Best Source For Analysis of Surviving Portions of Philodemus On / Against __ ??__ - PHerc 1005

Post by “Cassius” of December 12, 2020 at 12:51 PM

Thanks to Charles for finding this commentary on Sbordone's work by Cyril Bailey. We still need Sbordone's full work, or work by someone else more recent:

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something about the ‘Sophists’, that they were given to the pursuit of ‘pleasure’ in the superficial sense, but exhibited ‘indolence’ (δυσεργασία Col. XI. 17) in learning the true doctrines. There are references to sayings and doctrines of Epicurus (frs. f^1, f^2, etc.) including an abridgement of the τετραφάρμακος (Col. IV) and one of the few extant mentions of the παρέγκλισις (Col. VII. 3). We gather something of the relations of Philodemus to Zeno (fr. i^2, Col. VII, Col. IX), and can infer that Philodemus was as pleased with his own ‘originality’ as Epicurus was before him (fr. f^2). There are references to Nausiphanes (fr. x) and to the behaviour of Epicureans during the siege of Athens—in Sulla’s day, as Sbordone rightly maintains (Col. X). And the end of the Book seems to have interesting suggestions as to the education of budding philosophers. But there is little of real importance and one is left with the feeling that the Herculean labours of the editor have in the end produced a rather ridiculous mouse.

CYRIL BAILEY.

Review: Philodemus
Reviewed Work(s): Philodemi adversus [Sophistas] by F. Sbordone
Review by: Cyril Bailey
Source: *The Classical Review*, Dec., 1948, Vol. 62, No. 3/4 (Dec., 1948), pp. 133-134
Published by: Cambridge University Press on behalf of The Classical Association