

The Classical Review

<http://journals.cambridge.org/CAR>

Additional services for *The Classical Review*:

Email alerts: [Click here](#)

Subscriptions: [Click here](#)

Commercial reprints: [Click here](#)

Terms of use : [Click here](#)



Greek Athletic Sports and Festivals *Greek Athletic Sports and Festivals*. By E. Norman Gardiner, I vol. 8" × 5". Pp. xxiv + 533. Illustrations, 190 in text. London: Macmillan and Co., 1910. 10s. 6d.

R. B. Lattimer

The Classical Review / Volume 25 / Issue 02 / March 2011, pp 59 - 60

DOI: 10.1017/S0009840X00046278, Published online: 27 October 2009

Link to this article: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0009840X00046278

How to cite this article:

R. B. Lattimer (1911). The Classical Review, 25, pp 59-60 doi:10.1017/S0009840X00046278

Request Permissions : [Click here](#)

one side, 'uncial,' on another side, that script of St. Gall 1395 (frag. 1), which the St. Gall Catalogue calls 'Römische Minuskel des VI Jh.,' have never been clearly drawn. Nor has Anglo-Saxon script been definitely marked off from Irish. And although Beneventan script, the script of South Italy, has characteristic features which make it unmistakable, the script of North and Central Italy is still a *terra incognita* to Manuals of Palaeography. They are silent on those peculiar forms of *g*, of *ti*, of *ss*, or those peculiar abbreviations of 'eius,' 'misericordia,' 'noster,' which enable us to locate an Italian MS. of the eighth or ninth centuries. Visigothic script, too, is still insufficiently known. The French catalogue of the Autun MSS. describes the Visigothic minuscule of No. 27 as 'cursive méro-

vingienne.' The German catalogue of the Trèves MSS. describes the ordinary Caroline minuscule of No. 170 as 'Visigotisch.' And even in our New Palaeographical Society's Publications the Visigothic minuscule of the Manchester Smaragdus is called 'pre-Caroline minuscule of the Visigothic species' (or 'of Visigothic type').

Dr. Loew's book on Beneventan script will soon be in our hands. There is some prospect of its being followed by a book on Visigothic. When each variety of script has received in this fashion a special treatment, Latin Palaeography will at last achieve that 'sharpening of her weapons' for which Traube called.

W. M. LINDSAY.

St. Andrews, N.B.

GREEK ATHLETIC SPORTS AND FESTIVALS.

Greek Athletic Sports and Festivals. By E. NORMAN GARDINER. I vol. 8" x 5". Pp. xxiv+533. Illustrations, 190 in text. London: Macmillan and Co., 1910. 10s. 6d.

MR. NORMAN GARDINER, whose study of Greek athletics has already been much appreciated by readers of the *Journal of Hellenic Studies*, has in this volume amplified and elaborated his theme, and the result is a book which will be accepted by most classical scholars as an authoritative exposition of the subject.

Himself an athlete of some repute, the author brings to the consideration of ancient athletics an enthusiasm which would necessarily be lacking in one who was simply a student. All through the book, particularly in the chapters describing the various sports, we find him trying to fathom the how, why, and wherefore of everything; consequently his conclusions, whether on gymnastic or historical points, being based as far as possible upon personal observation or experiment, carry more conviction than if they were colourless reproductions of the investigations of others.

His claim that he has included in this book more of the subject than has

ever been treated in a single volume before, seems justified. The first part, which I understand is wholly new, consists of a history of Greek athletics and of the accompanying festivals from the earliest times—he begins with the games of Patroclus—down to the end of the fourth century A.D. The story of the development of these meetings, from the time when they were instituted as a practical help towards the more efficient bearing of arms until they degenerated into sterile professionalism, is well and clearly told, and the author is ever ready to apply his reading of history to the downward trend of present-day athleticism—and not without reason. The Olympic festival is given a complete chapter to itself, while the Pythian, Isthmian, and Nemean are treated together. Athens deserves, and receives, separate consideration, and there is also a chapter on Roman athletics.

