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Swete's Introduction to the Lxx *An Introduction to the Old Testament in Greek*. By H. B. Swete, D.D., Hon. Litt.D. (Dublin). With an Appendix containing the letter of Aristaeas edited by H. ST. J. Thackeray, M.A. Pp. xi. 592. Price 7s. 6d. Cambridge University Press.

E. H. Blakeney

The Classical Review / Volume 15 / Issue 07 / October 1901, pp 371 - 372
DOI: 10.1017/S0009840X00031012, Published online: 27 October 2009

Link to this article: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0009840X00031012

How to cite this article:

E. H. Blakeney (1901). The Classical Review, 15, pp 371-372 doi:10.1017/S0009840X00031012

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II. 1 liquoris 6 inbellem 7, 8 om 10
 Ut spretus uitio iudicer esse meo 11 Hec
 (H a large capital) 13 huic inquit hesi
 (Capital large and conspicuous) 15 uomitu
 et ceu 17 Et (largish capital) affers quis-
 quam 25 Atque equidem 27 PRESTAT
 ADHVC spetiosa 28 sedspicit *changed to*
 despicit 33 Reliquias ueterum in niueis 34
 Sed si quid 38 Nullus ad amplexus 39 solis
 meritis omnia possunt luctus 40 Quodt
 habuit 42 nota uiros 43 ERGO prae-
 scientia 44 memoremur 45 fugiant 46
 repentat 47 diligit 48 quaerat 49 can-
 tet philomela 50 Sitque 52 Hospitiā
 petas 63 NECME addeo 64 En facio uersus
 et mea dicta cano 68 Et quo pertendi 70
 affectus 73 HIS After 74 follows EXPLICIT
 LIB. I INCIPIT LIB. ScDs.

III. 1 NUNC *instead of iuuentae only the
 first l of a lost word remains.* The leaves
 containing iii. 2-iv. 59 have been cut out of
 the MS. It recommences with iv. 60 Et
 quod non capiunt pectora bruta uolunt.
 vi. 1 Missus (*large capital*) functus 4 blanda
 nefanda 7 amori *rather than amore* 10
 greco 13 afflictiae amanti 19 Illa syrenum
 20 ulixis 21 quia cantus euincere molles
 23 se lege 24 plausibus 26 colore 28
 abstringens claudetret 29 Ad fractura
 30 exausto 31 abstringere 33 tua sunt
 me 36 uenire 42 semen 43 MVNERIS 47
 sed adfuit 48 Munia grandaeuo 51
 infesta *but f over another letter, perhaps c*
 (incesta) triumphum 52 increpitans debita
 reddis ait 55 Erubui tunc et stupui
 uerecundia motus 57 Contractare 60
 focum 61 credelis 64 Hec 67 nonnūquā
 carpere 68 tristitiam 71 TVNC 72
 Effusus 73 hieueque uitium crimenque

76 Vendicor 79 ipse 80 quo 81 Protinus
 (*large P*) 81 arguias 83 membri 87 MENTVLA
 88 delitiae 96 Adstans 99 Nampe 100
 nampe 103 funere 105 Haec 107 lang-
 orem membri 109 ILLA 110 cahos 112
 totum 115 geminans toto 116 duos 118
 Hec 119 gemnia 120 fallat^x 121 secretaque
 creta 122 fructiferumque caput 123 Vade
 124 Et tibi 125 quod est ultra 133 risitque

134 placet 137 usus 138 Nonne quod
 iuuenis est non amica malis 139 inpendunt
 143 Tu post 147 potentia uictrix 148
 sepes uoles 149 resumes 151 rediuiua
 152 perit *but p was a later addition* 153
 Conticuit (*a very large capital*) sotiata,

*but the a is in lighter ink and seems a later
 addition* 154 obsequiis

vi. 2 Namque et hoc 3 Sit 4 Con-
 tractata 5 loeti 7 Ac 8 Hic 9 uolubile
 11 corpore surgo FINIT

Mr. Webster's commentary is perfectly
 original and new. It exhibits a large and
 multifarious acquaintance not only with the
 writers ordinarily drawn upon for quotation
 or illustration, but, which is more to the
 purpose, with the later writers of the time
 which followed the adoption of Christianity
 as the state religion; Ausonius, Avianus,
 Prudentius, Orientius, Avitus, Boetius,
 Corippus, Dracontius, Ennodius, Fortunatus,
 Sedulius, and many others. The commentary
 is particularly rich in quotations from the
 Corpus of Latin Inscriptions, and will be
 very attractive to those who make this
 branch of literature their province. The
 Anthologia Latina has also been utilised
 not a little. In his judgments on the mean-
 ing of the many disputed passages in Maxi-
 mianus, Mr. Webster holds his own, and
 his opinion comes with all the authority of
 a learned and unbiassed scholar, who has ob-
 viously made a *con amore* study of the Elegies.
 I do not profess always to think he is right
 and am sometimes disposed to hold to the
 opinions I have expressed in the *American
 Journal of Philology*. But if he is com-
 pared with the only previous commentator
 known to me on the whole of the poems,
 Wernsdorf, he will be found to be far his
 superior in freshness of treatment, happiness
 of illustration, and, if one may judge by the
 great variety of works cited in the notes,
 width of reading. His style too is attrac-
 tive, recognisably American and German,
 rather than English, in freedom and bold-
 ness of tone.

