrison

The Classical Review / Volume 20 / Issue 05 / June 1906, pp 279 - 280

DOI: 10.1017/S0009840X00995714, Published online: 27 October 2009

Link to this article: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0009840X00995714

How to cite this article:

E. Harrison (1906). The Classical Review, 20, pp 279-280 doi:10.1017/S0009840X00995714

Request Permissions : [Click here](#)

his mind) could be brought out only by a detailed estimate of the Oxford text, for which I have neither space, time, nor inclination.

The variants, MS. or conjectural, are too few in number; and yet of them several had been better away. *E.g.* the conjectural readings of II. xii. 18, III. xvi. 9 *postus*, IV. v. 19 *verbasco*—*peruncta*, where confusion of *uerbenaca* and *uerbascum* has added two new words to the index, and IV. xi. 53 *iuratos* are still maintained in spite of the dissent, expressed or silent, with which they have been received. On the other hand a genuine reading like *latus* (III. xii. 34) preserved by F and indicated by L (*On Certain Manuscripts of Propertius*, p. 40) and accepted by Broukhusius and, before his death, by one of N's most devoted adherents, Arthur Palmer of Dublin, is not even mentioned. In spite of these shortcomings, the little volume will undeniably be of service to the students of Propertius.

Aeli Donati quod fertur Commentum Terenti: accedunt Eupraphi Commentum et Scholia Bembina. Recensuit PAULUS WESSNER. Vol. II. Pp. viii + 550. MCMV. Lipsiae in aedibus B. G. Teubneri. M. 12.

WE may congratulate the student of Terence and his interpreters upon the progress of the first modern edition of his ancient commentator, the first volume of which was noticed in the *C.R.* Vol. xviii, p. 224. Dr. Wessner's continuation is in the same, thoroughgoing, style and on the same, ample, scale; and we should make bold to say that he would settle Donatus' business for many years to come did not the *facies* of Prof. M. Warren *multa ac praeclara minantis* rise before us. Perhaps however a friendly arrangement will make it possible for the new MS. material that we are promised to be utilized for Dr. Wessner's third volume which we may expect in 1907. This volume contains the comments on the Adelphoe, Hecyra, and Phormio. The available MSS. are all of the fifteenth century. For A, Parisinus 7920 (eleventh century), deserts us after *Adelph.* I. i. 40 and B, Vat. Regin. 1595 (thirteenth century) has only *Hecyra* III. iv. 16–V. ii. 8. It were well for us indeed if they were all of the character of the Ambrosian fragment which contains the beginning of the comments on the Andria published by Prof. Sabbadini, its discoverer, since the appearance of Volume I., and sampled in the 'praefatio' to Vol. II.: this paper MS. agrees in many respects with A

and has in addition excellent readings of its own, confirming, in a number of instances, the conjectural corrections of scholars. Unfortunately they are not. The most honest is C (the Oxford codex Can. 95), V (Vat. Regin. 1496) degenerating sadly half-way through the Adelphoe. But even C is very corrupt, and Dr. Wessner feels bound to offer an apology for the freer introduction of conjectural readings into the text, lest, as he says with whimsical humour, 'haec editio crucibus obsita quasi coemeterii speciem praeberet.' Even this would be better than the practice of those editors who lay out a spacious cemetery for an ancient's thoughts without even marking the graves.

The Hundred Best Poems (Lyrical) in the Latin Language. Selected by J. W. MACKAIL, M.A., LL.D. Pp. xx + 105. 1905. London and Glasgow: Gowans and Gray, Limited. 6d. net.

THE Oxford Professor of Poetry has again earned the gratitude of the students of Latin Literature. His interesting little volume of selections may be recommended to all teachers and learners of Latin for use in class or private study. It will surprise nobody that to compile his century Mr. Mackail has had to give the term 'lyrical' a slight extension, his anthology including a number of poems which are lyrical in their sentiment though not in their form. The writers represented are Boethius, Catullus, Claudian (the 'Old Man of Verona'), Horace, Pentadius, Petronius, Prudentius, Seneca, Statius (the address to Sleep), and Virgil (Eclogues), and there are four anonymous pieces, including the editor's old favourite, the *Peruigilium Veneris*. The absence of Ausonius and the representation of Statius by a single hexameter poem are by no means strange, but Propertius' 'Scribant de te alii' deserved a place in the anthology, even if it be only a fragment, which is doubtful. There is a brief and graceful preface; and the book is of a handy size and its price marvellously low.

