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We have here an opus impolitum, a draft left incomplete at the death of the author, and prepared for publication by D. M. MacDowell, author of Athenian Homicide Law in the Age of the Orators and editor of Andokides, On the Mysteries. Professor Harrison remained up-to-date to the end, and his final book will reward all who are interested in tracing the problems of Attic legal proceedings.

The first sixty-eight pages are a complete discussion of the courts, the jurisdictions, and the magistrates from archons to accountants. There follows a not particularly useful procedural prehistory based on Homer, Hesiod, and supposition. More firmly done is his exposition of the categories of procedure. Harrison, having delineated the types, takes the procedures themselves from initiation through ἀνάκρισις, the special pleas (παραγραφή, διαμαρτυρία, ἀντιγραφή), evidence (Aristotle’s πίστεις ἁτεχνοί: laws, witnesses, agreements, tortures, and oaths), the “hearing in chief,” penalties, execution of judgement, and remedies against judgement. The book then expounds a series of special procedures (δοκιμασία, εὔθυνα, ἀπογραφή, φάσις, ἀπαγωγή), procedures connected with the liturgies (σκηψις and ἀντίδοσις), and, in appendices, the manning of the courts, imprisonment, and the seizure of securities.

For the topics covered, the book is a useful and thorough reference. The evidence is presented, and where Harrison goes beyond it, there is always fair warning (e.g., “on a priori grounds, one would have expected that,” or “we may suppose ...”). The book is full of discussion of the finer points, and the discussion is honest and undogmatic. Harrison would clearly have been a fine fellow to discuss the Attic orators with: I am sorry I shall not have the chance; I am glad that his colleague preserved this book for all of us.

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