

A. Petrie: *An Introduction to Roman History, Literature and Antiquities*, Third Ed., Oxford University Press, 1963; reprinted with corrections 1966.

This review is long overdue. But because *Petrie* is always with us he is apt to be taken for granted. With the appearance of the 1926 edition the reviewer observed, *Class. Rev.* 41 (1927) p. 84: 'The multiplication of school books . . . shows no sign of slackening. Where good and well tried manuals are already in the field, it seems a pity to deluge the market with new and untried ones: far better revise old favourites. But here and there a new book is a real improvement on certain existing manuals, and the present compendium is one of them'. *Petrie* has stood his ground for almost half a century, and an 'old favourite' has been revised in 1963 by Mr. E. W. Gray of Christ Church, Oxford. Among the improvements in the revised edition to which the reader's attention should be drawn are the following: the distinction between patricians and plebians (p. 15), Rome's generosity in extending varying degrees of citizenship to conquered peoples in Italy (p. 30), a modification in regard to the relation of Rome to Saguntum before the Second Punic War (p. 33), a better and more favourable appraisal of Sulla (p. 50 and 51), a later view on the reform of the *Comitia Centuriata* in the third century (p. 80), and a better outline of procedure in criminal trials (p. 85).

This compendium is not only valuable for teachers and pupils in high schools, but also as a book of easy reference for lecturers and university students on Roman history, sundry constitutional matters, the law courts and the Roman military system.

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A. Petrie: *An Introduction to Greek History, Antiquities and Literature*, Second Ed., Oxford University Press, 1962; reprinted 1965.

This book has been prepared originally as a companion volume to the *Introduction to Roman History, etc.* Its earliest edition appeared in 1932. The second edition has undergone extensive revision, especially in the early history sections, by Mr. Russell Meiggs of Balliol College, Oxford. The fruit of revision is quite evident e.g. on the 'Mycenaean Civilization' (p. 10) where account could now be taken of the decipherment and identification of the Mycenaean linear script.

Like its companion volume this book is a 'multum in parvo' and is strongly recommended for use in high schools and universities.

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