GREECE
Zeus and the Muses are shown in the upper part of the relief upon a mountain side, and Apollo stands in a cave. Beside him is the omphalos or sacred stone of Delphi. On the right is a statue of a poet with a tripod. In the lowest row Homer is enthroned between figures of Iliad and Odyssey. He is crowned by Time and the World; figures of Myth, History, Poetry, Tragedy, Comedy, and other personifications are making an offering.

The relief was probably dedicated by a poet who had won a tripod in a contest, and had derived his inspiration from Homer. It is inscribed with the names of the sculptor Archelaus, son of Apollonios of Priene. 3rd century B.C. British Museum.
PREFACE TO THE PAPERBACK EDITION

This volume contains all of the material on Greece included in Rostovtzeff's *A History of the Ancient World*; that is, Chapters XII through XXVI and parts of Chapters VI and VII. It also seemed advisable to reprint here the two introductory chapters (I and II) of Rostovtzeff's work.

Here and there small changes were made to keep the book abreast of new discoveries. A page was added at the beginning of the book to give some idea of the earliest civilization in Greece, a period which was hardly known at the time of the Second Edition (1930). But the editor never forgot that this was the work of his teacher, and not his own. He deleted statements made doubtful by new evidence but avoided introducing new views or judgments. For the same reason, he partly rewrote Chapters XXI-XXVI (now XIV-XVII) to bring them into agreement with Rostovtzeff's *Social and Economic History of the Hellenistic World*, published in 1941.

Mrs. M. Rostovtzeff kindly helped to choose illustrations from the plates of the Second Edition. Some illustrations have been added, the bibliography has been compiled anew, and the chronology revised. The redrawn maps now exhibit almost all the geographical names mentioned in the text, and only those names.

May 1962

E. J. B.
PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

This book was planned and written between 1921 and 1923 at Madison (Wisconsin). It is a course of lectures on Ancient History which I gave yearly for nearly five years to the Freshmen of Wisconsin University, and which I am now giving, in a slightly altered form, to the Sophomores of Yale University. For publication in the shape of a book, these lectures of course have been revised, corrected, and supplemented.

My 'Outline of Ancient History' was not written merely as a text-book for the use of students. My chief object was to collect therein those fundamental ideas and views, concerning the main problems of ancient history, which I had gained from long years spent on the study of the subject. To give to this work a strictly scientific form would have required too much time, and also too great sacrifices on the part of the publishers. And further, it is too late for me to think now of a large and complicated work of the kind. I consider it more useful to devote what remains to me of life to work of a more specialist nature. For this reason I publish my book without scientific apparatus, endeavouring merely to make the exposition as simple and clear as possible. Published in such a shape, my book may serve as a text-book for students beginning the subject, and also may be read by those who wish to acquaint themselves with the general course of development in the ancient world.

In composing a brief outline of the subject, the chief difficulty was the selection and distribution of the matter. We know, of
course, much more about the ancient world than is here set forth. It was difficult, also, to assign the right space to each epoch in the development of antiquity, and to each aspect of that development. My own interests and studies have been directed, and are still directed, to certain subjects in particular—the East, the Hellenistic Age, and the Roman Empire—and to the problems connected with the history of those periods, whether economic or social or cultural. But I have done all I could to prevent the matters in which I am specially interested from being too prominent, and have tried to allot due space to the history of the Greek cities and republican Rome, as also to the political and military history of the ancient world in general.

How far I have been successful in this attempt, it is not for me to judge.

This 'Outline', as has been said already, does not contain references either to the ancient sources or to the works of modern scholars. This limitation was made necessary for me by the nature of my book. In general, I only refer to sources where the course of my narrative seems to require it. The most important modern works on the subject are enumerated in a short bibliography appended to the book; and there I mention also such English books as give a good summary of our knowledge in an easily accessible form. I have given this preference to English books, because my own book, in its English version, is intended mainly for English and American readers and students.

I recognize the very great importance of good maps for historical works. But unfortunately I am not a specialist in historical cartography or cartography generally, and I cannot myself make maps. I have been obliged therefore to be content with certain maps borrowed from other works—such maps as I considered most necessary to explain the narrative.

