

In addition to the translation of Sidonius' nine books of letters this nicely crafted but rather expensive book consists of a short introduction, a select bibliography and a general index. The book is carefully edited, with only the occasional typo (e.g. p. xx 'es [ist] sicher nicht falsch'; p. 81 'Entgege[n]kommen'; p. 120 §(3) is missing; p. 173 'durch eine[n] Stoß'). Printing only the German text may be an indication that the readers envisaged by the author are not only students and scholars but a wider Latinless audience. In fact, what K. delivers is certainly more than common *Übersetzungsdeutsch*. She masters Sidonius' challenging Latin both in verse and prose with particular sensitivity. Her translation is reliable and close to the Latin, though the German sometimes bears an antiquated touch (e.g. 2.10.4 'auf gleichem Grund von Golde'; 2.13.6 'Spezereien' for *unguenta*; 5.2.1 'Frauenzimmer').

K. has also made the effort to render the poems, which are included in the letters, in the original metre. This, as well as the decision to reproduce Sidonius' ornate style and pictorial language in German, is of course laudable, but does not always help the reader to understand the difficult Latin. Some of the poems are in places especially obscure (e.g. 2.10.4 'und in mancherlei farbig-bunten Formen / flicht sich im Mosaik des Saphirs Bläue / lebhaft grünend durch die glasierten Steinchen').

Inclusion of the Latin text would certainly have been an added convenience for scholarly readers. K. surprisingly uses the edition of Mohr (1895) instead of the usually preferred Loyen (1970). The same scholarly readership will also find the brief introductory chapters rather disappointing. K. shortly outlines Sidonius' biography (p. vii–xvi), literary characteristics (p. xvii–xxv) and the reception of his letters (p. xxvi–xxx), but with very few references. The select bibliography at the end of the book seems more arbitrary than concise. The opportunity to paint a broader picture of Sidonius, his social world and the cultural and political landscape of Gaul in the fifth century has been missed here. Certainly missing is an appropriate contextualisation of Sidonius' 'Briefkunst' within the epistolary culture of Late Antiquity, since many of the features K. emphasises as pertaining to Sidonius' language are likewise to be found in the works of epistolographers such as Ausonius, Avitus of Vienne or Ennodius.

The notes to the text are intentionally kept basic. Here too, one sometimes wished for more (e.g. at 3.5.3 the phrase 'von Beruf her mein Sohn' is only intelligible when one is reminded that Sidonius here speaks as bishop).

Given the overall high quality of the translation these (largely self-imposed) limitations do not undermine the importance of this publication. The book will serve as a useful tool for German scholars of Late Antiquity and may attract a broader public to this interesting author.

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HORNBLOWER (S.), SPAWFORTH (A.), EIDINOW (E.) (edd.)
The Oxford Companion to Classical Civilization. Second edition. Pp. xxviii + 867, ill., maps. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014 (first edition 1998). Cased, £40, US\$65. ISBN: 978-0-19-870677-9.
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This book is an up-dated edition of Hornblower and Spawforth's *Oxford Companion to Classical Civilization*. Like its predecessor the book is derived from the *Oxford*

Classical Dictionary – in this case the fourth edition (2012). As one would expect the result is a well-presented, lavishly illustrated treasure trove of information that will appeal to neophyte Classicists. The new edition includes 50 new or re-written entries and it is these that I will focus upon. The new entries are taken verbatim from the fourth edition of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*: some are significant, for example, on Emotions, Madness, Latin Epigrams or Hellenistic Philosophy, whereas others are less substantial, for example, on Diagrams or Theatricality. Some focus on specific individuals who have not merited individual entries previously: Helena Augusta, Jocasta, Laius and the family of the Julii Caesares. Despite these additions several prominent figures are not included, for example, Agesilaus, Constantius, Cleon nor Aurelian; there is an entry for Epaminondas but nothing for Pelopidas. Whilst there is an entry on Justinian's codification of Roman Law, there is no entry on the earlier Theodosian Code, nor are there entries on the respective emperors. The treatment of Judaism has been expanded with entries on Jewish Art, Catacombs, Circumcision, the Sabbath and Samaritans – however the more substantial (and arguably more significant) entry on Christian Catacombs that was revised for the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* is omitted. Several new entries are shaped by recent research, for example, on Creolisation or the portrayal of the Classical World in Popular Culture, and I am led to wonder how long these entries will survive in future editions. I appreciate that the purpose is to offer only a selection of the entries from the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* but I am unsure of the rationale for some of the choices that have been made.

The result is a sterling work that makes accessible the impressive scholarship of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* in a more approachable format. Unfortunately, whilst several of the new entries are significant additions, others are less so, with the result that the expense of a second edition feels unnecessary.

I do not wish to repeat R. Rees' review of the first edition (*CR* 50 [2000], 381–2), however, I am at a loss to identify the market for this book. This is not because of a lack of worthiness in the book itself, but because of the excellence of its parent. I cannot see that a dictionary like this would be of interest to a general reader, and for students and scholars of Classical Antiquity who have the money I can only recommend that they acquire the original.

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STEIN-HÖLKESKAMP (E.) *Das archaische Griechenland. Die Stadt und das Meer*. Pp. 302, ills, maps. Munich: C.H. Beck, 2015. Paper, €16.95. ISBN: 978-3-406-67378-8.

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For various good reasons, there is but a small number of general histories of the Archaic period in Greece, with the works of R. Osborne (*Greece in the Making, 1200–479 BC* [2nd ed. 2009]) and J. Hall (*A History of the Archaic Greek World ca. 1200–479 BCE* [2007]) as the most recent Anglophone overviews. German scholarship has avoided such overviews, making S.-H.'s new contribution the only recent update in German since the 1960s (E. Homann-Wedeking, *Das archaische Griechenland* [1966]; Germans also had a translation of J. Charbonneaux, R. Martin and F. Villard, *Das archaische Griechenland: 620–480*