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**Roman Local Government *Roman Laws and Charters*.
By E. G. Hardy, M.A., D.Litt. 2 vols. in one. Pp. v + 176,
iv + 159. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1912. 10s. 6d. net.**

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ROMAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Roman Laws and Charters. By E. G. HARDY, M.A., D.Litt. 2 vols. in one. Pp. v+176, iv+159. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1912. 10s. 6d. net.

DR. HARDY has reissued in one easily accessible volume his two valuable works *Six Roman Laws* and *Three Spanish Charters and other Documents*. His aim is to present the student in *Litterae Humaniores* with a guide-book to Bruns, such as may, through a carefully annotated translation, put him on the track of a great deal that is obscure, or at least difficult of access, in the original rather complex and forbidding volume. The scheme fails in one particular only. The work is too highly specialised for the average student of 'Greats.' For its author has put the whole glow of his enthusiasm into a work appertaining peculiarly to the branch of scholarship, in which he is one of a small handful of recognised masters. He would be an enthusiastic 'Greats' scholar indeed, who could find time to follow his author far into the fascinating field of study which this book opens. What, one wonders, would happen to such a reader's prospects in his philosophy and logic papers?

But after 'Schools' are done, for some students there comes a day when the subjects treated by Dr. Hardy in this book make an appeal such as they never made in days when theirs was the only claim on one's time. Then one begins to see how fruitful and withal how important are the studies herein comprised. In days when Housing Bills, Land Bills or Colonial Constitutions are the daily fare of the reading public, one is tempted to think that the publication of such documents as the *Lex Agraria* of 111 B.C., the *Lex Julia Municipalis*, passed, as Dr. Hardy proves, in 45, or the *Lex Rubria de Gallia Cisalpina*, becomes a subject of more than merely academic interest. One is tempted to regard the pages devoted in this book to the *Lex Julia Municipalis* as the crown of Dr. Hardy's work. The careful logic and brilliant exposition, which mark his explanation

of the purposes of this law, make the most interesting reading in the whole book. On the subject of this document Dr. Hardy enters into argument with Mommsen himself, and even that extreme veneration which 'humble fry' must always feel for the colossal German, gives place on this occasion to a conviction that the English scholar is right. Mommsen argued that the fragment published by Bruns, from the brass discovered at Heraclea, and that which was transferred to the Naples Museum by its English owner, Webb, in the eighteenth century, was not the *Lex Julia Municipalis* at all. That term he restricts to a *lex data* framed to organise the municipal constitution of Padua. Such an interpretation would, as says Dr. Hardy, compel the present fragment 'to go without a name in future,' and would leave in doubt the question as to whether or not there ever was any general *lex rogata* establishing a model basis for the internal organisation of all provincial towns. There is no need to follow the course of Dr. Hardy's argument on this interesting controversy. It is sufficient to say that it carries a perfect conviction that the fragments we possess do belong to Caesar's *Lex Municipalis*, and that that law did enact a general system of organisation for Italian municipalities. Any other conclusion does far less than justice to the genius of Caesar. For this *lex* is one of the greatest feats accomplished by the great Dictator. It marks the recognised transition from the stage of the city-state, with its *civitates foederatae* and *coloniae*, to the full evolution of the city that was both the greatest of all municipalities and the seat of a vast empire's government. The law represents something like the ancient idea of a Municipal Corporations Act, co-ordinating local with imperial government, and it is quite safe to say that in all antiquity no other brain than that of Caius Julius Caesar could have conceived it.

Together with the statutes of general application, which are published herein, are various particular *leges* referring to the administration and privileges of

different municipalities. All are carefully translated and edited, and an intimate study of the documents furnishes more light on Roman History than can be derived in any other way. Perhaps an old pupil may be allowed to

blend a degree of gratitude with his congratulations to Dr. Hardy on a work so admirably conceived and carefully carried out.

J. S. BLAKE REED.

Manchester.

SHORT NOTICES

Plato: Moral and Political Ideals. By A. M. ADAM. Pp. vii+159. Cambridge: University Press, 1913. Price 1s.

MRS. ADAM has accomplished her task of providing 'a clear account, intelligible to the plain man, of what Plato did in the moral and political sphere' in a very workmanlike manner. She clears the ground in her 'Preface' by expressing dissent from the revolutionary views of the Oxford scholars, Professor Burnet and Professor A. E. Taylor,—the Aloidæ of modern Platonic controversy; for indeed, if these were adopted, her intelligible account would be nearly all about 'what Plato didn't do.' After three preliminary chapters on 'Greek Ethics and Politics before Socrates,' 'The Moral and Political Teaching of Socrates,' and 'Plato as a Pupil of Socrates,' we get to work on Plato himself in chapter iv. ('Early Development of Plato's Views'). Here and in chapter v. ('Extension of Rationalism') we have an exposition of the relevant matter in the *Apology*, *Crito*, *Euthyphro*, *Laehes*, and *Charmides*. Next come the *Protagoras* and *Meno*, under the heading 'Criticism of Contemporary Education'; followed by the *Gorgias*, *Phaedrus*, and *Euthydemus*, under the heading 'Rhetoric and Disputation.' The *Phaedo* and *Symposium* supply material for a chapter on 'The True Philosopher in Life and Death,' after which three chapters are devoted to a general review of the *Republic*, followed by three supplementary chapters on the special subjects of 'Education,' 'The Position of Women,' and 'Communism,' as treated in the *Republic* and *Laws*. The fifteenth, and last, chapter treats of 'The Philosopher in the *Politicus* and *Theaetetus*.' From

this summary of contents it will be seen that the whole field is well mapped out; and it would certainly be difficult for 'the plain man' to acquire so much accurate information in so concise a form from any other source. Mrs. Adam does well in letting Plato speak for himself as often as possible, and her translations are uniformly reliable.

One general criticism suggests itself. If the book is intended for popular edification would it not have been more effective if its scope had been restricted? In other words, is not the writer unduly hampered by the plan to which she ties herself? Perhaps 'I speak as a fool,' but it does seem to me that for an appeal to popular interest the style is a trifle too academic, the plan a trifle too geometric: I should have been better pleased if the gifted authoress had 'let herself go' a little more, if only on the exciting topic of 'The Position of Women.' However, this kind of criticism applies less to this particular 'manual' than to manuals in general: if the manual-mania goes on at its present rate, it threatens soon to make of the book-world a valley of dry bones. I have noticed printing errors on pp. 25, 45, 62.

R. G. B.

Pauly's Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft. Herausg. von G. WISSOWA und W. KRÖLL. 16ter Halbband (Hestiaia—Hyagnis), and Supplement II. 2 vols. 8vo., cols. 1313-2628, and in Supplement, cols. 520. Stuttgart: Metzler, 1913. 16ter Halbband, M.15; Supplement, M.7.

THIS second Supplement differs from the first in that it contains merely two long articles which were held over from