

Book Reviews

A new etymological Dictionary of the Bulgarian Language: Български етимологичен речник.. Editor: The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia. Booklet I, pp. 80, Sofia, 1962.

The Institute for the Bulgarian Language of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences started in 1962 – under the direction of the Academy's vice-president, the well-known linguist and philologist, Vladimir Georgiev, with the collaboration of some members of the Institute (Iv. Golubov, J. Zajmov, St. Ilčev) – the publishing of a new etymological dictionary of the Bulgarian language. The first section came out in the middle of 1962: it contains *A* to *bronz* (cyrillic alphabet). About twenty parts will follow (the printing of the second booklet was already started by the end of 1962). Bulgaria already has an etymological dictionary, compiled by another well-known linguist, Stefan Mladenov, whose work (which still has great value), will still be used by scholars even after the last part of the Academy's etymological dictionary has been published. Studies in Bulgarian linguistics have progressed a great deal and it is mostly the results of that progress that Georgiev and his collaborators emphasize, intending to enlarge and complete Mladenov's work by providing references to more old texts, as well as extensions and different uses of the same word inside and outside of the countries where Bulgarian is spoken, so that the interested scholar will find there a lot of dialectological forms and uses which do not occur in Mladenov's work.

As onomastics and toponomastics have been studied these last years in Bulgaria, and particularly by the authors of this new dictionary, proper names, toponyms, and names of mountains and rivers, are herein considered, so that this new dictionary will be of great value to many a scholar working on names used in this important part of the Balkan Peninsula. From this point of view, we can welcome this new dictionary and hope that the next issues will follow in as short a time as the work and the printing will permit.

Sofia, Bulgaria

Y. E. Boeglin

Words on the Map. By Asaac Asimov. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1962.

Words on the Map by Asaac Asimov is not a scholarly work, nor does it purport to be. Rather in this, his most recent work, Asimov attempts to make names a living part of the history of man. The recommendation, "ages 12 up," which the book jacket lists, is an accurate one. Though the serious student of language will, of course, find the book lacking, the young will find it a valuable introduction to the study of names, and others will discover in it a delightful and entertaining volume.

Words on the Map consists of 250 pages; each page is captioned with a different place-name. However, such divisions are only arbitrary ones, for the sake of organization. Under the divisions are discussed over 400 personal names and nearly 1600 place-names. Separate indexes list personal names and place-names.

The book is a storehouse of tidbits from onomastics, history and geography. Under the title "Andalusia," for example, Asimov discusses the "barbarian tribes [that] stormed across Europe" and, thereby, Gotland and Götaborg; the derivation of the word "vandal"; the conquering Langobards in Italy – therefore, Lombardy; and the derivation of the Italian city name, Milan. Under "Persia," Asimov mentions the Indo-European family of languages, the derivation of the names Iran and Tehran, the Persian empire and its defeat by Alexander the Great.

"The map is a fascinating storybook," Asimov comments in the introduction, "and I've tried to trap some of that fascination and put it into this book." Mr. Asimov does just that! He proves in *Words on the Map* that the naming of places is not a mere arbitrary and dull labeling – but rather an intimate part of man's history, his socialization and his concept of the world around him.

Jean McClure Kelty

The Deluge or From Pyramids To Glaciers. By Sigurd Foss. Oslo, Eget Forlag (S. Foss), 1961. Pp. 137.

This volume may best and most briefly be described as a curiosity. The author's aim is to prove that the last full-scale glaciation to take place on the European continent covered a much larger area

than has been supposed by most geologists. The principal body of evidence employed is onomastic rather than geologic; place-names found in areas of postulated glaciation are compared with those in areas of known glacial activity. Upon the basis of such comparison, a great ice front extending from Norway as far south as the Sahara is suggested. Then, by comparison of folk traditions and practices throughout this region, the ice front is discovered to be the original of the Biblical Deluge; hence the book's title. Egypt is posited as a center from which men migrated northward and eastward following the recession of the ice-front, and the bulk of the book consists of attempts to derive place-names on the map of Europe (especially in Scandinavia) from Egyptian names and other words which they resemble.

