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Studia Critica in Scholia ad Aristophanis Aves. Scripsit **M. G. F. Renkema. Pp. 96. Utrecht: Kemink, 1911.**

Herbert Richards

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Studia Critica in Scholia ad Aristophanis Aves. Scripsit M. G. F. Renkema. Pp. 96. Utrecht: Kemink, 1911.

MISS RENKEMA shows considerable skill in her treatment of the scholia on the *Birds*, sometimes in emending them, sometimes in vindicating them against emendation, in fresh interpretations, divisions of a scholion into two, and so on. She makes it clear how much still remains to be done with their text and explanation; and a good many of her own suggestions, though not all, seem likely to win acceptance. Though concerned mainly with the *Birds*, she treats incidentally a fair number of passages in the scholia on other plays. Naturally she has often to refer to Dr. Rutherford's work, and there are a good many shrewd expressions of dissent from his commentary. Students of Aristophanes who concern themselves with the scholia will certainly have to make themselves acquainted with what she writes, and it is to be hoped she will extend her work methodically to the other plays.

HERBERT RICHARDS.

A COMMENTARY ON HERODOTUS.

A Commentary on Herodotus, with introduction and appendixes. By W. W. How and J. WELLS. In 2 vols. Vol. I., Books i.-iv. pp. xii + 446. Vol. II., Books v.-ix. pp. viii + 423. $7\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5''$. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1912. Cloth, 7s. 6d. net per vol.

THIS is an important book, which ought to be welcomed not only by undergraduates (for whom it is primarily written) but by all who are interested in Herodotus. It puts into convenient and accessible form a vast amount of learning and criticism, making the study of this father of history a much easier matter than it used to be. As originally planned the work was to have been the joint production of the late Mr. H. D. Leigh and Mr. How; but upon the lamentably early death of the former, Mr. Wells was induced to collaborate in his stead. Though Mr. Wells had access to Mr. Leigh's notes

on the early portion of the history, it may be assumed that the first volume is almost entirely his own work, and the second that of Mr. How—though both authors take joint responsibility for the book as a whole.

There is a lengthy introduction consisting of a series of critical essays upon Herodotus and his writings. The date of the various books is considered, and priority is awarded to the section vii. to ix. Inasmuch as formal 'publication,' did not exist in those days, and additions or corrections were probably made from time to time, a certain amount of inconsistency and contradiction is not unnatural, and may be explained on this thesis.

Though fully alive to the deficiencies of Herodotus' equipment for history writing—his ignorance of any language but Greek (which put him at the mercy of his informants and guides), his credulity, his theological bias—the editors cannot refuse him a high place among historians. He is the Marco Polo of antiquity, an excellent story teller, no scientist, no philosopher, but a biographer first, a geographer next, and an anthropologist all the time.

The notes (which are commendably full) deal with the subject matter of the work rather than with the textual difficulties, though these are not by any means neglected. Fifteen appendixes in Vol. I. and seven in Vol. II. deal with the more complicated points arising in the course of the narrative; there are four maps or plans of singular clearness in each volume, an excellent index, and a full bibliography. Altogether an indispensable edition, well conceived and attractively produced.

R. B. LATTIMER.

PROFESSOR SCHENKL'S MARCUS AURELIUS.

Marci Antonini in Semet ipsum. Libri XII. By H. SCHENKL. 8vo. Leipzig: Teubner, 1913.

THIS edition will be welcomed by every student of a difficult but much-read author. Not least amongst its merits is the excellent index. The introduction