

**M. TULLI CICERONIS CATO
MAIOR DE
SENECTUTE, EDITED WITH
INTRODUCTION AND NOTES**

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M. Tulli Ciceronis Cato Maior De Senectute, Edited with Introduction and Notes by Frank Ernest Rockwood

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FRANK ERNEST ROCKWOOD

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EDITED
WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES
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PREFACE.

THE text of this edition of *Cicero De Senectute* is substantially that of C. F. W. Müller (Leipsic, 1879). The few deviations from his reading are stated on p. 152, and discussed in the supplementary notes. A different punctuation has been adopted in some passages, and in a few words the orthography has been corrected to conform to Brambach.

The *De Senectute* is usually given a place in the early part of the college course, when training in the reading of the Latin is imperatively needed. To assist the student in acquiring greater accuracy in pronunciation, the long vowels in the text have been marked. In this Lewis has been taken as a guide, and both his *Latin Dictionary for Schools* and his *Elementary Latin Dictionary* have been consulted. It is earnestly hoped that this feature may be welcomed by teachers, and may prove to be of practical value. It must be remembered, however, that absolute accuracy in marking quantities is out of the question.

The Introduction has been made somewhat full in order to present, in convenient form, a sketch of Cicero's life, with a brief account of what he has accomplished in literature, and more especially in philosophy. In the preparation of the sections which bear upon his standing as a philosopher and his relation to the leading schools, Mayor's admirable *Sketch of Greek Philosophy* has been very helpful.

Cicero's defense of old age is so charming in style and so interesting in subject-matter that it deserves something more by way of commentary than mere discussion of grammatical and

linguistic usage. Accordingly an attempt has been made in the illustrative notes, on the pages with the text, to give sufficient prominence to the historical and literary features of the essay, and to show by numerous quotations what ancient and modern authors have uttered like thoughts, couched in similar forms of expression. In numerous cases it will be seen that there is something more than a mere similarity of thought and expression. Without doubt many modern writers have drawn their inspiration direct from the lofty sentiments of Cicero's essay, and thus the student is introduced to a very interesting and important literary study of the great master of Latin prose. If this portion of the work shall prove suggestive and stimulating, it will accomplish its intended purpose.

In the supplementary notes a large number of grammatical references have been given, and whatever assistance seemed necessary in the translation of difficult passages, together with brief discussions of disputed readings. For convenience of reference an index to the notes and an index of proper names have been added.

In the preparation of this edition many works have been consulted. The most assistance has been received from the editions of Lemaire, Tischler, Lahmeyer, Sommerbrodt, Meissner, and Reid. My thanks are especially due to the editors of the American Book Company, who have made many valuable suggestions, and who have greatly lightened the labor of taking these pages through the press.

FRANK E. ROCKWOOD.

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY,
December, 1894.

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

LIFE OF CICERO.

1. Introduction.—Cicero must be regarded as essentially a man of letters. Whatever strength or weakness he may have manifested in public life, he undoubtedly forms the central figure in Roman literature. His matchless style, his rich and varied learning, and his wonderful powers of application easily made him the foremost writer of Latin prose. To the student hitherto acquainted with Cicero only through his orations and letters, he is revealed in a new character in the light of his ethical and philosophical works. For a just appreciation of the latter, a brief review of the author's life and studies will be eminently helpful.

2. Early Life and Education.—Marcus Tullius Cicero was born at Arpinum in Latium, 106 B.C. His father belonged to the equestrian order and was well qualified by learning and culture to direct the training of the future orator and student of philosophy. The young Marcus, with his brother Quintus, was early taken to Rome to receive the best instruction which the capital had to offer. Among his teachers were the poet Archias, the famous lawyers of the Scaevola family, Phaedrus the Epicurean philosopher, Philo of the New Academy, Diodotus the Stoic, and Molo the rhetorician.

Cicero was especially fond of Greek literature and philosophy, and gained from these sources the elegance of expression and