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Conybeare's and Stock's *Selections from the LXX Selections from the Septuagint*. By F. C. Conybeare, M.A., and St. George Stock, M.A. Boston: Ginnett and Co. 1906. Pp. v + 313. Price 7s. 6d.

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original hand, and is extremely interesting. The dramatist, exhibiting a simple girl, almost a child, who speaks in some bewilderment to her father, adopts deliberately, for a moment, the familiarity and careless movement which are regular in comedy. All the symptoms of the later Euripidean tragedy point to such a device as the next possible and likely step in artistic development, a step on the road to Menander. Here Euripides, or his excellent imitator, actually takes that step. And if we insist on regularizing the metre, we must hardly do it, as the author proposes, at the expense of the language, thus: οὐκ οἶδ' ἂν φῆς, οὐκ οἶδα, φίλτατος πάτερ.

The rule on the 'cretic pause' is stated (p. 5) thus: 'When a tragic trimeter ends with a word or a group of words making up a foot and a half (=an apparent cretic), the preceding syllable is short. With elision (between this syllable and the cretic), it may be long.' A composer, who tried by this rule to follow the tragedians, would make strange work. He must suppose that such a verse as δ δ' ὡς τάχιστα τοῦτ' ἐσήμην' ὄμμασιν would be common and regular, but that such as χραίνει σταλαγμοῖς ἱππικῶν ἐκ πνευμόνων (Aesch.), εἰ τοί σφε τιμᾶς ἐξ ἴσον τῷ δυσσεβεῖ (Soph.), λύνει βροτοῖσιν ἢ γαμῖν οὐκ ἄξιον (Eur.) are irregular, as indeed the author declares. As a fact, the first verse breaks rather violently, and the three others do not infringe at all, the true rule, which is, that the two long syllables must not be separated by any noticeable pause. The reason, which is seldom stated properly, is this. In the latter part of a rhythmical series, licences of any kind are liable to offend, because the close must necessarily dwell on the ear. For this reason the last foot of the trimeter is always a true iambus; and for the same reason, a pseudo-spondee in the penultimate foot is in itself a somewhat bold variation, though it has certain compensating advantages. But the offence is aggravated, with-

out any compensation, if between the two syllables of the pseudo-spondee there is any perceptible pause; because in that case the thesis of the foot, which ought to be short, is really longer than the arsis, for the thesis consists in effect of the first long syllable plus the pause. In applying the rule, if the two syllables are separated at all (which is unusual) many delicate questions arise as to what amount of pause is, in the circumstances, noticeable. It is easily decided that the pause in ἐκ πνευμόνων, or in οὐκ ἄξιον, is not noticeable, the phrases being as solid as a single word; and such combinations are in fact so common that they must be embraced in the rule. But will this do?

διώμοτοι πλέουσιν, ἦ | μὴν ἦ | λόγω
πείσαντες ἄξιν, ἦ πρὸς ἰσχύος κράτος.

One might hesitate: ἦ adheres rather closely to λόγω, and μὴν is hardly separable from ἦ. We cannot therefore say that between μὴν and ἦ we do not perceive any break. Sophocles however decides (*Phil.* 592) that the stretch, as a rare variety, is tolerable. He goes even a little farther, and beyond any formal justification, in *Phil.* 22:

ἂ μοι προσελθὼν σίγα σήμαιν' εἴτ' ἔχει . . .

Here the elision between σήμαινε and εἴτε, which according to our author (p. 6) brings the case simply within rule, has probably some little effect; that is to say, τηρῶν εἴτ' ἔχει (for example) would be more irregular still. Something depends on the partition between εἴτ' and ἔχει, slight as it is; σήμαιν' εὐθέως would be decidedly worse. Something should probably be allowed (see Jebb *ad loc.*) for an emphasis on the first syllable of σήμαιν(ε), leaving the second syllable comparatively short. But when all is said, 'the words break the metrical rule' (Jebb). We must miss both rule and reason, if we begin our exposition, as the author does, by treating such an eccentricity as normal.

A. W. VERRALL.

CONYBEARE'S AND STOCK'S SELECTIONS FROM THE LXX.

