Manuel d'Archéologie Préhistorique Celtique et Gallo-Romaine by Joseph Déchelette

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of ancient warfare, we hope he will in due time give us an equally attractive volume on the Roman legions. 'Fortunae Reduci!'

J. G. C. A.

MANUEL D'ARCHÉOLOGIE PREHISTORIQUE CELTIQUE ET GALLO-ROMAINE. ARCHÉOLOGIE CELTIQUE OU PROTOHISTORIQUE, TROISIÈME PARTIE, SECOND AGE DU FER OU ÉPOQUE DE LA TÈNE. Par JOSEPH DÉCHELETTE. 5½ × 9, viii + 783 pp. map, 5 plates and 352 text-illustrations. Paris: A. Picard, 1914. frcs. 15.

The lengthy title of this volume may mislead students as to its value and contents. Archaeologically it describes that stage of Celtic culture to which we apply the terms La Tène or Late Celtic. Actually it is an authoritative account by a master-hand of the condition of Gaul before and in the age of Caesar so far as archaeological evidence reveals it. It has been compiled with wide knowledge, sound archaeological judgment, and unremitting labour; it is also well printed and lavishly and yet discreetly illustrated, and has a full index. Its main purpose is of course archaeological and its main theme lies outside the Roman period. But, as I wish to emphasise, it is of much importance to students of Gaul at the time of the Roman conquest. For the illustration of all that Caesar says about the Gauls, it is indispensable; it provides material which, so far as I know, cannot be found collected in any one work on Caesar in any modern language, and it opens the way for that archaeological study of the *de Bello Gallico*, which is difficult for classical scholars, but which is very much wanted at the present time. I will cite one example which is not now for the first time published, but which may not be familiar to all Caesarians. On the hill of Mont Beuvray, where was the Aeduan oppidum of Bibracte, the French excavators uncovered in 1882 a comfortable dwelling-house of the classical 'peristyle' type. It is just such a house as might have been in use, before and after the Christian era, not so much in Pompeii as in many towns round the Mediterranean. Bibracte was abandoned, or almost wholly abandoned, when Augustus built Augustodunum in its stead, about 12 B.C. If this house be earlier than that change, if (as the excavators thought) Diviciacus might have walked in its cloisters, that means a real diffusion of Roman civilisation among the Aeduans even in Caesar's days. It explains Diviciacus himself, who was both an Aeduan chief and a Druid and a visitor to Rome who talked with Cicero on philosophy, and it further suggests that he was no immense exception to the rest of his tribesmen. We must not talk here of "the enervating effect of luxury suddenly introduced among a half-civilised people." We are face to face with that voluntary Romanisation which did quite as much to win the Roman empire as the bravery of the legions and the generalship of Caesar or Tiberius.

As I write this review, the news comes that the distinguished author of this admirable work has fallen on the field of battle. He was born on 8th January, 1862; when he rejoined the army last August, he was not content with a post assigned to him in a fortress in his own part of France—he was Conservateur of the Museum at Roanne, some 40 miles north-west of Lyon—but demanded and obtained a command at the front; there on 3rd October he was killed, *miles pro patria*, by a shell as he led his battalion.¹ It is not the first, nor is it by any means the last of the losses which the war is bringing on French and on European archaeology. But it is a singularly heavy loss. If, in M. Déchelette's own words, a famous monograph issued by Dr. Dragendorff in 1895 "a ouvert la voie à une étude méthodique de la poterie romaine," the French archaeologist's two folios, published in 1904, formed an epoch in the study of the Samian ware manufactured in southern and central Gaul and provided the historian with valuable chronological hints and *points d'appui*. Englishmen and Frenchmen perhaps gain more through it than scholars of other lands, since the Samian in question was used much more in Britain and Gaul proper than along the Rhine and elsewhere in the empire. But the work will remain of supreme value to all archaeology for many years. So too the work which we have just considered.

¹ For a sketch of his life see *Revue Archéologique*, Dec. 1914. Others have been written by M. Heron de Villefosse and M. Jullian.

We had hoped for yet another volume from M. Déchelette—a treatise on the archaeology of Roman Gaul, which should be worthy to set beside M. Jullian's *Histoire de la Gaule*. Perhaps we may still hope, for I am told that he left, finished or all but finished, the manuscript of that treatise. Should it prove complete and ready to be printed, it will be of almost greater service to us Roman students than the two works which it has been our fortune and privilege to receive from the living author. I would only address one wish to its editors. The volume before me is heavy to hold; it is only two ounces lighter than Mr. Holmes' volume on *Caesar in Gaul*, and that is saying a good deal. May the remaining volume, when issued, lie not too heavy on its author's grave.

F. HAVERFIELD.

THE LOVE OF NATURE AMONG THE ROMANS. By SIR ARCHIBALD GEIKIE. $8\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{3}{4}$, xii+394. London: John Murray, 1912. 9s. n.

This volume is doubtless already known to most readers of the *Journal of Roman Studies*; but if there are any who have not yet read it, they should certainly do so. It is unique among recent books dealing with the classics and the life of the Graeco-Latin world in being written by one who stands in the first rank of living men of science, and until lately held the titular primacy among them as president of the Royal Society. If he modestly disclaims any pretension to classical scholarship, scholars may welcome all the more his interest in classical studies and his sense of their value: "studies which were a joy to me in youth, but which since then have been taken up only fitfully and at long intervals as a restful refreshment." When a few years ago he was offered and accepted the presidency of the Classical Association, it was felt to be not only a mutual honour, but a striking demonstration of the solidarity between pursuits which are often regarded as conflicting, and of the unity of learning.

The book deals with an element of Roman culture, in a broad human spirit. But the author brings towards his view of that culture the trained eye and the scientific mind, as well as the geniality of one for whom science and literature alike possess a real human interest. Its effect on scholars whose knowledge of the physical sciences leave much to seek must needs be both stimulating and illuminating; and in many particular points it substantially adds to scholarly appreciation of Latin poets and prose writers, as well as throwing a fresh access of light on the land in which they lived and their mental attitude towards it. For Virgil and Horace, for Varro and Pliny, it is of special value: as regards Virgil, it gives important material towards that new edition, brought up to the higher standards and wider scope of modern scholarship, which is so urgently needed. One may note here, for instance, the passages in which Sir A. Geikie points out the fact that, not only in the *Georgics*, but also in the *Aeneid*, Virgil often describes nature as though he were still living in the north Italian landscape of his youth; the scientific accuracy of his pictures of a Mediterranean cyclone in *Aeneid* i, 81 foll. and of the mechanism of wave-movement in *Aeneid* xi, 624 foll; his exactness in describing the characteristic volcanic hollows of central Italy, or even such a small thing as the growth and habitat of the Italian starwort. On his own special ground of geology Sir A. Geikie is, of course, particularly interesting; both in the general physical description of Italy in the first chapter, and in detailed remarks such as those on the character of the limestone-country of the Aufidus and its absence of surface-moisture, on the black volcanic sand (*nigra arena*) of the Campanian coast, on the contrast between the clay of the Tiber valley and the limestone beds of its principal tributaries, with their effect upon the water, or on the conditions under which *caeruleus* and not *flavus* is a proper epithet for the Tiber itself. On a larger matter, it is interesting to note his opinion that we have no certain proof that there has been any substantial climatic change in Italy since classical times.

As regards representations of nature in Roman art likewise there is much here that is valuable. Sir A. Geikie agrees, from the point of view of an accomplished botanist as well as of a lover of art, with Mrs. Strong's striking dictum that while in Greek art plants appear only to be conventionalised with architectural forms, in Roman art the