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D. W. GOODING

*Reader in Classics*

*The Queen's University of Belfast*



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## PREFACE

This monograph had its first beginnings in the Grinfield Lectures on the Septuagint in the University of Oxford for 1968–9. The lectures, worked over and enlarged, were in 1971 submitted to the Society for Old Testament Study for inclusion in its monograph series. They were accepted in 1972 for publication in 1974, but unforeseen economic and organisational difficulties have delayed publication until 1976. Now that publication has at length been achieved, it renews in me most grateful memories of all those who by their friendship, hospitality, and stimulating conversation made my tenure of the Grinfield Lectureship so thoroughly enjoyable. In this connection the Revd Dr H. F. D. Sparks is especially to be thanked for his constant encouragement and the helpful criticisms and suggestions which he made after each of the lectures.

The Revd Drs J. A. Emerton and R. E. Clements have both laboured long reading the typescript and negotiating its acceptance into the Society's monograph series. For accepting the book and for their administrative labours I thank them gratefully.

I acknowledge here also my longstanding debt to Mrs Rosa Martin, Librarian of the Presbyterian College, Belfast. With her admirable grasp of the Library's rules she is never at a loss to suggest highly convenient ways of borrowing books for unconscionably long periods of time. It is right that she should be praised.

Patient colleagues, generous with their time, have toiled for me at proof-reading. I record their names with gratitude: Mr D. F. Payne, Dr R. J. A. Talbert, Dr G. J. Wenham. The officers of the Cambridge University Press with their customary expertise have not only achieved their usual standard of excellence, but have immensely lightened my task. Let them too be thanked and praised.

D. W. GOODING

*The Queen's University, Belfast*

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The Publisher and author are grateful to Württembergische Bibelanstalt, Stuttgart, for permission to reproduce the text of the miscellanies (2 Kings: 35<sup>a-k</sup>, 46<sup>a-1</sup>) from A. Rahlfs's edition, *Septuaginta id est Vetus Testamentum Graece Juxta LXX Interpretes* (1935).