

ROBERT SEYMOUR CONWAY.

THE death of Dr. Conway will be mourned by all friends of classical studies. It is impossible to give in these few lines an adequate picture of that many-sided personality and of the work which he accomplished in so many directions.

Robert Seymour Conway was educated at the City of London School; at Gonville and Caius College, of which he became a Fellow; and in Germany, under Brugmann. After lecturing at Newnham College he was appointed Professor of Latin at Cardiff, and ten years later at Manchester, whence he retired in 1929, at the age of sixty-five. In the last fifteen years of his life honours fell thick upon him, and in 1927 he received the distinction which he perhaps prized most of all, the presidency of the Classical Association. A few years ago he gave by invitation a series of lectures in Australia. The United States of America claimed him in the same capacity on three occasions.

A full list of his writings would occupy several columns. His *Italic Dialects* at once took its place beside the work of von Planta as marking a new era in the study of the subject. The great critical edition of Livy was begun in conjunction with Professor Flamstead Walters. Two volumes appeared under their joint care and a third volume under Conway's editorship. Professor S. K. Johnson was assumed as co-editor after the death of Walters, and the remainder of the Third Decade is now in the press. This edition, the fruit of immense labour, has been widely acclaimed as putting the critical study of Livy on a new and secure basis. Volumes of essays appeared in 1921, 1928, 1931 and 1933. The title of the first of these volumes, *New Studies of a Great Inheritance*, is a true indication of the faith which animated all Conway's work. His continued interest in the ethnography of ancient Italy showed itself in his contributions to the *Cambridge Ancient History*, the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, and other publications. A comprehensive work on the language and inscriptions of the Veneti has long been ready, and

will soon be published under the auspices of the British Academy.

These and his other publications would be a sufficient monument for most men, but in the eyes of those who have been acquainted with Conway's restless activity they will scarcely seem to constitute the main part of his achievements. He was one of the founders of the Classical Association, and no one has devoted more time and zeal to the objects for which it was founded. A glance at the annual *Proceedings* will show how his influence permeated the deliberations and enterprises of the Association. It was only a just recognition of his devotion to the cause when he was elected President. In this journal a special word of acknowledgment is due to the services which he rendered as a member of the Classical Journals Board. Only those who have served with him know how zealously he watched over the progress of the *Classical Quarterly* and the *Classical Review*. In all his busy life he never grudged the time and trouble of a journey to London for this purpose.

Of his remarkable work in Manchester the present writer, who has known it at close quarters, would fain say much more than is here possible. Not content with founding a local branch of the Classical Association, Conway gave the community a real interest in it, especially by promoting the excavation of Roman sites in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, and by taking measures to preserve and record the various remains. As a university teacher he showed conspicuous gifts. He made his students feel that Latin studies were worth the devotion of a lifetime. Those who did not treat them so might cower before his withering gaze and strident rebuke, but in the end they were likely to fall under the fascination of this man whose earnestness was not untinged with humour, and who could present to their astonished eyes such unsuspected genius and beauty in Virgil and Horace, and even in the Latin language itself. He instituted a 'Virgil Discussion Class,' in

which generations of undergraduates found not only a valuable training but a lasting inspiration. During the twenty-six years of his Manchester professorship he took a keen interest in the work of the schools and in the policy and activities of the Northern Universities Joint Matriculation Board. His passion for education, and especially his labours as an 'Ambassador of Rome,' have been a potent influence in the north of England. As a public lecturer he interested both the scholar and the 'plain man.' His favourite subjects were Cicero, Livy, and the Augustan poets, above all Virgil.

No one has ever loved Virgil more devotedly. With characteristic courage and optimism he began in his old age a nominal revision of Conington, which would in reality have been a new work. This, like his Livy, must now pass into other hands, but it is cheering to know that he has left behind him a complete commentary on *Aeneid* I. His published lectures on various aspects of

Virgil's art and personality, valuable though they are, do not give full scope for the display of his interpretative powers. They also derive weakness as well as strength from the fact that they were originally composed for oral delivery: some passages are less convincing in cold print than they were in the warm glow of the lecture-room. Nevertheless, no reader of these lectures can fail to be stimulated by their vigorous freshness and deeply impressed by the sympathetic insight which pervades them.

Nil actum credens cum quid superesset agendum might serve as the motto of Conway's life. He was for ever setting something in motion. If in his zeal he sometimes impinged rather violently upon less impulsive persons, even they had to admit that he was a vitalizing force as well as a generous opponent. He was a warm-hearted friend, and was never happier than when helping younger people on the road to success.

A.

VARIA.

I.

HESIOD, *Theogony* 610.

ὅς δέ κε τέτμη ἀταρτηροῦ γενέθλης

'Whosoever hath gotten an evil family,' Mair: 'whoever happens to have mischievous children,' Evelyn-White. But Hesiod is discussing *wives*. There are advantages, and disadvantages, in having no wife at all: advantages, and disadvantages, in having a good wife. But what if one has a bad wife? If *γενέθλης* means 'family,' this possibility is ignored. Yet Hesiod on Marriage without the Termagant Wife is *Hamlet* without the Prince of Denmark. *γενέθλης* can mean 'stock,' 'breed': and Hesiod surely means 'whoever lights on an evil breed in choosing a partner.' (Mazon renders, rightly, 's'il tombe sur une espèce folle.')

AESCH. *Ag.* 884-5ὥστε σύγγονον
βροτοῖσι τὸν πεσόντα λακτίσαι πλέον.

(1) Comparative *ὥστε* occurs at least fifty-five times in the tragedians: it is

mostly found in similes, and naturally so, since it is a survival of the Homeric *ὡς τε*, where *τε* is 'epic,' and probably conveys the idea of habitual occurrence (Wentzel and Monro). The verb is either expressed, in the indicative, or supplied from the context. (2) *ὥστε* giving a causal colour to a participial clause occurs at least twenty times in Herodotus and twice in Thucydides (no doubt under Herodotean influence).

What verb are we to supply with *ὥστε* in *Ag.* 884, *ἐστὶ* or *ὄν*? The sense required is causal, 'Quippe cum innatum sit hominibus iacentem conculcare.' The ellipse of *ὄν* after *ὡς* would be possible (cf. *X. Cyr.* V i. 13 *σὺ πρῶτος, ὡς οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον* (sc. *ὄν*) *τὸ κλέπτειν, αἰτιᾷ τὸν κλέπτοντα*, and see further Kühner-Gerth ii. 102 and Stallbaum on *Pl. Gorg.* 495c.). That no example is to be found of a similar ellipse after *ὥστε* is not perhaps a strong objection: *ὥστε σύγγονον* for *ὥστε σύγγονον ὄν* might pass muster in Herodotus. A far more serious difficulty is that causal *ὥστε* with participle