

Surely this should be *ἄπτεται*. The active form could only mean 'kindles' transitively, and there is no authority for an impersonal usage as in *ἐσάλπιγξε* and a few other verbs. The rest of the verse is peculiarly happy. 'It does so. But no flame rises' is beautifully turned by *τύφει δ' ἀνηφαίστω μένει*. In clxx. *ἰβρίσων* is a very doubtful form. The best edd. read *ἰβρίσῃ* in Soph. *Aj.* 560 and *ἐνυβριεῖς* in Ar. *Thesm.* 719. In the same

piece 'the cold wind of the stranger,' finds an exact and deft counterpart in the bold expression *ἀνέλληνες πνοαί*.

We are glad to find that in the Latin lyric pieces no countenance is given to the theory that we are bound to conform to the *synapheia* observed in the fourth book of Horace's odes but neglected in the first three.

R. Y. T.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### ROUSE'S DEMONSTRATIONS IN GREEK IAMBIC VERSE.

I SHOULD like to correct one or two mistakes in Dr. Gow's review of *Demonstrations in Greek Iambic Verse*. The line he cites as containing a molossus:—

*πῶρρωθεν | εἰσόψει | τὸ Δαρδάνου | πέδον*  
has no caesura, the rhythmical pauses coming where I have drawn upright lines. In the normal iambic, with caesura, which I was discussing, the molossus can only go where *Δαρδάνου* stands above. Again, in *τῆς ὀρθοβούλου* *Θέμιδος αἰπυμήτα παι*, the first metrical group is *τῆς ὀρθοβούλου*, five syllables. It is true *ῶν δ'* might stand here, and I am therefore altering the statement in my book, with thanks to Dr. Gow; but both his criticisms show that he

has not understood the metrical analysis of the iambic. This is one of the many proofs that the system of teaching by foot-scansion or metrical snippets (if I may borrow a word of Dr. Gow's) is vicious.

W. H. D. ROUSE.

I SAID that the type *πῶρρωθεν εἰσόψει το Δ. π.* was good enough 'for occasional use.' Mr. Rouse himself says (p. 11) that it 'may be imitated.' I fully agree with him that, in teaching verse-composition, we have to instil the habit of thinking in metrical phrases, but it struck me that his rules would exclude some phrases unnecessarily.

J. G.

## ARCHAEOLOGY.

### RECENT EXCAVATIONS IN ROME.

(SEE *C.R.* 1899, Pp. 184, 232, 321, 464).

THE excavations of the Forum still continue upon a large scale, and are likely to do so for a considerable time yet. The purchase and demolition of the Church of S. Maria Liberatrice will render it possible to unite the Forum with the Palatine; the road between them has been suppressed, the site of the church is practically clear for excavation, and further important results may be looked for. A short account of what has been done since the middle of last November up to the present time follows.

#### I.—*Comitium and Curia.*

The ground in front of the Curia (S. Adriano) has been entirely cleared, and the

façade of the building exposed down to the ancient level. The concrete foundation of the steps by which it was approached from the Comitium extends along the greater part of the front of the building. When the level rose, and the steps were no longer in use, the area in front of them was used as a burial ground in connexion with the church into which the Curia was converted. Some hundreds of skeletons were found, a few lying in terra-cotta (or in one case in marble) sarcophagi, but in most cases simply covered with earth. Other bodies were placed in longitudinal niches cut in the brickwork of the façade, or in graves hollowed in the concrete of the steps. Several pagan inscriptions, including part of a dedication to Julia Domna and Septimius Severus by the Kalatores