undergraduates. The articles by Perilli and Parente, however, are undoubtedly for specialists only.

Royal Holloway, London TIMOTHY HILL

STRABO ON ASIA MINOR

A. M. Biraschi, G. Salmeri: *Strabone e l'Asia Minore*. (Incontri perugini di storia della storiografia antica e sul mondo antico, X.) Pp. 650. Naples: Edizioni Scientifiche Italiane, 2000. Paper, L. 85,000. ISBN: 88-495-0151-X.

Major studies of Strabo have been appearing thick and fast in recent years. This very detailed and exhaustive examination of Strabo's Asia Minor books, based on a conference held at the University of Perugia, follows the recent monographs of Clarke, Dueck, and Engels. However, its origins extend back beyond any of these to the series of Strabonian studies published or edited by Biraschi since the early 1980s, notably *Strabone. Contributi allo studio della personalità e dell'opera* (Perugia, 1984), *Strabone e l'Italia antica* (Naples, 1988), and *Strabone e la Grecia* (Naples, 1994).

The first part of the book contains ten substantial papers which set out to establish and evaluate Strabo's perspective in the Asia Minor books as a whole. Glen Bowersock sets the scene with a discussion of the writer's *patria.* The two centres of Strabo's life within Asia Minor were the province of Pontus, the region of his birth, and the cities of the Maeander valley region, especially Nysa, where he received an important part of his education. This mirrors precisely the connections of the ruling family of the eastern Pontic region during Strabo's later years, Polemo, son of Zeno of Laodicea, and his wife Pythodoris, daughter of Pythodorus of Tralles. Bowersock's paper thus rehabilitates many, if not all, of the arguments of Ettore Pais in 1890, who claimed that the entire geography was written for and dedicated to Pythodoris in her Pontic capital in the early years of Tiberius. The remaining papers of the first part of the book are broader in focus but less precise in their conclusions. Four are concerned with Strabo's intellectual background. Paolo Desideri focuses on the men of letters who figure very prominently in Strabo's account of the cities of western Asia Minor; Biraschi is concerned with Strabo's relation to the Homeric traditions; Ambaglio analyses the use Strabo made of earlier historians, and suggests that his view of Asia Minor's past was articulated around four crucial episodes: the Trojan war, the conquests of Alexander, the division of the *oikumene* between the Parthians and the Romans, and the transformation of the Anatolian world that followed the defeat of Mithridates. Francesco Prontero argues that Strabo's grasp of the geographical organization of the world modified the views of Eratosthenes.

The next group of papers analyses some of the categories which lay behind Strabo's conception of the settlement of Asia Minor. They are concerned with settlement types (Laura Boffo), economic activity (Daniele Foraboschi), ethnicity and epichoric languages (Giovanni Salmeri), and the grades of civilization implied by different types of political organization (Francesco Trotta). These studies underline the enormous diversity of settlement and society in late Hellenistic Asia Minor. Strabo, having grown up in this milieu, took the diversity for granted and reflected it unselfconsciously. The diverse indigenous political and social structures of the region feature as prominently as those brought about by the processes of Hellenization and Romanization. Strabo

© Oxford University Press, 2002

https://doi.org/10.1093/cr/52.2.270 Published online by Cambridge University Press

thus offers a uniquely valuable insider's view of the region's political and social anatomy. Roberto Nicolai's final paper in the first section of the book is a reminder of the numerous thorny problems in the textual tradition of Strabo, which are often a genuine obstacle to understanding what he meant to say.

The second part of the book contains nine papers devoted to Strabo's treatment of individual regions. They are prefaced by Enrico Bellucci's important study of the criteria by which Strabo recognized the ethnic differentiation of the population, which supplements Salmeri's preceding discussion of ethnicity and language. These papers are not simply concerned to elucidate Strabo's account, but are valuable contributions to the regional study of Asia Minor as a whole. John Thornton provides what is effectively a short historical monograph on Lycia, and Domitilla Campanile's subtle study of Phrygia offers historical explanations of popular or proverbial wisdom about the region preserved by a range of classical authors. Another valuable piece is Silvia Panichi's clear and well-informed discussion of the neglected area of Cappadocia.

Giovanni Salmeri's concluding remarks place the volume within the tradition of Strabonian research since Casaubon's fundamental edition of 1587. In the absence of a detailed modern commentary of Strabo's Asia Minor books, this volume should be enormously valuable and helpful. The density and learning of the papers would have been well served by an index, and even more by an *index locorum*. Collectively the contributors are much more sympathetic to their author than Syme had been in his posthumously published *Anatolica* (1995). Two types of scholarly enquiry are needed to make sense of Strabo. One is to investigate his debt to his predecessors and to the traditions of geographical and historical writing from which he formed his own monumental project. The other is to relate what he has to say to the evidence on the ground. These two approaches correspond to Louis Robert's famous phrase, which is duly evoked in Salmeri's concluding essay, 'la terre et le papier'. In contrast to the approach to Strabo's Asia Minor books by British and German scholars over the last century, extending from J. G. C. Anderson to Christian Marek, who have based their studies on first-hand knowledge of Asia Minor itself, the emphasis in this volume is on 'le papier' at the expense of 'la terre'. Nevertheless, as well as being a major addition to the Strabo bibliography, this is the most important Italian study of Asia Minor in antiquity to have been published in the last generation.

University of Exeter STEPHEN MITCHELL

PAUSANIAS

S. E. Alcock, J. F. Cherry, J. Elsner (edd.): *Pausanias: Travel and Memory in Roman Greece*. Pp. xii + 379, ills. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001. Cased, £49. ISBN: 0-19-512816-8.

One of the many joys offered by this rich, sophisticated, and broad-ranging collection is reflection upon the changing but omnipresent rôle of Pausanias in Greek archaeology and topography in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. There was a time (at least until Wilamowitz weighed in) when Pausanias signified primarily as a rhetoric-free window onto the real Greek world, even if the precise nature of that reality was debated. How things have changed: future *Rezeptionsgeschichte*, no doubt, will find much to ponder in the 'literary' turn of contemporary Pausanian scholarship. For Jaś Elsner, in the opening chapter of this volume, the *Periegesis* is 'a wonderful text, which deserves to be read closely and carefully as a coherently

© Oxford University Press, 2002

https://doi.org/10.1093/cr/52.2.270 Published online by Cambridge University Press