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F. L. Müller (ed.): Herodian: Geschichte des Kaisertums nach Marc Aurel: griechisch und deutsch: mit Einleitung, Anmerkungen und Namenindex. Pp. 359. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner, 1996. Paper, DM 144. ISBN: 3-515-6862-7.

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Following his recent versions of Eutropius and Vegetius (see pp. 272-3 below), M.'s main aim in this edition of Herodian is the provision of an up-to-date German translation, filling the gap in recent modern language versions. In this M. succeeds perfectly well, with the facingpage translation set against the Greek text. This text relies heavily on earlier editions, with apparatus concentrated in six pages (pp. 27-32), listing with short comments divergences from Stavenhagen's 1922 Teubner edition. The introduction gives brief and fairly orthodox coverage of the main issues and controversies, such as H.'s date and status, and his work's perspective and sources; for instance, M. cautiously adopts a conventional view in placing the composition of the history in the reign of Philip, although Decius or even Gallienus have their advocates (see now H. Sidebottom, Antiquité Classique 66 [1997], 271-6). The notes provide concise stylistic and historical comments, with supporting ancient and modern references, followed by a useful bibliography of editions, translations, and secondary works, and a Greek name index. None of this pretends to be exhaustive, although a number of interesting supplements to notes and bibliography can be suggested. For instance, H. appears to be confirmed in his assertion that Lucilla was Marcus' eldest (surviving) daughter (1.8.3; A. R. Birley, Marcus Aurelius: A Biography [London, 1987], p. 247); epigraphy has added to the evidence for the battle of Immae (5.4.6-7; J.-C. Balty, JRS 78 [1988], 100, referring to a tombstone of a soldier killed in the battle), and for the disturbances in Alexandria under Caracalla (4.9.4-8; C. Bruun, Arctos 29 [1995], 9-27; probably too recent for this edition); and Fergus Millar now gives an excellent discussion of 'Elagabal and Emesa', with his examination of 5.3.2-5 (The Roman Near East 31 BC-AD 337 [Cambridge, MA and London, 1993], pp. 300-9). However, in providing a usable text and translation of H., M. has done German readers at least a signal service, although English-speakers are hardly likely to abandon Whittaker's fine Loeb set. The appearance of M.'s edition is certainly timely in urging us to consider Herodian afresh, given the publication of three substantial essays on H. in a recent volume of Aufstieg und Niedergang (2.34.4 [1998], 2775–952). H. may still disappoint many modern expectations of history, but he surely provided for his Greek audience a historical message and literary style they found congenial.

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