PREFACE

These lectures were not delivered. Death came gently to Samuel Eliot Bassett in the quiet of his study, on the twenty-first of December, 1936, not long after he had completed his manuscript and only a few days before he was to have begun his journey to Berkeley. Few American Hellenists have made greater contributions to the true understanding of ancient Greek literature, and none has been more beloved and respected.

The Editors believe it is their duty to present the text as nearly as possible in the form in which it was left by Professor Bassett in his final draft. Consequently, their work has been limited to minor revisions of the sort that would ordinarily be made by the author and the insertion of references and Greek quotations from the earlier drafts. Their grateful acknowledgments are made to Mr. Harold A. Small, Editor of the University of California Press, for invaluable services in the preparation of the manuscript, and to Mr. M. P. Cunningham, Hattie Heller Graduate Scholar in Classics, for assistance in proofreading and for the verification of references.

THE EDITORS

Berkeley, California
June 28, 1938