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TIME OF PLAUTUS AND TERENCE**

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GEORGIA WILLIAMS LEFFINGWELL

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**SOCIAL AND PRIVATE
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PLAUTUS AND TERENCE**

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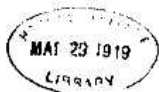
THE MEMORY OF
PROFESSOR GEORGE WILLIS BOTSFORD

AT WHOSE SUGGESTION THIS WORK WAS BEGUN AND WHOSE
KINDLY GUIDANCE AND HELPFUL CRITICISM
MADE POSSIBLE ITS COMPLETION

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INTRODUCTION

To assemble as far as possible the source evidence on social and private life at Rome during the first half of the second century B. C., and from this evidence to draw certain conclusions which will give a clearer understanding of the habits of thought and the feelings of the average citizen of the time is the purpose of this study.

While literary sources for Roman life in this period of the Republic are less available than for the Ciceronian age or for the Empire, a knowledge of the earlier period is of importance not only for its own sake as a critical moment in the history of Graeco-Roman civilization, but as a basis for comparison with later developments. The very fact of the scarcity of material and the consequent lack of information in regard to this subject may be given as the chief reason for the present work.

Roman life in the Imperial period has received a large amount of attention and been treated in exhaustive detail by modern writers, but the question of Roman life in the period of the Republic has been comparatively neglected. Warde Fowler in his *Social Life at Rome in the age of Cicero* embodies in his chapters a series of delightful sketches of conditions at the close of the Republican period, but the book throws little light on the century preceding the Ciceronian age, and in any case is of little value for reference purposes. The larger works on Roman life, such as Marquardt's *Privatleben der Römer*, devote some attention to Republican conditions. The statements, however, are scattered and more or less general, and the source references given are far from complete.