

But to bring forth more examples like these would be nitpickingly criticizing a work of more than solid scholarship in which typos are (almost) non-existent.

To sum up: Philologists and historians of the ancient world as well as scholars from neighbouring disciplines will be grateful for an excellent addition to the growing number of modern commentaries on Cicero's orations. With interest in rhetoric and argumentation as well as in the dissemination of political ideology through speech and literature reviving in recent years (cf. V), Cicero's *Agrarian orations* have finally received their due: M.'s fine *opus* will enable its readers to understand the orations *De lege agraria* better and to appreciate them more deeply than before.

Marc Steinmann

CHRISTER HENRIKSÉN: *A Commentary on Martial. Epigrams. Book 9*. Oxford University Press, Oxford 2012. ISBN 978-0-19-960631-3. XLVI, 440 pp. GBP 127.50.

This is a very important and exemplary book. It was originally presented as a doctoral thesis at Uppsala University and published in 1998–9. The second edition is completely revised, and H. has taken wide account of the lively discussion occurring since 1999; he also recognizes having changed his own opinions on many questions of the interpretation of Martial's poetry. In the Introduction, taking in consideration all relevant literature (not just that written in English, not showing a tendency to the 'splendid isolation' of Anglo-Saxon scholarship), he deals with several important issues. He shows with good arguments that the ninth book has to be dated to late 94/early 95 (p. XIII), and here one cannot but follow him. In addition, he deals with metrical issues. Very important are his considerations on the picture Martial gives of Domitian, and he stresses its positive features in contrast to that of Tacitus and Suetonius; indeed, he pays considerable attention to the Emperor, i.a. focusing on such topics as Domitian's military campaigns. In general, H. takes up many important historical issues. He is also well versed in questions regarding social history.

The edition itself consists of the text, an introduction to it, and a more or less exhaustive commentary, where he provides thorough surveys of previous discussions. It is really a verily remarkable accomplishment that all sorts of classicists, both philologists and historians, not to speak of literary historians, will use with profit and predilection.

Heikki Solin

ANDREAS WILLI: *Origins of the Greek Verb*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2018. ISBN 978-1-107-19555-4. XXXI, 713 pp. GBP 120.

L'origine del verbo greco costituisce un argomento estremamente vasto e un'opera che affronti tale argomento non può prescindere dalla conoscenza approfondita dei sistemi verbali di tutte le lingue indoeuropee, sia da un punto di vista morfologico, quanto da un punto di vista sintattico. Gli studi svolti in passato sui singoli argomenti sono innumerevoli, sia dal punto di vista monoglottico del greco, sia da quello della linguistica storica indoeuropea. Fra di essi troviamo i nomi di illustri stu-