SUPPLEMENT SERIES: STUDIES IN ENGLISH PHILOLOGY, NUMBER 6. THE GEORGIC: A CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF THE VERGILIAN TYPE OF DIDACTIC POETRY

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649465446

Supplement Series: Studies in English Philology, Number 6. The Georgic: A Contribution to the Study of the Vergilian Type of Didactic Poetry by Marie Loretto Lilly

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MARIE LORETTO LILLY

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PREFACE

This contribution to the study of the Vergilian type of didactic poetry was begun at the Johns Hopkins University at the suggestion of Professor James W. Bright; the first chapters were written and published, in part fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

The subject that I have undertaken is a large one, leading into many almost untouched fields. The little that I have accomplished is hardly more than an introduction to the subject. I have regretted to leave unstudied so many developments of the georgic, particularly in Italian literature; however, altho I have worked badly, I have hoped that I might awaken in others, who can work well, an interest in this curious and long-neglected type of poetry.

I wish to make grateful acknowledgment to Mr. Hyder E. Rollins, who very kindly read for me at Harvard rare editions of John Lawrence's Paradise Regained, or The Art of Gardening, and Charles Clifford's The British Angler, interesting poems that would otherwise have been inaccessible to me; and to Professor Wilfrid P. Mustard, whose untiring aid has been invaluable to me, not only in the use of Greek and Latin materials, but at every other point connected with my work. Finally, I wish to thank Professor Bright, to whom I owe chiefly what little may be of worth in this study. My faults in workmanship, particularly in the last chapters written amidst many difficulties and interruptions, I regret, mainly, because they indicate so great a departure from the ideals of scholarship that I have acquired under his guidance and inspiration.

Dominican College, San Rafael, California. March 26, 1919.

