

# **HERODOTOS; IX, 1-89 (PLATAEA)**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649087389

Herodotos; IX, 1-89 (Plataea) by E. S. Shuckburgh

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**E. S. SHUCKBURGH**

# **HERODOTOS; IX, 1-89 (PLATAEA)**



Pitt Press Series

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HERODOTOS

IX 1-89

(PLATAEA)

*WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES*

BY

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*EDITED FOR THE SYNDICS OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESS*

CAMBRIDGE  
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
1887

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PA  
14002  
A39  
1887

Cambridge

PRINTED BY C. J. CLAY M.A. AND SONS  
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

6254  
21/10/90 8

## PREFACE.

THE chapters of Herodotos contained in this book embrace the history of the Persian invasion of Greece from the Spring of B.C. 489 to the final repulse of that invasion at Plataea. This forms an episode in the great struggle sufficiently complete in itself to be read separately with full interest, either for the sake of its story or as an introduction to the language and manner of Herodotos. My aim has been to enable any one using my book to find in it all reasonable help in both these respects. Much of historical explanation and observation which is usually found in notes has been put together in the 'Historical and Geographical Index,' the design of which has been especially to bring before the reader the circumstances of the time, the mutual relations of the various states of Greece, some indication of the origin of those relations, and the influence and aims of the leading personages engaged.

Though only a very few notes on the more important variations in the text have been appended, yet the text

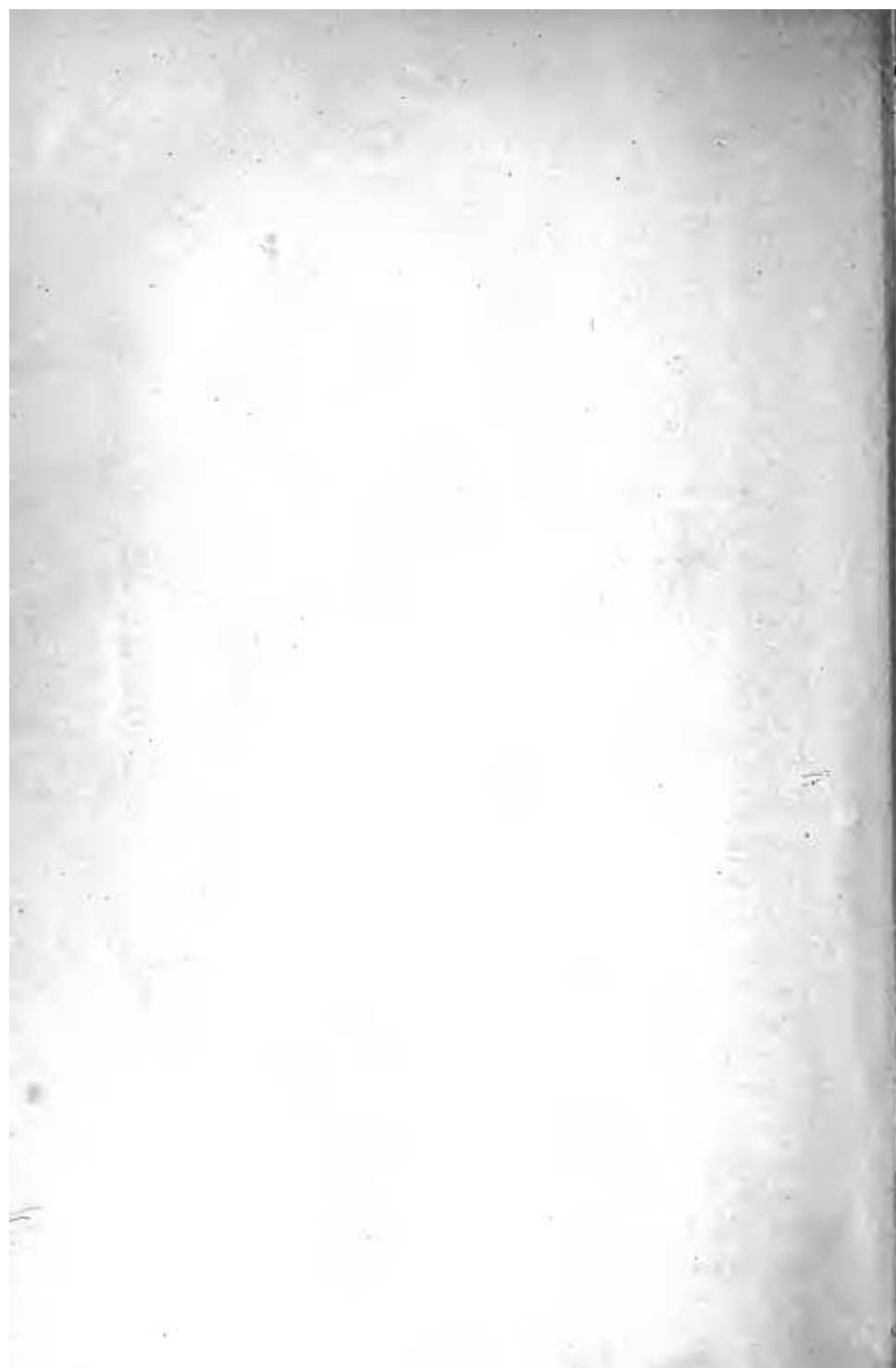
itself has been carefully revised by the help of the *apparatus criticus* in Dr Stein's earlier critical edition. The explanatory notes also owe much to those of the same editor (1882), and to those of Dr Abicht. To the latter scholar especially belongs the greater part of the 'Appendix on the Ionic dialect', which with slight additions is the same as that already printed in my edition of the eighth book. Other editions have also been consulted, among which I may mention the notes in Rawlinson's translation, which have always the merit of being full of learning and independent criticism on points of antiquities and history.

CAMBRIDGE, 1887.



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## INTRODUCTION.

WHEN evening fell upon the strait of Salamis at the end of that September day the Greek sailors mustered their ships on the coast of the island, and busied themselves with collecting the wrecks of their own forty disabled vessels, as well as such of the Persian fleet as were within reach. The last blows at the enemy had been struck by the Æginetan squadron which was stationed at the entrance of the channel [8, 91]; and by Aristides, who had landed on the small island of Psyttaleia with some Athenian hoplites and put the Persian troops occupying it to the sword [8, 95].

The Greeks scarcely understood the greatness of the victory they had achieved. The Persian army was still intact, and in occupation of Athens and the coast of Attica; their fleet had lost only between two or three hundred out of a total of 1200 ships; and the Greeks, remembering perhaps the three days of alternate success and failure at Artemisium, looked for a renewal of the engagement on the following morning [8, 96]. But though they had not annihilated the Persian forces, they had done what in the circumstances was quite as important,—they had thoroughly frightened Xerxes.