An archaeologist myself, I recognize the immense power of archaeological material to throw light upon antiquity. I have therefore devoted much time and pains to the selection of such material for the illustration of my book. I have been much helped in this matter by my friends Mr. B. Ashmole, Mr. J. D. Beazley, and Mr. H. Mattingly; the last has helped me specially
with coins. In the choice of these illustrations, my object has not been merely to amuse and entertain my readers.

The soul of a people is just as clearly reflected in its literature as in its art. I have endeavoured to make due use of ancient literature in the course of my text; but extracts can give no idea of its real character and real greatness. Mere quotations from any great literary work are lifeless things, and therefore I abstain from them. If any reader of my book wishes to understand the soul of the ancient world, he must read at the same time the great works of ancient literature either in the originals or in translations. If other teachers do me the honour of recommending my work as a text-book to their students, they must insist on this point—that the chief monuments of the literature, Eastern, Greek, and Roman, be read, in their entirety and not in extracts, at the same time.

With regard to the plastic arts my position was different. In this case it is possible to give a selection of the noblest productions of ancient art, and to give it in the same book in which this material is used by the historian. Moreover, each of these monuments not only throws light upon various aspects of the ancient mind, but brings before the eyes either the great characters of the age in portraits which are often remarkable, or separate scenes from life, as they were represented in the fancy of the ancient sculptors and painters. These considerations account for the large space allotted in my book to the monuments of ancient art. For the benefit of the reader I have given short descriptions of the separate monuments, but without references to modern publications of them. Some such references the reader will find in the bibliography.

Lastly, an immemorial custom allows an author, when concluding his preface, to thank those whose assistance has lightened the composition and publication of his book. Unfortunately, I cannot enumerate all those who have contributed to the illustration by sending me photographs or permitting me to use monuments already published: a list of the names would probably fill more than one page. One acknowledgement, however, must not be omitted. My requests, which were often not
too modest, did not meet with a single refusal from any European country or any institution in the United States. This is one more proof of the rapid restoration of international scientific relations, which the war seemed at one time to have shattered irrevocably. I must make a further exception and record the friendly assistance of my pupil, Miss T. S. Varsher, who spent much trouble and time in collecting photographs for my use in Rome and Italy.

My book appeared first at Berlin in the Russian language. I had not myself the time to make an English version of it; but fortune sent me an ideal translator in the person of Mr. J. D. Duff. Mr. Duff, who combines an exact knowledge of Russian with the training of a classical scholar, did not decline the thankless task of translating the work of an author who was too modest to translate it himself. I permit myself to offer him here my sincere and warm acknowledgements.

I must also mention here, not for the first time, my great obligations to the Clarendon Press and its conductors. It is due entirely to their courtesy that the book is provided with so large a number of excellent illustrations; and, further, I feel bound to acknowledge the assistance of the Oxford Press, both in the choice of a translator, and in procuring originals for illustration, and in the distribution of these illustrations upon the plates. A better publisher for my book I could not possibly have found.

I dedicate the book to the University of Wisconsin. In the darkest hour of my life the University of Wisconsin made it possible for me to resume my learned studies and carry them on without interruption. During five years which I spent there I met with constant kindness from my colleagues, and unvarying consideration, on the part of the University authorities, for my requests and my scientific occupations. Nor can I recall without a feeling of gratitude the sympathy of the students. Such an atmosphere lightened the toil of writing this book; and it was addressed in the first instance to the students of Wisconsin.

Vade felix libelle.

New Haven, Conn.                                             M. R.
Sept. 25, 1925.
PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

Since the publication of the first edition of this book four years ago a great deal of work has been done in the field of ancient history. Especially important are the new discoveries in the history of the Orient. Excavations in Egypt, in Mesopotamia, in Syria, and in Asia Minor have brought to light so much new material that it was impossible to leave the text and plates which deal with this period as they were compiled in 1925. The new edition, however, has been mainly printed from the stereo plates of the first edition (corrected for the purpose), and for that reason, and also because my publisher was obliged to call upon me for my corrections at short notice, I have been able to make fewer changes than I should have wished. In the sections dealing with Greece no changes have been made. To the plates of this section two new plates have been added, reproducing some archaic and hellenistic terra-cottas which bear on Greek life in the corresponding periods. The bibliography has been revised as far as it was possible in the short time at my disposal.

Oxford, M. R.

October, 1929.
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