Reports from the Classical Field

Edited by J. J. SCHLICHER

It is the purpose of this department to keep the readers of the Journal informed of events and undertakings in the classical field, and to make them familiar with the varying conditions under which classical work is being done, and with the aims and experiences of those who are in one way or another endeavoring to increase its effectiveness. The success of the department will naturally depend to a great extent on the co-operation of the individual readers themselves. Everyone interested in the Journal and in what it is trying to do is therefore cordially invited to report anything of interest that may come to his notice. Inquiries and suggestions will also be useful in directing the attention of the editors to things which may otherwise escape their notice. Communications should be addressed to J. J. Schlicher, 1811 N. Eighth Street, Terre Haute, Ind., or (for New England) to Clarence W. Gleason, Volkmann School, 415 W. Newbury Street, Boston, Mass.


FRIDAY MORNING

GREETINGS.

1. GORDON J. LAING, The University of Chicago: "The Legend of the Trojan Settlement in Latium."

After an examination of the statements made by Greek and Latin authors in regard to the career of Aeneas after his escape from Troy, the paper discusses the various theories that have been advanced to account for the extension of his wanderings to Latium and his appearance in the early history of the Romans.

2. JOSIAH B. GAME, Missouri State Normal School: "Some Phases of Cicero's Invective."

The partial results of an examination into Cicero's use of invective. The invective material from all his orations has been collected and classified. Some of the rules which guided him in his invective oratory seem in sight. There exists a remarkable sameness (a) in the character of accusations made against all his great enemies; (b) likewise in the vocabulary of his invective; (c) in the exact expressions used in many instances. This investigation seems to go far toward establishing much of Cicero's invective as mere rhetoric. It consequently has little value as a basis for accurate history. In other words, if it is established that he accuses his great enemies of the same crimes, and uses the same appellations and epithets, and even the same sentences in expressing his intense feeling, it must follow that all such invective is of no prime value in preparing a historical estimate of the facts concerning these men.

3. FRANK B. FOWLER, Lombard College: "The Mirum-Quin Constructions."

It is commonly claimed that the origin of the mirum-quin construction is to be found in an original paratactic question. It seems preferable to connect this rarely
occurring construction with the common *quin* clauses, and if I am correct in claiming (Class. Phil. III, 408 ff.) that *quin* never had an interrogative force, the old explanation is manifestly impossible. *Mirum quin* is easily connected with the *non dubium est quin* construction, which in turn owes its origin to the fact that *non dubium est* denies hindrance to thought. But in order that there may be the implication of a negative, the *mirum-quin* sentences as a whole must be interrogative. Therefore such a sentence as the following and the other *mirum-quin* sentences should be written with an interrogation point: Trin. 967—Mirum quin ab avo eius aut proavo acciperem qui sunt mortui?

4. JOSEPH B. PIKE, University of Minnesota: “Present and Future Status of Latin in the High Schools of Minnesota.” Discussion to be opened by Franklin H. Potter, University of Iowa.

The situation in Minnesota taken to be typical for this region. The relation of university to high schools; numbers taking German; vocational courses; attitude of superintendents and principals toward Latin and German; criticism of endeavor to make German a substitute for Latin; value of linguistic study in high schools; probable results in agricultural communities and smaller high schools.

BUSINESS SESSION.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

5. G. C. FISKE, University of Wisconsin: “A Traveling Lantern-Slide Collection” (illustrated). Discussion to be opened by WALLACE REISS, South Division High School, Milwaukee.

Describes the organization of the traveling lantern-slide collection established in the state of Wisconsin by the co-operation of the Latin Teachers’ Association and the University Extension Department of the University of Wisconsin. The paper considers (1) the proper limits of visual instruction in the teaching of high-school Latin; (2) the preparation and arrangement and business administration of the collection; (3) the composition of the small traveling reference library accompanying the collection; (4) the results hoped for when the collection, divided into two lectures, “The Ruins of Ancient Rome” and “A Day with the Romans” shall become generally known in the state.


(a) The inherent difficulty of the subject; (b) the lack of appreciation of the importance of Latin writing; (c) the teacher’s disinclination to insist upon its practice.

