THE HIPPOLYTUS OF EURIPIDES, WITH CRITICAL AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

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The Hippolytus of Euripides, with critical and explanatory notes by Euripides

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EURIPIDES

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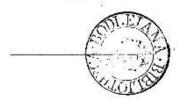
WITH

CRITICAL AND EXPLANATORY NOTES,

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F. A. STILWELL FREELAND, B.A.,

Scholar and Exhibitioner of Magdalene College, Cambridge.



CAMBRIDGE: H. W. WALLIS, SIDNEY STREET.

1876.

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PREFACE.

THE selection of "the Hippolytus" for the Previous Examination of 1877 induced me to revise and increase, under great pressure from other work, notes which I had already prepared with a somewhat different purpose.

Remembering the evil fortune that in my school days botell those who were ignorant of certain first principles of the Greek language, I endeavoured to collect such information as might enable any, who so desired, by the aid of Madvig's Greek Syntax and a careful comparison of the REFEEENCES in the Notes, to hold themselves tolerably free from 'unpardonable' mistakes. In short, I hoped to assist PRIVATE WORK in 'the studies.' If labours, which were heavy to me, be thus lightened for others, I shall be content.

My best thanks are due to Dr. KENNEDY, Regius Professor of Greek, and late Head Master of Shrewsbury, for much kindness and encouragement in this, as in all my work; I have also to acknowledge the assistance rendered me by Mr. W. ENGLISH, of St. John's, and Mr. A. H. SMITH, of Sidney, in the revision of the notes and translation.

CAMBBIDGE, July, 1876.

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INTRODUCTION.

EUMPERES was born at Salamis, B.C. 480, on the day on which the fleet of Xorxes was defeated by the Greeks, which thus serves as a point of connexion for the greatest Tragic poets of Greece; for Æschylus was one of the victors on the occasion, and the young Bophocles danced at the triumph. Euripides was originally intended by his father for an athlete, but he turned his attention to painting, then studied rhetoric under Prodicus, and philosophy under Anaxagoras. To this early education we may ascribe many of the rhetorical and philosophical passages found in his works.

From Athens he retired to Magnesia, and afterwards took up his residence in Macedonia, where he lived for some time at the Court of Archelaus, and where he found a grave. Archelaus erected a monument with the epitaph "Thy memory, Oh Euripides, will never perish." The Athenians wrote—

> " All Greece is the monument of Euripides, The Macedonian earth covers only his bones."

Of the plays that have come down to us, the Hippolytus is one of the finest and most carefully finished. The poet seems to have aimed at portraying the workings of a woman's heart, when irresistibly and in her own despite drawn astray by the machinations of a malignant deity. Approdite is incensed at the preference shewn by the chaste Hippolytus for Artemis. To compass her revenge, she inspires Phædra with a fatal passion for her step son; this the Queen endeavours by every means in her power to overcome. She buries her love in her own bosom (393).