

THE PRIVATE LIFE OF THE ROMANS

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The private life of the Romans by Harriet Waters Preston & Louise Dodge

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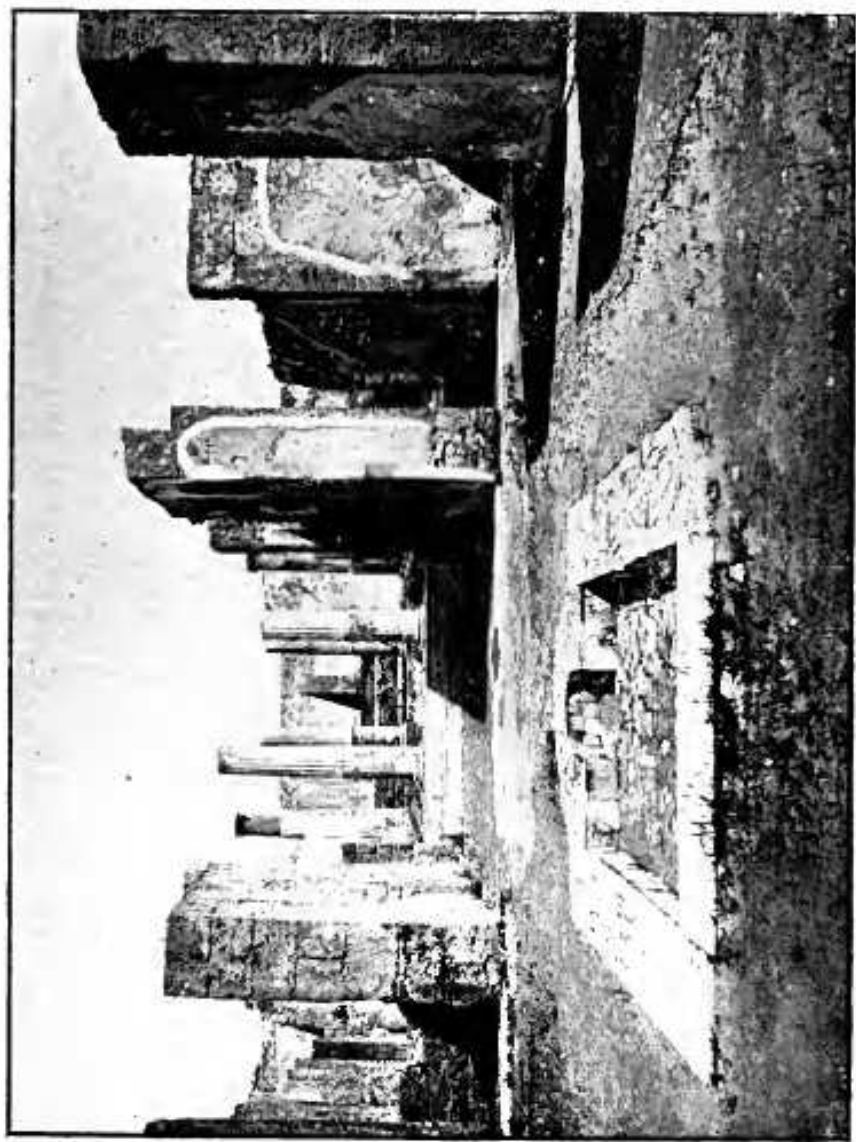
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HARRIET WATERS PRESTON & LOUISE DODGE

THE PRIVATE LIFE OF THE ROMANS



HOUSE OF PANSA, POMPEII.