An outline such as this will indicate to glacialists and folklorists the theoretical and methodological deficiencies of the work. To the onomatologist, and indeed to the student of language in general, the book attests on virtually every page to the author's lack of acquaintance with the familial relationships of languages and rules such as Grimm's and Verner's laws which describe the processes of sound change. Fanciful derivations abound, tracing English, French, and Norwegian toponyms back to Egyptian "sources" on the strength of miscellaneous and unsystematic phonetic similarities or supposed similarities and the author's *ipsedixit*. As one example from among many, *Serneille* in the Pyrenees and *Cornhill* in London are called "forms" of the Egyptian *Karnak* (p. 93). An indication of the author's impressionistic mental processes in dealing with names appears on p. 23: "Tour de Mollège: Dare we suggest [as an earlier form] Tour d'Emolleye, thinking upon distant glaciers: Himalaya?" The reader may wish to compare with the following samples of Foss's unique etymologies the entries for the same items in such authoritative works as Ekwall's *Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names* and (for *Grosvenor*) Reaney's *Dictionary of British Surnames*.

Bermondsey (p. 24): "that low islet once . . . was the residence of a hermit, friar, or prophet, a modest oracle probably. Its various names Bermondsey or Barnsie, or Barnaby may tell about that. We could think thus about them: Bar-monk's ey The monks Bar, or Bar-Napi i.e. The Bar-prophet."

Bray (p. 23): "seems to be a version of brei, Norwegian for broad." Grosvenor (p. 24): "I therefore justify the comparison Gros Fond – Grosvenor, with explaining venor as fenner i.e. ferner, that is still a name for glacier, in some Austrian Alps."

There is no bibliography as such, simply parenthetical citations in the text, and no works on language or onomastics are included among these. The quotations, reproduced without any addition of the admonitory *sic*, hint at still another handicap under which the book labors, that of its author's fairly extensive difficulties with English.

G. Thomas Fairclough

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The Indian Place-Names on Long Island and Islands Adjacent, with their Probable Significations. By William Wallace Tooker. Edited, with an Introduction by Alexander F. Chamberlain. Port Washington, N.Y.: Ira J. Friedman, Inc., 1962. [c 1911] xxviii, 314 p. 23 cm. [Empire State Historical Publications, VI]. \$7.50.

With five exceptions, this book is an identical reprint of William Wallace Tooker's work of the same title, first published in 1911: (1) "Algonkinist" is no longer printed beneath the author's name on the title page; (2) the statement on the title page, "Published for the John Jermain Memorial Library, Sag Harbor, N.Y.," is omitted; (3) the name of the present publisher is substituted for the name of the original publisher and press (G. P. Putnam's Sons . . . The Knickerbocker Press); (4) on the back of the title page is the statement "Reprinted 1962 by Ira J. Friedman, Inc."; and (5) the Sentry Press, New York 19, is given on the back of the title page as the present printer.

The book is thus clearly identified as a reprint, and comes under no stigma in this regard. However, I agree with a British commentator¹ who recently wrote: "If a book changes publishers, we need to know the date of its first issue and who its first publisher was, no matter how galling it may be to print a rival's name."

¹ Editorial, "Informative Publishing," (London) *Times Literary Supplement*, April 5, 1963.

In the present instance, the reader may also wish that the Friedman Corporation had clearly indicated whether Tooker's original text has been in any way abridged, altered, or modernized.

One wonders why "Algonkinist" has been removed from beneath Tooker's name. He was sixty-three in 1911, and had by that time published eighty-two articles on Algonquian names, including *The Algonquian Series* (10 vols., 1901). He was thus the most prolific Algonquian etymologist of his time. William M. Beauchamp,² who in 1907 wrote on all the Indian place-names of New York, discussed 264 Long Island names. Tooker in this book discusses 486 Long Island names. He surpasses Beauchamp as an etymologist and as a local historian.

