

AD LECTOREM

In *Actes du IX^e Congrès International d'Epigraphie Grecque et Latine* 1 (1987) 167–171 I described in detail what I am trying to achieve, and how I have set about it. The dream of completeness and perfection must, as with all scholarly work, remain unfulfilled, and others must judge how far my work falls short of the ideal. If my readers accept that I have striven for integrity, I ask no more. Seen from another angle, my attitude is expressed in the words of Horace in vol. 1 at the top of p. v; those words were and are the motto of my work.

The greatest classical scholar of this century said of one of his last books that it was 'ein harter Kuchen', and one could perhaps, without suggesting similarity in scope or quality, use the phrase about *Carmina epigraphica Graeca*. CEG can be used at all kinds of levels, beginning e. g. with the Euripidean scholar in search of a parallel in inscribed epigrams; however, anyone who wishes to make comprehensive use of this book or of vol. 1 without falling into any of the pitfalls of the subject, needs time and patience, not only to familiarise himself with the basic system, but also to realise and cope with the considerable condensation of much of the content; I could without difficulty have converted many entries into articles of ten or twenty pages, had I been that way inclined.

I have had the extraordinarily good fortune of securing the perusal of my manuscript by four people who also read the first volume, viz., in alphabetical order, Professor Joachim Ebert (Halle an der Saale), Professor David M. Lewis (Oxford), Mr. Fritz Saaby Pedersen (Copenhagen/Odense), Professor Martin L. West (Oxford/London). As before, I stress that their contribution cannot be measured by the number of times their names appear, and that I owe them all much more than that.

Professor Joseph W. Day (Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana) did some very time-consuming as well as frustrating checking for me of stones in Attic museums during a year's sojourn in Athens. He also sent me a long list of corrigenda to vol. 1.

Dr. Alan W. Johnston (London) inspected the manuscript and saved me from errors and bibliographical omissions.

Professor Olivier Masson (Paris) inspected the manuscript and contributed to its improvement in a variety of ways, primarily but not exclusively in connexion with the names in the inscriptions. A wholly unexpected bonus was that, by showing parts of my manuscript to other French scholars, he caused to land on my desk the as yet unpublished editions principes of two of the three new inscriptions included in this book.

Professor Jean Bousquet (Paris) sent me the manuscript of his contribution to *Xanthos* 9, with permission to make unrestricted use of it and include the unpublished inscription no. 888.iii in CEG 2.

Dr. Catherine Dobias-Lalou (Paris) sent me the manuscript of an article which is to appear in *Libya Antiqua*, and gave me permission to include the new inscription it contained (no. 682). She also inspected nos. 680–681 and 850–851 and saved me from a major error in connexion with no. 850.

Dr. Lina G. Mendoni (Athens) sent me a squeeze of no. 839a after discussing it with me in detail and giving me permission to include it.

Mr. Peter J. Parsons (Oxford), who read the proofs of vol. 1, agreed to read the present volume too. He not only caused the elimination of a very large number of misprints and minor slips, but also saved me from a variety of substantial blunders. His efforts have greatly improved the final product.

A number of other people have helped in some way or other; I mention: Professor Adam Bülow-Jacobsen, Professor Christoph W. Clairmont, Mr. William H. Cole, Professor Michael H. Crawford, Professor Anna E. Davies, Dr. Eberhard Erxleben, Professor Carlo Gallavotti, Dr. Mogens H. Hansen, Mr. Ove Hansen, Professor Peter C.T. Levi, Dr. Wolfgang Luppe, Mr. Angelos P. Matthaiou, Professor Reinhold Merkelbach, Professor Henri Metzger, Dr. Oswyn Murray, Professor Antony E. Raubitschek, Professor Brian B. Shefton, Mr. David L. Stockton, Dr. Jesper Svenbro, Dr. Geoffrey B. Waywell, Dr. Stephanie R. West.

This volume could not benefit from the learning of Dr. Lilian H. Jeffery, who died after years of illness on 29th September 1986. My tribute to her and her scholarship, published while she was still among us to read it, will be familiar to the reader from pp. v and xii of vol. 1.

The libraries are one of my main reasons for living in Oxford. The library of Brasenose College has lent me many books, sometimes for very

long periods, and I must recall here especially the unfailing eagerness ever since 1965 to be of assistance to me of Mr. Robin Peedel, who sadly died before his time on 27th August 1988. The vast collections of the Bodleian Library have been of great importance, not least because old publications are more often still of relevance for fourth century inscriptions than for those of the earlier centuries. Once more, however, my greatest debt is to the Ashmolean Library and to its ever friendly and helpful staff. Without its large collection on open shelves, combining epigraphy, literature, and archaeology, I do not think I could ever seriously have contemplated writing the present book.

The importance of a personal library for work on a publication of any substance is for some reason rarely mentioned. Professor Heinz Wenzel of Walter de Gruyter & Co. has encouraged me by taking an interest in the progress of my research since 1976, and his support in providing me with a substantial part of *IG* for my work on the present volume has greatly improved the speed and efficiency of the whole operation. My favourite bookseller Mr. William B.L. Poole (London) has found various books for me, notably a very affordable set of Dindorf's edition of the Greek Thesaurus. In 1975 Professor Joachim Ebert sent me a copy of his *Siegerepigramme*, a book for which I have an ever growing admiration. Dr. Staffan Fogelmark (in addition to sending me various books and offprints from 1977 onwards and finding the ed. pr. of no. 845 and providing me with a photographic copy of it) gave me his personal copy of Bechtel's *Personennamen* as a ξένιον when we finally met at his home at Lund in 1985. Dr. Christiane Sourvinou-Inwood (Oxford), with the assistance of her mother in Athens, conjured up a complete atlas of modern Athens for me within a week.

The finished manuscript was submitted on 19th April 1988, and printing began in August. The book is being printed by Hubert & Co. at Göttingen, who also printed the first volume and coped well with a very difficult manuscript, producing an extremely satisfactory result.

My work was made financially possible by very generous support from two Danish sources, the Carlsberg Foundation (January 1984 – December 1985) and the Danish Research Council for the Humanities (July 1986–June 1987). Once more, Professor Johnny C. Christensen (Copenhagen) furthered the project by backing my applications.

When I contemplate the cooperation I have obtained in the writing of this book, it seems to me that Scholarship, even if it were to be

deemed to contribute nothing else in this world, has a role in showing that geographical, linguistic, and political boundaries are at least in some contexts of no consequence.

As before, my acknowledgements end with my own semi-detached castle.

My elder son Edward translated for me the necessary passages from all relevant articles in Russian. The assistance given by my younger son Richard at an earlier stage of the work was acknowledged in the preface to *LGVI* 2.

My wife has compiled the index of first words and most of the concordances, helped with the checking and sorting of the index verborum, and, above all, once again read aloud every word and sign in the manuscript to me in our joint proofreading.

P. A. H.

*21 Leckford Road
Oxford
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