

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO. A
STUDY OF THE SEPULCHRAL
INSCRIPTIONS IN BUECHELER'S
"CARMINA EPIGRAPHICA
LATINA". A DISSERTATION**

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JUDSON ALLEN TOLMAN

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The University of Chicago
FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

A STUDY OF THE SEPULCHRAL INSCRIPTIONS
IN BUECHELER'S "CARMINA
EPIGRAPHICA LATINA"

A DISSERTATION
SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS
AND LITERATURE IN CANDIDACY FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
(DEPARTMENT OF LATIN)

BY
JUDSON ALLEN TOLMAN, Jr.

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TO MY MOTHER
IN APPRECIATION OF
HER HELP AND ENCOURAGEMENT

PREFACE

Franz Buecheler performed a great service to the student of Roman antiquities by his collection of metrical inscriptions in the two volumes entitled *Carmina Epigraphica Latina* (Leipzig, 1895 and 1897). In this collection the author has brought together from various sources a large amount of material which otherwise would not have been easily accessible.

This collection consists of 1,858 compositions. The majority of these are sepulchral inscriptions. The work also contains dedicatory inscriptions, Nos. 18 ff. and 248 ff., inscriptions from the walls of Pompeii, Nos. 32 to 49, 532 ff., and 941 ff., and a few *sortes* and *tabulae lusoriae*.

Professor Buecheler has arranged the inscriptions according to meter and has endeavored in some respect to bring together under the same metrical section those *carmina* which have a similarity of sentiment.

Shortly after the publication of this work several discussions followed upon different topics which were suggested by the study of the compositions. Those which have been of especial help and interest to the author of this paper are the following: Bruno Lier "Topica Carminum Sepulcralium Latinorum," *Philologus*, Vols. LXII and LXIII. In these articles the author has treated of many of the common-place expressions which are employed by the writers of the inscriptions. Professor Albert G. Harkness has discussed the religion of the common people as shown by these compositions in an article entitled "Roman Scepticism and Fatalism," *Transactions of the American Philological Association*, Vol. XXX, pp. 56-88. C. Weyman in *Blaetter für das Gymnasial-Schulwesen*, 1895, pp. 529-66, and C. Hosius in *Rheinisches Museum*, 1895, pp. 286-300, have treated of the influence of the Roman poets on the composers of the first volume of the *Carmina*. This discussion is supplemented by the list given by Professor Buecheler at the end of the second volume. Johannes Cholodniak in his work entitled *Carmina Sepulcralia Latina* has attempted to arrange the *carmina* under different heads as "Coniuges," "Parentes," "Liberi," "Servi," "Adloquia," etc. Cholodniak gives some valuable suggestions for text emendations, but does not appear to have classified the inscriptions with any particular regard for contents.

To the present time no comprehensive study of the *Carmina Sepulcralia* has been made. Such will be the object of this dissertation. We intend in the first chapter to make a survey of the general form, character, and content of the inscriptions as a whole, and in the second to discuss their

composition. The third, fourth, and fifth chapters will deal respectively with the religion, philosophy, and belief in immortality of the people as shown by the inscriptions.

In addition to the articles named above the author is also indebted in connection with the discussion of "Consolations" in chap. iv to the article by Carl Buresch "Consolationum Graecorum Romanorumque Historia Critica," *Leipziger Studien*, 1897, pp. 1 ff., and to the dissertation by Otto Schantz *De incerti Poetae Consolatione ad Liviam deque Carminum Consolatoriorum apud Graecos et Romanos Historia*, Marburg, 1889. The author also wishes to acknowledge his very great debt of gratitude to Professor G. L. Hendrickson, late of the University of Chicago, now of Yale University, who first directed his attention to this field of study and whose valuable suggestions and criticisms have made this dissertation possible. Thanks also are due to Professor F. J. Miller, of the University of Chicago, for his valuable suggestions on the chapter concerning the idea of immortality of the Romans.

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