The original reviews of Tooker's book were favorable. *Dial* (1911) praised it for "much interesting information," and for its explanation of "the origin of numerous additions to the dictionary." *The New York Times* (1911) thought it notable for "a large amount of interesting and curious local history . . ." The editor of the book, the anthropologist Chamberlain, calls Tooker "a competent Algonkinist."

However, Tooker's competence as an Algonkinist has been questioned. Perhaps it was unfair of Truman Michelson³ to conclude that the debate between Tooker and William R. Gerard on the Cree affiliations of Powhatan "showed the incompetence of both." Yet Tooker's etymologies do suffer from the immaturity of the subject, and from his insistence on finding stems that favor his preconceived ethnological assumptions. For my own book on the Indian place-names of Maryland, I studied Tooker's analyses of *Anacostia*, *Chesapeake*, **Kus: Flu*, *Pamunkey*, *Patapsco*, and *Susquehanna*. I accepted his analysis of *Patapsco*; I found fault with the others, especially *Anacostia* and *Susquehanna*.

In Tooker's time the idea of setting up Proto-Algonquian models of Algonquian stems had not yet been conceived. In this Long Island book Tooker relies largely on the conjectural stems of Eliot and Williams, overworking *ohke* 'earth' (PA *-*ahki* [Geary]) and *-otan* 'town' (PA *-*ötäni* [Geary]), for example, and appealing frequently

² *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*. N.Y. State Museum, Bulletin 108, Archaeology 12. Albany, 1907. 333 pp.

³ "Linguistic Classification of Powhatan," *American Anthropologist*, n.s., 35. 1933.

to Trumbull's dubious *-amaug* 'fishing place' (really *-amäg* 'a fish'). Moreover, he is inconsistent in the forms of many common stems, as where for 'fish' (PA **namä'sa* [Geary]) he gives on one page *name*⁴ and on another page *namos*. Further instances of his failure clearly to formulate stems are: 'creek, . . . stream, tidal river' (PA **tekwä*, **ateköwa* [Geary]) – Tooker *-tak*, *-tick*, *-tuck*, *-tukq*; 'chief, pre-eminent, greatest' (PA **keqt-* [Bloomfield]) – Tooker *kehche*, *kehti* or *keihite* "as Eliot previously writes it"; 'hill' (Ojibwa *-adina*, Powhatan *-uttun?*) – Tooker *-adene*, *-atin*, *-attan*, *-attiny*.

This naïve conception of Algonquian stems does not badly invalidate Tooker's findings. Some of his Long Island etymologies are indeed questionable, as when he uses for *Mattemoy* Trumbull's ill-conceived *-amaug*, or when he sanctions a phonetic misfit by seeing Massachusetts *mehchi* in *Merrick*. Yet he is at least half right in dozens of cases, as when he finds *uhque* 'as far as' and *-paug* 'water place' in *Aquebogue*, *manah* 'island' and *-atin* 'hill' in *Manhattan*, and *winne(i)* 'fine' and *-comac* 'field,' 'land,' 'country' in *Winnecomac*. And he is entirely correct, for example, in *Seapoose* (the ocean inlets of East Hampton and Southampton), which he derives from 'little river' (Narragansett *sepoese*; cf. PA **sēpi-* 'moving water,' 'current').

Tooker is on firmest ground in the matter of assembling place-name variants under their proper headings. Thus, he relates *Catumb* to *Ketumpscut*, *Manhasset* to *Manhonsett*, *Maspeth* to *Mespaetches*, *Marsey* and *Matsepe* to *Massapeague*, *Pamunke* to *Paumanack*, and *Sag Harbor* to *Sagaponack*. And he does a similar service for Long Island names that appear to be Indian but are English, and vice versa. Really precious examples are: *Bassalona*, perhaps from *Barcelona*; *Copwax*, a folk etymology from *Coekwas*; *Cupsage* (**Cup Soak gutt*, in 1700) from *Capswague*; *Goorgo*, probably from *George*; *Georgica*, perhaps from *George*; *Hoggenoch*, from *Hog Neck*; *Lusam*, from *Lewisham*; *Ligonee*, from 'Leg an' knee'; *Oquenock*, from *Oak Neck*; *Peacepunck*, from *Pesapunck*; *Punk's Hole*, from

