

## Book Reviews

Rennick, Robert M. *Kentucky Place Names*. Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0024: University of Kentucky Press, 1984. Pp. xxiv + 375. \$30.00.

Buy this book.

The rest of this review is merely the support for why you should buy this book. Also, I'll find a few things to quibble about. But buy this book.

Rennick's *Kentucky Place Names* is an alphabetical listing of about 3600 place names, from Aaron to Zula, selected from, by his estimate, 100,000 Kentucky place names.

To give readers a notion of the depth of scholarship which we have come to expect from Rennick, let me mention that his references are listed on 47 packed pages which include 831 published books and periodicals, 182 unpublished manuscripts, 169 personal letters, and 205 personal interviews conducted by Rennick himself. In total, there are 1461 separate sources. This book is well-researched.

His entries typically contain seven elements of information: the main entry, i.e., the name itself with its "approved local spelling"; the pronunciation; the location; a description of the kind of place; the date of the name's establishment; variant names; and changes in location of the name. The completeness of these entries is impressive. The pronunciation system is convenient to read and understand; the cross-references for variant names are useful.

As an example of Rennick's method of offering pronunciation, consider his entry for Louisville, Kentucky's most widely-known city. Louisville, named for the French king Louis XVI, has had two pronunciations; *lu/ee/viɪl* (Italics indicate stressed syllable) and the local pronunciation *lu/ə/vəɪl* which, Rennick says, is the currently accepted pronunciation.

Other well-known Kentucky cities of possible interest to the ANS readership include Lexington (named, one way or another, in honor of the 1775 Battle of Lexington) and Frankfort, the state's capital. Frankfort, Rennick says, was named for Stephen Frank who had been killed in an Indian raid in the area. The ford on the river came to be called Frank's Ford (hence Frankfort) in his honor.

A famous Kentucky name to many is Pippa Passes, home of Alice Lloyd College. The name was established when the Robert Browning Societies of New England donated money to help establish the College. Because of the U.S. Post Office's insistence that names be one word long, the post office was officially called Pippapass until 1955 when its original spelling from Browning's poem was restored. Rennick says the local folk still call their town Caney or Caney Creek "as they always have." Is this another "town and gown" conflict?

In the "Introduction," Rennick says the book will be a "disappointment to those who expect such a volume to deal largely with odd or colorful names or with humorous accounts of a names's derivation or application." While this may be true, the diligent reader can still find interesting name origins. To me, Kentucky seems to have more than its share of — for lack of a better term — concocted names. For example, Nada (in Powell County) is derived from the letters in the Dana Lumber Company; Lennut (Perry County) is the reverse spelling for "tunnel," after a nearby railroad tunnel. Ravelo derives from the reverse spelling of a Mr. Oliver, a civil engineer for the local area on the Cincinnati & Southern Railroad. Lejunior is for Lee Bowling, Junior. Leeco (in Lee County) is acronymic for its county. Kayjay (in Knox County) derives from the Kentucky-Jellico Coal Company. An "executive of the

Bond-Foley Lumber Co.," Roy Rader, gave Royrader its name (Jackson County). Many more, like Shepola, are found in the book.

And now to the quibbles. I was disappointed that my friend Bob Rennick did not include the name Churchill Downs, a place famous for us horse-racing fans. Nor did I find a Kentucky place named Judson, after Adoniram Judson, a Baptist missionary to the Orient who died at sea in 1850. A small village in Central Indiana is named Judson; I expected it to be in Kentucky as a name also, inasmuch as Judson was from the state.

In his "Introduction," Rennick says there is only one "genuine" American Indian name in the book — Eskippakithiki, Shawnee for "place of blue licks," (salt deposits). Yet for Lyon County, Rennick lists Kuttawa, which may be "Indian" for "beautiful" or "city in the woods." Rennick also cites John Mason Brown's assertion that "Kuttaawaa" may be Delaware or Shawnee for "great wilderness."

This reviewer would have appreciated a typology of name origins such as found in Frederic G. Cassidy's *Dane County Place-Names*. Still, this is quibbling just to prove my objectivity.

This book is outstanding. It reflects excellent, serious scholarship. Rennick has avoided some of the standard complaints I have about such state place name studies, e.g., listing by each county or omission of pronunciations. This book will be useful for historians, onomasticians, folklorists, linguists, and dialectologists. Buy this book.

Laurence E. Seits

Mihály, Hajdú. *Hungarian-English, English-Hungarian Dictionary of Christian Names*. Budapest: ELTE Magyar Nyelvészeti Tanszékcsoport, 1983. Pp. 117.

The study of Hungarian personal naming practices has till now received scant attention from foreign onomatologists, meriting only minor sections in works of a general nature on Christian names. This *lacuna* is partially filled with the present volume by Mihály Hajdú, a leading Hungarian onomastician whose previous research includes *Magyar becezőnevek (Hungarian Hypochoristic Names) 1770-1970* (Budapest, 1970). A bilingual introduction in Hungarian and English offers the reader a brief résumé of the state of foreign scholarship regarding Hungarian personal names. Much of this research has resulted in less than satisfactory fruits for, as Mr. Hajdú explains and illustrates, these publications are incomplete and at times even deficient (incorrect Hungarian forms, erroneous orthography and accentuation).

The author's contribution to our understanding of Hungarian Christian names is the dictionary of forenames which makes up the principal part of this work. The basis for this dictionary is Janos Ladó's *Magyar utónévkönyv (A Book of Hungarian Given Names)*, which lists all first names legally recognized by Hungarian law. Mr. Hajdú provides for each name entry the official form, followed by the IPA's phonetic rendering of current Hungarian pronunciation. Where hypochoristic forms exist, the most common are listed. In the remainder of each entry the author indicates the gender of the name, an English equivalent if available, an etymology when possible and lastly an indication of the frequency of occurrence of the name. A short concluding section comprises a list of common English Christian names with their Hungarian counterparts.

Mr. Hajdú's dictionary is a valuable, practical contribution to the field of personal name

study, for it provides an extensive enumeration and commentary, in English, concerning Hungarian forenames. Consultation of this reference volume will quickly satisfy the reader's curiosity about any Christian name in current usage. There is, however, one major flaw in the work: the deficient English employed by the author. One would have hoped that Mr. Hajdú, in aiming his study at a foreign audience, would have had his introduction and entries checked for grammar, syntax and vocabulary in English. The text is rife with errors that mar an otherwise solid, comprehensive onomastical dictionary. Such infelicities as "Abbreviations and sings" for "Abbreviations and Signs," "semi-inverted commas" for "single quotation marks," and "today Hungary" for "present-day Hungary" abound. Likewise, there are a number of errors in French: "Eugéne" for "Eugène," "nomes" for "noms," and "universalle" for "universelle." Finally, one wonders why the author identifies two names, Aida and Azucena, incorrectly as "an acting" and "an act," respectively, from Verdi operas (instead of "protagonist" or "character"), yet names like Leonor and Otello, also mentioned, do not receive this adscription. And what of characters' names from the operas of other composers?

