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THE EARLY AGE  
OF  
GREECE

IN TWO VOLUMES  
VOLUME I

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# THE EARLY AGE OF GREECE

By

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VOLUME I

Second Impression

*ὅπη ἂν ὁ λόγος ὥσπερ πνεῦμα φέρη, ταύτην λέειν.*  
Plato, *Rep.* 349 D.

CAMBRIDGE  
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
1931

Cambridge University Press  
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**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

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[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781107434585](http://www.cambridge.org/9781107434585)

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First edition 1901

First published 1901

Reprinted 1931

First paperback edition 2014

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

ISBN 978-1-107-43458-5 Paperback

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*To*

MY FRIEND

JAMES GEORGE FRAZER  
M.A., Hon. D.C.L., Hon. LL.D., Hon. Litt.D.

FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE

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## PREFACE

### TO THE FIRST EDITION

THE present work is an attempt to aid in the solution of some of the chief problems of early Greek history by the employment of the inductive method. The nature of the questions involved rendered it necessary to deal to a considerable extent with the early archaeology and ethnology of the upper Balkan peninsula central Europe and Italy.

The first volume treats of the monumental, traditional and linguistic aspects of the subject, whilst the second volume, which is now in the press and will shortly be issued, will chiefly deal with institutions and religion.

The general principles developed in the present work have already been put forward before several learned bodies and in several journals; the references to these publications are given at the beginning of each chapter in which the particular doctrine has been expanded.

I have been encouraged to proceed with my investigations by the favourable reception which my first attempts have received from men so eminent in their own departments as M. Salomon Reinach, Sir John Evans, Prof. Flinders Petrie, and Dr Munro, and by the fact that discoveries since made, such as those at Phylákopi, seem to confirm the views which I had ventured to put forward.

I have endeavoured to present in as small a compass as possible the data available for deciding between the claims of the various races, whose claims to be the creators of the Mycenaean civilization have been strongly urged or casually suggested.

No one is more conscious of the many shortcomings of this work than its author. Plentiful as the blemishes are they would have been far more numerous had it not been for the kindness of many friends. The chapter on The Homeric Dialect has had the benefit of the keen criticism of Prof. Conway, Litt.D., University College, Cardiff, late Fellow of Gonville and Caius College; Prof. Waldstein has generously communicated to me some of the unpublished results of his most important excavations at the Heraeum of Argos, and permitted me to reproduce from his photographs several of the objects there found; Miss Boyd of the American School at Athens has most kindly allowed me to refer to her important finds in Crete; Mr Cecil H. Smith, Assistant-Keeper of the Greek and Roman Antiquities in the British Museum, sent me proof-sheets of his article on Phylákopi, and lent me the photograph from which is taken my illustration of the remarkable bronze statuette found by him at that place; Mr R. C. Bosanquet, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, Director of the British School at Athens, lent me the photograph from which I have produced the head of a most interesting Island statuette presented by him to the Ashmolean Museum; Mr A. J. Evans, Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, has generously supplied me with much information, and allowed me to study the drawings of his splendid discoveries at Cnossus; Mr J. L. Myres, M.A., Senior Student and Lecturer of Christ Church, Oxford, has kindly permitted me to see in advance the sheets of his Catalogue of the Cyprus Museum; the Rev. C. H. W. Johns, M.A., Queens' College, Cambridge, and Mr F. C. Burkitt, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, have given me important aid in my discussion respecting the use of iron among the Semites; Mr George Coffey, M.A., Keeper of the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy, has given me much kind help and information respecting Irish fibulae; Mr Charles Hose, Hon. D.Sc., Jesus



## PREFACE

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College, Cambridge, Resident of Baram, Sarawak, Mr Walter W. Skeat, M.A., Christ's College, Cambridge, and Col. R. C. Temple, C.I.E., Trinity Hall, Cambridge, High Commissioner of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, have given me very valuable unpublished information on various points.

I am also indebted for various suggestions and references to Mr J. G. Frazer, M.A., Hon. D.C.L., etc., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, Mr Hugh Seebohm of Hitchin, Mr Leonard Whibley, M.A., Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge, University Lecturer in Ancient History, Mr R. A. Neil, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of Pembroke College, Cambridge, University Lecturer in Sanskrit, Mr H. M. Chadwick, M.A., Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge, Prof. Bevan, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, Mr W. T. Lendrum, M.A., Fellow and Lecturer of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, Miss Harrison, Hon. LL.D., Fellow of Newnham College, Mr A. B. Cook, Fellow and Lecturer of Queens' College, Cambridge, Mr Clement Gutch, M.A., King's College, Cambridge, and others.

The Rev. J. G. Clark, M.A. (Gonville and Caius College), Anglesey Abbey, Cambs., has kindly made drawings of various objects figured in the work.

I have to thank Sir John Evans, F.R.S., etc., for an electrotype of his block of the Coveney Shield, the firm of Mr John Murray for permission (through Mr A. H. H. Murray, M.A., Gonville and Caius College) to reproduce a number of the illustrations from Schliemann's *Mycenae* and *Tiryns*, and the Society of Scottish Antiquaries for the use of their block of the Yetholme Shield.

I gladly take this opportunity of expressing my best thanks to Dr A. S. Murray, Keeper of the Greek and Roman Antiquities in the British Museum, and to Mr A. H. Smith, M.A., and Mr H. B. Walters, M.A., of the same department, and

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to Mr C. H. Read, Keeper of the Department of Mediaeval Antiquities and Ethnology, and his assistants, for the unfailing kindness which I have experienced at their hands for many years. Finally I must thank the Syndics of the University Press for undertaking the publication of this *opus plenum periculosae aleae*.

FEN DITTON, CAMBRIDGE.  
*St Patrick's Day*, 1901.

## NOTE ON THE SECOND IMPRESSION

IN this impression no alterations have been made except the correction of a few small verbal inaccuracies and misprints noted by the author in his own copy of the book.

1931

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