⁴ Tooker misuses this stem (PA **namä'sa* 'a fish') in his somewhat oversimplified analysis of *Nameoke* as *name* 'fish' PLUS *auke* 'place.' For PA **namä'sa* implies an *s* that is not accounted for. Another instance of undue simplification is *Potunk* (cf. *Podunk*, a Massachusetts meadow), explained by *pot-* 'sink' and *-unk*, the locative. Yet the place is watery, and Tooker finds analogies in Abnaki and Ojibwa.

Indian *punk*; *Rockaway*, from *Rechqua Alkie* ('Sandy land' ?); *Wainscott* (really English *wainscot*); and *Killis Pond*, from *Kellie's Pond*.

Tooker does not always give an authority for his statements. When he does cite an authority he is often brief ("De Kay and Thompson give it as *Mottemog*"). Tooker's editor, Professor Chamberlain, has therefore compiled a bibliography of Tooker's sources in Appendix III. Here there are forty-four Long Island titles, ranging from general works to town records. I conclude from these items, and from the personal knowledge Tooker displays in his paragraphs, that he is well versed in Long Island antiquity.

This book deserves to have been reëdited, revised, and enlarged. It needs an index to enable the reader to find such names as *Conkling's Point*, *Podunk* (see *Potunk*), *Rocky Point*, and "Sea-puss." It needs a phonetic indication of current pronunciations. There should be a new introduction to bring the reader up-to-date about what has been done in the Long Island Algonquian field in the last fifty years. And, of course, the canon of Long Island Indian place-names needs revision, perhaps enlargement.⁵ The editor should be a Long Islander, and a student of one of the Eastern Algonquian languages. He would want to systematize the stems.

But it is not now likely that this will be done. The place-name student must be content with Tooker's cache of Montauk legend and lore, if only in a stark reprint. It was at first, and still is, the definitive book on Long Island's Indian place-names. In it one may again enjoy reading about the names made famous by Whitman of Paumanok. The book, however, can be obtained only from its publisher, Ira J. Friedman, Inc., Port Washington, L. I., N. Y.

Hamill Kenny

Toponîmia Romineasca. (Toponymy of Rumania.) By Iorgu Iordan.

Bucharest: Editura Academiei Republicii Populare Romine, 1963.

Pp. xxv, 581, 1 map.

Dictionar Onomastic Romînesc. (A Dictionary of Rumanian Names.)

By N. A. Constantinescu. Bucharest: Editura Academiei Republicii Populare Romine, 1963. Pp. lxxvii, 470.

⁵ Tooker seems to have omitted *Mineola*, for example.

While we await the publication of the monumental dictionary of Rumanian place-names which was announced at the Seventh International Onomastic Congress at Florence in 1961, Iordan has provided us with a work useful not only to those concerned with the toponymy of Rumania but also to all whose place-name work involves any Balkan or Central European country.

As is well known, Rumanian toponymy is exceedingly complex. Over a substratum in which are found traces of Daco-Mysian, Thracian, possibly Celtic, and other obscure elements there extends a surface layer of names dating from more recent periods. Most of them are certainly Rumanian, but many are of Serbian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, and other origins, and some have been Rumanianized while others have retained their original forms. At the same time, Rumanian names are found throughout the Balkan peninsula, and also in certain Central European countries where they were bestowed by migratory groups of Vlachs. For this reason the work of this eminent Rumanian linguist will be of interest to a rather large group of investigators whose research is not strictly confined to Rumanian territory. It is regrettable, for the same reason, that the book is written entirely in Rumanian and is consequently inaccessible to many scholars who, although concerned with names of Rumanian origin, do not necessarily read Rumanian.

