does not happen this time'. Sadly, it did, but the quality of Sbordone's edition of Books 7–9 provides a 'benchmark' against which future editions of Strabo's geography will have to be measured.

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APPIAN ON AFRICA

P. GOUKOWSKY: *Appien:* Histoire romaine. *Tome iv, livre viii. Le livre africain* (Collection des Universités de France publiée sous le patronage de l'Association Guillaume Budé). Pp. cxxxvi + 228, ills. Paris: Les Belles Lettres, 2001. Cased, €60. ISBN: 2-251-00494-7.

This volume in the Budé edition of Appian's *Roman History* contains the longest section of his work apart from the five books of the *Civil Wars*. Even so, it appears that it is not complete. Appian (*proem*. 14.57) lists a book called *Καρχηδονιακή* (*The Carthaginian Book*), but Photius calls the eighth book *Λιβυκή*, *Καρχηδονιακὴ καὶ Νομαδική* (*Libyan, Carthaginian and Numidian Books*). To compound the issue, the heading in our best and earliest manuscript (*Vat. Gr.* 141) reads *Ἀππιανοῦ Λιβυκὴ ἤτοι τὰ Καρχηδονιακά* (*The Libyan Book, or the Carthaginian History*), and what follows is indeed an account of the wars of the Romans with Carthage, leaving out those sections which Appian has dealt with already in other of his books (as he himself explains at *Lib.* 2.10). However, Photius' note and the survival of five fragments from the *Νομαδική* (included at the end of the present volume) suggest that *The Libyan Book* was made up of two sections, one dealing with Carthage and the other with Numidia. That said, the *Libyan Book* (or, as the Budé editor, Paul Goukowsky, prefers, *Le Livre africain*) reads as a coherent whole, and is an excellent example of Appian's work, to say nothing of its historical interest. G. has provided a good text and a brief *apparatus criticus*, though as he observes in the introductory section of the book (pp. CXXX–CXXXI), the state of the manuscript tradition is sufficiently clear that an editor might be tempted only to cite *Vat. Gr.* 141. No doubt the relative lack of difficulty with the establishment of the text has also led to the omission from this volume of a list of the editor's own solutions to textual cruces, such as appeared in the introduction of Volume II, published in 1997. This does leave space for a number of valuable contributions to the *African Book* as a whole. The first is a short but most illuminating essay on the style and overall direction of the work, noting the dramatic and tragic elements in the two stages of the work, the first being the first two Punic wars and the second the final defeat and destruction of Carthage, and especially the rôles given to generals on both sides (pp. IX–XXIII). This is followed by an exposition of the rhetorical elements in Appian's treatment of his subject in the narrative sections (which G. associates with the programme set out by Theon in his *Progymnasmata*, whom G. suggests may have been Appian's teacher) and also in the considerable number of speeches contained in the work (pp. XXIII–XLIV). On these last, G. makes the shrewd and interesting observation that the Carthaginian speeches are in many cases given to notables who present a moderate position, in contrast to the views of the general populace in Carthage, who are represented as much more hostile to the Romans, which in the last episode leading to the decision to destroy the city allows the presentation of the Roman action as both justified and perfidious.

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The longest part of G.'s introductory material in taken up with a discussion of the sources which Appian used for his work (pp. XLIV–CXXII). A scrupulous examination of the account Appian gives of the end of the second Punic war, compared with that of Dio Cassius and of the epitome of Dio in Zonaras, leads G. to conclude that both used a serious and well-informed source, whom he names tentatively as Coelius Antipater, but that both also had other sources, and that in Appian's case, this was a historian (or perhaps a biographer) very favourable to Scipio Africanus (pp. XLVI–LXXIII). A similar examination of the fragment preserved in *Rylands Papyrus* III.491 suggests to G. that this is from the annalistic history, written in Greek by Postumius Albinus in the second century B.C., and that this too was a source for Appian (pp. LXXIII–LXXIX). Similarities with Diodorus' account of the same period indicate the use of yet another annalist, Cincius Alimentus, who had been a captive of Hannibal (pp. LXXIX–LXXXVII). A further exploration, conducted in great detail, of the various versions of the final attack on Carthage at the end of the third Punic war provide evidence for Appian's reading of Polybius, Fannius, and Livy, or the sources Livy himself used. The value of these analyses is not so much that G. attempts to identify Appian's sources by name as that he displays clearly the richness of the historical record on which he was able to draw, the complexity of the way in which he used these resources, and the skill with which he constructed from them a new history. This is a major contribution to the re-evaluation of Appian as historian.

The text and translation are supplemented (as is usual in the Budé series) with complementary notes by Serge Lancel, well known for his work on Carthage and Carthaginian history. These are a valuable contribution, and the use of a specialist historian far outweighs the perhaps inevitable discrepancies of view that occasionally occur between Lancel and G. (notably over the topography of the final attack on Carthage in 146 B.C., to which attention is drawn in the introduction at p. CXXXIII). Indeed, this is an excellent volume, and the pleasure of its use is only slightly diminished by the irritation caused by the awkward layout of the complementary notes (to be found partly on the page of text concerned and partly at the back of the book) and with discrepancies in typography (chapter numbers are given in Roman figures in the text, but are always represented in bold Arabic numbers in the introduction and notes; and the careful numeration of headings in the introduction is confused by the use of the wrong type-style for a heading on p. LXXXVII). These are minor matters, however, and the volume is a fine addition to other earlier editions of Appian in the series, and promises well for its successors.

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APPIAN ON THE MITHRIDATIC WAR

P. GOUKOWSKY: *Appien:* Histoire romaine. *Tome vii, livre xii. La guerre de Mithridate* (Collection des Universités de France publiée sous le patronage de l'Association Guillaume Budé). Pp. clxxxvi + 254, maps. Paris: Les Belles Lettres, 2001. Cased, frs. 420. ISBN: 2-251-00491-2.

This is a big Budé, not just the text, translation, and few additional notes we often associate with the series: indeed, the text and translation of Appian's *Mithridateios* take up a mere 124 pages, while there are 186 pages of introduction and another 130

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