We must congratulate Mr. Hajdú for his dictionary of Hungarian Christian names, but we must ask him to correct in a future second edition these lapses in English in order to afford the non-Hungarian reader a cleaner, more readable text.

Wayne H. Finke

Danchev, Andrei. *Balgarska transkripcija anglijski imena* [In Bulgarian: *Bulgarian Transcription of English Names* (2nd ed. revised and enlarged.) Sofia (Bulgaria): Narodna Prosvetam 1982, Pp. 243. 1,42 levs (approx. \$3.00).

Professor Danchev is a scholar concerned with the complex problems involved with the transcription of English names (British, American, Canadian, Australian, and others) into some type of standardized form in Bulgarian. Apparently, the present system of allowing each translator to develop an individual technique has caused confusion.

The first half of this book is concerned with developing a system of transcription which would come as close as possible to the sound in English. There are problems with this, however, since even in English there are variations in how some names might be pronounced in England and in the United States. As a standard, Danchev has selected Middle Atlantic English. After consideration of alternatives, the traditional transcription type of Daniel Jones which uses colon length marks has been adopted with some modifications for American English and Bulgarian. Danchev has developed a system of general rules covering the various principles of transcription from English.

For sources of names all kinds of materials, books, magazines, newspapers, etc., were consulted to develop the rules of usage for personal names, surnames, place-names, and organization names. There is an impressive listing of sources consulted in Bulgarian and also in English.

The second part of the book lists about 10,000 names in English with the preferred Bulgarian equivalent. In many cases the transcription rule is cited. Among the types of name transcribed are those such as George (personal name), Georgetown (place-name), Gershwin (surname), and Globetrotters (organization name). Acronyms such as GATT (General Agree-

ment on Tariffs and Trade) are also included. Danchev has made an impressive contribution in developing a resource for those scholars who wish to transcribe more consistently and accurately English names to Bulgarian.

Edwin D. Lawson

Gunther, Jane Davies. *Riverside County, California, Place Names: Their Origins and Their Stories*. Riverside, CA: Rubidoux Printing Co., 1984. Pp. xx + 634. \$32.08 + \$2.00, postage (from the author, 2575 Madison St., Riverside, CA 92504).

First, Gunther has compiled a major text, limited as it is to one county, but major studies have often been one-county (Cassidy, *Dane County*). The need is for more, since the coverage is more exacting and encompassing than is the state placename text, spread out as it is and subject to the whims of the compiler, whose integrity is often compromised in choosing. She has glossed over 1,200 names and included an introduction that traces the naming patterns from Amerindians through Spanish into English. All three categories still exist, since names tend to take on a permanence that survives in languages.

*Riverside County* takes its name from the city of Riverside, a rather bland descriptive for a place beside the Santa Ana River, hardly an improvement over *Jurupa*, which caused a pronunciation problem for the English speakers. *Jurupa*'s origin is in doubt, although it probably has a meaning of 'water.' The county is the fourth largest in area in the state and was formed in 1893 out of San Bernardino and San Diego Counties.

The stories behind the names are told dramatically, enticing the reader to move on into the account. Many can be chosen for their engaging tales, but I will here mention only a few, mostly for subjective reasons. Since the American Name Society has lately leaned heavily on the U.S. Geological Survey and its personnel for help, it is perhaps fitting to note that the "young" surveyors sometimes fall prey to local women, or the other way around. One such was Edmund Taylor Perkins, Jr., a handsome topographer who was sent to map the San Jacinto Mountains in 1897. There he met the wonderful Marion Kelly and promptly displayed his powers by naming a mountain for her (*Marion Mountain* 10,332 also ft., elev.). But a topographer moves around. He also met Jean Waters of Plumas County and put her name on *Jean Peak* (elev. not given). Perkins married Jean.

*Iris Pass* has been described as having rainbow-like range of colors at the end of the upper part of the pass. *Maccaroni River*, no longer running, is a local wag's way of showing the degeneracy of the pronunciation of his neighbors who changed *Mecca* into *Meccaroni*, with the linking 'r,' actually not a mispronunciation at all, merely a bit of sophisticated New England dialect pronunciation. *Maze Stone Park* surrounds "a massive granite boulder on which is a petroglyph about four feet in diameter," never interpreted.

*Outing* originated as a name for a place to have an "outing." *The Pookets* is apparently a generic name by a surveyor whose field notes read, "the Pookets, which are holes in the arroyo washed out in the rocks and which hold water for many months." *Dogbite Valley* did not result from a dogbite, only a fear that a dog would bite. *Elsinore* is not *El Senor* (as Gannet has it) but actually for Shakespeare's use of the name, suggested by a woman after *Laguna* had been refused by the postal officials. *Elysian Fields* was so named because it was "California's first nudist camp," and the campers wanted to get back to nature. *Ethanac*

masks Ethan Allen Chaste. *Flabob* was coined by Flavio Madariaga and Bob Bogen. *Folly Peak* was named by a U.S. Geological Survey party, who probably had a party.

But the majority of the names are descriptive, possessives, and generic: *Glen Ivy Hot Sulphur Springs*, *Good Hart Canyon*, *Granite Mountains*, and hundreds of similar ones. The references include 28 pages of single-spaced print. An index of all personal names rounds out the volume. An added feature is several pages of cattle and horse brands that have been used in the country. A missing feature is local pronunciations and variants, a small matter that would clear up some of the deviant spellings that occur in the names. Gunther dwells on misspellings when these usually are linguistic situations that can be explained. They do not necessarily result from a lack of intelligence; on the other hand, they may be the result of the application of intelligence. A map would have been helpful, too.

Petty objections aside, the book is an outstanding model for the study of the names of a county. The entries are encyclopedic and seemingly exhaustive of sources. They are also written in a pleasing style, a bonus. It will also be a most valuable contribution to the work of the United States Place-Name Survey and is a work deserving of the greatest appreciation and stongest recommendation.

Kelsie B. Harder

Coombes, Allen J. *The Collingridge Dictionary of Plant Names*. Feltham, Middlesex: Published by Collingridge Books, an imprint of Newnes Books. The Hamlyn Publishing Group Limited, 1985. Pp. 207. £4.95.

