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Smith's Catalogue of British Museum Sculptures A Catalogue of Sculpture in the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities in the British Museum. By A. H. Smith, M.A. Vols. II. and III. London: 1900 and 1904. 8½in. × 5½ in. Pp. ix + 264, xii + 481. Pis. XXVII. and XXIX. 3s. and 7s. 6d.

E. A. Gardner

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SMITH'S CATALOGUE OF BRITISH
MUSEUM SCULPTURES.

A Catalogue of Sculpture in the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities in the British Museum. By A. H. SMITH, M.A. Vols. II. and III. London: 1900 and 1904. 8½ in. × 5½ in. Pp. ix + 264, xii + 481. Pls. XXVII. and XXIX. 3s. and 7s. 6d.

THESE volumes conclude Mr. A. H. Smith's excellent catalogue; and we have now for the first time a complete catalogue of the ancient sculpture in the national collection. The old Guides to the 'Graeco-Roman Sculptures' only contained about a third of the numbers we find in the corresponding part of the new catalogue, while a great part of the collections, including many of the most interesting series, was left out altogether. Moreover, even in the case of works already described in the old Guides, the descriptions all required revision from a more modern standpoint. There are two main questions to be decided by the writer of a modern sculpture catalogue; the first is the number and character of the illustrations that he can provide; the second the extent to which he allows himself to be drawn into controversial discussions. As regards illustration, Mr. Smith has steered a middle course. In the third volume, which is more or less miscellaneous, he has managed, by the plates at the end or the outline blocks in the text, to illustrate something like a fifth of the numbers. This is adequate for certain classes of objects, though in some cases we could have wished for more. A practice especially to be commended is the reproduction of ten or twelve objects together—mostly heads—on a single process plate. The scale is fully adequate for recognition of the type—which is all one can expect from a catalogue; while those who wish to make a more careful study will find trustworthy guidance for any attempt to obtain more detailed illustrations. In the second volume, which deals more with well known series such as the sculptures of the Mausoleum and the Nereid Monument, full illustrations are already accessible, and so would be superfluous in the catalogue; but more blocks or small photographs of the miscellaneous antiquities would be a desirable addition. A very useful feature in this volume is the reproduction of restorations of the buildings concerned, whether conjectural or actually mounted in the Museum. The chariot group of the Mausoleum, for instance, affords an

excellent opportunity for the reader to judge for himself of the relative proportions of the chariot and the figures; the eight restorations of the Mausoleum, placed side by side in one opening, are also most convenient and instructive. On the other hand, it seems a pity that Sir C. Fellows' restoration of the Nereid Monument, which is admitted in the text to be wrong, should be given instead of Falkener's more correct attempt, with six instead of five columns on the sides.

As to the text of the Catalogue, those acquainted with Mr. A. H. Smith's work will not need to be told that he is always concise, clear, and exact. He is obliged in many cases to discuss disputed problems or to summarise controversies; but this is always done with judicial impartiality, and, even where a definite decision is given, the rejected view is always fairly stated, as in the case of the presence of Mausolus and Artemisia in the chariot. Perhaps some would prefer to see more prominence given to recent theorising as to the school or artistic affinities of particular statues; but they can hardly complain so long as a reference is always given, and a quotation often made, even if not approved. Perhaps the most extreme example of this is in the discussion of the Aberdeen head; the rejection of the view that it is an original by Praxiteles will be approved by many critics; but the discussion of the question is somewhat curt and unsympathetic, especially in its treatment of the view that the head is a young Heracles—surely an essential part of the Praxitelean theory. Here, however, also the reference to the literature will give the student an opportunity to judge for himself. It might have been possible to make the catalogue more interesting; but only at the expense of the qualities in which its chief virtue consists. These qualities will suffice to make it for a long time to come a worthy official catalogue of the sculpture in the British Museum.

E. A. GARDNER.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Die Hellenische Kultur. By F. BAUMGARTEN, F. POLAND, and R. WAGNER. With seven coloured plates, two maps, and about 400 text-illustrations. 10¼" × 7". Pp. x + 490. Leipzig and Berlin: Teubner, 1905. M. 10.

WE do not remember to have met with any book, at any rate not in English, which covers