THE TENTH AND TWELFTH BOOKS OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF QUINTILIAN: WITH EXPLANATORY NOTES

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The Tenth and Twelfth Books of the Institutions of Quintilian: With Explanatory Notes by Henry S. Frieze

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BY

HENRY S. FRIEZE,

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PREFACE.

WE learn from Professor Bonnell, in the preface to his second edition of the tenth book of "the Institutions," that Quintilian has been of late years extensively introduced into the German schools. The occasion of the increased attention given to this great master both of Latinity and of the rhetorical art is the admirable fitness of his work to impart instruction at once by precept and example. While no writer after Cicero presents a more perfect model of purity and elegance, no author, not even Cicero himself, teaches in a manner so clear, so methodical, and so practical, the principles of composition and oratory. The study of Quintilian, therefore, affords a rare opportunity of combining what is more immediately, with what is more remotely, useful; of getting knowledge which has a direct bearing on professional life, and of attaining a higher scholarship in the Latin language.

In the gymnasia, at least in many of them, this study has found a place in the first or highest classes (the *Primaner*); the members of which, so far as relates to classical studies, are in a position corresponding very nearly to that of the "Seniors," or "Juniors," in our best universities and colleges.

Feeling the need of a Latin text-book for the Junior class somewhat different from any hitherto introduced into that part of our course, I was led by the example of the German schools,—an authority which in this day no classical teacher can question,—to make trial of Quintilian.

The experience of two years has shown not only that this author can be read with the advantages above suggested, but also that classes are better prepared by this study to take up the more peculiar and more difficult writers of "the silver age," and especially Tacitus. The gulf, if I may so express it, between the Latinity of Livy and Tacitus, or between that of the golden and silver ages, is in a manner bridged over by what may be called the intermediate, or transition style of Quintilian. For while in the general principles of taste, while in simplicity, naturalness, and directness, he follows the models of the former age, he necessarily uses the diction, and falls in with the idioms, of his own time.

In the absence of any edition of Quintilian adapted to the wants of American students, the editor has selected for publication the Tenth and Twelfth Books, and appended such explanatory and critical notes as seemed most needed. The interest and importance of the topics discussed in these two books will sufficiently explain why these have been selected in preference to any others. That the student may readily learn their character, I have prefixed to the notes on each chapter a summary of the principal ideas embraced therein.

Whatever merit the present edition may possess, either in the text or the notes, is chiefly due to the labors of those German scholars who have for so many years devoted themselves to the clearing up of doubtful points both in the text and the interpretation of this author. The most elaborate and most valuable edition of Quintilian which has yet appeared is that published at Leipsic in six volumes, commenced by Spalding and completed by Zumpt. The first volume of this edition was printed in 1795, and the sixth in 1834; the latter edited by Bonnell. Professor Bonnell has also published a very perfect edition of the text in the Teubner series of classics, besides a separate edition of the Tenth Book with German notes. These eminent scholars, gathering up, and by their own researches greatly enriching all that had been previously accomplished in this work, have left little further to be desired in the elucidation of Quintilian.

The text here given departs but slightly from that of Bonnell above mentioned. The chief difference is in the punctuation; though even here the variation is but trifling. One characteristic, the separation of a protasis from its apodosis by a colon instead of a comma, I have uniformly retained; because, though it may at first strike the eye as strange, it is strictly correct. The same peculiarity will be found in my edition of the Aeneid.

Some few other deviations from the ordinary orthography of Latin books printed in our country will be readily detected, and doubtless have already become familiar through the constantly increasing use of German editions of the classics.

H. S. FRIEZE.

University of Michigan, June, 1865.

INTRODUCTION.

Most of the representative writers of the so-called silver age were natives of Spain. Cordova gave birth to the two Senecas* and Lucan. Pomponius Mela was from Cingitera, Martial from Bilbilis, Columella from Cadiz, and Quintilian from Calagurris. That so many distinguished authors, each at that period first in his class, should make their appearance in a country but just now peopled with warlike barbarians, indicates a change in national character and pursuits, such as only Roman conquerors and Roman laws could have produced. Indeed, the Iberians, or Spaniards, though the most obstinate of all the foreign tribes ever encountered by the Roman armies, and the most difficult to subdue, were, after their subjugation, imbued more rapidly and more thoroughly than any other European nations with the manners and civilization of their new masters. The elder Seneca, even in the time of Horace, migrated from Cordova to Rome, and there took a high position as a teacher of rhetoric. And it was not without reason that the poet spoke of the Spaniard, even then, as the peritus Iber. † Nor is the tradition without significance which tells of a Spanish scholar of Cadiz making a pilgrimage to Rome on purpose to see the historian Livy. † Such incidents shadow forth the fact that the literary cultivation of the Romans had already permeated the Spanish provinces; and there is good reason for the remark of Mr. Merivale, that "the great Iberian peninsula was more thoroughly Romanized than any other part of the dominions of the republic." §

[•] The elder Seneca, M. Annaeua, is properly assigned to the post-Angustan, or silver age, as his writings were published in the reign of Tiberius, though he also flourished as a teacher under Augustus.

[†] O. 2, 29, 19 sq. ‡ Plin. Ep. 2, 2. § Merivale's History of the Romans under the Empire.