ROBINSON ELLIS.

SWETE'S INTRODUCTION TO THE LXX.

*An Introduction to the Old Testament in
 Greek.* By H. B. SWETE, D.D., Hon.
 Litt.D. (Dublin). With an Appendix
 containing the letter of Aristeas edited
 by H. ST. J. THACKERAY, M.A. Pp. xi.

592. Price 7s. 6d. Cambridge Univer-
 sity Press.

THIS well-filled volume affords an admirable
 illustration of the scientific method as

applied to the study of one department of ancient literature. There is scarcely a superfluous word in the book; and everything is rigorously directed to the end in view, viz.: that of presenting the student of O. T. Greek with a concise account of the language, literature, and history of the Septuagint version. As a manual, it could hardly be bettered; and it places within our reach all the information needful in the way of general introduction to the Greek versions.

'A first attempt,' says Professor Swete in his preface, 'is necessarily beset with uncertainties.' One must, therefore, not expect finality in such an attempt; but students are to be congratulated on possessing in Dr. Swete's manual, as clear and trustworthy presentation of the most recent results of LXX criticism, as could well be imagined. The footnotes and references afford abundant proof (if such be needed) of Dr. Swete's consummate care in overhauling, and rendering conveniently accessible, 'all the published works dealing with the various branches of learning which fall within the range of the subject.' The literature is enormous; but hitherto students have not been able to focus the mass of varied information available on questions, critical, historical, and literary involved in any serious consideration of the Septuagint in particular, and of Hellenistic Greek in general.

Dr. Swete divides his work into three main divisions: (1) The history of the Greek O. T. and of its transmission; (2) The contents of the Alexandrian O. T.; (3) Literary use, value, and textual criticism of the Greek O. T. The fifth chapter—to signalize one out of many—dealing, as it does, with the mss of the LXX, is particularly valuable; all the chief mss are detailed, and the characteristics of each succinctly set before the reader. This is a great gain; but in a second edition of the book a few photographic specimens of the greater uncials and cursives might advantageously be given in the same fashion as has been done by Dr. E. B. Nestle in his recent 'Introduction to the Textual Criticism of the N. T.'¹

¹ One might suggest, too, that, in a second edition, Dr. Swete should devote some paragraphs to discussing the functions of conjectural emendation in arriving at a true settlement of the LXX text.

In part ii. chap. 4, Dr. Swete has presented us with a useful collection of specimens of LXX Greek—all the more acceptable as no adequate treatment of the Greek idiom of the LXX exists at present. Some good hopes are held out by Dr. Swete that a Grammar of O. T. Greek will shortly be forthcoming; such a work will be of far-reaching importance.

Dr. Rutherford's remarks on the value of studying the Greek of the N. T. from the right point of view (see the preface to his recent translation of the *Romans*) have equally pertinent reference to the Greek of the LXX; nor is it one of the least satisfactory signs of the present that attention is being directed to the vast field, hitherto all but unexplored, of Hellenistic literature and idiom.

Equipped with Dr. Swete's manual edition of the LXX (already in a 2nd edition), Hatch and Redpath's Oxford Concordance, and with the present thoroughly sound and scientifically arranged Introduction, the reader of the Septuagint may feel that he has, at least, no lack of trustworthy subsidia in his study of LXX Greek. And such study will be amply repaid in an increasing knowledge, not only of the conditions under which the first great Greek version of the Jewish Scriptures was produced, but also of the many interesting problems opened up by a fuller acquaintance with Greek modes of thought and expression as a whole.

I have left myself scant space in which to call attention to Mr. St. J. Thackeray's critical edition of the Letter of Aristeas. Wendland and Mendelssohn's belated edition (which actually appeared just before Mr. Thackeray's) will possess, no doubt, an independent value of its own; but English scholars will not be slow to acknowledge the care and scrupulous accuracy which Mr. Thackeray has expended in rendering the Letter generally accessible; and his critical introduction (pp. 501–518) puts the reader in possession of the requisite material for understanding the condition of the text. The critical apparatus, at the foot of the page, if not absolutely complete, is sufficient for every practical purpose.

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