One need only be a moderately keen gardener or nature-lover to realize that all plants have a common 'popular' name and a usually much more abstruse botanical one. Thus the homely-sounding hound's tongue is officially *Cynoglossum officinale*, and the common or garden marrow is *Cucurbita pepo*. Sometimes the ordinary name and the botanical are quite close, so that the peony belongs to the genus *Paeonia* and the rhododendron already has a classical enough name to be exactly the same for its genus.

But what do these botanical names actually mean? Are they simply a translation of the common English name? And how about all those botanical names of the different species, such as *Rhododendron aberconwayi*, *Paeonia lactiflora*, *Epidendrum parkinsonianum*? Even if our shaky Latin can puzzle out *lactiflora*, no amount of guesswork will tell us who the Aberconway or Parkinson of these names were.

This book has a very good go, and, as the fruits of what must have been a laborious and doubtless at times frustrating task, comes up with the answers. The Aberconway is Lord Aberconway, and the Parkinson who gave his name to this particular greenhouse orchid was John Parkinson (1772-1847), the Consul-General in Mexico who sent plants to Kew.

These two samples in a way illustrate the strength and weakness of this actually quite interesting book. The Consul-General has been well identified for us, and his connection with the plant spelled out. But that Lord Aberconway: who was he? When did he live? How did a rhododendron come to be honoured with his name?

It is *lacunae* like this that make a potentially valuable source of information rather unsatisfying. No doubt, there must have been dozens of cases, even hundreds, where an individual who gave his or her name to a species could not be fully or satisfactorily identified. But

there are certainly *some* species names in the book that could have been and should have been more fully glossed. Thus the genus *Fittonia* (a Peruvian trailing herb) is named, we are told, "after Elizabeth and Sarah Mary Fitton." But why was it? A quick glance into *Webster* at least adds what the author could also have added, that these ladies (presumably sisters) were nineteenth-century Irish writers on botany. To take the better-known *Gloxinia*. Coombes tells us that the plant was named for "Benjamin Peter Gloxin." But "who he"? When did he live? What was his nationality? Just how did the plant come to bear his name? Almost any good standard dictionary will tell us at least some of what we want to know: that he lived in the eighteenth century and that he was a German botanist. Again, it would have been helpful if Coombes had told us this, instead of leading one to make a secondary search for the information.

Similar frustration may be caused in the enquiring reader who looks up such quite common names as *Origanum*, *Cyclamen* and *Smilax* (with these also the standard names of the respective plants). Alas, all he will be told is "the Gk. name." But, again, what do they actually *mean*? What is circular about a cyclamen, for example? Does the smilax really smile? As elsewhere, recourse to a standard dictionary is required to provide the desired information, respectively "its bulbous roots" and "no: the name means 'bindweed,' with probable link with Greek *smilē*, 'woodcarving knife.' "

In a few cases, the origins of well-known names appear to be simply plain wrong. The anemone does not have a name that derives from "Adonis who was also known as Naamen" but comes from the Greek for 'wild-flower' (*anemos*, 'wind'), and the dianthus has a name that surely only speculatively means 'Zeus's flower.'

However, such minuses are easily outweighed by the book's many pluses, and the averred aim, as stated in the subtitle (to give "the pronunciation, derivation and meaning of botanical names, and their common-name equivalents"), is in the main conscientiously and carefully pursued, with cross referrals from common names to their botanical equivalents and the many species obtaining for some plants (no less than fifty are itemized for the iris) treated systematically and, apart from the inconsistencies noted, accurately and informatively.

It is pity that there is only a ghost of a bibliography: merely eight titles, of which four are standard Latin or Greek dictionaries. (And why does Geoffrey Grigson's *A Dictionary of English Plant Names* not feature here?) But all in all, a valuable and fascinating work, which explains hundreds of those puzzling botanical names in a way I have certainly not seen done before. Remarkably good value in price, too, and a real snip at £4.95.

Adrian Room

Franks, Ray. *What's in a Nickname? Exploring the Jungle of College Athletic Mascots*. Amarillo, TX 79109: Ray Franks Publishing Ranch, P.O. Box 706, 1982, 207 pp. Price \$12.95.

Ray Franks has been editor of the annual National Directory of College Athletics for over 15 years. He has brought together a vast amount of material of interest for the college and university sports world. Entries have been developed from more than 2000 institutions in the United States and Canada, which include a description of the school, its logo, nickname, and the origin of the nickname. The introductory chapters give some name lore: the most

common names are Eagles (72), Tigers (68), followed by Cougars, Bulldogs, Warriors, Lions, Panthers, Indians, Wildcats, and Bears; the most patriotic school is American University with its Eagles and school colors of red, white, and blue; the most literary school is Whittier College, the Poets. Some unusual names are the Connecticut College Camels, the Columbia College (California) Claim-Jumpers, Imperial Valley College Arabs, California Maritime Academy Keelhaulers, and on and on.

Franks has attempted to include, where possible, the origin of the nickname. For example, the Moles of Nazareth College of Kalamazoo, Michigan are so named because all of the campus buildings are connected by underground tunnels. The Great Lakers of State University College, Oswego, New York are named for the ships which sailed out of its harbor. Vassar's Brewers were named in recognition of Matthew Vassar's occupation.

Those of a religious bent will note that there are 21 institutions that refer to themselves as Saints, plus 1 (Fighting Saints), 13 Crusaders, 3 Dons, 1 each of Prophets and Parsons, 2 Preachers, and 2 Battling Bishops. The Bible is represented by the Samsons and the Maccabbees, and the lower depths by 4 Red Devils and 7 Blue Devils. Wake Forest is known as the Demon Deacons.

For those who are weather-minded, there are 4 Tornadoes, 2 Trade Winds, 2 Cyclones, 1 Hurricane, and 1 Golden Hurricane. With regard to ethnic groups in addition to many Indians, Chiefs, and Redmen, there are Vikings, Scots, Irish, Celts, and even Samurai. One category that might be thought unusual is the 8 Lakers plus one Oswego's Great Lakers. Of course the whole range of the animal world is represented from Anteaters and Armadillos to Bulldogs, Camels, and Catamounts. There are also plenty of Patriots and Pioneers.

Publication of *What's in a Nickname* where each institution is given the opportunity to help prepare its own entry with logo, nickname, and the story behind the nickname will probably stimulate many schools to consider their nicknames and logos more carefully.

Edwin D. Lawson

Kenny, Hamill. *The Placenames of Maryland, Their Origin and Meaning*. Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1984. Pp. xii + 352.

