

BOOK REVIEW

A Commentary on the Satires of Juvenal. By EDWARD COURTNEY. California Classical Studies No. 2. Berkeley: University of California, 2013. Pp. 570. ISBN 978-19-39926-029.

The University of California Press has now republished Edward Courtney's 1980 commentary, which is widely recognized as a valuable source for the study of Juvenal. The new publication, part of a series funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, is essentially the same as the earlier version; Courtney adds a brief introductory note (ix), saying it "would be impractical to bring this commentary up to date and correct its errors."

There are accordingly very few or minor changes to the original publication, one an addendum (45) to his original discussion (44) of G. Valla's 1486 ed. of Juvenal, wherein he says that "a commentary by Probus as far as 8.186; nothing is known of this Probus." In this 2013 addendum, Courtney says "Valla seems to have taken his 'Probus' from a Brescia manuscript; see Jocelyn CQ 35 (1985) 468 n. 179." On page 331, Courtney adds an indication that 7.231 "*ut legat* be emended to *callear*" with a reference to Courtney's brief article in *RFIC* 122, 1994, 139 [*RFIC* = *Rivista di filologia e di istruzione classica*].

The purpose for this republication is to make it available at the California Classical Studies sales site in both in print-on-demand and in electronic formats. The full PDF will be accessible "after an embargo period of two years... for free download at the open-access site" (D. Mastronarde). It is also available online through the UC Press. The print copy is a scanned copy of a corrected version using optical character recognition (OCR). Like the original commentary, it is based on the Oxford Classical Text edition of W. V. Clausen, with some modifications by Courtney (summarized 42-45). Because the book is so thick, the tight binding makes it difficult to work with as a reference text (one hates to break the binding to gain access to the information!) It is unfortunate that the publisher did not take this problem into consideration.

The value of the contents themselves has of course been long established, as an extensive and valuable commentary. I found that the online version is quite useful and accessible. If the publisher could find a way to loosen the binding, the paper volume would be a useful addition to one's library on Juvenal. As a teaching text, it is a fine supplement to the text of Juvenal (which is not included).

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