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HORACE  
ODES  
BOOK II

EDITED BY  
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## PREFACE

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I am most grateful to Philip Hardie, Michael Sharp and Cambridge University Press for commissioning this commentary and for their patience in waiting for it amid my many other duties and commitments, and to Philip (again) and Stephen Oakley for their valuable comments, editorial tolerance and kind guidance which considerably improved my text. At the copy-editing stage Muriel Hall ironed out many small wrinkles and I thank her warmly.

All commentaries on canonical works of Latin literature have a high tralatitious element, but a commentary on Horace *Odes* 2 must lean especially heavily on Nisbet and Hubbard's classic work of a generation ago (1978), cited in this commentary as N–H. Readers will find considerable erudition on many topics there which I have not repeated in full here. I have tried to indicate by explicit cross-references where its notes are especially important or controversial, but I have also added my own layer of analysis and interpretation and provided new and updated material. My personal debt to Robin Nisbet is even deeper, as I had the benefit of his notes and criticism on my draft commentaries on a number of poems before his death in May 2013, as well as of his advice and help over many years; for my tribute to him and his work see *Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the British Academy* XIII (2014) 365–82 (online at [www.britac.ac.uk/memoirs/](http://www.britac.ac.uk/memoirs/)).

Rapid increases in information technology since 1978 have eased the work of the commentator in a number of significant ways; some of us can still remember what it was like not to have tools with which the whole of Latin literature and the related scholarship could be instantly searched. I would like to mention especially the splendid Oslo database of conjectures on Horace now available freely online ([www.teks.tlab.uio.no/horace/](http://www.teks.tlab.uio.no/horace/)) and cited in the commentary as 'Oslo database', to which I am fortunate to have had access from its beginning (my thanks to Monika Asztalos for her kind help). The advent of the complete Oxford Latin Dictionary since N–H has allowed me to be economical with parallels, and I have generally only cited the Thesaurus Linguae Latinae where OLD needs supplementation. In terms of bibliography, I have been more concerned with publications later than N–H, since they list the major items published earlier, and debate has often moved on; a full listing of items on Horace for the period 1957–2007 can be found in Niklas Holzberg's excellent online

bibliography at [www.niklasholzberg.com/Bibliographien](http://www.niklasholzberg.com/Bibliographien), and for the period since 2007 at [www.annee-philologique.com](http://www.annee-philologique.com) (by subscription).

Crucial material support has come from Corpus Christi College, Oxford, which has generously granted regular sabbaticals and a term of unpaid research leave. I am also very grateful to two munificent US institutions: the Loeb Classical Library Foundation, whose trustees made a substantial grant which enabled me to begin the major work on this project in the academic year 2009–10 (with particular thanks to Richard Thomas), and to the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, that true paradise for scholars, which awarded me Membership and a generous Edwin C. and Elizabeth A. Whitehead Fellowship for January–March 2015 (with particular thanks to Angelos Chaniotis); the commentary was substantially completed in that splendid community. Material from the commentary in progress has been presented in various forms at the Scuola Superiore Normale di Pisa, the University of Cambridge, the University of Newcastle, the University of São Paulo (USP), the University of Campinas (UNICAMP), Columbia University, Princeton University, the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Virginia, Harvard University, the University of Texas at Austin, the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, and the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kraków. I am most grateful to all these audiences for helpful discussion and comment, especially to Gian Biagio Conte at Pisa for inviting me to give the *Lezioni Comparesi* in 2010, to Denis Feeney and his graduate class on the *Odes* in Princeton in Spring Term 2015, to Richard Thomas and Albert Henrichs at Harvard, to David Kovacs and Tony Woodman at Virginia and to Jerzy Danielewicz in Kraków (the last particularly for his metrical advice).

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S. J. H.  
October 2015

## REFERENCES AND ABBREVIATIONS

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The commentary makes use of the following abbreviations for other commentaries on the *Odes*; full publication details are to be found in Works Cited.

F–C	Fedeli and Ciccarelli 2008
K–H	Kiessling and Heinze 1930
Mayer	Mayer 2012
N–H I	Nisbet and Hubbard 1970 (NB ‘N–H I.xiii’ = ‘p. xiii of the introduction to Nisbet and Hubbard 1970’, ‘N–H on 1.13.1’ = ‘Nisbet and Hubbard’s note on <i>Odes</i> 1.13.1’)
N–H II	Nisbet and Hubbard 1978
N–R	Nisbet and Rudd 2004
Porphyrio	Holder 1894 (see Diederich 1999)
Ps.-Acro	Keller 1902 (see Kalinina 2007)
Quinn	Quinn 1980
Syndikus	Syndikus 2001
Thomas	Thomas 2011

Standard commentaries on other texts are cited by the author’s name only (e.g. ‘Harrison on Virg. *A.* 10.1’); full details are again to be found in Works Cited. Abbreviations for authors and text collections generally follow the style of the *Oxford Latin Dictionary* (2nd edn, 2012 = *OLD*) and Liddell, Scott and Jones (9th edn, 1940 = *LSJ*, with some updating); other abbreviations use the style of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* (4th edn, 2012 = *OCD*). In the text of the commentary, ‘Introduction’ means this introduction, while ‘introduction above’ means the introduction to the poem under commentary. ‘Classical Latin’ means the period covered by *OLD* and the PHI database (= Packard Humanities Institute, online at <http://latin.packard.org/about/>), i.e. until c.200 CE.