

The Classical Review

OCTOBER 1901.

It is with great regret that we announce that increasing demands upon his time have obliged Mr. Cecil Smith to retire from his position as Associate Editor of this *Review*. Mr. Smith was the last of the triumvirate of scholars who assisted Prof. J. B. Mayor in piloting it through the beginning of its course, the other two being Prof. A. J. Church and Mr. A. M. Cook; and three editors in succession have had the benefit of his ready help and his skilled advice. Prof. Ernest A. Gardner, of University College, London, succeeds to the place vacated by Mr. Smith.

The scheme of the curriculum in Classics at the new University of Birmingham, which appeared in the course of this summer, presents a feature which well deserves a word of commendation. With the object of providing the Classical passman with pabulum less scrappy and unsatisfying than ordinarily falls to his share, the study of the particular Greek and Latin books prescribed is brought into connexion with that of the branch of literature to which they belong. Thus a play of Aeschylus will be studied in relation to the history of the Greek drama as a whole, a book of Virgil with due reference to the development of Roman Epic, and so on. In the words of the Prospectus: 'The University Courses are designed to embrace a study of representative masterpieces of Latin and Greek literature, which will be treated as literary wholes and from a literary point of view.

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The three-year Course brings the student into contact with typical specimens of classical literature in the fields of Epic, Lyric, Idyllic, and Dramatic poetry, and of philosophical prose and literary criticism, and thus provides a basis for the historical and comparative study of English and other modern literatures.'

Dr. Peterson, of McGill University, Montreal, has discovered the lost *Codex Metellianus* of Cicero in a ninth century MS. of Lord Leicester's library at Holkham. A facsimile from this codex appeared some twelve or thirteen years ago in *Chatelain, Paléographie des Classiques Latins*; but otherwise nothing has been known of it till now. By deciphering an erased library mark Dr. Peterson has proved that the manuscript was once at Cluni, and is in fact the volume numbered 498 in the 'vetus catalogus bibliothecae Cluniacensis'—a catalogue compiled between the years 1157 and 1161. It would appear that the *Metellianus*, which was used by Gulielmius for the second and third books of the *Verrines*, was the same MS. as that 'codex Fabricii' which Lambinus cites in his second edition. A full collation of this important codex which contains also the *Catilines* and the *Deiotarus*, with a fragment of the *Ligarius*, with an account of its history and the proofs of its identity, is published by the Clarendon Press in the *Anecdota* series.

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