Mit den vorgestellten Datierungen kann man sich im grossen und ganzen vereinigen, wenn sie auch mit weiter Zeitspanne angesetzt wurden (und öfters völlig fehlen) 1).

Es ist hier nicht möglich, auf Einzelprobleme tiefer einzugehen. Dieser Corpus bringt einen ersten, wichtigen Beitrag zu einer Gesamtpublikation, mit dem wir Alfred Neumann gratulieren können.

LEIDEN, Boerhaavelaan 52

F. L. BASTET


A. N. ZADOKS-JOSEPHUS JITTA — W. J. T. PETERS —

In these two volumes of a *corpus* of Roman bronze statuettes found in the Netherlands bronzes from north of the Limes are published in volume 1; those which came to light in military or civilian sites south of the Limes have been brought together in the 2nd volume. Both volumes are catalogues with strictly objective information only, the 3rd volume being reserved for observations on style, typology and chronology as well as “all questions which have presented themselves”.

57 statuettes and pedestals were found north of the Limes, the majority during removing of terp soil in Frisian territory. They are described in chapters on: Deities, Heroes, Genii; Human Figures; Animals; Pedestals. There are two Appendices: I. Possible Roman statuettes; II. Statuettes erroneously published as Roman. The first volume concludes with an extensive bibliography and a geographical index.

The 87 bronzes found within the Roman frontiers together with 8 possible Roman statuettes from south of the Limes are catalogued in volume 2, with a similar division in chapters: Deities, Heroes, Genii; Animals; Parts of Statuettes and Attributes; Pedestals. There are four Appendices: I. Possible Roman statuettes, fragments and pedestals; II. Roman statuettes erroneously or arbitrarily published as having been found in the Netherlands; III. Pre- and post-Roman statuettes (possibly) found in the Netherlands, but
erroneously published as Roman or possibly Roman; IV. Forgeries published as Roman statuettes (possibly) found in the Netherlands. Volume 2 also has an extensive bibliography as well as a geographical index. The inclusion of the Appendices in both volumes is very useful for the spotting of forgeries as well as of statuettes sold to museums as having been found in the Netherlands. Statuettes of different proveniences but not found in the Netherlands will be published separately.

The catalogue proper is very conveniently arranged with sections marked by different type. The text always starts on the left-hand page with a short description of the statuette. The next section is on (a) Find-spot, date of the find and circumstances; (b) Museum or collection as well as inventory number; (c) Measurements; (d) Technique; (e) State of preservation; (f) Bibliography. Reasons for identification of the figure are given in a third section; in another an extensive description of the object is given, followed by a section on details. In several cases a personal appreciation of the statuette is added. The authors are well aware of the fact that this may be somewhat subjective, but they feel that it does more justice to the artistic quality of the object, and indeed the most important statuettes are marked out in this manner. Photographs taken from different angles and showing interesting details are on the right-hand page and continue on the next pages when necessary. There is one title plate each in colours, the Dalfsen Mercury for volume 1, the Valkenburg Isis for Volume 2.

The book has a very good lay-out and makes pleasant reading. Details mentioned in the text are easily recognised on the plates; descriptions are done with the utmost care. It is interesting to see that more than half of the statuettes was cast solid, the others being cast hollow. In recent years several fine bronzes have come to light during excavations; being well-documented they counter-balance the stray finds and objects from old collections of which nothing more than the find-spot is known. The Dalfsen Mercury (vol. 1, n° 26) is one, the cock from Ezinge (ibid. 47) another. During the excavations at Aardenburg no less than 5 statuettes were discovered: 3 statuettes and a calyx-bust represent Bacchus (vol. 2, n°s 6, 8, 9, 15), one is an Isis-Fortuna (vol. 2, n° 29), and there is one Mercury (n° 53). From the old excavations at Arentsburg came a Bacchus, a dog and a stag (vol. 2, n°s 9, 73 and 78). The Bacchus-bust-vase from Esch is included (vol. 2, n° 14), a Mercury and a hand from Heerlen, a horse, a lion and a caduceus from the excavations of the Nijmegen legionary fortress (vol. 2, n°s 74, 77 and 80). A statuette of Mars, from Tiel, had a datable context (vol. 2, n° 33), a fine Isis comes from the Valkenburg castellum