

DR. WALTER HEADLAM, 1866-1908.

THE news of the sudden death of Dr. Walter Headlam on the 20th of June brought, not only to his many friends, but to all lovers of Greek, a sense of irreparable loss. The recent publication of his *Book of Greek Verse* had made it clear to a large circle of readers that a real master of Greek was among them; and his friends, to whom this had been known for many years, were rejoicing in the thought that Headlam was at length stepping into his due place among the scholars of Europe. For a long time anxieties as to his health, and an unwillingness to put forth anything that had not received the last touch of completeness, had stood in his way; but of late these obstacles seemed to have been overcome, public appearances were no longer distasteful, and the consciousness that he possessed stores of knowledge, ripened and ready to be given to the world, was strong within him.

The quality of his published work—a large portion of which appeared in the pages of this journal—affords some means of judging how high he would have ranked as an interpreter of Greek literature, and, in particular, of the Greek drama. Not only was his linguistic sense unsurpassed—few can have understood so well as he the whole machinery of Greek diction—but he had really absorbed the Greek view of life.

He was, moreover, exceptionally well equipped for the struggle with textual problems, possessing as he did an insight into the meaning of Greek lyrical metres, into the forms of textual corruption, and the habits of scholiasts, which may fairly be called marvellous. But he must not be thought of as a scholar of the antiquarian type. To him Greek was (to borrow the title of J. K. Stephen's pamphlet) the Living Language, and its poetry was dear to him, not as a field wherein to exercise ingenuity and display erudition, but as literature of present worth and meaning. How fine was his own literary sense his friends well know; and it is to be hoped that others may have the means of appreciating it in the near future by the speedy publication of what he has left behind him.

Of biographical detail there is little to be given. Born in 1866, he was educated at Harrow under the present Master of Trinity, and from the year 1884 to his death, King's College, Cambridge, was, but for some few short absences, his home.

In the years 1885-1887 he gained seven Browne medals and the Porson Prize, and in 1887 was placed in the first class of the Classical Tripos. In 1890 he became Fellow of King's, and not long after took up teaching within the college. For public lecturing he had, until recently, but little liking: in the teaching of small groups of men he excelled. In 1906 he was a candidate for the Regius Professorship of Greek. His Praelection delivered on that occasion was of extraordinary merit. More recently he gave a course of lectures in London, and was, at the time of his death, preparing a series to be given in Cambridge, on *Greek Ideas*.

It is a great pleasure to me to be able to add to this brief notice some lines kindly sent to me by Professor U. von Wilamowitz-Möllendorf, who met Dr. Headlam for the first time at Cambridge on the 11th of June last. Their intrinsic beauty, and the source from which they come, assure to them a most cordial and reverent reception.

Ἄρτι φιλήρετμόν τ' ἐπιὼν κατὰ Καρὸν ἄμιλλαν  
καὶ σοφὸν ἐν Βασιλέως συμπόσιον θιάσῳ  
ἔβλεπον ἠβώνοντά σ' ἐπήκουόν τε λαλεῦντος  
ἡδέα καὶ δεινῶς σὴν φύσιν ἡγασάμην,  
Ἄδλαμε, καὶ πατρίαις πεφιλημένε Πιερίσιν τε  
Μούσαις, ἱστορίης τ' ἤρανε γραμματικῆς.  
καὶ νῦν Μοῖρα σ' ἄωρον ἀφήρπασεν, οἷς δὲ  
μέμηλεν  
Ἐλλὰς τὰς πολλὰς ἐλπίδας ἠφάνισεν.  
κῆμοι πικρότερον μὲν ἴσως ἄχος αὐτὸν ἰδόντι  
ἄρτι σε· πλὴν ὅποταν σῆσιν ἀηδονίσιν  
ἔντυχῳ, αὐδῆς ἀδθῆς ἐν οὐασί σῆς ἐπορούσει  
φθόγγος, ζῶντα δ' αἰεὶ τὸν φίλον ἀσπάσομαι.

The following list of Dr. Headlam's published work will, I think, be both interesting and useful. It was drawn up but a few months ago by Dr. Headlam himself.

1890. Fifty Poems of Meleager.

1891. On editing Aeschylus.

Herodas: *Athenaeum*, pp. 322, 354.

