

**A HISTORY OF CLASSICAL
GREEK LITERATURE, VOL.
I, PART II**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649145812

A history of classical Greek literature, Vol. I, Part II by J. P. Mahaffy

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J. P. MAHAFFY

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GREEK LITERATURE, VOL.
I, PART II**

CLASSICAL GREEK LITERATURE

VOL. I.--PART II.

PRINTED BY
SPOTTISWOODE AND CO., NEW-STREET SQUARE
LONDON

11831

A HISTORY
OF
CLASSICAL GREEK LITERATURE

BY THE
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'THE GREEK WORLD UNDER ROMAN SWAY' ETC.

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOL. I. PART II.

THE DRAMATIC POETS

THIRD EDITION, REVISED AND ENLARGED

London
MACMILLAN AND CO.
AND NEW YORK
1891

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Ἄλλὰ γὰρ οὐκ ἐν τοῖς λόγοις χρὴ τοῦτοις τῶν ἐπιτηθευμάτων
ζητεῖν τὰς καινότητας, ἐν οἷς οὔτε παράδοξον οὐτ' ἀπίστον οὐτ'
ἔξω τῶν νομιζομένων οὐδὲν ἔξεστιν εἰπεῖν, ἀλλ' ἠγειῖσθαι τοῦτον
χαριέστατον, ὅς ἢ τῶν διστακμένων ἐν ταῖς τῶν ἄλλων διανοαῖσι
ἀθροῖσαι τὰ πλεῖστα δυναθῆ καὶ φράσαι κάλλιστα περὶ αὐτῶν.

ISOCRATES.

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HISTORY OF GREEK LITERATURE.

PART II.

CHAPTER XIV.

DRAMATIC TENDENCIES IN THE SIXTH CENTURY. THE RISE
OF TRAGEDY AND SATYRIC DRAMA. THE EXTERNAL
APPLIANCES OF GREEK PLAYS.

§ 160. We have now reviewed a long series of Epic and Lyric poems, all of which originated in Asia Minor, and from there passed into Greece and westward. The development of the Æolic and Ionic colonies—if colonies they can be called—had been more rapid than that of the motherland. But the Ionic literature had also taken quick root and flourished in the old country. It was probably to Solon or to Peisistratus that we owe the ordering and systematising of the epos. The elegy found its Hellenic representatives in Solon, in Theognis and Tyrteus; the choral poetry of Terpander and of Arion made its home not only in Peloponnesus, but with Stesichorus in Sicily, where the rarity of Homeric recitations left it open to the poet to bring the old myths into his choral songs, and give the people what the rhapsodists had elsewhere supplied. It was, in fact, the Æolic songs of Lesbos only that bloomed and faded on their own soil, without wafting their seed across the Ægean to take root and flourish in older Greece. But the personal outpourings of anger, of sorrow, of