17284

The Students' Series of Latin Classics

THE PRIVATE LIFE OF
THE ROMANS

WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS

BY

HARRIET WATERS PRESTON

AND

LOUISE DODGE



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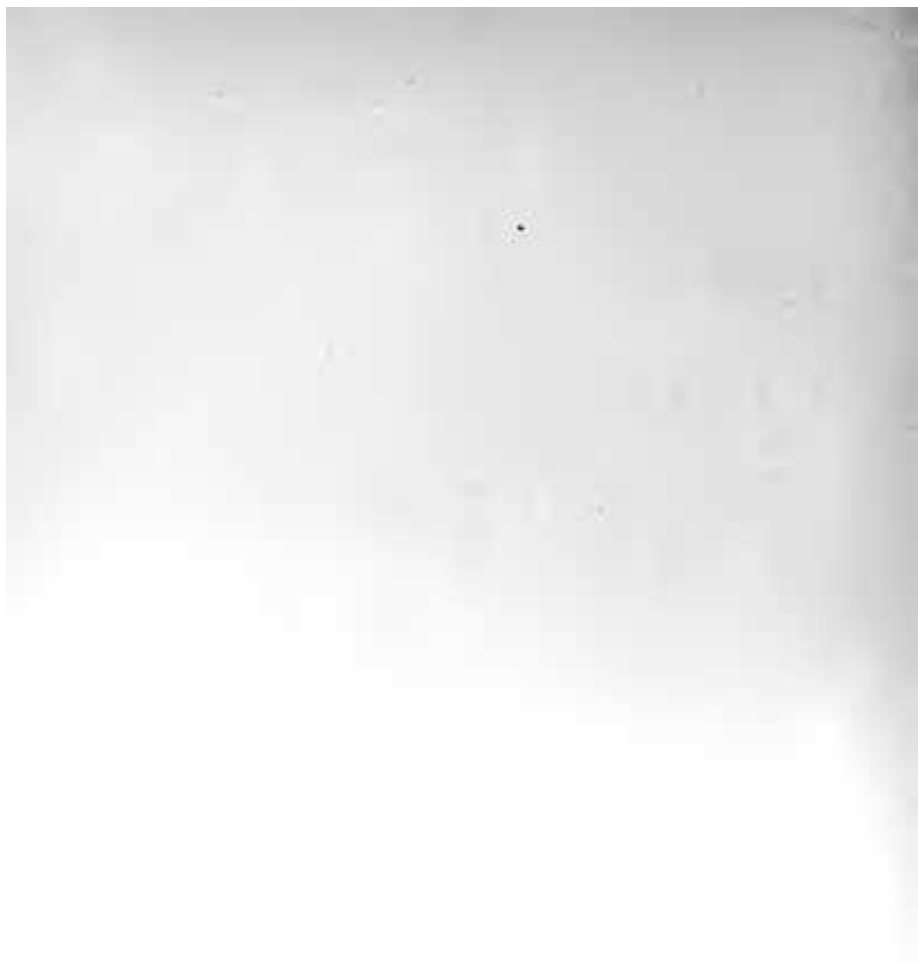
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INTRODUCTORY.

THE following brief account of the private manners and customs of the ancient Romans, their families and homes, their meat, drink, and clothing, their means of culture, amusement, etc., has been compiled, for the most part, from the latest German authorities on this interesting subject. It is especially based on the encyclopedic work of Marquardt and Mommsen, *Handbuch der Römischen Alterthümer: Siebenter Band, Privatleben der Römer*, von Joschim Marquardt. 2^{te} Auflage. Leipzig, S. Hirzel, 1886.

For illustrations of the imperial period, constant reference has also been made to the more discursive but always striking and suggestive work of Prof. Ludwig Friedländer, *Darstellungen aus der Sittengeschichte Roms, in der Zeit von August bis zum Ausgang der Antonine*. Fünfte neu bearbeitete und vermehrte Auflage. Leipzig, S. Hirzel, 1881.

The *Gallus* of Prof. W. A. Becker remains, as it has always been since its first appearance in 1838, an indispensable aid to one who would form a reasonably complete mental picture of the domestic life of classical antiquity.

Great condensation of material has, of course, been necessary; but the endeavor of the compilers has been to seize the salient points, and to furnish, within the prescribed limit of the volumes constituting this series, at least a fairly complete outline of a well-nigh inexhaustible subject.

To facilitate the student's pronunciation of the many unfamiliar Latin names of objects which have necessarily been

inserted in the text, the quantity of all the long vowels has been so marked.

The illustrations have been taken chiefly from Rich's Dictionary of Classical Antiquities: a few from Baumeister, Seyffert-Nettleship, Becker, and other authors; but the source of each will generally be found indicated under the illustration itself.

An appendix has also been added containing tables of Latin weights and measures, and a Roman calendar; with approximate reductions to American measures and values, and to the modern method of computing time.

Wherever Latin authors have been directly cited by our German authorities, the references have been carefully verified. In some few cases other quotations, which appeared to ourselves peculiarly obvious and interesting, have been added; but our aim has been to insert in the present little volume just so many references to original texts as might serve to stimulate the literary curiosity of a youthful reader, yet not enough to bewilder and overpower him.

The chapter on agriculture alone has been compiled almost entirely from original sources, — Cato, Columella, Varro, and Virgil, — aided by a considerable familiarity with the rural life of modern Italy, and those farming processes of to-day, many of which differ so very little in essentials from those of Roman times.

H. W. P.

L. P. D.

LONDON, November, 1893.