

ent book sustains his reputation. The first two chapters — "Livy as a Literary Man at Rome" and "A General Estimate of Livy's Characteristics" — are admirable both in matter and style. The remaining chapters, in our view, labor under the defect of having too little of Livy, while there is considerable Roman history. What would one think of a book on Macaulay that should give page after page of English history, but not quote more than half a dozen lines in all from the historian? Probably the predetermined size of the book was the occasion of the fault, it being too small for extended quotations, and too large for a critical and biographical introduction.

The Œdipus Tyrannus of Sophocles. Translated by G. Volney Dorsey. [Piqua, Ohio. \$1.00.] Dr. Dorsey's *Œdipus Tyrannus* will hardly receive high praise from critical readers, either as an English poem or as a version of a great original. Indeed, the first six lines so dull the edge of criticism as to make further progress difficult:

O children! sprung from ancient Cadmus' line,
Why gather hurrying crowds around this shrine,
Bearing these suppliant boughs? and tell me why
Bursts forth from all your city the wild cry
Of groans and *doleful pæans*? — Hither I come,
Œdipus the renowned, to know the sum, . . .

Nevertheless, we were led on by the interest of the story and the general clearness of the style to read the whole poem, and we presume that some others may have the same pleasant experience.

Introduction to Latin Composition. By Wm. F. Allen. [Ginn & Heath.] The merits of this book are correctness, condensation, combination of oral and written exercises, and considerable attention to differences of idiom. Our only criticism would be that it ought not to have so much the appearance of an appendage to a grammar. A great merit in Arnold's *Latin Composition* and in Abbott's *Latin Prose through English Idiom* is that they make a fresh approach to Latin, and give the learner some new points of view. This is desirable, and an *Introduction to Latin Composition* affords a good opportunity.

Prof. Flagg has done a service to both scholars and schools by giving us a new *Demos thenes* — the same great speaker, but a new set of speeches; as new to the present generation of students as if they had just been exhumed. We have three orations: the one on the Symmories, or tax-companies; the oration for the Megalopolitans; and for the liberty of the Phodians. Our fear in regard to the notes is that many of them will be found to be over the heads of those students who most need notes.

HANDBOOKS OF THE OLASSIOS.

Greek Mythology Systematized. By S. A. Scull. [Porter & Coates. \$1.00.] The students of Greek mythology — and all the liberally educated who are compelled to be such students — owe a debt of thanks to Miss Scull for her *Greek Mythology Systematized*. The book comes from the wants and experience of a teacher, but without the pettiness and stiffness that sometimes belong to school-born books. With the exception of the introduction, which lacks the clear and thorough treatment that characterizes the rest of the work, we have greatly enjoyed the reading of the book; for it can be read as well as studied. Hesiod's Theogony is made the basis of the classification; but later myths have their place, and any name can be referred to by means of the full index. Some idea of the thoroughness of the book may be gained from the following scheme of discussion, applied, so far as applicable, to each deity: 1. Central Ideas. 2. Offices and Archetypes. 3. Early Legends. 4. Abode and Attendants. 5. Associated Myths. 6. Emblems. 7. Representations. 8. Worship. 9. Comparative Mythology. 10. Literature. 11. Art. 12. Modern Research. 13. Survivals. 14. Descendants. We are glad to see that the book is not surrendered to any pet theory of the origin of mythology, the solar theory not excepted. For our own part, we would as soon resolve the expedition of Sir John Franklin into a myth of the Aurora Borealis as to claim that the expedition of Jason and company in the Argo was merely a solar myth. That dawn of commercial enterprise was doubtless colored by the eastern sun; but there was something in it besides color. The only serious drawback that we notice in this excellent work is the entire absence of references to Greek authors. Full references would of course be impracticable; but Hesiod certainly could be referred to by line, either in the genealogical tables or in the descriptions. This want, which can yet be supplied without great expense, is the more pressing because the best accessible Greek dictionary contains but a portion of the multitudinous names that burden the verses of the Theogony.

Livy. By W. W. Capes. [D. Appleton & Co. 60 cts.] Mr. Capes has previously shown himself well qualified to write of Livy, and the pres-