

YANN LE BOHEC: *Das römische Heer in der späten Kaiserzeit*. Franz Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart 2010. ISBN 978-3-515-09136-7. 309 S. EUR 42.

This book, translated from the French original (*L'armée romaine sous le Bas-Empire*) and published in 2006, aims to give an overview of the Later Roman Imperial army from Diocletian to the mid-fifth century AD. Beginning with Diocletian, the book proceeds in chronological order, but the chronological account is suspended after the description of the wars during the reigns of Constantius II and Julian.

The focus is now transferred to a thematic account of the Imperial army of the mid-fourth century AD. The thematic chapters begin with a discussion of recruitment, proceed to troop unit types, and then to rank structure and the fundamentals of military service. Le Bohec then discusses fortifications before considering tactics in two chapters, the first covering the circumstances of a battle and its context, and the second concentrating on the battle itself. Tactics is then followed, rather than preceded as one would have expected, by a discussion of strategy, beginning with the concept itself, the debate surrounding it and the realities in which strategy was conducted. This is followed by a chapter considering strategy in the "European Theatre" and another one concentrating on the East and the South. The final thematic chapter discusses the relationship of civil society and the military.

At this point, the author switches back to the chronological account, first discussing the wars of Valentinian and Valens and then the subsequent phases of the army to the mid-fifth century AD, this account being followed by a concluding discussion. All in all, Le Bohec presents a good overview of the Roman army of the Later Empire, although one heavily focusing on the mid-fourth century AD.

*Joonas Sipilä*

ROBERT W. SHARPLES: *Peripatetic Philosophy, 200 BC to AD 200: An Introduction and Collection of Sources in Translation*. Cambridge Source Books in Post-Hellenistic Philosophy. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge – New York 2010. XIX, 309 pp. ISBN 978-0-521-88480-8 (hb), 978-0-521-71185-2 (pb). GBP 60, USD 99 (hb), GBP 21.99, USD 36.99 (pb).

This book, the swan song of Robert Sharples, a distinguished scholar of ancient philosophy, gives us a concise insight into how post-Aristotelian peripatetic thought developed from 200 BC to AD 200. As its name suggests, this book is concerned with the philosophical themes of this often underexamined era, and it aims at providing not an exhaustive collection of the material, but a selective sourcebook "for those who wish to become familiar with the main issues relating to its subject matter" (xiii). Sharples's book begins with a preface and an introduction in which he briefly introduces the main figures and the intellectual developments of the period from the death of Aristotle to Alexander of Aphrodisias. The introduction is surprisingly short, but the core substance of the book is situated in the footnotes and commentaries of the translations of the original Greek and Latin passages. It represents well the philosophical and philological expertise of Sharples.