

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editors of THE CLASSICAL REVIEW.

SIRS,

In your December number (LII. 225) Mr. W. Beare, reviewing Dr. Laidlaw's monograph on *The Prosody of Terence*, quotes a statement of mine to the effect that, metrically speaking, change of speaker makes no difference. He comments, quite correctly, 'This can only mean that Rose would accept both B.B. [*breuis breuians*] and elision at change of speakers, yet would regard them as *phonetic* phenomena; in the case of the line just quoted [Terence, *Heaut.* 978] he would have to maintain that Syrus shortens the first syllable of *unde* simply because Clitipho has just used the short syllable *quid*. Does he really believe this?'

I answer: I certainly believe it, otherwise I would not have said so in an addendum made on the margin of a friend's typescript. But I would phrase the matter a little differently, namely, that Terence shortens the first syllable of *unde* because Terence has just used the short syllable *quid*. As I see it, all ancient dialogue-verse has this undramatic quality, that it proceeds as though there were no changes of speaker at all (so far, that is, as metre goes) and everything from beginning to end were recited by one person,—the poet himself, if we

like to say so. It is a convention, producing the absurdity, from a realist's point of view (but no Greek or Roman dramatist was realistic in details, to the great benefit of their art), that A will end his speech with an unfinished word, because he knows, thanks to the author's omniscience, that B will commence his answer with a vowel, e.g., Euripides, *Phoen.* 606 (trochees), 1275 (trimeter); Ar., *Wasps.* 181 (trimeter), 395 (anapaests); Terence, *Heaut.* 439 (senarius), *Eun.* 1023 (iamb. septenarius), *Phorm.* 1054 (troch. septen.).

Owing to this same metrical continuity, hiatus is just as carefully avoided at change of speaker as elsewhere. Greek allows it nowhere, save for a very few well-known licences; Latin, in the hands of the Republican dramatists, allows it occasionally, but not more at change of speaker than elsewhere.

If all this is notoriously so, I confess I see no more difficulty in scanning *quid unde* when two speakers say it between them than when one speaker says both words. I believe the phenomenon to be entirely phonetic, i.e., belonging to the ordinary spoken language and quite unconnected with the fact that the language is here used to make verses; and this for reasons given lucidly and at length by my late colleague W. M. Lindsay.

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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.

Albert Curtis Clark 1859-1937. Pp. 15. (From the Proceedings of the British Academy, Vol. XXIII.) London: Milford. Paper, 1s. 6d.

Brinton (P. R.) *Fallentis Semita Vitae*. A Rendering into Latin Elegiac Verse of Gray's *Elegy written in a Country Church-Yard*. Pp. 15. Oxford: Blackwell, 1938. Paper, 1s.

Christ (F.) *Die römische Weltherrschaft in der antiken Dichtung*. Pp. xvi + 215. (Tübinger Beiträge zur Altertumswissenschaft, 31. Heft.) Stuttgart and Berlin: Kohlhammer, 1938. Paper, RM. 12.

Dufour (M.) *Aristote, Rhétorique*. Tome deuxième (Livre II). Texte établi et traduit. (Collection des Universités de France.) Paris: 'Les Belles Lettres', 1938. Paper, 25 fr.

English (R. B.) *The Problem of Freedom in Greece from Homer to Pindar*. Pp. 106. (University of Toronto Studies, Philology and Literature Series, No. 11.) Toronto: University of Toronto Press (London: Milford), 1938. Paper, \$1.25 or 6s.

Ernout (A.) *Plaute*. Tome VI. *Pseudolus-Rudens-Stichus*. Texte établi et traduit.

(Collection des Universités de France.) Paris: 'Les Belles Lettres', 1938. Paper, 40 fr.

Fritz (K. von) *Philosophie und sprachlicher Ausdruck bei Demokrit, Plato und Aristoteles*. Pp. 92. New York, Leipzig, Paris, London: Stechert. Paper, \$1.50.

Giuffrida (P.) *Principi di sintassi latina. Conetto e funzione del modo*. Pp. 143. (R. Università di Torino, Pubblicazioni della Facoltà di Magistero, Serie prima, Volume III.) Turin etc.: Paravia, 1938. Paper, L. 18.

Glotz (G.) *Histoire générale. Histoire ancienne*. 2^{me} partie. *Histoire grecque*. Tome IV: *Alexandre et l'hellénisation du monde antique*. 1^{re} partie: *Alexandre et le démembrement de son empire*. Par G. Glotz, P. Roussel, R. Cohen. Pp. 434. Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 1938. Paper, 60 fr.

Gordon (A. E.) *The Cults of Lanuvium*. (University of California Publications in Classical Archaeology, Vol. 2, No. 2, pp. 21-58.) Berkeley: University of California Press, 1938. Paper.