One could hardly imagine a more useful Festschrift than this three volume collection published on the occasion of Massimo Pallottino's fortieth anniversary of university teaching. This is not only because of the exceptional career and work of the person honoured, but also because of the decision to publish, instead of papers by his colleagues, a collection of the master's most significant articles. Among the 596 items of his bibliography — a very good reference this is, too — one really has ample material for a wide choice. But the value of the work is enhanced by the fact that this kind of work on the Etruscans, which provides an aerial view of the subject though on a deeper level than general surveys, has long been a desideratum.

Several of the 72 articles have so far received scant attention, because originally published in lesser known journals or series. Mention may be made, for instance, of 'L'origine des villes protohistoriques de l'Italie centrale', originally published in Archeologia Polski, or 'Tradizione etnica e realtà culturale dell'Etruria, Umbria e Romagna prima della unificazione Augustea', which I at least had not seen before from Relazioni della XXVIII Riunione della Società Italiana per il progresso delle scienze.

I admit that in the second part, which deals mainly with the Etruscan language, the usefulness of many otherwise splendid articles suffers from having been published so long ago. But taking it all in all, this is a highly commendable work.

Jorma Kaimio

on Gibbon have also been published separately in English. The work also contains articles in commemoration of the Italian lexicographer and historian Aldo Ferrabino, together with a bibliography of his work. The authors are all experts in the fields of ancient history, literary history and the history of art, and cultural history. The history of ideas occupies a central position in the work. Special attention in this context is paid, among other things, to the theme of decadence, which is dealt with in several studies (P. Burke, G. Giarrizzo, J. Starobinski, E. Tessitore). The philosophy of history as propounded by Gibbon, Niebuhr and Ferrabino also constitutes the focal point of many of the articles (F. E. Manuel, J. G. A. Pocock, M. Pavan). Furthermore, certain scholars, such as R. Shackleton, S. Accame and A. Campana, have taken as their subject the international contacts of Gibbon and Niebuhr in articles in which they discuss the currents of thought of both the Enlightenment and the Romantic Movement. At the same time, light is thrown on the ideas of Gibbon in relation to the history of the Roman Catholic Church and the history of Byzantium and Islam (O. Chadwick, A. Momigliano, B. Lewis, S. Runciman) and on the ideas of Niebuhr with regard to the history of Greece (P. Treves). The last-mentioned article contains interesting comparisons between the views of nineteenth century poets and historians on the subject of Ancient Greece.

Hannu Riikonen


Today, classical studies occupy a marginal place in Western education; the study of Greek and Latin has become a minority subject in secondary schools and universities, if it is offered there at all. This compares very badly with the state of affairs during the nineteenth and even the beginning of the twentieth century, when a knowledge of classical languages and culture was widespread among the professional classes, and was an important single contributing factor to the way men throughout Europe thought about history and society.

The Fondation Hardt has devoted the present volume to the investigation of the nature of this influence. The book consists of eight papers followed by discussions, with copious notes and indexes provided by the contributors and the editor. The papers, whose starting-point is antiquity, provide detailed examinations of how historical, religious, literary and scientific ideas were received in France, Germany, Holland, Italy and England. Of necessity, the surveys form an incomplete picture of the whole field but they never fail to indicate the way forward for further research.

First we have Willem den Boer’s discussion of ideas relating to ancient religious history. Scholars of Greek and Roman religion, Nilsson, Otto, Murray,