

discussion entitled "Romans and Others" (pp. 459–77). Karl-J. Hölkenskamp, in the chapter "History and Collective Memory in the Middle Republic" (pp. 478–95), takes a fresh look at collective memory (a.k.a. cultural memory) in mid-republican Roman society, which is clearly one of the very fundamentals for a specifically Roman distinction. A similar quest for what is distinctively/essentially Roman characterizes the two following chapters on art and literature: "Art and Architecture in the Roman Republic" by Katherine E. Welch (pp. 496–542) and "Literature" by William W. Batstone (pp. 543–63).

The last section of the volume, Part VII, *Controversies*, introduces the reader to a series of especially hotly debated issues in current scholarship on the Roman Republic. Arthur M. Eckstein, in "Conceptualizing Roman Imperial Expansion under the Republic: An Introduction" (pp. 567–89), discusses Roman imperialism in the light of contending conceptual frameworks. The social consequences of rapidly changing patterns in the rural economy of Italy, and of the conquest and Romanization of the peninsula, are dealt with in the two chapters "The Economy: Agrarian Change During the Second Century" by Luuk de Ligt (pp. 590–605) and "Rome and Italy" by John R. Patterson (pp. 606–24). In the last chapter of the book, "The Transformation of the Republic" (pp. 625–37), the two editors address the developments which led to the Principate as an immediate continuation of the previous system (and not the "fall" of the Roman Republic, which is the canonical view). Though each and every contribution to this section constitutes a very good piece of scholarly work, I only wonder why they have been grouped together at the end of the volume, hidden as it were under a rather uninformative heading, and not assigned to any of the previous thematic blocks. At any rate, the necessity felt to identify a separate group of controversial issues seems somewhat odd in the light of the many discussions, throughout the volume, which document the normal presence of a wide range of contending interpretations.

This Blackwell Companion, which offers a very good overview of much of the evidentiary basis for and the current concerns of Roman Republican Studies, concludes with an extensive *Bibliography* (pp. 638–93) and a (General) *Index* (pp. 695–737).

*Kaj Sandberg*

MICHAEL P. FRONDA: *Between Rome and Carthage*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge – New York 2010. ISBN 978-0-521-51694-5. XXVIII, 374 pp. GBP 60, USD 99.

Whereas much has been thought and written about the aftermath and long-term consequences of the Second Punic War in southern Italy, there has been considerably less attention paid to the regions in question during the very course of that conflict. Providing a comprehensive and in-depth analysis of the whole area during those eventful decades, this volume constitutes a valuable attempt at filling that relative void in scholarship.

Though "southern Italy" is not absolutely self-evident as a geographic concept, and is not defined by the author at any point, the specific setting soon becomes clear enough. It is largely defined by Hannibal's presence in Italy and by the theaters of war after the Battle of Cannae. The whole political and military situation, and much of the historical background, is presented in a substantial "Introduction" (chapter 1, pp. 1–99), in which also the sources and the methodological problems are dealt with (pp. 5–13).

The fundamental question posed in the book is why some Italic communities decided to side with the Carthaginian intruder, while others preferred to stay loyal to Rome. This problem is addressed in a series of chapters (nos. 2–5) dedicated to particular regions: "Apulia" (pp. 53–99), "Campania" (pp. 100–47), "Bruttium and western Magna Graecia" (pp. 148–87) as well as "Southern Lucania and eastern Magna Graecia" (pp. 188–233). Throughout these inquiries the author considers the particular political, diplomatic, military and economic factors that influenced the decisions of the individual communities he examines. In doing so he also employs the methods of modern political science as well as current models of interstate relations. Examining the motivations of the various communities the author makes several intriguing observations, not just about the warfare of the two last decades of the third century BCE, but also about the Romans' relations with their allies during the preceding two centuries of military expansion.

In chapter 6, entitled "The Roman reconquest of southern Italy", the author analyzes the developments which brought the peninsula back under the dominion of Rome. In chapter 7, "Conclusion", there are many interesting discussions; the author summarizes the observations he has made about local conditions and the Roman genius, discusses interstate rivalry in the light of realist (and neorealist) theory and also considers – in three hypothetical scenarios – whether Hannibal could have won. The formal conclusion is followed by four appendices (A–D) on "The war in Samnium, 217–209" (pp. 331–3), on the "Chronology of events in Bruttium, 215" (pp. 334–6), on the "Chronology of events from the defection of Taras through the defection of Thurii, 213–212" (pp. 337–9) and on the "Defection of the Southern Lucanians, 212" (pp. 340–1). The volume concludes with an extensive "Bibliography" (pp. 342–64) and a general "Index" (pp. 365–74).

Well-written and carefully researched, the volume offers many novel and interesting insights into the nature of Roman imperialism and hegemony in Italy as well as into local conditions in the southern parts of the peninsula, along with ample documentation of relevant research. It provides a valuable synthesis of recent archaeological explorations and makes a wide range of regional and site-specific material more accessible. Fifteen maps provide up-to-date information on the locations and geographic features (such as civic boundaries, hydration systems, roads and navigable rivers) of the cities which were involved in the Second Punic War.

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MATTHIAS GELZER: *Pompeius. Lebensbild eines Römers*. Neudruck der Ausgabe von 1984. Franz Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart 2005. ISBN 3-515-08474-6. 247 S., 3 Karten. EUR 29.

Es handelt sich um einen Neudruck des ersten Nachdruckes der zweiten überarbeiteten Auflage der Pompeius-Biographie des großen Althistorikers. Gelzers Buch ist ein Klassiker geworden, und der Verlag hat einen großen Dienst dadurch erwiesen, dass er das Werk wieder für den Buchmarkt erhältlich stellt.

Die Betreuerin des Neudruckes Elisabeth Herrmann-Otto liefert zuerst einen Forschungsbericht zu diesem Buch für den Zeitraum 1984–2004 und dann eine kurze Vorbemerkung.