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*Plate I*



The Winged Victory of Samothrace

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# THE ANCIENT WORLD

*A BEGINNING*

by

T. R. GLOVER



The Labarum

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## PREFACE

**T**HIS BOOK is written to enlist recruits for a study which the writer feels to be of supreme interest—the study of the opening chapters of a story still being unfolded. For many years he has been teaching Ancient History, and reading it for many more; and he hopes that he has so written that at least some readers will feel with him the appeal of the subject. The book is not a text-book for any known examination. Battles, dates and constitutions have been omitted, where they seemed of minor significance in the march of events. The writer has so far followed the example of ancient historians, that he has ignored politicians, permitted himself to digress, and repeated that the cause is as important to learn as the event. He has tried to keep a firm hold upon the thread of the story; but he has remembered that it is a story of men, and he has lingered at times to hear what they say and to give it (in English) to the reader. Legend, drama, art, adventure—the swallow-songs of the Rhodian children, the life of Alexandria as shown in the papyri, the beginnings of the Christian Church, the characters of men—all these belong to the story; and much more. But this is an outline merely. Readers who would wish a somewhat fuller treatment may find it in the *Cambridge Ancient History*.

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