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Hardy's *Studies in Roman History* *Studies in Roman History*. By E. G. Hardy, M.A., D.Litt., Fellow and Tutor of Jesus College, Oxford. London & New York: The Macmillan Company. 1906. Pp. viii + 349. 6s., \ \$1.60.

Grant Showerman

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quantity of useless ballast—as it is, it is not unlikely to sink by its own weight, which is a pity, as despite the hardly justifiable inferences which I have mentioned, the book contains good matter, and would, were it mercilessly pruned and freed of repetitions and passages irrelevant to the point at issue, be a work deserving of attention. If

I have in any point misjudged it, I can only plead that the time that I have been able to devote to it has not been sufficient to allow of my reading every word of it—a thing which, I fear, few will have the patience to do.

THOMAS ASHBY, JUNIOR.

HARDY'S STUDIES IN ROMAN HISTORY.

Studies in Roman History. By E. G. HARDY, M.A., D.Litt., Fellow and Tutor of Jesus College, Oxford. London & New York: The Macmillan Company. 1906. Pp. viii + 349. 6s., \$1.60.

MR. HARDY reprints in this volume his well known and favourably received work of 1894 on Christianity and the Roman Government (Chapters I.—X.), and six additional studies (Chapter XI.—XVI.) which have appeared from time to time in the *English Historical Review* and the *Journal of Philology* in practically their present form: Legions in the Pannonian Rising; Movements of the Legions from Augustus to Severus; The Provincial Concilia; Imperium Consulare or Proconsulare; Plutarch, Tacitus, Suetonius, on Galba and Otho; A Bodleian MS. of Pliny's Letters to Trajan.

It will be a matter of regret to the many who have profited by Mr. Hardy's useful studies on Christianity and the Roman Government to find that the work appears again merely as a reprint, without revision, or even the addition of a much needed index, to say nothing of the amplification which they would have liked to possess from the hand of a scholar so experienced and discriminating. The impulse to censure the author, however, for republishing in its original form a work already twelve years old, and on a subject which is constantly being investigated, will quickly die out at the reading of the prefatory notice, in which Mr. Hardy explains his action; and disappointment will be tempered by the reflection that the thorough revision which he would have given the work had circumstances permitted would have had the effect of modifying it in detail only. To mention

a single field in which there has been a great deal of activity since the appearance of Mr. Hardy's book, the utilization of the numerous studies on the Neronian fire and persecution which appeared in 1901 and 1902 over the names of Pascal, Coen, Ferrara, and other Italian scholars, would have resulted in no modification of his views worth mentioning. The main conclusions which made Mr. Hardy's book valuable in 1894 will make it welcome and profitable for the student of to-day. A work based upon such solid foundations as the scholarship of Mommsen and Ramsay, and elaborated by so sure a hand as that of Mr. Hardy, does not lose its usefulness in so short a time.

The remaining six studies of the book are characterized by the same thoroughness, accuracy, and independence of judgment. Chapters XI., XII., and XIII. are of especial interest, and of these the two last, on Movements of Legions from Augustus to Severus, and Provincial Concilia, are valuable original contributions for which every student of Roman administration will be grateful. One could wish indeed that the author's love of conciseness and his intentness upon the matter in hand did not result in a rigidity and angularity of presentation not altogether agreeable; inordinately long paragraphs and an unconciliatory style do not lighten the difficulty of following matter already difficult itself. But the feeling most prominent on leaving Mr. Hardy's book is one of regret that he is not to put us further under obligation by continuing his admirable contributions.

GRANT SHOWERMAN.

The University of Wisconsin.
