

## CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editors of THE CLASSICAL REVIEW.

## A DERIVATION OF 'ROMA.'

SIRS,

I beg to reply to Professor Bell's letter, *C.R.* XXXIX, p. 95. His citation of *ravus* for an older *gravus* makes but a shaky basis for his derivation of *Roma* from *groma*. A string of words will show that there is no tendency to drop *g* before *r* in Latin—e.g. *gradus*, *grandis*, *grando*, *granum*, *gratus*, *gravis*, *grunire*, *grus*. And as to *groma* itself, how comes it to survive alongside of *Roma* which is alleged to be its feeble descendant?

I do not claim that *groma* or *gruma* for *γρόμα* or *γρόμων* (*quod genus Graeci γρόμωνα dicunt*, Paulus) represents a regular change. Neither Sommer nor Stolz will supply another

example of *γν* becoming *gr*. But the *groma*, with its rites and rules, came from or through the Etruscans to Rome. Now a foreigner's hearing or mis-hearing of a language strange to him knows in general no law, and certainly the Etruscans in their inscriptions mangled words borrowed from the Greek; the *ν* of *Ἀγαμέμνων*, for instance, appears as *r*. It does not, then, appear to me difficult to believe that *groma* = *γρόμα*, but I cannot believe that *groma* gave rise to *Roma*. On the contrary, *Roma* is a much older word.

I still hold to my first objection stated in *C.R.* XXXIX, p. 37, that a derivation of *Roma* which is weak in essence and in semasiology should not be the only one mentioned, as if it were of convincing merit.

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## BOOKS RECEIVED

All publications which have a bearing on Classical Studies will be entered in this list if they are sent for review. The price should in all cases be stated.

\* \* \* Excerpts or Extracts from Periodicals and Collections will not be included unless they are also published separately.

- Andréadès* (A.) De la monnaie et de la puissance d'achat des métaux précieux dans l'Empire byzantin. Pp. 50. (Extrait de la Revue 'Byzantion.' Liège: Vaillant-Carmanne, 1924. Paper.
- Autran* (C.) Introduction à l'étude critique du nom propre grec. 1<sup>er</sup>, 2<sup>me</sup> et 3<sup>me</sup> fascicule. Pp. 240. Paris: Geuthner. Paper, 20 fr. each.
- Bennett* (C. E.) Frontinus: The Stratagems and The Aqueeducts of Rome, with an English translation. Pp. xl+484. (Loeb Classical Library.) London: Heinemann (New York: Putnam), 1925. Cloth, 10s. net.
- Blakeney* (E. H.) Juvenal's Tenth Satire and Johnson's The Vanity of Human Wishes, with Introduction and Notes. Pp. 78. London: Blackie, 1925. Cloth, 3s. 6d. net.
- Borleffs* (J. G. P.) De Tertulliano et Minucio Felice. Pp. 123. Groningen and the Hague: Wolters, 1925. Paper.
- Bradshaw* (T. E. J.) and *Phillips* (G. G.) Selections from Ovid. Pp. 69. London: Blackie, 1925. Cloth, 2s.
- Bréhier* (E.) Plotin: Ennéades. III. (Collection des Universités de France.) Paris: Société d'Édition 'Les Belles Lettres,' 1925. Paper, 18 fr.
- Bulletin de l'Association Guillaume Budé.* No. 7, Avril, 1925.
- Canter* (H. V.) Rhetorical elements in the tragedies of Seneca. Pp. 185. (University of Illinois Studies in Language and Literature, vol. x., no. 1, February, 1925.) Urbana: University of Illinois Press. Paper, \$1.75.
- Carpenter* (R.) The Greeks in Spain. Pp. viii+180. (Bryn Mawr Notes and Monographs, VI.) London: Longmans, 1925. Cloth, 7s. 6d. net.
- Classical Philology.* Vol. XX., No. 2. April, 1925.
- de Labriolle* (P.) Saint Augustin: Confessions. I. (Collection des Universités de France.) Paris: Société d'Édition 'Les Belles Lettres,' 1925. Paper, 18 fr.
- Dennis* (H. van M.) Hippo Regius, from the earliest times to the Arab conquest. Pp. 74. Princeton: University Press, 1924. Paper.
- Diehl* (E.) Anthologia Lyrica. III.: Iamborum scriptores. IV.: Poetae melici, monodia. V.: Poetae melici, chori. VI.: Peplus Aristoteleus, scolia, carmina popularia, poetae Alexandrini. Supplementum: Addenda et corrigenda, index auctorum papyrorum librorum. Leipzig: Teubner, 1925. Kartoniert, 2.40, 3.60, 3.60, 3.60, .50 M.
- Diès* (A.) Platon. Tome VIII., 3<sup>e</sup> partie. Le Sophiste. Texte établi et traduit par E. D. (Collection des Universités de France.) Paris: Société d'Édition 'Les Belles Lettres,' 1925. Paper, 14 francs.
- Eitrem* (S.) Papyri Osloenses. Fasc. I. Magical Papyri, edited by S. E. Pp. 151; 12 plates. Oslo: J. Dybwad, 1925. Paper.
- Exploration Archéologique de Délos.* Fascicule VIII.: Le quartier du théâtre, par J. Chamondard. Two parts and portfolio of plates. Paris: de Boccard, 1922-24. Boards.
- Fowler* (H. N.) and *Lamb* (W. R. M.) Plato, with an English translation. III. The Statesman, Philebus, by H. N. F.; Ion, by W. R. M. L. Pp. xx+450. (Loeb Classical