INSCRIPTIONS FROM ATTICA

ADDENDUM

On pages 25-26 of this volume of Hesperia we published a dedication to Pythian Apollo made by a certain Xenophon whom we hesitated to identify with the Historian. Having reconsidered the matter, we now feel that there are some grounds for believing that this dedication was perhaps made by Xenophon the Historian himself.

In support of this view we would cite the passage in Anabasis V, iii, 4-5, where Xenophon tells how the ten thousand divided the money received from the sale of the booty. The tithe was set apart for two divinities, Apollo and Ephesian Artemis, and distributed among the generals for safe keeping. “As for Xenophon, he caused a votive offering to be made out of Apollo’s share of his portion and dedicated it in the treasury of the Athenians at Delphi, inscribing upon it his own name and that of Proxenus, who was killed with Clearchus; for Proxenus was his friend” (translation of O. J. Todd in the Loeb Classical Library).

As Xenophon had not yet been exiled from Athens, is it not possible, and even likely, that at the same time he caused a private dedication to be set up to the same god in the sanctuary near his ancestral home? We feel that the letter forms of the inscription would suit a date at the very beginning of the fourth century B.C.

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