

turn. A good bibliography and an accurate index also deserve commendation. The volume is the latest of the "Handbooks of Archaeology and Antiquities," and has the general mechanical excellence of the series. It is a little old-fashioned now to learn any lesson from the past; but any thoughtful person with a care for the present and future of athletics will find in these pages a few stimulating suggestions, either implicit or offered directly. For instance: "The nemesis of excess in athletics is specialization," sounds very pertinent today; and there are many other examples. Moreover the book recalls the thought, so familiar to any student of history, that for at least a few decades in Greece athletics were a genuine glory, the human frame an inspiration and delight. And a few of us dream that once more a popular life of physical exercise and athletic games may rise to such an excellence and efficiency as to inspire the pen of the poet and the chisel of the sculptor. But Greek history makes it convincingly clear that such a development is not to be expected as long as students are contented to take their exercises by "rooting" for their sturdy champions, and the general public by watching professional baseball and reading the colossal, grotesquely-written accounts thereof in the "sporting" columns of our newspapers.

*Athletics  
in ancient  
Greece.*

Inasmuch as we have long desired a consecutive and comprehensive treatment of athletics among the gifted people who have taught the western world so much, we are glad to welcome Mr. E. Norman Gardiner's "Greek Athletic Sports and Festivals" (Macmillan). The book gives a scholarly presentation by a man who has both a genuine concern for athletics and a sound knowledge of the sources for his study. The general reader will turn very rapidly many pages of the first part, which is mainly historical; but he will doubtless linger over the second part, which takes up the principal athletic exercises one by one. However, the difference between the two main divisions is due rather to the nature of the themes than to inequality of execution, and the scholar will appreciate both. The illustrations are admirably chosen and give valuable help at every