In this book the author presents several thousand names in an original manner. Those who know Iordan's 1952 *Nume de locuri românești în R. P. Română* ("Place Names of Rumanian Origin in Rumania"), of which this book is an extension and completion, will not be surprised, for they will rediscover what might be termed Iordan's "style." After twenty prefatory pages in which the author explains his intentions, a first section entitled "Onomasiology" (the reader may or may not like the word, but he must accept it for want of a better) classifies Rumanian toponyms under the following headings: topographical (certainly the most interesting), social (in the broadest sense of the word), historical (also used in a broad sense, since it is in this category that one must look for names like *Bulgari*, *Basnagi*, etc., which are linked to migrations and settlements of non-Rumanian groups), and psychological (descriptive and picturesque names, etc.).

This chapter concluded, the author redisplayed his material under the title, "Linguistics." Here phonetics is emphasized. Everyone who has dealt with prewar lists of Rumanian toponyms and their rather fantastic orthography will understand how welcome is this phonetic chapter (augmented by an adequate transcription of the names), especially coming from one so knowledgeable as Iordan. The author then moves to "Morphology" (uses of the singular and the plural, changes of gender, and especially the number and diversity of suffixes) and to "Syntax," in connection with which one should not fail to notice the importance attached to the use of the genitive (with *de*, with preposed article, with postposed article). This voluminous work ends with a chapter devoted to linguistic geography which is interesting and even exciting. Unfortunately (and this is the only reproach I can address to the author and the publishers), the chapter needs, to achieve its fullest significance, to be illustrated by numerous detailed maps clearly showing the areas of the phenomena discussed and their limits. The one small map of Rumania depicts only administrative divisions, giving no idea of topographical relief, and is of decidedly restricted utility. I strongly regret this deficiency and I hope that, when a new edition is published, the publishers will think about making this small but indispensable addition. It is also to be hoped that, in the next edition, certain sections might be followed by a summary in a language understood by a greater number of readers. These are the sections which present views and deal with problems which extend beyond Rumanian and even Balkan limits and touch upon the science of names in general.

The Academy of the People's Republic of Rumania gave us in 1963 another significant work of interest to onomatologists, and particularly to anthroponymists, whose research involves regions where ethnic groups of Rumanian origin are found today or were in the past. This is Constantinescu's *Dictionar Onomastic Romînesc*.

A lengthy Introduction of forty pages makes this book more than a simple dictionary. The author presents a compact treatise on Rumanian anthroponyms and their successive historical phases: Daco-Roman; Slavic, Hungarian, and Ukrainian; "orthodox," with importation of names that were Greco-Slavic in form; and the "exotic" phase, when modern modes of naming appeared. Then Constantinescu deals with the actual forms of names, discussing the

elaborate system of suffixes and warning the reader about numerous possibilities of confusion; for example, a name ending in *-a* may be either a feminine name or a Slavic genitive of a name which was originally masculine. The dictionary proper is divided into three sections: names from the calendar of saints, secular names, and rare or unique names. As one might imagine, it is a mine of information which will be prized by (among others) historians of neighboring countries, who in their work with old documents frequently run across names which are or seem to be of Vlach origin. In this connection, Constantinescu's book (which is abundantly supported by evidence, its author having apparently examined every post-11th century document in Rumania) needs to be augmented with material from the rich archives of the adjacent nations and especially from those of Yugoslavia, where are found names not all of which appear in this dictionary. Certainly it is desirable that Yugoslav historians and linguists arrive at a modicum of order and lucidity in the matter of the name *Vlasi*. The uses of this word are extremely diverse. It signifies indifferently Rumanians and Vlachs in the mouths of Serbs and Croats; it denotes Catholics to the Orthodox, the Orthodox to Ragusan Catholics, the mountain pastoralists to the plains agriculturists, and the mainland dwellers to the islanders, who are themselves often called *Vlasi* by the mainlanders (who also call them by another Vlach term, *Boduli*). Undoubtedly numerous names of Rumanian origin can be found among the tribal names of Herzegovina and Montenegro (*Piperi*, *Mataruge*, *Mirilovići*, *Nikšići*, etc.) and of Albania. Such additions to the dictionary – which may well be the work, some day, of a Yugoslav student of Rumanian – might shed light on various Rumanian names which remain obscure in spite of Constantinescu's research. Extra-Rumanian Vlachs have often lived for centuries in cultural enclaves, and doubtless have preserved more than a few names or forms which have disappeared in Rumania itself. Let us hope then that we shall some day see Constantinescu's very useful dictionary completed by another, following if possible his methods, displaying Rumanian anthroponyms from contiguous countries. (I have emphasized Yugoslavia, where surely the greatest number of interesting names will be found, but an equally good case could be made out for investigations in Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, and the Ukraine.)