J. P. P.

Outlines of Roman History. By H. F. PELHAM. Fourth edition, revised. London: Rivingtons, 1905. Pp. xii + 564. Price 6s.

PRAISE of this book is fortunately superfluous, but those who have the third edition may like to know what changes Professor Pelham has made in the fourth. More room has been found for the growth and spread

of Caesar-worship (pp. 386 and 421). The revolt of Vindex is mentioned, and three pages instead of three lines are given to the events of A.D. 69. A large addition (pp. 490-513) does justice to the frontier-work of the Flavians and Trajan. Lesser insertions will be found on pp. 35 and 417, and in the foot-notes on pp. 46, 187, 188, 215, 380, 381, 382,

444, 457. A paragraph has been recast on pp. 458-9, and some sentences have been transposed from p. 466 to p. 441. A few misprints survive, and the index does not seem to have kept place with the additions to the text.

E. HARRISON.

ARCHAEOLOGY.

TRIREMES.

MR. CECIL TORR, Vol. xx. No. 2, p. 137, has disposed most satisfactorily of the question of the ships on Trajan's column affording evidence of construction, I trust, once and for all. It should be recognised now, that there is no more reliability in the artistic compromises with actuality in the monument alluded to, than is to be found upon coins.

Mr. Torr will forgive me, however, if I cannot accept as obvious, or 'quite beyond dispute,' that 'in the Acropolis relief the tholes of the thranite oars are vertically above the portholes of the thalamite oars.' This greatly depends whether or not the old reading of the bas relief is maintained, *i.e.* as to 'oars passing over the gunwale to the water.' Surely the Acropolis relief—which I take to be our most important and authentic reference on this subject of Triremes—is capable of another, and—in my mind—much more practical interpretation. It will be observed that the projection of the shadow of the upper wale is much greater than those of the lower wales of the ship, and seems to indicate not merely a gunwale, but a gallery of some amplitude,—*through which and not over*, the oars descend to the sea. I will leave it to Mr. Torr to arrange a quincunx, if he thinks it necessary, or attaches more importance to it than the great mechanical gain of a shortened oar which this reading presents.

At all events it does not conflict with those internal arrangements of the vessel scantily derivable from Classical writers, and moreover supplies authority for the frequent occurrence of galleries or important projections in vessels in the illustrations of ancient shipping in early printed books, such as Lazare de Baif's *De Re Navali* (Basle, 1537).

That my view is an obvious one I will not say, because it has been generally overlooked,

but I submit it to Mr. Torr with the conviction that upon searching and unprejudiced examination he will probably confirm the result of my own.

PHILIP H. NEWMAN.

FARNELL'S EVOLUTION OF RELIGION.

The Evolution of Religion, an Anthropological Study. By L. R. FARNELL, M.A., D Litt. (Vol. xii. of the Crown Theological Library.) Williams & Norgate. Pp. viii + 234. 5s.

DR. FARNELL'S book contains the substance of a short course of lectures delivered for the Hibbert Trust, and forms one volume of the Crown Theological Library. It is obviously therefore intended for a public other than specialists and classical scholars, but we may safely say that few classical scholars will read it without profit. The three chapters deal with (I.) The comparative study of religions: its method and problems. (II.) The ritual of purification and the conception of purity. (III.) The evolution of prayer from lower to higher forms.

Dr. Farnell's first chapter is so good that his second and third are distinctly disappointing. In this first chapter he takes stock of the present outlook of his subject, and his own attitude is characterized by an almost perfect good sense. He sees what comparative anthropology *can* do for the study, *e.g.* of Greek religion, he also sees, and this is rarer now-a-days, what it cannot do. Above all he enters a plea for what he calls 'adjacent anthropology,' 'the student of Hellenic religion and myth may have ultimately to roam, in a literary sense, into Central Australia, and the by-ways of America; but he ought first to explore the