

RECENT WORK ON VIRGIL

I have been asked to write a supplement to my pamphlet on Virgil (*Greece and Rome*, New Surveys in the Classics No. 1, 1967), and in view of the continuing spate of important work on Virgil this seems desirable. In 1971 a cyclostyled *addendum* to the 1967 Survey was circulated, listing and briefly discussing the following: Quinn's *Virgil's Aeneid: a critical description* (1968), Dudley's *Studies in Latin Literature and its influence* (1969), Mynors' Oxford Text (1969), Rosenmeyer's *The Green Cabinet* (1969), Putnam's *Virgil's Pastoral Art* (1970), Wilkinson's *The Georgics of Virgil* (1969), Camps' *Introduction to Virgil's Aeneid* (1969), Anderson's *Art of the Aeneid* (1969), Hornsby's *Patterns of Action in the Aeneid* (1970), Klingner's *Virgil* (1967), G. Williams' *Tradition and Originality in Roman Poetry* (1968), Galinsky's *Aeneas, Sicily and Rome* (1969), McKay's *Virgil's Italy* (1970).

In the past five years the following have appeared (a much fuller list can be found in A.G. McKay's annual bibliography in *Vergilius*).

I. *Opera*

- (i) A reprint of Mynors' Oxford Text, with corrections (1972).
- (ii) An edition of the text in the *Corpus Paravianum* series, post *Sabbadini et Castiglioni recensuit* M. Geymonat (1973). This contains the fullest available modern apparatus criticus, with detailed references to ancient testimonia and to modern articles as well as to the preferences of other modern editors.

II. *Eclogues*

- (i) A full-scale edition of the *Eclogues* by R. Coleman (Cambridge, 1977). This supplies in full measure the long-felt absence of a modern English commentary.
- (ii) A text with literal verse translation, introduction and notes by A.J. Boyle (Melbourne, 1976). Intended primarily for students of the *Eclogues* in translation.
- (iii) Ancient Pastoral. *Ramus* essays on Greek and Roman Pastoral Poetry, ed. A.J. Boyle, Melbourne, 1975. A collection of essays on pastoral poetry by G. Lawall, H. Edquist, C. Segal, R. Coleman, M. Putnam, A.J. Boyle, E.W. Leach.
- (iv) E.W. Leach, *Virgil's Eclogues – Landscapes of Experience*, Ithaca, 1974. A very detailed literary study of the *Eclogues*.
- (v) W. Berg, *Early Virgil*, London, 1974. A highly original collection of ideas about Virgil's *Eclogues*.

III. *Eclogues and Georgics*

- (i) Forthcoming in Macmillan's Classical Series, *Virgil's Eclogues and Georgics* ed. R.D. Williams.

IV. *Aeneid*

- (i) *Aeneid* 1-6 and 7-12, two vols., Macmillan's Classical Series, 1972 and 1973, ed. R.D. Williams.
- (ii) *Aeneid* 1 ed. R.G. Austin, Oxford, 1971. A masterly volume by the editor of *Aeneid* 2 and 4 in the same series.
- (iii) *Aeneid* 6 ed. R.G. Austin, Oxford, 1977. Published posthumously by L.D. Reynolds: the crowning achievement of Austin's memorable services to Virgilian scholarship – erudite, humane, penetrating and above all deeply appreciative of the poetic qualities of Virgil.
- (iv) *Aeneid* 7-8 ed. C.J. Fordyce, Oxford, 1977. Published posthumously by J.D. Christie, with an introduction by P.G. Walsh. Detailed and authoritative commentary.

- (v) *Aeneid* 8, ed. K.W. Gransden, Cambridge, 1976. A very attractive commentary on this fascinating book, concentrating above all on literary appreciation.
- (vi) *Aeneid* 8, ed. P.T. Eden, Leiden, 1975. A mine of information of high academic quality.
- (vii) R.D. Williams, *Aeneas and the Roman Hero*, Macmillan 1973. Designed for students of the *Aeneid* in translation.
- (viii) G. Hight, *The Speeches in Vergil's Aeneid*, Princeton, 1972. A very comprehensive account of every aspect of Virgil's use of speeches, with statistical tables and full rhetorical analyses.
- (ix) W.R. Johnson, *Darkness Visible*, Berkeley, 1976. A highly recommended book discussing the essence of the themes of the *Aeneid* in a very perceptive way.
- (x) M.A. Di Cesare, *The Altar and the City; a reading of Vergil's Aeneid*, New York, 1974. A running commentary on the *Aeneid* which keeps always in close touch with the text.
- (xi) *The Aeneid of Virgil* – a new verse translation by Allan Mandelbaum, Berkeley, 1971. One of the best of modern translations since the best of all, that of C. Day Lewis.

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R.D. Williams.