

attitude to all things found during the dig caused some criticism at the time, but the end result speaks for itself. The museum of Crypta Balbi is one of the best museums in Rome, presenting materials that simply cannot be seen anywhere else!

The theme of the organization of waste disposal is also studied by Silvio Panciera and Wolf Liebeschuetz using literary sources. Panciera concentrates on ancient Rome, where he tries to show that waste disposal was organized by the city, and that it was not only the responsibility of the individual landowners. The problem is the lack of direct evidence. Liebeschuetz's point of view is wider, ranging from the ancient Near East to Italy. His opinion is contrary to Panciera's: the homeowners took care of the cleaning of streets.

A more symbolic meaning of waste is presented by three papers. Andrea Carandini points out the ideas of death and impurity connected with waste and how this might effect its treatment. Natalio Fernández Marcos has studied the Gehenna at Jerusalem and how the existing, actual waste heap got its symbolic meaning as a place of cult and part of a mythical geography. Eric Moormann's article is on the depiction of waste in art, especially the famous "unswept room" mosaics. He connects the few known images to the ideology of representing ugliness and degradation: the artistic rendition turns the foul motifs into beauty and luxury that could be observed with horror and admired at the same time.

The various approaches of the book are very interesting and delightful to read. Further attention to editing and language editing might have improved the texts even more. The book is suitably published with the generous help of AMA, *Azienda Municipale Ambiente*, which takes care of the waste in modern Rome. The ancient and modern waste do go hand in hand, even in this respect!

*Eeva-Maria Viitanen*

MIREILLE CÉBEILLAC-GERVASONI: *Les magistrats des cités italiennes de la seconde guerre punique à Auguste: le Latium et la Campanie*. Bibliothèque des écoles françaises d'Athènes et de Rome. Fascicule 299. Roma 1998. ISBN 2-7283-0525-0. xi, 310 pp. EUR 53.

This book is the published version of the author's *thèse de doctorat* dating back to 1987. Some explanation for the lapse of 11 years between the *soutenance* of the *thèse* and the emergence of the published version is given on p. ix f., mainly by references to the author's other occupations, some of them "important" (expression used on p. ix of an exposition of which the author was the director). In any case, one could see that this book was on its way, as the author has been busy with things related to her subject for many years.

One might wonder about the choice of the name of the book; there seems to be no clear reason for using the term *italiennes* in the title, as the author limits her scope to Latium and Campania. On the other hand, as there is not really very much source material for these areas in the period treated by the author, one might also wonder why she never considered covering the whole of the Italian peninsula in the same period, for this would no doubt have made the book much more attractive and useful. (At least one

would have expected her to explain the restriction of her scope to the two areas and to the period defined in the title, but there seems to be nothing on these points.)

But in any case this is a rather useful book. The approach is prosopographical (p. 4; cf. Ch. I, "Choix d'une méthodologie: la prosopographie", p. 9ff.), and it is hard to see how this could have been otherwise. However, there is not a "prosopography" of the magistrates at the end of book. The advantage of this is that now the book is much shorter than the normal French monograph with a *thèse* background; on the other hand, the lack of a numbered list of the magistrates to which reference can be made forces the author to quote the complete list of sources (in some cases fairly long) whenever she refers to a certain magistrate which, in the case of more prominent persons, happens quite often.

The book is divided into lengthy sections called "partie" which are subdivided into chapters. The exposition seems to cover all the aspects on which something can be said on the basis of the sources. Partie I is on "les magistrats dans l'exercice de leurs fonctions" (with Chap. III on the careers and Chap. IV on "euergetism"), Partie II is on the "ressources économiques" (with chapters on agriculture, "industry" and financial activities), Partie III is on the "vie sociale, publique et privée" of the magistrates (with chapters on "amitiés et clientélisme", "alliances matrimoniales et familiales", the "promotion politique" of municipal men to higher positions, and on the relations of the same men with equestrians and senators). At the end, there is a conclusion and the normal items; among the indices, there is one on the literary sources but none on the inscriptions (which must be accessed through the index of persons).

All this is very good and useful. However, to tell the truth, there are few places where one has the feeling that the author has been writing in a state of great inspiration, and she does not seem to be making many altogether revolutionary observations. Of course it is true that there is not really very much one can do with only this limited source material at one's disposal, and the utility and the worth of this book, which no one will deny, is clearly based on the fact that it summarizes the results of earlier studies rather than on its new approaches to questions.

