dianus, Merobaudes, Sidonius Apollinaris, Secundinus, the anonymous *Aegritudo Perdiccae*, Dares Phrygius' Book of Troy, Ennodius, Maximianus, anonymous poems in Codex Salmasianus etc.

Schetter's six articles about Dracontius are especially interesting: he analyses the transformation of classical myths and themes in North Africa at the end of the fifth century. Dracontius seems to have been the last Latin poet who (though Christian) treated pagan mythical subjects in epic form (e.g. Medea, Orestes, the Trojan War). The article on Dracontius' *Satisfactio* gives a vivid picture of Dracontius' difficulties during the Vandal period, and the article of Dracontius' *Romulea* 9.18-30 surveys the conceptions of the astral ascent of the human soul in Latin literature.

*Maïjastina Kahlos*


*Uta-Maria Liertz*


This book on the *exordia* of a number of Ciceronian speeches is, though not the first of its kind and not including detailed studies on all the speeches, certainly the one most thoroughly dealing with its subject and will no doubt be considered one of the major recent works in Ciceronian scholarship. The author is not only completely at ease with his subject material but has also a remarkable (in fact, almost incredible) command of the relevant secondary literature from the fifteenth century onwards, this including many unexpected items (note p. 343 n. 64) and a large number of 19th-century German Programme (e.g. that of H. Ernst, "Progr. Neu-Ruppin, 1885", cited on p. 149 n. 89), most of which do not seem to appear in the bibliography at the end of the book which is, it is true, very substantial indeed as such. (The author's extensive reading allows him to furnish exotic details such as the fact that, in the 1880's, someone could get the idea of writing 89 pages to show that *pro Sex. Roscio* is not worth being read in schools: p. 130 n. 17.) Unlike many modern scholars (especially those writing in English), the author in no way gives preference to works written in French, but keeps his bibliography remarkably international (observe also the list of modern authorities mentioned as models on p. 6). There are separate bibliographies on those speeches which are dealt with, but also
those interested in the bibliography on other Ciceronian speeches should consult the book (note e.g. the material on pro Quinctio p. 503f. n. 80).

The book begins with an exposition of the theory of exordia on the basis of the de inventione and the rhetorica ad Herennium on one hand and on the basis of de oratore on the other. The importance of Cicero's own contribution emerges at many places (e.g. p. 90, 91, 99, 104), and it is also interesting to observe traces of evolution between the young author of the de inventione and the mature Cicero of the de oratore (e.g. p. 76, 85, 87f.). After two useful excursuses (on actio and the evaluation of Cato's pro Rhodiensibus) the main part of the book follows, "analyses d'exordes choisies" of twenty-seven speeches (including thirteen Philippicae), often (as in the case of pro Sex. Roscio) of considerable length. The criteria used by the author in making his choice are explained on p. 6 and seem acceptable. Although there may perhaps be readers who miss a speech or two, at least the material used here covers the whole range of Cicero's oratory and chronologically most of his career (and many further speeches are in fact referred to in the third part of the book, cf. below). Besides the Philippicae, one finds S. Rosc., div. in Caec., Verr. I, Manil., leg. agr. II, Rab. perd. (not liked by some modern scholars [p. 252 n. 41], but thought worthy of being referred to in Orator 102 by Cicero, and receiving an important treatment here), Catil. I, Mur., Cael., prov. (cons.), Balb., Plan., Lig., Deiot. The individual chapters have introductions covering also historical aspects; after this, there follow analyses of the exordia admirable in their clarity and bon sens (a notion used, not unreasonably, at least in the analysis of S. Rosc. on p. 142), and full of good observations (e.g. p. 340 on the intonation in Cael. 1). Since the exordia are constantly studied also as parts of whole speeches these chapters will be of immense value to the study of Cicero's rhetoric as a whole.

The main part is followed by a most useful 50-page overview of Cicero's "topique exordiale", speeches made in the senate, those spoken to the people and judicial speeches being studied separately. In this section, speeches not included in the main part are discussed, in many cases not just cursorily (cf. the index on p. 579). Followed by a bibliography of more than thirty pages, this chapter aptly rounds off an excellent book.

Olli Salomies


Although one can hardly think of a more difficult task than writing a commentary on an ancient author, the excellent Cambridge series seems to be thriving. This is now the first volume on Livy. The fact that it is on book 6 comes as a small surprise, for Livy's second pentad presents some problems to the prospective commentator, and even within this pentad some books may seem to offer more attractions than this one, book 9 for instance containing i.a. Caudium, Ap. Claudius' censorship and the remarkable excursus on Alexander. (Observe that book 6 has the shortest periocha of the set.) But of course even book 6, centering around the personalities of M. Manlius and Camillus and taking the story from the sack of Rome to the first plebeian consul has much of interest, and in any