

selection of ethnographical snippets from a range of fragmentary authors. Hence, the importance of understanding Athenaeus' technique of selection and reference is plain to see. Mimicking the flux of ideas of associations that would have taken place in a convivial or symposiac setting, as well as the encyclopaedic breadth of the peoples covered, Athenaeus' ethnographic elements are very usefully linked by Oikonomopoulou to Imperial miscellanistic writing. She also demonstrates how the sophist's authorial presence is much heavier in the ethnographical section of Book 4, casting Athenaeus himself as an inheritor of Herodotus, yet also a writer constructing new significations for his inherited elements.

Focusing on a completely different setting than his recent *The Invention of Ancient Ethnography* (Oxford 2012), the co-editor Joseph Skinner's richly annotated contribution to this volume, "Imperial Visions, Imagined Pasts: Ethnography and Identity on India's North-Western Frontier", is a study that rewards the reader with several new insights, especially when it comes to mediating 'middle-ground' imaginings of an ethnographic nature (especially in Kafirstan, whose inhabitants were argued to be descended from Alexander's Greeks). The chapter demonstrates very well how the contents of ancient ethnographical writing could be transformed into something approaching scholarly mythologies within the nascent, imperialist-sponsored fields of ethnography and anthropology (cf. p. 206). British India, Afghanistan, and Persia likewise form the backdrop to the next chapter, Thomas Harrison's "Exploring Virgin Fields", which charts the varying reception of Orientalist tropes in the ethnographical vision of the famous Rawlinson brothers – one, Henry, practical, the other, George, theoretical. Despite all their circularity and essentialism in writing about contemporary peoples (especially the Persians) through their classically-tinted glasses, what Harrison brings out very well are the surprising nuances and ambiguities that emerge from their views.

Emma Dench's short, incisive closure to the volume, "The Scope of Ancient Ethnography" is perhaps the most thought-provoking chapter in the book. It manages not only to summarize many of the approaches and results of this wide-ranging work, but also charts things the previous contributors sidestepped: the challenges and pitfalls in our conception of the boundaries of ancient ethnographical writing. She doesn't hesitate to point out oversimplifications found in current scholarship, and the reader is left feeling grateful for this. Overall, this volume wisely refrains from defining the limits of ancient ethnography, and in so doing manages to dispel many long-standing dichotomies between barbarians and non-barbarians, and between 'literary' and 'factual' types of ethnographical knowledge.

*Antti Lampinen*

*New Perspectives on Ancient Warfare.* Edited by GARRETT G. FAGAN – MATTHEW TRUMBLE. Brill, Leiden – Boston 2010. ISBN 978-90-04-18598-2. XIII, 372 pp., 26 figs. EUR 140, USD 199.

The book is an offspring of the AIA/APA conference Joint Panel in 2007, reinforced with a few specially commissioned articles. The contributions take a wide look at different aspects of ancient warfare from chariots of the early first millennium BCE to Caesar and the Helvetian campaign. The articles do not address a specific set of debates or issues but are instead stand-alone pieces, although very good as such. Consequently, no conclusions are presented that would tie the articles together.

Even so, the editors succeed in their introduction to provide a context for the articles that follow. To single out some of the ten articles contained in the volume: The first article, by Fernando Echevarría Rey, discusses technological determinism in the study of ancient warfare. Belief in technological determinism implies that tactics and fighting techniques are determined by technological changes in arms and armour. Rey presents a good case for assuming that warfare is a much more complex issue than the sum of the technological accoutrements of war used. However, the technological determinism the author criticizes so vehemently and so well is partly a straw man; fortunately, instances of a pure deterministic approach tend to be very rare nowadays.

Christopher Tuplin, in an article of 82 pages, presents the longest contribution in the book – more than twice as long as the second longest chapter. The chapter is a judicious and thorough reconsideration of Achaemenid cavalry. Tuplin's conclusions are also worth noting, as he cautions against overestimating the role, effectiveness or importance of the cavalry in the Persian army. The King's cavalry was not that special, although that is how it is still often perceived in modern scholarship. His article is well worth reading for all those interested in the Achaemenid period in general.

Louis Rawlings's piece on the Carthaginian navy is an interesting consideration of the nature of the Carthaginian sea-power and culture and the role of the navy. He succeeds in highlighting how little we actually know about the Carthaginian navy, placing it in a wider context as part of the military culture and as a tool of power politics of the Carthaginians in an interesting way.

The last two chapters, Nathan Rosenstein's on phalanges in Rome and David Potter's on Caesar and the Helvetians, are also worth noting. Rosenstein challenges the orthodox view of the development of the manipular legion. His case rests on theorizing and rationalizing but his arguments are well thought through and logical even though, by necessity, he also makes many suppositions.

Potter focuses on Caesar and the Helvetian campaign as a springboard for a discussion of the introduction of cohorts. He also makes the interesting observation that it is as important to acknowledge the change in the nature of legionary recruitment after the Social War from a system based on social class to a more regional one in explaining the nature of Roman armies as it is to take into account the Marian reforms. He also underlines the way Roman armies in different theatres under different leaders adopted diverse fighting styles.

All in all, the articles in this book constitute an interesting contribution to the ongoing discussion on ancient warfare and are part of the welcome phenomenon of bringing warfare back to the study of war in antiquity.

*Joonas Sipilä*

ALFONSO MELE: *Greci in Campania*. I Quaderni di Oebalus 5. Scienze e lettere, Roma 2014. ISBN 978-88-6687-069-2. XIII, 399 pp. EUR 65.

Con questo volume Alfonso Mele, benemerito studioso della Grecia arcaica e della colonizzazione nonché del mondo italico tra ellenizzazione e romanizzazione, ci offre una sintesi della grecità campana dalle prime colonie alla graduale ellenizzazione delle regioni limitrofe attraverso i rapporti che i greci di Pitecusa, Cuma e Neapolis nonché quelli di Poseidonia ed Elea a sud del Sele mantenevano con i popoli indigeni dell'entroterra. Il volume ha alla base vari lavori pubblicati dall'autore stesso