It will also be interesting to know whether certain names or forms of names have, as is probable, a well-defined location, and to see such locations outlined on maps. One could compare these areas with those where the same names or forms are found outside Rumania, and such information would be most useful to those who are studying the origins of a particular tribe of *Vlasi* situated far beyond Rumanian boundaries. Finally, there seems to be a parallel between the use of certain suffixes in Rumanian names and in names found among Balkan Slavs. A comparison of the geographical extent of these suffixal usages might provide an insight into underlying relationships.

My concluding remark about Iordan's book can be applied to Constantinescu's as well. A summary in a more widely known language should follow the Introduction, since it presents questions and points of view having more than national significance.

Sofia, Bulgaria

Yves Edouard Boeglin

(Translated by G. Thomas Fairelough, Midwestern University)

Indian Place-Names in New Jersey, by Donald William Becker.
Cedar Grove, N.J., Phillips-Campbell Publishing Co., Inc., 1964.
\$4.25. Pp. X, III.

Mr. Becker's work is one of a series by the publisher. It is designed to enrich the literature on the state readily available to the public. This objective is further enhanced by the author's use of simple and mostly non-technical language. A valuable glossary is included to further the understanding of the lay reader.

From *Absecon* to *Yanticaw* the author catalogs the place-names and includes a verbal location, the etymological sources, and the several variants in spelling. On occasion the author's personal opinion regarding the place-name is expressed. The knowledgeable reader may on occasion object to the inclusion, as Indian place-names, of such literary references as *Hiawatha*. On the other hand the audience for whom the book is primarily intended needs to have the etymology of such words included.

In his second chapter the author comes to the precise point under the title, "Original Indian Place-Names in New Jersey." This theme is continued in the following chapter, "Original Indian

Place-Names in the Area of Jersey City." These two chapters separate the grain from the chaff, a feature of the book not immediately evident to the casual reader.

The author has a rich resource of materials with which to work. One would hope that this continuing interest would cause the author to research the historical and contemporary maps for additional and confirming references. Such data in combination with "Chapter Two" if compiled in map form would possibly lend greater understanding to the Indian place-names of New Jersey.

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"The Spanish Toponyms of the British Columbia Coast with Side-glances at Those in the States of Washington, Oregon, and Alaska." By E. von Richthofen. *Onomastica*. Published by Ukrainian Free Academy of Sciences, Winnipeg, 1963. Pp. 22.

"The Spanish Toponyms of the British Columbia Coast" by E. von Richthofen is a further step in the study of North American place-names published in the series of *Onomastica* by the Ukrainian Free Academy of Sciences. By now the Academy has to its credit studies devoted to Slavic place-names, Indian and Pseudo-Indian place-names and French and English place-names. This activity shows the interest of the Academy in promoting the study of the place-names in Canada and in some of the western states of the U.S.A.

Most of the Spanish place-names of British Columbia and the states of Washington, Oregon and Alaska are dated between 1774 and 1792, when the Spanish, resenting Russian exploits on the Alaskan shores, promoted their own explorations in the Pacific Northwest. Their explorations were accompanied by establishing settlements which were given Spanish names in order to claim this part of the Northwest as their sphere of interests.

In his study E. von Richthofen refers mainly to *British Columbia Coast Names 1592-1906* by J. T. Walbran and *Cartography of the Northwest Coast of America to the year 1800* by H. R. Wagner. These two books treat the material extensively but they fail in some details when compared to reports by Spanish navigators and other historical sources. E. von Richthofen approaches these names from

the point of linguistic geography. This work in its abridged version was presented to the Canadian Linguistic Association in 1963.

