

**THE HELENA  
OF EURIPIDES**

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The Helena of euripides by A. C. Pearson

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**A. C. PEARSON**

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OF EURIPIDES**



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THE  
HELENA  
OF  
EURIPIDES

EDITED BY

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## PREFACE.

THE criticism of the text cannot be neglected by an editor of the *Helena*, even if he is writing for junior students. Fortunately the corruption, which the play is admitted to have suffered, seldom leaves the general meaning doubtful, and owing to the simplicity of the apparatus the critical issues are easily grasped. The object of the critical notes in the present edition is accurately to indicate the basis upon which the printed text rests and occasionally in doubtful passages to record probable or commonly-accepted conjectures. It is certain that without some such aid students acquire an erroneous impression as to the integrity of the tradition. All discussion of difficulties is reserved for the commentary. The present editor is responsible for several suggestions, which appear in the critical or explanatory notes, and for a very small number, which have been introduced into the text. The latter require the apology that they are limited to passages admittedly unsound and not hitherto healed.

In the explanatory notes I have tried to be as brief as possible, but experience proves that to state results without



the reasons—adequate or otherwise—on which they are founded has very little educational value. I desire to express my obligation to the editions of Paley (1874), Jerram (1882), Herwerden (1895) and Wecklein (1898), and have also consulted, though less continuously, those of Barnes, Musgrave, Matthiae, Hermann, Pflugk, Badham, Kirchhoff, Dindorf and Nauck. But above all I have attempted to support my conclusions by the usage of Euripides in his other plays. The references in the notes to Prof. Jebb's editions of Sophocles represent very inadequately the extent of my indebtedness to his writings.

My principal authority on points of grammar has been Goodwin's *Syntax of Greek Moods and Tenses* (1889), but I have referred sometimes to Brugmann, Madvig, Kuehner-Gerth, and others.

I am indebted to my friend and former pupil, Mr A. R. Ainsworth, B.A., Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, for kind assistance in the revision of the proof-sheets.

12th March, 1903.

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