Geographically, Maryland is so sharply divided into three parts that it almost seems an artificial construct. North of Hancock, which is just across the Potomac from West Virginia, the Pennsylvania border is so near that western Maryland seems continuous with central Maryland. In the east, similarly, a bay dividing the Eastern Shore from central Maryland extends northeast almost to the Delaware line. To be sure, navigable waters can be more of a thoroughfare than a barrier, but even so Maryland's single identity looks compromised in that its Eastern Shore is part of the Delmarva peninsula, bounded on the west by Chesapeake Bay and on the east by Delaware Bay and the Atlantic and compromising all of Delaware and a segment of Virginia as well as Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Nevertheless, instead of being fragmented, Maryland has *multum in parvo*, a microcosmic unity in diversity. It has a vigorous Historical Society, which has kept alive Maryland's past and therefore its conscious identity in our age of insipid homogenization, through its journal the *Maryland Historical Magazine* and through other activities including monograph publications. A recent member of this category is the present book by the experienced onomatologist

Hamill Kenny, whose previous publications include *West Virginia Place Names* (1945) and *Origin and Meaning of the Indian Place Names of Maryland* (1961).

Kenny's *Placenames of Maryland* is distinguished by his wide and deep research into colonial, state, local, post office, and railroad records (to mention some principal ones), and by effective use of correspondence, on-the-spot interviews, newspaper stories, and articles in learned journals, especially the *Maryland Historical Magazine*. What is hardly less important, in his use of secondary sources he has exercised critical judgment which one soon learns to trust as sound and reliable. Especially noteworthy is his expertise, as an authority on the Algonquian language family, in dealing with the numerous Maryland placenames of American Indian (mostly Algonquian) origin. Such names are notoriously tricky for three reasons: uncertainty about what feature of a place its name refers to, the diversity of Algonquian languages, and the unpredictable ways of sound substitution when the name comes to be used by English speakers. Kenny takes these hurdles with evident mastery.

In all, Kenny's thorough and critical mining of his extremely inclusive bibliography earns a user's confidence. Sometimes, however, Kenny gives essential data about the name of a place without indicating their specific source in his bibliography. For instance, entries like *Bladensburg* and *Brunswick* are not as well-referenced as are *Boring* and *Cumberston(e)*. Perhaps space constraints are the problem, though *Boring* and *Cumberston(e)* scarcely seem bulkier entries than *Bladensburg* and *Brunswick*. At any rate absence of source indications is much less frequent after *Jefferson* (128).

Occasionally, too, abbreviations, proper names, or source-indicating phrases used in the body of the work are unidentifiable or uncertainly identifiable in the bibliography. Thus the reference to Ebenezer Hazard at *Georgetown* should have a bibliographical entry, although enough bibliographical information about him is given when one combines the references to him at *Arford Town*, *Principio*, and *Woodyard*. At *Verona*, the reference to the *Maryland Historical Magazine* for September 1955 seems by its placing to refer to an article by Marye which Kenny did not get inserted in his bibliography on p. 311 between (10) and (11). The reference at *Fredericktown* to "a clergyman's journal" and the one at *Galena* to "a Baltimore writer" need entries. The "Greenbury series" mentioned at *Dundalk* is presumably the "Greenberry Series" mentioned in the bibliography under Schaun (p. 313). The abbreviations FBC at *Cresaptown* and *Negro Mountain*, N & N at *Eldersburg*, the D. & C. Railroad at *Goldsboro*, and the M. & P. Railroad at *Notch Cliff* need identification. One primary source evidently of some importance may be sufficiently identified as the "*Relation of Maryland in 1635*" at *Monoponson*, but it's not in the bibliography. (There are briefer references to it on pp. 9 and 10, and in a bibliographical map reference on p. 331 it is brought into some connection with Lord Baltimore.) This list of small puzzlements and similar ones should receive attention in the next edition.

Exhaustiveness is not practicable in a treatment of the placenames of as large a geographical unit as Maryland, and Kenny's principles of selection in general are excellent; indeed they furnish the basis for valuable introductory sections on kinds of names (2-13), vocabulary (13-15), and ethnology and migration (19-24). A somewhat serious omission, however, does occur: Five of Maryland's twenty-three county names are not entered: Dorchester, Garrett, Prince George's, Washington, and Worcester. Edward B. Mathews, *The Counties of Maryland . . .* (Maryland Geological Survey, Reports, Volume 6, Part 5), 1906, listed in Kenny's bibliography, gives the date of formation of each county and a statement about the origin of its name. Mathews' expertise was as a geologist (and to a lesser extent as a researcher in primary sources for Maryland history), not as an onomatologist; hence, we miss Kenny's position pro or contra on the date and origin of name that Mathews offers for each. Some data given by Kenny at *Goldsborough* suggest a possible origin for the name of Dorchester



County which should be weighed against the different one asserted by Mathews. Kenny derives the name of *Garrett Park*, in Montgomery County, from the surname of the same person for whom Mathews says Garrett County was named. When Prince George's County was named in 1695, in the reign of William III, who was the Prince George of Denmark for whom Mathews says it was named, and how likely is Mathews' statement to be accurate? Since Washington County was formed in 1776 according to Mathews, his statement that it was named for George Washington is convincing. On the other hand, support is dubious for Mathews' identification of "the Earl of Worcester" (which one, and how connected with Maryland?) as the source of the name of Worcester County, which was established in 1742 (Mathews) after an earlier Worcester County had been established in 1692 and abolished in 1685 (still Mathews, with documentation). A reader needs Kenny's considered judgment on such matters.

The present reviewer would like to venture a few surmises of his own, some at variance with Kenny and some in agreement, on specific points, and all tentative. — On p. 15 Kenny mentions a placename *Kittle Hill* as containing a familiar dialect pronunciation of *kettle*, but another interpretation is possible; Hu Maxwell, *The History of Randolph County, West Virginia*. . . . (Morgantown, W. Va., 1898) lists numerous inhabitants of Randolph County with the surname *Kittle*; I watched the barn of one of them in Beverly burn down after being struck by lightning in 1925. — On p. 19 Kenny suggests that the Maryland placename *Conoy* and the West Virginia river and county name *Kanawha* may be related if the historical facts of Indian migration are consistent with that suggestion; it is certainly likely from the point of view of sound substitution when Indian words are taken into English, for the pronunciations of *Kanawha* known to me are [kənɔ̃wə] and [kənɔ̃wi], both trisyllabic but the latter hard to distinguish from disyllabic [kənɔ̃i] for *Conoy*. — The surname *Woytych* for which a village in Anne Arundel County is named (299) is possibly Polish, and in that case could be added to Kenny's limited data on pp. 23-24 for a Polish element in Maryland placenames. — The placename *Chevy Chase* (61) appears to allude to popular ballads about the fourteenth century Battle of Otterburn, and the placename *Sherwood Forest* (240) to the ballads of Robin Hood. — The first two syllables of *Chinkapin Run* (62) are no doubt correctly derived by Kenny from Delaware *chinquā* 'large,' but in my experience chinquapins are *small* nuts. — Apparently no reason is on record for the choice of the name *Westminster* (287) for a town originally named *Westchester*, but it is at least curious that *Winchester* and *Westminster* are near anagrams, sharing eight letters, all but the CH of *Winchester* and the M, one S, and one T of *Westminster*.

