

**THE CLASSICS AND MODERN
TRAINING: A SERIES OF
ADDRESSES SUGGESTIVE OF THE
VALUE OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
TO EDUCATION**

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The Classics and Modern Training: A Series of Addresses Suggestive of the Value of Classical Studies to Education by Sidney G. Ashmore

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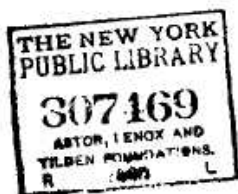
By

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TO MY WIFE

PREFACE

THIS series of addresses is published in the hope of interesting the general reader in a few matters connected with the study of Greek and Latin, and if possible to call attention to the value of the ancient languages and literatures to education; for in these days of strenuous exertion in many fields of utilitarian importance the popular interest in antiquity seems to be more theoretical than real, if indeed it be not actually negative. The papers are mere sketches. Scholars will find in them much to criticise. But at their hands indulgence is asked, inasmuch as the aim of the little book is to reach only that portion of the community, whose patience is of necessity limited, and in whose eyes the detail of scientific accuracy is frequently unwelcome. If the casual observer shall be moved, through the perusal of what is here presented, to devote any part of his time or influence to upholding the interests of a cause that is without doubt a losing one just at the present time, this slight effort will not have been wholly fruitless.

The addresses are connected by a very slen-

der thread. They were composed independently—in different years; yet each of them had behind it a purpose similar to that of the rest, and this common purpose has been dwelt on—perhaps with what may seem to be wearisome iteration.

Taken together, the papers have more to do with Greek than with Latin, for Greek studies require to be sustained in popular estimation, whereas Latin is relatively secure. Even among teachers the importance of Greek is underestimated—often indeed by those who regard Latin as a first requisite in education, while people in general appear to be oblivious of the fact that any thorough knowledge of Roman antiquity is beyond the reach of educational endeavour, unless there lie beneath it some acquaintance with Greek.

Among the books to which I am indebted for information and suggestion are: the works of John Addington Symonds; Mr. W. L. Courtney's little treatise entitled *The Idea of Tragedy*; the small volume on *The Greek Drama*, by Mr. Lionel D. Barnett; *The Poetics of Aristotle* (edited by Professor Butcher); and *The Meaning of History*, by Mr. Frederic Harrison.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.,
January, 1905.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. A PLEA FOR THE CLASSICS IN OUR SCHOOLS, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO LATIN	i
II. OUR CLASSICAL INHERITANCE	32
III. THE TRAGEDY AND COMEDY OF THE GREEKS	60
IV. CLASSICAL ARCHÆOLOGY	93
V. THE OLYMPIC GAMES AT ATHENS IN 1896	122
INDEX	157