

**PITT PRESS SERIES. ALEXANDER
IN INDIA, A PORTION OF THE
HISTORY OF QUINTUS CURTIUS,
EDITED FOR SCHOOLS AND
COLLEGES**

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Pitt Press Series. Alexander in India, a Portion of the History of Quintus Curtius, Edited for Schools and Colleges by W. E. Heitland & T. E. Raven

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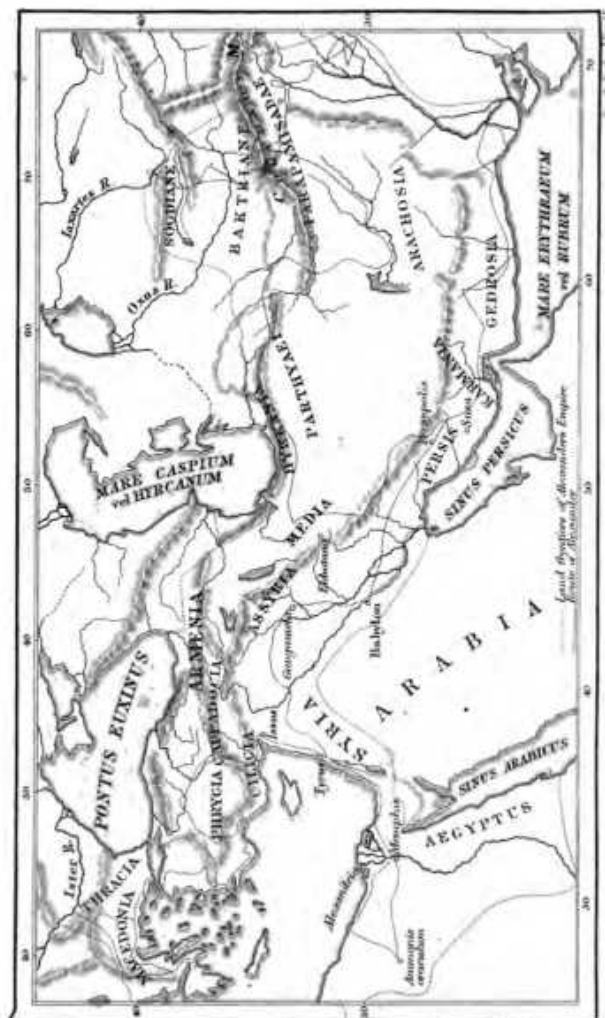
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[On mention of the tomb of Alexander at Alexandria.]

*illic Pellaei proles uesana Philippi,
felix praedo, iacet terrarum uindictae fato
raptus: sacratis totum spargenda per orbem
membra uiri posuere adytis: fortuna pepercit
manibus, et regni durauit ad ultima fatum,
nam sibi libertas unquam si redderet orbem,
ludibrio seruatus erat, non utile mundo
editus exemplum, terras tot posse sub uno
esse uiro. Maedum fines, latebrasque suorum
deseruit, uictasque patri despexit Athenas:
perque Asiae populos, fatis urgentibus actus,
humana cum strage ruit, gladiumque per omnes
exegit gentes: ignotos miscuit amnes,
Persarum Euphraten, Indorum sanguine Gangem:
terrarum fatale malum, fulmenque quod omnes
percuteret pariter populos, et sidus iniquum
gentibus, oceano classes inferre parabat
exteriore mari. non illi flamma, nec undae,
nec sterilis Libye, nec Syriacus obstitit Ammon.
isset in occasus, mundi deuexa secutus,
ambissetque polos, Nilumque a fonte bibisset:
occurrit suprema dies naturaque solum
hunc potuit finem uesano ponere regi,
qui secum inuidia, qua totum ceperat orbem,
abstulit imperium; nulloque haerede relicto
totius fati, lacerandas praebuit urbes.
sed cecidit Babylone tua, Parthoque uerendus,
pro pudor! eoi propius timere sarissas
quam nunc pila timens populi. licet usque sub Arcton
regnemus, Zephyrique domos, terrasque premamus
flagrantis post terga Noti; caedemus in ortus
Arsacidum domino. non felix Parthia Crassis
exiguae securae fuit prouincia Pellae.*

LUCAN *Pharsalia* X 20—52.

PREFACE.

IN attempting to bring before English classical students a portion of the work of an author once widely read both elsewhere and in this country, but now used seldom—at least in England—, we hope that we have not undertaken a thankless task. The want of variety in Latin prose authors read in schools has often been felt by schoolmasters; and, if none but the writers of the purest Latin are to be studied, we are at once thrown back upon Caesar and Cicero alone. And it may with reason be held that University students would not lose by reading portions of a wider range of authors than they now usually do. The claims of Curtius are dealt with in the introduction.

As we are not preparing this book with the view of furnishing candidates for some particular examination with a short and simple means to mark-getting, but seek to help and instruct several different classes of students, we have not thought fit to restrict our notes to the clearing up of difficulties in each separate sentence,—in fact to the repeating of things that 'every fourth form boy' ought to know and does not. On the contrary, while dealing with grammatical questions of an even elementary nature, we have freely illustrated the matter by quotation and reference. The notes on the first chapter are mainly of an

illustrative character, as the nature of the subject required.

In the spelling of Indian names we have generally followed the best *modern* authorities; but in citing authorities we have used the spelling adopted by the several writers. Thus we write *Brahman*, but in citing Elphinstone *Bramin*, and so forth.

A copious index will make up for some deficiencies in cross reference, and appendix D will help in understanding the plan of Alexander's Indian expedition generally.

The notes on the first chapter are the work of Mr Heitland: the rest are all written in common. Mr Raven has supplied the index and list of names, Mr Heitland the introductions and appendices.

When quotations from Greek writers seemed not to require to be left in the original for some good cause, we have generally given an English translation or abstract. Mr Heitland is responsible for the text, which is based on that of Hedicke; also for the maps, which depend mainly on General Cunningham's *Ancient Geography of India*.

Elphinstone's *History of India* has been cited from the fifth (Cowell's) edition, and Thirlwall's *History of Greece* from the first edition in Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopaedia. Perhaps the most specially useful book to us has been Otto Eichert's lexicon to Curtius (Hanover 1870). The help got from other books is acknowledged on occasion in the notes.

W E H
T E R.

March 1879

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INTRODUCTION.

A. *Curtius and his book.*

(1) Of Quintus Curtius Rufus the author of the work before us we know perhaps less than of any other writer ancient or modern whose name has come down to us with his book. We know nothing whatever as to who he was, unless indeed we identify him with the adventurer spoken of¹ by Tacitus and the younger Pliny under the same name. But this has been so gravely questioned by Orelli Nipperdey and Teuffel² that it would not be safe to assume it here. This however is not all: we are not certain even as to the time at which he wrote, and shall have to content ourselves with probabilities. On the very meagre and obscure evidence of a passage in the tenth book (9 §§ 3—6) the date of the com-

¹ Tac ann XI 20, 21, Plin epp VII 27. It is argued that Tacitus would have mentioned his writings, had he been speaking of the present Curtius. But he seems not to have mentioned those of Corbulo and Frontinus, of whom he speaks; and here there is no question as to the personal identity. Again it is said that our writer in describing battles shews ignorance of military matters, and so cannot have been the man who was proconsul of Africa. Is this inference so very certain? It might further be asked, would so mean-born a man as the proconsul have had the rhetorical training that our author clearly had? Might this not have been the very means whereby he gained the praetorship which he held before the proconsulate?

² Geschichte der Römischen literatur § 292.