But neither such surmises nor my preceding criticisms of detail amount to much alongside the hard-earned wealth of diligently researched material which Kenny offers to everyone personally or professionally interested in Maryland placenames. His book is an important and enduringly valuable reference work.

Charles R. Sleeth

Busse, Thomas V. *The Professor's Book of First Names*. Elkins Park, PA 19117: Green Ball Press, 1984. Pp. 118. \$10.95.

Profesor Busse, a contributor to the December, 1983 special issue of *Names*, has been doing research on the psychology of first names for over 15 years. He has brought together

from the literature the results of a number of investigations. Among the topics he covers are popularity of a name, trends in naming, choosing a name, gender ambiguous names, unusual names, and stereotypes. Throughout the book, there are relevant quotes on names and name anecdotes.

One of the strong points of the presentation is the empirical results of the research that Busse and his co-workers have conducted over the years. The data from these investigations with schoolchildren and university students (apparently in Pennsylvania) are presented in 16 tables in the chapters. These tables indicate the relative favor (or lack of) in the different categories. The appendix gives popularity ratings of 179 male and 246 female names on a 10-point scale.

One of the results that may be of some interest is the failure of Busse and Seraydarian to replicate the results of Harari and McDavid. It may be recalled that in that study, Harari and McDavid found that essays with popular first names received higher grades than those with unpopular names.

Edwin D. Lawson

Harris, Stuart. *Alabama Place-Names*. Huntsville, Ala.: The Strode Publishers, 1982. Pp. 184. Pp. 184. \$13.95.

W. Stuart Harris' *Alabama Place-Names* is an interesting book intended for the general reader. Because Harris is a history instructor at a preparatory school in Marion, Alabama, he emphasizes the historical aspects of the names rather than the linguistic or geographical ones.

In his introduction, he relates how his study of place names grew out of his research for his earlier book *Dead Towns in Alabama* (University, Ala.: University of Alabama Press, 1977). Next, he states what kinds of names he is concerned with in his present book. These 1900 names are, as he says,

limited to county names, towns, cities, settlements, post offices (both current and extinct), rivers, creeks which are tributaries of major rivers, the larger mountains and valleys, national parks, and military bases, forts, and airfields (both of the past and of the present). This study does not include the Indian towns of the past unless their names are connected with more modern places. . . . If the origin is unknown, the place-name has generally been excluded from this volume (8).

Later in his introduction, Harris says that he has also omitted the purely descriptive names for streams. An examination of the name entries shows that, in addition to the kinds he has specified, he includes other or earlier names for many of the places and the names of some of the early historically important towns, though he does not state what his criteria for choosing them are, and these criteria are not readily discernible. He has entries for all the earlier county seats for some counties, but, for others that have had several seats of justice, he includes only the current one. For two counties, he does not have even the current ones: no entries for the names of either Centreville, the county seat for Bibb County, or Centre, the one for Cherokee County, appear in this book.

The entries for the names, arranged in alphabetical order, contain the approximate location of the place in the county (or, for the streams, counties) stated in miles and direction from larger, better-known places; important dates and historical events; and origin of the name. The entries do not contain pronunciations, discussions of the word-formation processes used

in making the names, classifications of the types of names, or sources for the information he does include about them. At the end of the book is an extensive bibliography, which does not, however, include the studies of national and continental place names by such place-name authorities as George R. Stewart and Kelsie B. Harder; government documents like the post office records, available on microfilm from the National Archives, and the Acts of the state general assembly and legislature; or some of the most authoritative early maps of Alabama, in particular, those made by John La Tourette.

The information Harris presents in his name entries should not be accepted without reservation, because some of the details are not accurate. The omission of sources, though understandable, since the book was not intended for scholars, makes Harris responsible for the factual errors, most of which can be found in the state, county, and local histories he consulted. For example, the dates for post offices are the ones given in these sources, but not all are the accurate ones in the post office records. Another kind of inaccuracy attributable to his sources is the identification of some names as other or earlier ones for certain settlements, when, in reality, they are those of different nearby communities: *Strasburg*, rather than being an earlier name for Thorsby, is that of another settlement. Also, some spelling and mechanical errors, which Harris may have found in his sources, occur: *Wedgeworth* should be *Wedgworth*, and *Eddin's Station* should be *Eddins' Station*.

Although it is true that some of the omissions and inaccuracies that have been noted could have been prevented if Harris had consulted the records of appointments of postmasters and the records of site locations of the post offices and other government documents, in addition to the historical sources he did use, most are the kinds of mistakes an editor is expected to bring to the attention of an author. If a revised edition is published, Harris and his editor should give some consideration to the points mentioned here, because the book is an attractive one with many interesting and informative historical details and photographs. A few changes would make it a valuable reference work as well.

Virginia Foscue

Alkire, Leland G. Jr., *Periodical Title Abbreviations*, 4th ed., 3 vols. Vol. 1, *By Abbreviations*, pp. 1,137, \$120. Vol. 2, *By Title*, pp. 1,133, \$120. Vol. 3, *New Periodical Title Abbreviations*, two softbound supplements (First supplement ready in 1984). Detroit, MI 48226: Gale Research Co., Book Tower, 1983.

The fourth edition of PTA contains 55,000 entries, almost 60% more than the third edition, 1981, and the next one surely will contain twice as many as this one, that is, if the compiler can keep up with all the abbreviations that pour from magazine users, perhaps in some cases readers. I have written elsewhere that what we call abbreviations began with human speech, to abbreviate being a natural device. The Holy Grail of this sort of efficiency is the ultimate symbol, one sound and one mark representing all there is to say — THE WORD. All meaning will be compressed, quasar-like, into the one symbol. Until that sacred point is reached, we will have to make do with compilations of abbreviations so that we can somehow translate the shorthand into the usually standard forms that we have come to expect.

On the other hand, abbreviations belong to the select, the secret group, the ones in the know. Literary specialists know that when they bandy around *FOB* with aural impunity, very few will know what they are discussing, certainly not *Frontiers of Biology*. Those in

outer darkness can quickly find in *PTA* that the literary specialists' secret can be decoded to *Flannery O'Connor Bulletin*. Literary persons probably are less guilty than those in other disciplines, especially the sciences and social sciences, where everyone plays with abbreviations with a Hamlet-like disregard for the rest of the world. The *National Cancer Institute Journal* is known under three abbreviations, one almost a personal name, *J Nat Canc*. *Harvard Theological Review* has five, with *HThR* almost a chemical element formula, while *Harvard Business Review* has accumulated seven, with *Harvard BR* probably the same as the postal facility. A relatively minor state publication, *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* has five recorded abbreviations, with *ArkHQ* being the most intriguing. But cuteness and smart aleckness aside, much time can be lost in ferreting out and deciphering one of these opaque abbreviations which may represent an important document, too often buried in a scholarly footnote or bouncily passed over in the new footnoteless and endnoteless articles that have become the current academic fad.

