Africa, the version that appears in *Hannibal's War* is to be preferred for precision, detail and clarity. Unlike the Penguin edition, *Hannibal's War* does not include a map of Greece, a serious omission. In addition, the Penguin also has a map of the layout of Syracuse, which is essential to a proper understanding of the Syracusan campaign. The lack of such a map in *Hannibal's War* is not entirely compensated for by the inclusion of the general layout of Rome in *Hannibal's War*, useful as this is, which the Penguin does not include.

The real disappointment among the maps in *Hannibal's War*, however, is the lack of detail given in the map of Italy. The Penguin edition splits this vital reference tool over three maps in order to give a clear and detailed presentation of major and minor cities which are referred to, rivers, tribal areas and major roads. *Hannibal’s War* gives only a small selection of places significant to the war, and leaves out a good many that are relevant. The perennially contested town of Casilimum is a case in point, the absence of which brings to light a glaring typographical error, the rendering of the River Volumnus as ‘Volumnus’. Despite several shortcomings, however, it fair to say that overall the maps in *Hannibal's War* are nearer and more attractively presented than those in the Penguin version, and that they suffice as a basic reference tool.

*Hannibal's War* really comes into its own with regard to commentary and explanatory notes. While it is true that the Loeb edition has very helpful footnotes, *Hannibal's War* benefits from the decades of scholarship that have occurred since the Loeb editions were published and from the fact that it is the only book in English to provide a continuous commentary for the whole decade in one volume. My only objection is that because these notes are presented at the end of the book, rather than as footnotes, it interrupts the flow of reading to follow them up. However, as the same argument can be used against using footnotes, this simply demonstrates that you cannot please everyone. Dexter Hoyos has had the difficult task of making the necessary comments and explanations without going into so much detail that the book becomes unmanageable, and he has done this extremely well. He briefly outlines supplementary information, objections, corrections and major trends in current thinking on the various subjects and directs the reader to relevant sources both ancient and modern.

The avowed aims of the *Oxford World's Classics* series is to bring readers closer to the world’s great literature and to provide aids that promote a better understanding of it. *Hannibal's War* has, I believe, met these goals. I heartily recommend it as an exciting introduction to Livy’s work for a general audience and an excellent resource for students.

Paula Johnson
University of Queensland


This is the final volume in a collection of Fergus Millar’s essays, and presents 18 essays exploring Rome’s expansion into the world of the eastern Mediterranean. It ranges over an extensive timescale, from the Hellenistic period to the 5th century AD, and once more demonstrates his familiarity with countless ancient sources of disparate origin, encompassing sources in Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Aramaic, and other Semitic languages. Millar’s outstanding ability is to use materials of very different types (literary, epigraphic, papyrological and archaeological) to draw out a picture which compels attention. As Hannah Cotton points out in her introduction, this volume bears a close relationship to Millar’s 1993 book *The Roman Near East, 31 BC – AD 337*, and many of the chapters represent preliminary studies for that book.

The first six essays are under the heading *The Hellenistic World and Rome*. Two essays on Hellenistic Syria and the Hellenisation of the Phoenician cities explore the turning points in the process of Hellenisation and question traditional views of the longer term impact of Alexander and his successors, at the same time emphasising the scarcity of evidence which might enable us to track these changes. These examine how cultural change is accomplished, and the impact of contemporary Hellenistic culture on an area that already had a complex past. It is in the Roman period that evidence of Greek culture ceases to be sporadic. These essays are followed by two biblical studies: a contextualisation of the book of Daniel and the background to the Maccabean revolution. Returning to more traditional Classical themes, the hexad is completed with an essay on Polybius and his position as a Greek in
the Roman world, which denies specifically Roman sympathies to the author, and with an assessment of the Greek city under Roman rule. These two studies display the same interest in competing cultures.

Part Two is entitled Rome and the East. It starts with a discussion of the trials of Jesus. Millar (M) analyses the discrepancies between the accounts in the gospels, denying the possibility of creating a digested version, and favouring the account of John. Even this preference is muted and provisional. There follows an examination of coloniae and their cultural integration in the Near East. M’s interest is in the process of founding Roman colonies or transforming existing native cities into colonies: here he attempts to assess the impact of Roman culture on developments in the East. Next he considers Latin epigraphy in an eastern context. M studies bilingual and trilingual documents from Palmyra with a view to comprehending the complex interrelationship between cultures there. He pleads for the importance of reading all these documents as a unified body of evidence which will enable us to understand the cultural interplay. He scrutinises the world of Zenobia and Aurelian and its cultural relations in an investigation of the resilience of local culture. This is an investigation of events in Roman Syria in the late 3rd century through the eyes of the Palmyran queen and a figure from Samosata, Paul. A study of the role of the so-called caravan cities probes the extent to which our picture of cities such as Palmyra and Petra as nodes in long distance trade may be valid. The rather incomplete evidence is reviewed very cautiously, and Palmyra alone is attributed secure definition as a ‘caravan city’. This section closes with an essay on the impact of Greco-Roman culture on the world of the East over a long time span: from Alexander to Shapur I.

The book concludes with a section headed ‘Jews and Others’. The first essay is a study of Porphyry which investigates elements of his biography to establish his identity and cultural orientation. Despite his birth at Tyre, M can find nothing oriental in his world-view, and points out his typically Hellenistic career pattern. In a related paper (a tribute to leading Jewish historian Menahem Stern who met his death at the hands of an Arab assassin) M provides a parallel study of Jewish and Arab identity. He explores ethnic identity in the Near East for the period between AD 325-450 through an investigation of language, religion and culture. A study of Dura-Europos in the Parthian period invites scholars to explore questions of identity and orientation from the rich archaeological evidence available. M shows how much is still to be done with this evidence. The last two chapters concern Jewish affairs. The penultimate chapter locates the Jews of the period AD 312-438 between paganism and Christianity in a wide-ranging study of the available evidence for relations between the three groups in the period after Constantine. Often the clearest insights into the topic come from the contemporary repressive legislation of the Christian emperors. The final essay in the collection examines the penetration of Christianity into the Jewish world. Here the topic is the Christian emperors, the Christian church and its interrelations with the Jews of the Diaspora between AD 379-450.

An epilogue by Millar himself, entitled ‘Re-drawing the Map?’, describes elements of M’s career trajectory, and discusses desirable modes of viewing the ancient world. Here he emphasizes the amount of detail which modern scholars can today bring to bear on historical problems without the effort that was required for previous generations, as a result of the technological revolution. For M, Islamic conquests in the Levant in the 7th century represent a reasonable terminal point for his conception of antiquity. His principal suggestion is that we are now in a position to counterbalance the dominant role of traditional ancient history with its focus on the Western half of the Mediterranean world. The book as a whole shows that M has already embarked on the process of redrawing the map.

Hugh Lindsay
University of Newcastle

R. Malcolm Errington, Roman Imperial Policy from Julian to Theodosius, University of North Carolina Press, 2006, 352pp.; 1 map, notes, bibliography and index. ISBN 0-8078-3038-0 (hb); US$45.00.

This is a book about the functioning of the Roman state in the relatively short period from the death of Julian in 363 to the death of Theodosius in 395. Since the work of A.H.M. Jones in 1964, there has been important progress in the interpretation and understanding of the working of the imperial apparatus, and Errington offers a careful reinterpretation of sources to build his picture. In a nutshell, this work applies Fergus Millar’s model of a reactive central government to this late 4th century context.

It is, as Errington states, a small book, and demonstrates its thesis by a series of studies of key elements of government structure. He starts with changes at the top. Now that the Constantinian dynasty had come to an end, it was
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