However, there are some less attractive things in this book, many of them to be explained by its long evolution process and some possibly by the fact that the author may not always have thought it a good idea to produce a published version (cf. p. x). Moreover, this version, too, like its predecessor (cf. p. ix), seems to have been produced in rather a hurry. The bibliography, although including many references to more modern work, cannot help giving the general impression of something dating back a few years (isn't there, for instance, a newer version of Moeller's book on the wool trade of Pompeii, referred to here only as a "Diss. dact." of 1962?). And then there is the impression of vagueness and imprecision here and there. To say nothing of German titles of books which are hardly ever spelled correctly, the author can make mistakes even in the rendering of the names of scholars prominent in her own field (e.g., p. 17 n. 46 "Mouristen"; 139 n. 5 "Frederisken"). Some references are extremely sloppy; what is one to do with "voir ... Mario Torelli sous presse" (154 n. 55), if this is not explained in the bibliography? But even worse are those references in which the author only says that much has been written on a subject. For instance, on p. 129 n. 128, work after 1986 on the *lex Flavia municipalis* is summed up – not very helpfully – as "D'innombrables (sic) articles

sortent de presse chaque année sur cette loi (cf. en particulier dans *ZPE*, *JRS*, *Historia*). On p. 217 (where the father of Livia is called "M. Livius Drusus Andronicus"), n. 27, Aufidius Lurco, a difficult person, is furnished with the following annotation: "Il existe une imposante bibliographie et des discussions à propos de l'origine et du nom très controversés du grand-père de Livie", with references to Suetonius (sic!) but none to the famous article of 1974 by J. Linderski who settled all the problems. And there are many more signs of sloppiness; on p. 50 n. 20, "Solin" is credited with having written something which I am almost certain I wrote, and many Latin quotations are given in a curiously abbreviated form; e.g., p. 31 n. 75 "in oppido Padula agri", where *agri* is meaningless without a definition; p. 93 "senatus filio stipendia mereta", where the addition of *esse iousit* (following on *mereta* in the inscription) would have clarified the scenario.

The question is, of course, whether one should let these little unpleasantnesses obscure the fact that the book is after all a reasonably competent and comprehensive discussion of an important subject. Personally I am inclined to think that what matters here is above all the fact that we now have this book at our disposal, and so I think I must conclude by thanking the author for having decided to have her *thèse* published. It is true that, at the same time I cannot help wondering why the author did not allow herself some more time to give finishing touches to the book.

*Olli Salomies*

*Childhood, Class and Kin in the Roman World*. Edited by SUZANNE DIXON. Routledge, London – New York 2001. ISBN 0-415-23578-2. xvi, 282 pp. GBP 50.

This volume was put together to honour Professor Beryl Rawson's celebrated work on the Roman family. It includes the following chapters: The 'other' Romans and their family values (Suzanne Dixon); Children as cultural symbols: imperial ideology in the second century (Beryl Rawson); Children and dreams (Keith Bradley); Child exposure and abandonment (Mireille Corbier); Children among the dead: the influence of urban life on the commemoration of children on tombstone inscriptions (Janette McWilliam); Reconstructing lower-class Roman families (Paul Weaver); *Familia Veturia*: towards a lower-class economic prosopography (Suzanne Dixon); Emperors and houses in Rome (Andrew Wallace-Hadrill); Women, burial data and issues of inclusion: the problems and potential of Romano-British cemeteries (Fiona Crowe); The value of epithets in pagan and Christian epitaphs from Rome (Hanne Sigismund Nielsen); A Roman funerary monument with a mother and daughter (Michele George); Adoption and its function in cross-cultural contexts (Hugh Lindsay); Nearest and dearest: liability to inheritance tax in Roman families (Jane Gardner); On becoming a parent in later life: from Augustus to Antonio Agustín via St Augustine (Tim Parkin).

It would be impossible to discuss or even to summarize the contents of individual contributions in a short review. Most of the authors are already distinguished experts in their own field. Although one might disagree with some individual interpretations or conclusions, there is generally little to complain of in the manner the writers handle their material. I might just record a couple of more than trivial printing errors: the figures in