Selections from the Septuagint. By F. C. CONYBEARE, M.A., and ST. GEORGE STOCK, M.A. Boston: Ginnett and Co. 1906. Pp. v + 313. Price 7s. 6d.

THIS is a volume to be welcomed with heartiness and sincerity. The fact that it

belongs to the 'College' series of Greek Authors issued by a well-known American publishing firm, is another point in its favour. It is high time that students should enlarge their literary outlook, realize that Attic Greek is not everything, and disabuse their minds that Greek literature came to

some mysteriously sudden close after Theocritus. Now there is no book quite comparable to the Septuagint, for the purpose of hammering home these truisms. Apart, too, from its great literary importance, as being written in the *κωρυή* of Alexandria any time after the middle of the 3rd century B.C., the Septuagint has other (perhaps higher) claims on the interest of thoughtful persons. There is something more than a literary importance attaching to this (in some ways) greatest, as it is the first, of all translations of the Bible; and true criticism can never exhaust itself by any mere literary handling of its text. What the Vulgate has been, and is, to the West, that the Septuagint has been, and is, to the East. But more: the writers of the N.T., in almost all cases, appeal to the LXX version for confirmation of doctrine or historical declaration; and even before the Christian era it had acquired for itself the position of an inspired book. Messrs. Conybeare and Stock are well within the mark when (*Introd.* p. 20) they imply that the LXX version has exercised a world-influence. This fact alone would make it amply worth our while to study it, now and then, and reflect upon the signal position it occupies in the development of human history.

Hitherto no annotated edition of any portion of the LXX has been available for students; and, until quite recently, the aids to Septuagint study have been singularly meagre. But the publication of Dr. Swete's manual edition some few years back, followed—first by Hatch and Redpath's noble Concordance, secondly by Swete's Introduction, and lastly by the publication (early this year) of the first fascicle of the new Cambridge edition of the text, with an elaborate critical apparatus: all these aids, I say, have rendered it possible to approach the study of

the LXX with a sense of confidence and comfort unknown a generation ago.

Briefly, the aim of Messrs. Conybeare and Stock in their pioneer work is to render available for students selected portions of the LXX, so annotated as to give them a clear insight into the main peculiarities of vocabulary and style. With this excellent object in view they have chosen seven sections: (1) The Story of Joseph; (2) The Story of the Exodus; (3) The Story of Balaam and Balak; (4) The Story of Samson; (5) The Story of David and Goliath; (6) The Story of Elijah; (7) The Story of Hezekiah and Sennacherib. Each section is prefaced by short introductory remarks (these are, perhaps, the least convincing portions of the book); there is a fair abundance of linguistic notes at the foot of the printed text; there is a general introduction to the study of the LXX; and last, not least, a short grammar of LXX Greek. This portion of the work is excellent, and the writers deserve our thanks for their very careful conspectus. The General Introduction (pp. 1–24) is, perhaps, rather thin, but gives a fair and lucid account, on the whole, of the literary problem of the origin of the Septuagint. Few readers will be disposed to contest their general conclusions (*e.g.* as to the non-historical character of the Story of the '72'); but here and there a conjecture as to date or authorship seems to be based on too slender evidence (for an example, see *Introd.* p. 18 [top]).

The book is clearly printed, in fairly large type as far as the text is concerned, and is supplied with an 'index Graecitatis.' It is to be hoped that the editors will have the satisfaction of knowing their book is widely used.

E. H. BLAKENEY.

BROWN'S CASE CONSTRUCTIONS.

A Study of the Case Constructions of Words of Time. By LESTER DORMAN BROWN, Ph. D. Pp. iv+141. Published by the Author, New Haven, Conn. 1904.

THE problem which the author of this monograph sets before himself is this: to discover the factors which determine the meaning of nouns whose primary meaning is that of

time, when used in the regular temporal construction of the genitive, dative, and accusative cases. The material upon which the study is based is taken from the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, Herodotus, Thucydides, and Xenophon's *Anabasis* and *Hellenica*, and is intended to include all instances of nouns (or equivalent expressions) used in these writings in any of the regular temporal