

Apollodorus

An Athenian grammarian, pupil of Aristarchus and Panaetius the Stoic, who lived about 140 B.C. He was a prolific and versatile writer. There is extant under his name a treatise on the gods and the heroic age, entitled *Βιβλιοθήκη*, a valuable authority on ancient mythology. Modern critics are of the opinion that, if genuine, it is an abridgment of a larger work by him.

Amongst other works by him of which only fragments remain, collected by Mueller, *Fragmenta Historicorum Graecorum*, may be mentioned: *Χρονικά*, a universal history from the fall of Troy to 144 B.C.; *Περὶ ἡγῆσις*, a gazetteer written in iambs; *Περὶ Νεῶν*, a work on the Homeric catalogue of ships; and a work on etymology (*Ἑτυμολογία*).

Diodorus Siculus

Greek historian . . . lived in times of Julius Caesar and Augustus. . . . The latest event mentioned by him belongs to the year 21 B.C. He asserts that he devoted thirty years to the composition of his history, and that he undertook frequent and dangerous journeys in prosecution of his historical researches. These assertions, however, find little credit with recent critics. The history, to which Diodorus gave the name (. . . "Historical Library"), consisted of forty books The faults of Diodorus arise partly from the nature of the undertaking, and the awkward form of annals into which he has thrown the historical portion of his narrative. He shows none of the critical faculties of the historian, merely setting down a number of unconnected details. His narrative contains frequent repetitions and contradictions, is without colouring, and monotonous; and his simple diction . . . enables us to detect in the narrative the undigested fragments of the materials which he employed. In spite of its defects, however, the *Bibliotheca* is of considerable value as to some extent supplying the loss of the works of older authors, from which it is compiled. Unfortunately, Diodorus does not always quote his authorities, but his general sources of information were - in history and chronology, Castor, Ephorus and Apollodorus; in geography Agatharchides and Artemidorus.

Tzetzes, John

Byzantine poet and grammarian, flourished at Constantinople during the 12th century A.D. Tzetzes has been described as a perfect specimen of the Byzantine pedant. . . . Owing to want of books, he was obliged to trust to his memory; hence he is to be used with caution. But he was a learned man. Of his numerous works the most important is the *Book of Histories*, usually called *Chiliades* ("thousands") The whole production suffers from an unnecessary display of learning, the total number of authors quoted being more than 400. . . . The *Iliaca*, an abridgment of and supplement to the *Iliad*, is divided into three parts - . . . containing the narrative from the birth of Paris to the return of the Greeks after the fall of Troy. . . . The Homeric *Allegories*, . . . are two didactic poems in which Homer and the Homeric theology are explained on euphemistic principles

Conon

Grammarian and mythographer, flourished at Rome in the time of Caesar and Augustus. . . . author of a collection of myths and legends, relating chiefly to the foundation of colonies. The work . . . contained 50 Narratives; an epitome, accompanied by brief criticisms, has been preserved in Photius The style is good, being founded on the best Attic models, and the whole is agreeable to read. Nicolaus of Damascus is said to have made considerable use of the work