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The Romance of Alexander *Der griechische Alexanderroman*. Von Adolf Ausfeld. Nach des Verfassers Tode herausgegeben von Wilhelm Kroll. Leipzig: Teubner. 1907. 8vo. Pp. xii+251. M. 8.

Frank Granger

The Classical Review / Volume 24 / Issue 02 / March 2010, pp 70 - 70
DOI: 10.1017/S0009840X00044589, Published online: 27 October 2009

Link to this article: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0009840X00044589

How to cite this article:

Frank Granger (1910). Review of Patrizia Battilani, and Harm G. Schröter 'The Cooperative Business Movement, 1950 to the Present' The Classical Review, 24, pp 70-70 doi:10.1017/S0009840X00044589

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century. It is a task which has been attempted many times, but the vigour, freshness, and truth with which the various statues are described show great sympathy with, and delight in, the works of these masters, and bring the very gods and goddesses before our eyes. As specially good we may mention the description of the pediments at Olympia, of the Nike of Paionios, and the estimate of the three Athenes of Pheidias. Very interesting, too, is the comparison of the two great Doric temples—that of Zeus at Olympia and the Parthenon at Athens—where the professor points out the close correspondence between the spirit of the architecture and the decoration; while, later, in discussing the influence of Pheidias upon Polykleitos, he compares the Doryphoros with the Doric of the temple at Olympia, and the Diadumenos with the Doric of the Parthenon. The characteristics of the Ionian school are neatly put in a few lines; its ‘naturelle facilité de bavardage’ may be traced even from the archaic period. The difference between the work of Pheidias and those who came after him lies in the fact that Pheidias and his most distinguished contemporaries were a kind of summing-up and crowning-point of the traditions of their respective schools, while their successors were individualists; it was the novelties introduced by their individual minds that formed the essential features of their art. The glory of Pheidias lay in his power to assimilate all that had gone before him, and to bring it forth enriched by his own spirit. The most renowned of his statues were those of the divinities, for in them he made a real contribution to the religious beliefs of his time, so that he was said to have added to religion by showing the beauty and the majesty of the gods.

E. S. FEGAN.

LA COLONNE TORSE ET LE DÉCOR EN HÉLICE DANS L'ART ANTIQUE.

La Colonne Torse et le Décor en Hélice dans l'Art antique. By V. CHAPOT. Paris: Leroux. 1907. 8vo. 1 vol. Pp. 176. Illustrations 210, in text.

DR. CHAPOT has made an exhaustive study of the twisted column, tracing its progress from the earliest

times until it fell into discredit after a temporary revival in the fifteenth century. He compares instances from Egypt, Assyria, India, Africa, the United States, Mexico, and Europe, but as Riegl has pointed out in his *Stilfragen*, the spiral is found occurring quite independently all over the world. Dr. Chapot leaves on one side as very doubtful all question of influences, and proceeds to examine the suggestions which have been offered to account for spiral decoration. Among these may be cited the natural desire to improve on a decoration formed of curved lines, imitations of floral forms or tree-trunks, festal garlands, snakes, ropes, and the twisted appearance of flames. In his remarks on the rope theory, Dr. Chapot describes a savage's method of making pottery by coiling down long strips of clay, much as a sailor would coil a rope. In this case the spiral obtained is an element of fabrication rather than of decoration.

Dr. Chapot himself seems to incline to the opinion that the spiral is in some way of religious significance, which would lend colour to the suggestion that the twisted column derived from festal garlands twisted round a pillar, in itself a cult object.

The last chapter contains a long list of examples of the *colonne torse* of the Christian era which have come down to our day, and of which we have some knowledge.

E. S. FEGAN.

MOMMSEN'S GESAMMELTE SCHRIFTEN.

Gesammelte Schriften von THEODOR MOMMSEN. Dritter Band: juristische Schriften, dritter Band (xii and 632 pp., 1907); fünfter Band: historische Schriften, zweiter Band (vi and 617 pp., 1908). Berlin: Weidmannsche Buchhandlung. Lex. 8°. Each volume M. 15, or bound, M. 17 40.

THE first, second, and fourth volumes of this important publication were noticed in the *C.R.* for 1907 (vol. xxi., pp. 216 ff.). With the third volume the juristic writings are completed and indexed. The range of dates (from 1843 to 1904) and subjects is very wide, and I shall not try to describe the contents of the volume in full. To the present century belong the following essays: *Latium maius*; Die Erblichkeit des Decurionats; Zur Lehre von den römischen Korporationen; *Nexum*; *Mancipium*, *manceps*, *praes*, *praedium*; Zur Geschichte der Erbpacht; Die Popularklagen; Die Pilatus-Acten; Die Rechtsverhältnisse des Apostels Paulus. The reader who is no jurist will find his account in the last, and in the discussion of the usury of M. Brutus, which throws light on some passages of Cicero's letters and gives Mommsen another fling at Cicero: ‘He belongs to the neuters who shrink, not from wrong, but from its nakedness; who have at heart the reputation of honesty, not honesty itself.’ The paper on St. Paul, reprinted from a German theological journal, should be read by all serious students of the Acts. It is chiefly concerned with the Apostle's rights before the law, but incident