

LEE FRATANTUONO (ed.), *Tacitus. Annals XVI*. Bloomsbury Latin Texts. London-Oxford-New York: Bloomsbury Academy, 2017, xii+184 pp., \$20.95 (pb), ISBN 978-1-350-02351-2.

Lee Fratantuono is Professor of Classics at Ohio Wesleyan University, in Delaware, Ohio, a few kilometers north of Columbus, the capital of the state and the home of The Ohio State University, one of the largest universities in the United States with a library of equal size and quality. He has published school editions intended for college students, two on Vergil, one on Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. The present edition is his first on a prose author.

Tacitus' narrative includes some of his most famous passages and people: the continued debasement of the Emperor Nero, the mention of Vespasian, who will play a large role in Rome's future, the *arbiter elegantiae* C. Petronius' suicide, the forced deaths of Thrasea Paetus and Barea Soranus, and the general despair in a state controlled by Nero and his lackey Tigellinus.

Let me say at the beginning that the editor's work is splendid. He elucidates everything, event, and person fully and precisely. Reading the text is an examination of Roman history and the variety and precision of the Latin language. The notes include many references to other scholars' works so that the reader can pursue items of interest.

Frantantuono is to be congratulated. But it is a rare book which proves to be almost perfect, and, alas, I have noted a fair number of typos or other errors. I may also suggest that reference to the essay on Nero in *De Imperatoribus Romanis*, which I wrote in 2006, could have been included. *DIR* is a valuable aid to all students of Roman history. I turn now to the corrections.

- p. 18, chap. 9, first line, "Silano"
- p. 58, last line, "restored"
- p. 94, last line, "apace"
- p. 95, middle, "C. Star" (should this be C. Starr?)
- p. 96, praefereantia "Yardley"
- p. 101, line 3, "sophisticated"?
- p. 107, line 3 of quotation, "ludi"
- p. 109, line 3, "had been added"
  - heading of Chapter 22, "Cossutianus"
- p. 114, perverterint quote, line 5, remove first *is*
- p. 117, "Tiridates", line 4 from bottom, "p." for "by"
  - Damon title, "Intestinum"

- p. 120, “aspiceret”, end of line 3, “senate would hear”
- p. 123, “cohibuit spiritus,” “to” restrain
- p. 129, “Paconium,” sixth line from bottom, remove first “in”
- p. 148, “intentione,” line 2, “his”

HERBERT W. BENARIO  
Emory University  
hwbenario@yahoo.com