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978-1-108-00964-5 - On Editing Aeschylus: A Criticism
Walter Headlam
Frontmatter
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On Editing Aeschylus

This is an early publication (1891) by the highly regarded classical scholar and poet Walter George Headlam (1866–1908). Headlam, who taught at King's College, Cambridge, was deeply interested in textual criticism and dedicated much of his short life to translating and interpreting the works of Aeschylus, and even thirty years after his untimely death his notes formed the basis for an influential edition of the *Oresteia*. Although Headlam's subtitle does not name the target of his 'criticism', this book is in fact an impassioned attack on the style and method of editing employed by A. W. Verrall in *Seven Against Thebes* in 1887, and *Agamemnon* in 1889. Headlam condemns Verrall's 'rationalist' methods which in his view 'required outspoken criticism'. The young Headlam painstakingly dissects Verrall's work on Aeschylus, pointing out the errors, inconsistencies and shortcomings of the texts and proposing his own editorial methods.

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ON EDITING AESCHYLUS

A Criticism

BY

WALTER HEADLAM M.A.

FELLOW OF KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

London

DAVID NUTT 270 AND 271 STRAND

1891

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Πείρά τοι μαθήσιος ἀρχά.
ALCMAN.

Δόξα μὲν ἀνθρώποισι κακὸν μέγα, πείρα δ' ἄριστον
πολλοὶ ἀπείρητοι δόξαν ἔχουσ' ἀγαθῶν.
THEOGNIS.

Τὸ διδάσασθαι δέ τοι
εἰδότει ῥάτερον· ἄγνωμον δὲ τὸ μὴ προμαθεῖν
κουφότεραι γὰρ ἀπειράτων φρένες.
PINDAR.

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CORRIGENDUM.

P. 69 note : *for* “Diphilus *fr.* 10” *read* “Diphilus *fr.* 86.”

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OF the editions by which I have quoted it is necessary to mention the following :

Aeschylus : Wecklein, 1885.

„ for the readings of later MSS., Hermann.

Euripides : Kirchhoff, 1855 (text and apparatus).

Pindar etc. : Bergk, *Poetae Lyrici Graeci*.

Fragments of Tragedy : Nauck, 1889.

„ „ Attic Comedy : Kock, 1880—1888.

Callimachus : Schneider, 1870—1873.

Theocritus, Bion, Moschus : H. L. Ahrens, 1884.

Where I refer to pages, the references (unless otherwise indicated) are to the pages of this book. I have added an Index of the chief matters.