De la edad media a la edad conflictiva. Estudios de literatura espanola.

Review Author[s]:
Daniel Eisenberg

Knust's transcription incorrectly: Knust, p. 1, reads: "E traslando este libro..."; Sturm's version of Knust: "E translando este libro..." (p. 31, my emphasis). And in the next passage considered by Sturm, Knust reads: "E dixo Socrat: 'Torna lo que esta dentro [a] [Knust's insertion] fuera, e vengarse a (emiente) [Knust's parenthesis] como es fecha'" (p. 22). Sturm's copy of Knust: "E dixo Socrat: —'Torna lo que esta dentro a fuera, e vengarse a (emiente) como es fecha'" (p. 32, my emphasis). He not only removes the brackets but also eliminates one "m" of "como." These might be considered minor quibbles if it were not for the fact that an editor's ability to copy basic texts accurately has to be assumed by literary critics who do not have access to the original manuscripts.

Despite these problems, Sturm's edition makes available in a pleasant format a medieval work which had to be consulted in Knust's text, often difficult to obtain in the Bibliothek des Litterarischen Vereins.

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Julio Rodríguez-Puértolas. De la edad media a la edad conflictiva. Estudios de literatura española. (Madrid: Gredos, 1972.) The present volume, whose title imitates both Dámaso Alonso and Américo Castro, is a useful collection of the articles of Professor Rodríguez-Puértolas, who has justly achieved renown from his writings on the fifteenth-century religious poet Fray Íñigo de Mendoza, and on medieval poetry and literature in general. None of the studies is original in this volume (although in some cases, this volume antecedes the publication of the article in the journal for which it was written), but few libraries would have all of these articles in their original form.

The studies can be and are divided into two sections, those on Íñigo de Mendoza, and those on everything else. The former, using primarily a historical approach, examine the relationship between Mendoza and other literary works of the period, his influence on some later authors, and his authorship of such poems as the Copias de Mingo Revulgo. Both in these studies and in the second section, which includes articles on the Cid, the Celestina, Lope, Rojas Zorrilla, Francisco Santos and others, we see reflected the second focus of Rodríguez-Puértolas' research, the treatment of contemporary historical problems in literature. Both parts of this collection are well-documented and show careful research, and the volume merits inclusion in the library of any Hispanist interested in the literature of this period.

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