Abstract

(Classical philology in Sweden.) This volume is not a survey of the history or current state of classical philology in Sweden. Rather, it is a collection of essays that reflect the consciousness of practitioners within the discipline in a situation where the role of the classical heritage appears to be waning, or at least changing rapidly. In the past, classical philology has enjoyed its greatest periods of progress as the general status of the classical heritage has diminished and paved the way for new fields and perspectives within the discipline. Perhaps a similar shift will result from the gradual disappearance of Classics from the schools? The four opening chapters seem to suggest such an outcome. The following four deal with the emergence of Byzantine studies and Neo-Latin studies as fertile strands in contemporary Swedish philology, and to moments when philologists have turned their attention to other new areas, namely Roman topography and the Romance languages. The next four contributions study translations of classical texts. This activity constituted a significant part of Swedish academic philology in the 19th century, before professionalization of the discipline banished this kind of philological groundwork from the sphere of scientific research. The final three chapters present some interesting individual scholars and significant episodes from the philological past.

Keywords
Classics vs philology, use of antiquity, Byzantine studies, Neo-Latin, Romance philology, translation, Eranos, Sappho.