Probably the second part, in which the various gymnastic sports and exercises are analysed and explained in detail, will prove the more interesting to the general reader. As the long-forgotten throwing of the diskos has been revived and reconstructed in our modern Olympic festivals, it is interesting to

find that Mr. Gardiner denounces (and I think with justice) the grotesque and artificial method which the authorities are pleased to call 'Hellenic'; and it is reasonable to suppose that if his criticism were brought to the notice of the officials, this ungraceful performance would soon vanish from the programme.

In one small point I venture to question Mr. Gardiner's judgment. Fig. 112 represents two men wrestling, and he describes it as a not very satisfactory illustration of *παράθεσις* (the manoeuvre by which a side-hold is effected). To me it seems to be an excellent picture of a 'cross-buttock,' the commonest trick-throw in Cumbrian wrestling. The figure on the right has only to fling his opponent's body across his own to hurl him off his legs; and it should be observed that in so doing he places himself in precisely the same position in relation to his opponent. It is merely a question who gets first 'heave': possibly this is the reason why

this knock-out throw is so seldom used by good wrestlers—the attacker, if detected, is so easily caught in his own trap.

But this is only a detail. The book as a whole is written in a bright and good-humoured style, and has true sportsmanship embedded in every page. It will act as an excellent tonic for boys afflicted with the athletic craze and a decadent passion for statistics and records. It ought to find a place in every school library and on every prize list, and I hope that all librarians and head-masters will carefully consider it for these purposes.

I had almost omitted to mention one of the most fascinating features of the book—its illustrations. They are of many kinds and derived from many sources—photography, gems, pottery, coins, and what not. They are uniformly excellent, and (what is more) they are truly illustrative of the text.

R. B. LATTIMER.

SHORT NOTICES

L'Emploi du Participe Présent Latin à l'Époque Républicaine. Par J. MAROUZEAU. I vol. 10" x 6½". Pp. 84. Paris: Champion, 1910. Fr. 3.

WE have here an interesting study by an experienced investigator. M. has examined Pl., Ter., Cato, Varro (r.r.), Caesar (B.G. only), and his continuers, Sall., Catullus, Lucr. He has also made 'sondages confirmatifs' in Nepos and in the following works of Cic.: *in Cat.*, *pro Marc.*, *pro Lig.*, *de Divinatione*. It is to be regretted that he has not made a fuller study of the language of Cic. One constantly feels, especially in the chapter on the 'Relation du Participe avec le Verbe Principal,' that the evidence is incomplete, that the most important witness has not been called. *E.g.* on p. 27, where the participle is compared with the gerund (*e.g.* Pl., *ut cruciari . . . currens* with Ter. *miserrimus fui fugitando*), Sall. is the only prose writer cited; it would be well to refer to Lebreton's list of Ciceronian examples (*Études sur la Langue*

et la Gram. de Cic., pp. 400-404). Again, we read on p. 33: 'Seul Salluste adjoint au participe régime un adverbe ou une conjonction: Iug. 38, 2: *veluti cedentem.*' Yet Cic. uses *ut* and *quasi* in the same way: *eum* (i.e. *animum deus*) . . . *ut dominum atque imperantem oboedienti prae-fecit corpori* (Ti. 21).

But, though M. does not give an adequate account of the use of the participle in classical prose, he gives in considerable detail the history of its gradually extending use up to Cic.'s time and among many of his contemporaries. Some of the results of his researches may be mentioned. It is often said that the present participle is rare in the nominative. M. shows, on the contrary, that from Pl. to Cic. the nom. is commoner than any other case, and that in many writers the nom. of the participle is the only case which is used with any freedom to govern an object or object clause. *E.g.* Terence has a number of examples of the nom. sing. of the types *expectans si quid . . .*; *nuntians me venisse*; *nil suspicans mali*, but his only