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Wells' Short History of Rome *A short History of Rome to the Death of Augustus*, by T. Wells, M.A. Methuen and Co. pp. 353. 3s. 6d.

W. E. P. Cotter

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that there was evidence for the form *proficiscor* in this line of Plautus. I add a few other comments: (p. 87) *ruror* 'to live in the country' quoted by Nonius from Varro suggests *domatus sum*, 'I have lived at home,' as the true form in Plaut. *Men.* 105: *domi domatus sum usque cum caris meis*, which has been altered to *domitus sum* by some scribe who confused it with the Perf. Ind. Pass. of *domo* 'I subdue'; (p. 110) Latin participles like *pransus*, *cenatus* find a parallel in Umbrian *çersnato-* 'having supped,' in the phrase in the Iguvine Tables *çersnatur furent* 'cenati erunt'; (p. 177) the collection of forms in *-iuri* (for *-um iri*), e.g. *redditiuri* (Cic. *Att.* 5. 15. 3) is interesting. They are often changed in MSS. to forms in *-uri* as if Nom. Pl. Masc. of Fut. Part. Act.; (p. 199) the old explanation of Passive *-r* as the Reflexive pronoun *se* should be allowed to rest in its grave: (p. 295) in quoting examples of *-ât* 3 Sg. in Plautus, it should be stated that the shortening is only

found after a short syllable, e.g. *âmât* but not *cûrât*, and comes under the Breves Breviantes Law like *âmâ*, *vâlê*, *dômî*, *pütö* and similar scansion; (p. 298) Servius (ad *Aem.* vi. 779) tells us that *vidên* was the ordinary pronunciation of his time; (p. 331) 'nach u, qu, und v ist auch in der älteren Zeit undus nicht nachzuweisen,' but, it may be added, *secundus* (the form in *-undus* corresponding to *sequendus*, the form in *-endus*) shows that the formation was not unknown earlier; (p. 411) Oscan 'fefacit' should be *fefacid* (Perf. Subj. 3 Sg.). If the *fefaked* 'fecit' of the Praenestine Fibula be Old Latin, it is not true to say that 'im Lateinischen nur *feci* vorhanden ist'; (p. 603) in connection with *praesens* might be mentioned its use as Part. of *praesse*, 'to be in command,' on the Columna Rostrata *praesented* [*Anibaled*] *dictatored olorum* 'under the command of H. their dictator.'

W. M. LINDSAY.

WELLS' SHORT HISTORY OF ROME.

A short History of Rome to the Death of Augustus, by T. Wells, M.A. Methuen and Co. pp. 353. 3s. 6d.

To write a compendium of Roman history to the death of Augustus in an interesting manner is by no means an easy task, and Mr. Wells is to be congratulated on having produced a very readable work. Whether there is 'at present no satisfactory small Roman history existing in England' seems doubtful. We think there are several, but at any rate Mr. Wells' book has sufficient merits of its own to render any apology for its publication unnecessary. The chief events in Roman history are related clearly, and concisely. More attention has been given to the constitutional development of Rome

than is usually done in books of a similar kind. In this feature the chief merit of the book consists. A short, but useful sketch of the different races of Italy is given in the Introduction. The various myths of the regal, and early republican period are treated very briefly, or omitted altogether. Want of space is pleaded as an excuse for this, which may also be the reason of the complete omission of the usual chapters on literature, but the book would be more serviceable had room been found for the latter. The historical parallels are to the point, and will be welcomed by practical teachers. There is a good index, and four useful maps. On the whole Mr. Wells has written a useful schoolbook.

W. E. P. COTTER.