All attempts to standardize abbreviations so far have failed. Writers, being notoriously anarchic, seldom can be restrained, especially in face of time, which journalists translate into scoops and harried scholars into efficiency, same as do industrialists; hence, shorthand means time saved and money earned, or something like that. Our propensity for "saving time" has crept into many corners and crevices of the world, and such shows up in the abbreviations of periodical titles taken from different countries. It is doubtful that the National Clearinghouse for Periodical Title Word Abbreviations or such a document as the *American Standard for Periodical Abbreviations* can have much effect, much less police the abbreviators. *PTA* is only a record of existing conditions and has no intention of going further, although Alkire does take a more moderate stance by writing that "it may be hoped that this volume will serve to prevent the creation of additional abbreviations where none are needed."

Some hints for users are included in the front matter, one being that many diacritical marks have been eliminated. Americans do not like them, for their English printing has actually none, although childish scholars sometimes place superfixes where they would be better omitted, and sometimes insufficiently educated guidance and personnel people insist on fouling up *resume* by insisting on the Frenchified *r sum *, but so far as I know the English spelling system requires no diacritical marks and anyone forcing them onto innocent writers in English should be forced to switch to French in everything they write, never allowing them again to write in English. Since, however, diacritical marks are a part of the spelling systems in many other languages they should be adhered to, for those scratchings do make a difference. They constitute parts of the alphabet of the language; for instance *f ur* is not *fuer*, but Alkire substitutes the latter for the sake of simplicity, and, unstated, for the sake of the computer which does not have them, being a good ole American one with all illiteracies programmed in. Another instance is the reference to three items from Łódź, Poland. The English reader will pronounce the city's name *lodge*, when the so-called diacritical marks are crucial to both identification and pronunciation, the latter being something like *woodge*. It is a flagrant affront to the writers of other languages not to use their writing symbols when they are called for. Nor should they be allowed to impose their superfixes onto English. If a name is accepted into English without the diacritical marks and they make no difference in usage or pronunciation, then they have become English. But if *Qu bec* and *M xico* occur in French or in Spanish contexts, then the writing system of the languages need not be violated by the omission of the marks. In a list of titles in the foreign language, the exact usage should be given. In transliterations from non-Romanic alphabets, the acceptable ones should be the rule, but that is difficult. To forestall any criticism the editor, translator, or compiler should somewhere state the principles that are followed.

A strict letter-by-letter sequence is followed in both volumes. Also, "ampersands, articles,

conjunctions," or prepositions are considered in the alphabetizing. Some editorial decisions had to be made in cases where abbreviations were found to change from year to year. These have not been noted in the entries. Alkire explains why the entries seem to be so symmetrical. The changes from year to year account for some of the elegant variations, but "the user should be aware that several thousand nearly repetitive entries have been eliminated after having been judged to add nothing to the identification process."

The sources need some attention. First, the *Chemical Abstracts* abbreviations are so complicated that they have not been used, which means that the user will have to use *Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index* in conjunction with *PTA*. The major sources are listed (p. 17, both volumes) and have heavy coverage in the sciences and the social sciences. The humanities have respectable representation too, with the major ones, such as *PMLA*, *AL*, *AmerLitAb*, *ALELWLE*, *ELN* (*Eng Lang Notes*; *Engls Lang Notes*), *ELH*, *HI* (*HumIn*), *ILM*, and about fifteen others. I must note the *Names* comes out as *NA*, which we have never used, nor have I seen it in print other than in Alkire's compilations.

Each time I note *PTA* in a review, I also point out its importance and its useability. The cost is becoming enough to cause a librarian to hesitate before adding it to the reference shelves, a reflection that is compounded when it is so obvious that the work will be superseded within a year or two. Still, any reference library should make this text available, for it will do what we have already harangued against — save time and patience. Frustration makes serious inroads on the health of scholars, and hours of searching for *Clit* might lead to suicide, when with *PTA* around *Clit* reduces to *Ceska Literature* (which needs the alphabetical markings), *Convorbiri Literare*, or *Correo Literario*, all found within minutes.

Kelsie B. Harder

Acharhian, Hrach'eay. *Hayots Andsnanneri Barharan*. (Dictionary of Armenian Personal Names). Sevan Publisher, Beirut, 1972. 5 vols. (Originally published in Erevan, 1942-1962).

Although few of our readers are familiar with the Armenian language, nevertheless it is important to know about this extensive work. These volumes list over 5000 personal names used by Armenians from ancient times to the more recent period. The sources from which these names are taken comprise a 20-page bibliography at the end of the last volume. Up to 1500, every name encountered is recorded, no matter what the status of the person. From 1500 to 1700, names of clergy in the higher positions, writers, well-known travelers, historical personages, etc., are noted. From 1700, only names of patriarchs from selected large cities are given. However, from 1500 on, new or unusual names are not overlooked.

The alphabetical arrangement follows this pattern: Main entry is in capital letters preceded by a symbol to indicate whether the name is of Armenian or foreign origin. Gender, origin of name, meaning, equivalents in several foreign languages, diminutives, and variants are noted. After this preliminary information, there appear in chronological order, the names of Armenians who have borne the name, and a biographical note of each person together with documentation indicating the source from which the name was taken.

The final volume has a brief supplement as well as a short article on Armenian surnames.

Anne M. Avakian

Urdang, Laurence, Editor-in-Chief, and Frank R. Abate, Managing Ed. *Fine and Applied Arts Terms Index: An Alphabetical Guide to Sources of Information on More Than 45,000 Terms*. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1983. Pp. 773. \$85.00.

Although word formation in many varieties occurs in English, such as the addition of derivational suffixes to existing words, or even to borrowed ones, or the movement of words from "slang" to acceptable speech to other than the users, or through bastardizing from an Old Greek or Latin dictionary to form a word to be used contemporarily, usually in what we call the natural sciences, where the habit somehow caught hold in otherwise intelligent minds, much like a leeching disease, so that now we have often a secretive term that must be learned in "higher education" and one that is in common use. A knowledge of the secretive terms can make the owner into a professional, one separate from the ordinaries — the ones not possessing the magic terms. English users, however, have another and easier way, that is, borrowing the word from another language and slipping it into our very simplified inflectional system, which in the nouns tells us only number: one or more than one. The loan word, if needed to change parts of speech, can also move silently through the inflections of the verbs and adjectives.

