HARVARD STUDIES IN CLASSICAL PHILOLOGY: VOL. XIII, 1902

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649458981

Harvard Studies in Classical Philology: Vol. XIII, 1902 by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

VARIOUS

HARVARD STUDIES IN CLASSICAL PHILOLOGY: VOL. XIII, 1902

Trieste

PREFATORY NOTE

THESE Studies are published by authority of Harvard University and are contributed chiefly by its instructors and graduates, although contributions from other sources are not excluded. The publication is supported by a fund of $6000, generously subscribed by the class of 1856.

CLEMENT LAWRENCE SMITH,
CLIFFORD HERSCHEL MOORE,
CHARLES BURTON GULICK.
} EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.

Died

At Cambridge, on October 11th, 1901,

JAMES BRADSTREET GREENOUGH,

in the sixty-ninth year of his age.

The Fourteenth Volume of the Studies will be dedicated to the memory of Professor Greenough and will contain a sketch of his life and services.

CONTENTS

PAGE

THE POLITICS OF THE PATRICIAN CLAUDII 1
By George Converse Fiske.

THE SHIELD DEVICES OF THE GREEKS 61
By George Henry Chase.

A STUDY OF THE DANAID MYTH 129
By Campbell Bonner.

INDEXES 174

THE POLITICS OF THE PATRICIAN CLAUDII

By George Converse Fiske

In this paper I shall endeavor to determine what general policy was advocated by the members of the Claudian gens who were active in Roman politics from the beginning of the republic down to the time of the Gracchi.[1] Upon this subject four distinct views are held. In the first place, ancient historians, of whom Livy, Dionysius of Halicarnassus, Diodorus Siculus, and Appian are the principal representatives, look upon the family as ultra-patricians. Thus Livy, in describing Appius Claudius, consular tribune of 403, dictator 362, consul 349, says:[2] 'Claudiae genti iam inde ab initio nihil antiquius in re publica patrum maiestate fuisse, semper plebis commodis adversatos esse.'

Of modern historians Herzog[3] approaches most closely this traditional theory. He looks upon the Claudii as ultra-patricians, but believes that they wished to encourage the growth of a state within the state, to build up by the side of the patrician order a parallel plebeian order, well organized under strictly plebeian officials, but having no share in the larger activities of the state. In order to secure such dependence the tribunate was first of all to be abolished, and the union of the more progressive of the nobility with the tribunician families was opposed. In short, the Claudii were reactionaries, who wished to 'shepherd' the *plebs* in the omniscient fashion of the regal period.

The third view is that of Mommsen.[4] Relying partly upon certain general Claudian characteristics, such as interest in literature and military incapacity, but principally upon a critical examination of the policy of the leading members of the house, Mommsen endeavored to show that the family were in reality champions of the plebeians. He even

[1] 495–133 B.C.

[2] Liv. 6, 40, 3. Cf. also Liv. 9, 33 ff.

[3] *Römische Staatsverfassung*, Vol. I, pp. 179 ff. and pp. 265 ff.

[4] *Römische Forschungen*, p. 287 ff.: *Die Patricischen Claudier*. Berlin, 1864.