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Mahaffy's *Silver Age of the Greek World* The *Silver Age of the Greek World*. By J. P. Mahaffy. Chicago: the University of Chicago Press; London: Fisher Unwin, 1906. Pp. 482. Price \ \$3.00 net.

E. Harrison

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by the translation and notes which present his results to the outsider.¹ Throughout the last thirty years he has also been pouring out technical treatises and discussions in the philological journals of Germany. Like all men who think, Bartholomae has changed his lines not infrequently, and perhaps more frequently than some other scholars in his

¹ Since this was written, Bartholomae has given us (*Idg. Forschungen, Beiheft*, 1906), a mass of notes and addenda to his *Lexicon*, which those who use the book will have to refer to.

subject; nor must we forget that comparative philology and linguistic learning will not by itself unlock all the mysteries of the Gathas. But there can be no question as to the position which will be taken by this unpretending little volume as the most convenient and most generally satisfactory attempt hitherto made to interpret for outsiders the teaching of one of the profoundest and most original thinkers of antiquity.

JAMES HOPE MOULTON.

BRIEFER NOTICES.

MAHAFFY'S *SILVER AGE OF THE GREEK WORLD*.

The Silver Age of the Greek World. By J. P. MAHAFFY. Chicago: the University of Chicago Press; London: Fisher Unwin, 1906. Pp. 482. Price \$3.00 net.

THIS is a second edition of *The Greek World under Roman Sway*, differing from the first in title, bulk, publisher, print, and paper, but not in much else. Recent exploration in Egypt, especially in the Fayyum, has given material for a new chapter on Hellenism in Upper Egypt, for a discussion (pp. 288 ff.) of the changes made by Rome in the Ptolemaic administration, and for some account of the literary finds (pp. 80, 290 ff.). Other additions treat of the date of Pseudo-Callisthenes (which Dr. Mahaffy, arguing from the absence of Ptolemaic colouring, would put much earlier than the first century B.C.), of the consequences of the struggle between Mithradates and Rome, and of the unifying influence of cults (pp. 70, 142, 401). The book is still fresh and jaunty, and the revision should give it a new lease of life.

E. HARRISON.

The Private Life of the Romans. By HAROLD WHETSTONE JOHNSTON. Chicago: Scott, Foresman and Co., 1905. Pp. 344.

THIS work is intended in the first place as a reference book for students in schools and colleges, to assist them in the proper understanding of their texts; secondly as a manual for advanced students who are hearing lectures on the subject of Roman private antiquities; and thirdly as a reference book for students of Roman history in general. It is divided into chapters dealing with The Family, The Name, Marriage and the

Position of Woman, Children and Education, House and Furniture, and similar topics, and covers the general field of private antiquities in a comprehensive manner. To each chapter is prefixed a bibliographical note containing references to the standard authorities on the subjects treated in the chapter.

The author has certainly succeeded in accomplishing his purpose, and has met the requirements of the three classes of readers as well as this could be done in a single volume. The book is eminently readable, and the index is sufficiently full. In a brief elementary book it is practically necessary to make many statements without calling attention to the fact that there is disagreement among the authorities. Objection can hardly be brought against this method, provided the proper references are given to the student, by which such statements may be controlled.

A few minor criticisms suggest themselves. A vigorous protest should be made against the practice of marking the quantities of all Latin words in books of reference, a practice altogether too common and quite needless. The erroneous spellings Caius and Cnaeus, which occur frequently, Iupiter (p. 28) and Trieves (p. 282) should be corrected. The statement on page 278 that 'the Romans cared nothing for travelling in itself, for the mere pleasure, that is, of sight-seeing,' should certainly be modified in view of such passages in Latin literature as Pliny's *Letters* viii. 8 and 20, and Lucretius i. 726 ff.

The illustrations are good and well chosen, but the plates have been made from old and broken type, so that many of the pages are sadly marred.

S. B. PLATNER.

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