What Urdang and Abate have done here is list 45,000 terms, most of them borrowed, that constitute a fine and applied arts index, which, as Urdang states, "is a start for a dictionary of such terms: It represents the first major attempt at systematic documentation of a field that is extremely productive and imaginative in its coinages and borrowings." The list was taken from 34 books (usually dictionaries) and 138 auction catalogues. Each term is keyed alphanumerically to one of the sources and the page number or lot number. In the front matter, the dictionaries and other books are extensively annotated to show the contents. An example, one of the shorter ones, will give some intimation of the annotations:

RTA Rings through the Ages, Anne Ward, John Cherry, Charlotte Gere, Barbara Carlidge, 214 pp., New York: Rizzoli International Publications, 1981. The history of rings — from ancient times up to the present — is described and illustrated in this work with more than 400 photographs. Metal-working, materials, and gem-cutting are all discussed; an index and bibliography are included. As the book is organized chronologically, page numbers are given for all entries chosen for the *Index*.

The annotation and information on catalogues and auction documents make the *Index* into an important sourcebook for collectors and dealers. My purpose here is otherwise, if not potentially and economically valuable.

The list is filled with what we call proper names, but a case could be made that all are nomenclature that could possibly edge into the proper name category. Without snagging myself with that problem, I will note the richness of onomastic material that appears throughout. Since the definitions or descriptions appear in the sources, they obviously will not be given here. Many personal names occur referring usually to artists, dealers, leaders of schools of art, factories, inventors, builders, architects, or craftspersons. Such names appear on every two-columned page: Aaron Willard, Victor Aarne (workmaster), Frank Lloyd Wright. Ethan Allen, George Grainger (china works), Josiah Wedgwood, and hundreds of others. Many eponyms occur: Aaron's Rod, Adam pattern, Adam period, Adam style, K'ang Hsi Bowl, Keene cement, Muntz metal, Ross board, or Crouch ware.

Many items are identified by place: Cornwall stone, Cornish stone, Lancashire box, Newport pottery, Newcastle goblet, New York clock, Nuremberg glass, Nottingham lace, Copenhagen blue fluted service, Pennsylvania tin ware, Pittsburgh Flint Glass Works, Plymouth pattern, Warsaw faience factory, Warwick vase, or Tennessee Pink. National

types, with entry examples, are common: *Afghan* (12 entries), kilim, carpet, tent band; *African* (13), zebrawood, whitewood, genre scene; *American* (65), red gum, organ, lime, Sweetheart, snuff-box, baroque, black walnut; *British* (5); *Canadian* (4); *china-Chinese* (112), paling, insect wax, Fu Dog rug, reign-mark, seal-mark; *Dutch* (40), oven, delftware, maiolica, jugs; *Egyptian* (30), soul house, Canopic jar, paste; *English* (61), Tower lock, sycamore, wine glass; *Flemish* (12); *French* (80), knot, fork, foot, neck mount, onion, sprig, stool, castor, cannon, biscuit group; *German* (29), oak sofa, half-post, beer-mug; *India* and *Indian* confuse the country and the Amerindians; *Italian* (35), High Baroque, earth, quilting; *Japanese* (83), sword, knife, fan, celadon; *Russian* (20), skan technique, leather, sable; *Spanish* (23), trencher, chestnut, foot, colonial; and others represented by only a few entries, such as *Australia*, *New Zealand*, *Columbian*, *Malay*, *Mexican*, *Portuguese*, *Iranian*, *Irish* (24), and more.

Many entries tease, but not enough for me to chase them down on a sub-zero evening when libraries are far away. A listing will suffice: *murderer's house*, *podstakannik*, *wet drug jar*, *wet-into-wet*, *third eye*, *ponyskin*, *dancing jack*, *mule chest*, *knee bowl*, *shi shi*, *sho*, and *honeymoon pot*, the latter probably not so dreamy as it sounds, nor half as exotic, if only half. Many of the entries can be deciphered by referring to the annotated lists; that is, a general recognition can take place. An attractively bound text, it can be used for browsing with half a dozen or so dictionaries scattered around for looking-up exercise, or by collectors and dealers to help identify otherwise unidentifiable objects that may have a trifling of either aesthetic or monetary value, or neither. It is a good reference book to have around.

Kelsie B. Harder

Pentland, David H., and H. Christoph Wolfart. *Bibliography of Algonquian Linguistics*. Winnipeg, Man., Canada R3T 2N2: University of Manitoba Press, 244 Engineering Building, University of Manitoba, 1982. Pp. xix + 333. \$25.00 cloth; \$14.50, paper.

The bibliography lists works printed from 1891, the year of the publication of James Constantine Pilling's *Bibliography of the Algonquian Languages*, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 13, Washington, DC. It also includes earlier titles not listed in Pilling's. The emphasis is on Algonquian linguistics rather than languages; that is, translations into Algonquian languages, hymn books, non-religious material, calendars, and other derivative and ephemeral materials are excluded, although such items did appear in Pilling's.

A special paragraph on onomastics is worthy of quoting, both for its criticism and for its coverage:

We have made a special effort to extend the coverage of this bibliography to Algonquian toponymy but in this field — which has more than its fair share of trivia and poor scholarship — we have omitted many more articles of purely local interest, most of which can be found in Sealock and Seely's *Bibliography of place-names* literature (1948, 1967).

Much can be found here that is not included in Sealock and Seely, but it must be ferreted out. Fortunately, the main index has a heading for placenames, with some 60 authors listed, some of whom have more than one article listed under their names. Then, under specific languages, entries for placenames will be found, those different from the ones found in the general index.

Personal names can be found only by searching through for pertinent titles, such as person indexing, kinships, items in which *name* or *names* occurs, or anything else that might produce onomastic material. Lists of dictionaries could be of great help to those who are working on the etymologies of names and naming customs. In the front matter is a list of the languages that fall within the general Algonquian.

The bibliography is basic to any research or interpretations within the languages. From an onomastic view, however, the text has shortcomings, with the bias that *placenames* and *words* are “two categories [which] would take up far more room than is warranted by their value for ordinary linguistics studies.” Whether such an unscholarly attitude results from a fear of the study of names and “words” or from lack of linguistic knowledge is perhaps beside the point. Otherwise, the bibliography is indeed excellent, professionally compiled and arranged, and is a valuable addition to Amerindian studies.

Kelsie B. Harder

Lassiter, Mary. *Our Names, Our Selves: the Meaning of Names in Everyday Life*. London: Heinemann, 1983. Pp. xii + 163. £7.95.

