

**The History of Miletus down to the Anabasis of Alexander.** By ADELAIDE GLYNN DUNHAM, M.A. Pp. ix + 153, with four Maps Hodder and Stoughton, for the University of London Press.

This little book is a revision of a thesis which was approved for the degree of Master of Arts in the University of London. The writer describes her main object as being to trace the influence of geographical and economic conditions on the development of Miletus before Alexander's time; with its later history, and with the literature, philosophy, and art of the city, since they have been fully treated elsewhere, she does not attempt to deal. Her work is a compilation to which she has devoted considerable pains, and it would be idle to deny that, in spite of the crudity which marks the performance, it will be useful. Miletus could not have owed her importance to being the port at the end of the great caravan route, since that position belonged rather to Ephesus and Smyrna; and Miss Dunham shows very clearly—and it is the best thing in her book—that the city's wealth was due to her favourable situation for sea-borne commerce. It is curious, by the way, that in discussing the early connexion between Crete and Caria she ignores the evidence of the worship of Zeus at Labraunda. Careless proof-reading is the cause of a remarkable collection of misprints; but 'Gulf of Bargyliticus' (p. 1 and map 1), as who should say 'Stephanus of Byzantium,' cannot be the printer's fault. There is no Index. It is a question whether theses approved by a University should be allowed to pass through the press without some sort of supervision by the examiners who are responsible for their approval. It is fair to say that London is not the only English University where such slackness appears to be prevalent; one remembers a certain Prize Essay on Calais under the English which recently provided French historians with a fund of justifiable merriment.

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**Syria as a Roman Province.** By E. S. BOUCHIER, M.A. Pp. viii + 304, with a Map and Plate of Coins. Oxford: B. H. Blackwell, 1916. 6s. net.

Bearing in mind the limited scope of this little volume—its author calls it a 'sketch'—one may fairly describe it as well planned, well written, and generally successful. Its professed object is to give a 'brief account of the life and manners, the literature, and antiquities of central Syria and Phoenicia in Roman times, with occasional references to more outlying districts, such as Palmyra, Commagene, and Roman Arabia.' The task thus outlined is no light one. But Mr. Bouchier's practised hand has the cunning required for the due selection and arrangement of the salient facts. In the circumstances the specialist need hardly turn to the book for light on any particular problem in which he is interested, although he may sometimes find it serviceable as a handy and reliable compendium. For the ordinary scholar, on the other hand, it should have a distinct value. This value would have been greatly enhanced if the bibliography had been constructed on more rational principles. As it stands, it is not easy to see what purpose it is intended to serve. On what grounds, for instance, is Schiller's 'Geschichte der römischen Kaiserzeit' included, when Mommsen's 'Roman Provinces' is omitted? Or why mention Hay's 'Amazing Emperor Heliogabalus,' and yet say nothing of the excellent English translation now available of 'The Life of Porphyry of Gaza'? Truly one is taken and another left. And who is helped by such a citation as 'Many articles in . . . Pauly-Wissowa, Real-Encyclopädie'?

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