However, for students at the early stage of learning, for whom this book is principally designed, it will be an achievement to read any ancient text or part thereof. That what they read may give a one-sided impression of an author's work is likely to be a matter of relative indifference. For such students Lawall’s edition of Petronius is as good as they come.

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Unusually long delays in publishing the new edition of CAH VI (cf. 591 n.108; 646 n.36) ought, if the project’s purpose is fulfilled, now to cease to matter. If not a ‘possession for ever’, it is intended at least to be authoritative and durable. Above all, it should be a book for the reader who wants to get the basic facts as clear as possible. Bracketed references to primary sources help, and are an advance on the original CAH, which believed in a clean text and plenty of bare assertion; but the Bibliography, though it occupies over a hundred pages (902-1026), will cease to be useful before the volume as a whole.

Contributors, a solid phalanx of British scholars with elite troops added from America, Australia, Europe and Israel, maintain the tone and level of detail with consistency. Paradigms of the style and treatment are Robin Seager’s chapters on the Corinthian War (97-119) and the King’s Peace (156-186)—solid synthetic narrative with cruces argued as needed—or J. Roy’s chapter on Thebes in the 360s (187-208), well focused on the effectiveness or otherwise of
diplomacy. Later, J.R. Ellis' treatment of Philip II's diplomacy in his two chapters on Macedon (723-759 and 760-790) complements Roy's discussion and pushes its themes further.

Two long sections of regional surveys broaden treatment geographically. 'Persian Lands and Neighbours' covers Asia Minor (Simon Hornblower), Mesopotamia (Matthew W. Stolper), Judah (Hayim Tadmor), Cyprus and Phoenicia (F.G. Maier) and Egypt (Alan B. Lloyd). Maier on Cyprus and Phoenicia (297-336) I find specially valuable, having in the past failed to find for students a satisfactory general account of fourth-century Cyprus in English (the Bibliography shows why I got stuck). On Phoenicia there is J.D. Grainger's *Hellenistic Phoenicia*, which the Bibliography misses, though it has his *Cities of Seleukid Syria*. 'The West and North' covers Carthage (G.Ch. Picard), South Italy (Nicholas Purcell), Celtic Europe (D.W. Harding), Illyrians and North-west Greeks (N.G.L. Hammond), Thracians and Scythians (Zofia H. Archibald), the Bosporan Kingdom (John Hind) and Mediterranean communications (L. Casson). Picard on Carthage (361-380) gives more evaluative comment than most contributors allow themselves, and his chapter is the better for it; Purcell on South Italy (381-403) takes a different tone from most of the book—more personal, less *ex cathedra* —and carries it off without jarring.

The section on Greek Culture and Science would perhaps have borne expansion. It starts solidly with M. Ostwald and John P. Lynch on the growth of schools (essentially Isocrates, Academy, Lyceum), but the chapters on medicine, art, agriculture and warfare are too thin to be much of a guide. Y. Garlan manages at any rate to be interesting in fifteen pages on warfare (678-692), but G.E.R. Lloyd's thirteen on medicine (634-646) seem perfunctory.

The last hundred and fifty pages or so accommodate Ellis on Macedon and Philip II, then A.B. Bosworth on Alexander the Great (791-845 and 846-875). Bosworth's tone is less hostile to Alexander than in *Conquest and Empire* (1988), and no doubt his chapters fulfil the editors' promise (xviii) of a 'richer and more complex picture of the Macedonian invasion of Asia to compensate for the loss of the first edition's incandescent, but ultimately misleading, portrait of
Alexander—yet after Bosworth has said ‘I have tried to avoid value judgments and psychological speculation’ (791) he follows up in the next paragraph, on Alexander’s accession (794), with ‘the sources hint at civil war, narrowly averted by ruthless massacre’. The paragraph after begins with ‘More personal acts of vengeance followed’. ‘Ruthless’ and ‘personal’ would certainly reflect value judgments, even supposing that ‘massacre’ and ‘vengeance’ were dispassionately descriptive. Perhaps the material just demands a response and a writer cannot help making one: taking for granted that a new king of Macedon had to murder most of his known enemies in order to establish himself would be an act as much informed by perception of value as Bosworth’s rhetoric is. Objectivity is hard to achieve. Still, here and throughout the volume the basics are in place, so that CAH VI will do the job it is meant to, probably for a generation.

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This is a sensible work, which will be a helpful guide to inquiring students, and will often be useful to their teachers as well. The text is that of Ihm (Leipzig 1907), with three changes listed at 28; unfortunately, the commentary does not discuss any textual problems, not even obelized passages. This review, therefore, only discusses the English parts of the book. A reviewer’s job is to point out what could be done better, so what follows is largely negative; many of the blemishes, however, could be removed in a second edition, which I hope the book will have.