This is an introduction to personal names and surnames written in an entertaining way. Among the topics covered are naming of a child, names associated with one sex more than another, unusual names, naming customs in other cultures, change of name, pet-forms of names, nicknames, and effect of a name on the personality of the bearer. There are also some interesting quotes on names and from respondents interspersed at the beginning of chapters and in boxes in the text.

While much of the material may be familiar to readers of *Names*, Lassiter has brought together a great deal from a good search of the literature of the past twenty years. She also has some good namelore anecdotes to illustrate various points. One is the report (p. 91) of Mr. St. Clair (pronounced Sinclair) that possessing such a name is a nuisance because he didn't know whether to correct people on its pronunciation or not.

One issue that concerns Lassiter is the current traditional practice of the woman changing her name at marriage to that of the male. There are a number of problems associated with this. One is the loss of the surname to future generations if there are no males to carry on the line. Another is feeling by some women of loss of identity. After exploring several solutions, Lassiter suggests that surnames be bestowed in a matrilineal as well as a patrilineal fashion — that sons be named traditionally but that daughters use the surname of the mother. In this way matrilineal as well as patrilineal names will survive.

One of the strengths of the book is the consideration of the feelings of women in relation to the change of name at marriage. While Lassiter does report some survey material it is hard to follow just who was interviewed, how many, what age, and other important considerations. It is to be hoped that some researcher will pick up this problem and do some systematic research not only on the feelings of women but also of men and children.

There are two points on Jewish names (p. 59) that I would like to react to. “Wolff, Baer and Herz were supposed to have the vigour and vitality of their totem animal.” This may be, but it is not really the whole story. These names have been defined by Kaganoff (1977) as ‘kinnui’ (“related names”). The idea is that Jews in medieval Europe were reluctant to



use their Biblical names. Instead, they disguised their Jewish names. Recall in Genesis where Jacob blesses his sons and compares them to different animals. Thus, Benjamin was compared to a wolf, Issachar to a donkey but since this was not acceptable in Europe, bear, another animal known for its strength was substituted; Herz is associated with Naphtali who was compared to a hart.

On the same page the book mentions that modern orthodox Jews have two names. In the United States, at least, virtually all Jews, orthodox or not, have two names. One simply cannot participate in ceremonies of birth, bar(t) mitzvah, marriage, or death without a sanctioned Hebrew name.

Notwithstanding the minor criticism above *Our Names, Our Selves* is a significant contribution in that it raises important questions about our naming practices especially those involving women, questions which, hopefully, will be addressed.

Edwin D. Lawson

#### Reference

Kaganof, Benzion C. (1977). *A Dictionary of Jewish Names and their History*. New York: Schocken.

Read, William A. *Indian Place Names in Alabama*. Revised Edition, with a Foreward, Appendix, and Index by James B. McMillan, University, Alabama 35486: University of Alabama Press, 1984. Pp. xviii + 107. \$20.00 (paper, \$8.95).

The study dealing with the origin and meaning of Indian geographic names in Alabama by William A. Read (1869-1962) was first published in 1937 as No. 29 of Louisiana State University Studies. This was a significant contribution to the study of names. Read, along with several other philologists of his time, among them Edward Sapir and Leonard Bloomfield, had become interested in Indian languages. He studied in particular those spoken in the southeastern states, as is evident in his monograph on Alabama's Indian place names, still an important reference work.

We can now thank Professor McMillan for publishing this revised edition with Read's own additions, as well as later comments and information gathered from investigations made since its publication. All of these are to be found in the "Appendix Bibliography" at the end before the index of names treated in this study.

This edition has reproduced Read's text verbatim. However, a useful map showing the counties and rivers of Alabama has replaced two early maps which Read had reprinted. In addition, one finds a list of pronunciations, based on the International Phonetic Alphabet including: (1) a few that Read did not include; and (2) some that have changed since 1937, when it was first published. The symbols employed, for the sake of consistency, are the same as those employed by Read.

Read was a pioneer in the attention paid to Southern American English. He was trained in Germanic and Romance Philology at Göttingen, Heidelberg, Grenoble, Johns Hopkins, and Oxford, where he had the opportunity of studying phonetics under Henry Sweet. With

his knowledge of and interest in Indian languages, he was undoubtedly the proper person to investigate the numerous Indian place names in the State of Alabama, where many are found. In presenting his conclusions, he is never dogmatic, but careful, informed, and at times tentative.

For example, in treating the name of *Alabama* (p. 4), the name of river; of the state, admitted to the Union on December 14, 1819; of a city in Etoway County, incorporated on February 16, 1891; and a rolling mill near Birmingham, he writes:

The Alabama Indians, an Upper Creek tribe, were known to the French as early as 1702 as the "Alibamons," and at that time were settled on the upper reaches of the stream which has received their name.

Early French maps usually show this stream as *Rivière des Alibamons*.

*Alabama* is derived from Choctaw *alba*, "plants," "weeds," plus *amo*, "to cut," "to trim," "to gather" — that is, "those who clear the land," or "thicket clearers."

There is no foundation in any Indian dialect for the popular translation of *Alabama* by "Here we rest."

His comment on *Kentuck* (p. 38), referring to a mountain in the northeastern part of Talladega County: "The source of *Kentuck* is possibly Creek *kintaki*, 'dwarfish,' 'scrubby.' But as *Kentuck* is apparently not an old name, it may be a popular abbreviation of *Kentucky*. *Kentucky* is of uncertain etymology; it may contain Iroquois *kenta*, 'prairie'."

He likewise writes of *Naheola* (p. 44), a small settlement on the west bank of the Tombigbee in the northeastern part of Choctaw County: "The name signifies 'white man,' from Choctaw *Nahollo*" and of the name following *Nanafalia* ['nænafələlə], the name of a village in Marengo County: "The source of the name is Choctaw *Nānih*, 'hill,' and *falaia*, 'long' — 'long hill'." Again on pages 46-47 concerning the name *Oakchia*, a small settlement in the extreme northeast corner of Choctaw County, after citing a number of references and giving a number of possible translations, he adds, "Though I have suggested several translations, I prefer the one that connects the name with Choctaw *Okchāya*." From these citations one can see how careful and undogmatic he was in coming to his conclusions.

According to McMillan, the number of Indian place names which have survived in Alabama is 231, distributed among 16 dialects, the chief ones being Cherokee (9), Choctaw (80), and Creek (117). We can be grateful for the meticulous, authoritative treatment of Professor Read and now for the revised edition of Professor McMillan, who has brought the study up to date and noted any changes which have occurred in the intervening years as well as including the additional scholarship in the field. It is a definite contribution to the field of onomastics.

Margaret M. Bryant