

For instance, since there is no apparatus criticus (obviously according to the rules of the series) one might profit from more detailed arguments on textual matters in the commentary. Many times I fail to see the reason for various additions or deletions.

Jaakko Aronen

JUVENAL: *Satires. Book I*. Edited by SUSANNA MORTON BRAUND. Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 1996. ISBN 0-521-35667-9 (pb), 0-521-35566-4 (hb). viii, 323 pp. GBP 14.95 / USD 22.95 (pb), GBP 40 / USD 64.95 (hb).

"I suppose that anyone who has worked on Juvenal for a decade or more must be rather odd. Whether this is cause or effect, I cannot say. But it seems to me that immersion in *indignatio* is not necessarily good for the soul, even if it sharpens the tongue...". Thus Morton Braund writes in her Preface. However it may be with the destiny of the soul, a sharp tongue may be profitable if reasonably used. If it also implies sharp reasoning, it is one of the characteristics of this book.

This new commentary provides an integrated reading of Book I which comprises *Satires* 1-5 (written in the second decade of the second century A.D.). Many recurrent themes within these poems suggest that Juvenal wrote Book I as an organic whole. In particular, one may note the following: Rome (providing both setting and subject for Book I), the degradation of the patron-client relationship, corruption at the core of Roman society, escaping from the city, the invasion of foreigners and immigrants, the power of food in Roman society. Juvenal's treatment of such topics is characterised by strong indignation. *Indignatio* is indeed typical of Juvenal's early satires, but instead of regarding him as an angry champion of morality, Morton Braund and some others have observed that Juvenal's choice of anger as his mode was closely connected with the epic and rhetoric tradition. This means that he wrote in 'the grand style', an old expression used of Juvenal's work, and alertly revived by Morton Braund.

All recent editions of Juvenal's text (Knoche 1950, Clausen 1959 [rev. 1992], Courtney 1984, Martyn 1987) are much dependent on Housman's masterly edition from 1905 (1931²). In fact, since then few significant differences have appeared except in punctuation. Morton Braund bases her own text upon Clausen's *OCT* (1959, rev. 1992) with only a few departures (listed on p. 40 ff.); these mostly concern breaks, paragraphs, punctuation, spelling, etc.

The commentaries are well-balanced and easy to consult. Particular emphasis is put on Roman thought and culture as well as literary, linguistic and stylistic matters. These are illuminated by references to Juvenal's own work, to other Roman satirists and to post-Augustan literature in general. What is especially pleasing is that the book may be recommended not only to established scholars of Roman literature but also to students reading Juvenal. The needs of the latter have been considered throughout the book, which provides many handy introductions to, and succinct surveys of, various aspects of Juvenal's poetry and the genre of Roman verse satire. The commentary on each poem is followed by a brief interpretative essay that gives a synthesis of the *Satire's* argument,

structure and significance, and also guides the reader through modern scholarship. As a practised lecturer on Juvenal, Morton Braund knows what to offer to her audience: focussing on the essential, and omitting overloaded commentaries, she provides many mature discussions relevant to the understanding of Juvenal's work.

Mika Kajava

ANTHONY R. BIRLEY: *Onomasticon to the Younger Pliny. Letters and Panegyric*. K. G. Saur Verlag, München – Leipzig 2000. ISBN 3-598-73001-2. xi, 111 pp. DEM 128.

As Birley says in his Preface, this onomasticon was commissioned "in the hope that it might supply for the younger Pliny something comparable to those for Cicero by D.R. Shackleton Bailey" (viii). The idea of producing full onomastic indices to prosopographically rich authors is indeed highly welcome. The work of a writer like the Younger Pliny is so imbued with names, persons and identities that a normal reader would inevitably be lost without a competent guide. What is clear is that Birley's *Onomasticon* provides a necessary substitute for the list of persons included in A.N. Sherwin-White's commentary to the *Letters* of Pliny (1966).

The *Onomasticon* itself is preceded by four introductory chapters on (1) Pliny's family, (2) career, (3) correspondents, and (4) his practice in naming Romans. The first chapter recapitulates what we know about Pliny's family. The question of the number of Pliny's marriages is wisely left open, though, as Birley admits, there is evidence which may suggest that Pliny was married twice altogether (2 f.). As for Ch. 2, one may note the detailed discussion of the date of Pliny's praetorship, traditionally put at A.D. 93; Birley dates, with good grounds, this office to A.D. 89/90 (pp. 10 ff.). He also plausibly argues that Pliny became prefect of the military aerarium only after Domitian's 'terror' phase (14 ff.). Ch. 4, especially pertinent to the scope of the book, catalogues the various onomastic styles used by Pliny (the most popular one being the combination of gentile name and cognomen) and discusses the reasons for their choice (archaism, onomastic traditions, omission of very widespread elements, official forms, 'aristocratic' forms). As a rule, perspicuity and practicality counted most. As an interesting parallel to the naming practice in Pliny, Birley also gives a brief account of the use of personal names in the Vindolanda tablets from northern England and in Fronto's *Letters* (32 ff.).

Birley's work is not a simple list of names but a rich collection of entries with all the necessary information on the persons' identity and origin (known or assumed), and the (relevant) family connections. The entries are not loaded with unnecessary prosopographical details and references, however, but provide a balanced selection of evidence which is likely to match the needs of most readers. In prosopographical and other discussions, Birley often – and justly – differs with the views of Sherwin-White, much more rarely with Ronald Syme (to whose work he is much indebted), or others. Whatever the primary or secondary sources, they are always treated with sound critique and witty argument.

As may be expected from a full onomasticon, not only persons are listed but also the names of deities; a separate index is devoted to the geographical names. As for the