A HISTORY OF GREEK PHILOSOPHY

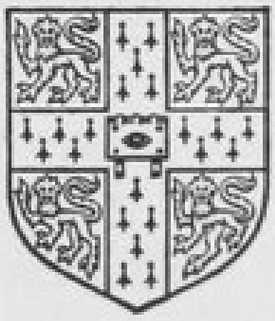
BY

W. K. C. GUTHRIE

VOLUME VI

ARISTOTLE
AN ENCOUNTER

ORRADRE LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF SANTA CLARA
SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
CAMBRIDGE
LONDON NEW YORK NEW ROCHELLE
MELBOURNE SYDNEY

ORRADRE LIBRA
UNIVERSITY OF SANTA C
SANTA CLARA, CALIFOR

CONTENTS

Preface ix

List of Abbreviations xiii

Obiter Dicta xvi

I Discovering Aristotle 1
(1) Two encounters 1
(2) The genetic approach 4
(3) A general comment 14

II Aristotle's Life and Philosophical Pilgrimage 18
Note on sources 18
Additional note: Aristotle and mathematics 45

III The Written Remains 49
(1) Introduction: the surviving works 49
(2) The lost literary compositions 53
(3) Early fate of the school-writings 59

IV Eudemus, Protrepticus, De Philosophia 66
(1) *Eudemus* 67
(2) *Protrepticus* 73
(3) *De philosophia* 82

V The Mind of Aristotle 89

VI Abstraction and the Revelation of Form 100

VII Teleology and its Defence: the Concept of Potentiality 106
(1) Teleology 106
hypothetical necessity 118

318542

(2) Potentiality and actuality 119
definition of dynamis*; objections to the concept of potentiality* 125
Additional note: the meanings of *physis* 129

VIII THE DIVISIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 130

IX LOGIC, THE TOOL OF PHILOSOPHY 135
Introduction 135
contents of the 'Organon' 138
(1) The Categories of Being: primary and secondary substance 138
(2) Definition, proprium, genus and accident 146
(3) Inference 149
(a) dialectic 150
(b) the syllogism 156

X THE ROAD TO KNOWLEDGE 170
(1) *Apodeixis* (demonstration) 170
Preliminary note on the function of *apodeixis* 170
the relation between apodeixis *and definition* 175
(2) The *archai* of knowledge 178
(3) Induction 186
Biological note: the gall-less animals 194
(4) Syllogism, induction and the quest for knowledge 195
is progress from particular to general or vice versa? a final note: potential and actual knowledge 199

XI SUBSTANCE 203
Is there a single science of being as such? 204
The question: What is being? 207
(*i*) *matter;* (*ii*) *the individual concrete object;* (*iii*) *the universal;* (*iv*) *essence* 209
Summary and appraisal of the substance-doctrine 220

XII CAUSES 223
(1) The Four Causes 223
material; 'intelligible matter'; the final cause; efficient cause 226

(2) Chance 233
Additional notes 241
(*i*) *good and bad luck;* (*ii*) *laws and exceptions* 241

XIII THEORY OF MOTION AND THEOLOGY 243
(1) Some criticisms of the Theory of Forms 243
(2) Plato's and Aristotle's motive cause: self-mover and unmoved mover 246
(3) Aristotle's Unmoved Mover 252
(a) its mode of action 252
(b) his character 259
Additional note: the development of Aristotle's theology 262
(4) Unity in the Aristotelian universe 263
(5) The subordinate unmoved movers 267
Introduction: the cosmic structure 267

XIV PSYCHOLOGY 277
The genetic approach 277
(1) The preliminaries 279
(2) The definition of soul and its relation to the body 282
(3) Functions of soul 285
(4) The ladder of life 288
(5) Sensation 291
(a) General theory 291
(b) Common sensibles and the common sense 295
(c) How sensation works 301
(d) Sensation in Aristotle's philosophy 303
(e) Comparisons 307
(6) Thought 308
Preliminary note on *nous* 308
(a) General 309
(b) The creative (or active) reason 315
Appendix: Comment on a few modern opinions 327

XV THE PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN LIFE 331
Introduction: Ethics and politics 331
Additional note: The *Politics*, the *Constitutions* and the end of the *Ethics* 334
Ethics 335
Preliminary note: the documents 336
Ethical theory and the Platonic Forms 338
Human nature and the function of man 340
The intellectual virtues: *phronēsis* 345
the practical syllogism 349
Virtue 352
The virtues (1) 357
The voluntary and involuntary 358
(i) virtue concerned with ends or means? (ii) Socrates; (iii) Aristotle's exposition 358
Incontinence, self-control and temperance 364
The virtues (2) 368
magnanimity; justice 369
Pleasure 376
pleasure in book 7; pleasure in book 10 378
Friendship 384
Climax: the happy philosopher 390
Additional note: the meaning of *theoria* 396
Conclusion 398

Bibliography 401

Indexes

I *Index of passages quoted or referred to* 425
II *General Index* 437
III *Index of Greek words* 452

The device on the front cover is a head of Aristotle from the Kunsthistorische Museum, Vienna (the gift of Archbishop V. E. Milde, 1846)