

cognome, fenomeno non ignoto nell'onomastica femminile, o piuttosto di *Psyche*, schiava di una *Herennia*). – Il Mennella pubblica nuovi documenti sui Tigullii. – Tutto sommato, un volume di grande interesse.

*Heikki Solin*

*J.S. Morrison – J.F. Coates: The Athenian Trireme. The History and Reconstruction of an Ancient Greek Warship. Cambridge University Press, 1986. XXIII, 266 p., 75 ill., 15 maps. GBP 7.95.*

The exact structure of the Greek trieres has puzzled scholars for centuries and various attempts have been made to reconstruct the ship. John Morrison, a classical scholar, and John Coates, a naval architect, have perfected a design which they believe fulfils the essential structural requirements, basing it on a study both of the archaeological evidence and of the historical accounts of sea-battles. The life-sized triere they have built has cost enormous amounts of money. Morrison, who has been occupied with Greek ships since 1940, has realized his plans using English and later also Greek funds.

The book thoroughly deals with all questions essential for the reconstruction, including some sea-battles and other operations. Most attention is drawn naturally to the enigma of the triere, though other associated questions are introduced. As a non-specialist in the field, I do not feel I am competent to analyse all the details of the authors' arguments. The reader should himself read this exciting book. One remark might be made, however. On p. 115 we read that the oarsmen were specialists. The reviewer, who has spent his whole childhood in the archipelago of SW Finland and has had a lifetime's experience in rowing, is a little sceptical concerning that remark. And the fact that in some special circumstances the trieres were manned by hoplites and slaves (who were not naval "specialists"), suggests a most rapid training for a triere's crew.

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*Géza Alföldy: Die Krise des römischen Reiches. Geschichte, Geschichtsschreibung und Geschichtsbetrachtung. Ausgewählte Beiträge (HABES 5). Franz Steiner Verlag Wiesbaden GmbH, Stuttgart 1989. 541 S. DEM 98.*

Nach den Sammelbänden "Die römische Gesellschaft" (1986) und "Römische Heeresgeschichte" (1987) erscheint jetzt "Die Krise des römischen Reiches", wo 20 weitere Beiträge des Heidelberger Althistorikers enthalten sind, die aber nur eine Auswahl und keineswegs alles repräsentieren, was der Verfasser zum Thema geschrieben hat. Darunter