8. WALTER DENNISON, University of Michigan: “Are We Really Teaching Latin?” Paper to be discussed by ARTHUR T. WALKER, University of Kansas, and M. J. HART, William McKinley High School, St. Louis, Missouri.

Many men of the last generation who had a thorough classical education do not cease to love the masterpieces of Greek and Latin literature; they keep on their shelves,
and in their odd moments still read with joy, their Horace and Homer, Lucian and Juvenal. Very many high-school boys and college students of the present day, on their own testimony, “hate” Latin, and when they have finished a course in the subject, in great haste dispose of their books at the nearest second-hand bookstore, and never afterward think, without a mental shudder, of the authors whose works they were forced to read. Whose fault is it that this is so? Is it the fault of the times entirely, or are we teaching too much about Latin and not enough Latin itself?

FRIDAY EVENING


SATURDAY MORNING


The first part of the paper is devoted to the topography of Carthage and its environs and to the archaeological discoveries that have been made on that site. The latter part of the paper gives an account of a Timegad, the Pompeii of Algeria, and the objects of interest there remaining.


Examples akin to the familiar “is going to be” are to be found in Early English; showing, as does the Latin laudatum iri, an interesting development in verbs of motion. The free conversational use of “is going to be” indicates a difference between written and spoken English, and illustrates the thesis that progress is along the line of least resistance, the difficulties in the use of “shall” and “will” rendering desirable a way of escape from them both. The books recognize “is about to be,” but common usage moves along with “is going,” reserving “is about” for immediate occurrences. In Latin the active future periphrastic has as its basis a form in -urus, whose early origin is attested by its use in some forms of indirect statement in which it was forced to do service. The usage of Vergil may be interpreted as indicating that the periphrastic was vulgar, though the occurrences fail to show that the change from -am to -es in two conjugations affected its use.

11. ROY C. FLICKINGER, Northwestern University: “The Influence of Local Theatrical Conditions upon the Drama of the Greeks.”

The paper is not controversial in spirit, but is intended to call attention to some facts that not all classical scholars recognize the significance of, to say nothing of the students of the drama in other fields.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION. Statement of General Condition of the Association.

T. C. BURGESS, Secretary-Treasurer.

GENERAL BUSINESS.
12. CHARLES KNAPP, Columbia University: "References to Literature and Painting in Plautus and Terence."

The purpose is, first of all, to gather together all references to painting in Plautus and Terence, and all allusions of a literary or quasi-literary character; and, secondly, to make such observations as the assembled references warrant. A previous study of the author's entitled "Travel in Ancient Times as Seen in Plautus and Terence" had certain interesting by-products; for example, this study threw light from a wholly unexpected source on the much-discussed question of the relation of Plautus and Terence to their Greek originals, showing that Plautus, in the matters covered by that paper, shows far more independence and a far more intense Roman spirit than are displayed by Terence. In view of the early place of Plautus and Terence in the history of Latin literature, no such results can be expected from the present study; both authors, in the field covered by the paper, are dependent on Greek sources.

13. MISS GENEVA MISENER, Dean of Kenwood Institute: "Country Life in Greece in the First Century A.D."

14. BANKS J. WILDMAN, Miami University: "Transitional Particles and Devices in Horace Sat. i and Epist. i.

15. D. D. HAINS, Wabash College: "Greek Plays in America" (illustrated). Discussion to be opened by THEODORE LYMAN WRIGHT, Beloit College.

The results of an investigation which has covered, as thoroughly as possible, the universities and colleges of the United States. The Greek play idea originated with the Oedipus Tyrannus at Harvard in 1881, and plays have been put on since that date by more than thirty institutions. They were given at first in the original, but the practice of presenting them in English soon followed, and a majority of the performances have been in translation. The audiences have ranged from a small gathering at a "parlor reading" to the 8,000 who saw the Birds at the opening of the Greek theater of the University of California. The costumes have varied from himatia of sheets to the productions of the foremost costumers of the country. Latin plays have been much fewer, yet the number in the aggregate has been large.