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Archaische Marmor Skulpturen im Akropolis Museum zu Athen *Archaische Marmor Skulpturen im Akropolis Museum zu Athen*. Hans Schrader. Oesterreichisches Archäol. Institut. Wien: A. Holder. 1909. 4to. Pp.87, with 76 cuts. Price M. 10.

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REVIEWS

ARCHAISCHE MARMOR SKULPTUREN IM AKROPOLIS MUSEUM ZU ATHEN.

Archaische Marmor Skulpturen im Akropolis Museum zu Athen. HANS SCHRADER. Oesterreichisches Archäol. Institut. Wien: A. Holder. 1909. 4to. Pp. 87, with 76 cuts. Price M. 10.

THOUGH the discovery of the remains of the Acropolis at Athens before the Persian destruction was the meritorious work of the Athenian Archæological Society, the task of ordering those remains and putting them together has fallen mainly to a succession of able members of the German and Austrian schools. Dörpfeld and Winter, Studniczka and Brückner, and many others have been occupied for twenty years in improving one another's restorations, and every few years we have had to modify our conception of the aspect of the Acropolis as it stood when the soldiers of Xerxes broke in and massacred the garrison who had trusted, in obedience to the oracle, to wooden walls. The results of all this work are now appearing in a definitive—one scarcely dares to say, a final—form. We have already Wiegand's great work on the *poros* buildings, and the first part of the publication by Wolters Gräf and others of the vases. Heberdey has undertaken the complete publication of the remains of sculpture in limestone, and Schrader that of the marble fragments. One is glad to add that a catalogue of the contents of the Acropolis Museum, as it stands, has been undertaken by members of the British school.

The work under review is not Dr. Schrader's final publication, but only a preliminary statement printed for presentation to the Congress of Philologists at Graz in 1909. It contains an account of the writer's own discoveries among the marble fragments of the Acropolis, and of the restorations of figures and groups which they have made possible. The work has lasted four or more years, and no archæologist who knows his business would say that the time had been ill spent. In such matters

it is the details which are important, and no one could read with care these pages, lucidly written and well illustrated, without feeling that his knowledge and appreciation of the early art of Athens had been greatly increased. Dr. Schrader has shown how many currents of art poured through Athens in the palmy days of Peisistratus and his sons, and how exquisitely fine in plan and delicate in execution are the works which the destroying hammers of the Persians shattered, only that they might rise again in their freshness to gladden the wearied eyes of twentieth-century students.

Dr. Schrader's restorations include a running Gorgon and two leopards, acroteria of the old Temple of Athena. He has added important fragments to several of the dedicated Corae and young men; he has restored the legs of several of the horses from equestrian groups, and by adding a rider with a head to one of them, has for the first time enabled us to appreciate them; he has partly put together two pairs of lions, and a pair of hunting-dogs. All these collocations seem, so far as a reader in England may judge, thoroughly justified. When he tries to prove that we have remains of sculptural groups, such as a Theseus and Procrustes, or two heroes casting lots in the presence of Athena, there is, of course, more room for doubt. But Dr. Schrader has a soundness of judgment, of which some eminent archaeologists are singularly destitute; and when his evidence does not amount to positive proof, he is willing to allow it. This makes his book particularly refreshing; on every page we are in contact, not with soaring theories, but with the monuments themselves. And the writer's brevity and simplicity of diction stands in marked contrast to the verbosity of some recent books on these monuments.

Dr. Schrader proposes to publish the marble sculptures of the Acropolis in a series of photographic plates, accompanied by a text. To this great work the present

book is a sort of portico. This larger work is sure to show the same qualities as the lesser one; but it cannot be so charming, partly because so many of the monuments are known to most people by constant reproduction, while those figured in the book before us are all new and fresh; partly because there is a delight in reading narratives of actual discovery which cannot be aroused in other ways. However much

we may admire the great monuments of the Periclean age, it must be allowed that their predecessors were not unworthy of them; indeed, there is a peculiar charm about the works of the 'dim and dewy' time of later archaic art, when every sculptor is adding something to the stock of beauty, and not a trace of weariness or decay is to be seen.

P. GARDNER.

DER FRIEDHOF AM ERIDANOS.

Der Friedhof am Eridanos, unter mitwirkung von A. STRUCK, untersucht von ALFRED BRUECKNER. Berlin: Georg Reimer. 1909. 1 plan and 78 engravings. 4to. Pp. 120. Price M. 30.

THE Attic cemetery by the Dipylon Gate has long been a favourite spot with visitors to Athens. In spite of the shrieking of trains and factory-smoke in the background, there is a spirit of peace brooding over the place, and the monuments left on the spot, and not removed to museums, include such first-rate works as the reliefs of Dexileos and of Demetria and Pamphile. The cemetery came first to light when the road to the Piraeus was being constructed in 1860. Successive excavations by the Athenian Archaeological Society have laid bare more and more of it. The Society anticipate that, when they are able to acquire and remove the little chapel of the Trinity, the time will have arrived for a complete investigation and mapping-out of the whole site.

Thus the volume under review is a work of pioneering. No one has done better work on the tombs of Attica than Dr. Brueckner. As early as 1886 he published an excellent paper on the 'Stelae of Athens.' In the *Athenian Mittheilungen* for 1893 he traced in outline the history of the Dipylon cemetery, setting forth the various classes of graves and their contents. Since then he has been one of the editors of the Vienna *Corpus of Attic Sepulchral Reliefs*. It seemed to him necessary for the perfection of that work that more precise knowledge should be obtained of the place whence most of these

reliefs came and their original surroundings, and for that purpose he visited Athens in 1907, with resources supplied by the Prussian Academy of Sciences from the Gerhard fund.

The Athenian Archaeological Society reserves for itself the final excavation of the cemetery. But Dr. Brueckner was allowed to make trenches in some parts of it, pursuing his investigations for two months with a draughtsman and ten workmen, and he has done all, or more than all, that could be expected under the circumstances. With German method and thorough knowledge he has mapped out the surface of the ground into regions, in each of which some dominant influence may be traced. He has traced paths and watercourses. By the help of the foundations he has endeavoured to restore the original form of monuments, the reliefs of which are known to us in disconnected form. Especially notable are the restorations of the Dexileos tomb on p. 60, and of the symmetrical group of tombs on p. 71. By such studies he has been able to bring before us the aspect of the cemetery at various periods of Athenian history—a necessary supplement, as he justly observes, to our knowledge of the city itself in the successive stages of its growth and decay.

The history of the street of tombs is clearly outlined by the writer. The laying out of the street is dated by the Dexileos monument to about 394 B.C. Then the whole south side west of the Dexileos tomb for a length of about 60 metres was occupied with terraces by six wealthy private persons. Their family burying-places give