The division of the papers is indicative of the larger transformation that studies in Roman law are currently going through. Despite the fact that the average article in the book is a legal dogmatic study on Roman law, the works by scholars of the younger generation tend to be inclined more towards historical analysis, at least by linking dogmatic study with its historical context.

For the main part, close textual analysis appears to be the method of choice, whereas prosopography, comparative analysis, papyrology, anthropology, and epigraphy are represented with just a paper or two each, which is surprising to say the least. Purely historical articles are also quite a small minority, though not without a few novel approaches, for example in "Balneum romanum" Carmela Pennacchio discusses the discovery of warm water in the form of baths in the Roman historical experience.

Unlike many similar Festschriften that group essays by their fields, the editors of this one have opted for alphabetical ordering throughout the eight volumes. Considering the heterogeneity of the papers involved, the choice is understandable, but at least some grouping together, either chronologically or thematically, would have made this massive opus slightly more accessible. For example, the likelihood is not great that without prior knowledge of its existence, even the most diligent student of ancient mythology would venture to the last volume of the book to find Marisa Tortorelli Ghidini's fascinating article on matriarchal myths, on the idea of mother earth and mother gods.

Like Roman law scholarship in general, the book is multilingual, containing articles in Italian, German, English, Spanish, and French. The quality of individual papers varies, as does the level of care taken with proofreading.

Kaius Tuori


Diogenes und kein Ende. For decades, Smith has worked on with the publication and explanation of the fragments of the Epicurean which do not seem to cease to appear on the scholarly market. In this journal, Smith's earlier contributions to the textual criticism of Diogenes were hailed by Rolf Westman as fundamental pieces of work. I have nothing to add to his judgement. What justifies this supplement is the discovery during excavations in 1997 of ten blocks from the stoa wall on which Diogenes displayed his inscription, the reader will find much of compelling interest in Smith's new readings of old discoveries, reflections and retractions, but the essential part of this volume are these new discoveries of 1997. We should indeed be grateful to the editor for having put this new material at the disposal of the scholarly community in a rapid and successful way.

Heikki Solin