The author divided his material into six groups: (1) preserved toponyms given for the first time or replacing known Indian names, (2) important superseded toponyms, (3) toponyms extended by British mariners, geographers or administrators, (4) toponyms which have not survived in their original linguistic form, (5) foreign names introduced by the Spaniards and (6) original Spanish names introduced by the British. This division brings clearness to the study of place-names of this part of the continent especially after arrival of the British, when they started to replace Spanish place-names by British or were restoring old Indian place-names. Of great value are the footnotes which enlarge the work through secondary, indispensable material.

Group four of the study is treated only by naming the places with either an erroneous spelling or a shift of the accent but without adequate showing and proof of the point. The corresponding footnote adds only some material to this group leaving it still unbalanced as compared to other parts of the work. The study also lacks necessary conclusions and a corresponding linguistic map.

However, on the whole, it is interesting, scholarly, based on numerous source materials which are used in reevaluating the previous works rather than quoting them. The linguistic approach is noticeable and well coordinated with the geography. The names are set in alphabetic order which arrangement facilitates discussion and shows good organization of the study.

W. T. Zyla

A Guide to Irish Surnames. By Edward MacLysaght. Genealogical Book Company, Baltimore, Md., 1964. Pp. 248.

As the dust jacket states, this book is intended as a revised edition of Father P. Woulfe's *Sloinnnté Gaedheal is Gall (Irish Names and Surnames)*, which has long been out of print. Its arrangement, however, is different.

A short introductory chapter on Irish surnames is followed by a listing of some 2,500 surnames alphabetically arranged with English spelling. The prefixes *Mac* and *O* are ignored in alphabetizing, but are shown in brackets in the left margin. *Mc* and *M'* are treated as if spelled *Mac*. Each entry gives the Gaelic-Irish spelling and a

sentence or two on the history of the name and of the family or families bearing it. Derivations are omitted because of uncertainty in this field, so says the author. From Dr. MacLysaght's three previous volumes, titled *Irish Families*, *More Irish Families*, and *Supplement to Irish Families*, comes the list of names used. This list is considerably larger than that in Woulfe. A reference is given in each entry to the article on that family in the previous volumes.

The third part of the book consists of a forty-page bibliography of Irish family histories. It supersedes those in the earlier volumes since it has been brought up to date. No general bibliography is included because such a list appears in *Irish Families* and *More Irish Families*, but a handful of more recent titles is mentioned in the introduction. The book dispenses with a map because one appears in *More Irish Families*, but one showing the ancient territories and the baronies of Ireland would nevertheless have been useful. No pronunciations are given and indeed are not necessary for the great majority of the English forms. Occasional phonetic indications would have helped, however, for such names as *Argue*, *Atasney*, *Caughey*, *Faughnan*, *Flahavan*, *Gohery*, *Liammoir*, *Loughrey*, *Lysaght*, *Mahood*, *Mansergh*, and *Tougher*.

Although the great majority of Irish surnames are of Gaelic origin, a good number come from Norman or English sources, and a few from Norse, Huguenot French, or German Palatinate. Examples of the last three, as the author notes in his introduction, are *Harold*, *Lefanu*, and *Switzer*. It is interesting to observe what heavy duty many English names do for Irish names, as Howard for *hIomhair* and *O'Hure*, *Leonard* for *Lennon*, *Linnane*, *Linneen*, *Lunny*, *Gil-senan*, and *MacAlinion* (in their Anglicized forms), and *Carey* for the Anglicized *Keoghry*, *Keighry*, *Keahery*, and *Keaghry*. Scottish readers of the book may be chagrined to discover, in the introduction, that *Scotus* means Irishman in Latin, as shown in the name of Johannes Scotus Eriugena, the medieval Irish philosopher.

Having been Chief Genealogical Officer and Keeper of Manuscripts in the National Library of Ireland for fourteen years, Dr. MacLysaght writes with authority. His book, offering a great deal of information in precis form, should prove useful to the scholar and entertaining to the amateur reader.

Eugene B. Vest

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