1891. Herodas: *Academy*, Nos. 1014, 1016, 1023.  
On the scholia to Aeschylus: *Journ. Philol.*  
p. 286.
1892. Various Conjectures I.: *Journ. Philol.* p. 294.  
Herodas: *Academy*, No. 1029.  
Review of Farnell's Greek Lyric Poets. *Class.*  
*Rev.* p. 438.  
Review of Mackail's Greek Anthology. *Class.*  
*Rev.* p. 269.
1893. Various Conjectures II.: *Journ. Philol.* p. 75.  
Herodas: *Class. Rev.* pp. 313, 404.
1895. Various Conjectures III.: *Journ. Philol.* p.  
260.
1896. Review of Blaydes on Fragments of Greek  
Comedy. *Class. Rev.* p. 436.
1897. Review of Blaydes Aeschylus: *Class. Rev.*  
p. 56.
1898. Various Conjectures IV.: *Journ. Philol.* p. 92.  
Bacchylides: *Class. Rev.* p. 66.  
Sallust. orat. Philippi: *Class. Rev.* p. 351.
1899. Emendations of the Fragments of Tragedy and  
Comedy: *Class. Rev.* p. 3.  
Herodas: *ibid.* p. 151.
1900. Aeschylus, *Supplices*, translated in prose from an  
emended text.  
The Greek Lyric Poets, with Bacchylides:  
*Class. Rev.* p. 5.  
(Also notes sent to Blass (p. lxxv) and to Jebb  
(p. viii).  
Aeschylus: *Class. Rev.* p. 106.  
Aeschylus: *Class. Rev.* p. 194.
1901. Euripides and Sophocles: *Class. Rev.* p. 15.  
Euripides and Sophocles: *Class. Rev.* p. 98.  
Τοκτέων 'a parent' and the kindred forms:  
*Class. Rev.* p. 401.  
Τὸν ἀνδρα 'manhood' and the shaving of the  
beard: *Class. Rev.* p. 393.
1902. Greek Lyric Metre: *Journal of Hellenic  
Studies.*  
Metaphor, etc.: *Class. Rev.* p. 434.  
Ghost-raising, Magic, and the Underworld:  
*Class. Rev.* p. 52.  
Transposition of words in MSS.: *Class. Rev.*  
p. 243.  
Review of Tucker's Choephoroe: *Class. Rev.*  
p. 347.  
Herodas in *Encycl. Britannica.*
1903. Aeschylus and others: *Class. Rev.* p. 240.  
Aeschylus and others: *Class. Rev.* p. 286.
1904. Aeschylus, *Agamemnon*, translated from an  
emended text.  
Herodas: *Class. Rev.* p. 263.  
Herodas: *Class. Rev.* p. 268.  
Aeschylus: *Class. Rev.* p. 241.  
Aeschylus: *Class. Rev.* p. 286.  
Tragic Fragments: *Class. Rev.* p. 430.
1905. Aeschylus, *Choephoroe*, translated from an  
emended text.  
Illustrations of Pindar: *Class. Rev.* p. 148.  
On a marvellous pool: *ibid.* p. 439.  
Greek prohibitions: *ibid.* p. 30.
1906. A Praelection. [See *Cambridge Praelections*,  
1906.]  
The Last Scene of the Eumenides: *Journal of  
Hellenic Studies*, p. 268.
1907. A Book of Greek Verse.  
Emendations and Explanations: *Journ. Philol.*  
p. 290.
1908. Aeschylus, *Eumenides*, translated from an  
emended text.  
Aeschylus, *Prometheus*, translated from an  
emended text.  
Restorations of Menander. [A pamphlet.]  
Emendations and Explanations: *Journ. Philol.*  
(forthcoming).

## NEWS AND COMMENTS

DR. J. MASSON hopes to publish in the autumn the short supplementary Volume or Appendix promised in the Preface to his 'Lucretius, Epicurean and Poet.' It will discuss such subjects as the Borgian Life of Lucretius, the relation of Lucretius's atom to the Daltonian atom and the electron, the origin of Leucippus's atomic theory from earlier speculations, the 'Social Contract' in Epicurus and Lucretius, etc., also the revivals of Epicureanism by Gassendi and Guyan.

MARIE LOUIS GASTON BOSSIER, whose death is announced from Paris, was more than a scholar; he was a man of letters

blessed with historic imagination and a fine taste. As a writer in the *Sidcle* says, 'He charmed us with romances like *Cicero and his Friends*; which book, along with the *Cité Antique* of Fustel de Coulanges, brought into the midst of our lessons and tasks a spice of fancy and a great deal of naturalism; he made us love those persons whom we had been cursing, and brought us into their circle of intimates. . . . It was like a resurrection.' Such men are needed now more than ever they were, to show the humanity of scholarship. Bossier lived to a good old age—he was born in 1823—and he worked almost to the last.