

πάντων ἀναζητεῖ καὶ περιγράφει τὰς ἀκρῆς ἐκφάνσεις τῶν φυσικῶν ἰδιοτήτων καὶ τῶν δεξιότητων τόσον εἰς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους, ὅσον καὶ εἰς τὰ ζῷα καὶ τὴν φύσιν. Διὰ τοῦτο ἀναζητεῖ τὰς ὑπερβολὰς εἰς ἀνθρώπων καὶ τὴν φύσιν, εἰς τὴν ξηρὰν καὶ τὴν θάλασσαν, εἰς τὰς ἀνθρωπίνους ἐνεργείας, εἰς τὰ εἶδη τῶν ζῶων εἰς τὰ φυσικὰ φαινόμενα ὄλων τῶν ἡπείρων. Εἶναι ἓν εἶδος βιβλίου ἐξόχων ἐπιδόσεων τοῦ ἀνθρώπου καὶ φυσικῶν φαινομένων, ἐκτιθεμένων μὲ πνεῦμα φιλοσοφικῆς ἀναζητήσεως τῆς αἰτίας τῶν καὶ μὲ ὕφος εὐχάριστον καὶ ἐπίχαρι, ἀφοῦ μαζὶ μὲ τὰ γεγονότα περιγράφει καὶ τὰς ὑπερβολὰς τῶν ἀρχαίων διηγηματογράφων, ἰδίως Ἑλλήνων, περὶ γεγονότων εἰς μεμακρυσμένης χώρας, ὡς τῆς Ἀφρικῆς, Ἀσίας καὶ τῶν Ἰνδιῶν καὶ τὰς ἀγνώστους θαλάσσας.

Ἡ ἐκτύπωσις εἶναι καλαισθητὸς ἐπὶ ἀρίστου χάρτου καὶ μὲ ἐπίχρυσον κεφαλαῖα καὶ τίτλους, τὸ δὲ λαμπρὸν τομίδιον μὲ τὸ κομψὸν τοῦ σχῆμα καὶ τὸ εὐχάριστον περιεχόμενον εἶναι ἓνα εὐπρόσδεκτον καὶ εὐνόητον βοήθημα ἰδιαιτέρως εἰς τοὺς ἐκμανθάνοντα τὴν γερμανικὴν γλῶσσαν νέους.

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R. M. Ogilvie, *Roman Literature and Society*. A Pelican Original. London and New York: Penguin Books, 1988. Pp. 303. Paperback. \$ 6.95.

Teachers of Latin are almost always limited in their teaching of the Latin language and Latin literature by the very particular authors they are having students study so that their view of Latin literature tends to be limited by those authors. It has always seemed a good idea to supplement students' learning by having them get an overview of Latin literature by reading an appropriate history or handbook of that literature. In the past, there have been many such handbooks available, but one which is readily available, reasonably priced, and marvelously readable is the late Robert Ogilvie's *Roman Literature and Society*, originally published in 1980, reprinted in 1984, and now reprinted again in 1988. Ogilvie was headmaster of the Tonbridge School from 1970 to 1975 and subsequently Professor of Humanity at the University of St. Andrews until his death in November of 1981. He was familiar with the teaching of students at the secondary and university levels and wrote extensively on Livy, Tacitus, Lactantius, Roman religion, and the history of early Rome. He was also a Fellow of the British Academy and the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Ogilvie's survey of Latin literature assumes little or no knowledge of Latin literature but at the same time can be used by the knowledgeable Latin teacher and scholar who want a clear, authoritative, and concise overview of Latin literature. The special feature of Ogilvie's work is his «attempt to write a brief survey of Latin literature which would serve as an introduction, for students and others, to the major Latin writers» and «to relate their works to the evolving social conditions of the times». Ogilvie has read and reread the Latin authors and tried to give us a fresh approach and independent opinions about them. He succeeds without being dogmatic, arbitrary or uninteresting. His organization of the material in eleven chapters under «Roman Society and Literature»; «The Early Republic»; «The Later Republic»; «The Influence of Greece»; «Intellectual Curiosity»; «Between Republic and Empire»; «The Early Empire»; «Principate and Protest»; «Words and Truth»; «The New Dawn»; and «Full Circle» should give the reader clear indication that Ogilvie's is not a dry, annalistic account, but an approach that fully draws our

attention to authors from Apuleius to Vitruvius. Ogilvie stresses the continuous tradition of Latin literature.

In summary, Ogilvie suggests that «In the first period religion was uppermost in men's minds. The climax of the Second Punic War was the transportation of Cybele, the great mother-goddess of Anatolia, to Rome in 205 B. C. Cato had believed that a farmer's first duty was to respect the gods. In the intervening period the Romans had become much more humanist, interested in man's emotions, aspirations, dreams, sorrows, and doings, and their religion much more spiritualized. In the last period the old gods, and some new ones had reasserted their power» (p. 280). Though Ogilvie begins the story with Ennius, Cato, and their immediate predecessors and carries it down to Apuleius, Latin literature does not end there but generates a whole range of new fields used for the propagation of Christianity and in opposition to that same Christianity.

Ogilvie's *Roman Literature and Society* quotes generously from the authors whom it cites and analyzes in widely read and accepted translations and also gives the reader a selective bibliography about Roman writers and on Roman Literature and Civilization that is readily accessible to the general reader.

*Roman Literature and Society* is highly recommended for teachers who would like their students to deepen their knowledge of Latin literature and Roman society and for themselves to help provide a meaningful focus for the study of the Latin language and Roman literature. It is a book that will be appreciated and enjoyed by nonspecialist and specialist alike.

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Patricia A. Johnston, *Traditio: An Introduction to the Latin Language and its Influence*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 1988. Pp xv + 427. Hard-bound. Illustrated. \$ 26.70.

There is no lack of textbooks available for teaching and learning the fundamentals of Latin, so that any new Latin textbook will certainly need to be scrutinized very closely for its methodology and content. *Traditio* presents us with a book that returns unashamedly to the need to master the fundamentals of grammar and at the same time introduce the student to the wide range of Latin literature from Plautus to Copernicus. Some adjustments have been made in the readings to conform with classical usage, but the student is exposed to more than 1700 years of use of the Latin language and to a limited introduction to Roman civilization, including literature, history, religion, philosophy, mythology, astronomy and astrology, education, and the Roman urban and social experience.

In the author's words, *Traditio* is intended to give college students who need an intensive introductory course or a one-semester review course «a thorough introduction to Latin grammar and some experience translating Latin authors» (p. vii). It could be used in school but it is very likely that the full academic year and more would be needed. Its eighteen chapters are very full, and even in a college or university setting, would certainly require four to five meetings a week-plus. A tutorial program keyed to each chapter of *Traditio* has been developed for the IBM